

THE ROBINS REV-UP

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

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Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

78th ABW commander bids farewell to Robins

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON
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Robins will soon say goodbye to Col. Theresa Carter, who has been the commander of the 78th Air Base Wing since January 2006. Colonel Carter relinquishes command today in a change of command ceremony at 4 p.m. in the Century of Flight Hangar.

After two and a half years at Robins, first as vice commander then as commander, the colonel now heads to Headquarters Air Mobility Command at Scott AFB, Ill., to be the director for installations and mission support. The colonel is excited

about the new opportunity, but will miss Robins and the relationships she's developed here.

"Robins has been a great assignment. In the job as installation commander, I've had the chance to meet some wonderful people, both on base and in the local community, and have made some great friendships, and I'm certainly not looking forward to leaving those behind," Colonel Carter said. "Of all the places I've been, the local community here is by far the most supportive of any I've had the pleasure of working with."

At Scott, Colonel Carter will be responsible for security



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Col. Theresa Carter, 78th Air Base Wing commander, sat down with the Robins Rev-Up recently to talk about her tenure.

forces, civil engineering and contracting within the command. She said although it will be a big job, she's excited about the chance to learn about a new command and work at the staff level.

"Any time you go to a new job with new responsibilities, you're always a little apprehensive about what is waiting behind the corner for you," Colonel Carter said. "At the staff level, you have an opportunity to influence policy and influence the direction of the Air Force."

She said working at the staff level is different in that you are a little removed from seeing that policy implemented. Being the

installation commander and being directly involved with decision making and policy implementation provided her both unique challenges as well as very rewarding experiences.

"There are a lot of unique opportunities that go with the job of installation commander. You have a lot of positive opportunities to influence the lives of people. You are there with the young Airmen and you really see the chance to make a difference every day - to maybe clear a hurdle or remove an obstacle from someone who is trying to improve a workplace or get

► see CARTER, 2A

Bioenvironmental Engineering craftsman's work ethic helps AFMC CBRN team make command history

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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Staff Sgt. Rashad Barnes of the 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron may be seen as a quiet man to most people he meets. But, his dedication on the job and at home speaks volumes about his "give it all you've got" attitude.

It's that winning approach to life that helped land the bioengineering craftsman on Air Force Materiel Command's five-person Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Challenge Team which ultimately won the 2007 Air Force-level CBRN Challenge at Brooks City-Base in San Antonio in mid-December 2007.

The win was a first in this area for AFMC.

Sergeant Barnes's team, comprised of Airmen from Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass; Tinker AFB, Okla.; Eglin AFB, Fla.; and Edwards AFB, Calif., competed against CBRN Challenge teams from other major commands, facing scenarios similar to those in the real world.

"For the wartime, our main objective is to detect chemical warfare agents when we're at deployed locations or in garrison," he said. "We have various equipment we use to detect chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear warfare agents. We (use that equipment) to identify (those agents) and we can quantify and be able to give a health

risk assessment."

The challenge offered a bit of a twist for team members.

"The scenarios were based on real-world experiences," Sergeant Barnes said. "It was a challenging to figure out what was really there because we got very little information. Sometimes, we didn't have all of the equipment we normally would have to assess what the hazard is. So we sort of had to make do with what we had and what information we got."

The everyday tasks of his job aren't as cumbersome as those that challenged him at the competition. "Actually, our role is very broad," Sergeant Barnes said. "Bioenvironmental Engineering is the military form of Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency," he

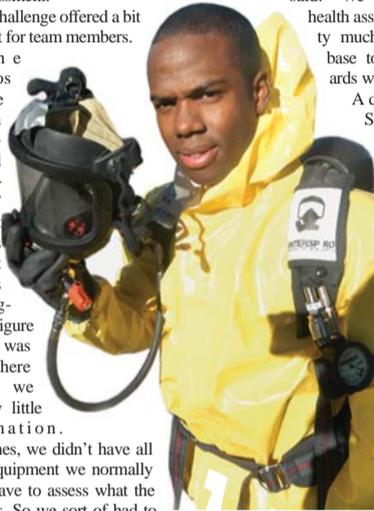
said. "We do occupational health assessments for pretty much every shop on base to determine hazards with that shop."

Additionally, Sergeant Barnes and his co-workers test all drinking water on base and conduct gas mask and respirator testing for deploying Airmen and individual shops.

Sergeant Barnes said the challenge was just that for the team - a challenge.

"We were the only team out there where every person came from a different base," he said. "There were other teams where they had two people who were at one base and two people who maybe were from a different base, but we were the only team that had five different people from five different bases."

► see CBRN, 3A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP
Staff Sgt. Rashad Barnes



U.S. Air Force photo by CLAUDE LAZZARA

Maj. Gen. Tom Owen (far right), WR-ALC commander, "tags on" Master Sgt. Jeff Gombos's new stripes during a surprising Stripes for Exceptional Performance promotion ceremony Jan. 7, as wife, Jen, and son, Kevin, look on. The newly striped master sergeant is an enlisted aide to the Center commander.

New Year, new rank Enlisted aide surprised by STEP promotion as new year begins

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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The beginning of 2008 brought more than new beginnings for one technical sergeant. It brought him a new rank.

Tech. Sgt. Jeff Gombos, an enlisted aide to Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, knew that a package for a Stripes for Exceptional Performance promotion had been put in on his behalf. But after the package for the STEP promotion, an unexpected, on-the-spot promotion, went forward, the Airman put it out of his mind.

That is until Jan. 3 when he was surprised by the news in an unusual way.

When Sergeant Gombos isn't working around General Owen's home, ensuring his uniforms are in top shape, arranging dinners for special guests and other matters, he fills in for the general's executive officer, Lt. Col. Ryan Britton. So, when Colonel Britton asked the sergeant to brief the general for a video teleconference just three days into the New Year, he stepped up to the task.

"I got a call from Lt. Col. Britton. He had a personal appointment that he needed to take care of. I had gone up to fill in for him in the past so this wasn't something out of the ordinary," he said.

Sergeant Gombos came to prepare the general for a supposed video teleconference.

"They had a bunch of different things they said he had to go do, so everything seemed to be real to me," Sergeant Gombos said. "I had gone in there and I would usually sit behind him to take notes or, if he needed something, I could run and get it. I didn't think anything was going on because there was nobody there."

Little to Sergeant Gombos' knowledge, quite a few people were nearby, including his wife, Jennifer, and 9-year-old son, Kevin, both of whom kept his on-the-spot promotion a secret.

