



Veterans Day 2003
See Page 1B

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

Housing meeting today at 3 p.m.

A Town Hall meeting regarding a planned renovation project in base housing will be held today at 3 p.m. at the Base Theater. The meeting is open to all of Robins, but residents of on-base housing and unit first sergeants are strongly encouraged to attend.

A second meeting for community members-builders, city planners, realtors and other interested parties will be held Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Museum of Aviation, Vita Scope Theater. The renovation project is set to be implemented at the earliest by late 2005.

— Lanorris Askew

Expect health care costs to rise

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) — Air Force civilian health-care plan premiums are expected to increase an average of more than 10 percent in January. That means employees with 'self-only' coverage will pay about \$5 more per pay period and those with 'family coverage' will pay \$11.95 more.

Employees have the opportunity to review and update plans during the Federal Employee's Health Benefits program's open season, now through Dec. 8.

The number of health-plan carriers is also increasing by 17 for a total of 205 options available for employees to choose from in 2004, said Janet Thomas of the benefits and entitlements service team, or BEST, at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

"Insurance carriers leaving the FEHB or making significant service changes are required to notify their customers, and we also send letters to those affected," Thomas said. "But it is still the employee's responsibility to ensure his or her plan is in order."

"Open season is the best time for people to review their health-care coverage - not only to make desired changes, but to ensure their plan hasn't been altered or discontinued," she said.

Other changes include two new "consumer-driven" plans allow employees to manage their own health-care needs and health dollars. Also, nine health-plan carriers are dropping out of the Federal Employee's Health Benefits program this year.

Office of Personnel Management officials released guides comparing costs, benefits and quality indicators. Those guides are available online at www.opm.gov/insure/health/index.asp.

Robins 3-day forecast
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

Today Partly cloudy and cold



Saturday Partly cloudy and cool

57/32



Sunday Partly to mostly cloudy

65/36



What's inside

Employee receives Service Award 3A
New paint facility to fix environmental issue, reduce backlog 5A
Robins gives more than fair share in CFC 6A
Reynolds visits F-15 production line 3B

ROBINS RevUp



Vol. 48 No. 45

Friday, November 14, 2003

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Pride in service



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Myrel Harner stands in front of a B-29 wearing the uniform he wore when he served in the Army Air Corps.

Retired master sergeant relays wartime past

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

INSIDE

Veterans Day tribute

Page 5A

Although Veterans Day is a time to honor those who fought for America's freedom, Myrel Harner said it's an everyday observance for him.

Harner, a 73-year-old Chicago, Ill. native flew on a B-29 as a U.S. Air Force flight engineer in the mid-1940s. He also served during the Cuban Missile Crisis and during the Dominican Republic Invasion.

"I was in four to 10-engine airplanes, off-loading

combat equipment and aircraft fuel (during the conflicts)," he said.

During his service, Harner flew on a B-50, four

Please see PAST, 2A

Center partners with new company

By Lanorris Askew
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and Tim Kurtz
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The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center is leading the Air Force in the area of partnerships by being the first to sign a partnering agreement with a foreign defense contractor.

The partnership agreement for the Airborne Countermeasures Multipurpose/Special Equipment - or AN/ALQ-213 - between the Center's Maintenance Directorate and Terma A/S, Denmark, was signed by Maj. Gen. Donald

Please see PARTNERS, 2A

AF survey deadline draws near

By Holly J. Logan
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People taking the Air Force Climate Survey today are impacting the way we do business at Robins in the future, said Charles Drake.

Robins' employees have until close of business on Nov. 23 to voice their views concerning their organizations and other job-related matters in the survey themed, "Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow."

The survey is worthwhile for Robins and its more than 20,000 employees, said Drake, management analyst for the Manpower Division of the Center's Plans and Programs Office and the installation point of contact for the Climate Survey.

"We'd like as many people as possible to take the survey," he said. "The more people who take it, the better chance we have of getting a general idea of where Robins is strong and where we need to improve."

A reported 6,500 employees took the survey

Please see SURVEY, 2A

What to know

Deadline for taking the 2003 Air Force Climate Survey "Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow" is close of business Nov. 23. All Robins' employees are encouraged to take the survey.

Vaccine ready

78th Medical Group

It is that time of the year again.

The same sniffing, sneezing, coughing, aching, stuffy head, fever time of the year that has a number of people heading for the medicine cabinet or off to see their doctors because the flu

Please see VACCINE, 2A



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Staff Sgt. Gabreayl Harris, immunization technician, gives Capt. Jerry Frazier his flu shot. The flu vaccine is a mandatory active duty immunization with compliance tracked by DoD due to readiness requirements.

Curry takes school concerns to DoDEA

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

Col. Bruce L. Curry, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, said he received no indication of Robins Elementary closing any time soon at an Oct. 16 Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools study forum.

"There's no sense that this is a done deal," Curry, the liaison between the Defense Department and the local school community, said. "No decision has been made yet. It's important to mention that any decision made will take time to implement."

Robins Elementary School Board President Sally

Please see CURRY, 2A

PARTNERS

Continued from 1A



What to know

The ALQ-213 controls and integrates all on-board self-protection systems such as radar and missile-warning systems, chaff and flare dispensing systems, jammers and towed decoys. The ALQ-213 also controls the tactical reconnaissance system on F-16 aircraft.

gives the pilot visibility and control of all electronic warfare components installed on the aircraft.

Center Commander Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam and Ole Fogh, Terma A/S director of business development, prepare to sign an agreement that establishes a partnership between the Center and a Danish company.



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

"We have prided ourselves in being what we consider the leader in partnerships within the United

States Air Force, and I think today proves that significance because this is the first true partnership agree-

ment between any entity with the United States Air Force and a company from a foreign country," Wetekam said. "I think it's all right and fitting that that partnership agreement should be with a company from as close of an ally as we have in Denmark."

The overall aim of the partnership is to ensure timely, cost-effective performance of electronic warfare systems maintenance, hardware and software support, enhancements and modifications, and introduction of new EW systems. The agreement includes provisions for supply of Terma EW systems to other Department of Defense users and the supply of such systems to other countries.

Citing Denmark's relationship as an ally of the United States for more than

50 years, Fogh said he is looking forward to establishing a presence here at Robins.

"We are pleased at this opportunity to expand our relationship and opportunities with DoD and the greatest Air Force in the world," said Fogh. "We hope this is the beginning of a long lasting relationship."

Since 1997, Terma has been under contract to deliver the AN/ALQ-213 (V) Counter Measures Set Processors for F-16 and A-10 aircraft.

"Partnership agreements usually start small," said Wetekam. "The exciting part is the potential to build, and I think that's what we have here today. We have the agreement - the first step - and a lot of potential in the months and years ahead to build upon that."

SURVEY

Continued from 1A

and Vehicle Management Directorate implemented changes generated from last year's survey that improved the relationship between its management and employee team, according to John C. Adams, the directorate's deputy director.

"As a result of the last survey, we saw that our weakest areas were employee recognition and communications with the work force, particularly concerning our organization mission and vision," he said.

Adams said his directorate revamped their awards programs, increasing recognition by 60 percent throughout the organization. In addition, personal congratulatory cards from himself and personal letters from their director go out to quarterly award winners on a regular basis.

Additionally, the directorate has begun improving their participation and involvement of its 769 employees by creating small focus groups that meet with the director on a periodic basis to give suggestions and feedback to management.

Adams said he looks forward to hearing what his organization's people think and using that information to improve the workplace, productivity and war fighter support.

world in a B-52 in 1956.

Harner said as a kid he recalls farmers stopping in fields during the 11th hour of the 11th day of November to observe National Armistices Day, now known as Veterans Day.

"I fly the (American) flag everyday," he said. "Being an American means a lot to me. I think more people should fly the flag and think about what has been done in service for this country."

at Robins last year. To date, 4,361 Robins employees have participated in the current survey - a number Drake expects will increase by the survey's Nov. 23 deadline.

"Normally, we have a surge of participation during the last two weeks," he said. "A lot of things changed as a result of last year's survey. Hopefully, the rest of the people who haven't taken it yet will take it before time runs out."

According to Drake, last year's survey brought about positive change for the base, and he said he thinks this year's survey will be no different.

