

THE ROBINS REV-UP

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

February 2, 2007 Vol. 52 No. 5

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

THE MACH READ

Gate closures

The Russell Parkway gate and the Green Street gate will be under construction Wednesday through Feb. 20. The project will repair the pop-up barriers at both gates. Gate 1, or the Green Street gate, will close all inbound lanes Friday through Feb. 11 from 6 p.m. until 5 a.m. and the outbound lanes will be closed Feb. 16-18 from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. for construction.

The operational hours at the gate will be unchanged, which means the gate will reopen on the Monday morning after each phase of construction.

"The Gate 1 construction will not affect traffic in any way, shape or form because it will be done at night and over the weekend," said Tech. Sgt. David Bertrand, NCO in charge of physical security for 78th Security Forces.

Gate 14, or the Russell Parkway gate, will be under construction Wednesday through Feb. 20. The outbound lane closest to the guard station will be closed 6 p.m. Wednesday until 5 a.m. Feb. 9. The middle outbound lane will be closed Feb. 12 at 6 p.m. until Feb. 14 at 5 a.m. The inbound lane closest to the guard station will be closed Feb. 14 at 6 p.m. until Feb. 16 at 5 a.m. The middle inbound lane will be closed Feb. 18 at 6 p.m. until 5 a.m. Feb. 20. The third inbound and outbound lane at the Russell gate will not be affected by the repairs.

"At Gate 14 at any one time there will be three lanes open," Sergeant Bertrand said. "If you can avoid Gate 14 then do."

Sergeant Bertrand said drivers should watch their speed when they go by the construction areas. — Amanda Creel

Blood Drive Feb. 9

An Armed Services Blood Program Blood Drive will take place at Robins Feb. 9.

Donation locations include the following:

- ▶ Cotton Auditorium from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Youth Center from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Bldgs. 640 and 645 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ▶ Mobile Units at AFRC 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Contact your local representative or call 327-7936 for more information.

Center of Excellence

The following performance goals are set for the Center

DUIs as of Jan. 26
50% reduction from fiscal 04



- Maximum DUIs allowed, 6
- Current DUIs obtained, 4

Training attendance as of Jan. 26
90% attendance of training



Aircraft production as of Jan. 26
100% aircraft due date performance rate

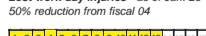


Lost work day injuries as of Jan. 26
50% reduction from fiscal 04



- Maximum lost work days due to injury allowed, 16
- Current days lost, 13

Foreign Object Damage as of Jan. 26
50% reduction from fiscal 04



- Maximum FOD incidents allowed, 5
- Current FOD incidents, 2

Green means goal is being met or exceeded.
Yellow means goal has not been met, but is still attainable.
Red means goal cannot be met.

Base housing residents to be relocated as privatization efforts force moves

By AMANDA CREEL
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WHAT TO KNOW

For more information about the privatization process or to address individual concerns contact the Housing Office at 926-3776.

In a town hall meeting Tuesday, base housing officials said Pine Oak and Crestview residents will be receiving notices in the next week notifying them to find other accommodations so that demolition of 137 units can begin.

Anyone asked to vacate their home are required to receive a minimum of 30 days notice, but officials said twice the minimum should be given.

"Our goal is to provide residents with a minimum of 60 days notice," Lt. Col. Steven Keller, commander of the 778th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Ms. Lana Reaves, chief of the 778th CES Housing Flight, said they are willing to work with families on a case by case basis, such as those retiring,

deployed or undergoing a permanent change of station in or around the time frame or those with other special needs or circumstances.

Demolition has already begun on 22 unoccupied houses in the Crestview and Lakeview housing areas. The demolition for those homes began in December 2006 after a contract was awarded in September 2006. Demolition on the remainder homes can begin once a contract for demolition is awarded. This contract is expected to be awarded in March and demolition is expected to begin shortly after.

"If you live in areas that are slated for the 137 houses for demolition, you will be eligible for a government funded move," he said.

For those hoping to stay on base, there will be a priority list generated by the housing office based on bedroom composition, date of rank and grade of the active-duty service member.

Phase two of privatization

The purpose of privatizing Robins is to provide quality affordable housing to Airmen and many of the homes on base do not meet the Air Force standards, Colonel Keller said.

Because the houses at Robins do not meet Air Force standards, the Air Force has decided to privatize housing areas to provide adequate housing quickly and cost effectively.

The Housing Requirement Market Analysis requires that Robins housing be reduced from the existing 1,477 units in both base and privatized housing areas to 577 units by 2011. Robins is using a two-phased approach to privatization. The first phase affected off base housing areas and was completed in 2000.

Officials announced at the town hall meeting the plans and tentative timeline for phase two of the Robins privatization efforts.

The housing office is anticipating a phase two contract to be awarded and executed the summer of 2007. Once a contract for that project is awarded, a more specific schedule and other pertinent information will be provided through another town hall meeting.

▶ see HOUSING, 2A

Sizing down

More than 100 officers at Robins eligible for RIF Board in June

By HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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Some Air Force officers may have to end their military careers as the Air Force continues to shape the force to meet future needs.

About 120 officers at Robins with more than six to exactly 12 years of commissioned service are eligible to face a reduction in force board this summer. The group covers about 14 different Air Force Specialty Codes here and a variety of others throughout the Air Force.

Maj. Devin Statham, commander of the 78th Mission Support Squadron, said the RIF Board became necessary as the number of officers separating from the service branch failed to meet the service's reduction goals.

"The latest force shaping initiatives that have been released is an extension of the Voluntary Separation Pay program through March 2007 and the introduction of a RIF board scheduled for this summer affecting about 120 Robins personnel," he said.

Major Statham said the Air Force is trying to balance the force evenly by year groups and AFSCs, giving people a voluntary opportunity to separate before the RIF board meets in June.

"Meeting end strength and having a balanced and properly shaped force is a constant challenge because of the dynamics of a mobile force. Moving people in and out of the United States Air Force is something we always struggle with," he said.

The major said while force shaping still includes lieutenant ranks and enlisted programs, the VSP and RIF boards are for officers only.

The Air Force began offering voluntary separation pay to officers with more than six to exactly 12 years of commissioned service in July 2006. To date, the service has approved about 1,800 VSP applications, or about 57 percent of their Fiscal 2007 goal.

The major said the board will typically affect captains and majors in the year groups of 1995-98, 2000 and 2001. It

▶ see FORCE, 2A

Storytime



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Venus Mansourzadeh, child development program assistant, reads to children in the 6- to 12-month room at Child Development Center East during Pajama Literacy Day Jan. 26. Volunteers read to the children and everyone dressed in their pajamas for the day.

Center, Union ink agreements, join in partnership

By DAMIAN HOUSMAN
WR-ALC Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, and Tom Scott, president of the American Federation of Government Employees Local 987, signed two memoranda of agreement and one partnership agreement Thursday. U.S. Rep. Jim Marshall also attended the signings.

General Owen and Mr. Scott signed an agreement on grievance mediation and another on unfair labor practice dispute resolution process. They also

signed a partnership agreement between the Center and the AFGE Local 987, which represents bargaining unit employees on the base.

The signatures on the memoranda represent a recommitment by the parties to procedures previously agreed to by previous Center commanders, and the union back to 2003. Congressman Marshall noted that labor-management conditions at Robins were far different than they are today.

"Four years ago we had a problem between labor and management. Our reputation Air Force-wide was not good, and

BRAC was coming on," he said. "A new challenge is NSPS, and labor and management will again come together."

General Owen praised the congressman and the union leadership, as well as Robins leadership of the time the original agreement. "It took people who are true team builders and leaders. I'm thrilled to be part of this legacy. It keeps us focused on our mission of supporting the warfighter," the general said.

Union president Tom Scott said he was glad to sign. "The agreements help the employees, help Robins, and help the mission."



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, and Tom Scott, Union president, sign agreements Jan. 25.

THINK SAFETY

AIRMEN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING
To request a ride, call 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.

SLOW DOWN

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

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY 56/45 SATURDAY 58/39 SUNDAY 54/33

HOUSING

Continued from 1A

Colonel Keller said.

The second phase of the privatization project began in December and will result in the demolition of 600 houses on base. The areas on base slotted for demolition include all housing areas except Turner Park and Chief's Circle. Chief's Circle, which has already been cleared of residents, will be turned into administrative buildings. Turner Park will be retained after the privatization but all two-bedroom houses in the housing area are proposed to undergo major renovations and be converted to four-bedroom units.

When the second stage of privatization begins, residents in base housing will be offered a lease agreement with the

project owner. If the lease is declined, the move to off-base accommodations would be at a personal expense, Colonel Keller said.

For those who accept and continue to live on base, their entire basic allowance for housing will cover their rent and utilities until utility meters can be installed. Once meters are installed in base houses, the rental rate will be BAH minus the utility allowance, which is 110 percent of the average usage in that type of home.

All residents of two-bedroom units may be asked to move out as part of the transition to privatization, Colonel Keller said. All existing three- and four-bedroom units will undergo exterior renovations, but will be able to house residents during the conversion to privatization.

He added that residents

moved at the direction of the government will also receive a relocation allowance if the resident chooses to relocate off base; however, this does not apply to residents who choose to relocate to Huntington Village.

Once the demolition of houses is complete, a new housing area with 76 units will be constructed by the selected offer. Most newly constructed units on base will be for key and essential personnel.

There will be a "waterfall method" in place, allowing the contractor to rent the privatized units out to other members of base personnel when housing occupancy rates are low. First priority for both phase one and two will be given to active-duty members, followed by federal civil service, retired military members, guard and reserve members, retired civil

service members and Department of Defense contractors.

Currently, civilians with base access will continue to be considered as possible residents in Huntington Hills, a Huntington Village housing area, if no one from another group from the waterfall applies. The 300 houses in Huntington Hills will be divested as part of phase two. Therefore, whether or not the houses will be demolished in Huntington Hills will be left up to the contractor.

In other issues addressed in the meeting, Robins elementary officials said no discussion has taken place regarding the future of the school.

"There has been no discussion of our school closing as a DOD school," said Dell McMullen, superintendent of Georgia DOD schools.

Large long distance bill puts service in jeopardy for some

By AMANDA CREEL
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The 78th Communications Squadron urges base personnel to think twice before dialing long distance from a base telephone.

"We are spending too much money and we need to cut down," said 1st Lt. Patrick Tibbals, officer in charge of telephone services.

Last year, the base accrued \$141,000 worth of long distance charges, all of which comes out of the 78th CS's budget.

