



THE ROBINS REV-UP

April 13, 2007 Vol. 52 No. 15

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

THE MACH READ

Change of Command Ceremony

There will be a change of command ceremony April 20 at 9 a.m. at the Museum of Aviation. Col. Patrick C. Higby will assume command of the 78th Mission Support Group, replacing Col. Allen Benefield.

Blood drive

There will be a blood drive today with the following times and locations:

Cotton Auditorium and Youth Center from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Bldgs. 640 and 645 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To donate blood, contact your blood drive monitor or Staff Sgt. Hammack at 327-7936 or via email at garah.hammack@robins.af.mil

Road Closure

Work to standardize the pop-up barriers at the Russell Parkway and Green Street gates will take place April 23 through May 4. The work will take place in the evenings from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. Mondays through Fridays at the Russell Parkway gate and 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. Fridays through Mondays on the Green Street gate. Drivers should expect delays during these times. The contractor will work on one lane at a time allowing traffic to still flow in two of the three lanes.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month events

Child Safety Day will be held at Wal-Mart on Booth Road Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. During the event, Houston County Safe Kids will be conducting car seat checks, the Warner Robins Fire Department and Police Department will also be on hand.

In support of National Child Abuse Prevention Month, there will be a seminar for effectively disciplining children ages two through 12. The seminar, titled 1-2-3 Magic, will be held at the Houston Pavilion April 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with a lunch break from noon to 1:30 p.m. Contact Linda Towry at 397-8398 to sign up for the seminar or for more information.

Robins Earth Day Events

Bird Watching with Dr. Bob will begin at the Lodge at Luna Lake Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Participants should bring binoculars and field guides.

Earth Day on the Greens, a golf tournament sponsored by environmental management and the Society of American Military Engineers will begin with registration at 9:30 a.m. April 20. The event will be a four-person scramble and will cost \$45 per person, which covers lunch, green fees, cart, bucket of range balls, beverages and chances for prizes for tournament players. Contact Kerica Contreras or Eric Anania at 922-7751 to sign up, only the first 100 will be accepted.

Wellston Trail Greenway Bay Gall Creek cleanup will be held April 21 at Fountain Park on Corder Road at 9 a.m.

Environmental awareness displays will be held on April 25 at the Base Medical Center and April 26 at the Base Restaurant from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Environmental Awareness Day will be held at the Base Exchange April 28 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. During the event a computer and electronics recycling event will allow members of the Robins community to recycle all sorts of electronic items. Most items can be dropped off free of charge, but TVs will incur a \$10 charge. For more information call Heidi Schwingle at 327-8287.

DOD implements mandatory anthrax vaccinations for high-threat deployments

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

A new Department of Defense policy, implemented March 19 in accordance with DOD and Air Force guidance, is calling for Airmen with orders to or those currently in areas of high threat for anthrax get vaccinated against the deadly bacteria.

High-threat areas for anthrax include primarily the Central Command Area of Responsibility and the Korean Peninsula, said Lt. Col. Todd Shull, Air Force Counter-Biological Warfare Division chief.

The DOD determined these

forwarded areas pose the highest threat for military forces so they must meet the mandatory anthrax vaccine measures. Additionally, individuals in designated special mission units, regardless of location, are also subject to mandatory anthrax vaccination.

"The second key piece of the program is the voluntary aspect of the AVP," Colonel Shull said. "This involves Airmen who have received at least one anthrax vaccine dose since 1998. Under the new guidelines, they can elect to continue getting the anthrax vaccinations in accordance with the dosing schedule whether or not they are (or will be) assigned to a desig-

nated high-threat area."

Col. Jim McClain, 78th Medical Group commander, said the anthrax vaccine program is an important one.

"We all need to remember that the biological threat as well as the chemical threat is very real, both within the CENT-COMAOR and in other areas as well," he said. "So, as a result of that, the Anthrax Vaccination Program has great value for our troops here at Robins Air Force Base and other personnel."

Col. Ricky Cook, 78th Dental Squadron commander, said the policy affects individuals who will be deploying for

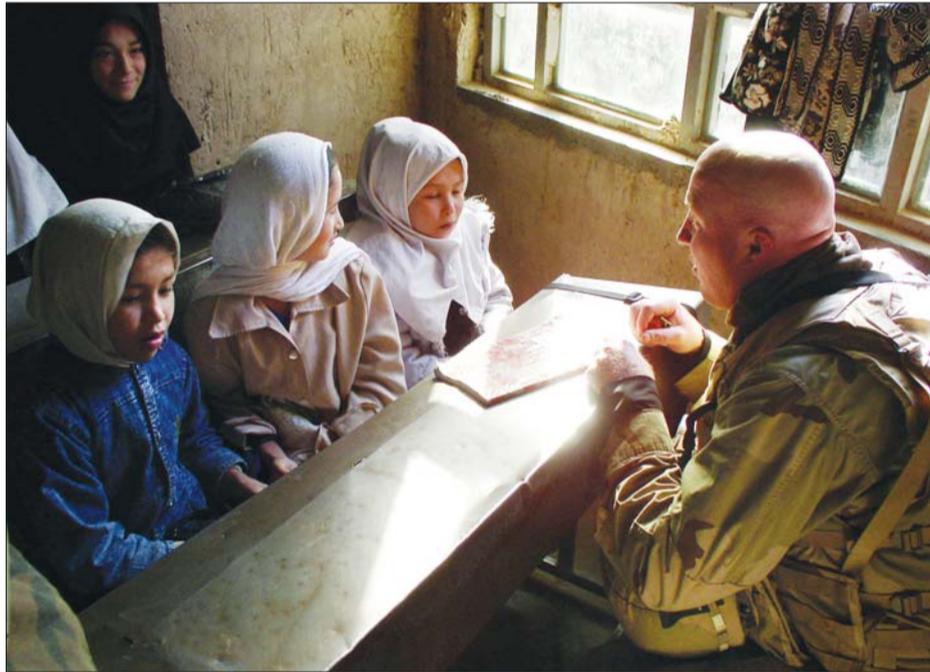
▶ see ANTHRAX, 2A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Col. Jim McClain, 78th Medical Group commander gets his sixth and final shot in the initial series of the anthrax vaccine by Lt. Col. Christine Uebel, family medicine flight commander.

A Ray of Hope



U.S. Air Force photo by TECH. SGT. GARY MALE

Above, female Afghan students recite the alphabet and practice their English with a U.S. Navy Lieutenant. The light from the window is the classroom's sole source of light. To see more photos and read an account of Team Robins' own Tech. Sgt. Gary Nale's experiences during a recent humanitarian tasking see page B1.

Robins technical sergeant earns AF Transportation NCO award

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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Tech. Sgt. William "Bill" Geiger knows how to get things moving — it's his job.

The noncommissioned officer, who has served as the unit training manager for the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron for the last five months, was recently named as the 2006 Air Force Transportation NCO of the Year.

Sergeant Geiger stays on top of his job of ensuring about 154 Airmen get the training they need to keep the mission moving, both at home and in lands hundreds of thousands of miles away.

The 37-year-old Warren, Mich., native entered the Air Force in



Tech. Sgt. Bill Geiger

December 1989, getting his start in the security forces career field. But, not long into his military career, the enlisted Airman changed direction and became a vehicle operator at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., driving wreckers, tractor trailers, fork lifts and anything else that had wheels and a motor.

In the nearly 15 years he has been in the transportation field, Sergeant Geiger has been here and there to get Airmen where they need to be.

"I've been deployed to several locations (doing) something kind of similar to the duty that we're doing now within Kosovo, Bosnia, Macedonia and Cuba," he said. "I've been deployed to Italy, and that was probably only my ninth deployment that I've had in my entire career. (I've been to) Saudi Arabia and I've been to Al Udeid once briefly. I was there when the war first started."

As the War on Terrorism began, Sergeant Geiger pulled Air Force assets off of ships as they came into designated locations, staged them and worked on getting them moved and

▶ see AWARD, 2A

New Robins commissary plans take shape

By AMANDA CREEL
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Patrons of the Robins commissary could be shopping in a new facility as early as August 2008.