"As a result of last year's survey, areas like training and development, teamwork and employee recognition have improved greatly," he explained. "Some organizations have collaborative decision making, where employees are more involved in the decision making processes on key issues, and most have implemented some type of employee recognition program to let employees know they're appreciated. The survey really does make a difference."

The Support Equipment

PAST

Continued from 1A

different B-52 models and other aircraft, before retiring as a master sergeant in 1969.

"It was all good," he said. "I enjoyed the time I served. I flew with ambassadors and presidents (during my time in service)."

In addition, Harner said he was part of the Power Flight crew that flew around the

VACCINE

Continued from 1A

has gotten them down.

You can reduce your chances of catching the flu by getting vaccinated.

The flu vaccine is a mandatory active duty immunization with compliance tracked by DoD due to readiness requirements.

Additionally, every adult older than 50, children between 6 and 23 months old, pregnant women in the second and third trimesters, and individuals with certain high-risk medical conditions (asthma, chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular systems, diabetes, renal problems, and children and adolescents who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy) should receive the flu vaccine.

All high-risk eligible beneficiaries can now report to the Immunization Clinic with their shot record from 7:30 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 3:30 p.m. any Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. If you received a letter from the 78th

What to know

Questions can be directed to:

- Public Health at 327-7613
- Immunization Clinic at 327-7921
- Occupational Medicine Clinic at 327-7591 or 327-7592.

Medical Group identifying you as a high-risk candidate for the influenza vaccine, bring the letter too.

Any non-high risk beneficiary (non-active duty) who desires the immunization can report to the Immunization Clinic starting Nov. 24 during the hours above.

Active Duty members should report with their shot records on:

- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - noon, Base Theater
- Wednesday and Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - noon, Enlisted Club ballroom
- Tuesday, 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. and 1 - 3 p.m., Coats Hall
- Nov. 21, 9 - 11:30 a.m. and 1 - 2 p.m., Coats Hall
- Active duty who don't receive their

flu immunization during the above time frames must report to the Immunization Clinic on a walk-in basis after Nov. 21.

Note that other daily clinic operations may lengthen patient waiting times.

Compliance reports will be sent to commanders on a routine basis as this is a required immunization, which is tracked through the Individual Medical Readiness system.

Civilian (non-contractor) employees should report to Building 207 Monday, 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.

This is the only date and time currently available for civilians since the vaccine was shipped in increments.

However, additional vaccine is expected any day.

There will be updates on the continuation of the program for civilians by marquees and directorate mass e-mails.

To inquire about the status of the flu vaccine stock levels, call the Occupational Medicine Clinic.

Bring your shot record if you have one.

CURRY

Continued from 1A

Papciak and Dr. Dell McMullen, Georgia and Alabama district superintendent of DoD schools, met at the DDESS Area Service Center in Peachtree City, Ga. Oct. 16, along with Curry and an estimated 80 installation commanders, school board presidents and district superintendents to discuss the potential closure of state-side base schools.

According to Curry, any changes that may occur probably won't take effect until the 2007-2008 school year.

The three-part DDESS study officially began last summer, and a final report outlining whether students

schooled at 14 installations will become part of the public school system is due to the Pentagon as early as February.

A draft report is due to reach Robins sometime this month, Curry said.

Within the last year, the forum has allowed DDESS to investigate the feasibility of transferring the schools to respective local education activities, Curry said.

"In the past, I think studies were done where they looked at it in mass," he said. "Our understanding is that in this case, they will look at it on a school-by-school basis. The final report will address the current physical conditions of buildings and the various costs of meeting required local, state and federal

standards for continued operation by DDESS or transfer to the local education agency."

The forum - the last of the three-phase study - gave base communities a chance to voice their concerns to Department of Defense Education Activity Director Joseph Tafoya.

"It's obviously a very emotional issue in the communities," he said. "You could certainly feel the passion in the comments delivered. (From comments made) it was unanimous that people wanted to retain their schools under the DoD structure."

McMullen agreed.

"Commanders were definitely united in their fight to maintain the schools on military installations," she said. "Col. Curry did an

outstanding job articulating the position of Robins' parents and command."

In addition, phase 3 will include a quality of education review, a review of stakeholder comments from previous transfer studies and a review of customer satisfaction surveys conducted by or on behalf of DoDEA.

The DDESS Transfer Study is an objective and impartial evaluation of 58 DDESS schools in the continental United States and the feasibility of transferring them to local education agencies.

Editor's Note: Some information for this article was provided by the Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools.

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Employee receives Service Award

By Lanorris Askew

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U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam presents Steve Rodgers the State of Georgia Excellent Service Award for his efforts at volunteerism. Rodgers works with the REACH program and helps raise money for the Homeless Shelter for Women and Habitat for Humanity.

It would have been easy for Steve Rodgers to take all the credit for receiving the State of Georgia Excellent Service Award, but he said without his co-workers, friends and base leadership his efforts at volunteerism could not exist.

“I feel like it’s a group award,” said the pneumatic mechanic for F-15 maintenance. “I may be the person receiving the award today, but if people don’t volunteer to help or come to see what we do and offer their money, time and talents to get things done, the volunteer work would not be worth anything.”

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam, Center commander, presented the award from Cathy Cox, Georgia secretary of state, recognizing Rodgers for his service to Robins and the local community.

“Steve is not only one of our most capable technicians on the flight line, but in my opinion the epitome of the volunteerism Robins has to offer,” said Wetekam. “It’s absolutely fitting that the Secretary of State recognize him.”

Rodgers, who has been a base employee for 18 years, works with the REACH program, which provides mentors to students from Pearl Stephens, Lindsey, Parkwood and Westside elementary schools. Additionally, as part of the maintenance committee, Rodgers helps raise money for the Homeless Shelter for Women and Habitat for Humanity. Rodgers is part of a team that works security at University of Georgia, Auburn University and Atlanta Falcons football games to raise money for charities.

Rodgers said he loves to see the children he volunteers with in the REACH program smile.

“It’s a way to help develop positive influences on children to help keep them in school,” he said. “It makes me feel better about myself.”

He said his other efforts make life worthwhile.

“If you can do something to bring joy to someone’s life, then your life is worth living,” he said.

CIVILIAN RETIREES

(as of Nov. 7)

Prabhu P. Bakrania,
78th CEG/CECE
Lake E. Brown,
MANPSD
Irene B. Carter,
AFRC/DOC
Charlotte H. Curry,
MAMBA
Daniel C. Doherty,
AFRC/PA
Joseph L.

Giddens,
LFIT
Lena J. Herring,
LESGF
Lynda S. Holliday,
MAIBG
Joyce T. Kimberly,
LGMH
Frank Panaczek,
MABBB
Jamito Pereda,
LT (LG)
Joyce H. Perkins,

(LG) LSANN
Stephen B. Ray,
LNEAV
Ronald L. Sealy,
LEACC
Phyllis J. Stottlar,
MAIBG
Steven G. Sumner,
MAIEW
Wade L. Sumner,
ALC/LGMMB
John Tyson,
MAWHA

rex
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theater
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SF warns: Don't be a statistic – buckle up, or get a ticket

By Staff Sgt. Stephanie M. McCleskey

78th Security Forces Squadron

This year, nearly 8,000 Americans, adults and children will die in crashes because they failed to buckle their seat belts. Security Forces are telling drivers "If you won't buckle up to save your life, then buckle up to save yourself a ticket."

And to reinforce that message, the 78th Security Forces Squadron will issue citations Nov. 17 - 30 to people not wearing motor vehicle safety restraints.

In 2002, motor vehicle crashes took the lives of 1,785 child passengers from infant to 15 years old and injured some 227,000 more. Fifty

percent of them were not wearing seatbelts. The same year, 4,350 teens ages 16 to 19 died and 320,000 more were injured in traffic crashes. Georgia had 30 deaths among children from infancy to 15, 87 teen fatalities ages 16 to 19 years and 477 adult fatalities ages 20 and above. All of those who died were unrestrained.

Child safety seats, when properly installed, reduce the risk of death by 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers. In 2002, among children under five years old, an estimated 376 lives were saved by child restraint use.

Thanks to the continued dedication of law enforcement and stepped-up enforcement campaigns like Click It or

Ticket, the national seat belt use rate has risen to 79 percent - exceeding the national goal of 78 percent.