In response to the long distance charges, the squadron is asking unit and squadron leadership to reevaluate who has long distance privileges and whether those privileges are needed to complete their mission.

A notice has been given to all telephone control officers on base asking them to submit a list of phone numbers in their organizations needing long distance service and why, Lieutenant Tibbals said.

"Once that is done we are going to pull the long distance service capability from all phones that don't have a justified reason for having it," Lieutenant Tibbals said.

He said the removal of the long distance capabilities will not affect the ability for phones to dial on the Defense Switch Network or to dial toll free numbers.

WHAT TO KNOW

For more information about the upcoming changes to Robins telephone systems contact 1st Lt. Patrick Tibbals at 222-0051, officer in charge of telephone services or Senior Master Sgt. Phil Earthly, superintendent of telephone services.

"We will also implement a control number program for those with less frequent needs for long distance," Lieutenant Tibbals said.

The control number program will be provided through the TCO, who will have a block of control numbers that can be issued as needed for long distance calls.

The new measures will produce cost savings for Robins, prevent fraudulent use of government telephone services and help each organization to effectively validate any long distance use, Lieutenant Tibbals said.

Officials from the 78th CS also asked users to be aware of alternatives to dialing long distance, such as taking advantage of toll-free numbers offered by businesses and using DSN numbers where they apply.

"Government phones are authorized for official use only and no personal long distance phone calls should be made from government phones," Lieutenant Tibbals said.

FORCE

Continued from 1A

excludes the 1999 officer year group, as this group will be meeting a promotion board in the coming year and are excluded from the RIF board by federal law.

In order to be eligible for the RIF board or VSP, officers need to be an overage in their AFSC. Officers can find out if they're an overage in their respective AFSCs by visiting AFPC Web site and clicking on the "Officer Matrix" link.

Major Statham said the site will show every AFSC and year group and show exactly where someone stands on overage status in his or her year and AFSC.

Officers who are vulnerable for the RIF board can expect to receive a notice to that

WHAT TO KNOW

For more information, visit the AFPC online at <http://www.randolph.af.mil> and click on the Force Shaping link in the middle of the page. People may also call Military Personnel Flight's Separations Office at 327-3435 or 327-7349.

fact by late February, the major said.

Capt. Kay Beigh, chief of Military Equal Opportunity at Robins who is eligible for the upcoming RIF board, said she is prepared for meeting the board.

"I see it as something that's necessary," she said. "If Air Staff has determined this is what needs to be done, then this is what needs to be done. This is one of those 'comes with the job' things."

Captain Beigh said she tries to do the

best she can in her job every day and hope her efforts are good enough. "I'm just going to let my record speak for itself," she said.

Sandra Gray, senior separations counselor at the MPF, said with the RIF Board approaching in a few months, her office has been covered up with VSP applications.

"Robins has had an influx of people applying to the Voluntary Separation Pay programs right now because they're looking at possibly being involved in the RIF," she said.

With the VSP paying a separation pay twice the rate of that under the RIF, Mrs. Gray said her office is quite busy.

The Air Force has extended its VSP application deadline from Jan. 31 to March 31.

NSPS conversion boasts major success rate

By AMANDA CREEL
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More than 3,000 employees returned to work Monday Jan. 22 under the National Security Personnel System, giving the civilian personnel flight something to brag about.

The Civilian Personnel Flight had a 99.78 success rate to be proud of.

"It was a total DPC (civilian personnel flight) team effort," said Jean Glover, chief of data management section of the DPC. "It was a lot of hard work and now we have to change gears and work to sustain the two systems."

However, the civilian personnel flight team wasn't just comprised of members of their own flight, it was also comprised of members of other base organizations known as SWAT teams, who helped make sure the conversion went as smoothly as possible

in their own organizations.

Steve Bowen is one of the Team Robins members who serves as both a point of contact and a NSPS expanded training cadre member.

Mr. Bowen, program and resources flight chief for the 402nd Software Maintenance Group, said one of the most important steps he took to ensure his organization was ready for the conversion was learning from others who had already experienced the conversion.

Mr. Bowen and other members of his organization visited Tinker Air Force Base, where he had the opportunity to both learn from their experiences and use Tinkers objectives and guidelines as a sample or template for their own.

"They (Tinker) had a lot of lessons learned to share with us, which helped us immensely," Mr. Bowen said. "They got us started in the right direction and

we made changes to fit the type of work we do."

Another way the 402nd SMXG helped the 623 nonbargaining employees who converted was by organizing an Integrated Product Team, which consisted of himself as chairmen and a member of each of the five squadrons that make up the group. The group embarked on writing standard job objectives that would cover the more than 600 personnel in their group converting. The group created 10 standard job objectives that covered 90 percent of the personnel converting.

The group also posts frequently asked NSPS questions on their Web site to help their personnel, Mr. Bowen said.

Another effort by the group is starting an NSPS job writing objectives workshop, where employees can come together each Wednesday to share ideas and concerns.

"We are all struggling with this, so we wanted to create an opportunity to get together and share our experiences," Mr. Bowen said.

Donna Birt, a trained Department of Defense personnelist, said the most important thing she learned as she trained others on NSPS was the ability for employees and supervisors to be able to locate information needed to function on the new system on their own.

"I think it was important to make them aware to be able to go out there themselves and find what they need," Ms. Birt said human resources specialist, policies and procedures in the civilian personnel flight.

She said the training also was a big factor in having a successful conversion adding that necessity for training and communication were two of the main things stressed at the DOD training she attended in Ohio.

She said the opportunity for all employees to become as familiar with the system before the conversion was important.

"Making and taking the time that is needed (is important) because there is a lot to it," Ms. Birt said.

One of the things she said was valuable to her as an instructor was the weekly Air-Force wide conference call that allowed people to share their trials and successes as they prepared for the transition. She said the information she learned through the calls was invaluable to her as she communicated with those she trained in the classroom and through follow-up e-mails.

Janet Holovach, who also served as a POC and cadre member, echoed the sentiment that the training is what made the conversion such a success.

Ms. Holovach, resource advisor for the Information Technology Directorate, said her basic responsibility was to make sure everyone was trained and

ready for the transition.

"I was just here to make sure they knew what they were getting into," Ms. Holovach said. "Communication, just getting the information out to the employees and making sure employees were abreast of the changes, whether through e-mail, phone calls or whatever means needed."

She said the directorate also worked to create its own objectives and are working as a team to establish their own performance plans.

"The thing I think we (the IT Directorate) did best was the training. We had a great training manager who arranged all the training," Ms. Holovach.

In the end all involved agreed, the successful conversion required everyone involved giving it their all whether they worked in personnel or were a POC or cadre member.

"Everyone being aware what needed to be done and taking it (the conversion) seriously," Ms. Birt said.

Robins celebrates Black Heritage Month with calendar of events

By LANORRIS ASKEW
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As the country sets forth to recognize Black History Month, a celebration of the culture and contributions of African Americans throughout history, Robins is gearing up to take on the role of educator and motivator through its own black heritage observance.

According to Anthony Dunn, Robins Black Heritage Observance Committee chairperson, the goal of the local observance is to educate the community.

"My hope for those attending the events we've planned is a greater understanding and appreciation of the major achievements and contributions by African Americans to the United States of America," he said.

"For me, this was an opportunity to focus on a project that touches, teaches or benefits the entire base community in one way or another that we all can be proud of."

The observance, which officially kicked off Jan. 26 with a golf tournament at Pine Oaks Golf Course, will continue through the end of February and will include a calendar of events including a luncheon featuring guest speaker Pastor Kyle

Searcy.

"Pastor Searcy is the pastor at Fresh Anointing International Church in Montgomery, Ala.," said Bernice Jones, luncheon coordinator. "He's a dynamic speaker who not only preaches, but teaches. You come away with something new every time you hear him."

In addition to the luncheon and a host of other events, the base and local communities will be invited to a Gospel Extravaganza Feb. 18 at the Base Chapel. The event will feature the Robins Community Mass Choir along with "N'Him We Move," a praise dance ministry, and various other visiting artists.

Mrs. Jones said the BHO is important to a community as diverse as Robins.

"It's important for our cultures to intermingle," she said. "This gives us a chance to learn a little more about each other."

The retail item manager with the 402nd Maintenance Support Group came to work at Robins in 1981 and has played a part in the observance as a committee



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member or active participant in the events each year since.

She said being a descendant of slaves who has children of her own, it means a great deal being a part of such a great effort.

"I've heard the stories passed down through my family and I want to help keep traditions going and impart a motto of never forgetting where you came from," she said. "This observance has something for everyone."

Each year a different unit is responsible for hosting the events associated with the black heritage observance. This year, the 583rd Combat Sustainment Support Squadron is the host and more than 60 members from around Team Robins have volunteered to participate.

The entire base and local community is encouraged to support and participate in the events.

A complete calendar of events, POCs and scholarship opportunities available through the Maj. Gen. Joseph A McNeil chapter of Tuskegee Airman are available at www2.robins.af.mil/blackhistory.

BLACK HERITAGE SCHEDULE

The following events will be held in celebration of Black Heritage Month at Robins:

► **A Bowl-A-Thon** will be today from noon to 4:30 p.m. at the Base Bowling Center.

► **Lunch Series** Feb. 8, 15 and 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Base Restaurant. Topics include mental health, diabetes, cardiovascular, cancer awareness and benefits of fitness.

► **A Fun Walk/Run** will be Feb. 9 at 10:30 a.m. at the Old Gym

► **A Black Heritage luncheon** featuring Pastor Kyle Searcy will be Feb. 15 at the enlisted club at 11:30 a.m.

► **A Gospel Extravaganza**, featuring the Robins Mass Choir and several local church groups and praise teams, will be Feb. 18 at the Base Chapel from 3 to 5 p.m.

► **The Grand Finale** featuring 5 Men on a Stool will be Feb. 24 at the Museum of Aviation from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

VPP representatives tour mentor site at Savannah River

By DAMIAN HOUSMAN
WR-ALC Public Affairs

A team of Robins Voluntary Protection Plan representatives made a pilgrimage to the Robins mentor site last week, and learned how the Department of Energy Washington Savannah River Site achieved VPP Star Site status after years of concentrated effort on safety and health issues.

The 14-member Robins team, drawn from throughout the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and the base, took a close look at the Aiken, S.C., site, with an eye on borrowing the best ideas for adoption here.

The team examined contracting, construction, the fire department, training, human relations and public affairs. Savannah River began its journey toward VPP in 1994, and was awarded VPP Star Site status after six years. The team found much to be impressed with.