As Sergeant Gombos reviewed a folder of documents needing to be signed by the general, he noticed his name listed as someone getting a STEP promotion.

"I looked at it and read it and I was surprised," he said. "I looked up at General Owen, but he was (still talking) and I didn't want to interrupt so I thought, 'is this for real?' As soon as I did that, they all came out and said, 'surprise,' and flashed 'Congratulations Master Sgt. Gombos' on the screen and all that."

Sergeant Gombos said he was impressed by the great length his colleague

► see STEP, 2A

Operational Readiness Exercise



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Gen. Bruce Carlson, Air Force Materiel Command commander, is briefed by Col. Patrick Higby, 78th Mission Support Group, during exercises at Warrior Air Base Jan. 10. The exercise was part of continued preparation for the upcoming operational readiness inspection scheduled for April.

A team from AFMC will conduct the ORI, an intense, four-day review of the base's response to a broad range of simulated emergency and mission taskings.

THINK SAFETY

222-0013

To request a ride, call 222-0013, 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.

Total rides given this year: 573

Days without a DUI: 11
Last DUI: 78th SFS - courtesy 78th SFS Reports and Analysis Section

THE TWO-MINUTE REV

ROBINS PRAYER LUNCHEON SET FOR JAN. 29

The annual National Prayer Luncheon will be held Jan. 29 at 11 a.m. in the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Hangar.

Guest speaker for the event will be Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Cecil Richardson, Air Force Deputy Chief of Chaplains. Special guest musician will be Judy Martin Hess.

Admission is \$3, which will include a full lunch, and tickets may be purchased through the Base Chapel. For more information call 926-2821.

SAFETY

Pedestrian safety

Crosswalk use is vital to safety while crossing the streets, 3A

INSIGHT

Clowning Around

Ambassadors of Laughter read to Robins children at Base Library, 6A

SERVICES

78th Services Division events

Activities and opportunities offered by the 78th Services Division, 7A

WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY 64/43

SATURDAY 60/38

SUNDAY 60/36

CARTER

Continued from 1A

something done," she said.

Colonel Carter said she is proud of the improvements she has seen at Robins in her time as installation commander, such as improved quality of life, new or improved facilities, old facilities being renovated and new programs being started to help young Airmen. But she is particularly proud of the job Robins Airmen have done in supporting the global war on terror.

"I am very proud of the difference our Airmen have made in the deployed location," Colonel Carter said. "In the time I've been here, Airmen from (Robins) have earned at least 25 Bronze Star awards for their service. Knowing we've had a hand in training them and supporting them, and also supporting their families while they're gone, not only has

WHAT TO KNOW

Col. Theresa Carter will relinquish command of the 78th Air Base Wing during a change of command ceremony today at 4 p.m. at the Museum of Aviation. Col. Warren Berry, 78th ABW vice commander, will then assume command of the wing.

made them better and made Robins better, but it's helped our Air Force and our nation. That is something to be proud of."

Those who have worked with the commander have been impressed with her dedication and service.

Colonel Warren Berry, vice commander of the 78th ABW, said ever since serving closely with Colonel Carter for six months in 1998 at Maxwell AFB, he knew she'd be a great senior leader in the Air Force.

"Her performance here was

just remarkable," Colonel Berry said. "She did phenomenal things for the 25,000 people at Robins, and now she gets to use her talents to help the 125,000 Airmen assigned to Air Mobility Command. Lucky them."

Colonel Berry said anyone would be proud to claim her accomplishments while at Robins.

"Think of the massive improvements in operations and facilities, to include the largest military construction project in the command. Think of the increased readiness of our Airmen, to include our posture as the number two deployer in Air Force Materiel Command. And think of the inspection successes, from UCI to the Air Force's best health inspection score of the year for our Medical Group. No wonder Robins won the command's competition for the 2007 CINC's Award for Installation Excellence," he said.

Other coworkers agreed that she did a tremendous job.

"I am amazed by her leadership ability and how she displays commonsense in her decision making processes," said Capt. Kay Beigh, executive officer for Colonel Carter. "Although she may seem a little reserved initially, once you get to know her, you know she has a very warm heart and is very caring. It has been a pleasure to work for her."

Colonel Carter wishes to give a sincere thank you to all of Team Robins for the outstanding support she received, from the first time she stepped on base and the warm welcome she received up to now and the warm wishes she has been receiving as she prepares to depart.

"I am certainly going to take away some great memories, not only of the challenges that we've faced but of the great people I've had the pleasure of working with," she said.

New chef brings new tastes to Officers, Enlisted Club cuisine

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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Douglas Goodridge is generally a laid back kind of guy. He carries that same easy spirit into the kitchen.

The father of four is originally from Barbados. He came to Robins to work as the executive chef of the Officer and Enlisted Club's seven-person cooking staff in early December 2007.

Mr. Goodridge said he takes his position very seriously.

"I'm a hands-on chef," he said. "I don't like sitting in the office. I like to get in the kitchen and work with the staff and teach them different things and so on."

In the short time he has been on staff, Mr. Goodridge has won the admiration of his new work family.

Lisa Paige, a Services cook for 22 years, said the executive chef, fondly known as "Chef Doug" by his colleagues, brings a freshness to the club.

"I think he's a wonderful person and he's going to help the club build up more," she said.

Bringing former customers back in 2008 is only one of Mr. Goodridge's goals for the club.

"I hope that (the New Year) will bring back most of the customers who have left in the past," he said. "That will be good to see our dining room full again at dinner and also at lunch. So I hope with this new menu we're doing and with the changes, the word gets around and customers will come and relax and have dinner."

Mr. Goodridge, who began his culinary career in Barbados



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Douglas Goodridge chops lettuce in the officers' club kitchen. He is the new executive chef at Robins Officers and Enlisted Club.

and has worked as a cooking professional at multiple Marriott and other hotels in New York and Middle Georgia, said as the club temporarily closes from Jan. 13-31 for repairs, he will be giving customers reason to come back and relax.

"The club is going to close for a couple of weeks and I'm going to work on new menus: a dinner menu, a lunch menu, and banquets, and also do an in-house job training skills for the employees," he said. "(I'll) also have the kitchen staff meet to have the staff be up to date with different things in cooking."

Chef Doug will give his staff a lesson in gourmet cooking.