However, the seatbelt saves lives message is not understood or taken seriously universally. Fifty-nine million Americans are still unbuckled, and traffic accidents are one of the leading causes of death in the U.S.

Officials agree one of the most important, immediate actions the nation can take to protect children and adults in motor vehicles is high-visibility enforcement of seat belt and child passenger safety laws. The American public knows they should buckle up. Despite this awareness, research shows that many are not taking the necessary steps

to protect themselves and their children on every ride.

Since seatbelt campaigns began, child fatalities have dropped by more than 20 per-

cent, child restraint use for infants under 12 months has gone up from 85 percent to 99 percent and restraint use among toddlers ages 1 to 4 has

jumped from 60 to 94 percent. Adult use rose from 62 to 79 percent - the highest use rate ever - with more than 50 million Americans buckling up.

Great American Smokeout Thursday

By Chris Zdrakas

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The Robins Health and Wellness Center will join the American Cancer Society in promoting Thursday's Great American Smokeout, which has helped millions of smokers nationwide quit for good.

The smokeout challenges smokers to quit for the day and to consider giving up the habit for good.

HAWC is encouraging members of the Robins community to "adopt" friends and co-workers for the day and to support their effort to quit. HAWC will have adoption papers and adoption kits available containing items that will help smokers get through 24 tobacco-free hours. The kits will contain stress balls, a list of 101 things people can do instead of smoking, candy, cinnamon sticks, rubber bands and literature about the toll-free quit line - 1-877-270-STOP - sponsored by the Unite Georgia organization. Certified smoking cessation counselors staff the line, available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

The American Cancer Society also offers support and information for smokers who want to quit. They may call 1-800-ACS-2345 24 hours a day or visit www.cancer.org.

Thursday at 3 p.m., the HAWC will award two turkeys - one for adopters and one for adoptees, participating in the smokeout. The names will be drawn at random.

HAWC has teamed up with Robins Elementary School in an attempt to spread the stop smoking message to a wider audience. The school is sponsoring a canned food drive, "I CAN be Tobacco Free," to benefit an area food pantry. Any other organizations interested in participating in the canned food drive may contact HAWC at 327-8480. Robins students are participating in a poster contest to help in the fight against tobacco. HAWC will award a prize for the best poster in each of six grades.

In addition to its smokeout promotions, HAWC offers five-week smoking cessation classes. Each cycle of five-week classes offers noontime and evening sessions. The next series is scheduled to begin Dec. 4.

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A 'stroke' of genius



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Terry Heath saws 6-inch metal stud for the construction of the new paint facility. The 8,600-square-foot facility will be able to accommodate the painting of large pieces of equipment that support aircraft such as tail and wing stands for the larger aircraft worked at Robins. The Industrial Services Division manages more than 7,500 items of aircraft support equipment for the Center.

New paint facility to fix environmental issue, reduce backlog

By Lanorris Askew
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Makeover central for large aircraft support equipment, or ASE, will soon have a new home thanks to a \$3.1 million military construction project set for completion early next year.

Randy Bickley, Industrial Services Division

engineer, said the construction of the new 8,600-square-foot facility is to accommodate the painting of large pieces of equipment that support aircraft such as tail and wing stands for the larger aircraft worked at Robins.

"We don't have a facility on base right now where these larger pieces of support equipment can be taken in to be stripped and painted," said Bickley. "Prior to 1991, when the staff judge advocate halted outdoor painting due to claims of over spraying, the process was performed outdoors."

According to Bickley, since that ban, environmental issues concerning outdoor painting have become much more stringent and outdoor painting is no longer allowed at Robins.

In the mid '90s, the construction of a new Small Item ASE paint facility replaced a smaller paint booth in Building 181, giving the



Bickley



The facility, above, will house two 60-by-60-by-50-foot-high bays with a mechanical room in between. The new facility is set to open in late February 2004.

Benefits of new facility

- ☞ Reduces tremendous backlog of aircraft support equipment (ASE) awaiting corrosion control

- ☞ Reduces potential for serious personal injury or aircraft damage due to equipment failure

- ☞ Prolongs useful life of large item ASE thereby reducing re-procurement costs

- ☞ Sustains compliance with existing federal and state air quality standards.

Maintenance Directorate the capability to paint more of its ASE items.

Bickley said with its 20-by-20-by-40-foot paint booth, MAD was able to begin painting some of the backlog of large item ASE, but even with this addition, they still struggled with the larger pieces and corrosion

issues.

"If the equipment is not stripped and painted, usually on an average of about every five years we have to do a lot more intensive corrosion control inspection on it to make sure it's safe for the workers to use," he said.

When complete, the facility will house two 60-by-60-by-50-foot-high bays with a mechanical room in between.

"We will be able to do stripping operations in one bay and then take it over to the next bay to be painted," he said. "There has been a tremendous amount of teamwork here locally to bring this project about. Personnel from the ASE contractor (S.K.E.), the Industrial Services Division, Civil Engineering, Environmental Management, Bio-environmental Engineering, and the Robins Area Office - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have all contributed locally to make this project a success."

Robins parking 101: 78th Security Forces define the rules

By Chris Zdrakas

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The ideal parking spots – the ones nearest the entrance – are few. The drivers seeking them are many.

The inverse relationship between the supply of the perfectly positioned rectangles of lined, black-topped real estate we call parking spaces and the demand that exists for them poses a problem – illegal parking. And any hunt for the perfect spot that ends in a place marked "reserved" or "handicapped" poses another problem – parking tickets.

"While it might be tempting to take someone else's parking place, it's not the right thing to do," said Staff Sgt. Stephanie McCleskey of the 78th Security Forces Squadron

police services section. "Taking just a few extra minutes to park elsewhere is the right thing to do."

On any given day, Robins will be the destination for more than 25,600 base personnel – military, civilian, contractor, vendor and other visitors. Even though the base has large expanses of parking lots, spaces in certain areas are at a premium, making illegal parking a tempting, but ill-considered option, McCleskey said.

Violations could lead to suspension of base driving privileges; vehicles could be towed at the owner's expense or both things could happen.

Security forces provided the following review of the general parking rules in hopes of making drivers

more aware that where they park does matter:

- ☞ Park vehicles in designated parking lots and spaces. Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis, with the exception of reserved parking.

- ☞ Don't park in seeded areas or areas not specifically designated for parking.

- ☞ Base housing occupants should park in their designated driveways or spaces.

- ☞ Park motorcycles in marked triangular-shaped spaces at the ends of parking lanes unless lined out for safety or security.

- ☞ Don't park in reserved or handicap spaces unless authorized. Handicap placards must be clearly displayed when occupying a handi-

cap slot.

Security forces and parking monitors have been directed to step up enforcement actions in the following areas because of an increase in illegal parking:

- ☞ Parking lot on Perimeter Road between the Green Street Gate and Hangar 89

- ☞ Parking lots in the area of the flight line Gate 38 and Building 146

- ☞ Parking lot adjacent to Building 197/fuel pumps

- ☞ Parking lots surrounding and near Buildings 300 and 301

- ☞ Parking lots east of the Building 640 Avionics Complex

- ☞ Parking lots in the area of Building 645

- ☞ Parking lot east of Building 901

- ☞ The Base Service Station

- ☞ Parking lot on Peacekeeper Way at Building 368

- ☞ The athletic fields on Hawkinsville Street

- ☞ Parking lot for Building 220 off of Richard Ray Boulevard

- ☞ Surrounding Building 127 on the flight line

- ☞ Parking lot for Building 165 next to the water tower off of Richard Ray Boulevard

Security Forces personnel assist people planning special functions. Typically parking spaces approved and designated for special functions are temporarily identified by cones, ropes or signs. Those needing spaces for special functions may contact Police Services at extension 926-2118.

New pharmacy system begins Monday

78th Medical Group

On Monday the pharmacy at the 78th Medical Group will completely change the way prescriptions are filled.

Due to Department of Air Force efforts to standardize the prescription-filling process at all military pharmacies, a new automated dispensing system will be installed at Robins.

The PharmASSIST system incorporates bar coding for all products. The system reduces filling errors by requiring that each medication stock bottle be scanned before being added to the automated counting cell. Prescription labels are also scanned to release medication from the cell for dispensing into the patient's bottle. The system makes a photocopy of each written prescription so that it may be brought to the computer

screen at any time.

