



A booming business

See Page 1B

NEWS

You Can Use

9-11 remembrance at Base Chapel today

In remembrance of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Base Chapel will be open today from 3 to 6 p.m. for prayer and meditation and will offer a memorial service at 3 p.m.

The chapel will be open Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon, for prayer and meditation with the altar open for flower donation in memory of friends and loved ones who died on 9-11. Moments of public prayer will be offered at 8:46 a.m., 9:03 a.m., 9:45 a.m. and 10:10 a.m.

—From staff reports

Officer team briefings begin Wednesday

Air Force Personnel Center Acquisition Division briefings for engineers, program managers and contracting officers will be Wednesday through Friday, Sept. 17.

Individual 20-minute briefings will be available for program managers Wednesday and Thursday.

Two mass briefings will be held Sept. 17 from 9 - 11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. in the Environmental Management Conference Room in Building 376. The briefings will cover topics such as status of acquisition career fields, force development, an overview of the assignment process, special assignment opportunities and promotions.

For more information, contact Capt. James Wilson at 926-5042.

—Holly J. Logan

Portion of Byron Street to close

The portion of Byron Street from Building 255 to Third Street will close Sept. 20 and reopen Jan. 14.

The portion of the road is being closed for road widening construction that is designed to help accommodate the increased flow of traffic due to the new main gate.

There will also be some parking spaces blocked off in both parking lots on either side of Byron Street.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Wood at 926-5820 extension 607.

—From staff reports

CFC kick off set for Oct. 6

Robins will kick off this year's Combined Federal Campaign Oct. 6 at the Museum of Aviations' VistaScope Theater at 9 a.m.

Maj. Gen. Mike Collings, Center commander, will be the guest speaker.

The campaign will run from Oct. 6 to Nov. 17 across Air Force Materiel Command as directed by Gen. Gregory S. Martin, AFMC commander.

—From staff reports

The big clean up



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Above, a fallen pine tree reminds motorists Tuesday morning of Tropical Storm Frances' path of destruction through Middle Georgia. Right, Faith Sterling and her dog Max, from Ormond Beach, Fla., stay at Robins Family Campground Sept. 3 to wait out Hurricane Frances.

Robins, surrounding community rebound from Frances' fury

By Holly J. Logan

holly.logan@robins.af.mil

and Geoff Janes

geoff.janes@robins.af.mil

Hundreds of out-of-towners sought refuge from the wrath of Hurricane Frances within the gates of Robins and in the local area during the past weekend. And while the tropical storm, which hit Florida as a Category 2 hurricane, spared massive damage to the base, it left thousands without power and a bit of a mess in its wake.

Angie St. Clair, property manager for Huntington Village, said downed power lines and trees left about 375 units in the privatized housing used to house Airmen and their families without power.

"We have been in contact with Flint Energies," she said during a phone interview Wednesday. "They've said that Houston County was hit the hardest in the local area, and there were about 26,000 residents without power."

Ms. St. Clair said that Flint Energies personnel told her that of those 26,000 homes, 21,000 had their power restored Wednesday and there was a 300-man crew out making repairs.

She said residents in Huntington Village should regain electricity by today.

What to know

About 200 military and civilian workers from the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron have been working since 9 p.m. Monday, clearing small debris from around the base. Contract ground crews have been removing larger debris including about 75 downed trees. Clean up efforts are expected to taper by the weekend.

Johnna Phillips, Family Housing chief, said that Huntington Village was keeping ice on hand for Airmen and their families to use to help preserve their food.

Ms. Phillips said that although Huntington Village suffered a blow to its power capabilities, on-base housing fared much better.

"We had one family with (severe) roof damage, and we're working to relocate them now," she said Wednesday. "Although we did lose power, it was up pretty quickly on Tuesday. Other than that, minor roof damage is about as bad as it got."

From creating stacks of sandbags to protect the base's assets against potential flood damage

Please see **FRANCES, 2A**



Weather flight forecasts the good, the bad and the ugly

Capt. Geoff Dawson, 78th OSS weather flight commander, keeps a close eye on Hurricane Frances Sept. 3.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

By Lanorris Askew

lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Ask the 17 people who work in the 78th Operational Support Squadron's weather flight what a normal duty day is like and nine times out of ten you'll hear "Well, it depends on the weather."

The men and women who man their satellite battle stations daily, preparing the base for upcoming weather conditions, do more than just predict precipitation; they help protect resources and lives.

"Accurate weather forecasts are important to both aviation and ground operations here at Robins," said Capt. Geoffrey Dawson.

The weather flight commander said for flying missions an accurate weather forecast is important for both safety of flight and mission effectiveness.

"The aircraft here have specific weather sensitivities, and it's important for pilots to have a solid understanding of weather conditions both on the ground and at flight level," he added.

Please see **WEATHER, 2A**

Promotion by AFMC commander leaves Airman speechless

By Holly J. Logan

holly.logan@robins.af.mil

Sept. 2 was just another day on the job for Tech. Sgt. Thomas Helm - and then, just like that, his career changed.

Sergeant Helm, an aircraft maintenance craftsman with the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, was installing a right horizontal stabilizer on an F-15 used for his squadron's routine aircraft battle damage repair class, when Gen. Gregory Martin, Air Force Materiel Command commander, made a spontaneous visit to Building 44 that made the 42-year-old Indiana native a master sergeant.

"I was out here working on an F-15 from



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Gen. Gregory Martin, AFMC commander, made a personal visit to Master Sgt. Thomas Helm's work area Sept. 2 to present him with his promotion to master sergeant.

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., and I looked up, and he asked what I was doing," he said. "He asked how many of us had been

Please see **AIRMAN, 2A**

Big changes ahead for Civilian Personnel System

By Lanorris Askew

lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The largest overhaul of the Civilian Personnel System since the 1970s has been set in motion, and Robins' Personnel Directorate leadership is calling it a welcome change.

"In 1978 we had the Civil Service Reform Act that constituted the Federal civilian employment system, and in just the same manner the new system, the National Security Personnel System, will represent just as radical a change,"

said Robert Williams, chief of Personnel Directorate's work force and resources division.

This radical change will affect just under 12,000 appropriated fund civilian employees here and will have significant impacts on how civilians are hired into federal service, how they are compensated and promoted due to performance and other items such as more flexibility, less bureaucracy and reduced time for filling positions according to Mr.

Please see **CIVILIAN, 2A**

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

Today
Mostly sunny
87/67

Saturday
Partly cloudy
88/65

Sunday
Partly cloudy
87/66

What's inside

- C-130J partnership completed **3A**
- Air Force trims oscilloscope inventory **4A**
- Commissary case lot sale starts Thursday **3B**
- Great-granddaughters of Brig. Gen. Augustine Robins visit base **6B**

Remembering 9-11

HOW DID THE EVENTS OF SEPT. 11 CHANGE YOUR VIEW OF THE WORLD?

"The events were shocking, but I guess I wasn't completely shocked because I used to be in the Army and my mindset was already that some people don't like us. I realized though that you can't take anything for granted. Not even one hour of each day is promised to us."



Willie Williams
Air Traffic Assistant

"It made me more aware of what I say and do. You don't want everyone to know you're in the military for security reasons."



Staff Sgt. Joe Healy
Plans & Programs NCO

"It has given me a better perspective on not taking our freedoms for granted but to be more aware of what's going on around you. You also need to appreciate your family."



