

THE ROBINS REV-UP

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

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Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Robins remembers military working dog's ultimate sacrifice



U. S. Air Force photo by CLAUDE LAZZARA

Staff Sgt. Marcus Reaves, handler for military working dog Arras, pays final tribute to his fallen partner. Arras, an explosives detector in the 78th Security Forces Squadron, was killed in the line of duty while deployed to Iraq.

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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An empty kennel, upside down water and food bowls, and a shadow box holding an American flag, a brass plaque, a charred choke chain, leash, and photo of Military Working Dog Arras set the stage for the memorial of the K-9 many in the 78th Security Forces Squadron said they'll never forget.

MWD Arras, a 5-year-old Dutch sheppard explosives detector and patrol dog in the 78th SFS, was assigned to the 447th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and Joint Operations, Sather Air Base, Iraq, when he was killed as he touched a location that was electrified by power cables during a search for weapons and explosives in a building on Sept. 25.

Just one day before Thanksgiving, 78th SFS members, Robins Air Force Base community members, and members of the Warner Robins Police Department gathered at the Base

Theater to reflect on the ultimate sacrifice Arras made while defending freedom.

Beny, a military working dog in the 78th SFS, remained on stage with Staff Sgt. Josh Kiffer, a military working dog handler in the squadron, throughout the ceremony as a reminder of the service Arras provided.

Capt. Eric Horst, 78th SFS commander, said the memorial is a testament to military working dogs' service.

"Most folks, as we've gone through the Global War on Terrorism, have seen the different generations of the different services doing their memorial services for individual personnel or troops," he said. "It hasn't been very often that we've had K-9 troops, as we like to refer to them, that we've done memorial ceremonies for, but it's important to

K-9 CREED

"My eyes are your eyes to watch and protect you and yours. My ears are your ears to hear and detect evil minds in the dark. My nose is your nose to scent the invader of your domain so you may live. My life is also yours."

let people know that K-9s are playing an important role in the mission that we're doing over there."

Staff Sgt. Marcus Reaves, a military working dog handler in the 78th SFS Military

Working Dog Section, who was deployed with Arras when he died, knows the value of his military working dog partner all too well.

The military working dog handler credits Arras with saving his life — something every military working dog does every day on the job, Sergeant Reaves said.

In Sergeant Reaves' case, however, that was an even more special gift, as he and his wife, Tonya, are expecting their third child in the very near future.

► see ARRAS, 2A

Generals allay fears, concerns of Robins DLA employees

BY AMANDA CREEL
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Many Team Robins members who recently transferred to the Defense Logistics Agency, are much more at ease about their future after a town hall meeting Nov. 28.

The town hall meeting was held at the Vistascope Theater at the Museum of Aviation and gave members of the DLA workforce here at Robins the opportunity to hear from the agency's senior leader about his plans for DLA after the workers officially joined the agency Oct. 14.

"I think your presence in our organization is going to make us a better stronger DLA," said Army Lt. Gen. Robert Dail, DLA director.

General Dail said he was looking forward to members of the Robins workforce helping to transform the culture of DLA in order to help it provide better support to the warfighter.

He said he wanted the Robins' workers bringing their drive to change processes in an effort to be more successful with them as they integrate into the agency.

He encouraged the workers to continue doing what they do best meeting the needs of the warfighter.

"Don't change your focus just because you turned your badge over," General Dail said.

Those who attended the meeting were privileged to hear from three generals — General Dail, Brig. Gen. Andy Busch, commander of Defense Supply Center, Richmond, and Lt. Gen. Terry Gabreski, vice commander of Air Force Materiel Command.

"I was real impressed with the stuff that was said. It makes you feel good to hear from the (top leadership)," said Gail Ponder, supportability specialist, adding that the prospect of transferring

► see DLA, 7A



U.S. Air Force photo by CLAUDE LAZZARA

Army Lt. Gen. Robert Dail, Defense Logistics Agency director, spoke with DLA employees at Robins at a town hall meeting Nov. 28. The general said he is looking forward to members of the Robins workforce helping to transform the culture of DLA to help it provide better support to the warfighter.

Getting in the spirit



U. S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

The Robins Elementary School chorus sings "Joy To The World" after the Robins Air Force Base Christmas Tree is lit at a tree lighting service Nov. 28. Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, with help from all the children in attendance, threw the switch to light the tree. Santa also arrived on a fire truck and handed out candy canes to the children.

THINK SAFETY



To request a ride, call 222-0013, 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236. Total rides given this year: 573

Days without a DUI: 19
Last DUI: 116th AMXS — courtesy 78th SFS Reports and Analysis Section

THE TWO-MINUTE REV

78th CEG conversion of Richard Ray Blvd.
The 78th Civil Engineer Group will begin converting Richard Ray Boulevard into a two-lane roadway with on-street parking on the weekends Dec. 1-15. Please consider an alternate route during this time.

Holiday happenings
Robins offers numerous holiday events throughout the month of December, including a tree decorating contest, canned food drives, Santa Claus visits and several New Year's Eve celebrations. See page B-2 for more information.

ROBINS IMPACT



VDATS goes global
Robins workers create common-core tester for Air Force, DOD, 3A

SPORTS



Academy gets bowl bid
Falcons invited to play in Armed Forces Bowl on New Year's Eve, 3B

INSIGHT



Military working dogs
Photo essay pays tribute to the four-legged Airmen who serve, 1A

WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY 69/38

SATURDAY 70/44

SUNDAY 74/54

ARRAS

Continued from 1A

"On my way back, I landed in Germany and (I was talking to this guy)," he said. "I told him that my wife's pregnant and he mentioned it to me that I should get home to see my child born, and it hit me that I do. I thank Arras whole-heartedly for that."

The memorial was very emotional for Sergeant Reaves.

"It brought the day (that he died) back a little bit," he said. "It's gone through my head a million times. Was there anything I could have done different? But, the only thing I could have done different was to not go in the room at all and that's not what the job (called for), so we had to go in the room."

Staff Sergeant Edward Canell, a military working dog trainer in the 78th SFS' Military Working Dog Section, said the memorial gives the community the opportunity to learn the value of the dogs.

"I think this will help the base populace kind of see what the dogs mean to us and how much the dogs work not just for us, but for the base populace at the gates and different areas like that. Robins has lost a great and reliable asset."

Captain Horst agreed.

"Too many times, we look at these dogs as just dogs," he said. "People will say, 'Oh, you had a dog that died.' We try to tell people to imagine it's their pet, but it's even more than that. In these guys' cases, this is their partner. This is the 'person' that goes with them in everything they do.

"The dogs don't ask much of us. They look up to their handlers (as if to say), 'I'm willing to do whatever you tell me to do,' and they'll go into harms way because they don't know any better. In cases like this, it



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

A shadowbox containing the badge, choker chain, medals and flag for Arras, Robins military working dog, will be displayed in the Security Forces building.

costs them their lives."

Tech. Sgt. David Barber, kennel master in the 78th SFS' Military Working Dog Section, said the squadron has lost a family member.

"The memorial is a time to remember Arras," he said. "He was as much one of us as he was a dog. He was a partner and we worked as closely with him as we would with any person. He was there for us and in the end, he gave his life to protect us."

Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, presented Captain Horst with Arras' shadow box, which will remain on display at the 78th SFS' headquarters.

A smaller shadow box commemorating Arras' service will be displayed in the 78th ABW Command Section in Bldg. 905.

Sergeant Barber said the

squadron recently began a project to remodel the Military Working Dog kennel, adding a memorial for military working dogs that have died. The memorial will include a brass plaque displaying dogs' names, among other memorabilia from the dogs' careers.

Sergeant Reaves has a picture of Arras on his cell phone display and his K-9 partner's face decorates his work area's computer screen. It was Arras' love for water that made his final resting place at Luna Lake an obvious choice.