"Everyone is involved in safety at all levels, and not just safety people. Even contractors and subcontractors," said Glenda Calhoun, safety manager with the 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing. "Everyone has a role to play in VPP, and checklists are used extensively. They've had 19.1 million hours in the construction area without a lost time accident."

Larry Stinson, a painter in the 402nd Maintenance Wing F-15 paint shop, was impressed with the involvement of the employees at Savannah River. "Nothing is done there without being reminded of safety. Everything is observed and recorded, but it was a completely positive program; nothing was negative," he said. "It was employee to employee, with workers watching out for other

workers."

Alfred Daniely, an electronics technician and AFGE steward in the 402nd Maintenance Wing, noted the program at the site flowed from the bottom up, not the top down, but had strong management support.

"Some in management didn't see the value of VPP until they saw their workers getting excited about it. The workers practice it and believe in it," he said.

One of the most interesting ideas the team learned of is something called "behavior based safety." According to Bill Liepprandt, a contractor with the Center's Plans and Programs Directorate and point of contact for the Robins VPP program, Savannah River saw a 60 percent reduction in injuries since implementing VPP, but a 98 percent reduction in unsafe worker behavior since implementing behavior-based safety.

"Behavior-based safety helped greatly with employee involvement. You will not be recognized as a VPP site without employee involvement, and observation under BBS greatly helps," Mr. Liepprandt said. He also said the impact of SRS's VPP efforts on the environment has been terrific. The site is as committed to the environment as they are to safety and health management. The group was shown examples of healthy flora and fauna, including lizards, alligators and snakes.

Team members making the trip included workers, management, four union stewards and the president of the local chapter of the International Association of Fire Fighters. Future site visits will concentrate on learning how to implement VPP in specific areas here.

IN BRIEF

MILITARY RECORDS TO GO ONLINE FEB. 21

Military members' records will soon be at their fingertips.

On Feb. 14, the Military Personnel Flight at Robins will ship military records, including awards, decorations, enlisted and officer performance reports, and other such documents, to the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph

Air Force Base, Texas.

The records will be kept in the Virtual Military Personnel Flight system at AFPC.

Maj. Devin Statham, 78th Mission Support Squadron commander, said the transfer is expected to be complete by Feb. 21 and will give MPF customers the convenience of accessing records without having to leave their desks.

"Right now, the MPF is in the process of auditing and

manually reviewing all of our enlisted and officer records, and we're due to ship them to AFPC Feb. 14," he said.

Major Statham said while people won't be able to access their records here during the short window of time, the end result is a better approach to managing the records in the long run.

Before, military members had to visit the MPF to copy records. Now, people will be

able to log into the AFPC's Virtual MPF and print anything they would like to see.

Major Statham said military members will use the same user ID and password used to access their virtual emergency data. They may also use their Common Access Cards to access the virtual system.

For more information, contact MPF customer service at 327-7362.

—HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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New complex expedites refueling



U.S. Air Force photo SENIOR AIRMAN ERIK HOFMEYER
Airman 1st Class Robert Walsh prepares to refuel the first KC-135 Stratotanker through the new hydrant system Jan. 24 in Southwest Asia. Airman Walsh is assigned to the 379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants Flight.

CHALLENGING TEAM ROBINS

Support our combat troops by giving the gift of life

I was blessed to have the opportunity to help support our troops at war by giving something that really matters — the gift of life itself, a unit of blood — in the last Armed Services Blood Program Blood Drive held here Dec. 8. The Army personnel from Ft Gordon in Augusta, Ga., did a wonderful job guiding me through the entire process.

I was especially impressed with the technician who actually drew my blood. He claimed to be a very good phlebotomist, and that he was. I felt very little pain and my blood flowed quite well — I was done in less than three minutes. I thought, "Wow, that sure was quick."

As I was enjoying some snacks afterwards, I asked how the drive was going and I was shocked to hear that, even though the drive was halfway

done (it was lunch time), a mere 26 units of blood had been collected from both Robins locations combined. I later found out the afternoon turnout was better and that 77 units of blood were collected in total. However, I found it almost impossible to believe that, from a potential donor pool of 20,000-plus Team Robins government personnel, less than 80 people were able and willing to come out and donate blood to directly support our combat forces engaged in the Global War on Terror.

Why such a dismal turnout for a blood drive to save the lives of Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and, yes, Airmen? Many excuses come to mind. Perhaps many members of Team Robins aren't able to give blood due to health rea-

sons. Could it be a fear of needles that keeps the masses away? Maybe folks just don't care that many of our troops' lives may depend on donor blood. Maybe we aren't getting the word out like we should. There is a long list of potential reasons for the poor turnout, but the end analysis is the same — Team Robins can do much better. Let me take that back and say that Team Robins must do much better. The lives of our comrades in arms are at stake and we must come to the rescue.

I would like to issue a challenge to every member of Team Robins, and especially to commanders, directors and supervisors. Feb. 9, when Ft Gordon comes to Robins, let's overwhelm them with donors. They can handle about 200 donors. This is a military installation.

One would think that we would be the first in line to help our fellow warriors. Let's do it. Unit leaders, make this a priority in your units. Put it on your calendar and lead by example. Talk it up in your staff meetings and give your folks time off. The only "prize" for accepting the challenge is the incredibly good feeling of knowing that you've given the greatest gift of all — the gift of life.

The drive will be held in the Cotton Auditorium and the Youth Center. Your unit blood drive monitors can help with the scheduling. If you wish, you may contact the Base Blood Program Monitor, Staff Sergeant Garah Hammack, directly at 327-7927.

— This commentary was written by Col. Rodney Couick, deputy director, Engineering Directorate.

What ever happened to personal accountability?

We are living in a society where it is so easy to blame someone else for everything that happens to us, especially the bad. In an effort to become a gentler, kinder Air Force, I believe we have lost the essence of personal accountability.

Recently 9th Medical Group officials here have seen an increase in the number of Airmen arrested for driving while under the influence and for testing positive for drugs. It is difficult for the them to understand why Airmen are still having problems with alcohol-related incidents and drug use when it has been emphasized that there is a no-tolerance policy, and education is stressed frequently through the "0-0-1-3", "Don't Drink and Drive", and the "Just Say No" campaigns.

Marketing of the no-tolerance policy and these campaigns happens at every given opportunity such as at commander's calls, on flyers plastered around the base and on cards and trinkets issued to Airmen at several different ven-

ues. So why do we still have Airmen who chose to drink and drive and do drugs despite a culture that preaches that these activities are not compatible with being an Airman in the Air Force?

When does the individual become responsible for, and we hold him or her accountable for those choices?

We live in a society where individuals demand to be recognized for doing nothing more than the job in which they are paid to do, but refuse to accept accountability for the bad choices or mistakes that they make.

It is easier for individuals to create an excuse or blame someone else for their bad choice or mistake rather than take personal responsibility. It takes a greater person to accept responsibility for his or her actions and be able to sincerely say it was "my fault" or "my bad" and move on and learn from the mistake or bad choice.

As leaders, we have become complacent in demanding more of our Airmen, more of our

seniors. Senior leaders are afraid to correct individuals who are not meeting standards just to avoid conflict.

As leaders, how can we expect an individual to be responsible when we are failing to hold him or her accountable?

My organization's leaders decided to conduct a mandatory commander's call in an effort to generate discussion and provide possible solutions to combat our recent series of alcohol-related incidents and drug use. Although many felt to conduct this commander's call after hours was a form of punishment, the goal was to have the entire group come up with new ideas and recommendations on how to resolve these issues.

During this commander's call, small groups were formed and the issues were to be addressed by rank.

The Airmen were to discuss ways unit leaders could help them desire to follow the no-tolerance policy. They were to discuss how to develop a contingency plan when they participate in high-risk activities.

NCO's and first-line super-

visors were to discuss how to talk to the Airmen about being responsible and reinforcing the Airmen's plan.

Senior NCOs and officers were to discuss leading by example and holding individuals accountable.

After great interaction, my take-away from the meeting was that the Airmen wanted more discipline, to be held accountable, and to work in an environment that encourages and fosters excellence. Alcohol over-indulgence and drug use are choices.

As we draw down our forces, we cannot continue to spend our time and resources on individuals who make bad choices and continue to engage in activities that are not compatible with the Air Force.

Airmen want to be held accountable for their choices.

As leaders, we should give them exactly what they expect of us: to hold them accountable for their personal choices.

— This commentary was written by Lt. Col. Sheila Robinson 9th Medical Support Squadron Commander.



Col. Theresa Carter
78th Air Base Wing
commander

Commander's Action Line

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.

Remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible:

- ▶ 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.

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 or for the quickest response, e-mail 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, use action.line@robins.af.mil.

Readers can also visit <https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/action-line.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.



78th SFS Tip of the Week

Minimizing your risk of identity theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, Social Security number, credit card number or other identifying information, without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. Here are some key signs to look for to tell if you have been a victim of identity theft:

- failing to receive monthly bills
- receiving approved credit cards you didn't apply for
- denial of credit for no apparent reason
- receiving calls from debt collectors about merchandise you didn't buy

Ensure to check your credit report frequently to look for changes. Refrain from using easy passwords like your birth date, address or consecutive numbers. Don't give out personal information over the phone, internet or through the mail unless you initiated the contact. Identity thieves can be skilled liars and may pose as bank representatives, Internet Service Providers, etc. to get you to divulge personal information. Deposit outgoing mail in the post office box instead of your mailbox and remove incoming mail promptly. Shred all documents with personal information before disposing.

Implementing some of these steps into your daily routine will assist you in securing your identity.

► IN BRIEF

ROBINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Robins Elementary School Board will meet at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday at Robins Elementary School, Bldg. 988. The public is invited to attend the meeting.

HEALTHY HEART WALK

The Health and Wellness Center will host a Healthy Heart Walk at the Fitness Center's outdoor track Feb. 16 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Check in will be held at the HAWC at 11 a.m. Participants will walk three laps on the track. In the event of inclement weather, the walk will be held inside the old Base Gym next to the HAWC. For more information, call 327-8480.

TELEPHONE CONTROL

OFFICER MAKE-UP TRAINING:

The 78th Communication Squadron will conduct two makeup sessions for Telephone Control Officer annual training at the 78th Communications Squadron conference room A Bldg. 228 Tuesday at 2 p.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m. All appointed Robins TCOs who were not able to attend one of the primary training sessions in January are required to attend either one of the two sessions. Training will last approximately one hour and will focus on TCO responsibilities and the telephone requirements process for 78th CS. For more information call 1st Lt Patrick Tibbals at 222-0051 or Ed Wolfe at 222-0052.