Master Sgt. James Simmon
Transportation Element Chief

"I think before we were in a comfort zone and thought that nothing could happen to us. We realize now that we're not immune to terrorism. It made us all come together as one and made us more alert to our surroundings and what's going on. All our training really helped prepare us for the tasks ahead."



Tech. Sgt. Marsie McClarin
Supply Craftsman

"It made me more aware of my environment and what's going on immediately around me. It also made me question and try to think outside the box as to why we aren't accepted in the minds and views of the attackers. Why they think the attack was necessary and put us in such turmoil as a country... to just try to understand 'why'."



Staff Sgt. John Hairfield
Aircraft Technician

FRANCES

Continued from 1A

to giving travelers a safer home away from home, people from Robins pitched in to host the weary travelers who had made their way from Florida to Middle Georgia.

Maj. Glenn Sigley, 78th Operations Support Squadron commander and base reception

manager for hurricane evacuation efforts, said people at Robins offered ample refuge to those displaced by the storm.

"Some (people) opened the doors of their own homes to friends and family," he said. "A lot of them simply made room on their couches and floors for people. When we experience situations like this, the way we prepare and overcome them is by teamwork - not just on base, but

with off-base agencies such as Houston Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and our local partners in the community."

Since Sept. 3, Robins billeting and local hotels have provided shelter from the storm for evacuees like 66-year-old Faith Sterling and her four-legged, 12-year-old canine friend, Max, who traveled 370 miles from

their Ormond Beach, Fla., home to set up camp at Robins Family Campground.

"This is a really good and helpful site," she said of the Famcamp. "These folks are willing to go the route to make us feel at home here."

While Robins didn't feel the full force of Frances' fury, Bob Farrell, deputy base civil engineer with the 78th Civil Engineering Group, said the

78th Civil Engineering Squadron is working hard to clean up debris left in the storm's aftermath.

"The first thing we're doing is taking care of safety concerns, followed by operational concerns," he said. "We haven't had a significant amount of damage to the base. The main thing is to get the downed trees taken care of and clean up the mess the storm left."

WEATHER

Continued from 1A

Terms like cloud ceiling height, visibility and wind speed and direction are all critical forecast elements and determine in many instances whether an aircraft is even cleared to take-off or land.

"The height of clouds aloft is important for the KC-135s because they have a certain visibility requirement when refueling other aircraft," said the captain. "The forecast for thunderstorms, icing and turbulence are important because these areas must be avoided. Even the wind speed and direction at 30,000 feet are important because they influence the amount of fuel an aircraft must carry and the time required to get somewhere. If we're off on upper-level winds it can create problems if different aircraft need to rendezvous at a specific time."

While forecasting is important while in the air, it also lends to mission success on the ground and maintenance personnel working on the flight line, or anyone working outdoors, are equally

impacted by the weather.

"High winds and lightning greatly restrict what they can do," said Captain Dawson. "It's important to provide them as much as heads up as possible when inclement weather is threatening so they can take actions to protect themselves and the billions of dollars of equipment on the base."

Tech. Sgt. Milton Threet said although everyone in the flight is officially a weather forecaster, that job title encompasses several duties. One of those is weather observing which is hourly personal views of the weather and recording the data.

"It's through that series of observations here and all around that we're able to put together a forecast," he said.

According to Sergeant Threet, becoming a forecaster is no easy task, but the Air Force provides all needed training to get the job done.

"A person could come into the Air Force with no weather background and get all the training they need," he said.

That training is done at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

The first portion of the course is six

months long and must be completed before the student's first assignment is given. A second course which is three months long is required after the first assignment.

Sergeant Threet who is the weather flight chief, said the courses are a combination of forecasting and observing.

Staff Sgt. Carlos Austin, graduated in March and his first day at Robins was Wednesday. He said so far he is happy with his job choice.

"I've always been fascinated by weather," he said, "I grew up in Florida and have been through a few hurricanes. Right now I am learning the equipment and observing. I am looking forward to gaining more knowledge and learning everything I can."

In addition to giving the pilots their flight weather patterns, they also do weekly briefings to base leadership where they give the forecast and upcoming information so they can make decisions.

"It is critical to keep base leadership aware of when weather could impact the base's mission," said Captain Dawson.

"If needed, they can prioritize and reallocate personnel to ensure the base is ready."

When they deploy, which is not uncommon, their job is to provide weather information for missions such as on-target bomb drops.

"All of the flight personnel are mobility ready," said Sergeant Threet.

"Two of our folks are gone now."

"I'm proud of everything my flight does to help safely and efficiently accomplish the Robins mission," said the Captain Dawson. "I'm especially happy with the job my forecasters did with Hurricane Frances. The base was warned a week ahead of time that the storm could be affecting our area. As the storm got closer they fine-tuned the impacts and kept all parties apprised of the latest information. I believe this resulted in the base being prepared and greatly mitigated the damage that could have potentially occurred."

So, not unlike mail carriers, who through rain, sleet, snow or dark of night must keep to their appointed rounds, the weather flight is always on duty.

CIVILIAN

Continued from 1A

Williams.

He said that flexibility is the key to what they are trying to do.

"With the changing environment that we find ourselves in now, a rigid system like we've had in the past doesn't allow for variances of procedures or for flexibility on the part of the system in differing situations," Mr. Williams said.

A system based on merit

Mr. Williams said workers have voiced the concern that the current system doesn't give enough of a reward or level of recognition for those who are really going above and beyond what is expected.

"You want to be able to reward your top performers, but right now the system isn't as effective as it could be," he said.

He explained that under the current system, based on a successful degree of performance and the calendar, everyone takes advantage of step increases, but under NSPS that will no longer be the case.

"There will be opportunities rather than just a schedule that's rigidly tied to the calendar where individuals who are going far beyond their objectives will be recognized financially rather than performance awards spread over organizations," he said.

Phil House, human resources specialist, said the

new system will address management and employee concerns.

"Not only will there be a significant amount of change with NSPS, but we hope a significant amount of improvement from the perspective of both management and employees," he said. "The systemic changes which are being effected are not necessarily management-centric. To the contrary, many of the NSPS initiatives flow from concerns expressed by employees for years."

There is no firm timetable set yet for implementation of the new system. But, according to Mr. Williams, within the Department of Defense in the next year to 18 months there will be significant changes.

"Right now we have a number of working groups that are actively engaged and meeting at the Pentagon," he said. "Robins has a representative on the staffing working group, Jackie Cleghorn, a senior maintenance manager. It's a very significant opportunity to have one of our managers taking part in one of the working groups representing the entire DoD."



Robert Williams is the chief of Personnel Directorate's work force and resources division.

Michael O'Hara agrees that the new system will bring about positive changes.

"The foundation for NSPS has been a long time coming," he said. "As a matter of fact, 80 percent of what you see contained within the NSPS menu was developed as part of an Air Force Working Group in 1987. That group advanced recommendations to adopt pay banding, pay for performance, streamlined grievance and appeal processes and a way to encourage civilian retirees to return to the workforce without suffering 'dual comp' restrictions."

The director of Civilian Personnel said it has taken 17 years for those forward-looking proposals to make it through the legislative gauntlet, however, all good things come with time and in this case, most of what is contained within the legislation is good.

"These initiatives will reduce both personnel actions and processing time," he said. "Further, the emphasis on pay for performance will enable us to better recognize our most outstanding performers in a more meaningful fashion."

He added that despite those tangible benefits, he understands the trepidation among union partners and some within our work force.