"(I'm going to teach them)

things in French cooking, presentation, and consistency," he said. "Instead of using frozen items, I use fresh items for appetizers, entrees and salads and I use fresh vegetables and starches. Customers eat with their eyes, so it's always best to have something appealing to the customer and also to make some things different so the customer doesn't get bored ordering the same things."

The seasoned chef said his menus will have foods that appeal to a variety of ages and ethnic groups.

Aaron Feinberg, manager of the Officer and Enlisted Clubs for a year and a half, said he's looking forward to seeing all

that the chef will bring to the table.

"He started in December and hit the ground running," he said. "He helped us through our busy holiday season and now we're ready to move forward and introduce some new things at the club."

The club manager said he and his staff plan to learn all they can from their new team member.

"He's actually mixing quite well with the staff," he said. "He's trying to teach everyone here new ideas and things that he has brought from all of his restaurant and catering experience. He's really strong on his presentation and quality of food."

STEP

Continued from 1A

leagues took to surprise him.

"I really appreciate this," he said. "I think everybody did a great job surprising me and pulling this off. I know it took a lot for them to do that and I appreciate them taking the time."

Colonel Britton, one of a few who helped orchestrate the phony VTC to cover up the surprise, said the promotion was well deserved.

"Through the numerous deployments that (Sergeant) Gombos had as a crew chief on the KC-135 and then following that up with his support to multiple general officers in helping them to do their day-to-day activities, I can think of no more deserving Airman for this STEP promotion. He's definitely earned it through his hard work and dedication."

Chief Master Sgt. Carol Dockery, command chief in the 78th Air Base Wing, said the STEP program recognizes hard working Airmen like Sergeant Gombos in a special way.

"The philosophy of the STEP program is straight forward," she said. "Each fiscal year since 1982, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force allows commanders and senior Air Force officers an opportunity to reward outstanding, hard-working Airmen who have the potential to shoulder increased responsibility immediate, unexpected promotions. Everyone knows the most visible part of this process; the celebration that occurs when commanders, supervisors and family members enthusiastically paste a fresh set of stripes on the promotee's sleeve. However, the journey that occurs behind the scenes is a good news story as well."

► IN BRIEF

BUNDLES FOR BABIES/PASSPORT TO PARENTHOOD

The Airman and Family Readiness Center's Family Advocacy will conduct a Bundles For Babies/Passport To Parenthood class Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 794.

The course is for all active-duty Air Force families preparing for a new baby. Discussions cover early childhood development, attachment, infant care, practical preparation and financial preparation. At the end of the session, a bundle is presented, compliments of the Air Force Aid Society. In the bundle: a thermal weave plaid cotton

Chief Dockery said a board of four highly respected and experienced chief master sergeants from various functional backgrounds wrestled through a sea of very competitive packages before deciding on the most deserving Airman.

"This wasn't an easy board," she said. "I credit the supervisors who diligently primed these future leaders for success. They definitely deserve a hearty pat on the back. At the end of the day, there's no substitute for leadership."

General Owen said while the recommendation to STEP promote Sergeant Gombos belonged to a local panel of chief master sergeants, he certainly agreed with the choice.

"I am very pleased to be able to recognize the stellar accomplishments throughout the career of Sergeant Jeff Gombos," he said. "I asked Chief Master Sgt. Dockery to put together a representative panel of chiefs from throughout the WR-ALC organizations to ensure we picked the most deserving Airman to receive this honor. Sergeant Gombos' recommendation by this panel to be STEP promoted was a significant feat based on the level of competition. I was pleased to endorse the panel's recommendation. I know he will continue the trend of superior senior NCO performance as a member of the Top 3."

Sergeant Gombos said his new rank is something he's adjusting to.

"I guess it almost overwhelmed me, almost like it's not believable," he said. "I had to look at that paper again and when I was reading that, it almost went to a blur because I had to let it sink in. I've just got to let it sink in a bit. I'm just so excited and overwhelmed."

crib blanket, a hooded towel and wash mitten, a white knit crib sheet, a 2-pack printed cotton receiving blanket, a 4-pack cotton diapers, a 2-pack sleep-n-play, a 3-pack onesies and a pair of booties.

This program is open to all active-duty members and their spouses, who are expecting a child, regardless of rank or number of children in the family.

Call Family Advocacy at 327-8398, to sign up.

ROBINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Robins Elementary School Board will meet Wednesday at 10:45 a.m. at the school which is located in Bldg. 988. The public is invited to attend.

LOOK OUT

Pedestrian safety is always a two-way street on Robins

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD
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In the hectic pace of life, many people are often in a rush to get here and there. But, Robins Air Force Base officials remind people that ensuring pedestrians' safety should be a number one priority for both drivers and pedestrians alike.

Jerry Clineman, Ground Safety manager in the 78th Air Base Wing Safety office, said people operating vehicles should be alert.

"The Georgia law doesn't give the right (of way to) either the pedestrian or the operator of the vehicle," he said. "So, it's kind of a shared responsibility for the drivers to honor that there is a pedestrian either in the crosswalk or when they step into the crosswalk to cross the street and that driver (out of) courtesy yields to that pedestrian until they're clear of the crosswalk and then proceed."

Mr. Clineman said pedestrians need to look and listen as they are out and about.

"We've got people that use crosswalks, but we're finding a new trend in that their head is down or they might be reading, looking at their cell phone, or in some cases, they're actually talking on their cell phone. It's kind of a dangerous precedence. We may have a driver out there who is doing the same thing unfortunately and those two people not paying attention could actually meet in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Capt. Eric Horst, 78th

Security Forces Squadron commander, said pedestrians need to set distractions aside.

"We've run into a problem recently where a lot of folks seem to be using their cellular devices, cell phones, black berries, and different things like that and not paying 100 percent attention to what they're doing," he said. "I think they have this feeling of invincibility that whenever you step into that crosswalk, it's like you have a magic bubble around you. They need to be aware of that fact when they're crossing the street. They're on an active road and sometimes, you have inattentive drivers so they need to look in both directions and make sure they're not distracted when they're trying to cross."

Captain Horst said the base's layout can hold a lot of danger if people aren't paying attention.

"Everybody needs to understand that Robins is kind of unique in that we have so many different crosswalks and so many different buildings all over the base," he said. "While we all understand that there are so many people that are trying to get to and from their cars, especially when it has been cold, they still need to be aware of the fact that the painted crosswalks are where people need to properly cross. Some-times, it's not the most convenient, but it has been put there for a reason, and the reason is safety."

The captain said people should not hold a false sense of security about crosswalks.

