



U.S. Air Force photo by BY MASTER SGT. SCOTT WAGERS

During a trip to southwest Asia, Gen. Bruce Carlson, commander of Air Force Materiel Command, receives a briefing from Capt. Shad Colgate on the functionality of the Air Force's newest munition - the 250-pound Small Diameter Bomb. General Carlson is retiring Nov. 21.

## General, Mrs. Carlson prepare for life after the Air Force

BY JOHN SCAGGS  
Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

They have lived with the Air Force every day for the past 37 years. They endured the separations driven by his responsibilities as a fighter pilot, rejoiced when they became parents (three times in all) and prayed for friends — and subsequently the active-duty sons and daughters of friends — who went off to war in the Middle East.

They have packed and unpacked thousands of boxes, the result of moves tied to 19 assignments. They

survived 10 intermittent years at the Pentagon, despite acknowledging that working in Washington, D.C., "really ages people."

And when Gen. Bruce Carlson relinquishes command of Air Force Materiel Command during a ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force Nov. 21, it will culminate a 37-year journey for him and his wife, Vicki — a journey whose origins began in the nation's 32nd state.

### "Land of 10,000 Lakes"

Although born in Austin, Minn., in 1950, — that's where the closest hos-

pital was — then Vicki Martens spent her first 13 years growing up in Mason City, Iowa. Her parents both worked, which allowed Vicki and her older sister, Cheryl, to enjoy annual summer vacations in Minnesota.

"We were very fortunate, because my father had his own beauty supply business and my mother was a precursor to today's Martha Stewart — mom was on a local television program providing cooking and sewing advice," Mrs. Carlson explained.

Clarence Martens was a former Army Air Corp B-17 pilot. He subsequently worked as a shop teacher and

kitchen cabinet maker before starting his own business. He moved his wife, Janice, and their two girls to a home 12 miles outside of Brainerd, a small town in central Minnesota. It was during her sophomore year in high school when Mrs. Carlson met her future husband.

"Bruce was a senior at the time and we met in December 1966," she said. "I had watched him as the emcee of the school talent show and he displayed a wonderful sense of humor."

► see CARLSON, 5A

## Chief selections announced

Four members of Team Robins were among the 520 senior master sergeants selected for promotion to chief master sergeant. Congratulations to the new chiefs, who will be promoted according to their promotion sequence number beginning January 2009. For a complete promotion list, visit the Air Force portal.



SMSgt. Timothy Delaney  
653rd CLSS



SMSgt. Michael Graham  
78th MDG



SMSgt. James Reid  
16th ACCS



SMSgt. Russel Ratley  
330th CTS

## Warrior Care Month highlights high-quality treatment

BY APRIL ROWDEN  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

In a campaign to highlight the medical and personal care available to wounded servicemembers, Department of Defense officials have designated November as Warrior Care Month.

"This is a great opportunity for the Air Force family to understand that our care for our wounded warriors and their families goes well beyond the medical and professional treatment they receive, and does not stop when their injuries heal," said Arthur Myers, the Director of Services director.

"We have a commitment to these men and women to be there for them as they return to everyday life and we will honor that commitment," he said.

To that end, the Air Force Wounded Warrior program, or AFW2, takes a comprehensive approach to helping wounded Airmen.

The AFW2 program, which is one facet of the Air Force Warrior and Survivor Care program, provides personalized support to Air Force wounded Airmen and their families throughout the continuum of care.

Family liaison officers are assigned to hospitalized wounded members and provide a wide range of assistance to family members.

► see WARRIOR CARE, 2A

## F-15 maintainers work to replace faulty longerons

WAYNE CRENSHAW  
wayne.crenshaw.cr@robins.af.mil

In hangars on the Robins flightline, F-15 Eagle fighter jets can always be found in varying states of disassembly.

Removing and replacing parts is something that's done every day here. But some parts, like a longeron, are never meant to be removed. A team from Robins was tapped in June to figure out how to replace faulty longerons in grounded F-15s, and thanks to their efforts the planes will fly again.

"By the expertise of all these guys in these respective fields, they were able to put the plane back to flying status," said David McNeal, flight director in the F-15 Wing Repair Flight. "It's a credit to their professionalism and the workmanship they were able to accomplish this. This was the first time this removal and replacement had been done on an aircraft."

A longeron is a 12-foot long aluminum beam that is an integral part of the F-15's structure, tying the front and rear fuselage together. It's so important that a cracked longeron was blamed for a crash of an F-15 in Missouri a year ago. The plane split apart in mid-air, but the pilot safely ejected. Several F-15s with cracked longerons are still grounded.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

From the cockpit of an F-15, Darren McLeod, a member of the longeron team in the 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group, shows where the longerons are located on the aircraft.

In June, a team from the 402nd Maintenance Wing got the task of trying to figure how to remove and replace the top longeron, which runs horizontally along the top frame of the cockpit. It's the piece on which the canopy rests. The team, led by Odell Norwood, was made up of personnel in varying areas of expertise, including Larry Smith, Walter Tanner, Russell Thompson, John Allison, and Darren McLeod. Mr. Allison, a sheet metal mechanic in the Wing

Repair Flight, was credited with establishing the protocol for the removal and replacement of the part. His efforts earned him a nomination for a quarterly achievement award.

The team traveled to St. Louis, Mo., in June and spent three weeks working out how to remove and replace the longeron. The process included the use of optical equipment to

► see LONGERON, 2A

### THINK SAFETY

**Angel Tree Project**  
222-0013  
Days without a DUI: 22  
Last DUI: 78th SFS  
—courtesy 78th Security Forces  
To request a ride, call 222-0013, 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.

### THETWO-MINUTEREV

**Angel Tree project**  
The annual Angel Tree project is aimed to help ensure all military families have a merry Christmas. There are two trees this year, one at the front entrance of the Base Exchange and another at the Commissary. Members of the Robins Officers' Spouses Club

have decorated the trees with little boy and girl angels that represent children of Team Robins families. Stop by either of the angel trees and help an angel "take flight." Gifts need to be placed with angels attached in the designated boxes near the angel trees. Deadline is Dec. 12th.

### INSIGHT



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Primitive skills on display in monthly heritage observance, 1B

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### WEATHER

**FRIDAY**  
79/50  
**SATURDAY**  
70/49  
**SUNDAY**  
70/47

## WARRIOR CARE

Continued from 1A

Airmen with a combat/hostile-related injury or illness requiring long-term care that will require a medical evaluation board or physical evaluation board to determine fitness for duty are automatically placed in the AFW2 program where they receive counseling and assistance.

The consultants for the AFW2 program create the foundation of the support system for the Airmen by providing crucial assistance in areas such as financial and career guidance. They also serve as the Airmen's advocates, helping them navigate through various organizations, such as Veterans Affairs, Department of Labor and the Social Security Administration.