"Any time that we had time to bum, I'd take him over to the lake and he had a little squeaky ball," he said. "I'd throw it in there and he'd swim for days."

Arras was cremated in the International Zone of Bagdad, Iraq. His ashes were scattered at the lake in a private ceremony.

GLSC to provide better warfighter support for supply chain management issues

BY AMANDA CREEL
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The Global Logistics Support Center will provide a single face to the warfighter for supply chain management issues, where the warfighter will always know where to turn with any supply chain needs.

The GLSC will focus on approaching supply chain management through an enterprise view rather than having multiple competing agencies within the Air Force managing supply chain management.

"We will go from having six two-star generals responsible for this today, to one one-star responsible for this tomorrow," said Denise Rogers, purchasing and supply chain management integration flight chief and the primary point of contact for Robins with the GLSC at the working level.

By coming under one leader, the GLSC will be able to streamline the supply change management process across the board, creating a more efficient way of doing business.

Robins' role in the GLSC will be as one of the groups responsible for Supply Chain Management planning and executing. Though the GLSC will be physically located at Robins, it will no longer be a part of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center once it stands-up in January.

And though the GLSC will be separate and distinct from the Air Logistics Center, the GLSC will still be dependent on their resources, said Sammy

Traylor, supply chain management specialist.

About 1,000 Robins' workers will be realigned to the GLSC, said Patty Martin, director of the 762nd Aircraft Sustainment Group and senior leader for the implementation of

(Change) is necessary because the Air Force is getting smaller and weapons systems are getting more expensive. It will allow us to save money and use resources more efficiently and effectively.

Sammy Traylor

Supply change management specialist
586th Combat Sustainment Squadron

the GLSC.

"The chain of command at some level will change, but they will remain physically at Robins. However, their desks may move," Ms. Martin said.

Ms. Martin added there is no manpower cut quotas that have to be met as part of the transfer of responsibilities to the GLSC.

"We are not going into this wanting to cut a certain amount of people," Ms. Martin said.

However, over time the transfer is expected to decrease the workforce through attrition she said.

One of the benefits of having a central command for supply chain management will be the GLSC has control over the movement of parts and supplies rather than individual major commands.

"Tomorrow the people who will be moving that inventory will all work for one guy," Ms. Martin said.

One of the problems of the present system involves the movement of parts or supplies because sometimes the Air Force will have the needed supply in the inventory, but it will be in the wrong place.

"Tomorrow we will be able to control the movement of all supplies or parts," Ms. Martin said.

This ability will help reduce costs overruns, she added.

The GLSC was designed to help support the Expeditionary Logistics for the 21st Century goals, which are to increase weapon system availability by 20 percent and reduce costs by 10 percent.

Phase I of the GLSC stand up has already been completed with the establishment of a provisional office and the publishing of a Concept of Operations, Charter, Governance Structure, Integrated Master Schedule and Communication Plan.

Phase II is expected to begin in January, pending the approval of Gen. Bruce Carlson, commander of the Air Force Materiel Command, and headquarters Air Force.

The second phase will include establishing the GLSC as the Air Force Supply Chain Management process owner for all depot level repairable items, select engines and pods. The supply chain management functions transferring to the GLSC during the second phase will be Supply Chain Planning and Execution, Supply Chain Operations and Supply Chain Strategy and Integration.

► see GLSC, 7A

VDATS becomes family tester for Air Force, DOD

BY AMANDA CREEL
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When Team Robins members began working to create a common-core tester as a solution for testing problems here at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, few members of the team would have guessed the tester would become a member of both the Air Force and Department of Defense family of testers.

The Air Force has never had a tester named to the DOD family of testers before, said Dempsey Ventress, engineer support element chief with the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Support Squadron.

"It is huge. All DOD components can use VDATS," said Jeff Miller, director of the Electronics Maintenance Squadron.

In 2000, Mr. Ventress came up with the original concept for the common-core tester. He solicited other members of the electronics and software community to help his concept reach fruition. In 2005 the concept received \$57 million in funding from Air Force Materiel Command as part of transformation funds.

Then in 2006 the common-core tester became officially known as Versatile Depot Automatic Test Station as part of the Automatic Test Equipment Transformation project.

Before VDATS became a reality, the variety of testers at Robins needed to accomplish the repair mission was enormous making the maintenance of the testers a daunting task.

"All the testers were different, so it was a nightmare to maintain," Mr. Miller said.

Before VDATS, Robins required 268 legacy testers to test the different weapons systems and aircraft components at the Center.

The legacy testers were difficult and expensive to maintain, repair parts for the testers were unavailable and workers with knowledge of the legacy testers

was diminishing.

The hardware and software design and construction of the VDATS was all completed at Robins through a partnership between hardware and software engineers from the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group and the 402nd Software Maintenance Group.

By building and maintaining them with Robins' resources instead of commercial resources, the cost savings for the first year was about \$12 million.

However, members from both sides of the partnership acknowledged the tester would have not been named to the Air Force or DOD family of testers without the assistance of the 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing.

It was Col. David French, commander of the 742nd Combat Sustainment Group, who sits as the senior Air Force representative on the Automatic Test System management board, who pitched VDATS to join the DOD family of testers.

Colonel French said his goal for VDATS is to bring a common-core tester to the Air Force to enable the Air Force to achieve its mission in the best way possible.

One of the advantages of having the tester named to the Air Force family of testers is the requirement for new weapon systems to examine VDATS first as a test system said Jim Volz, 565th Combat Sustainment Squadron depot repair capability flight chief. This also means the other depots will be considering VDATS.

"If something pulled Bldg. 640 and 645 offline, we could be up and running at one of the other two centers in a matter of days or a week," Mr. Volz added.

Now that the system has been named to both the Air Force and the DOD family of testers, Mr. Volz expects the workload to explode. He said they already have commercial vendors approaching them about possible partnerships relating to



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Sam Sheppard, 402nd SMXG software engineer, tests a network analyzer on a module of the radio frequency part of the VDATS system.

the tester.

Mr. Volz said the thing that really sets this tester apart from other testers is the transportability of the workload.

Not only does the VDATS help reduce the amount of testers required to accomplish the mission, the tester also provides the versatility to help achieve the mission even when the tester itself is not functioning properly by disconnecting the hard drive and the Interface Test Adaptor and plugging them into another tester.

This scenario is a vast improvement considering many of the legacy testers VDATS is replacing are the only testers in that configuration that exist.

"We will not suffer the downtime and have to put an aircraft on the ground because of an ancient tester," said Jeff White, flight director for the manufacturing flight in the 569th EMXS.

Presently Robins possesses eight digital analog testers and two radio frequency testers. Together that combination of the two types of testers in the VDATS system will test about 95 percent of the systems here at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, Mr. Ventress said.

"We are stealing the brains off the old ones and putting them on the new ones," Mr. Miller said.

"Not only are we standardizing the hardware, we are standardizing the software," said

Jamie Hulett, director of the 581st Software Maintenance Squadron. "The hardware is no good without the software."

The tester also allows a uniform software language to be used, the American National Standards Institute for standard "C" programming.

"Instead of using 50 different languages, we are going to have one language," said Bob Pennington, lead engineer with the 402nd Software Maintenance Group.

This makes it possible for newly hired software engineers to make significant contributions immediately because recent graduates are trained in this standard language.

This also solves the issue of having to find technicians who are able to operate legacy testers or only having one person who can operate a tester on staff, Mr. Miller said. Another benefit is the ability to train technicians on one tester, rather than numerous testers.

In fiscal 2008, the building of the testers will be turned over to the manufacturing side of the house. The group will build 10 more DA and eight more RF testers to be used here to continue to lean the testing process. In fiscal 2009 another 15 DA testers and five RF testers will be produced to help Robins continue to streamline the testing process by replacing legacy testers.