Quality assurance features provide multiple levels of security and maintain an electronic audit trail of all activity. These extra steps require a few extra seconds to process each prescription but procurement of this system will ensure that the 78th Medical Group Pharmacy maintains its high standard of care.

Another addition is the Pharmacy Data Transaction Service, which is a combined prescription database that monitors for interactions and overlaps of medications filled at military pharmacies, local TRICARE pharmacies, and the national mail-order pharmacy.

This system also requires a few extra seconds on each prescription to electronically check all the other pharmacies.

Both of these safety fea-

tures require use of the base local area network computer system, therefore, LAN downtime will cause pharmacy downtime.

Please pardon our progress as these changes are being incorporated. Beyond initial set-up and training on new equipment, a determination must be made on the best utilization of this new system.

It's designed to improve accuracy and patient safety, not speed. Other facilities have experienced wait time increases of up to two hours initially. At the volume of prescriptions filled at the base pharmacy, an extra 5 seconds per prescription will add 2 hours of work per day.

While your wait may be longer than you would like, accuracy is the most important factor. Someone will be available in the pharmacy lobby during this transition

phase to advise you of the current waiting time and provide any additional information needed. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Wait times are at the highest Tuesdays, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. every day and Friday afternoons. You may want to avoid these times if possible.

There is an alternative for refills. If you have access to a government computer, you are encouraged to visit our secure Web site for online refills of medications. Active duty, retirees and family members may use this system from a base computer, however it will not work from home computers due to firewalls and security issues.

During this implementation phase, volunteers would be appreciated. If you are interested, contact the pharmacy at 327-8150.

Center Small Business program performance

Category	FY01	FY02	FY03
Small Business Base	\$2.14B	\$2.76B	\$3.38B
Small Business	\$399.4M	\$571.1M	\$710.4M
Small Disadvantaged	\$74.1M	\$139.9M	\$163.2M
Woman-Owned	\$23.2M	\$45.6M	\$64.2M
HUBZone	\$10M	\$20M	\$47.8M
Service-Disabled Veteran	N/A	\$0.6M	\$4.3M

Center posts record numbers for 2003

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center experienced yet another banner year in its small business program. For fiscal 2003, the Center achieved its goals in awards to small, small disadvantaged and woman-owned small businesses. Awards to small businesses totaled \$710.4 million (\$32.4 million of which was through the Flexible Acquisition Sustainment Tool Program), to small disadvantaged businesses totaled \$163.2 million, and to woman-owned small businesses totaled \$64.2 million.

– Fred Anderson, Small Business Office

Robins gives more than fair share in CFC

By Lanorris Askew

lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Everyone talks about giving 100 percent; but the folks at Robins Air Force Base walked the walk during the Middle Georgia Combined Federal Campaign giving nearly 104 percent.

Supporters of the campaign gathered at Friendship Park Nov. 7 to celebrate base contributions totaling nearly \$1.3 million - 103.60 percent of the goal.

According to Ella Williams, this year's CFC chairperson for the local Federal Coordinating Committee and deputy chief of operational contracting at Robins, the total amount



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

CFC supporters attend a picnic Nov. 7 to celebrate a successful contribution drive at the base.

raised this year was \$1,295,593.

"It was a challenge, but a welcome one that ended in a very successful campaign,"

she said. "I want to thank everyone who contributed this year for their continued commitment to these worthy causes."

Gen. Darryl Scott, Center vice commander, attended the victory celebration and presented Williams with the Eagle Award for her work with the campaign.

Paul Nagle, CFC director for 10 Middle Georgia counties, in turn presented Scott with an Eagle award for the base's contribution as a whole.

Nagle said the CFC offers employees an opportunity to give something back to their community by making financial contributions to local and national charitable organizations.

Williams said even though the campaign just ended, they're gearing up for a successful 2004 campaign.

union
58703401

Got news?

E-mail the Rev-Up at
Robins.Revup@robins.af.mil

Preventing aches, pains at the office

78th Medical Group

Many of us have some misinformation about office setup and posture.

Conventional wisdom is not always the best. For example, conventional wisdom for keyboard angle is that it should be flat or raised on its little support legs.

However, the keyboard angle should be in the same plane as the forearm which means that a low keyboard should be slanted back. Even the "common sense" approach is not always correct.

Common sense tells us that there is a correct posture when seated.

Good ergonomics would indicate that posture change is as important as the "correct" posture.

Workers who sit still all day typically have as many back problems as those who stand all day.

The good news is that there are simple ways to help yourself.

For prevention strategies, offices are encouraged to make use of a CD available through the Ergonomics Working Group.

Request the "Ergo Health" CD, which will enable you to set up your workstation while seated in your work area, by calling 327-7618.

ROBINS CLUBS

Robins Top 3 Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. in the Enlisted Club. For information call Master Sgt. Joyce Jones at 926-4997 or Master Sgt. Andrea Johnson at 327-7356.

National Contract Management Association usually meets the third Wednesday of the month in the Officer's Club at 11:30 a.m., but that can change depending on speaker availability. For information, call Michelle Idone at 926-2231.

Procurement Toastmasters Club, open to all of Team Robins, meets the first and third Thursday of each month at noon in the Contracting Directorate's conference room, north end of Building 300. For information, call Lily Fickler at 926-2855.

Information is provided by club members. To have your club or group's information included or updated, submit it to Angela Trunzo by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597.

armed
58671601

Leadership lessons present all around

By Senior Master Sgt. William Hartley
752nd Munitions Support Squadron first sergeant

VOLKEL AIR BASE, Netherlands (AFP) – As airmen, we are constantly reminded we are all leaders, and as we gain rank and responsibility, the ability to lead becomes more critical.

While I was preparing for promotion testing by reviewing the Promotion Fitness Examination Study Guide, Chapter 7, "NCO Leadership," I was taken aback by the paragraph on self-evaluation and how it is hard to be the complete leader.

Rarely will people find someone who can say, "Yes" to each of the questions. So, for each question I tried to think of an example, and realized that great leadership is evident in each NCO assigned here.

New NCOs only have to use their eyes and ears to gain fantastic examples of what works and what doesn't. Great leadership examples aren't exclusive to colonels and chief master sergeants, but are also displayed by our youngest and brightest airmen.

For example, question No. 1 asks: "Do I have the courage to make tough decisions and stand by them?"

This is the toughest question and the most difficult for young supervisors to do. The example I use is a technical sergeant giving an honest, less than fire-wall mark on an enlisted performance report after repeated feedbacks failed to bring the expected behavior. The troop

"New NCOs only have to use their eyes and ears to gain fantastic examples of what works and what doesn't. Great leadership examples aren't exclusive to colonels and chief master sergeants, but are also displayed by our youngest and brightest airmen."

might have been bright, energetic and very popular within the unit, but he failed to complete mandatory training in the prescribed time. The technical sergeant stuck to his guns on the rating, despite the scrutiny. That is a leader.

Another example reflects on question No. 10: "Am I willing to accept my subordinate's failures as my own, yet immediately recognize their successes as theirs?"

My organization recently completed an in-depth inspection to prepare for our upcoming surety inspection. Within one flight, there were significant failures as well as noted strengths. This particular superintendent was the first to congratulate his airmen whose duties were recognized as superior and accepted the failed areas as his own.

My favorite question is No. 9: "Do I really listen? Can I withhold judgment until I have all the facts?"

Though I have been a first sergeant

only a short time, I have been blessed to work for two different commanders who display the gift of patience. When a problem or issue arises, they are not quick to jump to a course of action. Rather, they always seem to draw all the appropriate information out of folks before acting. This is leadership at its finest.

Lastly, question No. 4: "Am I willing to do my best with what seems to be inadequate means?"

During one of my work center visits, our communication maintenance shop was troubleshooting a piece of equipment. Frustrated that the equipment wasn't responding according to the technical order, I asked if they had additional references. I was surprised to learn that most problems encountered with this equipment weren't listed in the technical order. Over time, they had built an in-house checklist of potential fixes and continued to add to it as unique challenges faced them. Everyday NCOs are doing their best with inadequate technical data to keep the mission going. Fantastic leadership.