NCO ACADEMY GRADUATION

When an Air Force Materiel Command family day rolls around, most Airmen are looking forward to spending some quality time with their friends and family.

However, a few are lucky enough to spend that time celebrating their own success. Current Noncommissioned Officer Academy students will do just that Feb. 16 at 6:30 p.m. at an academy graduation ceremony.

"What better way to spend family day than recognizing these folks who spent the last six weeks getting their education," said Senior Master Sgt. Eric Miller, director of education at the Robins NCO Academy.

The graduates will celebrate their achievement at a ceremony at the Museum of Aviation in the Century of Flight Hangar surrounded by their leadership, family and friends.

"The NCO graduation is an important milestone in these tech sergeants' careers," Sergeant Miller said. "For the most part, our military careers are shared by the family as an important family function."

The schedule for the NCO Academy and its graduation is chosen a year in advance, so no one knew the day would coincide with a family day, Sergeant Miller said.

RECRUITING VETERANS AS TEACHERS

Bill Kirkland, representative for the Troops to Teachers program, will be at the Robins Education Center Feb. 14, from 10 to 11 a.m. to take questions about Troops to Teachers, a cooperative program between the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Defense that provides referral and placement assistance to those who served in the Armed Forces and are seeking a second career in public schools. For more information, visit www.proudtoserveagain.com.

Mr. Kirkland will also discuss the Spouses to Teachers program. For information on this program visit www.spousetoteachers.com.

The briefing will be in Bldg 905, Room 140, no reservations required. For more information, contact Andrea Harris at the Education Office, 327-7312, or contact Mr. Kirkland at bill.kirkland@gapsc.com.

AETC SPECIAL DUTY ASSIGNMENT

Air Force members who missed the AETC Special Duty Briefing Team's annual visit to

Robins can still apply for an AETC special duty.

For more information about recruiter opportunities visit www.afrecruiting.com or call DSN 665-0584. For military training instructor information, visit <http://www.lackland.af.mil/737web/main.cfm> or call DSN 487-1018.

Visit <https://hq2af.keesler.af.mil/mtl> for military training leader special duty opportunities.

If interested in an assignment as a PME instructor or technical training instructor duty, call Master Sgt. Claudia Lowe, at 222-0168.

Airman and Family Readiness Center offers classes, workshops

Airman and Family Readiness Center sponsored classes, workshops and seminars are open to all Team Robins personnel and their eligible family members.

Absences from duty sections to attend these offerings are the responsibility of the employee to coordinate with his or her supervisor. Because room assignments are subject to change, specific room numbers will be confirmed at the time of registration.

A&FRC is located on Ninth Street in Bldg. 794, across the street just before the enlisted

club. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

TAP workshop

A three-day Department of Labor-sponsored Transition Assistance Program Employment Workshop will be Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., each day, in Bldg. 794. Personnel leaving the military within the next 12 months need to sign up as soon as possible. Spouses are encour-

aged to attend.

Workshop topics include: job search skills, resume and cover letters, interviewing skills, career planning, veterans benefits, disabled veterans issues, and much more.

Reservations are taken on first-come, first-serve-basis within the appropriate separation or retirement dates.

If you register for a session and find you can not attend, contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center to cancel your reservation--there is a waiting list.

Relocation assistance

Relocation Assistance at the A&FRC has a Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service that has information on all military installations worldwide. Informational site for all personnel, www.militaryonesource.com.

From simple questions to complex issues, you can use Military One Source 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you don't have a computer you can call 1-800-342-9647, and for conversation en Espanol, llame al: 1-877-888-0727.

From Robins with love



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Casey Hatten and Donnie Huddleston, First Support Services employees sort through more than 50 packages to be mailed Friday, Jan 26, to a platoon of 33 Air Force, Army and Navy troops at Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq whose mission is to advise and train Iraqi counterparts on how to sustain themselves without coalition troop support. First Support Services are contractors for Ground Support Equipment, Vehicles and Transient Alert Operations and Maintenance. Their 180 employees donated food, toiletries, games for troops and children's toys to send to the deployed military members.

Civilian Health Promotion Services give tips on maintaining a healthy heart

By **ROBIN ALBERTSON**
Health Education Specialist
Civilian Health Promotion Services

As we start making our way through this second month of the New Year, we find ourselves planning to show that special someone that we care or organizing wonderful events to celebrate the rich heritage of our country. Why not take a moment to slow down and focus on your own heart? Among many other worthwhile celebrations, February is Heart Health month and the perfect time to improve one's social, emotional, spiritual and physical wellbeing.

To assist you in achieving physical wellbeing for your heart, Civilian Health Promotion Services has scheduled a variety of events designed to help you learn about heart health and how to achieve your heart healthy goals. Every service provided by CHPS is free and will give you valuable tools to manage heart health issues.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the U.S. for both women and men.

Heart disease is a term that's somewhat loose and broad, and it's often used to describe the many different diseases and conditions that affect the heart. Some of these diseases are coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, vascular disease, congenital heart disease and abnormal heart rhythms. There are also many conditions like angina, high blood pressure and high cholesterol that affect the heart and can lead to heart disease if not recognized and treated.

CHPS will be hosting several events to help you identify and seek diagnoses of heart disease. Join CHPS for these events and find out more about what you can do to improve your heart health and overall wellbeing.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

►Cholesterol and diabetes awareness — Feb. 8, 11 a.m. to noon in the Base Restaurant private dining room. As a special collaboration between CHPS and Occupational Medicine, this class will give you more information about the importance of knowing your cholesterol numbers and its effects on the heart. Diabetes will also be discussed to bring awareness to its effects on the body systems and why it's so important to keep your blood sugar under control.

►Cholesterol and hypertension — Feb. 15 and 22, 11 a.m. to noon, Bldg. 207 Room A120. This class will help make sense of cholesterol and blood pressure readings, while offering sugges-

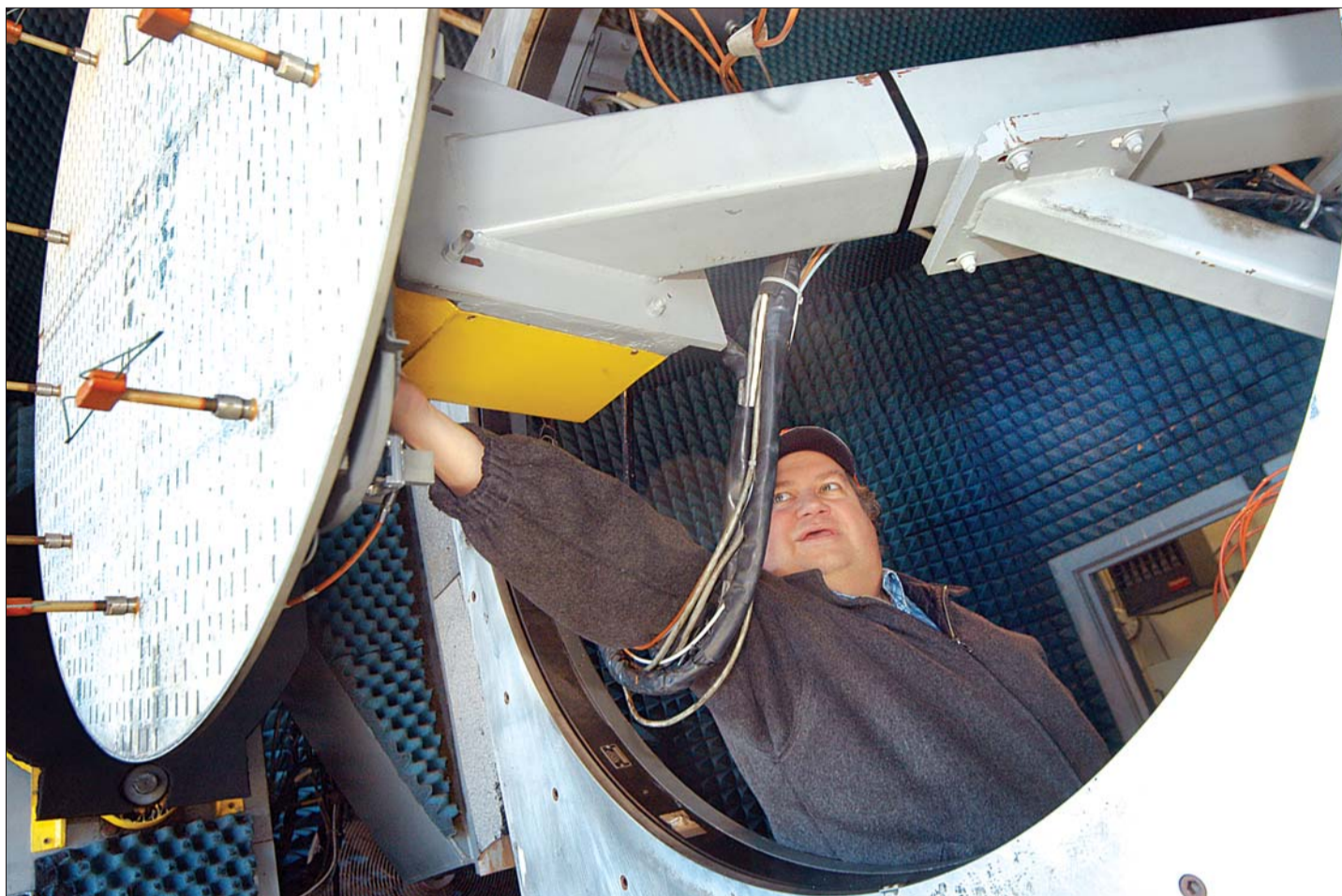
tions on how to improve results with diet and exercise modification.

►Cholesterol awareness — Feb. 16, 11 a.m. to noon, Fitness Center Annex conference room Bldg 301. This is another opportunity to learn about the importance of cholesterol numbers and how high cholesterol affects heart health.

►Open cholesterol screenings — Feb. 14 and 28, 8 to 10 a.m. at the Fitness Center Annex, Bldg. 301. This is an opportunity to get

your blood cholesterol tested and speak with one of the knowledgeable staff about what your numbers mean. This simple blood test is performed by finger stick and results are processed while you wait. This should be a fasting test in order to get accurate results, so no eating or drinking (except water) after midnight the night before. Medications that do not require food should be taken with water as usual.