"It seems that change has been constant of late," said Mr. O'Hara. "Naturally, most of us seek both predictability and constancy. With this fundamental shift from a system based largely on longevity to one

based on merit there is concern. I am optimistic, though, that through education and marketing many of those fears will be mitigated. Any time we face changes of this nature there inevitably are new seams of opportunity created. Certainly those who learn the system and accept its advent will be best positioned to take advantage of those new opportunities."

"I see this as a good thing for the federal work force," said Mr. Williams. "I see it as a way that brings us up to par with private industry in terms of better recognizing and aligning individuals in a real-time way consistent with what's needed."

There are a lot of economies, efficiencies and incentives embedded through-

out NSPS that will align themselves very appropriately to the new organizational construct we are moving to with wings, groups and squadrons. The focus there is a capabilities focus, and I think with that we need these flexibilities in terms of human resource management to step up to those mission challenges of the future. I think that DoD will provide just such a framework."

On the Web:

For more information on NSPS visit:
www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html
www.defenselink.mil
www.defendamerica.mil
www.dp.hq.af.mil/dpp/dppn/nsps

karate 61024401 lenn 61018002

inside 61027701

tall 60739001

emmanuel 61024201

union 61024301

jimmy 60988505

C-130J partnership agreement completed

Last plane leaves Robins before Tropical Storm Frances' arrival

By Lisa Mathews

lisa.mathews@robins.af.mil

When warnings of Tropical Storm Frances threatened the departure of a C-130J aircraft, scheduled to leave here Thursday, the work force in the C-130 Production Branch completed the plane for an earlier flight.

The final aircraft completed under the direct sales partnership agreement between Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and Lockheed Martin Aeronautics left Robins the morning of Sept. 3.

Col. Larry Eriksen, deputy director of the Maintenance Directorate, led a C-130J maintenance program ceremony at the flight line area and personally thanked members of the maintenance work force from MABB and the Resource Management Division's Depot Maintenance Partnering Section who were directly involved with completing the work load.

"Each of you can be very proud," Colonel Eriksen said to those gathered in front of



U.S. Air Force photo by Gary Cutrell

Robins completes contract work on the last C-130J early due the impending bad weather from Hurricane Frances last week.

Building 110. "Your hard work made this public-private partnership a model program, and that happened because you all had the same goal and were pulling in the same direction."

The colonel said the war fighting customers were impressed with the maintenance performed by the team here. He said all aircraft were completed at or under cost and one or ahead of schedule.

The partnership agreement was signed last year.

"In this partnership, MA performed C-130J time compliance technical orders, inspections and a variety of over-and-above efforts. The original agreement set forth requirements for MA to perform 14 to 23 TCTOs on 29 aircraft between August 2003 and March of this year," said Emory Griffin, MAWPA chief. "Two additional drop-

in planes were added to the work load following the signing of the agreement. Due to the operations and flight test program at Palmdale, Calif., and the customer's schedule, the last three aircraft arrived here beginning in late July with the final aircraft completed the morning it departed," he added.

This partnership demonstrated the advantages of merging the best support capabilities of both the private and public sectors to provide the best war fighter support, Mr. Griffin explained.

"MA and Lockheed Martin Aeronautics broke new ground with the C-130J," Mr. Griffin said. "This public-private partnership represented the first time Lockheed has partnered with (Warner Robins Air Logistics Center's) MA for critical airframe work. We have proven our capabilities and our desire to become the C-130J repair facility of choice for both Lockheed and the Air Force."

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ROBINS CLUBS

Aerospace Toastmasters meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the Contracting Directorate conference room, Building 300, west wing. For more information, contact Keith Dierking, 926-0420.

Air Force Association Carl Vinson Memorial Chapter 296 meets the second Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the Daedalian Room of the Officers' Club. For more information, contact Julie Vick at 926-2264 or Lynn Morley at 926-6295.

Dixie Crow Chapter of the Association of Old Crows, a professional Electronic Combat organization, meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 11:45 a.m. in the atrium of the Officers' Club. For more information, contact Julie Vick at 926-2264 or Wes Heidenreich at 929-4441.

The Air Force Cadet Officer Mentor Action Program (AFCOMAP) Middle Georgia Chapter, a professional organization dedicated to the mentoring and professional development of all Air Force officers and officer candidates, meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the Daedalian Room of the Officers' Club.

More information can be found on Robins homepage under Special Functions.

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

Officers' Christian Fellowship meets Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. at a member's home. The organization encourages all military members to grow in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ through prayer and fellowship together. OCF serves all active duty officers, enlisted personnel, guard and reserve members, ROTC cadets/midshipmen, international military personnel and civilian employees of military retirees. For more information, contact Capt. Melissa Cunningham at melissa.cunningham@robins.af.mil or 1st Lt. Ann Walsh at ann.walsh@robins.af.mil

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 222-1673.

Ravens Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Special Operations Forces Management Directorate's conference room No. 1, Building 300, East Wing, door E-4. For information, call Eddie Sanford at 222-3052.

Reserve Officers Association Chapter 36, The Flying Tigers, holds its luncheon meetings the second Tuesday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at the Officers' Club. Lunch is pay-as-you-go buffet. Membership is open to Reserve officers of any service component, active or retired, and spouses. For more information, contact Lt. Col. Larry Ruggiero at 327-0227 or Lt. Col. Ray Cancilleri at 327-1622.

Robins Top 3 Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. at the Enlisted Club. For information, call Master Sgt. John Maldonado at 926-7686 or Senior Master Sgt. Cynthia

Cummings at 327-7639.

VFW meetings
■ The Military Order of the Cootie and the Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary meet the second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 922-2154.

■ The House Committee of VFW Post 6605 meets the second Wednesday at 7 p.m. For more information, call 922-2154.

■ The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6605 and the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW meet the third Tuesday at 7 p.m. For more information, call 922-2154.

All of these monthly meetings are held at VFW Post 6605 at 1011 Corder Rd., Warner Robins.

Editor's Note: Information is provided by club members. To have your club or group's information included or updated, submit it to Angela Trunzo in Building 215, Room 106, by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Anyone with a claim for or against the estate of the recently deceased Senior Airman Jesse G. Williamson, Jr. can contact the Summary Court Officer, 1st Lt. Ben Gensic, at 926-5820 ext. 605 or ben.gensic@robins.af.mil.

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AF trims oscilloscope inventory

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

The Air Force is taking a new approach to how it does business for war fighter support.

During the next three years, the Air Force will reduce the number of oscilloscopes – a diagnostic tool to test avionics hardware – from 190 models to three.

It's a change that will save the agency money and material management resources.

Joseph Howard, deputy director of the Support Equipment Commodity Council at Robins, a body that governs the purchase of the support equipment, said the decision shifted the focus of support from products to capabilities.

"Instead of looking at buying individual products, we began looking at what these 190 different products actually measure," he said.

"We took a look at the measurements these oscilloscopes made, and we said it looks like they fit into three categories. So, instead of using 190 different oscilloscopes, let's focus on the measurement capability instead of the products and narrow our use down to three."

Currently, the Air Force has an esti-



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Greg Bookhardt, a precision measurement equipment laboratory technician, calibrates a Lecroy digital oscilloscope, which is used to test equipment on plane and ground radar system.

imated 20,000 oscilloscopes in its inventory. It expects to add 600 within the next three years to be used as replacements as current items become obsolete, Mr. Howard said.

Rita Blair, director of the Support Equipment Commodity Council, said the new approach will serve the war

fighter, with less national stock numbers to be managed in the Air Force's inventory system.

"If we reduce from 190 to three, we'll be buying a larger quantity of the three because we're not having to buy so many varieties that have virtually the same functionality," she said.