"The other thing I've noticed



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Joey Walker uses a crosswalk on Third Street.

here is that folks have the belief that as long as they're in a crosswalk, they're now protected or safe," he said. "You still need to be cautious that you're not stepping out within say 20 or 30 feet of a moving vehicle and you're giving that person ample time to stop their car safely so that there aren't any incidents."

Captain Horst said drivers should be courteous to those waiting to cross at crosswalks.

"If the driver has enough distance and the driver is paying attention and they see a person standing at the opening to a crosswalk apparently ready to cross, it behooves that person in the vehicle to stop their car and let them cross safely," he said.

The captain said saving a little time isn't worth getting hurt over.

"Robins is very unique," he said. "We have 25,000 plus people that work on the base and when shifts change at the busiest times of the day, it can become very dangerous on base. There are so many cars moving, so many people in a hurry to get

home. That extra second that you might take to jump out into the street could really put a damper on your day. It's probably safer to probably wait a couple more minutes to make sure the traffic is clear before you step out."

CBRN

Continued from 1A

The father of two said the team's differences actually work in its favor.

"We never worked with each other before and we never knew each other before from other bases," he said. "We got there a day early to just meet and greet and just get spun up real quickly on our different experiences at different bases. The next day, we started the actual challenge and we actually worked very well together."

Sergeant Barnes' co-workers weren't surprised by his team's accomplishment. After all, the team had a winning hand with the Robins' Airmen on board.

"He's always a team player and very hard working," said 1st Lt. Paula Delapasse, a bioenvironmental engineer in the 78th AMDS who has worked with the staff sergeant for two and a half years. "He always finds ways to reach a solution and solve the problem whatever the task is at hand. So, he's a great person to work with."

Tech. Sgt. Tim Houey, Readiness and Training NCOIC in the 78th AMDS who has worked with Sergeant Barnes

for six months, said Sergeant Barnes is someone he can count on.

"His knowledge of the equipment and the limitations of the equipment and just his overall attitude made him a likely choice for the AFMC CBRN Challenge team," he said. "For me, he's my go-to guy. He's someone I can go to anytime."

While several members of his work family have congratulated him on his accomplishment with the team, he said it's an accomplishment that's not all his own.

"Ever since we won the CBRN Challenge, everybody has been joking around calling me, 'Super Troop' or 'CBRN King,' but I just want to make sure everybody knows that it's not an actual individual award. It's more of a team award. It's not just for the five people who competed, but for the base level too because I'm just part of a whole and the whole being the 78th Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight here. So, this award is a team accomplishment at Robins, not just an individual accomplishment for AFMC."

Now that the challenge is over, Sergeant Barnes can get back to the most important team in his life, his family.

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AFSO21 to take WR-ALC into the future



Alan Mathis
Director, Plans and Programs Directorate

A key focus of the Plans and Programs Directorate is mapping the future of Warner Robins Air Logistics Center. A major factor in how this center will achieve its goals in the future is by using Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century initiatives. AFSO21 involves looking for ways to continuously improve processes and reduce wastes.

One area we have targeted is improving partnerships with other entities — either public or private. Let's look 20 years into the future.

It's 2028: Do you know where your children and grandchildren are?

Are they working for one of the partners working in the Georgia-Robins Aerospace Partnership facility which includes WR-ALC and most of the industrial, educational and technical activities in the Middle Georgia region? Or have they moved to Atlanta, Washington, D.C., another Air Force installation or Long Beach, Calif., due to lack of development and growth of Robins Air Force Base and its work force during the last 20 years? Either of these are possible future outcomes. Keep reading as we look ahead at the possibilities.

2028 Headline

The Georgia-Robins Aerospace Partnership reached a major milestone today with the connection of the complex with the Macon Regional Airport/South Bibb County Industrial Center which was recently renamed the Houston-Bibb Airport of Middle Georgia.

This is the completion of an idea that started 25 years ago by some base and community leaders. In 2007, several partnerships were formed between Robins Air Force Base, the city of Warner Robins, Houston County and the state of Georgia. Who could guess then that signing these partnership agreements would lead to the largest aerospace development complex in the southeastern part of the United States? This area has seen significant construction of aircraft hangars by private-public — not federal — funding, the relocation of aerospace

manufacturing companies, overhaul industries, and the consolidation of aerospace educational and technical research facilities.

The combined partners include eight out of ten of the top Department of Defense and international aerospace contractors with access not only to an Air Force runway, but also a public runway.

The work that is performed here in the G-RAMP complex includes most branches of the U.S. military, Federal Emergency Management Agency, foreign countries and Federal Aviation Administration-certified commercial aircraft overhaul and repair. Not only can most aircraft be repaired and overhauled here, but developing technicians and engineers get hands-on training on real aerospace systems located in hangars next door to their campus. This Middle Georgia area has the highest high school graduation rate along with the highest technician placement rate in the Southeastern United States. There is also a fast-growing aerospace research center that grew from an earlier partnership with the Georgia Institute of Technology. This area's growth of capability and innovation for the aerospace and defense industry has exceeded the vision of everyone who was involved in the initial partnerships in 2003.

In 2006, then Governor Sonny Perdue designated the Middle Georgia area as the aviation corridor. Who could have imagined the result would be such an operational

public-private-federal complex? The partnership complex includes educational development opportunities for high school students as well as the current work force. The complex houses an aviation technology academy with the focus on aviation technology developing aviation robotics, doctorate programs in aerospace and information warfare.

The connection of HBMG with Robins is the best thing since the high-speed railway connected the Middle Georgia area to the Atlanta airport a decade ago. This new partnership will provide significantly improved capability to Middle Georgia. Not only can this area boast the longest runway in Georgia, it also has access to the largest aerospace industrial complex in the southeast.

As the Defense Transportation Logistics Command, Eastern Hub for Logistics located at Robins some 10 year ago, the movement of military and disaster relief supplies and hardware from ports to interstate commerce to rails to air has been unbelievable. Proven capability to move, repair, and ship aerospace systems and subsystems has once again given the go ahead for Robins to continue in the tradition of managing the support required by U.S. and coalition forces.

Is this really a possibility? Why not? Would anyone 20 years ago have believed that Northside High School would have two consecutive state football championships? What about a local little league team winning a World Championship? Who thought the base would win the Shingo Gold, the Nobel Prize of Manufacturing? How could this happen to a community that used to be known as Wellston Air Depot?