For more information call 327-8030.



William Wethington, electronics technician, aligns an antenna so it is facing the right direction for a test.

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Looks can be deceiving

Two ordinary warehouses are home to one-of-a-kind machines



Left, Andres Orta, electronics technician, sits inside an F-15 radome to tape it with dielectric tape.



Right, Robert Fletcher, electronics technician, also does duty as a painter during the makeover in the PRISM.

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

By AMANDA CREEL
amanda.creel.dr@robins.af.mil

Two base buildings, Bldg. 675 and Bldg. 672, might appear from the outside to be common warehouses, but once you step inside you find these buildings both hold something unique. Both buildings house one-of-a-kind positioners used to help test Air Force aircraft nose radomes. The machines, one of which made its debut at Robins in 1986, and the second which will be up and functioning over the next few months, are both used to fine tune the radomes to ensure they are configured correctly before being put on an aircraft. "The building has been here for five years, but the software will be installed in the near future," said Shane Stokes, elec-

tronic technicians at the Antenna and Radome Testing Range. The new system cost approximately \$8 million, \$2 million more than the \$6 million machine housed just a few hundred yards away at the Bldg. 675. In our old system, it had one computer compared to the new version that utilizes 11 different computers to test the radomes, said Charles O'Malley, supervisor at the testing range. The two systems are the only testing stations for the F-15 nose radomes. "Every F-15 nose radome in the world comes through here," Mr. O'Malley said. Because Robins is the only base with the ability to test the F-15 radomes, the second facility ensures if one of the systems were to go down, such as in 2002 when Bldg. 675 was struck by lightning, the testing can continue, Mr. Stokes said. Along with servicing all the F-15 nose radomes, the testing range also tests C-130s, C-141s, C-5s and C-17s. "We do just about every antennae in every aircraft in the Air Force," Mr. O'Malley said. The addition of the more modern system will allow the technicians to provide the warfighter with a higher quality product in a quicker fashion, Mr. O'Malley said. Mr. Stokes, who was helping spruce the building up with fresh paint to provide a fitting home to the one-of-a-kind positioner, said it was kind of like an eye exam for the radome. Even though the new system is not up and running, the mission continues in Bldg. 675. The nose radomes arrive to

the testing range after they are repaired by the plastics shop. Once the plastic shop paints the radomes they are sent to the testing ranges to make sure there are no holes or areas that need to be thickened. The nose radomes are tested to see what areas of the nose radome need to be thickened and then the technicians climb into the nose-shaped radomes and start taping with a fiber glass tape called dielectric. "We measure it with that mapping station right there and it tells us how much tape to put in it," said Andres Orte, an electronics mechanic. The nose radome has to be one dielectric thickness from the nose through the entire cone, Mr. Orte said. Once the cones are taped they load the cones onto the freight elevator where they are loaded

onto the positioner and tested at different angles and degrees, including 0 degrees, negative 45 degrees, positive 45 degrees, negative 75 degrees, positive 75 degrees and 90 degrees. "Up here we test the F-15 nose radomes, once the repairs are made on it, we have to make small corrections," said Kelcey Jones, an electronics mechanic as he took the freight elevator to the third floor. The third floor testing area's walls were made of tiny foam spikes, called echo absorbers, used to absorb the signal reflections off of the metal equipment used to test the nose radomes. An antenna on the positioner receives signals from down range, which is a large tower several hundred yards away where signals are sent during the test to ensure the nose radome is ready

for action. "When the antenna is receiving a signal down range, it has to be perfectly centered at 0 degrees," said Thomas Mayberry, a co-op student from South Georgia Technical College, who is presently working as an electronics technician. "Then we close it up to see how well the radome receives the signal from the tower." In the end, these one-of-a-kind machines and their operators are ensuring the ability of our warfighters to see through the use of their radar without any interference from the nose radome. "The radar is their (the pilots) eyes," said William Wethington, an electronic technician. "The radome is invisible to the radar; we bring it back as close to invisible, so it doesn't interfere with the pilots radar."

TODAY
A First Friday "Night in Paris" will be held at your Robins Enlisted Club and Officers' Club from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. today. First Friday means great food, chances to win cash and prizes, entertainment and drink specials. Entertainment will include DJ Willie Nelson in the enlisted club and Bob Cummings Quartet will perform at the officers' club. Members must be present to win. Cost is members free and nonmembers \$5. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625.

Give Parents a Break and hourly care will be available from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Child Development Center East and School Age Program. A \$6 nonrefundable deposit is required. Cost is \$3 per child per hour for children six weeks to 12 years old. New enrollees must have up-to-date shot records for their children and complete required forms prior to making reservations. For more information call CDC East at 926-5805.

SATURDAY
Texas Hold 'Em will be held every Saturday at the enlisted club. Sign up at 3:30 p.m. with games beginning at 4 p.m. Texas Hold 'Em is open to all ranks and grades. Prizes include the following: First place \$85 gift card, second place \$55 gift card, third place \$35 gift card and fourth place \$25 gift card. The entertainment fee is \$10 for club members and \$15 for nonmembers and includes snacks and non-alcoholic beverages. Starting Feb. 11, the poker game will move to Sunday with sign up at 1:30 p.m. and games at 2 p.m.

SUNDAY
A Super Bowl extravaganza will take place at the enlisted club Feb. 4 starting at 5 p.m., with the game starting at 6 p.m. Enjoy free food, prizes, beverage specials and live gridiron action. Cost is free to members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625.

MONDAY
Step Up to the Plate will run Feb. 5 - March 31. Club members who eat lunch at the officers' club will receive a scratch-off card worth as much as \$1,000 club card credit or 26-inch flat screen television. One card per member per day. Open to all ranks and grades. If you are not an instant winner, fill out the card for a chance to win an iPod at the end of the contest. For more information call the officers club at 926-2670.

Triple S Mondays with soup, salad and sandwiches has arrived at the officers' club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$5.95. Enjoy made to order sandwiches or a full course salad bar with a variety of rotating gourmet soups. New special: soup and half sandwich combo only \$5.25. Lunch is open to all ranks and grades.

TUESDAY
Kids 10 years and younger eat free during divine dining at the officers' club Tuesday through Thursday from 5:30 - 8 p.m. when ordering through the children's menu and with a purchase of an adult entrée. Also enjoy dining every Friday and Saturday from 6 - 9 p.m. at the officers' club. Dinner is open to all ranks and grades. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Big bingo will be played today, a "Chocolate Kiss Night" on Feb. 14 and a membership bar bingo Feb. 21. There will be no bingo on Feb. 19. Joint Forces Bingo is located in the east wing of the Robins Enlisted Club. The hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with games starting at 7:15 p.m. Games begin at 2:45 p.m. on Sundays. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-4515 or Teresa Resta at 926-1303.

All retirees get a free cup of coffee with their breakfast (\$2.50 minimum purchase) or a free fountain drink with their lunch (\$5 minimum purchase) when they show their retiree I.D. card on Tuesdays in February. For more information call the base restaurant at 926-6972.

Enjoy movie night on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 8 p.m. Vote for the movies you want to see by filling out a ballot at the dining facility. Complimentary popcorn will be provided.

Free tacos and draft specials are available to club members on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Robins Enlisted Club.

WEDNESDAY
Enjoy Wednesdays at the enlisted club with M.U.G. night and karaoke with DJ X-Man. Bring your own mug (up to 30 ounces) and get refills for only \$1.50 from 7 p.m. to closing. Cost for entry is \$2 for nonmembers. For more information call 926-7625.

Enjoy pizza on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Robins Officers' Club. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

THURSDAY
A dental clinic will be held today from 9 a.m. to noon for the children of the Child

Peddling towards fitness

U.S. Air Force photo by
SUE SAPP

Jennifer Sungur watches a video while she works out on the stationary bike at the Fitness Center Annex. The Fitness Center Annex is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and is located in Bldg. 301 Bay H. For more information call 926-2840 or 926-3394



Development Center East and West. For more information call the CDC East at 926-3080 or CDC West at 926-5805.

Enjoy a new JR Rockers menu with a grilled New York steak, cole slaw and baked beans for only \$8.95 Thursdays. For more information call 926-7625.

Enjoy dining at the Robins Officer's Club every Tuesday through Thursday from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and every Friday and Saturday from 6 to 9 p.m. Dinner is open to all ranks and grades. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

UPCOMING
The Black History Month 5K Run/Walk will be held Feb. 9 at 11 a.m. The run/walk will begin in front of the Health and Wellness Center. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

A retiree appreciation lunch buffet will be held Feb. 9 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the officers' club. Military retirees and spouses receive an additional \$1 discount on the lunch buffet when they present their retiree I.D. card to the cashier. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

The musical showcase, *Tops in Blue 2006 "What's Love" tour* will be held at the Warner Robins Civic Center Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. Admission is free and doors will open to the public at 6:15 p.m. All attendees will be required to go through the Civic Center security checkpoint. A shuttle will take off at 6 p.m. from the Robins Enlisted Club parking lot and arrive at the Civic Center around 6:15 p.m. to allow passengers to get in line. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

A Sweetheart Valentine's dinner dance will be held Feb. 14 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Gourmet entrees include crab stuffed mushrooms, cranberry chicken roulade or smoke beef medallions and raspberry Mont Blanc. Cost is \$65 per member couple and \$75 for nonmember couple. Open to all ranks and grades but reservations are recommended. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Take your sweetheart flying on Valentine's Day Feb. 14 for \$49 a couple. Or fly any time Tuesdays in February and March and receive a discounted rate. Fly any time on Tuesdays in February and March and receive a discounted rate. For more information call the aero club at 926-4867.

Robins Youth Center will have baseball, softball and T-ball registration for ages five through 17 years old Feb. 15 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$55. Registration is conducted Monday through Friday 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. until full. Also, start smart baseball for three and four year olds will be held on Feb. 15 for \$45. For more information call Ron Hayes at 926-2110.

A 2007 Winter Sports Day will be held Feb. 23 starting at 7:30 a.m. Open to all base units and will begin with a unit formation run. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

A children's art show will be held Feb. 23 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center East and West.

A gourmet night will take place March 3 in the Georgia Room at the Officers' Club. An exquisite five-course menu paired with hand-picked wines from around the world. Menu is created by Chef Calvin. Cost is \$40 per person. Tickets go on sale Feb. 20 at the officers' club cashier's office. Tickets available to the first 60 club members.