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Robins DISA chief strives for efficiency

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

Dennis Bieker, the new site chief and processing element for the Defense Information Systems Agency at Robins, oversees support and maintenance of more than 50 computer data systems, otherwise managed from a remote location at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., that enable thousands at Robins to support the war fighter through logistics and financial functions.



Dennis Bieker oversees support and maintenance of more than 50 computer data systems.

The Chicago native and his staff of 13, made up of system administrators, customer support specialists, security, network and facility managers, serve as liaisons between customers at Robins and the DISA at Tinker. They maintain servers and mainframe applications support for computer data

bases maintained on about 120 computers on the Robins DISA floor in Building 228.

"We continually try to make things more efficient," he said. "In doing that, with the technology we have today, we've been able to retain all of the servers on our computer floor and eliminate the need for systems applications folks. Now, through technology and communication, we're able to remotely administer all of the boxes through Oklahoma City."

Local DISA employees work behind the scenes of computer data systems Robins

employees use every day to meet mission needs to ensure the computers that host their customers have adequate power and are housed in the right temperature to keep them fully operational.

"It's our job to have a computer set up and protected in such a way that whoever the customer is, they'll never even know we're out there. We try to make it as seamless and cost effective as possible."

DISA also maintains systems that support the logistics on base and that track parts and supplies in the Middle East, according to Mr. Bieker.

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Teamwork gets the job done when we're all on a mission

By Patrick D. Rodeheaver
Special Operations
Forces/Combat Search and
Rescue System Program Office
director

The following is an actual event that occurred April 7, 2003, and illustrates the importance of our mission to the war fighter.

Imagine a daring nighttime combat rescue during a blinding sandstorm. The threat of heavy enemy ground fire hampers efforts to reach 10 wounded Special Forces soldiers, pinned down 4 miles south of downtown Baghdad.

The joint search-and-rescue center scrambles helicopters from their forward operating location. En route to the rescue site, they're joined by an escort

flight of A-10 fighters. Throughout the flight, a variety of enemy threat systems locks on the helicopters, but the crews are able to counter them.

When they arrive at the scene, the HH-60 helicopter crews are told to land inside a perimeter formed by armored vehicles. Due to injuries, the wounded must be extracted immediately. The firefight is intense, but because of the crew's dedication and courage, all return safely. The wounded are carried to a waiting MC-130 aircraft, and on to a medical facility. All survive.

We are all on a mission — one that works in consonance with our war fighter to protect our nation and the freedoms we as Americans enjoy. Our

freedoms don't come cheaply. Men and women sacrifice with their blood, sweat and tears on a daily basis. That's why our mission is clear and definitive. We're not here to "just make eight hours".

As the recently appointed director of Special Operations Forces/Combat Search and Rescue System Program Office, I'm extremely proud to be a Team Robins member and to represent the hard-working members of the SOF/CSAR community.

The folks in LU routinely commit themselves to an exceptional standard of performance and provide the best quality products and services to our SOF customers because we realize how important each person is in striving to accom-

plish our goals, and the consequences if we allow ourselves to become complacent.

After the tragedies of Sept. 11, 2001, and subsequent calls to arms in Afghanistan and Iraq, I have experienced firsthand just how vital our best efforts are in supporting the "tip-of-the-spear" war fighter.

Our mission is to provide combat-ready weapons systems, equipment, services and support personnel for the world's best and most efficient Air Force. Some of the support we've provided the war fighter includes:

- Provided aircrews with increased visibility of threats by replacing MC-130H paratroop doors with new large window doors.
- Protected the MC-130H

infrared warning receiver on unimproved runways with the AN/AAR-44 sensor debris shield.

- Allowed navigators to use portable flight planning systems through a digital mapping interface system which modified MC-130E/H/P, and increased situational awareness by overlaying current position data on a laptop computer. Airmen can now fly into threat environments previously denied to them.

- Replaced the hard mounted ceramic armor on MC-130E/P with Velcro mounting capability and blanket armor, making the aircraft lighter and better able to fly low-level missions in mountainous terrain. Aircrews are better protected

from small arms fire.

- Provided AC-130H capability to link with UAV Predator aircraft. The Remote Operations Video Enhanced Receiver (ROVER) modification allowed the aircrew to see threats and targets over the horizon that can't be seen by on-board sensors.

The SOF world is a close-knit family. The people of LU have built personal relationships with our young Airmen, which doubles their commitment to mission success and the safe return of aircrews.

People — our most valuable asset — take pride in their work, and demonstrate a "can-do" attitude which makes impossible tasks do-able. I'm proud to be a part of this family and this team.

Take it from an Airman who knows, wear your seatbelt, period

By 2nd Lt. Joshua Tolk
C-5 reliability engineer

Things seem so surreal when you see blood splattered everywhere and you know that it came from you.

That was what my Honda Passport had been painted in after rolling four times in it from a tire blowout on the highway in May. Dangling there in my driver's seat like a worm on a hook as my car finally came to halt on the passenger door side, I could suddenly see out my broken windshield.

Within my line of sight I could see that everything that was once in the car was now outside - in pieces. There was loose change, my Walkman, even my radio had been ripped out by its wires. Everything seemed to be outside the vehicle and destroyed - everything but me.

I have heard from a number of people, whose thoughts and prayers I greatly appreciate, about how

lucky I was and how I had angels looking over me to come out of an accident that bad with just a scar on my head to show for it.

While it may have been luck or divine intervention that I did not spin out and hurt people in other vehicles, the truth behind my quick recovery, I believe, is because of something far less complex than chance or God's will.

It was because I wore my seatbelt, plain and simple.

Sure, I hit my head, hence the extreme amount of blood in the vehicle, but I can only imagine the far worse scenarios that might have played out had I not worn my seatbelt.

There are commercials on TV and the radio constantly reminding us to wear our seatbelts every day. People watch those advertisements and shrug off the importance of their message because people who haven't been in a car wreck can't

understand how important wearing a seatbelt truly can be.

Fortunately, I became in the habit of wearing my seatbelt long ago because I seem to have that "just in case" mentality.

However, I'll include myself as being one of those people who thought, "I am such a great driver and nothing tragic will ever happen to me on the road." I never thought of a tire blow out having such severe repercussions, but that's why I wore my seatbelt - just in case.

As most of us in the military have taken our Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) training, I find a parallel in that with the rationale of wearing a seatbelt.

Think back to that initial time when we first put on our chemical suit, our gas mask and walked into a room filled with tear gas ready to irritate the ever-loving sanity out of us.

We walked in that room and didn't

know how safe we really were in that setup until, of course, we had to take the mask off and endure the consequences of taking this safety device for granted.

We now have that basis to form our logic for wearing that suit and you gladly relate that horrible sensation to people who haven't gone through it yet.

Similarly, people who have been through the tragedy of car wrecks can now form a basis to rate how crucial a seatbelt is and how seriously their lives could have been altered without it.

So, as one of those individuals, I'm trying to reach out to those of you who haven't had this experience and don't take advantage of your seatbelt.

Here are some quick statistics by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to illustrate the affect of not wearing a seatbelt:

- In 2002, 42,850 people died in traffic accidents. Of that number, 19,103 were not wearing seat belts.

- 4,200 lives could be saved each year if 90 percent of the U.S. population wore seat belts.

- Fatalities and accidents involving those not wearing seat belts costs the U.S. about \$20 billion per year. Of that cost, the public pays for 74 percent of the tab.

- One out of four Americans still does not wear a seat belt.