The contract for a new commissary at Robins is expected to be awarded May 1, and construction could begin as early as mid May, said Scott Sisson, an architect and project manager for the Defense Commissary Agency.

"If everything goes according to plan, in mid to late August 2008, patrons will be shopping in the new store. However, a little construction may still be going on when the store first opens," Mr. Sisson said.

The construction project will differ from a standard construction project, in order to keep the existing commissary open for business during the 18-month construction process. Construction crews will spend the first three months doing nothing but site work.

"In standard construction, you build the buildings and then you build the parking lots. It will be a little backwards from the typical construction project," said Larry Allen, community planner, who has helped with the plans of the proposed commissary since November of 2002.



courtesy graphic

Above, is an artist's rendering of what the new Robins Commissary will look like. The facility may be open as early as August 2008.

Since the new commissary will be built on the existing facility's parking lot, the first step will be to build a temporary parking area for shoppers.

Once temporary parking is established, construction on the new parking lot will begin, and once the new parking lot is completed, construction of the commissary facility can begin, Mr. Sisson said.

Although this may mean greater walking distances during the construction period, commissary patrons will find it was worth

the wait when the new facility opens.

According to Mr. Allen, the new commissary will be on the same level as its parking lot. This means the travel distance to the first parking space will be shorter at the new facility without breaking force-protection standards, and with no ramps to travel, it will mean easier trips from the check-out lanes to the parking lot.

Once the new commissary opens, there

▶ see COMMISSARY, 2A

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

Courtesy of 78th OSS/DSW

TODAY
82/48



SATURDAY
80/59



SUNDAY
62/50



COMMISSARY

Continued from 1A

will be other advantages to the location of the parking lot. For example, the new parking area will allow shoppers to cross directly from the commissary to the Base Exchange, said Mr. Allen. Plus, the new facility boasts a larger retail space by about 30 percent compared to the existing commissary.

"Instead of having large warehouse areas, there will be more products on the floor," Mr. Allen said.

Enthusiasm for the new commissary project is unbridled. Brenda Wilson, an Air Force spouse, said she has been looking forward to more news about the addition of the new commissary since she first heard about it more than a year ago.

"I think that it will be awesome and I am ready for it," Mrs. Wilson said. She said she

hopes her husband's Air Force career and a possible permanent change of station doesn't hinder her from seeing it open its doors.

Although commissary patrons like Mrs. Wilson are looking forward to a new and larger facility, many will miss the charm of shopping at the current Robins commissary.

Friendships can be formed as customers maneuver up and down the aisles without going against the traffic arrows. The traffic arrows fixed on the floors of the aisles are a commandment few break without the urge to apologize repeatedly to their fellow shoppers.

The charm doesn't end with the policing of traffic flow; shoppers can be found trading coupons or leaving soon-to-expire coupons for the shoppers who pass behind them. The kindred spirit of the commissary patron can also be seen as others help one another reach the top shelf or the bottom shelf all the

way in the back where a much needed item seems to tease the shopper.

However, despite the charm of the current commissary, few complaints can be found as the new commissary forecasts are finally shaping up to be a reality. The promise of wider aisles, larger retail space and a newer facility can put a smile on any commissary patron's face.

"I like the idea of no arrows, especially if people are still courteous," said Tech. Sgt. Angel Waymer with the 116th Operation Support Squadron. "I know they (the arrows) are for convenience, but if you're trying to run in and out it makes it more complicated."

Rodney Shipp, a retired Airman, and his wife, Valang, said they are looking forward to a bigger shopping area and wider aisles. They said they hope the changes result in more selection throughout the store especially in the produce area.

blen can with my family because I leave home so much. I've kind of missed out on a lot of stuff that they've done growing up because I'm gone 10 months a year pretty much on average. So, whatever time that I have allotted, I dedicate totally to my family."

Tech. Sgt. Jody Mohler, NCOIC of Dispatch Support for the 78th LRS, who has called Sergeant Geiger friend and co-worker since 2003, said he can always count on his comrade on and off the clock.

"Professionally, he's definitely one of a kind," he said. "If I needed anything, he'd be the first guy I'd go to. I wouldn't go to my supervisor or anybody like that. I would contact this man right here first because I know he can get the job done. I know I can rely on him whether it's military needs or something in my personal life or whatever, I can always rely on Sergeant Geiger for it."

include small arms, chemical warfare, seven-level schools, career development courses, academies and technical schools.

Sometimes getting everyone trained can be a challenge, as deployments and other taskings pull people in different directions. But Sergeant Geiger handles it with a steady hand.

"I make sure folks are completely qualified before they deploy or PCS to their next duty station, assure people are attaining their next skill level within the allotted time frame, whether it be five level or seven level," he said.

When he's not at work, he's working hard to make life the best it can be for Debra, his wife of 18 years, and their children, DeeAnna, 17; Kayla, 15; and Amanda, 10.

"I hunt. I fish. I get involved in whatever my kids are doing at school," he said. "I just try to spend as much time as I possi-

ANTHRAX

Continued from 1A

more than 15 days to Korea and other areas of Southwest Asia.

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Mike Bledsoe, who specializes in occupational medicine in the 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, said the number of individuals affected by the new vaccine policy may vary at Robins.

"In any given month, we usually end up deploying as many as 200 or 300 people and all of those people, if they're not up to date on anthrax, will have to have the vaccination before they actually depart," he said.

Colonel McClain said potentially anyone in a deployable situation or making a permanent change of station to the Korean Peninsula could be affected by the vaccine program.

Pat Tooley, lead health specialist in the Public Health Flight in the 78th MDG, said the vaccine isn't a one shot deal. "It's a six-shot series over 18 months and then it's an annual booster thereafter," she said.

Colonel Cook said ideally, Airmen receive a minimum of three shots before they go, receiving an initial shot, another shot in two weeks, and shots at the four-week, six-month and 18-month marks, followed by an annual booster shot.

If Airmen do not complete the series of the anthrax vaccine, Colonel McClain said the series must be completed in the AOR.

Doctor Bledsoe said the shot is intended to keep Airmen safe when in harms way of the bacteria.

"The concern is that anthrax, which is bacteria, can be weaponized and can become an infection in the lungs," he said. "That infection is almost always fatal if untreated. The anthrax vaccine provides protection from infection in case people are exposed."

Colonel Cook said the 78th

WHAT TO KNOW

For more information on the local implementation of the anthrax vaccine, contact the Public Health Flight in the 78th Medical Group, at 327-7613. Information on the anthrax vaccine can also be obtained by visiting the Military Vaccine Agency's Web site at <http://www.vaccines.army.mil/> or MilVax Anthrax Web site at <http://www.anthrax.mil>.

Medical Group currently has adequate doses of the vaccine on hand for those that require it and individuals who need the shot will be identified by their commanders.

"Once individuals are identified by their commanders, they are then scheduled over here to start receiving their vaccinations in the (necessary) intervals," he said.

The vaccination is now a requirement on the standard pre-deployment checklist, Colonel McClain said. Shots will be given up to 60 days prior to deployment.

Colonel Cook said the medical group has set up a database that tracks which individuals have had the vaccine. The database is available for commanders to help them better manage their Airmen's needs in this area.

Colonel McClain said that Airmen can volunteer to have the shot, which can be given on a voluntary-basis at the Immunization Clinic.

"For those that have already received vaccinations, they can volunteer to get the shot as well, and I just volunteered to get my sixth shot so I've got the full series done now," he said.

Colonel McClain said his group is fully prepared to implement the vaccine program.

Robins is working to keep Airmen informed about the vaccine, Doctor Bledsoe said.

"Because there have been

concerns for the safety of the vaccine among those who received it in the past, education about the risks of anthrax and about the very low potential risks of receiving the vaccine that educational piece is a very important part," he said. "Everybody who comes over for the vaccine will be given a tri-fold that has information about the vaccine and a little bit about the disease and is given an opportunity to speak with a healthcare provider about any concerns they may have in terms of receiving the vaccine."

Doctor Bledsoe said the vaccine is a safe, effective tool that's intended to protect against a deadly illness; however, the medical group wants to make sure that people's concerns are addressed. Base healthcare providers are being educated as well to ensure they give proper information about the vaccine.