The Air Force's goal is to retain wounded Airmen when possible, said Yvonne Duker of the Airman, Family and Community Operations Branch Directorate at AFPC. To accomplish this, program personnel continually stay engaged with their wounded warriors.

For those Airmen whose injuries may be too severe to remain in the Air Force, or for those who elect to medically retire or separate, base Airman and Family Readiness Centers provide transition assistance.

"(We place a) strong emphasis on ensuring wounded Airmen receive professional, individualized guidance and support to help them successfully navigate their way through the complex process of transitioning out of the Air Force and returning to civilian life," Ms. Duker said.

Those who participate in the AFW2 program are not left to fend for themselves after returning to duty or the civilian work force. Ms. Duker said program members can expect to receive no less than five years of continued professional support and follow-up.

About 350 Airmen are in the AFW2 program. Their injuries range from burns to blindness to amputations to post-traumatic stress disorders.

For more information on the AFW2 program, go to [www.woundedwarrior.af.mil](http://www.woundedwarrior.af.mil), call 800-581-9437, or send an e-mail to [afwounded.warrior@randolph.af.mil](mailto:afwounded.warrior@randolph.af.mil).

## WRALC to share requirements at annual symposium in Perry

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center is set to share with businesses its plans and requirements for the next three to five years.

The Requirements Symposium, being held Tuesday through Thursday, is a unique three-day event where senior leaders and managers at Warner Robins ALC share their current and future requirements and organizational vision of the future.

Many different organizations and individuals at Robins are given the opportunity to brief, including Maj. Gen. Polly A. Peyer, WRALC commander; and Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander; as well as senior staff members

from many different Robins groups and wings.

This event assures direct contact with decision makers; program managers, equipment specialists, and human capital specialists with detailed information on many on going and future programs.

There are over 40 breakout sessions currently planned, covering topics ranging from the F-15 to the USAF advanced power and alternative fuel and energy initiatives. As an added benefit this year, two 90-minute breakout sessions on workforce development and human capital will be offered.

The conference was first held six years ago. According to the sym-

posium committee, event attendees have been very enthusiastic and supportive about attending follow-on events of this nature. They anticipate this year's conference will be well attended and result in another successful event.

Last year WR-ALC signed contracts worth a total value of over \$4.74 billion dollars.

Additional information on the event is available on the Aerospace Industry Committee Requirements Symposium web page at [www.wrcoo-alc.org/reg1.asp](http://www.wrcoo-alc.org/reg1.asp). For more information and to register for this year's event, contact Rick Drury at 752-6723. — Courtesy AIC

## LONGERON

Continued from 1A

precisely record how the piece fit in the plane to start with so it could be replaced exactly as it was. The team also had to painstakingly remove numerous other parts, including electronics which interfered with the removal.

The longeron team took a new longeron — manufactured at Robins from the original blueprints — to St. Louis with them, but when they installed it they determined it needed some adjust-

ments. So they returned to Robins while the adjustments were made and went back to St. Louis in August to install the longeron again.

This time it worked perfectly and it checked out in a recent flight test. Now the protocol established by the team will be used to replace the faulty longerons on other grounded F-15s.

Mr. Norwood said he was pleased with how the team dealt with the unique challenge.

"We feel like we worked pretty good together," he said. "We all filled in and helped each other."



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
A new protocol established by the 402nd Maintenance Group's longeron team will be used to replace faulty longerons on grounded F-15 Eagles.

## Military encouraged to 'kick butt' in Great American Smokeout

The Department of Defense and TRICARE are encouraging military service members and their families to take part in the annual Great American Smokeout on November 20, 2008.

Participation in the Smokeout is an important component of the DoD-sponsored educational campaign, Quit Tobacco-Make Everyone Proud. Its mission is to assist active-duty service members in their efforts to quit tobacco-for themselves and for the people who look up to them and care about them.

"The uniform is a symbol of strength and pride-and that's what it takes to give up tobacco. We urge military men and women to take up the challenge of the Smokeout. Use this day as a launching point to become tobacco free and begin a healthier lifestyle," said Capt. David Arday, M.D., M.P.H., a U.S. Public Health Service officer and chairman of the DOD Alcohol and Tobacco

Advisory Committee. "There are resources available to help you."

Despite decades of work focused on reducing the use of tobacco by military populations, it remains firmly entrenched, especially in the

youngest segment of the military population, with new smokers and smokeless tobacco users starting every day.

In 2005, the prevalence of smoking among 18 to 25 year olds on active duty was significantly higher than among their civilian counterparts (42.4 percent vs. 37.6 percent of men, 29.2 percent vs. 25.8 percent of women). Nearly 23 percent of those men started smoking after joining the military. The use of smokeless tobacco, or "spit tobacco," is also relatively high among military men in this age group, at roughly 25 percent.

DOD urges service members to take advantage of the Great American Smokeout to kick off their quit plan.

"Join millions of members of the uniformed services, their families and the American public who quit smoking for one day," said Rear Adm. Steven Galsion, M.D., acting U.S. Surgeon General.

During November, military personnel, their families and others who support them are invited to visit the campaign Web site at [www.ucaquit2.org](http://www.ucaquit2.org). This interactive information and support tool is specifically aimed at enlisted active-duty personnel who want to become tobacco

free. Here they can access live instant-message help from a trained Cessation Coach, privately and anonymously.

Users can also customize and download a quit plan; find research-based information; learn strategies for coping with triggers; play games with embedded tips and motivational messages; discuss issues on the message board; listen to podcasts; and locate local cessation programs.

Those who want to help their military friends and colleagues give up tobacco can send an e-card, become more informed about the challenges tobacco users face as they try to stop smoking and chewing, and download information to share.

The Great American Smokeout is the American Cancer Society's nationally recognized day when it advocates for people to put down their cigarettes, cigars, spit tobacco and other tobacco products.

— Courtesy [ucaquit2.org](http://ucaquit2.org)

### What's your favorite comfort food?

Jim Lovett WR-ALC/SB	Melissa Willis WR-ALC/SB	Nate Foster 78th FSS	Porsche Giles 78th FSS	Airman 1st Class Samuel Obeng 78th FSS
"Dark chocolate."	"Mashed potatoes and macaroni and cheese."	"Macaroni and cheese and fried chicken."	"Seafood. Shrimp, crab legs, fish. That's my favorite."	"Steak and potato wedges."

**READ THE ROBINS REV-UP ONLINE**  
[www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil)



## ► IN BRIEF

### FEDERAL BENEFITS OPEN SEASON THROUGH DEC. 8

The Office of Personnel Management has announced the Federal Benefits Open Season for Federal Employees Health Benefits, the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program and the Federal Flexible Spending Account program. The open season for all three programs began Nov. 10, and runs through Dec. 8.

OPM's guides to federal benefits provide important summary information on FEHB, FEDVIP, and FSFEDS programs. The guides are available on the Office of Personnel Management Web site at [www.opm.gov/insure/health-planinfo/guides/index.asp](http://www.opm.gov/insure/health-planinfo/guides/index.asp). Make sure you select the right Guide to Federal Benefits. Most Federal civilians will review RI 70-1, but temporary employees will review RI 70-8.