► IN BRIEF

AIR FORCE RESERVE BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve will perform a free holiday concert at the Museum of Aviation Dec. 13 at 7 p.m.

This annual event features songs from the band's "Happy Holidays" series, including a mixture of classic holiday carols, novelty segments and sing-alongs.

The concert is free, open to the public and will be held in the museum's Century of Flight Hangar. Doors open at 6 p.m., and seating is limited.

"Throughout this past year, the band has literally been around the world entertaining our deployed troops on five continents," said Maj. Chad Steffey, music director and band commander. "We're thrilled to be back home for the holidays and share this gift of music with our friends and family of Middle Georgia."

TAX CENTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Robins is looking for volunteers to serve as tax advisors at the base tax center. No prior tax preparation experience is necessary.

The IRS will provide certification training here Jan. 7-11. Each volunteer must be certified in order to prepare taxes. Volunteers should be active-duty military, retirees and their dependents. Volunteers should commit to working at least two days a week if possible and not be slated for a TDY during the tax filing season which runs Jan. 21 through April 16. All interested volunteers contact Master Sgt. April Farmer at 327-4581 or via e-mail at april.farmer@robins.af.mil.

1-2-3 MAGIC

Parents looking for a new and more effective way to discipline are invited to learn about 1-2-3 Magic, a program

designed to effectively discipline children ages 2 to 12.

The seminar is being provided free to all interested parties. For more information visit www.parentmagic.com. The two-day seminar will be held Dec. 1 and Dec. 8 from 9 a.m. until noon at the Warner Robins Recreation Department's McIntyre Room. You can register by contacting Sharon Lowe, Family Advocacy Program

assistant, at 327-8430.

5TH CCG CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY

The 5th Combat Communications Group will host a children's holiday party for children of group members Dec. 1, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 963, the Mobility Warehouse. The party will include crafts, pizza and a special visit from Santa Claus. For more informa-

tion, call Lori Grannon at 988-7914.

CHANGES TO DEFENSE TRAVEL SYSTEM

Effective Dec. 1, DTS will have a Centrally Billed Account, which is a credit account assigned to the Traffic Management Office for travelers who do not have an individually billed account or Government Travel Card.

These travelers will now be able to book reservations in DTS by using the CBA account number designated for Robins AFB TMO. These travelers will need to send a copy of their orders to TMO by e-mail at 78lrs.lgrt.pax@robins.af.mil or fax to 926-9384 before the ticket can be issued. Use of the IBA/GTC is mandatory for all official travel and use of the CBA will be on a case-by-case

basis. Contact Master Sgt. Charles Irvin at 222-0115 or Hope Johnson at 222-0110 with any questions.

QUARTERLY AWARDS

Brig. Gen. Thomas Moore, 116th Air Control Wing commander, will host the Team Robins third quarter awards ceremony today at 2 p.m. in the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Hangar.

DISHING IT OUT



U.S. Air Force photo by GARY CUTRELL

Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Carol Dockery, 78th ABW command chief, serve Thanksgiving dinner to Airmen at Wynn Dining facility on Thanksgiving day. It's a Robins tradition for base leadership to serve the dinner each Thanksgiving.

Airmen Relief Fund assists military members in need

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD

holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Airman Dennis Drake never wanted to turn to the government for financial help.

But, when his paycheck was unexpectedly cut short in September he had no other choice.

Airman Drake, an aerospace propulsion engineer in the 116th Maintenance Squadron, turned to the Airmen Relief Fund for assistance.

"I was actually short on money because finance didn't pay me the full amount that I needed, so I was kind of short on money for food for me and my wife," he said. "My flight chief talked to the first sergeant and the first sergeant requested for me to get to use the (Airmen Relief Fund)."

Airman Drake said people shouldn't let pride get in the way of getting help.

"It's there to help people out," he said. "It's there for a last resort. Maybe something is going on that month...and you don't have money. When it's out of your control, that's when they have emergency funds to help out Airmen."

The program was started at the base to help enlisted Airmen avoid turning to loan agencies when unexpected, temporary financial crisis strikes.

Master Sgt. Keith Matthews, ARF vice president and a first sergeant in the 51st Combat Communications Squadron, said the general fund is there when Airmen need a little temporary help making ends meet.

"Personally, I've had a few of our folks here who have gotten into just a little uncontrollable predicaments, no fault of their own, and needed money right away," he said. "For example, (one

had a flat tire. Payday was two days away and he didn't quite have the funds to get a new tire, so ARF helped."

The holidays can sometimes put stress on already strained financial resources for some Airmen.

Master Sgt. Gary Hunkins, a first sergeant in the 52nd Combat Communications Squadron and ARF treasurer, said ARF helps Airmen feed their families during the holidays by giving commissary vouchers to Airmen deemed to be in need by their first sergeants.

"We'll give them a voucher to go to the commissary to buy turkey and all the fixings," he said.

Sergeant Hunkins said ARF will be working with other organizations such as Toys for Tots, to help Airmen who need a little help with providing holiday cheer for their families.

Sergeant Matthews said the amount of help received is determined on a case-by-case basis and repayment of funds is determined individually by the council.

"We try to look at each need and screen it carefully," he said. "We vote among the executive members on the Airmen Relief Fund Council. If it's something a little bigger than what we normally do, we take that to the First Sergeant Council as a whole and we'll table that and majority rule vote on that to

meet a need."

The first sergeant said Airmen should seek assistance from other on-base helping agencies first. But, if all else fails, ARF is there.

The help received is confidential and Airmen can rest assured knowing they can get help without suffering consequences, Sergeant Matthews said.

It's there to help people out. It's there for a last resort. When it's out of your control, that's when they have emergency funds to help out Airmen.

Airman Dennis Drake

Aerospace propulsion engineer
116th Maintenance Squadron

WHAT TO KNOW

People who want to donate to the Airmen Relief Fund may make checks payable to the Airmen Relief Fund, 740 Beacon St. PCS Box 2162, Robins Air Force Base, Ga. 31098. For more information on the ARF or to find out how to donate to the organization, contact Master Sgt. Jeff Hotchkiss, ARF president, at 926-2663.

Airman missing in action from Vietnam War identified

AIR FORCE NEWS

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced Nov. 27 that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Capt. Stephen A. Rusch of Lambertville, N.J. He will be buried on Nov. 30 at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

On March 7, 1972, Captain Rusch was the weapons systems officer in an F-4E Phantom II aircraft attacking enemy targets in Salavan Province, Laos. The plane was the number two aircraft in a flight of two. When Captain Rusch's aircraft was cleared to begin its second run over enemy targets, the flight leader of the number one aircraft lost sight of Captain Rusch's plane and observed enemy ground fire followed by a large explosion. An immediate search was begun, but all attempts to establish radio contact and later search efforts were unsuccessful.

In 1995, a joint U.S./Lao People's Democratic Republic team, led by Joint POW/MIA

Accounting Command representatives, investigated the incident and interviewed several Laotian citizens. The team surveyed the crash site identified by one of the citizens and found aircraft wreckage.

In 2001, a U.S. citizen, acting as an intermediary for a Laotian citizen, turned over to U.S. officials a bone fragment and a photocopy of Captain Rusch's military identification tag. The bone fragment proved not to be from the captain.

In 2002 and 2003, joint teams conducted two excavations of the crash site. The teams recovered human remains and non-biological evidence including U.S. coins and life support equipment.

Along with other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons in the identification of the remains.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO Web site or call (703) 699-1169.

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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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Chain gang



U.S. Air Force photo by PHILLIP BUTTERFIELD

A group of commanders work together to cut a chain for the grand opening of the new convey support center Nov. 24 in Southwest Asia. The new eight-tent center consolidates all of the Air Force convey support functions into one area.

SERVICE BEFORE SELF

Military working dogs are living example of Airmen's creed

They did not put pen to paper to sign their lives over to a military career.