Through hard-working people that love what they do, and those who believe that life is a journey and this journey is not just limited by what we can see today. This happens through determination, persistence and belief that the unknown is possible. Did anyone really believe that we could put men on the moon

when President John F. Kennedy issued his vision in the 1960s? Our country has a long legacy of achieving the "impossible." This is through the people teaching their successors, their children and their neighbor's children the value of believing in themselves and the dedication to this country's values, and the kindness and friendships of the communities.

Think about it. What do you want your children, or grandchildren, to be doing 20 years from now? Do you want them working at a great place which values their contributions to our country, and being happy at what they are doing and where they are living? Do you want to be worried about the national defense of this nation's resources — whether or not it's safe for your grandchildren to be flying the same aircraft that you and I work on today? Everything you do now impacts tomorrow.

I believe we all can make a difference in the future. So what do we want it to be? What do you want it to look like? The more you embrace and live the Air Force values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all that we do, and the center's motto of People First, Mission always, the stronger we are as a center. This applies regardless of where you are in the 26,000 person eco-system on the base as well as the entire surrounding community. When emphasizing strategic issues like G-RAMP, a former chief executive officer of Southwest Airlines would say to "just go out and do it." Believe and focus on the journey, not the day-to-day bumps in the road. Together we can impact our future and continue to have a great place to work. Together we can work for the growth of our center to be the best aerospace complex in the world. Let's just do it.

— *Editor's Note: This is part of a monthly series of commentaries by Warner Robins Air Logistics Center senior staff focusing on Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century. Also each month, an AFSO21 Question and Answer series will be published.*



Col. Theresa Carter
78th Air Base Wing commander

Commander's Action Line

To contact the Action Line, call 222-2886 or e-mail one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commander's 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>.

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.

Bldg. 946 Grounds Maintenance

We have two children who attend the CDC West (4 years and 18 months). I am well aware of the budget cuts taken last fiscal year in regard to grounds maintenance, and understand the need for cutbacks. However, Building 946, beyond grass cutting, has seen no grounds maintenance for nearly six months. The shrubbery are overgrown and dying, and the bed to the right of the front door is also overgrown.

A parent's group was organized to help out during these lean times by taking over the grounds maintenance and clean up; however, when this group gathered (Sept. 27), the only thing they were allowed to do was rake a few leaves. It's my understanding they were told there was a contract for grounds maintenance, and they could not trim shrubbery or pull weeds. I work in contracting and understand this concept; however, in the building I am assigned to, the military are assigned to do grounds maintenance in lieu of waiting for a contractor. Why can't the parent's group (both military and civilian volunteers) at the CDC be allowed to do the same thing? We pay quite a bit of our monthly income to the CDC, and want our children to have a nice facility to attend. Can you please address, and consider allowing the parent's group to take over the grounds maintenance (except grass cutting) until the fiscal concerns are resolved?

Colonel Carter's Response:

Thank you for your concern for the appearance of base facilities. Due to budget cuts in the service contracts area last year, the base civil engineer had to eliminate some services from the Grounds Maintenance contract. Part of this elimination was all shrub/flower bed maintenance in improved areas. On February 7, 2007 a policy memo was sent to all facility managers explaining the loss of services on the grounds contract due to fund shortages. Shrub removal was one of the services lost and was reverted back to the facility managers to take care of. The facility manager can contact the 78th Civil Engineer Group for an estimate and put the services on their card or they can do their shrub bed maintenance themselves. Should anyone want to add any plants to the flower beds, the facility manager would have to contact the folks in Environmental Management to ensure the new foliage is compliant with base standards. We appreciate the parent group's willingness to volunteer to help maintain our CDC and welcome your support. We suspect the restrictions placed on your group earlier this year was due to a misunderstanding on the part of facility managers as to what services were cut and what remain in the contract. In fact, the group did a fantastic job of getting the grounds into shape recently and the facility manager(s) will continue to request Parent's Group assistance as needed. Thank you for taking such an active interest in the quality of our base facilities.

KC-135 strut change



Tech. Sgt. Nathan Darnell (left) observes as Tech. Sgt. James Bernardo carefully lowers the main landing gear strut on a KC-135 Stratotanker to full extension using an 11.5 pound dead blow hammer Dec. 21. The Airmen are assigned to the 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and deployed from the 22nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas.

U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. RUBY ZARZYCZNY

Just Clowning around

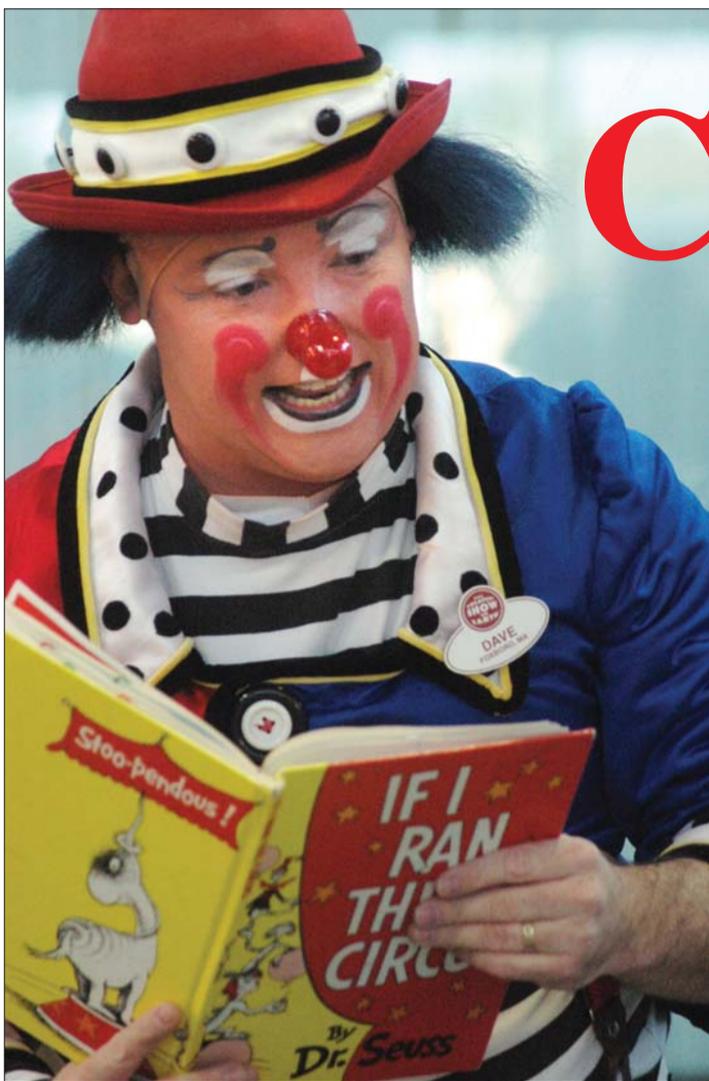
Ambassadors of Laughter show Robins children reading really is 'FUN'damental

Circus clowns, Dave and Cherie, Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Ambassadors of Laughter, visited with children of all ages at the Base Library Jan. 2. The entertainers read "If I Ran the Circus" by Dr. Seuss and performed juggling and acrobatic balancing feats. They also gave out discount circus coupons and each child was given their own clown nose.