Implementation is in the initial stages and the Air Force has established a four-week timeframe, upon unit notification, for units to begin giving the anthrax vaccine to Airmen meeting the mandatory guidelines, Colonel Shull said.

The anthrax vaccine was first licensed in the United States in 1970. Since then, it has been given to those who could get exposed to environmental sources of anthrax such as service members, veterinarians, farmers and woolworkers, Colonel Shull said.

In December 2005, the anthrax vaccine was found to be safe and effective against all forms of anthrax, including inhalation anthrax.

Colonel Shull said the anthrax vaccination is just as safe as other vaccinations given over the course of people's lives.

(Editor's note: Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle, Air Force Print News, contributed to this article.)

VDATS makes avionics testers universal

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
hollybirchfield@robins.af.mil

Robins is making avionics equipment testers universal to all aircraft components to keep the mission flowing.

On March 30, the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group and the 402nd Software Maintenance Group delivered the first three of 10 Versatile Depot Automatic Test Stations to avionics shops here. The test stations will enable technicians to test multiple avionics components using a common configuration that spans all workloads.

The new testers, which will replace former testers with an average age of 24 years, are now ready to be used by the 402nd SMXG to develop test programs and continue with in-depth self-tests and software development.

Dempsey Ventress, director of the Support Engineer Element of the 402nd EMXG, said the delivery is a milestone in the multi-million dollar project that will deliver 40 testers by fiscal 2009.

"We began planning for a common tester in early 2000, and we developed the Common Core Tester concept, which basically says we've got a common core set of instruments in a tester and we started out with just a digital analogue tester for getting RF (radio frequency) and radar, which is a big portion of what we repair here at the avionics depot."

Shortly after, Air Force Materiel Command put out a policy on transformation projects at Air Force depots. The idea was to create a concept that improves the way business is currently done, Mr. Ventress said. The new concept tests avionics units like black boxes and circuit cards.

Walter Blount, Automatic Test Equipment engineer and project lead for VDATS in the 402nd EMXG, said Robins is building a radio frequency auxiliary bay that tests radars, electronic warfare systems and anything that needs radio frequency.

"We're building two different testers, the digital analogue version and a radio frequency version," he said. "It's (the RF tester) geared toward testing electronic warfare stuff like black boxes that go on some of our aircraft."

The RF bay plugs into the basic tester and is usable with any digital analogue tester, Mr. Blount said.

Bob Pennington, 402nd Software Maintenance Squadron, lead engineer, said while his squadron's people had-



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Sam Sheppard, (sitting) Derek Bagwell (left) and Carlo Espinosa (right), electronics engineers, developed the software for the VDATS tester.

n't had previous experience with the concept, they are using their combined engineering experience of more than 20 years to support the mission.

"We're developing the self-test software, the calibration software, tech orders, the drawings, basically all of the support documentation and software that goes with the tester," he said. "The initial design was done by a combination of the 402nd EMXG folks and 402nd SMXG folks."

The VDATS Program Office, located within the 742nd Combat Sustainment Group, provided acquisition support for all instrumentation for the project.

Mr. Ventress said with a basic core analogue tester, Robins estimates it could test about 80 percent of what is tested in the depot with just one two-bay configuration and fund it through the nor-

mal procurement process.

The Common Core Tester concept was briefed to Nelson Gibbs, former U.S. Air Force official, in August 2002, and the project was submitted as a Transformation Project in 2003.

Mr. Ventress said AFMC liked the transformation project so much it promised \$52 million to implement the Common Core Test concept. All work on the project is being done in-house, which will save the Air Force thousands of dollars. Robins will save even more money in training costs, since employees will have to be trained on only one tester.

Mr. Ventress said Robins plans to have eight digital analogue testers and two radio frequency testers delivered this year. Through fiscal 2009, 31 digital analogue testers and 11 radio frequency bays are expected to be completed.

"America's finest young men and women from all walks of life are drawn to the Air Force, and we celebrate the diversity, passion and perspective they bring. If we wish to continue dominating the domains of Air, Space and Cyberspace throughout the 21st century, we simply must recruit, develop and retain America's best, regardless of their background. Only by leveraging all the talents of the citizens of this great nation will our Total Force continue to excel. Talent does not discriminate among any category of people, and neither can we." — **Michael W. Wynne, Secretary of the Air Force**

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. If there are further questions, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

DELIVERY

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Inching along the narrow trail



U.S. Air Force photo by TECH. SGT. CECILIO M. RICARDO JR.
Tech. Sgt. Melanie Adams climbs a mountain March 30 near Kabul, Afghanistan, called the "Ghar." Making the climb is a long-standing tradition for servicemembers deployed to Kabul. Sergeant Adams is a news team videographer deployed to Southwest Asia.

Sometimes its OK to say no

"I'm sorry, but no." There, I said it. It wasn't easy and it was something I really hated to do. It meant having to swallow my pride and admit it was something we just couldn't do. There just weren't enough hours in the day or wasn't enough money to get it done, let alone get it done the right way.

In all my years in the Air Force, one of the toughest things to say is "no." It meant, "We give up." It admitted defeat.

One admirable quality about those in uniform is we're stubborn, hardheaded folks. Despite the overwhelming challenges ahead of us, we move forward to get the job done no matter what it takes. We do not like to tell anyone, "It just can't be done."

However, we have to accept the facts. By October, we'll lose 22,000 people Air Force-wide with more to follow over the next four years. Deployment requirements will not go away, meaning those left behind need to pick up the slack. Those who don't deploy still need to get the job done while the rest of their folks are gone. The local mission still needs to happen.

But how? We must leverage technology and eliminate unnecessary processes now more than ever before in our past. We need to continue to find better ways to do the same high-quality job with fewer people — finding ways to get the job done faster, better and cheaper. The notion of "but we've always done it that way" won't fly in the Air Force anymore (pun fully intended).

The Air Force's senior leadership knows we're losing people, and they understand we must be realistic and cut things we simply can't do. In fact, leadership has asked for our inputs, and it's time we are brutally honest about what we really can and cannot do. We need to step up, put our pride in check and honestly say what we can and can't do with fewer people in our shops and work centers.

However, that doesn't mean we stop doing things without justification. It means looking at everything we do each duty day and asking some tough questions.

► What do we do every day? It's best to write it out.

► Why do we do it, and is there any value added to our mission? In short, does it help

the Air Force put bullets and bombs on target?

► Is this the best way to finish the task? Is there someone out there with a smarter, faster, cheaper way to do it?

► If it's an unnecessary task, did we send strong justification up the chain of command requesting we stop doing it?

You'd be surprised where you'll find great time and money-saving ideas. Take security forces for example. Earlier this month, the base joined other Air Force installations to eliminate military vehicle decals on the windshields of our private vehicles. It simply made sense. The Air Force spent at least \$750,000 a year just to print the stickers. That doesn't include the hundreds or thousands of man hours the base spent issuing the stickers and registering vehicles.

In the words of Maj. Gen. David Clary, ACC vice commander, "The Air Force has been strictly adhering to 100 percent credential checks at installation gates since 9/11, making the check of a vehicle decal unnecessary. Additionally, vehicle owners are more efficiently tracked through state license plates;

not military decal numbers."

It's important we identify and refine the way we do business and eliminate unnecessary tasks before we "broke the bank." It's past time for offices and shops across the base to take a long, hard look at everything they do and then find and eliminate the time and money wasting steps and procedures.

Still stuck? Ask your counterparts at other bases, especially those who earned accolades during their unit compliance inspections. Ask them what makes them so good, and feel free to use their good ideas as a benchmark.

Positive leadership and support is a must. If leaders approach this negatively, so will their troops, and then we're back to square one. We all have a vested interest in this, so let's make it count.

At first, it'll be frustrating and maybe a bit time consuming. However, we're quickly running out of options as we continue to lose people. We need to step up and make the tough calls and back them up 100 percent — because sometimes "no" is the right answer.

— *This commentary was written by Chief Master Sgt. Norman Peck, 366th Mission Support Squadron.*



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 222-0804 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.