ONGOING
Several new evening dining programs will be held at the officers' club. Tuesdays kids eat free from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. with a paid adult entrée; Wednesday is Prime Rib from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. for \$11.95 (not available on Valentine's Day);

Thursday a Butcher's Choice from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Eat steak, lobster, lamb, shrimp shishkabob's and many more choice cuts that will be wonderfully displayed on ice for you to select (item prices will be determined by market) and Friday and Saturdays enjoy a la carte menu with rotating dinner specials from 6 to 9 p.m. Open to all ranks and grades. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Robins Youth Center Soccer registration for ages five to 17 years old will continue until full. Cost for returning players \$30. Any new players cost is \$55. Registration is conducted Monday through Friday 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call the youth center at 926-2110.

Registration for summer camp will be held online at the Services Web site through March 7 with camp beginning June 4. Camp is open to children, ages five through 12 years old (five year olds must complete kindergarten). Hand carried forms will only be accepted from March 12 to 15 until 5 p.m. at the youth center. Priority is given to current users of the school-age program all others will be filled by a lottery. The drawing will be March 28 at 11 a.m. Parents will be notified by April 13 if they were selected. There will be a \$25 deposit for each week of requested care within 48 hours of this notification. For more information, call 926-2110.

A no-cost reading motivation program "Read By Mail" is going on now through April. Kids grades K - 8th create their own book list of over 15, 000 recommended titles, read the books and their mentor signs their record of books. This is a fun way to earn points and incentives. Local incentives per pages read include the following: 150 pages - \$2 discount on children's tickets at Six Flags & Wild Adventures through ITT; 200 pages - free small one-topping pizza with a minimum \$5 order at Pizza Depot; 250 pages - 50 percent discount on all youth instructional programs at the Arts & Crafts Center; 500 pages - three free games of bowling and shoe rental at Robins Lanes Bowling Center and 750 pages - 25 percent discount on one-day rentals of inflatable party equipment at Outdoor Recreation Equipment Rental. Look for the published list of books and a special display area of these books at the Base Library. To register for Read By Mail log on to www.bookadventure.com and complete the required fields. For teachers name field enter Hinds for all grades and name of school field enter robinsyouth. For more information please call the youth center at 926-2110.

Applications are being accepted for spring soccer and baseball coaches. No experience required, training will be provided. Apply in person at the youth center or call Ron Hayes at 926-2110.

The Airmen Against Drunk Driving program provides rides free of charge to all DOD card holders. Coverage is from Perry to Macon. For a free, anonymous ride, call 222-0013. Another designated drivers program is offered by the 78th Services Division at the Robins Enlisted and Officers' Clubs and Pizza Depot to assist in reducing alcohol related incidents. To learn more about Services designated drivers programs, call 926-2670.

Arts & Crafts Center - To receive weekly class updates, subscribe to the Services Cutting Edge electronic newsletter at http://www2.robins.af.mil/services/index.htm. For more information, call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

Some base restaurant serving lines will be closed now through May 25 for renovation. Phase II, the food court will be closed through May 9. The restaurant will remain open to serve its customers. For more information call the base restaurant at

926-6972.

Information, Tickets and Travel (New location Robins Enlisted Club, Bldg. 956) has the following tickets for sale. For more information on these or other events, call 926-2945.

► Tickets are on sale for the Aaron's 312 and 499 weekend at the Talladega Motor Speedway April 28 and 29. Cost is \$109 and includes Saturday, Sunday and pit pass or \$55 for Sunday race only. Tickets are also available for the Nicorette 300 and the Atlanta 500 to be held March 17 and 18 at the Atlanta Motor Speedway. Cost for both days is \$75, located in the east turn seating (Elliott Grandstand).
► A limited number of tickets are available for the Macon Centreplex presentation Freestyle Motorcross to be held Feb. 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$16 for adults and \$6.50 for children.

► Tickets are available for the Georgia Aquarium located in Atlanta, Ga. Cost is \$19 for adults (savings of \$3.75), \$16 for seniors 55 years and older and \$14 for children 3 - 12 years old (savings of \$3).
► Information, Tickets and Travel is selling Atlanta City Passes and includes the following venues: Georgia Aquarium, World of Coca Cola, High Museum, Inside CNN Atlanta, Fernbank Museum of Natural History or Atlanta Botanical Gardens and Zoo Atlanta or Atlanta History Center. Cost is \$66 for adults and children ages 3 - 12 years old \$49.

The bowling center has the following specials. To learn more call 926-2112.
► On Spot Café February special is a barbecue sandwich, fries and medium drink for \$4.25. For more information call the On Spot Cafe at 926-5240.
► The 7th annual World Wide Bowling program will be held Feb. 10 - April 14. Bowl Monday - Friday from 1 - 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1 - 6 p.m. Open to all youths five - 18 years old. Cost is \$5 for three games. All games are scratch.
► A special Valentine's Thunder Alley will be held Feb. 16. Join us and pay regular price and your date is half price.
► The bowling center will be open Feb. 19 from 1 - 7 p.m. during Presidents' Day. Wear red, white and blue and bowl for \$1.50 per game. Get a strike with a red head pin and receive that game free.
► A pee wee bumper league will start Feb. 24. Cost is \$22.50 per child for 10 weeks, one game per week. Register Feb. 17 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
► A 2007 Warner Robins Bowling Association All Star tournament will be held Feb. 24 and 25. Bowl at all three bowling centers and qualify for the All Star Team.

Pine Oaks Golf Course has the following specials. To learn more, call 926-4103.
► Purchase a meal at the Fairways Grille Feb. 12 (Lincoln's Birthday) using a \$5 bill for payment and receive an entry form to win a movie package and purchase a meal Feb. 22 (Washington's Birthday) using a \$1 bill for payment and also receive an entry form to win a movie package.
► In February enjoy several Fairways Grille weekly specials for only \$5.95. Feb. 5 - 9 build your own salad includes soup and drink; Feb. 12 - 16 build your own tacos includes chips, salsa and drink; Feb. 19 - 23 build your own pasta plate includes salad and drink and Feb. 26 - March 2 build your own gourmet burger includes chips and drink. Lunch is held from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. now through Feb. 28. For more information call 923-1717.
► Now is the time to book a tournament in February and receive a special rate of \$17. Price includes golf, cart and range balls. Lunch can be provided for \$5.
► Hit all the range balls you can from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays for only \$5 in February.
► A two-person dogfight is scheduled for Feb. 17 with a shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. The event package includes golf, green fee, lunch and prizes. Cost is \$30 per person AGFP and \$35 for guests. Sign up at the Pine Oaks pro shop.

NOW PLAYING



Adult tickets are \$3.50; children 11 years old and younger tickets are \$2. Movies start at 7:30 p.m., unless noted. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919.

FRIDAY THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS

Will Smith and Thandie Newton Chris Gardner is a bright and talented, but marginally employed salesman. Struggling to make ends meet, Gardner finds himself and his five-year-old son evicted from their San Francisco apartment with nowhere to go. When Gardner lands an internship at a prestigious stock brokerage firm, he and his son endure many hardships in pursuit of his dream of a better life for the two of them. (some language) Rated PG-13.

SATURDAY WE ARE MARSHALL

Matthew McConaughey and Matthew Fox A true story, based on devastating events, set in Huntington, West Virginia, about a small town steeped in the rich tradition of college football. For decades, players, coaches, fans and families have come together to cheer on Marshall University's "Thundering Herd." For this team and this community, Marshall football is more than just a sport, it's a way of life. But on a fateful night in 1970, while traveling back to Huntington after a game in North Carolina, 75 members of Marshall's football team and coaching staff were killed in a plane crash. As those left behind struggled to cope with the devastating loss of their loved ones, the grieving families found hope and strength in the leadership of Jack Lengyel, a young coach who was determined to rebuild Marshall's football program and in the process helped to heal the community. (emotional thematic material, a crash scene, and mild language) 127 minutes

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic
Catholic masses are held at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and a 5 p.m. vigil the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Islamic
Islamic Friday Prayer (Jum'ah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

Jewish
Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

Orthodox Christian
St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Protestant
The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. featuring hymns, anthems, congregational prayers and readings. Contemporary service meets at 5 p.m. in the Base Theater, singing the latest praise and worship music. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel, praising God with inspirational music. Religious education meets in Building 905 at 9:30 a.m.

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

DONATE YOUR LEAVE

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5370 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, wings should send information to Lanorris Askew

at: lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks. The following person has been approved as a leave recipient: Darrell Redden, 581st SMXS, POC is Brod Bourque, 926-6928.

Robins Thrift Shop offers bargains for shoppers, extra cash for consigners

By AMANDA CREEL
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If you're searching for a bargain, the base thrift shop should be first stop on your list. Whether you are searching for a mink headband, silver flatware or antique chairs, all have been known to roll through the door of the thrift shop.

"You really have to look, because you never know what you can find," said Ellen Neely, thrift shop chairman.

"Its like any thrift store, there is good stuff mixed with bad stuff, but it is really fun when you find something," said Amy Noel, a volunteer, who has found her own share of treasures at the shop including a fur coat for under \$10.

Shoppers who have been frequenting the thrift shop for years know how to spot the bargains from a mile away. Ann Pyle has shopped at the thrift shop for years and recently left with her arms full of finds.

"I like it here because they have beautiful things. Everyone ought to come over and see for themselves," Mrs. Pyle said.

All the shoppers and volunteers agreed the secret to a successful shopping trip at the thrift shop is no hesitation.

"If you see something you want, buy it right away because it won't last," Mrs. Neely said.

The thrift shop is operated by the Officer Spouses Club and all profits are used for the Robins Officer Spouses Club Scholarship.

If you aren't looking to purchase, those who are spending their new year removing the clutter from their lives can turn some of their clutter into a little extra cash.

The thrift store functions as a consignment store where members of the Robins community can sell gently used clothing, baby items, furniture, home décor and even military uniforms.

"We can use it just like any other charities and this way the money goes to benefit the people here on base," Mrs. Neely said.

The seller retains 80 percent of the sale price and the thrift shop keeps the remaining 20 percent for their scholarship fund. Individuals can consign up to 15 items a day, of which five can be clothes, while military with a permanent change of station can consign up to 30 items a day.

All the workers agreed they

WHAT TO KNOW

The Thrift Shop, Bldg. 945, is open Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. and on Fridays and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

For more information about consigning call 923-1686.

are willing to work with anyone and will do what they can for everyone who enters whether they are there to shop, consign or both.

However, if you would prefer to donate rather than consign, thrift shop volunteers said they are happy to take donations, because that allows them to put 100 percent of the funds into the scholarship funds.