They are Dutch sheppard and Belgian Malinois pups born into a profession that ultimately could cost them their lives, and they step up to the commitment without hesitation, without fear.

K-9 warriors walk ahead of their handlers to detect danger, never knowing if such a snare will snatch their future in its evil trap. The path of service before

self is so powerfully treaded by these dogs, and all for the love of their master.

Having a service animal myself, I already held professional dogs in a high esteem. But, after learning about the heroic action of Military Working Dog Arras, a 5-year-old Dutch sheppard assigned to the 78th Security Forces Squadron who lost his life when he stepped into a building in Iraq where he and his handler,

Staff Sgt. Marcus Reaves, who is in the 78th Security Forces Squadron, were searching for weapons and explosives, I gained a renewed sense of admiration for these dogs.

How many of us have truly dissected those words "Service before Self" and taken them to heart, knowing that truly living the creed could mean our last heart beat? Not many I would venture to say, including myself, a civilian Airman.

I challenge us, military and civilian Airmen alike, to take the commitment of service before self to heart and consider it a passion to pursue. After meeting Military Working Dog Arras, a devoted K-9 member of the 78th SFS, on the page of this newspaper, I certainly have.

— This commentary was written by Holly Birchfield, 78th Air Base Wing Public Affairs.

Relax, it's the holiday season

Let's face it: our job is inherently stressful. Whether it's a time-sensitive target or a time-sensitive performance report, stress is an inevitable part of the military career.

Stress has a personal cost, both to your health and your pocketbook. In the December Money magazine, Patricia Gray reports, "Chronic stress, the kind you experience when the demands of life exceed your ability to cope, boosts the risk of developing ailments ranging from the common cold and gum disease to obesity and heart disease." Her article goes on to put a price tag on the physical manifestations of stress...more than \$6,000 per year!

Thankfully, there are ways to reduce the effects of stress on your life. While I can't promise to suddenly make your job easier, I can promise if you follow this simple piece of advice, the feelings of stress in your life will diminish.

Simply put: spend some quality time with your loved ones over the holidays. Take a

walk or take in an afternoon matinee. Tell those who have supported you throughout the year how much their sacrifice and commitment to our nation has meant to you and your mission. Without them, your life would be immensely more stressful and your health would surely suffer. A warm embrace or kind word is the valve that reduces stress almost instantaneously and reminds us why our service is so vital to our nation's and our family's well being.

Family members also are one of the key checks in operational risk management. Everyone can remember a time when his or her spouse said to "slow down" (figuratively and literally) or "buckle up" — it's these people in our life who act as living angels to ensure our plans don't "over-G" our limits.

Thankfully, our team has been committed to safety — this year will mark the second consecutive year of extremely low on- and off-duty incidents. It's my sincerest holiday wish to

reduce these numbers to zero; each and every one of you is a valued member of our team and an important individual in our military family.

During this holiday season, take a moment to preflight your plans with a trusted friend or spouse. Look out for your wingman — the most important gift you might give this year could simply be a ride home after a Christmas party or a moment to patiently listen to a coworker during a Hanukkah celebration.

Friends and family are the vital agents that will ensure your holidays are stress-reducing, safe and enjoyable. Every year, approximately 5,800 people are injured in fall-related incidents as a result of holiday activities, according to a report from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Had a spouse been consulted prior to hanging lights or positioning a ladder, I'll bet these numbers would be significantly reduced.

This season is intended for you to reflect on the many

blessings you've received throughout the year and with proper planning, will serve to revitalize your personal outlook. Our mission is stressful enough; I urge you to take this opportunity to reconnect with your family, reignite your romance and reinvigorate your spirit. Your health, your wallet, your friends and family will thank you!

I would also like to thank everyone in our military family for another outstanding year. To those serving on the home front, we would like to extend our deepest thanks for your continued support and sacrifice. And to the brave men and women serving around the world, have a safe and happy holiday. Our nation is truly blessed to have the dedicated leaders found inside every Airman, Soldier, Sailor and Marine serving in her defense.

— This commentary was written by Lt. Gen. Norman Seip, 12th Air Force Commander.



Col. Theresa Carter
78th Air Base Wing commander

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 327-2113;
- ▶ 78th Support Group service desk 926-3733
- ▶ 78th Mission Support Group commander 327-7331
- ▶ Comptroller 926-4462
- ▶ Communications Squadron help desk 926-4357
- ▶ Civilian Personnel 222-0667
- ▶ Household Goods 222-0114
- ▶ SAR 327-7272
- ▶ Vehicle Dispatch 926-3493
- ▶ Services Division 926-5491
- ▶ EEO Office 926-2131;
- ▶ MEO 926-6608
- ▶ Employee Relations 926-5802
- ▶ Military Pay 926-3777;
- ▶ Civil engineering 926-5657
- ▶ Safety Office 926-6271
- ▶ 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/actionline.htm>.

Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up. Anonymous action lines will not be processed.

Selling goods for profit

Are employees on base allowed to sell goods for profit? A contractor in Bldg. 110 has been selling coffee for three years for hundreds of dollars per month profit.

Colonel Carter's Response:

Sales on Robins Air Force Base are only permitted when they are by a non-appropriated fund instrumentality, such as the Base Restaurant or AAFES, or by a private organization under AFI 34-223.

Our investigation revealed that coffee pots in Bldg. 110 had been run on a pay-by-the-week honor system. However, to ensure no unauthorized fund-raising is perceived, the coffee pots in question have been removed.

Developing expertise: Know how to handle a fumble recovery

In 1964, when football legend Jim Marshall and former defensive lineman for the Minnesota Vikings picked up a fumble and ran 66 yards for what he thought was a touchdown, he instinctively did one thing very well upon seeing the loose football on the ground. He perfectly executed a ball recovery procedure just like he'd practiced hundreds of times in training drills -- he picked up the pigskin and ran toward the end of the playing field. Unfortunately, it ended up as a safety and two points for the other team.

Unfortunately, Marshall overlooked one key point while he was so fiercely focused on properly executing the basic steps he'd rehearsed throughout

numerous practice sessions. Where did he go wrong in this grand execution? He failed because his training as a defensive lineman didn't generally include the follow-on steps of scoring after a fumble recovery. When Marshall needed to implement new steps beyond those he'd specifically trained for, he quickly lost his situational awareness.

This example illustrates why our military training programs and practice drills cannot end once the training record is signed off. Effective programs need to develop core skills and then include a full spectrum of follow-on training scenarios. First, define and teach the basics in any specialty by providing sufficient, hands-on training opportu-

nities. Teach in a controlled environment when necessary and repeat step-by-step procedures as often as required to instill confidence in the trainee.

Our combat skills training, chemical defense and weapons training all provide just-in-time familiarization in preparation for deployment, but they only skim the surface. Individuals, first-line supervisors and leaders must seek opportunities to continually review and perform these tasks well beyond the initial course.

Once a solid foundation of knowledge is developed, the next training phase needs to prepare Airmen to perform their tasks in various conditions by employing realistic scenarios where the trainees are exposed to

unique, but probable, on-the-job challenges. Practice performing tasks in different environmental conditions, various light levels and background noise, or increased rates of speed. Include options where special equipment is worn and establish a training culture where completing the required tasks becomes instinctive in nearly every situation, even in the heat of battle.

Whether handling weapons, providing first aid to the wounded on the battlefield, loading or flying aircraft, or setting up a suite of tactical communications equipment, Airmen who are poorly trained and overlook one key procedure or lose situational awareness because of task unfamiliarity may suffer loss of life or contribute to mission failure.

This football highlight shows why we need to develop our expertise and know what to do if we recover a fumble. With ball in hand, Marshall quickly proceeded to the end of the field, but in the heat of the competition -- game-day distractions like the yelling he heard from the crowd and his teammates -- what likely sounded like cheers of triumph where in fact yells and warnings as his teammates tried to tell him to stop because he was running the wrong way.