During the open season you may enroll, change health plans or options, cancel enrollment, change to self-only or self and family, and waive or begin participation in Premium Conversion. Open season enrollments or changes will be effective January 4, 2009 and show up on the Leave and Earnings Statement received January 23, 2009.

You will conduct your Open Season enrollment or change via the web-based Employee Benefits Information System or the Benefits and Entitlements Service Team automated phone system. There are two advantages to using EBIS:

you can print a copy of the SF 2809 (Health Benefits Election Form) after completing the election, and most elections can be accomplished without counselor assistance.

EBIS is located behind the Air Force Portal (<https://www.my.af.mil>) and the AFPC secure Web site. If using the BEST phone system, dial toll-free 1-800-616-3775.

### MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

Robins will host its annual Military Appreciation Day Nov. 15. The day will begin with breakfast at the Wynn Dinning facility from 6:30 to 8 a.m. Activities start at the Heritage Club from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Programs will include information booths and door prizes.

For more information contact Chief Earnest Munson at 327-4707.

### ROBINS AFTOC TRAINING

The Education and Training Flight will offer hands on Air Force Total Ownership is the primary tool chosen by leadership to assist in the management and control of lifecycle costs.

AFTOC 101, WSCRS, AFTOC Data Access Techniques, and Supply Distribution Table (SDT)/ACCOUNT tool sessions will be offered throughout the week of Nov. 17-21. There is no cost to take the courses and people don't need to be AFTOC users. Seating is limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

To register, send an e-mail to Ray Scheuring at [ray.scheuring@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:ray.scheuring@pentagon.af.mil), or call 703-604-0453.

## Mass notification system coming to Robins

In August, Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) awarded a contract to AtHoc for a Command-wide Emergency Alerting System. AFMC has made a significant investment in AtHoc's IWSAlerts™ software to create a command-wide, network-centric Emergency Mass Notification System for emergency notification and personnel accountability. The AtHoc IWSAlerts system is capable of notifying up to 125,000 AFMC personnel, across 11 locations, within minutes of an emergency event all from a single centralized web-based instance. Notifications can range from Force Protection Condition changes and Anti-terror warnings to natural disaster alerts for approaching tornados, hurricanes or other emergency situations.

Several AFMC bases

installed AtHoc IWSAlerts starting in 2006 for their local alerting needs. An expansion to provide support to Robins AFB began in May of this year. This expansion was implemented through Eglin AFB and includes the Robins desktop client installations.

All AFMC Command Posts including the AFMC Command Center will receive this capability. The Command Post is the base "owner" of the system and can send base notifications or alerts and provide reports to the commander as needed.

The AFMC Command Center will maintain unrestricted global access and be able to alert all AFMC personnel. The Network Control Center and Base Weather will also have the capability to send alerts. In addition to these organizations, the Installation Commander has the authority

to approve other entities the ability to send alerts on a case by case basis.

Implementation of this command-wide capability (to include host and tenant locations) began in September 2008 and follows in the footsteps of several other MAJCOMs including AFRC and ACC.

Robins was scheduled to begin deployment of the software Nov. 18. Pre-notification will be sent via email and posted on the Robins Splash Page before client installations are performed.

The client installation phase should be transparent to the user. Once complete, it is easy for an end user (alert recipient) to know when communication is in place from their desktop, as indicated by the small purple globe in the system tray icon indicating connectivity. When there is no communi-

cation a different icon appears. In such a case contact 6-HELP.

End user responsibilities are simple; keep your contact information updated and respond to alerts in a timely manner by following the provided instructions.

You can update your contact information by using the AtHoc IWSAlerts Self Service module; just right click on the purple globe and select "Access Self Service" and update accordingly. An alert will have a specific set of instructions to respond to.

Ensure you read the entire alert and/or listen to the entire message then respond accordingly.

If you have not received the small purple globe in your system tray by 28 November, please contact your 6-HELP or contact IT Central (the blue star on desktops). —*Courtesy 78th Communications Squadron*

## CARLSON

Continued from 1A

General Carlson's parents, Clifford and Helen, had moved the family to Brainerd two years earlier. Clifford had served with the Army Air Corp as a B-17 crew chief before getting a job with the forest service.

"Each time dad was promoted, which was about every three or four years, we moved to another town within the state," said General Carlson, who was born in Hibbing, Minn. "We did not have a television in our home while I was growing up. My brother, Dave, and I developed a close relationship. We played outdoors as much as we could. Together we learned to fish and made spears and slingshots. We trapped beaver in the spring and muskrat in the fall. And in the winter we played hockey.

General Carlson ran track and, during his senior year, was captain of the swim team. He also was a reporter for the school newspaper, the "Pow Wow," which helped jumpstart his courtship of Vicki.

"Bruce took me to a high school wrestling match for our first date because he had to cover the match for the school newspaper," Mrs. Carlson said. "Things just blossomed from there."

### Best laid plans ...

While waiting for his sweetheart to finish high school, General Carlson attended a junior college in Brainerd in preparation to become an accountant. However, after his second year, a lack of funds resulted in a trip to the University of Minnesota, Duluth, to seek financial aid.

It was important for college students to stay on track due to America's involvement in the Vietnam conflict.

"A student had exactly four years to get a bachelor's degree once you enrolled in college," General Carlson explained. "If

you took one semester off, you stood a good chance of getting drafted.

In June 1969, 19-year-old Bruce Carlson proposed to 18-year-old Vicki Martens. He popped the question one minute after midnight following the day in which her class graduated, honoring her parents' request that they wait until Vicki had, in fact, graduated before getting engaged.

But an ROTC-sponsored summer camp, and a life-altering experience, beckoned.

"I was taken for a ride in a T-33 aircraft, a jet designed to train Air Force pilots," General Carlson said. "That was it. I came back and told Vicki that I didn't want to be an accountant anymore. I wanted to be a fighter pilot."

His fiancée did not share the same enthusiasm upon hearing the news.

"I knew absolutely nothing about the Air Force," Mrs. Carlson said. "I told Bruce that I didn't want him to do it and then I spoke to my dad. My father told me that if flying was what Bruce wanted to do, I couldn't hold him back."

She said she realized her father was right and, more importantly, she wouldn't hold him back. Instead, she offered her unflinching support. They were married in Brainerd on June 27, 1970. General Carlson completed his accounting degree at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and was commissioned in June 1971 as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force ROTC program.

### Flexibility is the key ...

Upon completion of undergraduate pilot training, the second stop on the couple's Air Force odyssey was Homestead AFB, Fla., where then Lieutenant Carlson continued his training in the F-4. Nearby was Miami, with its bustling beaches, shops and restaurants.

"Modest" and "isolated" were among their thoughts upon arriving at their first permanent duty station in May 1973.