I've only covered four questions of the 12 listed in the PFE to show that great leadership happens all around us. New NCOs as well as old can simply look around and see living examples.

It is rare that you will find the perfect leader. Each of us contributes based on our strengths. Each of us has shortcomings to improve. I urge new staff sergeant-selects to look around when seeking lessons in leadership. They are all about us.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian Davids

Honoring American veterans

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan – (Left to right) Airman 1st Class William Jannisch, Staff Sgt. Cassie Letendre, Airman 1st Class Jason Ventura and Senior Airman James Butler conduct a retreat ceremony honoring American veterans. The ceremony was on the roof of a Soviet-built aircraft control tower here Tuesday. The airmen are assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. Jannisch and Letendre are deployed from Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.; Ventura is deployed from Cannon AFB, N.M.; and Butler is deployed from Minot AFB, N.D.

We are an Air Force of three core values

By Lt. Col Jack L. Briggs
612th Air Base Squadron commander

SOTO CANO AIR BASE, HONDURAS (AFP) – We are airmen. We survey the entire battle space at once, attack in parallel and support in 3-D.

We supply troops on the way in and we return the wounded home with honor.

We are there before first contact with the enemy occurs.

We are there to bring the last soldier home.

We are an Air Force of three.

Integrity: We advance on the mission. Our airman's mission is air and space expertise and the visible "flag on the hill" we accelerate toward. Our word is our bond and others trust us to

be there when we say we will, everyday.

Integrity is the engine that drives our success. We will provide the intelligence, we will prepare the battlefield, we will deliver the goods. We never settle for the limits of the past to define who we can be tomorrow.

Service: We focus on the welfare of others. We use our unique perspective as airmen to develop solutions

to problems, achieving the desired effect while often using equipment and training in new and innovative ways.

We "check each other's six" on the ground and in the air to mitigate risk. Imagination is our only limit in meeting others' unmet needs. Flexibility is the key to our power.

Excellence: We are world-class stewards of our nation's resources. We recognize that our nation, family and friends provide us

personnel, equipment and finances to focus on the welfare of others and advance on the mission.

We live and breathe safety because every resource preserved is another available for the mission.

We enable the synergistic advantage of joint operations by moving and employing resources when and where

they are needed most.

No other nation comes close to our air and space dominance.

In a modern world where everything is relative, these Air Force core values are three solid foundations to anchor the present and to plan our future.

If you have ever wondered who we are: We are airmen and we are an Air Force of Three.

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the



Commander's Action Line

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam
Commander,
Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

Col. Tom Smoot
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing



Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage at <https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be

printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.

Security Forces.....	327-3445
Services Division.....	926-5491
EEO Office.....	926-2131
Employee Relations.....	926-5802
Military Pay.....	926-3777
IDEA.....	926-2536
Base hospital.....	327-7850
Civil engineering.....	926-5657
Public Affairs.....	926-2137
Safety Office.....	926-6271
Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline.....	926-2393
Housing Office.....	926-3776

National anthem sound quality needs improvement

Can something be done about the quality of the recording of the Star Spangled Banner that plays from Building 215 at 5 p.m.? Each day Retreat sounds loud and clear. However, when the anthem is played, it sounds as if the squelch has been set too high. The sound quality is very poor and as a result, barely audible (at least to the east of Building 215).

Also, though it may have something to do with the audio, there seems to be many people who do not observe flag etiquette. I know enough to stand at attention and cover my heart with my hand or my headgear as the flag goes down. It's a small, short gesture that is part of the fabric that holds us together, especially on a military installation, especially in these times.

Col. Smoot replies: You are correct that the quality of our national anthem using our current Mass Notification System

is poor. A new MNS with the capability for compact disk input is currently in the acquisition process and should be completed by June 2005. Once the new system is installed, we will be able to dispose of the tape and use a CD that will provide digital quality with a nearly unlimited lifespan. Coupled with the quality and coverage of the new system, no one on base should have a problem hearing the crystal clear version of our national anthem. I thank you for your concern and patience.

Car show handicap parking

My family attended the Wings and Wheels Car Show. It was a wonderful event with one exception. There was no handicap parking. There wasn't even a handicap drop-off/pick-up point near the museum. Please try to correct this for future events at the museum.

Maj. Gen. Wetekam replies: Thank you for bringing this

serious oversight to my attention. As you may know, the Museum of Aviation Foundation sponsored 2003 Wings and Wheels Car Show recently held at the Museum of Aviation has evolved into a major annual event, which not only benefits the Museum, but provides enjoyment to hundreds of aviation and automobile enthusiasts. After your call, I discovered the museum staff did provide support to handicapped visitors when requested but they clearly failed to advertise assistance available for the handicapped and no handicapped parking was reserved for the event. Appropriate accommodations for the handicapped, to include parking, will be available at the next Wing and Wheels Show and for any other large function held on the museum grounds. Please accept my apology and while pleased with the large turnout for the event and the public show of support for the museum, I'm very sorry that you were subjected to unnecessary hardship. I hope this experience will not deter you from attending future events and that you share my excitement of what the Museum of Aviation is doing for our community.



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Turning mountains into molehills

Dual military couples share not only a commitment to each other, but also a commitment to service. Today's article is the second in a three-part series that looks at how dual military couples, with differing life challenges and military careers, at Robins are making their marriages work against all odds.

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

From the fight to protect their country to the everyday battle of raising their families, these couples are facing the challenges of dual military marriages together.

Servicemembers shoulder the responsibility of military duty 24 hours a day - sometimes leaving little quality time for loved ones.

"One of the biggest challenges is definitely being a cop," Stephanie McCleskey

Part

2

Dual
Military
Couples

said. "When 9-11 happened, we both worked 12-hour shifts. He worked days, and I worked nights. We only got to see each other at shift change."

The McCleskeys said they discussed the potential difficulties they could encounter as a dual military couple before they married and devised a plan to work around the obstacles.

"We look forward to the challenges I must say," he said. "If there were no challenges, it would be boring."

In addition to finding time for each other, dual military couples have the challenge of raising their children in an ever-changing environment.

Surprising news of having their nine-month-old twin sons, Alexander and Cole, doubled the LaDrews' challenges.

"I had gotten used to the deployments, but the last one was pretty hard because I was pregnant with the boys," she said. "The military was good to me when I was pregnant. I had to be on bed rest, so Mark was able to stay home with me."

Lengthy deployments that carry either mom or dad away can prove to be even more challenging when little minds can't comprehend.

"When David went on his 21-month deployment, it was hard for things to get back to normal when he came back," Barbara Omstead said.

"Katharine was almost 3 and Cecilia Rose was 10 months old at the time. Kat has always been a daddy's girl, but Cecilia was so small when he left that it was like he was a stranger to her when he came back."

Four-year-old Katharine Eva Omstead, who was in the midst of "potty training" during David's deployment, really had a hard time dealing with her father's absence.

"When David came home for a visit, a few months into his tour, she had an accident in her pants," she explained. "When David had to go back, she thought he left because of that. She ended up having trouble with her potty training after that because she thought she made daddy upset and made him go away."

Omstead said this emotional experience reiterated the importance of communi-

The pros and cons of dual-military spouse marriages

Pros

☞ You're more likely to be able to relate to each other since you are in similar career fields.

☞ The military offers many opportunities for travel and education.

☞ There are certain tax breaks allowed for military members (check with the Robins Tax Office at 926-2635 - open Jan. 24 through April).

☞ You have the support of the Air Force family.

Cons

☞ Likelihood of being deployed at the same time is high.

☞ You may often spend a great deal of time apart.

☞ It's sometimes a challenge to get stationed together.

☞ Conflicting schedules and long work hours.

- compiled from dual-military spouse couples interviewed

cating to children that it's not their fault when their military parents have to go away on assignment.

Being a part of a dual military marriage presents challenges not always present in civilian relationships, said Omstead.

"It's definitely harder," she said. "As Maj. Barbara Omstead, I'm an Air Force field grade officer with a commitment to my nation and to freedom. As Barbara Omstead, I'm also a wife and mother committed to my husband and small children. Sometimes, these commitments don't work together."

Having children is challenging enough for some couples. But bringing children together from previous relationships with a dual military mother and father can create a whole new set of problems. For the Lowes, teamwork keeps the challenges minimal.