We place so much value into the preparation of our military operations so that we can be as safe as possible that it's foolish not to take that same rationale over to our personal lives.

Finally, we all know the importance of leading by example. Wearing your seatbelt sets the right example to your peers, subordinates, friends and children. Be careful out there and be prepared. Wear your seatbelt - just in case.

Commander's Action Line



Col. Greg Patterson
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing

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 following addresses: If sending from a military e-

mail system select, Robins Commanders Action 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
MEO.....	926-6608
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

Commander's Action Line

Maybe it's just me, but the tenor of many questions/requests to "Commander's Action Line" that I read lately is disturbing. I find myself amazed by how often commander responses hit-the-nail-on-the-head with comprehension, courtesy, and command quality; not-to-mention the minimal article-inch space within which they manage to

do it. This forum has always struck me as a privilege and not a right. A mean spirit is always the wrong precursor. My cap is off to our responsible and "responsive" CC leadership.

Commander's reply: Thanks very much for the kind comments. Like every program, the integrity of the Commander's Action Line depends upon the professional

manner in which every call or e-mail is managed. The core values of "respect for others" and "excellence in all we do" are two thoughts that come to mind. We realize that any action line submitted is important to the person asking the question, lodging a complaint, or providing kudos to our extraordinary civilian and military work force. Therefore, we owe it to the submitter to respond as quickly, professionally and completely as possible.

Remember to slow down

There have been

589

speeding tickets issued year to date.

How the points add up

Accumulating 12 traffic violation points within a year may cause drivers to lose base driving privileges for up to 6 months. Speeding violation points are based on the number of miles over the posted speed limit.

10 miles = 3 points
11 - 15 miles = 4 points
16 - 20 miles = 5 points
21+ miles = 6 points

Source: AFI 31-204



Airmen Against Drunk Drivers is a 24-hour-service that provides rides to those who have consumed alcohol and need transportation home. The program is run by volunteers from across base, and those who use the service aren't subject to adverse action. **To request a ride, call: 335-5218, 335-5238 and 335-5236.**

Robins DUI tracker

Robins has adopted a zero tolerance policy for drinking and driving. In addition to an incentive for no DUIs and putting up signs to keep the message in drivers' minds as they leave the base, the Rev-Up will run weekly numbers of DUIs.

September: **3** September 2003: **4** Year to date: **47*** 2003: **63** As of Wednesday Number of days since last DUI: **5**

*one of this year's DUIs involved a civilian who is not connected to the base

Best metro format newspaper in the Air Force 2003 and Best metro format newspaper in Air Force Materiel Command 2002, 2003



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78th Air Base Wing
Office of Public Affairs

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ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

To have an item listed in the bulletin board, send it to Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil by 4 p.m. Monday prior to the Friday of intended publication.

ASMC luncheon

The Middle Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers luncheon will be Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at the Enlisted Club. Cost is \$10 for members and \$11 for non-members. The menu will include breast of chicken w/sherry mushroom sauce, oven roasted potatoes, green beans, rolls, tossed salad, tea and coffee. The program will be "Humorous Stories to End Our Close-Out Blues" presented by Ed Grisamore, columnist for the Macon Telegraph. Ticket can be purchased from Kathy Piper at 327-1410, Amy Galeazzo at 472-0381 and Betty Enge at 926-5485.

Troops to Teachers

Bill Kirkland, program manager for the Georgia Troops to Teachers Program, will be at the Education Center, Building 905, Room 248, Wednesday, 10 - 11 a.m. to meet with interested military personnel and spouses. For more information, contact Fran Sheridan, guidance counselor, at 327-7325 or visit www.proudtoserveagain.com.

Reserve band concerts

The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve September concert series honoring local heroes and the dedicated work force at Robins will be held at the Museum of Aviation Amphitheater on the following dates:

Tuesday - Blue Notes, Southern Aire - High energy entertainment and Celtic Rock

Sept. 21 - Reserve Generation - Popular hits from the '60s to today

Sept. 28 - Full Spectrum Jazz Ensemble - From Glenn Miller to contemporary jazz sounds

All concerts begin at 7 p.m. The rain plan is the Century of Flight Hangar.

OSC luncheon

The Officers' Spouses Club luncheon will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Officers' Club. Enjoy some mingling, have a delicious lunch, and get set to plan the year's activities. New members are welcome. All reservations have to be called in by noon Monday. Members who have permanent reservations should cancel by noon Monday if they can't attend. If a reservation isn't canceled by noon, then the member will be charged for the meal. Call Beth Huber

at 922-6628 if your name begins with A-M and call Suzanne Cahill at 329-0489 if your name begins with N-Z. E-mail reservations or cancellations can be made at BethOSC@mindspring.com.

IT expo

A technology exposition will be held Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers' Club with an open invitation for all DoD, Armed Forces, civilians and contractors that have natural access to Robins. There is no fee to attend, and complimentary refreshments will be served. Exhibitors will be on hand to answer questions regarding IT products and services, to give hands-on demonstrations of products, and to distribute valuable literature and samples of the products. Visit the Federal Business Council at www.fedpage.com/eventslist.asp to pre-register and see a list of exhibitors. Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required to attend. For more information, contact Mark Gable at (800) 878-2940 extension 235 or mark@fbcdb.com.

Officers' Hail and Farewell

Brig. Gen. Chris Anzalone, Center vice commander, will host the monthly Officers' Hail and Farewell at 4 p.m. Sept. 17 in the Officers' Club ballroom. Come help us welcome our newcomers and send off our outbound personnel Team Robins style. For more information, contact Capt. Roland Pugh at 222-3650 or roland.pugh@robins.af.mil.

Fall Carnival

Robins Elementary School is having a Fall Carnival Sept. 17 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Come out and have a good time.

Chiefs' Fitness Challenge 5K Run

The Robins Chiefs' Group will hold its 3rd annual Chiefs' Fitness Challenge 5K Run Sept. 24 at 7:30 a.m. Registration will take place at the softball bleachers near the gym. Runners will receive a free Chiefs' T-shirt if they collect a minimum of \$20 in pledges. Pledge sheets may be obtained from the Chiefs' Group Web page at the

Robins home page or by contacting any chief. A door prize will be given away and a large traveling trophy goes to the major unit raising the most funds. All proceeds from the run benefit all enlisted at Team Robins. For more information, contact Chief Master Sgt. Scott Dunford at 327-0135.

AFRC Family Fall Festival

Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command will host the 2004 AFRC Family Fall Festival at Friendship Park, adjacent to Robins' gym, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 25. HQ AFRC reservists, civilians, active duty, retirees and their families are invited. Tickets are \$3 for adults and children 12 years old and

older and free for children under 11. The ticket price includes barbecue lunch, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., entertainment and games. To

RSVP call Pam Nault or Karen Albin, Office of Public Affairs, at 327-1758 by Sept. 17. Tickets can also be purchased at the picnic. Music

will be provided by The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve's "Reserve Generation" and deejay Mark Snowden.

summerhill
61024101

derco
61023

sun
61027101

theater
60937602

a booming business



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

Staff Sgt. Adam Fletcher and Tech. Sgt. John Bell roll up electrical wire after blowing up a smoke grenade and ground burst simulator Aug. 26 at Warrior Camp. Even though the ordnance was a dud, it could have been unstable and had to be destroyed.

The 116th Air Control Wing's explosive ordnance disposal flight takes pride in keeping Robins, local community safe

By Lanorris Askew
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Most little boys dream of growing up to be just like their fathers. They imitate the way they walk, the way they talk and even the way they dress. Well, Tech. Sgt. John Bell went a step further. He imitates the way his father made things explode.