Train like you fight and don't let your teammates run the wrong way.

— This commentary was written by Commentary by Maj. Curtis Juell, 386th Expeditionary Communications Squadron commander.

DLA

Continued from 1A

to DLA was a scary one, but that so far the transition has been a positive experience.

Penny Roland, a program management specialist, agreed the transition to the DLA had her worried, especially because of her previous experiences with the agency. But she said after hearing General Dail she is convinced the leadership is concerned about the fate of the Robins' workers and with taking care of them.

Cathy Broadwell agreed that the leadership of the agency seemed to be concerned with the workers here and said it eased her concerns to know that General Busch was a part of the DLA team because he has lived and worked here as commander of the 402nd Maintenance Wing and understands the needs of the workforce. General Dail echoed the Robins workers sentiments that having General Busch as a part of the DLA team was an invaluable piece of the success of the October transfer here at Robins and its continued success.

He said he requested General Busch because he not only understands the mission of the WR-ALC, he also understands the culture and the workers at the Center.

It was General Busch's fifth visit to the base as part of the transfer to help workers merge into the DLA community. He said now that the workers have

made the transition, it is important for them to prepare to meet guidelines established by the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure requirements.

"Now we are going to something we call Day Two and Day Two is not a date but it is what I term fail safe support to depot maintenance that will put in place all of the mechanisms that we need to get us through the transition so that we can meet the objectives that the BRAC legislation told us we need to do," General Busch said. "And, again BRAC legislation said let's focus on inventory efficiency not man power savings."

General Busch said there are three objectives DLA will focus on during the Day Two phase of the DLA transfer.

The first would be linking together the information processing systems of the depot and DLA to enable DLA to operate the Air Force and DLA inventories as one.

The second objective is figuring out what the relationship will be between the strategic distribution platform, which will support regional customers and the forward distribution platform, which will support WR-ALC depot customers.

The final objective is getting the Robins personnel assigned to DLA access to the DLA tool sets in use at Richmond.

General Dail said BRAC is about taking a wall down between wholesale and retail operations.

"BRAC is about the people at the retail level having direct



U.S. Air Force photo by CLAUDE LAZZARA
Brig. Gen. Andy Busch, commander of Defense Supply Center, Richmond, made his fifth visit to Robins to help make the transition of base employees to the Defense Logistics Agency a seamless one.

access and input at the national level," he said.

He said he is going to empower the workers at Robins to achieve the mission because they are right here with the customer.

"The goal is to make sure that the \$35 billion that we are buying is actually what we need down here. I don't want to buy things in Richmond, or I don't want someone in Richmond to buy something we don't need because you've got it in stock and you have something else that is not in stock," General

Dail said.

Because Robins was one of the first of 13 industrial sites to transition its workers to DLA, the agency is working hard to make sure the transition is done in a way that is beneficial to both the agency and its personnel and their ability to complete the mission of the agency together.

"A key piece of that is turning weapons platforms around quickly, efficiently, so that America's Airmen, the airpower of the United States of America, can do their job," General Dail said.

GLSC

Continued from 2A

"It is necessary because the Air Force is getting smaller and weapons systems are getting more expensive. It will allow us to save money and use resources more efficiently and effectively," Mr. Traylor said.

The headquarters for the GLSC will be at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

One of the many benefits of the GLSC will be the small business mentality, said Ms. Martin.

"I think being small business-like will give us an opportunity to focus on the warfighter and work that will truly benefit the warfighter," Ms. Martin said.

One of the ways the GLSC will enhance warfighter support will be through the creation of a one-stop supply chain Web site through the GLSC Portal page where

warfighters can access all needed supply chain information.

In the past, according to Mr. Traylor an item manager might have to visit 15 or 20 different places to find something, but under the GLSC all of the systems and tools they need will be on one Web site.

The GLSC will also boast a customer service phone line as part of there Supply Chain Operations Wing where 24 hours a day, seven days a week, warfighters will be able to call and receive timely responses to any warfighters supply chain concerns.

The third phase is not expected to begin until the beginning of fiscal 2008, with an anticipated completion in fiscal 2013. During Phase III the GLSC will begin supporting 88 Air National Guard units, manage contracts and most efficient organization accounts and synchronize Air Force and contractor supported weapons.



First Support Services, Inc. strives to provide their employees with a safe and healthful workplace and now joins a select group of about 1,550 worksites nationwide that have earned "STAR" status.

An onsite pre-approval evaluation was conducted at the FSS Robins vehicle operations and maintenance facility. The evaluation was conducted to establish the site's eligibility for par-

ticipation in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection Program.

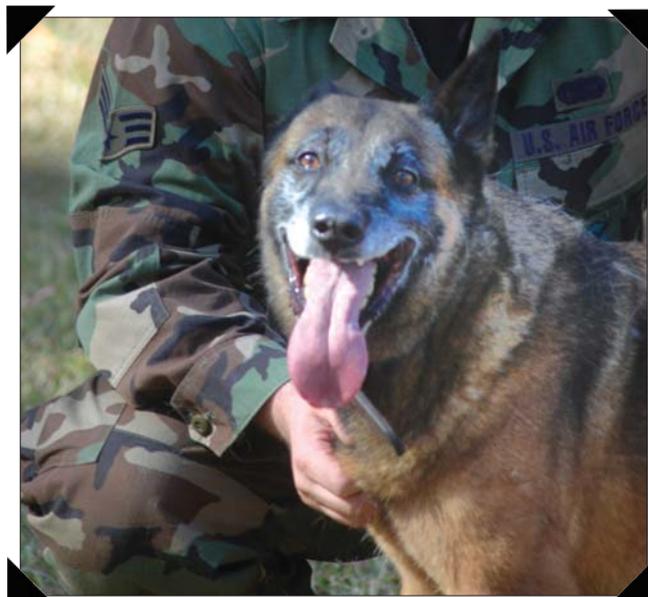
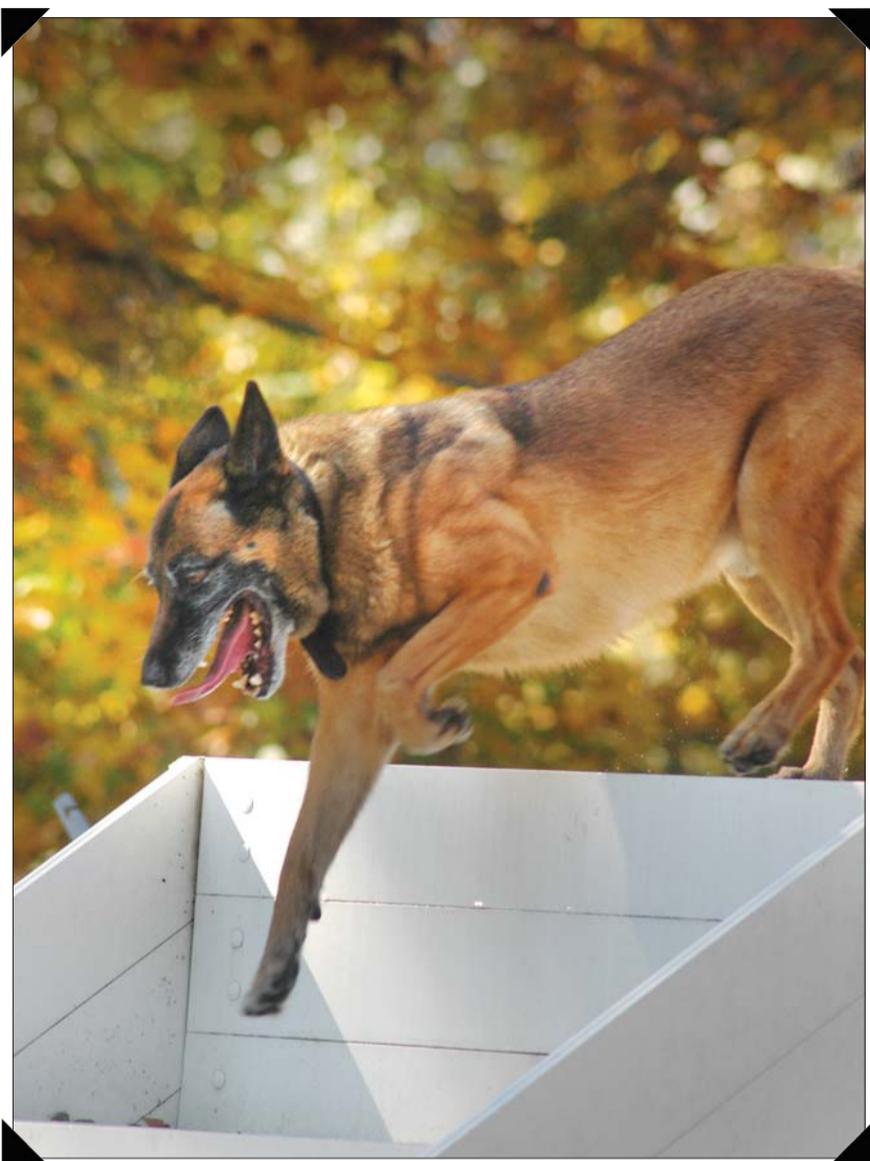
All elements of the site's safety and health program met the high quality expected of VPP participants. The OSHA review team recommended that the the FSS site be approved for participation in the VPP at the "STAR" level.