"If it doesn't sell, we will take it to another charity and donate it ourselves. We never throw anything away unless it is broken or unusable," Mrs. Neely said. "It all goes to a good cause, nothing is wasted."

Many of the shoppers said it is the atmosphere at the thrift shop that keeps them coming back for more.

"Everyone laughs and cuts up. It's a good time," Mrs. Pyle said.

But without the volunteers, customers agreed the atmosphere wouldn't be as inviting.

"These are just the best bunch of ladies you'd ever want to meet," said Sylvia Camp.

Even the volunteers love spending their Wednesdays and Fridays at the shop.

"This job is sometimes more fun than my paying job," said Michelle Dupuis, who has been manning the cash register at the thrift shop for years.

The thrift shop is self funded which means some supplies are purchased out of profits, but the bulk of the money goes in the scholarship fund. The scholarship fund supported by the thrift shop is presently taking applications from dependents of Team Robins members whether they are a member of the active-duty enlisted or officer force, civil service or retired from service their dependents are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The scholarships come in increments of \$500 to \$1,000 and are open to high school seniors and those continuing their education. Applications are available through the thrift shop, the continuing education office, officer's club and high school counselors and are due by March 16.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Above, Amy Noel, thrift shop volunteer, shows off some of the children's clothes for sale.



Above, Rocio Nadolski and Nina Kern, thrift shop volunteers, sort through a jewelry display at the thrift shop.

Below, Amy Noel places items in the homewares room.



Getting connected Robins' sponsorship training to go online

By HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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WHAT TO KNOW

For more information, contact Renea Washington, a Community Readiness technician at the Airman and Family Readiness Center, at 926-1256.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center is aiming to save new sponsors time as they set out to make newcomers' arrivals at Robins less stressful.

Sponsors are the first voice newcomers hear and are often the first face they see when arriving at their new base. Sponsors provide information about the person's new base home, local real estate and school information, and may even give tips on the best places to eat and shop.

In the past, sponsors new to the task would get the low-down on how to be a good sponsor at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. But in a matter of weeks, new sponsors won't even have to leave their desks to get trained.

Renea Washington, a community readiness technician at the A&FRC, said the center is still working out the logistics of bringing the training online.

"We've been working with Staff Sgt. John Harris in the 78th Communications Squadron," she said. "He is helping us get it online. It will be a link on the Robins home page, under the Airman and Family Readiness Center."

Mrs. Washington said the training, which is condensed into about 32 PowerPoint slides and lasts about 20 minutes, is expected to be online in a couple of weeks.

Daniel Wells, team lead and community readiness consultant at the A&FRC, said the move will bring the sponsorship training up to speed with other newcomer information made available on the Web.

"We have the virtual sponsorship package, and we know everyone is super busy now and it's hard for them to get

away from their duty stations," he said. "So, we thought, 'Okay, we're going to come out with virtual sponsorship training and they can sit at their own computers and do the training without having to leave their offices.'"

Upon completing the virtual training, sponsors will take an online exam. Completed exams are sent to Mrs. Washington and online certificates are issued to sponsors with passing scores. Sponsors are then responsible for providing a copy of their certificates to their unit into managers. Sponsors must take the training once a year to maintain sponsorship certification.

Mr. Wells said the initiative will save sponsors a couple of hours and will save the center valuable material costs.

"I think it will be outstanding," he said. "It will give people the opportunity to sit at their desks and receive the training and in the long run be a better sponsor and take care of our military and civilians who are coming to Robins Air Force Base."

Julie Owens, a community readiness consultant at the A&FRC, recently relocated to Robins from Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. Ms. Owens said bringing the training online is a smart move.

"I think it will absolutely make it more convenient for people and help them help the person who's coming to their base," she said.

► IN BRIEF

The 4th Annual Defense Acquisition University South Regional Conference supports transformation through a series of speakers, panels and workshops designed to provide all members of the acquisition workforce with increased awareness of and insight into Department of Defense transformation in action. The conference is open to all members of the AT&L workforce, other federal gov-

ernment employees regardless of career field. Don't miss the opportunity to attend this exciting conference that will feature workshops in acquisition and program management, business cost and finance, contracting, engineering and technology, and production and logistics.

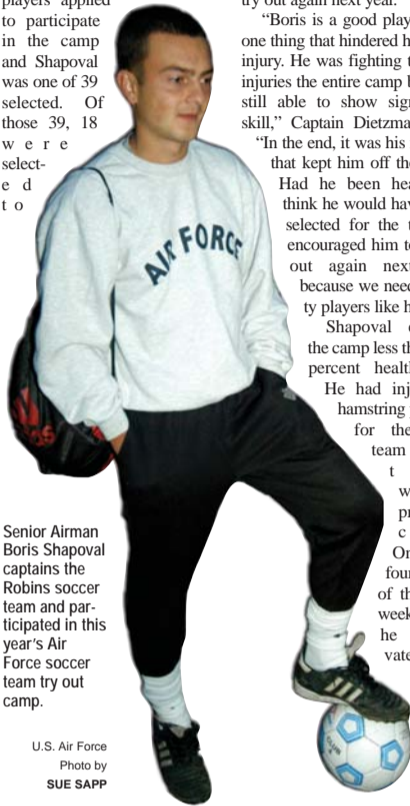
For more information regarding the agenda and registration, visit dauaa.south.home.mchsi.com. For additional info, email dauaa.south@dau.mil.

Soccer star taking game to next level

By KENDAHL JOHNSON
kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil

The goal of playing for the Air Force team came to an abrupt end for one Robins athlete, but it was nothing more than a temporary setback.

Senior Airman Boris Shapoval, a customer service technician for the 78th Comptroller Squadron, recently participated in the Air Force soccer training camp. More than 90 players applied to participate in the camp and Shapoval was one of 39 selected. Of those 39, 18 were selected to o



Senior Airman Boris Shapoval captains the Robins soccer team and participated in this year's Air Force soccer team try out camp.

U.S. Air Force
Photo by
SUE SAPP

play on the Air Force squad and represent the Air Force in the Armed Forces tournament.

Despite battling through injuries the entire two weeks of camp, Shapoval made it through several rounds of cuts before being dismissed the final day of camp. Although missing the cut was disappointing, he knows he'll have another opportunity in the future. Capt. Roy Dietzman, the coach of the Air Force team, has already invited Shapoval to try out again next year.

"Boris is a good player. The one thing that hindered him was injury. He was fighting through injuries the entire camp but was still able to show significant skill," Captain Dietzman said.

"In the end, it was his injuries that kept him off the team. Had he been healthy I think he would have been selected for the team. I encouraged him to come out again next year because we need quality players like him."

Shapoval entered the camp less than 100 percent health-wise.

He had injured a hamstring playing for the base team just two weeks prior to camp.

On the fourth day of the two-week camp, he aggravated the injury. To

make matters worse, an ankle twist kept him from some of the action.

"It's normally a three- or four-week trial camp, but it was crammed into two weeks this year, so the physical training was intense. It was a pretty serious camp with several practices each day in addition to games. All that pressure (on my hamstring) was too much," Shapoval said. "Being hurt definitely killed my chances of making the team."

Shapoval's skill on the soccer field has come as a result of years of practice. He grew up in Ukraine, where, as in most European countries, soccer is the sport of choice. He started playing recreationally at a very early age, joining the other children daily for pick up games. At age 11, he joined a competitive team and a few years later he was playing in tournaments, like the Youth Northern Cup in Germany.

Soon after, he immigrated to the United States. His parents

had been divorced for many years and in the early 1990s, his father left the Ukraine to come to the U.S. In 1998, when he was 14 years old, he left his mother and joined his father in Brooklyn, N.Y.

The adjustment from life in the Ukraine to life in Brooklyn proved to be a challenge for Shapoval. "Getting adjusted to the way of living was difficult," he said. "I was adjusting to a new family and at the same time adjusting to life in Brooklyn. The first year was really difficult."

Fortunately, Ukrainians have a very strong community in New York City that helped Shapoval adapt to the new culture. By the time he was a sophomore, he was mostly adjusted and once again immersed in soccer. And because soccer is more competitive overseas, he had an advantage in skill over his peers.

"The youth program in the states is so much different than the youth program in Europe. It's a lot more recreational here,"

Shapoval said. "When I came here in 1998, there was an opportunity to play soccer, but it was difficult to find the level of competition you might find in Europe."

His first year playing for his high school team he was selected rookie of the year and by his senior season, he was captain of the team. He went on to play at Baruch College, one of 10 senior colleges of The City University of New York. But a college soccer career wasn't in his future.

"I wasn't on scholarship and back then, I wasn't sure how the whole process worked," Shapoval said. "I wasn't getting looked at by enough scouts to get a scholarship to a good school."

So in June 2004, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. He has tackled the military career with the energy he displays on the soccer field and recently, he earned Below the Zone promotion. But his first love is soccer and he works to ensure he and other enthusiasts have a way to enjoy the sport. In addition to coaching a team from the

Robins Youth Center, he is also captain of the base soccer team, which plays in a League Latina.

"If you have the motivation to play, you are on the team. No one gets told they can't be on the team. When you get out there and start playing, you can see whether you are at that level and decide if you want to keep playing," Shapoval said.

According to Rudy Gallegos, coach of the base team, nothing short of injury will keep him off the field. "He played in the full 90 minutes in 95 percent of the games," Gallegos said. "He attends 100 percent of practices, is receptive to instructions and quickly responds to position adjustments at critical times during games."

Shapoval wants to get a college degree and is attending Middle Georgia College. He is also looking into a foreign area studies program, where his ability to speak Russian and Ukrainian could help him become an officer. But in his spare time, he continues to play soccer and will try out for the Air Force team again next year.

Military justice

Commanders and First Sergeants, in concert with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, are responsible for ensuring good order and discipline on Robins Air Force Base. There are many avenues available to meet this responsibility. Examples include trials by courts-martial, Article 15s, Administrative Discharges, and the U.S. Magistrate's Court. Actions recently reviewed by the 78th Air Base Wing legal office include:

Courts-Martial:

A staff sergeant faced trial by special court-martial for wrongful use of marijuana and cocaine on various occasions, in violation of Article 112a, misuse of the government travel card, in violation of Article 92, and absenting himself from his unit without authority, in violation of Article 86 of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. The military judge sentenced the member to reduction to the grade of airman basic, confinement for eight months and a bad conduct discharge.