"I guess you can say blowing up things runs in the family," said the explosive ordnance disposal journeyman. "My dad did it 20 years before I did, and it just sounded like a challenge — something I would really have to work for if I wanted it bad enough."

A member of the 116th Air Control Wing's EOD flight, the sergeant and his fellow EOD technicians have one of the most dangerous jobs in the Air Force. But it's one they all agree is easy to love.

Staff Sgt. William Campbell, who recently returned from EOD School, knew he wanted to join the career field after his last deployment as a soldier in the Army.

"I spent 13 years in the Army, and on my last deployment overseas I had a chance to work with some Army EOD techs," he said. "We were in Bosnia-Herzegovina and at the time there were close to 2 million land mines that were just laying out everywhere. The Army techs would go out and clear those land mines and other booby traps that were being laid by the Serbs. I fell in love with the fact that their job is to help people, and you have a definite reward for what you are doing."

What it takes

It takes a whole lot more than the love of explosives to be an EOD technician. Training for this highly-volatile field involves a score of 61 or better on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test, weeks of preliminary courses at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and months of training at EOD School at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

"During class you become a family, and that helps to build that family orientation into the career field when you graduate," said Sergeant Campbell.

While at school EOD students learn the basics of what makes things explode and then graduate to hands on training.

"You go from a 1/2 pound block of explosives to a 1,500-pound pile of explosives," said Sergeant Campbell. It also takes a physically fit person to wear the EOD 8 bomb suit which provides protection against explosives, but weighs about 100 pounds.

Putting the training to work

After graduation the real mission begins.

"EOD is one of the most stable jobs in the military because even during peacetime you're performing your mission," said Staff Sgt. Adam Fletcher. "Other units have to wait on a disaster or wartime before they get to perform their mission. In EOD we per-



The remote controlled bomb robot picks up a piece of ordnance during a demonstration of its capabilities.

form our mission every day.

The EOD craftsman said they may be called on to perform secret and local law enforcement support at any time. In addition to aiding law enforcement agencies, the unit also protects Robins from things that may go bump in the night.

"Whenever there are exercises here, ground burst simulators and smoke grenades are thrown," said Sergeant Bell. "When one doesn't function as designed or doesn't explode at all, we render it safe. This is called a level-one emergency because it does present a threat to life and property."

Protecting Air Force people and assets, their job is one that never gets old.

"We do a lot of training in-house," said Sergeant Bell. "We're responsible for taking care of any improvised explosive devices. If there was an aircraft problem involving explosives, we would go out and take care of that by rendering the aircraft or area safe. We provide homeland defense."

Sergeant Bell said they were really busy after 9-11. "We got hammered by all kinds of bomb threats, suspicious packages, everything you could possibly think of. If somebody saw something unusual, they would call it in. We would go in, X-ray it and make sure that it was clear."

An impressive toy

Though most of the EOD team is flesh and bone, there is one recent addition that takes on a different form — the Remote Ordnance Neutralization System, or RONS Robot. It weighs more than 500 pounds, is made mostly of aluminum and is equipped with four cameras and two-way microphones.

With an arm, shoulder, elbow and wrist, the robot also has claws that can spin 360 degrees and can lift 20-35 pounds fully extended, or up to 50 pounds when half extended. The claws have 50 pounds of gripping pressure.

It travels at a top speed of 3 mph.

"The upgraded robot is three years old," he said. "It's not waterproof, but it's water resistant up to a certain depth and runs off of wheelchair batteries."

Whether following in someone else's footsteps or creating a dream of their own, EOD technicians keep us safe 24 hours-a-day.



Above, Staff Sgt. William Campbell, left, and Tech. Sgt. John Bell, right, assist Staff Sgt. Adam Fletcher with an EOD 8 bomb suit. Right, a smoke grenade and ground burst simulator is blown up by members of the 116th Air Control Wing Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight.

What to know

The EOD School at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., is one of the oldest joint schools in the military. It is a Navy school on an Air Force base funded almost entirely by the Army.



Electrical wires, which transfer electricity to the explosive used to destroy the ordnance, are attached to a detonator.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Airmen Heroes-MOH recipients

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Pub order
5. Machine shaft parts
8. Sheep sound
11. Emanate
13. Org. concerned with troop morale
14. Cubicle
15. Rip or crosscut
16. Postal abbrev. for state home to Scott AFB
17. ___ Tin Tin
18. Joule
19. Airman Medal of Honor recipient A1C William H. ___ (Vietnam)
22. Mil. telephone system
23. Wallet fillers
24. Type of painting
26. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Col. Demas T. ___ (WWII)
27. Roman army units
30. Horse command!
32. Formerly
33. Sea between Arabia and Africa
34. One branch of DoD
36. Airman Medal of Honor recipient TSgt Forrest L. ___ (WWII)
39. Airman Medal of Honor recipient SSgt. Archibald ___ (WWII)
40. "___ little teapot ..." (two words)
41. Grass
43. Skew
44. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Maynard H. ___ (WWII)
46. Airman Medal of Honor recipient 1Lt. Donald J. ___ (WWII)
47. Bashful
48. Scottish Celt
50. SFS post reading material?
52. Leggo my ___
54. Grunt
58. Open
61. Neck accessory
62. Foreign auto maker
63. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Col. John R. ___ (WWII)
64. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Maj. Horace S. ___ Jr. (WWII)
65. Thin

DOWN

1. Commercials
2. Jumps
3. Airman Medal of Honor recipient MSgt Henry ___ (WWII)
4. Montana capital
5. Tempers
6. China continent
7. 5th US President
8. Bar drink
9. Pie ___ mode (two words)
10. Model Carol
12. Screen
14. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Maj. Ralph ___ (WWII)
20. State of something recently purchased
21. Singing engagement
25. SECDEF's office symbol
26. Currency
27. Airman Medal of Honor recipient A1C John L. ___ (Vietnam)
28. Mining goals
29. Emperor who fiddled?
30. Weaklings
31. Catamaran
35. Cubby hole
37. Forget
38. Epson and table
42. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Col. George E. ___ (Vietnam)
45. Chinese poet ___ Yuan-ming; wrote of simple life
47. Airman Medal of Honor recipient Capt. Lance P. ___ (Vietnam)
49. Airman Medal of Honor recipient 2Lt. Frank ___ Jr. (WWI)
51. Japanese tea
52. Together with further examples, briefly
53. Angelina Jolie flick
55. Actor Gerard of "Buck Rogers"
56. "2001: A Space Odyssey" computer
57. Asner and Harris
59. Actress ___ Margaret
60. Del ___ Oaks, CA

For puzzle solution, see Sept. 17 edition of the Rev-Up

Puzzle solution for Sept. 3



LEAVE/TRANSFER

The following person has been approved as participant in the leave transfer program.

Donald R. Cook, HQ AFRC/DOTF. Point of contact is Karen Grissing at 327-0532.

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Rev-Up, directorates should send information to Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops, and seminars are open to all Team Robins personnel. For more information, or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

Transition assistance

Transition Assistance has a four-step process for ensuring active duty personnel are prepared to separate from the military. The process begins with

- attending a pre-TAP information class 18 to 36 months prior to separation;
- attending a resume and writing class around the 10th month;
- attending the three-day Department of Labor workshop at the sixth month; and
- attending interviewing process class at the fifth month.