According to OSHA only five percent of companies receive STAR status.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND

Military working dogs first entered the service in March of 1942 to serve in the Army's K-9 Corps. Today, the dogs, who have an actual military service record book assigned to them, are still playing an active role in searching for explosives, security and patrol, seizing the enemy and search and rescue.

U.S. Air Force photos by **SUE SAPP**



ABOVE: Mato, a drug detection dog, sniffs out an illegal substance and then sits and waits for a reward. The reward is only paid after an odor is detected.

TOP RIGHT: Military working dog Rudy takes on the obstacle course in the kennel training area. Military working dogs save lives in search and rescue of lost persons and apprehending suspects without extreme force.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Rudy "attacks" Tech. Sgt. David Barber, kennel master, during a demonstration Nov. 20. The dog's handler is responsible for their dog, which is considered a partner. They feed, groom, bath, wash out their kennels and take them to the veterinarian.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Military working dogs, like Mato, receive their initial training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and then their training is advanced when they get to Robins. According to Sergeant Barber, kennel master, the dog's estimated value is from \$20,000 to \$50,000 based on their training and medical needs.

2B ■ The Robins Rev-Up ■ November 30, 2007

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

A final game of Texas Hold'Em for the year will be held Dec. 1 due to the holidays and will resume in January. Sign-ups begin at 3:30 p.m. with games starting at 4 p.m. Prizes (gift cards) will be given away for first place \$120, second place \$80, third place \$60 and fourth place \$40. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. For more information call the enlisted lounge at 926-7625.

SUNDAY

Watch WWE Wrestling "Armageddon" Dec. 2 in the enlisted lounge, located in Bldg. 956. The action begins at 8 p.m. Cost is free for members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted lounge at 926-7625.

Every Sunday watch all the play-by-play NFL football action on the Robins Enlisted Club's multiple television screens and three new high definition plasma televisions with satellite. Doors open at 11 a.m. There will be chances for club members to win trips to the following games: Carolina Panthers versus Jacksonville Jaguars; the Super Bowl in Arizona or the Pro Bowl in Honolulu. Cost is free for members and \$5 for nonmembers. Sponsored in part by American Airlines. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625 or officers' club at 926-2670.

MONDAY

A miniature tree decorating competition will be held today by the community center and Pizza Depot. Bring your tree to be displayed at the center and judged on Dec. 14. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. All trees will be donated to the VA Soup Kitchen, Children's Home and more. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

The Base Library will hold story time for preschoolers every Monday at 10 a.m. For more information, call 327-7379.

Triple S Monday with soup, salad and sandwiches is available at the officers' club from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$7.25. 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 and wings and nachos for \$3.50. Lunch is open to all ranks and grades. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

TUESDAY

A wreath making class will be held Dec. 4 at 5 p.m. in the community center ballroom. Bring your own materials. Sign up at the community center or by calling 926-2105.

WEDNESDAY

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

Enjoy M.U.G and Mic Night on Wednesdays at the enlisted club, located in Bldg. 956. Participants may bring musical instruments, show their talent and bring their own mugs and get refills (up to 24 ounces) for only \$2. The fun begins at 7 p.m. Cost for entry is \$2 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted lounge at 926-7625.

THURSDAY

Every Thursday night is Karaoke night with DJ Rockmaster "D" from 8 p.m. to closing. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-7625.

You could win a grand prize of a 42 inch HD plasma TV/monitor or other great prizes by joining the Robins Enlisted or Officers' Club and filling out an entry form at the Taste of Membership Fair Dec. 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the ballroom of the Robins Enlisted Club. Those who are already members need only attend the event and fill out an entry form. Current members who bring a friend who joins that day will have the opportunity to fill out two entry forms for the prize drawings and earn \$5 cash.

Those who join the club during the event will take advantage of added sign up incentives. They will have the opportunity to fill out two entry forms for the drawings, a scratch card with a guaranteed cash prize, six months free dues, and a Coupon ValYou Pack to use at the clubs and other participating Services facilities.

Current and new members will be invited to sample a variety of food and beverages from vendors and also receive the latest information on Chase

Oprah's favorite things

Courtesy photo

Oprah Winfrey gave away thousands of dollars in prizes to audience members when the show taped in Macon. Prizes included a stainless steel refrigerator with an HDTV screen, a digital video camcorder, a large DVD collection, a \$250 gift certificate to Target and a Kitchen Aide mixer

Among the lucky recipients were Air Force Reserve Command's Juanita Dunston (second row, far left), budget assistant, and Rena Christian (second row, far right), financial specialist.



club card benefits such as Cashback and First Plus discounts. Information will also be available on catering and other information. The cost is free for members and nonmembers alike.

UPCOMING

The annual holiday canned food drive runs through Dec. 20. To learn how you can help call the community center at 926-2105.

First Friday will not be held Dec. 7 due to holiday parties at the club.

A Give Parents a Break and Hourly Care will be held Dec. 7 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Child Development Center East and School Age Program (unless otherwise posted). Advance sign-up is required. An advance \$6 nonrefundable deposit is required by the prior Monday for hourly care. 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 required forms prior to making reservations. For more information call 926-5805.

Bring your camera to have a picture taken with Santa Claus Dec. 8 at the community center from noon to 3 p.m. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

The Base Library will hold a holiday party for preschoolers Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. For more information, call 327-7379.

A Christmas pool tournament is slated for Dec. 13 starting at 5:30 p.m. in the community center. Prize will be awarded for first place winner. Teams need to register by Dec. 7. For information call the community center at 926-2105.

A racquetball tournament is slated for Dec. 15 starting at 10 a.m. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

A beautiful bag contest will be held Dec. 19. A variety of materials can be used to decorate the bags. Bring your bags by the community center by 5 p.m. Dec. 14. Judging will be conducted on Dec. 19 with certificates awarded to the winners. Bags will then be displayed and used to make the holiday food baskets to be distributed to families in the Robins community.

Walk those worries away with a holiday stress walk Dec. 20 at 11 a.m. in the fitness center annex. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2840.

Outdoor Recreation For more information on these programs and events call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

►A Christmas shopping trip rendezvous will be held at the North Georgia Premium Outlets in Dawsonville, Ga. on Dec. 15. Cost is \$45 per person. Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. for departure at 9:30 a.m. and return to outdoor recreation at 7 p.m. A minimum of 10 people is required to host this trip. Register by Dec. 3.