Flightline reporting times

Has any thought been given to changing the flight line duty hours back to 7 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.? Lately there's been a lot of talk about some of the anxiety and stress related to having to get up so early in the morning. I know some people drive from the Statesboro and Atlanta areas. It makes a long day for those who live right around here. People are exhausted, tired and stressed by the end of each week.

Colonel Carter's Response

After Sept. 11, 2001, increased security measures created a traffic jam at the base entrance gates. Due to implementation of 100 percent identification checks, Battle Staff Directive Number 99, dated March 26, 2002, was issued to rearrange all units' work shift times to alleviate heavy traffic congestion at gate entrances, and BSD Number 114, dated Nov. 6, 2003, continued the Maintenance Directorate (now the 402nd Maintenance Wing) employees' reporting time. This is where the current day shift reporting time of 6 a.m. for aircraft maintenance employees is derived. Although this early shift is no doubt very difficult for some employees to accommodate, others have adapted to it quite well. Those employees with extenuating circumstances can request shift deviations for hardships. We will continue to monitor this issue for any future trends or options.

Green Street Gate parking

While entering the base through the Green Street gate, I noticed there are several automobiles parked in the grassy area on the right hand side of First Street, just before passing Bldg 34. Has this grassy area been designated as an overflow parking area?

Colonel Carter's Response

Thanks for bringing up a valid concern. This area has not been designated as an overflow parking area. We are aware parking is scarce in this area; however, there is plenty of available parking in the lot at the First Street and Page Road intersection. Security Forces is aware of this problem and will be conducting selective enforcement and ticketing illegally parked vehicles.

NSPS salary increases within paybands and reassignments

Q. How can an employee's salary increase within the same pay band?

A. Pay progression within the band can be accomplished in a variety of ways and is affected by employee performance and contribution to the organization's mission. When an employee changes position within the same or comparable pay band under NSPS, it is considered a reassignment. Employees are no longer bound by narrow work definitions tied to discrete grade levels. NSPS gives employees the flexibility to move more easily to other positions and enhances opportunities for career growth and development. Here are examples of how an employee's salary can increase within the same pay band:

► **Performance-based increase**—A performance-based increase is tied to the annual performance rating and is added to base salary. Employees are eligible to receive a performance-based increase if they have a rating of record of Level 3 (valued performer) or higher.

► **Reassignment**—A reassignment occurs when an employee moves, voluntarily or involuntarily, to a different position or set of duties within his or her pay band or to a position in a com-



parable pay band. A reassignment may result in a pay increase up to five percent. This increase is discretionary and must be administered fairly and within Component guidelines.

► **Rate Range Adjustment**—A rate range adjustment is an increase to the minimum or maximum of the pay band that is adjusted based on market drivers. Employees are eligible to receive a rate range adjustment if they have a rating of record of Level 2 (fair) or higher.

► **Local Market Supplement**—An LMS adjustment is an additional payment to employees in specified local market areas, occupations, specializations, or pay bands. LMSs are added to base salary. Employees are eligible for an LMS adjustment if they have a rating of record of Level 2 (fair) or higher.

► **Accelerated Compensation for Developmental Positions**—ACDP may be used to provide an increase to employee base salary, a bonus, or a

combination of these. It only applies to employees in Pay Band 1 who are participating in Component developmental programs.

Q. Can employees receive a pay increase when reassigned to a different position?

A. Yes, under NSPS, employees have the opportunity to affect their pay based on performance and the opportunities they seek for promotions and reassignments.

► **Employee-initiated reassignment**: May receive up to a cumulative five percent in base salary in a 12-month period, no matter how many times the employee is voluntarily reassigned that year.

► **Management-directed reassignment**: May receive up to 5 percent in base salary for each reassignment. There is no limit to the number of times employee can receive a management-directed reassignment.

► **Voluntarily move to a lower pay band**: Base salary must be set within the assigned pay band. Management may increase base salary up to five percent (not to exceed the maximum of the rate range).

Robins youth win at AF Family, Teen Talent Show

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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Local teens didn't have to go on American Idol to have their talents discovered.

Their dreams of being center stage were realized right here – at the 2006 Air Force Family and Teen Talent Show.

Several Robins stars stood out in the crowd in their areas of competition. Emily Wallace, a local dancer and 11-year-old daughter of Lt. Col. Dawn Wallace with the Air Force Reserve Command headquarters, and the Christian rap group "Movement of Truth," made up of sixteen and seventeen-year-old teens Marc Anthony Freeman, Jamaal Jones, and Xavier Adams, all of whom are sons of Robins' active-duty and retired military members, took top honors in their respective categories at the Air Force-level talent competition.

Lynne Brackett, director of the Smith Community Center at Robins, said the climb to the top for the individual and the group started in front of a video camera at the Robins community center on Sept. 22. Videotapes of their performances were then submitted to the Air Force-level talent competition.

"For each performer (or group) who received first place in their category, or someone who scored really high, we videotaped them and sent them up to the Air Force-level (competition)," she said. "The Services Agency gets folks from Air Force Entertainment to review the videotapes and they bring in vocalists and dancers and people who are very knowledgeable about what they're watching and looking at to judge all of the videotapes."

About 240 videotapes were submitted from 47 Air Force bases world-wide for the competition, Mrs. Brackett said.

Emily, who started clogging when she was about 7, said she loves to dance.

"I love to perform on stage,



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Emily Wallace (front), (back from left to right) Xavier Adams, Jamaal Jones and Marc Anthony Freeman are Air Force-level winners in the 2006 Family and Teen Talent Show.

and I also love to make people smile," she said. "Probably one of the most favorite things I like to do when I dance is enjoy myself and have good expression and make the dance me."

The energetic pre-teen said she was thrilled to do some fancy footwork for the show.

"My mom told me about it, and she told me that if I made Air Force-level, I could dance with Tops in Blue," she said. "So she talked me into doing it and once I did it, I really enjoyed it."

Her mother, Lt. Col. Dawn Wallace, chief of Program Change Requests and Program Development for the AFRC, said her and Emily's father, Mark Wallace, a retired U.S. Coast Guard commander and a current Southwest Airlines pilot, are very proud of their daughter.

"We are just extremely proud of Emily," she said. "She took an interest in dance when she was about 3 years old and it's the only thing she's ever wanted to do. We've tried to introduce her to other activities, as all parents do to have well-rounded kids, and dance has always been what she's wanted to do."

Colonel Wallace said her daughter invests 12 hours a week in honing her talent and has experience in a variety of dance forms, including tap, jazz, ballet, hip-hop, and clogging. Emily is a member of a dance team at South Flare Studio in Perry, Ga.

Members of Movement of Truth are equally passionate about their music and Christian testimony as reflected in their

group's name and lyrics.

"I was looking for a name that personified what I really wanted to put into my music," said Xavier, 16-year-old son of retired Major Reginald and Denise Adams. "I didn't want it to be just music and I didn't want any of it to just be talking. I wanted it to be real and I wanted to be more of a lifestyle. So, I came up with the name Movement of Truth to personify everything and what we're going to try to do."

Marc Anthony, 17-year-old son of Master Sgt. Claudia Lowe, Base Career Assistance Advisor in the 78th Mission Support Squadron, and Master Sgt. Roderic Lowe, a production superintendent and acting first sergeant for the 116th Maintenance Squadron, said the group writes its own lyrics based on their faith and experiences.

"We write our own music because we all have different stories and we all have different points of view on what we think of life so we write what we feel," he said. "We don't really take anybody else's stuff."

Both Emily and Movement of Truth will perform on stage with Tops in Blue when the group performs at the Warner Robins Civic Center Oct. 6.

Movement of Truth will also have the opportunity to go to Missoula Performing Arts Camp in Montana in early summer.

Parents of the group members said they are excited to see their kids talents recognized and look forward to what their future will bring.

Motorcycle, ATV training changes ensure operators ride safely

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

Robins safety experts are improving the way they prepare motorcyclists and all-terrain vehicle users to take to the road or wherever else their travels take them.

From online registration to establishing new training range sites, the motorcycle and ATV training courses are being revamped to provide a better service to riders.

Jerry Morningstar, motorcycle and ATV program administrator and a 78th Air Base Wing Safety Office occupational and health specialist, said the new process puts the training at people's fingertips.