The pair joined "The Greatest Show on Earth" in 1999 and toured as performers with the show for five years. Now as Ambassadors of Laughter they travel ahead of the show to create excitement for the big event.

The Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus will be Jan. 24-27 at the Macon Coliseum.

Photos and story by Sue Sapp



Above, Dave, a Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Ambassador of Laughter, reads "If I Ran The Circus" by Dr. Seuss to children at the Base Library Jan. 2.



At right, Kaitlyn Hall, 5, tries on the clown nose she received from Dave and Cherie, Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Ambassadors of Laughter, who performed and read a book for children at the library Jan. 2.



Above, Cherie lets children at the base library "pick their own clown nose."

Below, Robins children were treated to a special storytime Jan. 2 when clowns, Dave and Cherie performed and read a book.



Above, Abigail Liberty, 6, poses for a photo with Dave and Cherie.

Below, Symphony Henderson-Pitts, 11, stands very still while Dave and Cherie juggle clubs around her.



SUNDAY

The officers' club will be closed today - Jan. 31 for kitchen hood and duct renovation. Please utilize the Pizza Depot, On Spot Café or Enlisted Lounge during this time. For more information call the officers' club at 926-2670.

Every Sunday watch all the play-by-play NFL football action on the Robins Enlisted Club 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 Panther versus Jacksonville Jaguars, the Super Bowl in Arizona or 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 officers' club at 926-2670.

TUESDAY

Free tacos and draft specials are available to club members on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Robins Enlisted Club. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-2670.

WEDNESDAY

Enjoy M.U.G. night at the enlisted club every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to closing. Customers may bring their own mug and get refills (up to 20 ounces) for only \$2.00. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-2670.

THURSDAY

Time to take a resolution support walk today starting at 11 a.m. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

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.

UPCOMING

An indoor soccer tournament is slated for Jan. 26 starting at 10 a.m. Register at the fitness center by noon Jan. 25. No late entries will be accepted. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128.

Dance the night away on Latin night Jan. 26 from 9 p.m. to close. Enjoy DJ Lucho with the best Latin and Salsa music in Middle Georgia. Cost is free to members and \$5 for guest. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-2670.

Watch "Royal Rumble" Jan. 27 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 926-2670.

A Children's Art Show will be held Jan. 30 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center East and West. For more information call the Child Development Center East and West at 926-3080 or 926-5805.

The Air Force Customer Feedback Survey will be available Jan. 15 - 31. The survey is used to measure customer satisfaction, service, quality of facilities, equipment and materials, value for price paid, and an overall assessment of the 78th Services Division. The survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete either by paper or online. Customers who take the time to answer the survey provide input that will have an impact on future Services programs. For online survey, please go to www.usafservue.com/2008FeedbackSurvey. Customers wanting more information on the survey may call Services Marketing at 926-5492.

Family Bingo will be Jan. 28 with door prizes and snacks. Membership Bar Bingo will be held on Jan. 16. Joint Forces Bingo is located in the east wing of the Robins Enlisted Club. The hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with games starting at 7:15 p.m. Games begin at 2:45 p.m. on Sundays. Any one with an active duty, reserve, guard, retired, DOD or family member identification card is eligible to play. The entry fee is free to all Robins' club members, bona fide guests and active duty or retired widow club members and \$5 for eligible non-club members. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-4515 or Teresa Resta at 926-1303.

A Super Bowl extravaganza will be held Feb. 4. Enjoy free food, prizes, beverage specials and live gridiron action. Cost is free to members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information call the enlisted club at 926-2670.

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

Teeing off into the new year

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Tech. Sgt. Terrell Raymond, 128th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, watches his drive while hitting a few practice shots at the Pine Oaks driving range Jan. 7.



Aquarium trip to be held Jan. 19. Meet at outdoor recreation at 8 a.m. with a departure of 8:30 a.m. Bus will arrive back at 6 p.m. Cost is \$56 for individuals (13 - 54 years old); \$51 senior citizens couples (55 years and older) and \$47 per child (up to 12 years old). Cost includes transportation, parking, Georgia Explorer, Ocean Voyager, Cold Water Quest, River Scout, Tropical Diver and 4-D theater preview. Deadline to sign up is Jan. 11. A minimum of 10 people is required for outdoor recreation to host the trip.

Join outdoor recreation on a horseback riding trip to Rancho Loma Linda in Cochran, Ga. March 22. Meet at outdoor recreation at 8:30 a.m. with a departure of 9 a.m. Cost is \$90 per person. Package includes travel, two-hour guided horseback ride and lunch. Age requirement is 10 years and older. Long pants and closed toed shoes are required. Deadline to sign up is March 6. A minimum of 10 people is required for outdoor recreation to host the trip.

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

- Scroll saw Jan. 23 from 6 to 8 p.m., cost \$12.
- Sewing Jan. 11, 18 and 25 from noon to 2 p.m., cost \$15.
- Pastels with Tracy Jan. 23 and 30 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$30 (both days)
- Watercolor painting (winter scene) Jan. 17, 24 and 31 from 1 - 3 p.m., cost \$12
- Acrylic painting (winter scene) Jan. 17, 24 and 31 from 10 a.m. to noon, cost \$12
- All ages acrylic Jan. 15, 22 and 29 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$7 kids/\$10 adults
- All ages encaustic Jan. 14, 21 and 28 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$15
- Drawing (depth) Jan. 11, 18 and 25 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., cost \$7 kids/\$10 adults
- Wood shop safety classes are held Tuesdays at 6 p.m. 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 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, call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

ONGOING

Sign up now for the Hip Hop Fusion class to be held at the youth center starting in January on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 a month. For more information call the youth center at 926-2110.