These classes are offered throughout the year. Personnel approaching separation should schedule pre-separation and Individual Transition Plan counseling appointments with a TAP representative.

Relocation assistance

Relocation Assistance at the FSC has videos on many Air Force installations around the world available for checkout.

RAP also has a Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service that has information on all military installations worldwide. This informational site is for all personnel: www.airforcesourceone.com; user ID: airforce; password: ready.

If you don't have a computer you can call (800) 707-5784, and for conversation in Espanol, llame al (800) 375-5971. For additional information, contact Relocation Assistance at 926-3453.

Pre-deployment briefings

Pre-Deployment Briefings are offered by the FSC readiness team at 8:30 a.m. Mondays and Fridays in Building 945, FSC annex. For more information, call 926-3453.

Airman's attic

The Airmen's Attic program supports junior enlisted members that are establishing a household. E-4s and below are encouraged to screen and use items in the attic to help defray the cost of setting up an apartment or home. Items usually available include kitchenware, small appliances and decorative items. The attic also receives and provides children's clothing, toys and military uniforms. Large items such as chairs, couches,

washers, dryers, entertainment centers, desks and tables are donated to the Airman's Attic. These larger items are passed onto junior enlisted members by way of a "wish list." All E-4s and below are encouraged to visit the attic and list their needs on the wish list.

Car care program

The Car Care Because We Care program is open to active duty Air Force spouses when the military member deploys on assignment for over 30 days. Also, spouses of active duty Air Force members serving remote tours overseas are now eligible to use this program. Spouses may receive two certificates during the year-long assignment. This program allows the spouse to take the primary family vehicle to the Base Service Station for a free oil and filter change, chassis lubrication and a safety inspection. Certificates are issued to the spouse at the Family Support Center. If the safety inspection at the service station reveals safety concerns, the spouse may approach the Air Force Aid Society office to apply for an interest free loan, if the family budget cannot absorb the repairs. To receive the certificate, bring a copy of member's orders by the Family Support Center.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Base Restaurant

The Base Restaurant will hold a grand opening today with loyal customer appreciation specials and a \$500 cash drawing. A \$1 breakfast blue plate special will be offered from 6 - 10 a.m. and a \$2 lunch blue plate special will be offered from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Child Development Centers East and West

Parents are invited to join their children at an old fashion picnic Sept. 17 at both CDCs. The picnic schedule is the following: infants and pre-toddlers 11 a.m., toddlers and preschoolers 11:30 a.m. Cost for parents' lunch is \$1 per person.

Club Membership

New and current members have an opportunity to win up to \$3,000 in credit to their club card account as the grand prize winner, \$1,000 for second place and \$500 for third place in the Air Force club membership drive "Get In On It" going on now through Nov. 30. Air Force-wide new and current members will be randomly chosen from a database at the end of the club drive.

Locally, a squadron challenge is underway to reward units that gain the most new members. The challenge allows units the opportunity to win a party at the club. The challenge is divided into three categories: a party valued at \$1,000 for large units consisting of 100 or more people; a party valued at \$600 for medium units consisting of 50 - 99 people and a party valued at \$300 for small units consisting of 49 or less people.

Club membership is available to all active duty, retired and reserve military, DoD and NAF civilians. Membership dues for the Enlisted Club are \$8 per month for E-4 - E-9 and at a reduced rate of \$4 for E-1 - E-4 per month. Officers'

Club dues are \$18 per month. For complete details on membership eligibility visit the Services Web site at www.robins.af.mil or call the Officers' Club at 926-2670 or the Enlisted Club at 926-4515.

Enlisted Club

Football Frenzy 2004 is ready to make a touchdown at the Robins Enlisted Club. By participating in Football Frenzy, club members have an opportunity to win a trip to a pro game. Call the Enlisted Club at 926-4515 for complete details and contest rules.

The De La Hoya and Hopkins pay-per-view scheduled for Sept. 18 has been cancelled. Members can enjoy Latin disco night with Lucho from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Family Child Care

Family Child Care initial training classes are scheduled Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. To make reservations, call 926-6741. The FCC Office is located on the second floor of the Smith Community Center, Building 767.

Returning home care offers 16 hours of free care per child to members returning from deployment (Enduring Freedom and Global War on Terrorism). For more information, contact the FCC coordinator at 926-6741.

ITT

The Jo Dee Messina concert Saturday at the Mercer's University Center in Macon has been cancelled.

The 64th annual Al-Sihah Shrine Circus will be held Saturday and Sunday at the Macon Coliseum. Advanced tickets sales are available at ITT for \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Show times

are Saturday at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Officers' Club

Enjoy seafood favorites such as crab legs, baked fish, shrimp and seafood gumbo at the seafood buffet Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. Cost is \$15.95 for adults and \$6.95 for children ages 11 and younger. Chicken and beef will be available for land lovers.

Skills Development Center

The Skills Development Center will hold an excess inventory sale with rock bottom prices on Sept. 18 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Smith Community Center. Inventory will include T-shirts, frames, craft paints and craft supplies. Come early for the best selection. For more information, call the center at 926-5282.

Smith Community Center

The Smith Community Centers hallway will be renovated Sept. 29 - Oct. 5. Pizza Depot patrons will need to use the back entrance to the Pizza Depot during the hallway renovation.

Bring the family to the movie in the park (Robins Park) today at 8 p.m. (or when dark) to watch "Cinderella." Participants may bring lawn chairs and blankets. Cost is free and concessions will be available. For more information, call Lynne Brackett at 926-2105.

BUNCO! Join the fun Sept. 20 at the community center. Games begin at 6 p.m. in the community center ballroom.

Family Night Bingo will be played Sept. 27 at the Smith Community Center. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games start at 6 p.m. Cost is \$3 per game pack, limit three packages per person. All children receive a prize when they purchase their packs.

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) is 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.

Reunion concert set for Sunday

There will be a reunion concert Sunday at 5 p.m. at the Base Chapel. The concert will feature Robins Gospel Experience Choir, Robins Chancel Choir, New Hope Baptist Church of Perry Inc. Male Choir and a special guest choir.

— From staff reports

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Adult tickets are \$3; children (11 years old and younger) tickets are \$2. For more information, call the Base Theater at 926-2919.

Today 7:30 p.m. — I, Robot — Will Smith and Bridgit Moynahan

In the year 2035, robots are an everyday household item and have become more and more advanced, but each one is preprogrammed to always obey and to under no circumstances ever harm a human.

Everyone trusts them, except Del Spooner. Del is one, slightly paranoid detective investigating what he alone believes is a crime perpetrated by a robot. The case leads him to discover a far more frightening threat to the human race.

Rated PG-13 (intense stylized action and some partial nudity) 115 minutes

Saturday 7:30 p.m. — Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle — John Cho and Hal Penn

Both underdogs, Harold and Kumar decide to spend what would have been an otherwise uneventful Friday night satisfying an oddly intense urge for White Castle hamburgers. However, finding a suitable White Castle proves a highly difficult task, and the two friends wind up on an epic road trip.

Rated R (strong language, sexual content, drug use and some crude humor) 88 minutes



SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling Center

Robins Lanes is offering four games for the price of three in September to encourage bowlers to improve their game during Self-improvement month.

Registration for fall youth leagues begins Saturday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. with league play beginning Sept. 18. Costs include a registration fee of \$21 and a weekly fee of \$7. Participants will receive a league shirt.

Fitness Center

A body fat analysis is slated for Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center. Wear a comfortable shirt and shorts and don't exercise before the assessment. For more details, call 926-2128.