"The individual no longer has to come to our office to sign up for a class for motorcycle and ATV safety training," he said. "They can go directly on the Robins homepage or they can go to the Air Force Portal (and click on) 'My Base,' 'Robins,' and follow the safety link to the 78th Air Base Wing Safety page. There's a place for motorcycle or ATV training and they can register online."

Military retirees and other motorcycle riders who no longer have access to a government computer may get assistance with registration by visiting the 78th ABW Safety office in Bldg. 707.

Mr. Morningstar said people taking the course should fill out the online form available at the site, print the online package, and bring them along when they come to class.

The motorcycle safety training course is offered monthly in the parking lot of Bldg. 905.

Mr. Morningstar said upon registering, individuals will be assigned a class date, whether they're taking the basic course or the experienced rider course.

The basic rider's course is intended for motorcyclists with less than six months riding experience, having only a basic permit. The experienced rider's course is for motorcyclists with six months or more of riding experience that have a motorcy-

cle endorsement on their driver's licenses.

Active-duty military, Department of Defense civilians, contractors, and dependents who operate motorcycles on base must take the Motorcycle Safety Course or have proof of taking the course at another base.

Mr. Morningstar said the training is only required to be taken once. In the near future, however, riders will be required to take refresher training every two years.

ATV riders taking the course here will have new territory to cover.

"ATV training is conducted by the RV (recreational vehicle) storage lot by PAVEPAWS area," Mr. Morningstar said. "It used to be done out at the old Security Forces range, which is now a landfill. We have a brand new range out at the recreational vehicle storage lot owned by Services."

Mr. Morningstar said a new motorcycle training range is being constructed in the PAVEPAWS area which would provide more space, less traffic and fewer distractions for students.

The new training area will include a location dedicated to the Motorcycle Mentorship Program, which started at Robins in 2005. The program involves pairing novice riders with experienced riders who share the same type of motorcycle interests so newcomers can learn from veteran riders.

To clear up any misunderstanding, Robins is making rider's clothing requirement more definitive. Before, the Air Force required riders to wear "contrasting colored upper garments." Now, during daylight hours, riders are expected to wear a brightly colored long-sleeved shirt or brightly colored light jacket along with their personal protective equipment.

Mr. Morningstar said it's highly suggested that riders wear a reflective orange or yellow vest.

Donn Johnson, senior motorcycle safety instructor at Robins and programming analyst with

Case LLC Inc. in the 782nd Combat Sustainment Group, said the update to the requirement is good for riders and drivers alike.

"I believe it's going to help the other drivers see the motorcyclists out there during the daytime," he said.

Mr. Johnson said while some riders may see the new requirement as a hassle, it's one worth following.

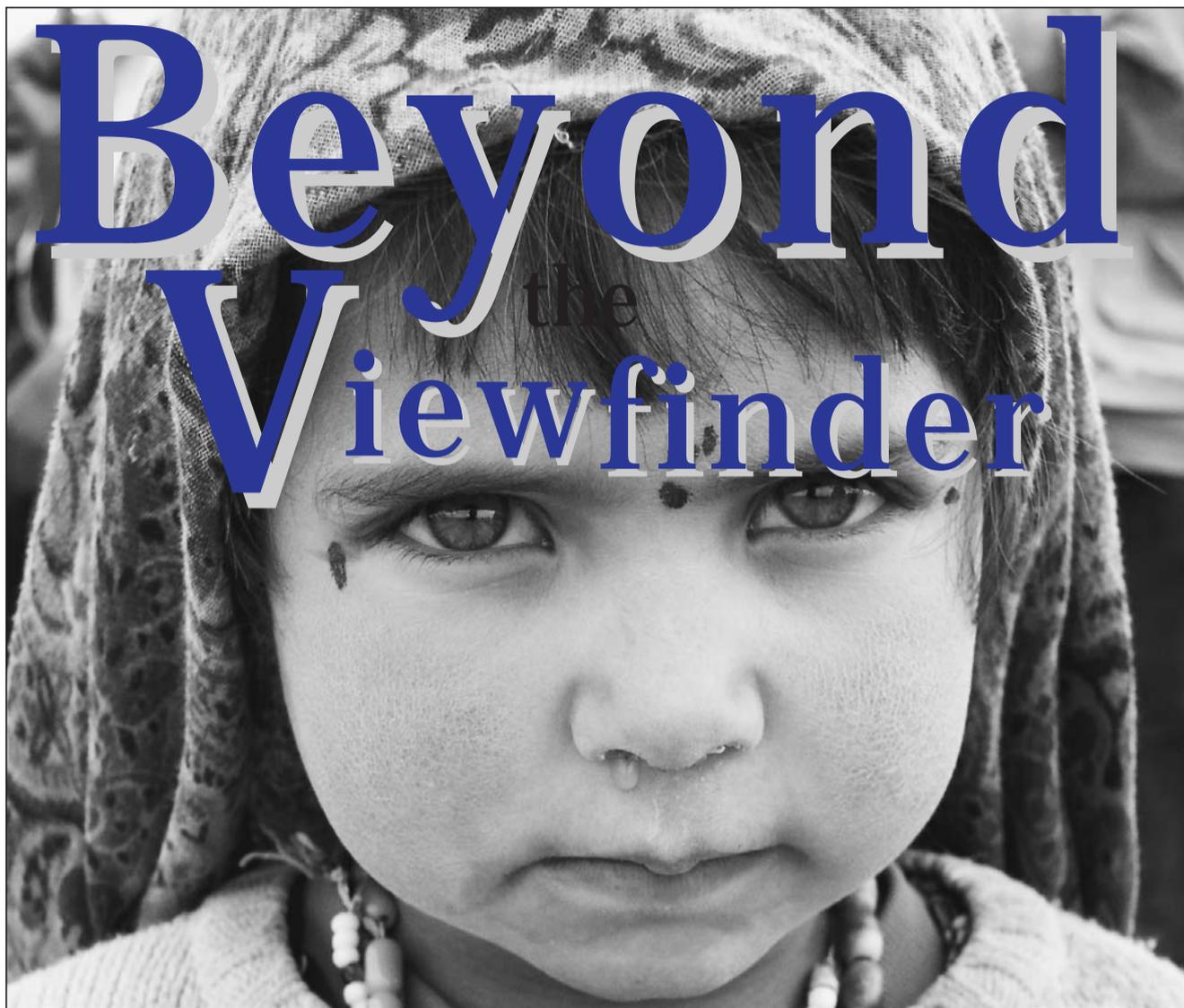
"You want to be seen when you're out there," he said. "If you're not seen, then you're not doing your part to ensure that the other drivers can see you."

In addition, Mr. Morningstar said it's important to remind riders to have proper documentation, such as their driver's license, base identification card, Motorcycle Safety Foundation card, and proof of insurance and registration.

Mr. Morningstar suggests riders make copies of their Motorcycle Safety Foundation Card and have each copy notarized. Riders should keep their original card filed at home for safe keeping, while maintaining one notarized copy in their training file and another on them at all times.

WHAT TO KNOW

The 78th ABW Safety Office is now taking applications from active-duty military and DOD civilians for the Robins Motorcycle Instructor's Course May 15-24. Riders must present a copy of their motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license and present the last three years of their driving or riding record. After taking the Air Force Safety Center-sponsored course, participants will be rider coaches and able to teach motorcycle safety courses at the base. People must have written permission from their commander or director in order to be excused from duty for the free, two-week course. Individuals will be expected to teach a course every four to six weeks. For more information, call Mr. Morningstar at 926-6271.



U.S. Air Force photos by TECH. SGT. GARY NALE

Sergeant Nale said it was sad as you got closer to this beautiful young girl in Zangalan, Afghanistan, because you could see that her face had weathered harsh elements and had been burned by the sun and wind. "In her face, you could just see the hard life she had ahead of her," Sergeant Nale said.

Recent deployment offers Robins Airman opportunity to use passion for photography

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

An Air Force tasking turned into an opportunity for Tech. Sgt. Gary Nale to put his passion for photography to good use.

Sergeant Nale was pursuing photography as a career before he decided to don Air Force blue. He hoped to be a combat photographer for the Air Force, but instead found himself working for the Command Post. It was a First Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in lieu of tasking from the Robins Command Post that provided him the chance to provide a snap shot into the lives of many of the Afghans he encountered.