The Community Center will be coordinating the Congressional Award, a noncompetitive program recognizing young people's achievements. The Award is open to all young people 14 - 23 years old. Those who complete the program are presented with bronze, silver or gold awards from Senators and Members of Congress during local, state and national ceremonies. Individuals who are registered in the program set and achieve challenging goals in four program areas: voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expeditions/explorations activities. To earn awards, individuals will work with an advisor to set individual goals and plan activities to reach these goals. For more information call community center director, Ruby Wasway at 926-2105.

Take a discovery flight and realize your dream of flying for \$49. Flight consists of one-half hour tour enjoying the sites around the local area. For more information call the aero club at 926-4867.

Massage therapy is now located in Bldg. 301, Bay H (located in the new fitness center annex). Hours are from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday by appointment only. Cost for a half hour massage \$35, one hour massage \$45, one and half hour massage \$60 and one and half hour facial massage \$60. For more information, and to make an appointment call 951-2367.

Robins Youth Center Soccer registration for ages five - 17 years old will be held starting Jan. 15 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost for returning players \$30. Cost for new players cost is \$55. Registration is conducted Monday through Friday 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. until full. Also, start smart soccer for children three - four years old will also be held on Jan. 15 for \$25 for returning players and \$35 for new players. For more information call the youth center at 926-2110.

Robins Youth Center will be conducting baseball, softball and T-ball for ages five - 17 years old Feb. 15 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$55. Registration is conducted Monday through Friday 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. until full. Also, start smart T-ball for children three - four years old will also be held on Feb. 15 for \$45. For more information call Ron Hayes at 926-2110.

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

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.

The FOX Theatre presents, "The Lion King" April 5 for \$68.50 and April 26 for \$71.00 at 2 p.m. A limited number of tickets are available.

The bowling center has the following specials. To learn more call 926-2112. On Spot Café January special is a Chicken Fajita wrap, fries and medium drink for \$5.25. For more information call the On Spot Cafe at 926-5240. Every Monday - Friday in January bowl for \$1 a game from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

Sign up now for the 3-club championship on Jan. 26 starting at 9 a.m. Cost is \$30 for AGF patrons and \$35 for non-AGF patrons and includes golf, cart, range balls and prizes with lunch to follow.

Every Monday through Thursday in January pay only \$17 for green fee and cart starting at 2 p.m. For more information call the golf course at 926-4103. Play golf on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) in January pay only \$22 for green fee and cart or pay \$20 after 1 p.m.

In January enjoy several weekly specials at the Fairways Grille for only \$5.95 (includes drink): Jan. 11: BBQ chicken sandwich and fries Jan. 14 - 18: Mongolian BBQ (choice of vegetable, meat and sauce) Jan. 22 - 25: grilled ham and cheese

sandwich and tomato soup

Jan. 28 - 31: Italian sub and chips Lunch is held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call 923-1717.

The Robins Chapel will host AWANA each Wednesday night from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Children ages 3 through high school are invited. The program will provide Christian teaching, active games and a chance to socialize with other children. For more information call Kiley Glass at 327-3780.

The 78th Services Division has a new Internet address. Go to www.robinsservices.com for all the information you need regarding Services.

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 78th Services Division offers designated driver programs at the enlisted lounge, officers' club 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 drinks, fruit juices or non-alcoholic frozen drinks during your visit free of charge. To learn more about Services Designated Drivers programs, please call 926-2670.

Have the latest 78th Services Division information electronically delivered to you. Subscribe to the Services Cutting Edge electronic newsletter by going to www.robinsservices.com and clicking on the subscribe icon at the top of the home page. From there click on the Services newsletter link and complete the questionnaire. Subscribe to the overall Services newsletter and receive all information or to only those activities that are of interest to you - the choice is yours.

The barber shop located in Bldg. 956 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.

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.

Pizza Depot is now open in Bldg. 956 offering the same great service and food. Hours are Sunday - Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on-base delivery is available 5:30 to 8:45 p.m. Hours vary on holiday weekends. For more information call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

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 7 of the January Edge in January. For more information call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

Find out how the 78th Services Division rates!

Go to www.robinsservices.com and click on the ICE icon. At the next screen, click on the activity link that you want to give a rating and/or comment. Please provide contact information about yourself if you want to receive an answer. To learn more about ICE, call Services Marketing at 926-5492. You can also give your opinion and ideas by filling out a comment card. Comment cards and drop boxes are located in all 78th Services Division facilities.

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

ENCHANTED

Amy Adams, James Marsden The tale follows the beautiful princess Giselle as she is banished by an evil queen from her magical, musical animated land and finds herself in the gritty reality of the streets of modern-day Manhattan. Shocked by this strange new environment that doesn't operate on a "happily ever after" basis, Giselle is now adrift in a chaotic world badly in need of enchantment. Rated PG.

SATURDAY

THE MIST

Thomas Jane, Marcia Gay Harden Following a violent thunderstorm, artist David Drayton and a small town community come under vicious attack from creatures prowling in a thick and unnatural mist. Local rumors point to an experiment called the 'The Arrowhead Project' conducted at a nearby top-secret military base, but questions as to the origins of the deadly vapor are secondary to the group's overall chances for survival. Retreating to a local supermarket, Drayton and the survivors must face-off against each other before taking a united stand against an enemy they cannot even see. Rated R.

UPCOMING

I AM LEGEND

Will Smith, Alice Braga Robert Neville is a brilliant scientist, but even he could not contain the terrible virus that was unstoppable, incurable...and manmade. Somehow immune, Neville is now the last human survivor in what is left of New York City...and maybe the world. But he is not alone. Rated PG-13.

CHAPEL SERVICES

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. 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 (Jumu'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 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. The following have been approved as leave recipients: Marchelle Glover, 402nd SMXG, POC is Daryl Atkins, 926-1507; Amy Hunt, 580th SMXS, POC is Danny Seals, 926-0686 and Richard Keene, 402nd CMXG, POC is Keith Thompson, 222-4074.

► IN BRIEF**78TH ABW COMMANDER'S CALL**

There will be a Commander's Call for all personnel assigned to the 78th Air Base Wing Jan. 22 at the Base Theater. There will be three sessions: 8 a.m. is the enlisted call (mandatory for all enlisted member's assigned to the 78th ABW), 1 p.m. is the civilian's call and 3 p.m. is the officer's call.

LIVE FIRE TRAINING CONDUCTED

The 78th Security Forces Squadron conducts live fire training at the base firing range, located on the northeast side of the base, adjacent to the horse stables.