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. SCOTT WAGERS

During an interview at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Gen. Bruce Carlson, commander of Air Force Materiel Command, said he would work to "reinvigorate" the acquisition process and to focus on development, acquisition and sustainment programs that will follow the lifespan of Air Force airframes from cradle to grave.

"I cried when we arrived at Holloman (AFB, N.M.)," said Mrs. Carlson when recalling their first permanent duty station. "It was partially due to being sick from being pregnant with our first child, Bryan, and because it was such a small town."

General Carlson acknowledges his wife cried throughout one week at the outset, but light-heartedly adds that Mrs. Carlson cried for a month following the conclusion of their second tour at Holloman AFB in November 1996 because she had grown so fond of the base and the local area.

Bryan gained a sister, Jani Jeanne, in 1976. She was born in Austin, Texas, as then Captain Carlson was an OV-10 instructor pilot and flight examiner for the 23rd Tactical Air Support Squadron at Bergstrom AFB, Texas.

Their second son, Scott, was born in 1980 while the family was at Myrtle Beach AFB, S.C. Scott's father was an A-10 pilot and fighter weapons instructor

pilot with the 355th Tactical Fighter Squadron.

General and Mrs. Carlson say that while those assignments are special because of the birth of their children, they both are fond of their time at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. The couple's 10th permanent change of station was from July 1991 to June 1993.

"It offered a great environment for families," Mrs. Carlson said. "There was so much to do there. You could drive one hour in one direction and snow ski, and drive one hour in the opposite direction and water ski."

For then Colonel Carlson, who served as the vice commander for the 366th Fighter Wing, it allowed him to continue flying the F-16, his favorite aircraft.

But an assignment that took place a decade earlier was the one that significantly shaped General Carlson's leadership philosophy. In May 1980 he went to work as an aide to Gen. Bill Creech, the commander of

Tactical Air Command, which was headquartered at Langley AFB, Va.

"He demanded that I sit in on every briefing or meeting with him," General Carlson said. "Initially, that generated some anxiety because that meant I wasn't at my desk and paperwork was piling up. Plus, I had just moved my family, which included a newborn."

"But by attending those meetings, I learned how he ran such a large organization and how he communicated with people," General Carlson said. "He was an incredible teacher and his lessons stayed with me."

### 'Materiel'-istically speaking

By the time General Carlson took command of AFMC in August 2005, the journey was nearing the end. It's lasted longer than some fellow officers thought it would.

"I remember during undergraduate pilot training (at Vance AFB, Okla.), Bruce was told that he would never be successful in the Air Force if he did not meet for drinks at the officers club Friday evenings to network," Mrs. Carlson said. "As Mormons, we do not drink or smoke and Bruce did not participate. It was a bit disheartening to hear higher ranking colleagues say those things so early on. But Bruce refused to compromise his faith and today, integrity is one of the traits Bruce is known for."

His values have been on display the past three years as he led a work force currently numbering about 74,000 people and managed \$47 billion annually in research, development, test and evaluation while providing the acquisition management services and logistics support required to develop, procure and sustain Air Force weapon systems.

While AFMC has amassed numerous achievements during his tenure as commander, General Carlson cites two programs in particular:

Centralized Asset Management, and the civilian orientation course.

Under CAM, dollars previously distributed to 17 different Air Force operating locations are now centrally managed by AFMC headquarters.

"That money takes care of all the flying operations," General Carlson said. "It pays for items such as fuel, technical orders and modifications. But by attending those meetings, I learned how he ran such a large organization and how he communicated with people," General Carlson said. "He was an incredible teacher and his lessons stayed with me."

As a result, the general said that AFMC was able to shift money between weapons systems and still turn \$500 million back into the Air Force last year.

### Out of the blue (maybe)

A new journey lies ahead in Texas, where the Carlsons plan to build a home on land they own near Canyon Lake, north of San Antonio. They want to spend more time with their children, two of whom live in Texas, and with their nine grandchildren.

Mrs. Carlson said she plans to sew and read more. She also wants to volunteer her services at church, and possibly at schools attended by her grandchildren.

However General Carlson, who officially retires from the Air Force Jan. 1, 2009, acknowledges he wouldn't mind remaining involved with the Air Force and defense business as a consultant.

"If my background in sustainment and joint operations experience with sister services can somehow benefit the Air Force, I'll help in whatever way I can," he said.

And after more than three plus decades of service before self, they can take comfort in knowing they will have more say over when they're apart, relish the fact that they will unpack boxes for the final time.

# Commentary

"Our Airmen are bringing hope and developing capability."

— Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley

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## Commander's Action Line

The Action Line is an open-door program for Team Robins personnel to give kudos, ask questions or suggest ways to make Robins a better place to work and live.

The most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

Col. Warren Berry  
78th Air Base Wing,  
commander

Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Anonymous action lines will not be processed. Discourteous or disrespectful submissions will not be processed.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Robins Rev-Up.

To contact the Action Line:  
Call 926-2886 or for the quickest response, e-mail [action.line@robins.af.mil](mailto:action.line@robins.af.mil).

<https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>

## PHONE NUMBERS

- ▶ Security Forces 327-3445
- ▶ Services 926-5491
- ▶ Equal Opportunity 926-2131
- ▶ Employee Relations 926-5802
- ▶ Military Pay 926-3777
- ▶ IDEA 926-2536
- ▶ Base hospital 327-7850
- ▶ Civil engineering 926-5657
- ▶ Public Affairs 926-2137
- ▶ Safety Office 926-6271
- ▶ Fraud, Waste, Abuse 926-2393
- ▶ Housing Office 926-3776
- ▶ Chaplain 926-2821

## REMEMBERING A FALLEN COMRADE



Members of the Robins C-17 Globemaster III workforce pose in front of aircraft tail number 88000-265 which they dedicated to fellow team member, Darren Hamilton, a C-17 hydraulic mechanic who died last month due to complications from a stroke. Named "The Spirit of Darren," the aircraft underwent a complete landing gear replacement, Mr. Hamilton worked the hydraulics and changing of the landing gear on the aircraft and was "instrumental in streamlining the process." The aircraft was the first prototype aircraft to use the multiskill concept. Multiskill use concept reduced the aircraft flydays by 15 percent and the number of mechanics needed to perform the work.

## The continuum of training

I believe we should work our boss's boss's problems. I have found that if we see the bigger picture — if we understand the larger context of our challenges — we will make better decisions.

Since assuming command of Air Education and Training Command, I have been trying to understand where our challenges fit in the bigger picture.

My boss, of course, is our chief of staff, Gen. Norton Schwartz, and his boss is Air Force Secretary Michael B. Donley. Together, they are responsible for organizing, training, and equipping the Air Force. They need AETC to provide Airmen of character and skill who can contribute on their first day in the finish line. In AETC, our race is not finished until we deliver the Airman to the gaining command, and it takes each of us doing our part to make this happen.