Sergeant Nale was deployed to Afghanistan as part of a 13-person Air Force Brigade support team as the NCO in charge of the Joint Operations Center. He spent seven months there where the team's main responsibility was running the base, which was located in the heart of Afghanistan, about 50 miles from the Iran border.

"We were there to help free up the Army for more jobs outside the wire," Sergeant Nale said.

The team not only worked with American troops while deployed they also worked with Italian troops, who took command of the base during Sergeant Nale's stint there. When the first Italian operational mentoring and liaison team left Afghanistan, they awarded 15 American troops with Italian Commemorative Crosses and the Army gave 15 Army Commendation Medals to the Italians. Sergeant Nale was one of five members of the Air Force Brigade who

received recognition from the Italians.

"I was very proud as NCOIC that five of our people garnered that award," he said.

Regardless of the support team's duties on base, the team was also given the opportunity to participate in non-offensive missions, such as humanitarian missions handing out school supplies, candy or beanie babies donated by fellow Americans. He said once word got out that he was a photographer, he began being asked to go out more frequently.

Other humanitarian efforts he participated in included building new walls for schools and installing water wells for some of the villages.

"You go up to these villages and there is no water, there's no electricity. It's like the pages out of a National Geographic. When they first see the Humvees everyone is running from us, because they are used to the (former enemies) and they generally shot first," he said. "But once we started handing out candy and stuff like that they would just appear out of the wood works."

"We went to a lot of schools in the Harad area, Harad is one of the oldest cities in Afghanistan. It was like the cultural center it never fell to the Russians and it never fell to the Taliban. So we were in a very pro-American and ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) area," Sergeant Nale said. "They like us. They want us there. They are rebuilding and they don't like the Taliban."

He was amazed by the Afghans' attempts to help secure the troops' safety from the Taliban.

"The Taliban would mine

the road from the Afghan base we were stationed at to Camp Zafar or Camp Victory and Regional Command West, an ISAF base. They were seven miles apart and RCF was actually an airport, so we would have to travel that road and the Taliban would mine the road dropping anti-tank bombs on it. The villagers driving by would see them and pick them up and they would arrive at Camp Victory with them because they knew they were meant for us," Sergeant Nale said.

He said one of the most rewarding things from his trip was the opportunity to experience life beyond the confines of the base. He said he was truly in Afghanistan; he wasn't just stuck behind the fences of the base.

"I have been on the roads and I have talked to the people," Sergeant Nale said.

However, Sergeant Nale knew it was time to return home when he began to be desensitized to the harsh realities that surrounded him.

"When you first get there it is like 'oh my gosh' and then after a while it becomes like standard stuff," he said.

But on his last mission, he encountered two young girls with no shoes and thin short sleeve dresses as their only protection from the cold temperatures.

"Here I am bundled up in Gortex, freezing, and they are out there with like nothing sitting in the middle of this trash and playing," Sergeant Nale said.

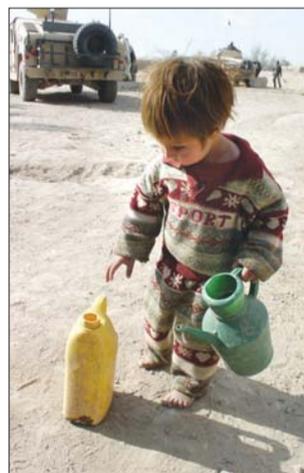
He said this encounter struck home with him and made him think about his own young son and how lucky they are to be Americans.



Sergeant Nale sits surrounded by Afghani children at a site that would soon house the Badam School. "They almost knocked me over. I already had my bulletproof vest and armor on and then I was trying to get down when they all rushed around me," Sergeant Nale said.



Above left, This girl is a student at an all female school Sergeant Nale visited to hand out Beanie Babies donated by Unity Baptist in Bonaire. Because of the country's Muslim background, the sergeant was presently surprised when her teacher allowed the military men to enter and hand out school supplies and gifts.



Above right, During a trip to the Turkmenistan border, Sergeant Nale noticed this young boy shedding tears as he tried to lift the heavy water bottles he had just retrieved from the water hole near the defunct wells. Part of the group's humanitarian mission to the area was to provide new wells to the Afghans who reside there.

2B ■ The Robins Rev-Up ■ April 13, 2007

TODAY

Tickets are on sale for a comedy showcase featuring Queen of Comedy "Sommore" and Bad Boy of Comedy "DS" at the officers club cashier office today from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This event will be held at the base restaurant, Bldg. 166, Byron St. Saturday. Show times are 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Cost is \$23 for club members and \$25 non club members. No one under 17 years of age will be permitted. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

An after work super cool party, with complimentary snacks, food and entertainment will be held every Friday after First Friday starting at 5 p.m. at the officers' club. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

A base-wide weight loss challenge "Team Lean Challenge" for active duty and civilians will be held April 16 through Sept. 28, with registration ending today. Register at the Health and Wellness Center or Civilian Health Promotion Service. For more information call HAWC at 327-8480, CHPS at 327-8034 or the fitness center at 926-2128.

SATURDAY

A yard sale will be held Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon in front of the enlisted club. Set up starts at 7:15 a.m. Cost is \$7 per table (limit 3 per person). This is a first come first served basis for the tables. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

An Aero Club membership appreciation barbecue will be held today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Robins Aero Club. For more information call the aero club at 926-4867.

SUNDAY

Sunday champagne brunch is open to all ranks and grades from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Robins Officers' Club. Enjoy all-you-care-to-eat breakfast, dinner entrees, carving station, salad bar, dessert and ice cream bar and much more. Cost is \$12.95 adults, \$6.95 children (3 to 10 years old) and children 3 years and younger are free. Members receive a \$2 Members First discount. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Texas Hold 'Em will be held every Sunday with sign up at 1:30 p.m. and games at 2 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. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625.

MONDAY

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

A Big bingo "April Showers" will be played today at 7:15 p.m. and a membership bar bingo to be held April 25 at 6 p.m.

Enjoy dining at the Robins Officers' 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.

Free tacos and draft specials are available to club members Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Robins Enlisted Club at 926-7625.

All retirees get a free fountain drink or iced tea with a \$4 minimum purchase when they show their retiree I.D. card along with coupon on page 17 of the April Edge on Tuesdays in April. For more information call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

WEDNESDAY

Enjoy pizza on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Robins Officers' Club.

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 \$2 from 7 p.m. to closing. Cost for entry is \$2 for nonmembers. For more information call 926-7625.

UPCOMING

A sexual assault prevention walk will

Afternoon tee party

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Michayla Coleman, 6, daughter of Staff Sgt. Jeremy Coleman, practices her swing at Pine Oaks Golf Course.

For information on specials at the course call 926-4103.



be held April 20 starting at 11 a.m. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

Let's Give The World A Hand is slated for April 20. Yard work is for families of our deployed men and women of Robins on or off-base. If you know anyone who can use a helping hand, contact the community center at 926-2105. The community center will be the hub of this all-day event, providing equipment and support.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to Movies in the Park at Robins Park April 27 for a family-feature presentation of "The Secret of Nimh." The movie will start at dark. Concessions will be on sale. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

Take part in paintball fun with Outdoor Adventure at On Target Paintball May 18 from 4 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$28 per person and includes a wooded area for daylight shooting, and a lit field for night speed ball. Paintball equipment will be available for use as well as an air conditioned room for breaks. Meet at On Target Paintball at 3:45 p.m. Persons 18 years old and older are permitted to play. Persons 10 to 17 years old may come with an adult over 18 years of age. Participants may also purchase paintballs for \$45 a case (2,000) or \$15 a box (500). A minimum of 15 people are required to participate. Register at outdoor recreation, Bldg. 914 by May 11. For more information call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

The 17th annual Military Team Bass Fishing tournament will be held May 6-11 at Lake Barkley State Park, Cadiz, Kentucky. Cost is \$160 per two-man team. The tournament is open to all active duty, reserve and retired military and their spouses and children, DOD civilians and contractors from all branches of the military. For more information, visit www.militarybass.com or call the community center at 926-2105.