►A Fantasy in Lights at Callaway Gardens trip will be held Dec. 21 in Pine Mountain, Ga. Cost is \$40 per person, \$60 for one parent and child and \$70 for couples. Meet at outdoor recreation at 2 p.m. for departure at 2:15 p.m. Bus will return around midnight. A minimum of 10 people is required for outdoor recreation to host this trip. Register by Dec. 10 at outdoor recreation, Bldg. 914.

A New Year's Eve gala will be held at the enlisted club with entertainment by "E-Minor" in the ballroom. Tickets go on sale at the officers' club starting Dec. 3-21 for \$25 for members and \$30 for guests. Tickets purchased after Dec. 21 are \$30 for members and \$35 for guests. The club will open at 8 p.m.

with entertainment beginning at 9 p.m. The evening will be made complete with heavy hors d'oeuvres, breakfast buffet, champagne and party hats and favors. For patrons' convenience, 20 rooms will be available at lodging. Room reservations are not required, but can be made through the officers' club cashier. For more information call 926-7625.

Bring in the New Year at the officers' club. Amenities will include a buffet dinner, party favors, champagne at midnight and a continental breakfast. Featured entertainment will be "A Family Affair." Purchase tickets before Dec. 21 for \$40 per members and \$45 per nonmember. Tickets purchased after Dec. 21 for \$45 for members and \$50 for nonmember. For patrons' convenience, 20 rooms will be available at lodging. Reservations for these rooms can be made through the officers' club cashier. Tickets go on sale at the cashier office Monday. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish and meet new friends during the Aero Club Christmas party to be held Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. in Bldg. 186.

Arts & Crafts Center For more information, on the following, call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

- Encaustic Dec. 3 and 10 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$15, for all ages
- Kids acrylic painting Winter Dec. 4 and 11 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$7 kids/\$10 adults
- Painting with oils Dec. 5 and 12 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$30 (both days)
- Watercolor painting snow scene Dec. 6 and 13 to 3 p.m., cost \$12
- Acrylic painting snow scene Dec. 6 and 13 from 10 a.m. to noon, cost \$12
- Drawing in ink Dec. 7 and 14 from 10 – 11:30 a.m., cost \$7 kids/\$10 adults
- Sewing Dec. 7 and 14 from noon to 2 p.m., cost \$15
- Pastels Dec. 19 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$30 (both days)
- Scroll saw Dec. 12 and 26 from 6 to 8 p.m., cost \$12
- Lathe class in woodshop Dec. 5 – Jan. 2 from 6 – 8 p.m., cost \$45 (four-week class)
- Wood shop safety classes are held Tuesdays at 6 p.m. and auto shop safety and orientation classes are held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. and every Saturday at 11 a.m. free of charge. Registration is not required.
- Do-it-yourself framing is available Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Do-it-yourself framing, during the evening and Saturdays, is scheduled by appointment only.

Advance registration and payment is required for all classes. Classes are subject to change without notice.

All classes are open to active duty, reserve and retired military and family members and DOD civilians. For more information, please call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

ONGOING

Aero Club — Qualified commercial pilots are escorting families on flights to see area Christmas lights from the sky at the aero club throughout December. Cost is \$65 per half hour or \$105 per hour for up to three people. Reservations are required. In addition, you may take a discovery flight and realize your dream of flying for \$49. Flight consists one-half hour enjoying the sites around the local area. For more information, call 926-4867.

The officers' club is available for evening dining Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy Prime Rib on Wednesdays for \$11.95, stuffed flounder on Thursdays for \$10.95, Porter House Steak (16 oz.) on Fridays for \$14.95 and pasta Chardonnay

with salmon on Saturdays for only \$10.95. Kids, 10 years and younger eat free Wednesdays and Thursdays off the kid's menu with the purchase of an adult entrée. For more information, call the club at 926-2670.

The community center is holding the following classes: salsa classes on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., cost \$40 per person for four weeks; swing dancing on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., cost \$40 per person for four weeks and piano on Thursdays starting at 7 p.m., cost \$65 per person for four weeks. For more information and to sign up call the community center at 926-2105.

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.

►Tickets are available for the Atlanta Thrashers and Atlanta Hawks home games. Prices vary based by ticket location.

►Daytona 500 tickets are on sale now. Great American Race Feb. 17 \$95 Superstretch Tower Offer-Feb. 16 and 17 for \$140 and Nextel Fanzone and pre-race pass-Feb. 17 \$80.

All retirees get a free fountain drink or iced tea with a \$4 minimum purchase when they show their retiree ID card along with coupon on page 3 of the November Edge in November. For more information call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

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

- Have an office Christmas party at Robins Lanes. Reserve the lanes any afternoon from 1 – 5 p.m. Bowl three fun games for \$5 per bowler, including shoe rental.
- Come out to an after Christmas party blow-out Dec. 26 and 27. Bowl all day for \$1.75 a game.
- Enjoy Thunder Alley glow-in-the-dark bowling Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Robins Lanes Bowling Center. Cost includes all the games participants can bowl in two hours and shoe rental for \$6.
- Celebrate New Year's Eve bowling from 9 p.m. – 1 a.m. Dec. 31. Cost is \$25 for adults and \$10 children (5 years old and older) per person and includes bowling, snacks and party favors. Children 4 years and younger bowl free when accompanied by a paying adult.
- All retirees receive one free game of bowling with one paid game when they show their retiree ID card along with coupon on page 7 of the December Edge for the month of December.

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

- Give the gift of golf this season by purchasing punch cards. A walking punch card \$100, riding punch card \$190, non-AGF range punch card \$50 and AGF range punch card \$35. These punch cards are good for 10 eighteen-hole rounds or 20 nine-hole rounds.
- The golf pro shop Christmas sale will be held Dec. 14-23 with a chance to receive a 10 to 50 percent savings. During this sale, select a balloon and pop it to find out what discount you will receive on your purchase.
- Every Monday through Thursday in December pay only \$20 for green fee and cart, and only \$15 after 2 p.m.
- Play golf after 1 p.m. on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) in December and pay only \$22 for green fee and cart.
- In December enjoy weekly specials at the Fairways Grille for only \$5.95 (includes drink): Dec. 3-7: veggie Panini and cup of soup; Dec. 10-14: meatball hoagie and macaroni and cheese; Dec. 17 to Jan. 4: choose from the menu.

NOW PLAYING

Adult tickets are \$4; children 11 years old and younger tickets are \$2. Movies start at 7 p.m., unless noted. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919.



FRIDAY

THE COMEBACKS

David Koehnner, Carl Weathers This spoof comedy follows an out-of-luck coach, Lambeau Fields, who takes a rag-tag bunch of college misfits and drives them towards the football championships. In the process, this life-long loser discovers that he is a winner after all by redeeming himself, saving his relationship with his family and friends, and finding that there is indeed, no "I" in "team". Rated PG-13

SATURDAY

30 DAYS OF NIGHT

Josh Hartnett, Melissa George In Barrow, Alaska, the northernmost town in the U. S., the winter sun sets and does not rise for 30 days and nights. From the darkness comes an evil force that strikes terror on the town, and all hope is pinned on a husband-and-wife cop team. Rated R

UPCOMING

AMERICAN GANGSTER

Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe Based on the life of drug-kingpin-turned-informant, Frank Lucas, who made his way to Harlem where he became a heroin kingpin by shipping heroin back to the US in the coffins of soldiers killed in Vietnam. Lucas was shadowed by lawman, Richie Roberts, who finally helped bring the kingpin to justice. The two then worked together to expose the crooked cops and foreign nationals who made importing heroin so easy. Rated R

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 5 p.m. vigeil 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 (Jumuhah) 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 6 p.m. in the Chapel Sanctuary, 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 Bldg. 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.