"We really want to be

there with our kids to teach them morals and values - and we want to do it as a team," she said. "When you work a civilian job, a lot of times you can get off work and come home. Being military, we're not able to go home until the job is done."

With children ranging in ages from 10 to 18, in addition to raising their 15-year-old nephew, the Lowes said they feel fortunate.

"We've been really blessed," she said. "I think we've been blessed not to have to deal with many challenges being in the military can present."

Challenges test many relationships. But these couples have found solutions that help them pass with flying colors.

Editor's note: See next week's edition of the Robins Rev-Up for the third and final story in our series on dual military couples.



The McCleskeys



The LaDrews



The Omsteads



The Lowes

ellen's
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westminis
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imports
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Veterans Day 2003 The Rev-Up pays tribute to the men and women who serve our nation

Veteran honors others, shares story OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Staff Sgt. Lucus Fletcher could've taken time to relax this Veterans Day. He could've spent the entire day with his wife and three children. He has certainly earned it, since he has spent more than a third of this year separated from them. But, that's not his style. He was busy saluting veterans and sharing a war story of his own.

Fletcher, a power production craftsman with the 53rd Combat Communications Squadron, spent his Veterans Day marching in a local parade and then speaking to fourth-graders at Perdue Elementary School in Warner Robins, telling them about his recent deployments during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"I want to make sure people get the right story about what happened," Fletcher said. "The media always focuses on the negative. You don't always hear about the progress made over there. By speaking, I was hoping to raise awareness with children. I wanted to open their eyes as to what's going on and make them patriotic."

Fletcher, who joined the Air Force in September 1995 for "the lifestyle and a challenge," was also carrying on a family tradition of sharing war stories. His grandfather, a retired senior chief petty officer, served in the Navy during the Korean War and his father was an infantryman during Vietnam, serving two tours.

"When I was a kid, my dad and



Courtesy photo

Capt. Michael Dee and Staff Sgt. Lucus Fletcher set up a Deployable Independent Communications Element in Northern Iraq.

grandfather were telling the 'when I was in' stories," he said. "I felt a part of a family legacy when I deployed. In the beginning, I didn't really think about it. But being over in Iraq, I started to actually live during a wartime environment. It had a huge impact on me."

Although the deployments were tough - he missed his newborn's first steps and after returning from one deployment, left for another within a month - he said it was worth the sacrifice and made him appreciate the stories veterans tell.

"It's easy to lose sight of why we're over there. I want to keep it at the forefront of people's minds. When I was a kid, I used to hear stories about Pearl Harbor all the time growing up. It has only been a couple years since the World Trade Centers were attacked and already, they are forgotten."

However, he doesn't forget, and he said he's going to do his part to make sure others don't forget the sacrifices of brave men and women.

- Staff Sgt. Adam Stump

A time to recall those lost WORLD WAR II

Veterans Day is not only a day to celebrate those who gave service to their country, but also a time to remember those who gave all they had - their lives.

Lovell Spackman, who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, said while many



Spackman in 1943

are honored on Veterans Day, it's important that people remember those who lost their lives defending our country.

"I think of all the friends I lost," he said. "I think of their sacrifices, and how our great nation is still free on this day. We're not just honoring veterans like me - we're honoring those who never came back."

The 80-year-old Thatcher, Idaho, native began his active duty career in the Army Air Corps in spring of 1943, and began flight training through the Aviation Cadet Program in October 1942.

"I've piloted aircraft from C-47s to B-50s," he said. "Helping support the British Army when they kicked Japan out of Berma in Chittigong, India, was one of the best things I remember from my wartime experience. They tried to take over China, but we were able to help stop them."

Throughout his wartime service, Spackman piloted C-46, C-130 and B-50 aircraft. He served as a command post operator and nuclear weapons supply officer while in ser-



Spackman today

vice between wars.

Spackman never earned a Purple Heart while in battle, but he said his wartime experience alongside fellow servicemembers during World War II is something he will not soon forget.

- Holly J. Logan

A time to remember KOREAN WAR

Although it's often called the "forgotten war," Jeff Pierce said he would never forget.

Pierce, a 71-year-old Perry, Ga. native, served in the Korean War from 1951-1955.

During his service with the U.S. Navy, Pierce served as a radarman, landing amphibian aircraft by radar and keeping watch for enemy ships and aircraft.

"I was overseas for about eight months," he said. "We operated the

combat information center, where all the combat related information is gathered and used.

I was aboard an amphibian command ship, carrying a task force commander."

The retired sailor said his service was inspired by others before him.

"I grew up during the time of World War II, and thought that those people were heroes," he said. "When the Korean War came up, I felt obligated to serve as they did."

Although he doesn't see himself as a hero, Pierce said Veterans Day is time to honor those who earned that distinction.

"I'm not a hero," he said.

"I never heard a shot fired in anger while serving. But I enjoyed my time in service and knew that what I was doing was worthwhile. This is a time to honor the people who actually fought in war."

- Holly J. Logan

One young man's journey VIETNAM WAR

The year was 1968, Lyndon B. Johnson was president, Martin Luther King Jr. had just been assassinated and Charles Drake, then only 19 years old, received an invitation in the mail.

"It began, 'Greetings from the President of the United States of America,'" said Drake, now a management analyst for the Center's Manpower Office.

That invitation, his official draft notice, would set in motion events that would send him thousands of miles from home and burn unforgettable images into his memory.

Drake served in the Army for two years; one year and five days of which was spent in Vietnam fighting a war many didn't agree with.

"I remember being called a baby killer by the war protestors, but I didn't pay that any mind," he said. "Soldiers go where they're directed to go, and do what they have to do."

Drake said he knew when he was drafted he would be going to Vietnam, and it gave him a sort of eerie feeling, but he had made his peace with God.

While serving in Vietnam, the machine gunner saw a lot of action.

On two separate occasions he had men die in his arms while waiting to be evacuated to the hospital.

"They both seemed like they were both at peace when they died," he said. "I think about them and their families often. A lot of the men that died were married, and being that I was single at the time, they would let me read their letters."

So close to death so often, Drake said survival was always at the forefront of his mind.

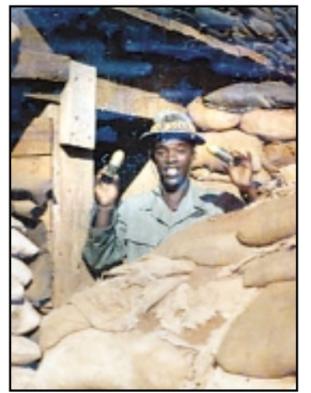
"I was caught in two terrible ambushes, and by the grace of God, I was able to get out of them both without a scratch," he said.

While serving, Drake said his first thoughts were to take care of his comrades.

"There was no such thing as a normal day," he said. "Some days you fought; some days you didn't. I have gone on operations where we fought for nine days straight."

Drake said a lot of times people got "a little edgy" because they knew it was coming.

"There was no peace of mind," he said. "The fight was always at the forefront of an infantryman's mind, and the main thing was to look out for your buddies."



Drake in 1968



Drake today

Seven hundred sixty eight people were killed in his regiment, the 11th Calvary.

"I was so glad to get back home, and my mother was relieved too," he said.

"I lost a lot of friends in Vietnam - good friends and good soldiers."

Drake said he lost more friends after his and their return as a result of illnesses related to Agent Orange.

"In my mind there is no in glory in war. Maybe it's a necessary evil," he said.

He still receives Christmas cards from his first sergeant and lieutenant.

For his valor and service, Drake received, the Bronze Star for valor, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service, Republic of Vietnam campaign medal, Vietnam Service Medal, national defense service medal, Good Conduct Medal and others.

"When I reflect on Veterans Day I remember that freedom is not free, someone pays for it. In Vietnam, as in all wars, all gave some and some gave all. I reflect on the sacrifices so many have made, and I hope their contributions are appreciated."

- Lanorris Askew



Pierce today

Chief taps limited resources to get job done DESERT STORM



Mitchell today

Chief Master Sgt. Sam Mitchell found out that necessity is indeed the mother of invention when he and the rest of his communications team in Bahrain relied on flexibility and hard work to get their jobs done.

Unlike many Desert Storm troops, then-Staff Sgt. Mitchell didn't have to dodge Scuds. His greatest adversaries during Operation Desert Storm were time and workload.