In the first command, we recruit Airmen, give them their initial training and send them to advanced schools. I call this process the continuum of training for our Airmen. While an Airman may go through several different training programs before attaining "mission ready" status, each of these programs should work together in a continuum — a coherent and consistent progression of training that leads to the ultimate goal of forging Airmen of character and skill.

Each of us has a role to play in this process. It is natural that we focus our efforts on making our individual portion of the continuum as good as it can be, but we cannot fall into the trap of viewing our individual roles in isolation. This is a team effort. If we understand where we fit into the continuum, we can make better decisions and produce better Airmen.

Much like a relay race, we run as hard as we can when it is our turn, then we hand off our Airmen to the next set of instructors much like a runner hands off the baton to the next teammate. While our portion is over, our race is not complete until the last runner carries the baton across the finish line. In AETC, our race is not finished until we deliver the Airman to the gaining command, and it takes each of us doing our part to make this happen.

In some ways, AETC is a factory that produces more than 200 different types of trained Airmen. We take raw material — the recruit — and change him or her into an Airman capable of defending the nation. The "assembly line" begins with the recruiter who finds and delivers the raw material to the factory.

Along the line, instructors mold and shape each Airman, then they send them down the line to the next instructor. It is vital that the recruiter

finds quality recruits, and each instructor must do their best to ensure an Airman with the right character and skill is sent to the next program. If they don't, future instructors will have to correct the mistake, or worse, take the Airman off the assembly line. Of course, our Airmen are much more important than objects on an assembly line, but this metaphor shows us how problems develop when we fail to ensure the quality of our people during the short time we have them.

While the quality of each individual Airman is important, producing the necessary quantity of Airmen is critical as well. We must deliver the right number of Airmen at the right time. If we don't, the consequence is that some career fields become dangerously undermanned, and the mission suffers. This is why we strive to create a "smooth flow" of Airmen through the training programs. Much like a pipeline, it is important to keep Airmen flowing through the training programs at the proper rate. Gaps and back-ups in the pipeline mean two things, and both are bad. First, our individual Airmen have to endure unnecessary breaks in training, and their skills inevitably atrophy.

Second, the pipeline cannot deliver the right flow of Airmen to the Air Force. This is why it is so important that our commanders and instruc-

tors manage the flow of Airmen through their individual training programs while ensuring each Airman meets the standards.

In AETC, we solve problems for the secretary and chief of staff of the Air Force. They are responsible for building a healthy Air Force, and they need a steady flow of trained Airmen. Our job is to recognize the big picture — that we conduct a continuum of training for each Airman — and make decisions accordingly. We are a team, and our job is not finished until we deliver Airmen of character and skill to their new commanders.

We produce Airmen of the highest quality, which is why our recruiters work so hard to find the right people and our instructors pour their hearts and souls into their students. At the same time, we produce the right quantity of Airmen to keep the Air Force healthy.

I ask you to consider where you stand in the continuum of training. When you have a tough decision to make, use this larger perspective to make it. Work your boss' boss' problems, and you will have few problems of your own. More importantly, our Air Force, and our nation, will be stronger when you do.

— Commentary by Gen. Stephen R. Lorenz, Air Education and Training Command commander

## Commander Kill A Watt says: Saving energy is everyone's job



### ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS

- ▶ Turn off lights when not in use
- ▶ Turn off computer monitor
- ▶ Unplug electronic chargers when not in use
- ▶ Turn off printers, copiers, and fax machines
- ▶ Unplug coffee pots and microwaves
- ▶ Unplug TV's and DVD's
- ▶ Unplug plasma screens and radios
- ▶ Unplug space heaters and fans
- ▶ Consolidate refrigerators
- ▶ Turn off lights when exiting bathrooms

# Honoring Native American History and Heritage

## Robins NAHO primitive skills display, corn roast draws crowd

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
wayne.crenshaw.c@robins.af.mil

Starting a small fire ordinarily wouldn't amount to much of a spectacle, but the way Scott Jones does it drew a mesmerized crowd at an event held Nov. 5.

Using only two pieces of wood, a string and some cedar-bark shavings, Mr. Jones quickly managed to get a fire started, wowing about a dozen people gathered around. He gave the demonstration at the Primitive Skills Demonstration and Corn Roast. The event was one of several being held at Robins in November in recognition of Native American Heritage Observance Month.

Mr. Jones also showed various tools and weapons that Native Americans would have used, including a "rabbit stick," similar to a boomerang that would have been thrown to kill a rabbit.

Firstst Lt. Leodanny Garcia, a native of Miami with no Native American ancestry, said he got involved in organizing the NAHO events at Robins because he wanted to learn about Native American history in the area.

"I did not know this base sits on Native American archaeology sites," he said. "I've come across people on the base, civilians and

military, that had Native American ancestry. It's awareness and looking back on the contributions that Native Americans have made."

Those who attended the event also enjoyed free roasted corn. Also base archeologist Stephen Hammack, along with John Trussell, a member of the Ocmulgee Archaeological Society, identified Native American artifacts brought in by visitors. Judging from the style, they determined an arrowhead that a woman reported finding near the Flint River to be nearly 10,000 years old.

"We don't get into how much things are worth," Mr. Hammack said. "We are students of the people who made them."

The event was the first of the month associated with the observance.

Other upcoming events include: A showing of "Brother Bear" at 2 p.m., Saturday at the Base Theater; Native American Culture lectures at Tucker Elementary in Perry and Robins Elementary School; and a Native American Heritage Observance Month Luncheon Nov. 25 at the Heritage Club Ballroom with Diamond Brown of the Ocmulgee National Monument to be the guest speaker.



Scott Jones blows on cedar bark shavings to start a fire by hand.

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP



Everyone who attended the event was treated to free roasted corn on the cob.



Argen Edwards was excited to be told at the artifact ID that an arrowhead she found near the Flint River is around 10,000 years old.



Scott Jones, center, displays primitive skills such as tool making and making fire.



Stephen Hammack examines a piece of pottery brought in by Steve Taylor, 569th Aircraft Sustainment Squadron, to try to determine its age during the artifact identification.