Administrative Discharges

An airman 1st class was discharged with an honorable discharge service characterization. The member was evaluated and diagnosed by the Life Skills Support Center



psychologist with a mental disorder of a severity that makes him unsuitable for continued military service. The LSSC psychologist recommended that the member be administratively discharged from the Air Force.

Civilian discipline and adverse actions

The following actions occurred during September 2006 and are reflective of the types of disciplinary actions taken during that period.

— One-day suspension based on failure to properly request leave and inappropriate conduct.

— Three-day suspension based on unauthorized use of a government credit card and off-duty misconduct of such significance that there is an adverse effect upon the Air Force.

— Reprimand based on failure to properly request leave and unauthorized absence.

— Termination based on failure to demonstrate fitness for continued employment during trial period.

— Three-day suspension

based on misuse of government computer. Employee had a prior reprimand.

— Reprimand based on careless workmanship.

— Three-day suspension based on unauthorized absence. Employee had a prior three-day suspension.

— Reprimand based on failure to properly request leave and unauthorized absence.

— Three-day suspension based on unauthorized use of a government credit card.

— Reprimand based on violation of tool control and failure to properly request leave.

— Three-day suspension based on unauthorized absence. Employee had a prior reprimand.

Retirements

The following Team Robins members retired in December 2006 and January 2007:

Linda Adkison
Michael Ande
William Asbury
Patrick Avera
Theresa Bailey
Lucy Baker
Teresa Barrios
John Bates
John Battle
Neal Bengt
Linda Bennett
Gail Bishop
Russell Bone
Carlton Boutwell
Victor Bowden
Kevin Bowen
Dorothy Bramblett
Amory Bridges
Judy Britt
Trecia Brower
Charlene Brown
Gene Brown
Marvin Brown
Samuel Brown
Sonny Brown
Kenneth Bryant
Jo Bundy
Zane Burns
Nelda Byrnes
William Carey
Mary Carson
Linda Carter

Richard Glazer
Susan Glidewell
Robert Gonzales
Gloria Gonzalez
Aurelius Goolsby
Willie Graathouse
Roy Griffin
Diane Gross
Gloria Haggard
Frederick Hall
Robert Hardy, III
Jimmy Hargis
Martha Hargis
Toby Harmon
Leroy Harris Sr.
Melvin Hart
Bobbie Haugabrook
Patricia Hickman
Faye Holston
Stephen Honrath
Ida Hopper
Deloris Howard
Beth Huff
Randall Hyder Jr.
Debra Israel
Kyle Jackson
Edith Johnson
Lynn Johnson
Pamela Johnson
William Johnson
Danny Joiner
George Jones Jr.
Laura Jones
James Kendall
Jimmy King
Jonathan Krug
John Lambert
Diane Lanier
Fredrick Lankford
Jesse Lee
Betty Leverson

Gary Lewis
Earl Lockhart
Kay Lord
John Louth
James Lowery
Dona Lyons
Hubert Maddox
Wanda Maddox
Buford Mallory
Twanita Marlow
Johnnie Martin III
Olive Mathis
James McClure
Mary Mccool
Pamela Mcfeeters
Ted Mcgrath
Louise Mchargue
Verrett Mckinley
Ralph Mcinvalle
Asia Mcleod, Jr.
Michael Meade
Deborah Melton
John Melvin
Judy Mclck
Susan Mills
Virginia Mimbs
William Mitchell
Ronald Morton
Mildred Murray
Shelley Musser
Janice Nailey
Thomas Nations
Robert Nutt
Roy Obanson
Glenn Parden
Dorothy Paulk
John Peck
Constance Peek
Janelle Pelt
H. Fred Phagan Jr.
Peggy Phillips

Jeanne Pierce
Vernon Pike
Bridie Pogue
Curtis Pope
Sandra Portz
David Powell
Curtis Power
Emory Pruitt
Elizabeth Puckett
Carmen Pulliam
Richard Purser
Calvin Raines
James Rambo
Mary Rangel
Robert Rauch
Susan Rawlins
Nancy Reid
Ben Respress
Vacienta Respress
Willard Ridings
Cora Ridley
Refugio Rios Jr.
Betty Lou Roberts
Thomas Roberts
William Roberts
Robert Roberts
Wilson Robinson
Leo Rogers Jr.
Sandra Rooks
Ruben Rowland
Woodrow Ryals
Louis Schwartz
James Scott
James Scott
George Seabolt
James Sheffield
Billy Shirley
Brenda Shugart
Patricia Silts
Etzie Singletary Jr.
Beatrice Smith

Bobby Smith
David Smith
Ellen Smith
Oscar Smith
Wyonna Smith
Charles Spry
Alvin Stanley Jr.
Donna Stewart
Mary Stewart
Robert Stock
Shirley Stone
Robert Story
Linda Suddeth
Robert Suddeth
Geraldine Thomas
William Trice
Moses Tucker
Zelma Turner
Laverne Tyson
Martha Umberger
Laird Vangorder
Ronald Vaughn
Linda Veal
Margaret Velvick
Mckinley Verrett
Penelope Wagner
James Walker
Charles Walsh
Thomas Warner
Emory Waters
Ralph Watson
Tommy Whigham
Janie Whitworth
Carl Wilkins Jr.
Jesse Williams
Kerry Wilson
James Witt Jr.
Helen Woods
Edwin Woods
Richard Yates
Shelva Jean Young

MAKING THE CONNECTION

78th Communications Squadron earns three AFMC awards

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

The 78th Communications Squadron is making the connection between hard work and mission success.

The squadron recently claimed three awards at Air Force Materiel Command level. 2nd Lt. Christian Mapp, officer in charge of network operations in the 78th CS earned the 2006 Information Assurance Professional of the Year award. Master Sgt. Mark Stallings, network management section chief in the 78th CS, earned the 2006 AFMC 3C Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Award. The squadron's project management team earned the 2006 AFMC Gen. Edwin W. Rawlings Team Award.

Lieutenant Mapp, who has been at Robins for two years,

said being the best in the AFMC in his field is a significant personal achievement.

"It feels pretty amazing," he said. "It's a good feeling. It validates the hard work and effort that my team puts in, because really, even though it's given to me as an individual, this is a team award. I couldn't have achieved this without the great support of the team that works for me."

His team's hard work included the standardized desktop configuration, Smart Card login, and required Smart Card use for Web page

access, all of which were aimed at increasing the base's communications security, the lieutenant said.

Sergeant Stallings, who has earned the award in NCO and Airman categories in previous years, said he was proud to represent Robins at the command-level competition.

"It's a privilege and an honor," he said. "There are a lot of good people in these career fields for sure."

The 41-year-old said he's proud of his staff members who help him achieve the mission every day.

"It just reflects what hap-

pens through the year, what everybody did together," he said. "I've got a lot of good Airmen who work in my branch. There are a lot of good people I work with every day."

Karen Pless, plans and projects section chief in the 78th CS, who headed up the award-winning project management team, said the 13-person team was integral to the success of the enhanced 911 system, the Fitness Center annex, the \$3 million digital phone system upgrade and the 78th Air Base Wing reorganization and moves.

Ms. Pless said the team's award is one shared with its sister organizations 78th Communications Squadron's Mission Systems and Information Systems flights.

"To win this award is just awesome," she said.



2nd Lt.
Christian
Mapp



Master Sgt.
Mark
Stallings

78th SFS earns AFMC Large Security Forces Unit Award

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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The 78th Security Forces Squadron has proven that working together reaps big rewards.

The unit, made up of more than 400 civilian and military members, recently earned Air Force Materiel Command's 2006 Active Duty Large Security Forces Unit of the Year Award through its total-team approach in the deployed environment and at home station.

The squadron had a year packed full of deployments in 2006. Included in its many accomplishments, the unit coordinated 18 in-flight detainee missions, with 93 insurgents transported to six inter-theatre detainment facilities. Despite the team's high ops tempo, the unit still came out of the 2006 Unit Compliance Inspection with a

rating of "Excellence."

Maj. Greg Anderson, 78th SFS commander, said he's proud of the accomplishments the group achieved as a unit.

"It's a wonderful team award that is a compilation of both team and individual accomplishments, both here at home station and deployed," he said.

The security forces unit deployed more than 195 Airmen in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

"Most (Airmen) saw combat action and did unbelievable

things to protect the missions they were doing, from detainee operations to running convoys to running direct action missions to canines attached to Army units to do offensive missions," the major said. "The unit has done some pretty Herculean things in the deployed environment."

Chief Master Sgt. Mark Parrish, 78th SFS superintendent, said his unit did an outstanding job supporting missions on the home front, such as providing support to the Robins 2006 Air Show.

Sergeant Parrish said he's proud of the unit's award-winning work.

"I think the award reflects the hard work and dedication of all the men and women of the 78th Security Forces," he said. "I'm just really pleased because it's not just one person. It's a team effort. I know how hard

everybody worked here and I was happy to see that they're getting recognized."

The squadron will compete for the award at Air Force-level competition.



Major Greg
Anderson is
the 78th SFS
commander

Robins IT professional earns AFMC's Gen. John P. Jumper Award

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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The Technology Directorate is doing all it can to meet customers' needs, and Air Force Materiel Command is taking notice.

Cindy Gunter, maintenance systems chief in the IT Directorate's Enterprise Systems Division, recently earned the command's 2006 Gen. John P. Jumper Award for Excellence in Warfighting Integration for her work with new technology and system integration.

The award recognizes individuals for sustained superior performance and outstanding contributions to the integration of Air Force warfighting and/or operations support capabilities that enhance the decision cycle.

Her efforts included looking for innovative technology, such as radio frequency identification, and using technology to enhance operations while minimizing the impact on the work force, among other initiatives.

Ms. Gunter successfully managed an upgrade to AFMC's \$15 million legacy data system suite consisting of five major integrated systems supporting more than \$1 billion Air Logistics Center workload and ensured minimal system down time for Air Force depot maintenance workers.

The IT professional was also credited with partnering with Headquarters AFMC's A6 Information Assurance and Naval Systems Support Group to develop the "way ahead" for creating the certification and accreditation package for joint systems critical to maintenance.

While Ms. Gunter is honored by the recognition, she said the glory belongs to her people.

"They may be recognizing me for this, but I have a staff and a group of people who make these things possible," she said. "To me, management is an inverse pyramid. My customer is at the top. My personnel are in the middle and I'm at the bottom serving them. So to me, if the customer wins, that's good enough."

Ms. Gunter will compete for the Air Force-level award.



Cindy
Gunter

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Contact a member of the Rev Up staff

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