Join outdoor recreation on a trip to Rock City, Lookout Mountain, Ga. May 26. Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. for departure at 9:30 a.m. Bus will return at 8 p.m. Cost is \$40 per adult, \$35 per child (ages three through 12 year olds) and \$140 for family of four (two adults and two children). Package includes self guided rock tour, swing-a-long bridge, lover's leap, fairyland caverns, Mother Goose Village, 90-foot water fall, various gift shops and eateries throughout the trail and ride to and from Rock City Gardens. Deadline to sign up is May 18. A minimum of 12 people are required for outdoor recreation to host the trip. For more information, call 926-4001.

The Artist Craftsman and Photography Gallery program will be held May 14 through 18. For more information call the arts and crafts center at 926-5282.

A "Picnic with Altitude" will be held May 12, June 9 and July 14 at the Aero Club. Check out the current fleet, information on avionics and equipment, meet current and new instructors, talk with other pilots and explore class opportunities. Food and prizes will be available to all members, prospective members and their families of the Robins Aero Club. Membership is open to all military, DOD civilians and retirees. For more information call the aero club at 926-4867.

ONGOING

Officer's club members who come out to the club during their birthday

month will receive a \$15 coupon to redeem toward their meal. Birthday coupons are available to club members of all ranks and grades. Coupons may be picked up at the cashier office.

The Airmen Against Drunk Driving program provides rides free of charge to all Robins DOD card holders. Coverage is from Perry to Macon. For a free, anonymous ride, call 222-0013.

The 2007 Air Force Falcons Sports Camps will be held June 10-27. Camps will include the following activities: baseball, boy's and girl's basketball, cheerleading, cross country, diving, fencing, football, golf, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and volleyball. For more detailed information go to www.GoAirForceFalcons.com or call Ron Hayes at 926-2110.

The Bamboo Grill featuring Oriental cuisine offers a lunch buffet Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for \$6.24 (plus tax). Robins club members receive a 10 percent savings when they show their club card at time of purchase. The Bamboo Grill, a unique buffet dining experience with food cooked in an open kitchen, is located in Bldg. 767 on the corner of Ninth and Macon Streets. For more information or to place an order, please call 922-0136.

Several new tempting and value-added selections are available for the evening dining at the officers' club. On Tuesdays kids, 10 and younger, eat free from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. with a paid adult entrée. On Wednesday prime rib is offered from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. for \$11.95 and Thursday butcher's choice is featured from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Eat steak, lobster, lamb, shrimp shish kabob's and many more choice cuts that will be wonderfully displayed on ice to select (item prices will be determined by market). On Friday and Saturdays enjoy an a la carte menu with rotating dinner specials from 6 to 9 p.m. Dinner is open to all ranks and grades. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

The Officers' Club barber shop is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and closed for lunch from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. All ages, ranks and grades are welcome. For more information, call 918-0775.

The Enlisted Club barber shop is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All ages, ranks and grades are welcome. For more information call 923-9593.

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

►The Al-Sihah Shrine 67th Circus will be held May 5 and 6 at the Macon Coliseum. Advanced tickets sales are available at Information, Tickets and Travel; \$12 adults and \$6 children (3 to 12 years). Show times are May 5 at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. and May 6 at 1:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

►Tickets are available for the Georgia Renaissance Festival to be held Saturday through June 3 in Fairburn, Ga. Enter the gates of a magnificent 15th century kingdom where you will find the king and his court, castles and cottages, cheery pubs and over 150 elaborately adorned shops offering an array of unique treasures. Cost is \$13.50 for adults, \$6 for children 6 to 12 years old.

►Join ITT on a trip to the Atlanta Aquarium on June 16. Cost is \$94. Package includes roundtrip motor coach,

admission, aquarium movie and late lunch at Maggiano's Little Italy. A deposit of \$50 is due by April 16 and the balance due May 28.

►Enjoy a historic tour of Savannah with ITT July 26. Cost is \$164 and includes transportation by motor coach, time on River Street, historic grand tour of Savannah on a trolley, early dinner at Lady and Sons and a show "The Beat Goes On." Transportation will depart Bldg. 956 July 26 at 7:30 a.m. and return 1:30 a.m. July 27. A deposit of \$80 is due by May 14 and balance will be due by July 9. Must have a minimum of 25 people for trip.

The bowling center has the following specials. To learn more call 926-2112.

►All retirees receive a complimentary game when they show their retiree I.D. card along with coupon located on page 17 of the April Edge on Tuesdays in April.

►On Spot Café April special is a spicy chicken sandwich, fries and medium drink for \$4.50. For more information call the On Spot Café at 926-5240.

►Show us your library book from April 15-21 and receive a complimentary game during National Library Week.

►Enjoy Thunder Alley glow-in-the-dark bowling Fridays from 9 - 11 p.m.; cost 12 years and younger, \$5 and 13 years and older, \$10 and Saturdays from 9 - 11 p.m.; cost is \$10 for everyone.

Pine Oaks Golf Course has the following specials. To learn more, call 926-4103.

►In April enjoy several Fairways Grille weekly specials for only \$5.95. April 9 - 13 light and refreshing (fruit, yogurt and pinwheels); April 16 - 20 meatball hoagie with chips and drink and April 23 - 27 Reuben with chips and drink. Lunch is held from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Every Thursday in April also enjoy barbecue chicken dinner with potato salad, roll and soda for \$5.50. For more information call 923-1717.

►Play golf after 2 p.m. on weekends in April and pay only \$20 for green fee and cart.

►Sign up for a free 15-minute club fitting session during the PGA free fitting and trade-up day April 18. Call the golf pro shop for more information at 926-4103.

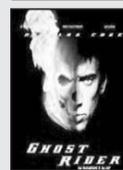
►A Pine Oaks Golf Course golf league will be held April 23 - July 30 with a shotgun start at 5 p.m. Format is a 3-person scramble match play nine holes. Cost is \$50 per team. Golf fees are \$13 to ride for non-AGF members, \$7 to walk for non-AGF members and \$6 to ride for AGF members. Limited to the first 16 teams that sign up.

►A two-person club championship will be held April 21 and 22. Play four different 9-hole formats for \$40 annual green fee members or \$45 non-annual green fee members. Includes golf, cart, range, food and prizes.

The 78th Services Division offers designated driver programs at the Robins Enlisted and Officers' clubs and Pizza Depot to assist in reducing alcohol related incidents. For groups of two or more, please identify yourself as the designated driver to the operations assistant on duty. They will provide fountain soft drinks, fruit juices or non-alcoholic frozen drinks during your visit free of charge. To learn more about Services Designated Drivers programs call 926-2670.

Telling us what you think about the 78th Services Division activities, products and services has never been easier with the new Interactive Customer Evaluation program. To use ICE, go to www.robinservices.com and click the ICE icon.

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

WILD HOGS

John Travolta, Tim Allen
A group of middle-aged friends decide to rev up their routine suburban lives with a free-wheeling motorcycle trip. Taking a long dreamed of breather from their stressful jobs and family responsibilities, they can't wait to feel the freedom of the open road. When this mis-matched foursome - who have grown far more used to the couch than the saddle - set out for this once-in-a-lifetime experience, they encounter a world that holds far more than they ever bargained for. Rated PG-13. 100 minutes

SATURDAY

GHOST RIDER

Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes
A motorcycle stuntman, Johnny Blaze, makes a pact with a dark force, selling his soul to save his girlfriend. When the bargain goes sour and the girl isn't saved, Blaze is transformed, gaining raging superpowers. Based on the Marvel comic series. Rated PG-13. 110 minutes

UPCOMING

I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE

Chris Rock, Kerry Washington
Richard Cooper has it all. His wife, Brenda, is beautiful, intelligent and a fantastic mother - but there's just one little problem: he's bored out of his suburban businessman's mind. Richard can't help but fantasize about having nearly every woman he sees. Still, it's only fantasy. Then, one fateful day, an alluring, free-spirited, not to mention stunning, old friend, Nikki, suddenly appears at his office door, putting him to the ultimate test. Rated R. 94 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 11 a.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 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave. To have an

approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, wings should send information to Lanorris Askew at: lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

78th ABW catches warrior spirit



In an effort to enhance 78th Air Base Wing cohesiveness, emphasize readiness and instill pride, the wing participated in a Warrior Airman run April 5. Organized in group and squadron formations, Airmen began with warm up exercises followed with a 1.5 mile run in formation.