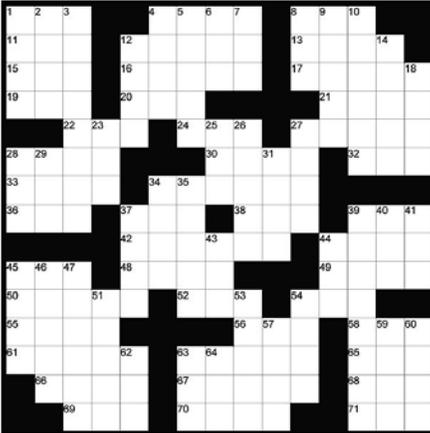
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## DONATE YOUR LEAVE

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 person has been approved as a leave recipient: **Melanie Farris, HQ AFRC/FMA, POC is Naomi Clark at 327-1425.**

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### American Indian Heritage

By Capt. Tony Wickman  
USAFE Public Affairs

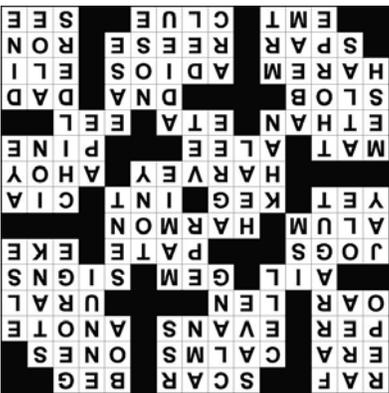
#### ACROSS

- Middenhall or Lakenheath star
- Wound reminder
- Ask for
- Epoch
- Soothies
- Singles
- Each
- Cmdr. Ernest \_\_\_\_; American Indian MoH recipient during WWII
- On \_\_\_\_ Of Triumph: The Golden Age of Norman Corwin; 2005 Oscar winner
- Paddle
- Dancing with the Stars judge Goodman
- Russian range
- Cause pain, uneasiness, or trouble
- Precious stone
- 2002 M. Night Shyamalan film
- Runs
- Head
- \_\_\_\_ out a living
- Graduate
- Sgt Roy \_\_\_\_; American Indian MoH recipient during WWII
- Still
- Beer holder
- QB stat
- U.S. spy org.
42. Capt Raymond \_\_\_\_; American Indian MoH recipient during Korean War
- Call to halt another ship
- Carpet
- Away from the wind
- Tree type
50. \_\_\_\_ Allen; Revolutionary War hero
- Greek letter
- Snake-like fish
- Messy person
- Genetic material
- Father
- Muslim man's place for concubines
- Mexican goodbye
- NY Giant Manning
- Box
- PFC John \_\_\_\_; American Indian MoH recipient during WWII
- Ambulance worker, in brief
- Hint

#### DOWN

- Observe
- Take back for non-payment
- Region
- First 4-star US Navy admiral
- Rescue
- Blast
- USAFE E-2
- File format suitable for real-time info downloading, in brief
- Constrictor
- Leisure and dissatisfaction; boredom
- PFC Charles \_\_\_\_; American Indian MoH recipient during Korea
- Prisoner's home
- Reeked
- Otherwise
- Distinctive doctrine, system, or theory
25. USAFE appraisal for enlisted personnel
- Hollywood bombshell Van Doren
- Ordered or forced to go
- American Indian actor
- Silverheels; famous as Tonto
- Bullring cheer
- Broadway award
- Cure
- Concur
- Genghis \_\_\_\_; Mongol ruler
43. Lt Ernest \_\_\_\_; American Indian MoH recipient during WWII
- Charged particle
- Vote in favor
- Animal doc
- Primate
- Fine lacework
- Book of maps
47. Jim \_\_\_\_; American Indian football and Olympic icon
- At right angles to the fore-and-aft line
- French goodbye
- Relieve
- Smelling tool?
- Lotion ingredient
- Ate a meal
- A-Team member
- Circle part
- Shannon who sang Runaway

## SOLUTION



## 78th FSS BRIEFS

### 'Can' you lend a hand



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
The annual holiday canned food drive will be held now - Dec. 19. To learn how you can help please call the community center at 926-2105.

#### FRIDAY

The teen center will hold **Keystone meetings** Nov. 14 and 21 at 6 p.m., career launch classes Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. and money matters classes Nov. 21 and 22 at 6:45 p.m. The monthly fine arts and photography submissions are due by Nov. 26. For more information call the teen center at 926-5601.

The **2008 Family and Teen Talent contest** will be Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom. Contestants may enter in one of many categories: parent and child team, husband and wife team, children - ages 3 - 5 years and ages 6 - 8 years, preteen solo and preteen group - ages 9 - 12 years, teen solo and teen group - ages 13 - 15 years, teen solo and group - ages 16 - 18 years and family. For more information call the community center at 926-2105 or further details go to [www.afcommunityprograms.com](http://www.afcommunityprograms.com).

#### MONDAY

It's time to reach your potential in the **Tops In Blue Mission Audition** to be held at the Heritage Club ballroom Nov. 17 from 3 to 5 p.m. We are searching for performers of all types: singers, comedians, dancers, magicians, instrumentalists, audio and lighting technicians, bus drivers and more. Auditions will be taped and sent to Top In Blue. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

Come enjoy the last **family night bingo** for the year **Nov. 17** with doors opening at 5 p.m. and games start at 6 p.m. A toy box will be given away to a boy and girl. Cost is \$4 per package and includes all games. For more information call 926-4515.

#### TUESDAY

A **holiday decorating class** will be Nov. 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. For more details call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

#### UPCOMING

An **American Education Week** will be **Nov. 16 - 22**. Show your appreciation for education professionals, professors, teachers, school staff, and librarians, by personally thanking them during this historic week. For more information call the library at 327-8762.

A **turkey dinner carry-out special** is available to include an 18-20 pound whole turkey, 8 pounds of cornbread dressing, one quart of giblet gravy and one quart of cranberry sauce for \$53.95. Orders will be taken through Nov. 17. Final day for pick-up is Nov. 25 by 5 p.m. To place an order or for more information,

call the base restaurant at 926-3031 or 926-6972.

The **community center** will be having a **Thanksgiving tournament** for 8-ball on Nov. 19 starting at 5 p.m. and ping pong on Nov. 20 from 5 to 8 p.m. Please sign up by Nov. 14. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

The **base restaurant** will offer its **annual customer appreciation** Thanksgiving meal Nov. 20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dine at the main restaurant or purchase a meal at one of the snack bars or mobile trucks. Meal includes turkey, cornbread dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, giblet gravy, roll and cranberry sauce for \$2.25.

The **youth center** will hold a **wall climbing challenge** **Nov. 20** at 4:30 p.m., 3-on-3 basketball on Nov. 25 at 4:30 p.m. and a career research on Nov. 26 at 3:30 p.m. For more information call the youth center at 926-2110.

**Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to Movies Under the Stars** Nov. 21 for a presentation of "Pinocchio" and register to win a free webcam. The movie will start at dark behind the Heritage Club. During inclement weather, the movie will move to the Youth Center gymnasium. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

A **Thanksgiving big bingo** will be played **Nov. 23** with door prizes, snacks and more money games. Joint Forces Bingo is located in the east wing of the Heritage 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. Enjoy bar bingo five nights a week at 6 p.m. Anyone with an active-duty, reserve, guard, retired, DOD or family member ID card can 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 Heritage Club at 926-4515.

**Child Care requests** are being accepted for **school-age children** to attend the Robins school-age program during the November break for Houston County Schools. Care will be offered Nov. 24 - 26 from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the youth center. Please use the online child care request form located at [www.robinservices.com](http://www.robinservices.com) to apply. Contact Vera Keasley at 926-6741 for more information.