Academy accepts bid to Armed Forces Bowl

AIR FORCE NEWS

U.S. Air Force Academy officials have accepted a bid to play in the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl on New Year's Eve at Fort Worth, Texas.

The Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl, an ESPN regional television owned-and-operated event, will be aired at 12:30 p.m. EST on ESPN, live from Amon G. Carter Stadium.

The previous four Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl games have been played on December 23 with the University of Utah defeating the University of Tulsa 25-13 last year.

"We are thrilled to have the Air Force Academy as the Mountain West Conference's representative in the 2007 game," said Tom Starr, the executive director of the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl. "With our military theme, what better way is there to honor the armed forces by having an Academy play in our game. With nine wins and a strong finish to their season, the Falcons will bring an exciting brand of football to Amon G. Carter Stadium on New Year's Eve."

With three-straight wins and six victories in their last seven games to end the 2007 season, the Falcons are the first school since the inaugural Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl game in 2003 to enter the Amon G. Carter Stadium game with more than seven regular-season wins. The Academy is currently 9-3 this fall after posting a 55-23 win at home Nov. 18 over San Diego State.

The 9-3 record is Air Force's first winning season since posting a 7-5 mark in 2003. The

Falcons' six wins in Mountain West Conference play is their most ever and best league record since finishing the 1998 season with a 7-1 record in the Western Athletic Conference.

The Falcons have the second-best rushing attack in the country (298.5 yards per game) to rank among the top 10 in the nation for the 21st-straight season. The Falcons won the national rushing title in 2002 (307.8) when Air Force played in their last postseason game by losing 20-13 to Virginia Tech at the 2002 Emerald Bowl in San Francisco.

Troy Calhoun also becomes the third first-season coach at the Air Force to lead the Falcons to a post-season bowl game following in the foot-

steps of Ben Martin in 1958 and Fisher DeBerry in 1984. A 1989 graduate of the Academy, Calhoun replaced DeBerry last December as only the sixth coach in the 52-season history of Air Force football.

The first Academy graduate to coach the Falcons, Calhoun was an active duty officer in the Air Force from 1989 to 1995, and was the school's recruiting coordinator and the junior varsity offensive coordinator in 1993 and 1994. An assistant for one season for the NFL's Houston Texans before taking the Air Force job, Calhoun started at quarterback for the Academy in 1986 and was one of only two freshmen to letter for the 1985 team that finished fifth in the final polls with a 12-1



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. MONTE VOLK

Z-back Chad Hall has helped lead the Air Force Academy football team to a 9-3 record and a bid to play in the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl on New Year's Eve at Fort Worth, Texas.

record that included wins over national powers Notre Dame and Texas.

Appearing in its first post-season game since 2002, the Air Force will be competing in their 18th bowl since the start of their intercollegiate football program in 1956.

While z-back Hall is the only player in the country to lead his team in rushing (1,415 yards and 14 touchdowns to rank ninth nationally) and receiving (488 for 46 receptions and one touchdown), Air Force quarterback Shaun Carney has become the Academy's all-time passing leader as a four-year starter by breaking records this season for passing yardage (5,323), passing touchdowns (38) and total yardage (7,776).

WHAT TO KNOW

Ticket prices for the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl are \$40 for sideline seats and \$15 for end zone tickets. Military veterans receive half off any \$40 seat and active duty members get in free via the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl corporate military ticket underwriting program. A portion of local ticket sales will go to designated military charities. Tickets for this year's game can be obtained by calling the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl office at 817-810-0012, or visit www.ArmedForcesBowl.com for more information.

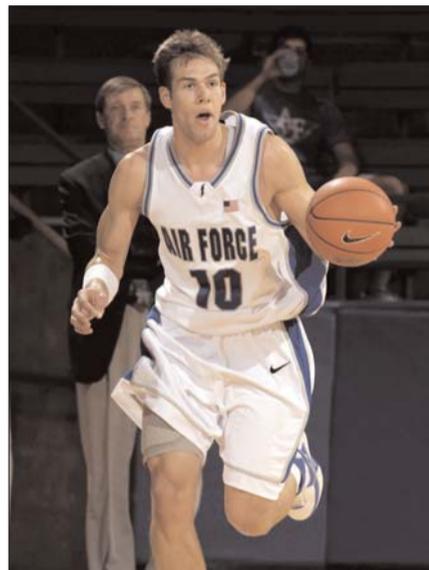
FLAG FOOTBALL INTRAMURALS

SEMIFINALS:
78th MED def. 78th SFS, 16-0
78th CES def. 19th ARG, 20-11

CHAMPIONSHIPS:
78th CES def. 78th MED, 8-0



ACADEMY HOOPS



Courtesy photo

Andrew Henke leads the Falcons with 14 points per game and has helped his team to a 5-2 record to start the season. The Academy lost 72-61 against No. 9 Washington in its most recent outing, the team's second straight defeat.

Robins is a hands-free zone



Drivers on Air Force Materiel Command bases will be cited by security forces personnel for talking on cell phones without hands-free devices. Repeated violations could result in suspended or revoked driving privileges. Cell phone use while driving is categorized as a moving violation in Air Force Instruction 31-218().

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MPF changes location, improves customer service

BY MAJ. DAVID BELTON
david.belton@robins.af.mil

The Military Personnel Flight has relocated from Building 905 to Building 767, the Smith Center. Literally just across the street from its former location - on the corner of Ninth and Macon - the MPF's new location is nestled between the Base Chapel and the Bowling Alley. But a lot more is changing at MPF than just its location.

The Air Force is disbanding the concept of the CSS (Commander Support Staff) according to Maj. Devin Statham, Commander, 78th Mission Support Squadron.

With the exception of the Air Force Reserve Command, all military personnel flight functions Air Force-wide, regardless of MAJCOM, will be moving back into the centralized MPF, he said.

The move was directed by Lt. Gen. Brady, deputy chief of staff, manpower and personnel. In order to sustain support after manpower reductions such as PBD 720, General Brady

authorized a new enterprise-level solution to "deliver superior service to airmen using the dwindling resources that we have."

Leveraging new technologies and organizational structures this standardized, corporate approach will ensure a leaner, more efficient service for the customer, he said.

"The move will consolidate our people," Major Statham said. "It will cut out the middle man; our customers will be able to go straight to the MPF instead of their unit CSS."

The move will also eliminate the "one-deep" aspect of the old CSS concept. In the past, the CSS would often be manned by only one person. That would cause a problem if that person was ill or deployed.

"Ultimately, this will be the best thing for the customer," Major Statham said.

The biggest improvement will be in the ability to train their personnel, said MPF superintendent Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Ceaser. "Nobody will be stove-piped into one particular function. We'll be able to

eliminate the gaps and thin coverage in different areas of personnel career field."

He said the flight will be transformed into a new learning organization, all while "providing un-paralleled service to our customers."

Capt. Demetria Johnson, MPF commander, agreed, saying that the biggest impact should be a more positive customer experience.

"This change will give us the ability to provide uninterrupted customer service," said Capt. Johnson. "In this new expeditionary environment, we're expected to do more with less - in order to preserve the economy of scale we have to consolidate our resources to support the warfighter."

All personnelists within AFMC at Robins will be relocated to Bldg. 767 by Dec. 17. All other unit personnelists, excluding those at HW AFRC, will be moved as soon as minor renovations occur.

"In the meantime, MSS continues to be open for business - ready to meet our customer's needs," Major Statham said.



U. S. Air Force photo by
SUE SAPP

Airman 1st Class Justina Rowell, reenlistment apprentice, talks with a customer at the 78th Military Personnel Flight which is now located in Bldg. 767. Location isn't the only change for the MPF. The Air Force is disbanding the concept of the Commander Support Staff and all military personnel flight functions Air Force-wide, regardless of MAJCOM, will be moving back into the centralized MPF.