Above, 78th ABW Airmen begin the 1.5 mile Warrior Airman run.

At right, Col. Theresa Carter, 78th ABW commander, cools down after the Warrior Airman run with some stretching exercises.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

► IN BRIEF

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Robins Education and Training Services is accepting applications for the Maj. Gen. (Retired) Cornelius Nugteren Scholarship. This \$750 competitive scholarship will be awarded to one individual who is enrolled in an on-base education program. The award is made directly to the individual and can be used for books, living expenses, tuition and fees or other necessary expenses as appropriate. Both active duty military and civilian personnel assigned to Robins are invited

to apply. To be eligible, the individual must be enrolled in one of the educational programs conducted on-base.

Applications are available at the following locations: Education and Training Services office in Bldg. 905, Airman and Family Readiness Center in Bldg. 794, On-Base Schools offices in Bldg. 905 and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Bldg. 380.

Applications must be returned to the Education and Training Services office by noon Tuesday. Incomplete applications will not be returned for correction or considered for the award.

For more information call Gail Simon-Boyd at 327-3414 or Andrea Harris at 327-7312.

OFFICERS' SPOUSES CLUB EVENT

The Robins OSC will host a social featuring the artist Mark Ballard Thursday, 10 a.m. in the Officers' Club ballroom with "Fabulous Tablescapes" beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Lunch will follow the program. Cost is \$9.75 for club members and \$11.75 for non-members. Reservations must be received by noon Monday.

For more information call Kathy Tufts at 218-0427 or Pam Piekarczyk at 225-2043.

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 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.

Smooth move

A Smooth Move workshop will be held Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Bldg. 794.

This workshop is designed for Air Force members on the move. It is four hours of information on how to get from here to there with the least amount of stress.

Representatives from military personnel flight, transportation management flight, accounting and finance, the housing office, legal office, TRICARE, family advocacy, and Air Force Aid Society will be on hand to provide pertinent moving information and answer questions.

Introduction to resume and cover letter preparation

Reservations are being accepted for Introduction to Resume and Cover Letter Prep., Wednesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Bldg. 794.

This class is designed to help the beginner get started and provide the more advanced participant the opportunity to improve their product.

Federal job search basics

A Federal Job Search Basics

class will be Thursday 9 to 11 a.m., Bldg. 794.

This class is to educate personnel on the variety of federal jobs, the qualifications and classification process, the steps to apply, and how to write a federal resume.

Uniformed thrift saving plan

The A&FRC Financial Management program is offering a briefing on the Uniformed Thrift Saving Plan Thursday, 1 to 2:30 p.m., Bldg. 794.

In 2007 you may contribute up to \$15,000 to the TSP program. A major advantage of the TSP is you pay no taxes on contributions or earnings until you withdraw from your account. Additionally, you can choose among the six investment funds in consideration of your personal risk tolerance: Government Securities Investment Fund, Fixed Income Index Investment Fund, Common Stock Index Investment Fund, Small Capitalization Stock Investment Fund, International Stock Index Investment Fund and the Lifecycle Investment Fund.

Visit www.tsp.gov for the "Summary of the TSP", forms and a question and answer section to assist you in addition to this class.

Heart Link seminar

A Heart Link seminar will be conducted April 20, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bldg. 794.

The overall objective of Heart Link is to increase retention of Air Force members by increasing spouse awareness of the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocol, support resources and services available to them.

Heart Link is designed to help people who have been military spouses five years or less feel they are a critical part of the Air Force team and help their families be physically, emotionally, and spiritually healthier. The

program is sponsored by the base Community Action Information Board and the Integrated Delivery System team. For information call Roslyn Battle at 926-1256.

Sponsorship training

The A&FRC will offer training for both beginner and experienced sponsors April 24, 9 to 10 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m., Bldg. 794.

The training provides information on the types of information to send to the moving member and where to obtain it; different ways to communicate with the inbound member; and finally sponsors are given vital information regarding his or her responsibilities to the newly assigned member and their family, if applicable.

Financial workshop

The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Middle Georgia, a non-profit organization funded by the United Way, will conduct a free Money and Credit Management workshop April 26, 1 to 4 p.m., Bldg. 794.

A workbook is provided to all attendees. Information on credit management, debt reduction and consumer rights will be presented at this workshop. Assistance will be provided in the development of spending and savings plans so that financial goals may be realized. This workshop is open to all Team Robins members.

Relocation assistance

Robins Relocation Assistance has a Standard Installation Topic Exchange Service with information on all military installations. Informational site for all personnel is www.militaryonesource.com.

Military One Source is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you don't have a computer, call 1-800-342-9647, and for conversation en Espanol, llame al: 1-877-888-0727.

Robins seeks solutions to alcohol issues

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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(Editor's note: This is the first article in a two-part series on alcohol-related issues at Robins.)

Robins is working to put a stop to driving under the influence and other alcohol-related incidents involving its military and civilian members.

Robins' Alcohol Issues Working Group, which is comprised of first sergeants, Airmen Against Drunk Driving representatives, Security Forces, Safety and the Base Chapel, tracks the number of DUIs committed by military and civilians on base on a quarterly basis.

According to statistics maintained by the organization, there have been 26 DUI incidents this fiscal year as of April 5.

First Lt. Lynnette Angel, assistant Alcohol and Drug Addiction Prevention Treatment program manager in the 78th Medical Group's Behavioral Health Flight, said the alcohol-related problem is one that's prevalent among 21 to 25-year-olds at bases Air Force-wide.

"Robins is starting to have a little more of a problem," she said. "(It's) not that we're worse than any other base. It's just being focused on a lot more now because we're trying to prevent it from happening and focusing on proactive solutions so that these incidents won't continue to happen."

DUI, underage drinking, and domestic violence incidents caused by alcohol abuse are a few of the issues that have been stumbling blocks at Robins.

While the base aims to have zero alcohol incidents, Lieutenant Angel said that's not possible in reality.

However, the Alcohol Issues Working Group is teaming up with others here to cut the incidents.

Lieutenant Angel said Robins has taken a more personalized approach to educating its people.

Instead of slideshow briefings that focus on statistics and information that most people know and overlook, focused briefings tailor information to meet the individual unit or organization's needs.

The lieutenant said recent focused briefings have addressed binge drinking, the definition of a single alcoholic drink, and the reason binge drinking is so harmful.

ADAPT has presented four focused briefings at commanders' requests since the concept began in February.

In the course of the briefings, the lieutenant said she has noticed that some Airmen don't know the amount of alcohol a mixed drink holds, or that drinking more than 12 ounces of beer means one has had more than one drink.

James Ford, a substance abuse counselor in the ADAPT program, serving in both the military and civilian role since 1970 here, said the base also talks face-to-face with people.

The substance abuse counselor said the conversation centers around how much the person drinks, how their drinking affects those around them, and how drinking may impact their meeting life goals.

Mr. Ford said helping agencies in the Integrated Delivery System are focusing on prevention of the alcohol woes, by edu-

WHAT TO KNOW

Airman Against Drunk Driving gives military and civilians with base identification cards a free ride home when they've had too much to drink. AADD volunteers are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at each of the following cellular phone numbers: 335-5238, 335-5236, and 335-5218. People may also contact AADD by dialing 222-0013.

ating alcohol merchants and providing non-alcoholic entertainment options.

Mr. Ford said alcohol issues working groups exist Air Force Materiel Command-wide.

Currently, Robins is working with other bases to find workable solutions to the ongoing alcohol issues, Mr. Ford said.

To make people aware of their alcohol tolerance and susceptibility to alcohol-related problems, the Alcohol Issues Working Group is trying to make a self-assessment test available on government computers on a daily basis.

Mr. Ford said the assessment, provided by the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Addiction, gives individuals feedback on where they stand with vulnerability to alcohol problems. Assessment results are seen only by the individual.

Mr. Ford said the AIWG meets monthly to find ways to overcome the negative effects of alcohol.