Let's celebrate **Native American Heritage Month** with the Arts & Crafts Center by making kids crafts dream catchers. Classes will be Nov. 24 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and Nov. 25 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 and includes supplies for children five years and older. For more information call the center at 926-5282.

A **Thanksgiving buffet** will be held at **Horizons** **Nov. 27** from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings, including salad and dessert bar, will be served. Reservations are required for parties over 10 people. Cost for members is \$12.95, guests \$14.95 and children three - 10 years old, \$7.95. Open to all ranks and grades. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

## 78th FSS PHONE DIRECTORY

- Services 926-5491
- Community Center 926-2105
- Outdoor Rec 926-4001
- Arts & Crafts 926-5282
- Horizons 926-2670
- Heritage Club 926-7625
- Library 327-8761
- HAWC 327-8480
- Fitness Center 926-2128
- Fitness Center Annex 926-2128
- Youth Center 926-2110
- ITP 926-2945
- Bowling Center 926-2112
- Pine Oaks G.C. 926-4103
- Pizza Depot 926-0188

Additional information on Services events and activities can be found in **The Edge** and at [www.robinservices.com](http://www.robinservices.com)

## CHAPEL SERVICES

**Catholic**  
Catholic masses are 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 (Jum'ah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

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

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

**Protestant**  
The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. featuring hymns, anthems, congregational prayers and readings. Contemporary service meets at 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.

## NOW PLAYING



FRIDAY — 7:30 P.M.  
BEVERLY HILLS  
CHIHUAHUA RATED PG



SATURDAY — 7:30 P.M.  
EAGLE EYE  
RATED PG-13



UPCOMING:  
QUARANTINE  
RATED R

Chloe, a diamond-clad Beverly Hills chihuahua enjoys her luxurious lifestyle so much, she hardly notices Papi, a tough looking chihuahua who happens to be head-over-paws for her. When Chloe gets lost in the rough streets of Mexico a street-wise German shepherd tries to help her find her way home.

Jerry, a young slacker whose twin brother died mysteriously, and Rachel find that her child is missing; soon the two strangers realize they have been framed as terrorists. Forced to become members of a cell that has plans to carry out a political assassination, they must work together to extricate themselves while being led by a mysterious voice.

Television reporter Angela Vidal and her cameraman are assigned to spend the night shift at a Los Angeles Fire Station. After a routine 911 call takes them to a small apartment building, they find police officers already on the scene in response to blood curdling screams coming from one of the apartment units.

Tickets: \$4 adult; \$2 children (11 years old and younger). For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919

## Robins plays key role in Open Skies Treaty

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
wayne.crenshaw.cdr@robins.af.mil

Several times each year, a strange sight occurs out on the runway at Robins.

In the distant sky, a plane similar to a Boeing 727 passenger jet appears on approach. When it lands, curious maintenance workers on the flightline notice a peculiar thing - Russian writing on the side of the jet.

After taxiing in for refueling, about 45 people in Russian military uniforms will step out of the plane, a Russian TU-154. They get off on a red carpet, and then there's a group photo that includes a member of Robins senior leadership.

It's all part of the Open Skies Treaty in which Robins plays a key role. The treaty allows the 27 signatory countries to fly over any other nation in the agreement for the purpose of taking aerial photographs. It's intended to promote trust between nations, and Robins' role is to act as a refueling point for planes photographing the U.S. The Russians are the only country that flies its own plane. The others pay the U.S. to ride jointly on an OC-135B Open Skies.

"It's really just trust building," said Glen Haisten, the installation treaty compliance officer at Robins. "We say we are doing this and they can come here and verify our operations. It shows we are not hiding anything. We are just doing our day-to-day operations and you can come and look all you want."

The Russians take advantage of the treaty about four times per year, and two or three times per year their flight path will bring them to



U.S. Air Force file photo by GARY CUTRELL

Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander, greets members of the Russian Open Skies delegation that landed at Robins May 1, 2007. The Open Skies Treaty allows for aerial observations and surveillance. Robins serves as a refueling stop during their mission. Colonel Berry was the wing's vice commander at the time of the mission.

Robins. They typically stay overnight, and during their stay will visit the Base Exchange, the Commissary and sometimes the Museum of Aviation. They have also gone off base to shop at Sam's Club or eat at local restaurants.

A team of about six escorts - usually military officers or enlisted personnel of mid-level rank - will accompany the group for the duration of their stay. Mr. Haisten said he is always looking for volunteers to be escorts, and he said it can be a rewarding experience.

1st Lt. Robert MacDermott served as an escort for a Russian visit earlier this year.

"That's the first time I've interacted with a foreign mili-

tary," he said. "It's a unique experience and you get to see how they operate. Their military culture is different from ours."

He said one of the biggest things to get used to is the fact the Russians don't smile or talk very much. It could be easy to misinterpret the body language without understanding that they have a different manner, he said.

"They were courteous, but they were very serious people," he said.

The BX and Commissary are the most popular places the Russians like to visit, and the two most popular items they purchase, Mr. Haisten said, are tires and instant coffee.

"They buy things most

people wouldn't think of buying when they are on vacation," he said.

The Open Skies Treaty is one of two treaties that apply to Robins. The other is the Chemical Weapons Convention. That has a lesser role in the activities of the office because Robins is not identified as a military installation involved in chemical weapons.

The chemical weapons treaty would allow any signatory country to request an inspection of the base, but Mr. Haisten said that has never happened. The primary role for the office regarding that treaty is to maintain the related paperwork and make sure the base is ready in the event an inspection is requested.

## U.S. servicemembers take reconstruction to new level

BY CAPT. J. ELAINE  
HUNNICUTT  
Nangarhar Provincial Reconstruction  
Team Public Affairs

American military members helped with about \$8 million worth of construction projects in the Nangarhar Province in the last two years in Jalalabad Airfield to improve security and to help rebuild the region in Afghanistan.

Almost \$40 million worth of U.S. military-funded construction is ongoing in the province as fiscal 2008 came to a close, and American servicemembers oversaw and helped with the construction projects.

The Nangarhar Province Reconstruction Team is currently building 20 schools, 12 major roads, five irrigation systems, two bridges and five major structures. This includes the reformation of the existing canal system, built in the 1980s that feeds the entire province including outlying districts that would otherwise be barren and a multidistrict well plan to provide water to the districts in needs.

"Roads and power are the future, without them this country can not move to the next level of self sustainment. These two things will carry the next generation to a prosperous tomorrow," said Lt. Col. Paul Donovan, the Nangarhar PRT commander.

The PRT was established in 2003 by the U.S. Army. Today it is made up of a team of active-duty Air Force and Army, Guard and Reserve Army, and civilians from the Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development and U.S. Department of Agriculture serving approximately one-year tours.

The province is 7,700 square kilometers, with 22 officially recognized districts. Additionally, the local tribes recognize a 23rd district, which also requires the Nangarhar PRT's attention.