The firing range is off limits to all personnel, unless scheduled for training or official business. Nearby housing residents should warn children of the hazards of playing near the area. The ranges are clearly marked with signs, and a red flag is flown when firing is being conducted. Night-fire is conducted throughout the year. For questions or concerns, call the 78th SFS Combat Arms section at 926-5031

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

Robins will hold its Martin Luther King Jr. commemorative service January 20 at 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel. Guest speaker will be Col. Kenneth Sharpless, Robins inspector general. A reception will follow in the Chapel Annex.

LOST AND FOUND

The following is a list of lost items being held by the 78th Security Forces Squadron: a car hood, possibly from a Chevrolet Nova, a 21-speed "Rino" bicycle, a 15-foot deer stand ladder, a red "Radio Flyer" wagon, a Honda 80CC

motorcycle, a green and blue dome tent with green/blue sleeping bag and green hand broom and a blue children's rally bike. To claim one of these lost items, contact Mark Henderson at 926-5271.

TROOPS TO TEACHERS

Bill Kirkland, representative for the Troops to Teachers program, will be at the Robins Education Center Jan. 18, from 10 to 11 a.m. to take questions about the cooperative program between the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Defense that provides referral and placement assistance to men and women who have served the nation as members of the Armed Forces and who are seeking a second career as teachers in public schools. He will also discuss the Spouses to Teachers program.

For more information on the programs, visit www.spouses-toteachers.com.

The briefing will be held in Bldg. 905, room 137, no reservations are necessary. For more information, contact Andrea Harris at 327-7312, or Mr. Kirkland at bill.kirkland@gapsc.com.

CHPS CLASSES

The following classes are being offered by the Civilian Health Promotion Services:

Healthy Heart, Jan. 23; Cholesterol/Hypertension, Feb. 13; Nutrition, March 12; Healthy Heart, March 26; Arthritis/Carpal Tunnel, April 9; Allergies, May 14; Healthy Heart, May 28; Skin Cancer, June 11; The Essentials of Back Care, July 9; Healthy Heart, July 23; Headaches, August 13.

All classes are free and take place at 1 p.m. in the Fitness Center Annex conference room. Civilians can use fitness leave to attend these wellness classes. To register for a class, call 327-8030 or 327-8031.

Registration is not mandatory but appreciated.

OFFICERS' CLUB**TEMPORARY CLOSURE**

The Officers' Club will temporarily close from Jan. 13-31 to have repairs made to its hoods and ducts. During this time, the club will revise all menus as well as dining room and catering operations. The club will open on Friday evenings from 4 to 7 p.m. for lounge customers during the two-week period. The Pizza Depot, located at the Enlisted Club, will remain open to customers. The club will reopen Feb. 1 with a First Friday Celebration.

ROSC SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATIONS ARE READY

Applications for graduating high school seniors can be picked up at any local high school counselor's office, or by contacting Amy Noel at 337-257-0757 or AmyBNoel@gmail.com.

All applicants must be:

- Dependents/spouses of retired, deceased or active-duty military member currently stationed at Robins (from any rank or branch, including Reserves and National Guard), or be a dependent/spouse of an eligible retired, deceased, or current DOD employee of RAFB (GS-9 and above).

In the case of both retired/deceased military or DOD sponsors, the sponsor's last tour of duty must be Robins, and the applicant must have remained in the Robins area.

- in the upper 10 percent of their class, or have a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, and must have demonstrated scholarship, leadership and outstanding performance.

The deadline for postmarking all applications is March 16.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Robins Tax Center to open Jan. 22

The Robins Tax Center

The Robins Tax Center will soon open for the 2008 filing season, preparing and e-filing client's tax returns for the 2007 calendar year.

The tax center will open Jan. 22 and close April 15. The center will be open Monday through Thursday each week from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The tax center will open the third Saturday in February and March to assist military members living in the dorms. Services will be provided to active duty, reservists, national guardsmen, retirees, and their dependants. Clients will be seen by appointment only. Scheduling of appointments begins today. Those interested in booking an appointment, please call 327-3811 and follow the instructions on the voicemail. Someone will return your call by the following business day. If you have trouble getting through to the appointment voicemail, you can call the tax center during operational hours at 926-2635. When booking your appointment, please ensure you will have the required documentation available the day of your appointment. If you have not received all required documents before your scheduled appointment, you will need to reschedule.

The tax center is located in Building 905 on the second floor of the library. To get to the tax center, you must go through the library and take the stairs or the elevator (located in the back of the library) to the second floor.

Tax preparation and electronic filing is a free service provided to Active Duty, Retirees, Reservist, National Guard and their dependants. The base tax center is not affiliated with



The Robins Tax Center is located in Bldg. 905 on the second floor of the library. For more information on the center call 926-2635.

Military One Source, Turbo Tax, or any other potentially free tax service that is provided to military members via various internet websites. In addition, please be aware that some free tax services do not file state taxes for free. The federal and state taxes are prepared and e-filed simultaneously at the base tax center; thus we will not do state only returns.

There have been recent changes in policy for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in regard to the type of tax returns the tax center can prepare for clients. The center is unable to prepare returns that include Schedule C (Profit or Loss from Business), Schedule E (Rents and Losses), or Complicated and Advanced Schedule D (Capital Gains and Losses).

It is imperative that you bring the following information as it pertains to your return:

- ▶ Military IDs
- ▶ W-2, (Wage and tax statement from all employers)
- ▶ Form 1099 for interest, dividends, miscellaneous income, retirement income, etc.
- ▶ Social security cards of taxpayer, spouse and dependent children
- ▶ Legal documents (separation agreements, divorce decrees

that state you are entitled to claim said dependant, and powers of attorney are needed if someone will be signing the return in place of a spouse, a general power of attorney is acceptable if you don't have a specific one for tax filing)

▶ Bank account number and bank routing number for electronic filing. A copy of a voided check is sufficient. An ATM card or check card isn't sufficient to verify the routing number

▶ Childcare provider's name, address, and tax identification number (or social security number) and payment receipts for those planning to claim the child and dependent care credit

▶ Form 1098 for college expenses and mortgage interest paid

▶ Last year's tax return or any other documentation you think will be helpful

Due to the freeze Congress put on growth of the alternative minimum tax, many tax forms need to be reprinted. Because of that, there will be a delay in receipt of the tax forms and instruction booklets. We expect to have them available late January to early February 08. To check availability of forms and instructions or for more information, call the tax center at 926-2635 during operational hours.