A Family Bike Hike Poker Run Five Card Draw is scheduled for Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. - noon. Participants are invited to bring their bikes and join the Fitness Center for a hike around the base. Children on their own bikes must be 7 years old or older. Participants will draw a card at check points throughout the run and turn them in for a best hand and win a prize. Bring plenty of water, wear comfortable clothing and a bike helmet.

A 5K and 10K race will be held Sept. 25 at 9 a.m.

Golf Course

A ladies social golf league will be held Mondays, beginning Sept. 13 until Oct. 25 from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. For more information, call the pro shop at 926-4103.

A junior championship is slated for Sept. 18 with a tee time beginning at 2 p.m. Age groups consist of: 11 years old and younger, 12 - 13 year olds and 14 years old and older. Cost is \$10.

Golf tournaments

The C-130 CGOA four-person scramble golf tournament will be Sept. 17 at the Landings Golf Club 8:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$45 per person which includes golf, carts, range balls and lunch. For more information, contact 2nd Lt. John Sykes at 926-4296 or 1st Lt. JB Carteret at 926-1696.

The Contracting Directorate golf tournament will be Oct. 1 at Waterford Golf Course, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Lunch will be served at noon. Cost is \$40. To register, contact Angela Harris at 222-1922 or angela.harris2@robins.af.mil or Jason Dozier at 926-7055 or jason.dozier@robins.af.mil.

Youth Center

WOW Wednesdays will be held from 3 - 6 p.m. in September at the Youth Center. Kids ages 9 - 18 are invited to play games and participate in arts and crafts with their friends at no charge.

The "Get to Know 4-H" open house will be held Oct. 18 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. at the Youth Center. This event will allow kids interested in 4-H a chance to meet the staff, see project ideas and receive information on joining. Parents are welcome to attend.

4-H meetings will begin Nov. 9 and will be held the second Monday of each month from 3 - 4 p.m. for boys and girls ages 9 - 13. Youth Center membership is not required to attend 4-H meetings.

4-H is a part of the Cooperative Extension Service, which offers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. For more information about 4-H programs and the open house, call the center at 926-2110.

The Youth Center Jr. NBA and Jr. WNBA basketball registration will be held Oct. 16 - 23, Monday through Friday from 3 - 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Cost is \$60. The program emphasizes fundamentals of skill development, teamwork, sportsmanship and positive adult participation with the goal of providing a fun and rewarding youth basketball experience. Young players can also create a bond with the game while learning what it takes to be successful away from the court. A copy of birth certificate and current physical examination will be required.

Dedicated basketball coaches are also needed. Apply in person at the center or call 926-2110 for more information.

Commissary case lot sale delivers customer savings

By Bonnie Powell

bonnie.powell@deca.mil

FORT LEE, Va. - The "World's Biggest Case Lot Sale" is just around the corner and the lines are forming for savings.

The sale at Robins will be Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 19.

Shoppers normally save an average of 30 percent or more by using their commissary benefit regularly, but case lot sale shop-

pers are willing to get up before dawn, stand in line and brave the elements - all for savings of up to 50 percent on popular paper goods, canned goods and cleaning products.

"During our last worldwide sale in May, customer savings topped over \$5 million on more than one million cases of product," said Defense Commissary Agency Chief Executive Officer Pat Nixon. "But it's more than that. It's also a community event that gives

neighbors a chance to have some fun, and it brings additional business and activity to the installations."

The worldwide case lot sale has been staged in September since 2001. The event proved so popular that the sale was expanded in 2004 to twice each year - May and September. Nearly all of DeCA's 273 commissaries participate.

For more information, call 926-2125 or visit www.commissaries.com.

End-of-year retirement procedures

Employees planning to retire at the end of December or the beginning of January should call their servicing Retirement Specialist no later than Oct. 15, to have their retirement application prepared in a timely manner.

That doesn't apply to those planning to retire at any other time of the year.

Once employees officially notify their retirement specialists, they will be provided a complete retirement application package and scheduled for a group retirement session.

Employees will be expected to bring a completed application package to this session. Due to expe-

riencing a large influx of retirements at this time each year, all retirement group sessions for the end-of-year retirements will be scheduled for November.

In submitting an application by this date, everyone is ensured ample time to process the retirement application, greatly reducing the chances of a delay in receipt of retirement pay. For more information, contact servicing retirement specialists Delores Stephens, Cheri Coklow or Nancy Moody at 926-5307.

— From staff reports

RETIREMENTS

The following is a list of civilian employees retiring the end of August, beginning of September:

Billy F. Ashley
Carol G. Campiglia
Charles T. Collier

Katherine A. Eubanks
Patricia A. Gregoryfoston
Anthony T. Griggs Jr.
James K. Horer
Jerry C. Jackson
Jerry L. Kelly
Thomas C. Lingenfelter

Essie B. Nasworthy
Wayne E. Parks
Charles C. Ralston
Raymond Rico
Ronnie W. Thompson
Roy L. Vincent
David R. Whedon

AIR FORCE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

Sept. 13, 1943 – More than 1,200 paratroopers dropped on Salerno, Italy, without loss of man or plane.

Sept. 14, 1951 – Capt. John Walmsley Jr., loses his life illuminating an enemy supply train while piloting a searchlight-equipped B-26. He receives the Medal of Honor.

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All in the family



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Brian Bahret

Kelly Keesling, left, and Tracy Delahunt, great-granddaughters of Brig. Gen. Augustine Robins, listen as Dr. William Head, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center historian, describes their great-grand father's history with Robins Air Force Base. Mrs. Keesling and Mrs. Delahunt and their families visited Robins for the first time Saturday. Their visit to the base included a visit to the Museum of Aviation where Dr. Head and Gil Switzer, museum volunteer, gave the families a guided tour.

MUSEUM OF AVIATION EVENTS

The Museum of Aviation Foundation will sponsor its 15th annual **Georgia Invitational Golf Tournament** Sept. 23-24. The four-person scramble requires a handicap and costs \$250 per player. Come ready to tee off on Sept. 23 at noon, and at 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Sept. 24. For more information, contact Mary Lynn Harrison or June Lowe at 923-6600.

The Museum of Aviation will host the annual **Poker Fun Run** Oct. 8, starting at Hangar One at the museum. Cost is \$8 per hand with the first cruiser departing at 6:30 p.m. To register, contact Linda Pullen at 926-6870.

The Museum of Aviation will host the 12th annual **Wings & Wheels Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show** Oct. 9.

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is open to the public. Entering participants may contact Linda Pullen at 926-6870 for more on registration guidelines and entry fees. All proceeds from the event will go toward supporting the Museum of Aviation Foundation.

The Middle Georgia Youth Science & Technology Center, presented by the Education Department at the Museum of Aviation Flight and Technology Center, will hold a **Mystery Science Workshop** Oct. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders will combine crazy chemicals to create Halloween fun. The class will be held in the Middle Georgia YSTC classroom in the Century of Flight Hangar. Students must bring

a lunch including a drink. The cost is \$15 per student. For more information, contact Melissa Spalding at 926-5558.

The Museum of Aviation Education Department will hold **Spooky Science After-School Workshops** on Oct. 26 for grades K-2 and Oct. 28 for grades 3 through 5. Both workshops are from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Participants will experiment with science principles to have some ghastly fun. Hands-on activities will include creating a ghost in a bottle and making spider webs. Sessions will be held in the Middle Georgia YSTC classroom in the Century of Flight Hangar. The cost is \$7 per student. For more information, contact Melissa Spalding or Tamea Matthews at 926-5558.

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