"This job has been extremely challenging this past year, but has also allowed me to utilize skills I learned in the civilian sector that I never would have been able to put into practice doing a traditional military civil engineering mission," said Capt. Michael Siebert, a Nangarhar PRT civil engineer. "I have been able to mentor and develop Afghan engineers. They now possess a skillset that will help them develop better communities across their country."

In 2007, Nangarhar was one of the worst provinces in regard to poppy production. In August 2008, the province was declared poppy free. This radical turnaround can be credited to the aggressive development and reconstruction and the strong governance of Governor Agha Gul Sherzai.

"In my 14 years as civil affairs, both here and in Iraq, this has been the most ambitious reconstruction mission thus far," said Army Maj. Robert Minton, a Nangarhar PRT civil affairs official. "The level of development here is creating an epicenter for trade and commerce that will take this region beyond merely a level of sustainment."

"I am proud of the accomplishments of my team in Nangarhar, especially the PRT." Army Col. John Spitzer, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division commander. "They have accomplished a level of development and support to governance not seen anywhere else in Afghanistan."

## Yellow Ribbon program helps welcome troops, families 'home' after deployment

Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command has a new office charged with ensuring deploying reservists and their families are well taken care of.

The Office of Deployment Cycle Support manages the command's Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.

"The program helps Airmen and their families face the challenges of deployment," said Col. Mary Hill, DCS director. "It provides the family with information about the many programs and services that are available to help them and it addresses issues and concerns that families face when reintegrating back to their home communities."

Colonel Hill and Master Sgt. Juliet Alonso are the only two people currently assigned full time. They work closely with the command's Integrated Delivery System team and local IDS teams to implement the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program throughout the command.

Yellow Ribbon is a congressionally legislated directive that dictates that "deployment support and reintegration programs shall be provided for National Guard and Reserve members and their families... to minimize to the extent practicable the stresses of military

service, particularly the stress of deployment and family separation."

The program stipulates that deployment support and reintegration programs are provided in all phases of deployment: pre-deployment, deployment, demobilization and post-deployment and reconstitution.

"Most of our bases already do a good job of taking care of their people," Colonel Hill said. "But the nature of reserve service makes it possible for some people to fall through the cracks."

"We want to make sure that all reservists and their family members are taken care of during all steps of the deployment process," she said.

Her office will provide policy guidance, collect data on support events offered at AFRC units, identify best practices, standardize support requirements and train and support wings in meeting program requirements.

Colonel Hill currently works closely with three Air Force Reserve locations that have post-deployment events scheduled between now and January 2009. Those locations include the 507th Air Refueling Wing at Tinker AFB, Okla., which recently

welcomed back 155 security forces troops.

One provision of the Department of Defense program requires National Guard and Reserve components to hold reintegration activities at 30-, 60- and 90-day intervals after demobilization or the end of a deployment for all members who were mobilized or deployed for 90 days or more.

The law goes on to state that reservists must receive appropriate pay and allowances for attending these deployment support and reintegration activities and that family members also should attend the events.

"This is one aspect of Yellow Ribbon that has been a bit of a stumbling block," Colonel Hill said. "Officials are still debating which family members should be included at these events and how their attendance will be funded."

"While there are still some details being worked out, the bottom line is that we are asking an awful lot of our reservists these days," she said. "We owe it to them to make sure they and their families are taken care of. That's what Yellow Ribbon is all about." —*courtesy Air Force Reserve Command News Service*

### IN BRIEF

#### THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR DORMITORY AIRMEN

The Robins Officers' Spouses Club in conjunction with the Base Chapel will provide a Thanksgiving dinner to Airmen ranks E1-E5 living in the base dorms Tuesday from 6 to 7:30 pm. The dinner will be held at the Airmen Ministry Center Bldg. 706.

#### NOV. 15 IS AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

America Recycles Day encourages Americans to recycle and buy recycled products. First celebrated in 1997, the number of participants has grown each year as communities and individuals renew their commitment to preserving our planet's resources.

Here at Robins we are committed to preserving the environment. We have recycled over 5,000 tons of paper, plastic, wood, glass, metal, electronic equipment, and yard waste in 2008 alone. While this is a fantastic accomplishment, our work is not done and a renewed commitment in our recycling efforts is what this day is all about. More information concerning the Robins recycling program can be found on the Environmental Web site

[https://cevr.robins.af.mil/pollution\\_prevention/recycling.asp](https://cevr.robins.af.mil/pollution_prevention/recycling.asp) or by contacting Ben Torrey, 327-4173 or Ken Wharam, 327-4169 in Environmental Management. The Air Force is dedicated to protecting and respecting the natural resources of our country and our world.

As part of our ongoing Win the War Against Waste campaign, an initiative to reduce solid waste, we encourage all our active duty members, civilian employees, and their family members to support us on Nov. 15 by renewing your commitment to recycling.



## Pat Bridges



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

**TITLE:** 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing Logistics Office program analyst

**DUTIES:** She tracks aircraft production, monthly metrics, and center performance review for the 330th ASW. She also is Robins' Aircraft Maintenance Production/Compression Report System office of primary responsibility.

**BACKGROUND:** Has been at Robins since 1983 when she began as a GS-2 in the Base Plans and Disaster Preparedness Division now the 78th Air Base Wing Plans and Programs Office.

**HOMETOWN:** Warner Robins, Ga.

**WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR BREAST CANCER SURVIVAL TO:** "As a three-year breast cancer survivor I attribute a great deal of my survival to the support and friendship of co-workers, management, and friends."

### ► IN BRIEF

#### ASMC NOVEMBER 2008 LUNCHEON

The Middle Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers will sponsor its monthly luncheon at Horizons Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. The speaker for the luncheon will be Robert Hale, ASMC executive direc-

tor. The topic will be ASMC History and Defense FM Trends. Tickets for the event are \$10 for members and \$11 for non-members. For more information and tickets to this event, call Darlene Delozier at 222-3452.

#### TEAM ROBINS QUARTERLY AWARDS

The Team Robins third quarter awards ceremony will be Nov. 21 at 2 p.m. in

the Century of Flight Hangar at the Museum of Aviation. Military and civilian nominees from Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, 5th Combat Communications Group, 116th Air Control Wing, Air Force Reserve Command and 638th Supply Chain Management Group will compete in ten categories. Base personnel are strongly encouraged to attend and support their nominees.

### How you can help in the war on terrorism

#### BOMBINGS AND FIRES

Bombings and arson are the most frequent acts of terrorism in the United States.

- It's not difficult to build a bomb or start a fire.
  - Terrorists don't need to be around when it goes off.
  - Bombs can be mailed or delivered.
  - The destruction caused by these methods guarantees media coverage.
- For more information concerning suspicious mail and packages, please contact your unit Antiterrorism Representative or the Installation Antiterrorism office at 926-4749.