A radio operator, Mitchell, 78th Air Base Wing superintendent, became a jack-of-all-trades during the war, "going in and putting in capabilities that didn't exist." Long-haul communications and building and sustaining a tactical telephone network to keep it running in the harsh desert environment enabled the deployed composite wing he supported to communicate with authorities in the U.S. and those in theater who were

making the war decisions.

He was stationed in Bahrain with the 3rd Combat Communications Group from Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. Bahrain was within flying range of Kuwait, but offshore and populated by what Mitchell described as "a U.S.-friendly population." He was on the installation that was home to the Bahraini Air Force, but lived in a 12-person tent. It was air-conditioned, but blowing sands found their way inside every day. A 55-gallon drum cut in half served as a toilet when he began his tour of duty in Bahrain, but when his seven months abroad ended, "civil engineers had installed bathroom facilities nearly as nice as home...but not quite as private."

Because of the location and the people, the threat of ground attack was substantially less, he said, than for the

mainland. Still, troops were vigilant, with good reason. One Scud landed just outside the installation's gates. No one was injured.

Mitchell said few complained about the mission because they knew why they were there.

"I learned the value of a cohesive team and how a group of people motivated to get the job done can come together and make things happen, even with limited resources," Mitchell said.

A highlight for him was getting to know the people with whom he worked on a very personal level - "much better than you would in your normal base environment."

"You work together, live together, and really become family," he said. "We also went through hardships together. When one person had a problem back home, it became everybody's problem. It epitomized

the term 'extended family,' and is the best example of that I have experienced in my career."

He said the worst part of the war was being away from his immediate family, particularly his then-fiancée, Helen, whom he later married.

Veterans Day for him has become a symbol of the patriotism of America's men and women who have put their lives on hold and in many cases on the line to preserve our way of life.

"Veterans Day is an opportunity to celebrate the great and heroic actions of our military and civilian family past and present who have fought for the freedoms we enjoy day in and day out. This is the perfect time to sit down and think about the unbelievable sacrifices these people have made."

- Chris Zdrakas

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Happy Birthday USMC

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman

Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Part of the USMC emblem
5. Only Marine to win Navy Cross 5 times for gallantry/heroism
10. Egyptian river
11. Mongrel
12. Regarding (abbrev.)
13. Part of USMC emblem
15. USAF commissioning source (abbrev.)
16. Punch
17. Type
19. Quik-E-Mart owner on The Simpsons
20. Edge
21. Synthetic material
23. Former Soviet ruler
24. Mock
26. Delay
27. Even
28. Abbreviation for Elmendorf base
30. Urban Legend actress Alicia
31. Church altar
32. Actress _____ Margaret
33. New York district
34. Rip
35. Phoenix Coyote captain Shane _____
37. Former TV show _____-Haw
40. Indonesian paradise
42. USMC motto (two words)
48. Nordic instrument
49. Chooses
50. River in SW Sahara; Rio de _____
53. German cars
55. Canal connecting Mediterranean and Red seas
56. Marine who raised the first US flag over foreign soil
57. Picnic crasher
58. Observe

59. Sovereigns
60. USMC Maj. Ross L. _____; Medal of Honor recipient for Haiti

DOWN

1. Saint
2. Zero
3. Hits
4. Palestinian city
5. Set
6. Major or Minor
7. Epoch
8. Anarchy
9. "Black Sheep" USMC flying ace who was awarded the MOH
11. Doctrine
14. Scary
16. Calendar month
18. Krabappel of The Simpsons
22. Vow
23. Pass (as in running)
25. Famous USMC general; CA base named for him
27. Trails
29. Girl toys
30. USAF bomb dump (abbrev.)
34. China chairman Mao _____ Tung
36. Baby and mineral
38. Snakelike fish
39. Flightless bird
41. USAF defense lawyers (abbrev.)
43. Joke
44. French surrealism artist
45. Toss
46. USMC famous composer/leader of "The President's Own"
47. Seeps
51. USMC 2LT Robert D. _____; Korean War MOH recipient
52. Cry
54. Cycle or form

For puzzle solution, see Nov. 21 edition of the Rev-Up

Puzzle solution for Nov. 7



CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic Masses are celebrated at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Saturday from 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Protestant General Services take place every Sunday at 11 a.m. This

service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and in format.

Protestant Inspirational Services take place every Sunday at 8 a.m.

Protestant Contemporary Services take place 11 a.m. each Sunday at the Base Theater. This service is very informal, with a praise team assisting in singing and includes

both traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

Jewish service time is each Friday at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue. **Islamic Friday Prayer** (Jumua) Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex Rooms 1 and 2.

The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops and seminars are open to all Team Robins employees and their eligible family members. The FSC is located on Ninth Street in Building 794. For additional information, or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

The spouse's connection

The Center's Relocation Assistance Program offers The Spouse's Connection, Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., in Building 945, Family Support Center annex.

Parents getting a head start against drugs

Choice Behavioral will conduct a workshop on Parents Getting a Head Start Against Drugs, Tuesday, 1 - 3 p.m., Building 945, Family Support Center

annex. The workshop will focus on the following topics: Tuning in on Times, We Are Family, Self Esteem, Communication, Stress, Developing Support Groups, All Around the Community, Health Issues Related to Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Values and Peer Pressure, and Appreciating Our Families.

Bundles for babies and infant care

The Air Force Aid Society will conduct a Bundles For Babies & Infant Care class Wednesday, 8 a.m. - noon, Building 827, (old base gym) HAWC classroom.

Community tour

The FSC is sponsoring a Community Tour for Team Robins members and their family members, Wednesday, 8:30

a.m. - 1 p.m. Meet at the center. The tour includes a "windshield" of Macon's downtown and residential historic district with commentary on the history of Macon and its people, past and present.

Smooth move

The next Smooth Move workshop is Wednesday, 8:30 - noon, Building 945, Family Support Center Annex.

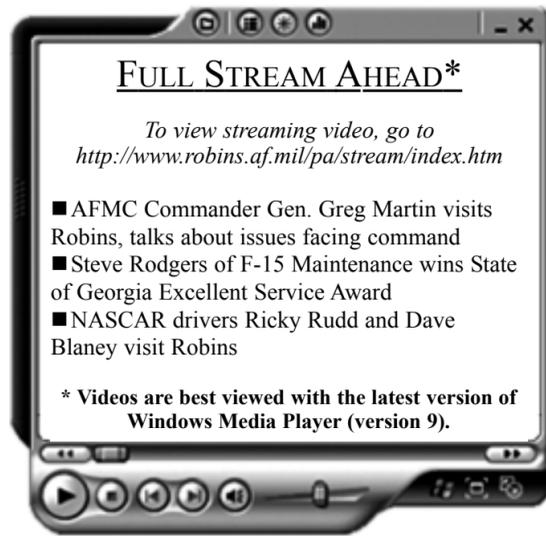
Sponsorship training

The center's Relocation Assistance Program will offer training for beginner and experienced sponsors Thursday, 2 - 3:30 p.m., Building 945, FSC Annex.

Coping with holiday stress

Choice Behavioral will conduct a workshop on Coping With Holiday Stress, Nov. 21, 9 - 10:30 a.m., Building 945, Family Support Center annex.

STREAMING VIDEO



ROBINS REPORT

News from around the base - Watson and Cox Channel 15

- Friday** - 8 p.m.
- Sunday** - 1:30 p.m.
- Monday** - noon

SERVICES BRIEFS

Base Restaurant 926-6972

A Thanksgiving carry-out special will be available that includes a 15 pounds turkey, 8 pounds of combread dressing, half-pan of mashed potatoes, half-pan of green beans, one quart of giblet gravy and one quart of cranberry sauce for \$45.95. Orders will be taken through Nov. 21. To place an order or for more information, call 926-3031 or 926-6972.

Civilian Recreation

922-4415

The Civilian Recreation canned food drive begins Monday and runs through Dec. 19. Each year donations are used to

create holiday food baskets to distribute to deserving families of Robins. Collection boxes will be placed throughout Services facilities and will be emptied each Friday. Collection boxes for areas other than Services facilities can be placed upon request. For more information, contact Lynne Brackett, civilian recreation manager, at 922-4415.

Officers' Club

926-2670

Tickets are on sale now for the Thanksgiving buffet at the Officers' Club Nov. 27, noon - 2:30 p.m. Cost is adults \$13, children ages 6 - 12 years \$6.95.

Smith Community Center 926-2105

The musical showcase, Tops In Blue 2003 "Soaring With Eagles" tour will be held at the Warner Robins Civic Center Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Wynn Dining Facility 926-6596

All active duty and retired military members and their families are invited to a Thanksgiving meal at Wynn Dining Facility Nov. 27, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For a look at the menu, visit www.robins.af.mil/services and go to Food Service.

ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

Breaking of the daily fast

The Islamic community will hold an ifthaar (breaking of the daily fast) followed by taraweeh prayers in the base chapel annex Saturday 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. The invitation to attend is for all those on base and the surrounding community who would like to attend. It will not only be for breaking the fast but for people to ask questions about Islam.

Quarterly awards ceremony

The Robins Quarterly Awards ceremony, hosted by Maj. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, will be Tuesday, 2 p.m., at the Century of Flight Hangar, Museum of Aviation. Show your unit's

spirit and pride; come and join us in recognizing and congratulating our outstanding nominees and winners for the third quarter. For more information, contact WR-ALC/CCC at 926-0792.

Hail and Farewell

A Hail and Farewell, conducted Maj. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam, Center commander, will be Nov. 21 at 4 p.m. in the Officers' Club ballroom. Spouses are invited to attend the event and fellowship that follows. For more information, contact Capt. Rob Kurtz, WR-ALC/LE, at 926-7963 extension 139 or by e-mail at robert.kurtz@robins.af.mil; or Capt. Carrie Solorzano at 472-1605 or by e-mail at carrie.solorzano@robins.af.mil.

Commissary holiday hours

The commissary will operate on the following schedule: Nov. 22 and 24, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Nov. 27, closed; Nov. 28, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Nov. 29, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; and Nov. 30, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information, go to www.commissaries.com.

MPF extended hours

The Military Flight Personnel will be open on the following Saturdays: Nov. 22 and Dec. 13, 10 a.m. - noon. If a dependent or retiree has an ID card that will expire in the near future this is an excellent opportunity to get information updated in DEERS. For more information, e-mail shondrell.edwards@robins.af.mil or call 327-7361/62/63.

Got news for the Rev-Up?

Call us at 926-2137.
E-mail us at Robins.Revup@robins.af.mil.
Fax us at 926-9597

Reynolds visits F-15 production line



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

From center, left to right, Lt. Gen. Richard V. Reynolds speaks with Col. James T. Danielson, aircraft division chief, and Ronnie Luke, F-15 production section chief, during a tour of the F-15 production line Nov. 5. As the designated acquisition commander for the F-15 Weapon System, Reynolds conducted a semiannual review of the F-15 System Support Management Directorate.

HONOR ROLL

Center announces third-quarter winners:
 Airman: **Senior Airman Erika Y. Fisher**, 653rd CLSS
 Noncommissioned officer: **Staff Sgt. Michael W. Saltzman**, WR-ALC LE
 Senior Noncommissioned officer: **Master Sgt. John N. Petain**, 653rd CLSS
 Company grade officer: **Capt. Jeff A. Lancour**, WR-ALC PK

Robins Youth Center received an Excellence in Youth Sports award honorable mention recognition.

The Robins Noncommissioned Officer Academy held graduation ceremonies for Class 03-7 Oct. 23 at the Museum of Aviation, Century of Flight Hangar. The top award winners were as follows:

Distinguished graduates:
Tech. Sgt. Marlene S. Hindman, 116th Air Control Wing
Tech. Sgt. Claudia R. Lowe, 78th Communications Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Brian J. Smith, 53rd Combat Communications Squadron

Commandants Award:
Tech. Sgt. Jerome L. Hopkins, 19th Operations Support Squadron
 Academic Achievement Award:
Tech. Sgt. Claudia R. Lowe, 78th Communications Squadron

The Logistics Management Directorate has announced their inventory management trainers of the quarter for fiscal 2003, fourth quarter. They are **Melanie Conner** from LSAN and **Mary Garza** from LSTPI.

Myra Foskey, program support assistant in the Quality Branch, was named MAN employee of the Month for October 2003.

Rob Brown, technology section chief in the Process Control Branch, was named MAN Supervisor of the Month for October 2003.



Foskey

Museum celebrates 19 years

Members of the 19th Air Refueling Group helped the Museum of Aviation celebrate its 19th anniversary Wednesday. June Lowe, executive vice president, MOA Foundation; Dudley Bluhm, associate director, MOA; Dr. William Head, Robins historian; Eugene Demonet, chairman, Georgia Aviation Hall of Fame; Col. Ray Rottman, commander, 19th ARG; Pat Bartness, president and CEO, MOA Foundation; and (face hidden) Paul Hibbitts Sr., museum director.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling Center 926-2112

A turkey shoot is being held now through Nov. 22. During open bowling, roll three 9-pin no tap games and the participant with the highest score wins a turkey. Cost is \$6. Participants can enter the turkey shoot during league bowling, using their league handicap score, for \$2 per entry. No limit of number of entries.

Enlisted Club

926-4515
Officers' Club
926-2670

Football Frenzy kicks off at noon on Sundays and is sponsored in part by the following: Miller Brewing Co., American Airlines, Double Tree Alana Waikiki and NiteLife Entertainment, USAF Services. No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Fitness Center

926-2128

A blood pressure screening will be conducted Nov. 25 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Customers can have their blood pressure checked and learn how to maintain a healthy reading.

A turkey trot run will be held Nov. 26 at 11:30 a.m. in front of the Wellness Center. Sign up sheets will

be at the front desk of the fitness center for participants to predict their time. Sponsored in part by Atlanta Bread Company. No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Moms on a Roll meets Mondays and Wednesdays, 10-10:50 a.m., at the Health and Wellness Center entrance, Building 827. Power walk the trail and strength train with resistance bands at the end. For more information, call Jackline Baker at 926-2128.

Golf Course

926-4103

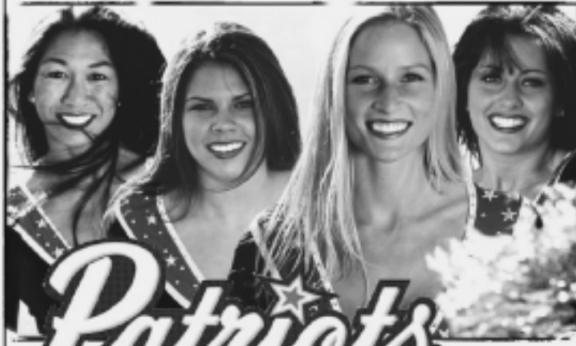
The new tee time calling procedures are the following: active duty (both annual green fee players and non-annual green fee players) on Mondays from 8 - 9 a.m., all AFG players and active duty military Monday 9 a.m. until close of business on Tuesdays, and any player on Wednesdays at 8 a.m.

A turkey scramble is slated for Nov. 22 with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. A four-person net scramble with a minimum handicap of 48. Cost is \$25 AGF, \$40 guests.

There will be a Christmas sale Nov. 22, 2-7 p.m. Shoes, golf bags, clothes, golf balls and more will be on sale.

gold's gym
58754601

roberts
58754801



Patriots
CHEERLEADERS™

Come meet the cheerleaders

Four of the New England Patriots Cheerleaders are heading overseas to perform in Operation Seasons Greetings. On their way they'll be visiting Warner Robins just for you. They'll be available for photos and autographs.

Sunday - 11/16/03
1300 - 1500 hrs
J.R. Rockers
(In the Enlisted Club)



Curious about the new fitness standards?

Go to Air Force Link at www.af.mil, and click on the New Fitness Charts icon.

century21
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mcdonald
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steinmart
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hienergy
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Museum ceremony



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Staff members and volunteers at the Museum of Aviation participated in a veterans appreciation ceremony Monday. Above, people stand for the national anthem. Members of the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron perform a flag folding ceremony. Right, 2nd Lt. Cedric Clark and Staff Sgt. Stanley Scott present the flag before folding while Master Sgt. John Petain narrated.



renee
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new attitude
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morgan
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