

## Robins Halloween safety tips and rules of engagement



Robins will observe Halloween on Saturday, Oct. 31. Trick-or-treating hours will be between 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Drivers are reminded that the speed limit in base housing areas is 15 miles per hour; please monitor your speed closely and be on the lookout for young children.

Housing residents who wish to participate in trick-or-treating are asked to ensure an exterior light is on.  
78th Security Forces Squadron

personnel and volunteers are teaming up to form a Pumpkin Patrol again this year, resulting in increased foot patrols in the housing areas.

### Please consider the following Halloween safety tips:

- ▶ Parents should accompany children at all times.
- ▶ Children are encouraged to wear bright-colored clothes and

properly-fitted costumes that are breathable and flame resistant.

▶ Masks, hats and scarves should not impair vision. Additionally, costumes should be short enough to prevent tripping.

▶ Costume accessories should be made of soft, flexible materials.

▶ Maximize usage of reflective vests, materials or belts.

▶ It is highly recommended that children carry a flash light or glow

stick.

▶ Children should only stop at familiar houses in their own neighborhood unless accompanied by an adult.

▶ Parents are encouraged to instruct children to always use sidewalks and stay in populated areas.

▶ Parents should inspect all candy for potential hazards, whether children trick-or-treat on or off base.

— Jacquie Olanturrn

# ROBINS REV-UP

October 23, 2009 Vol. 54 No.42

## Robins breaks ground on C-5 flight simulator facility

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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As current construction projects at Robins go, the 2,290-square-foot building about to go up behind Bldg. 230 is one of the smallest, but it might be the most unique.

The building will house a C-5 cockpit salvaged from a plane that crashed in 2006. It will be used as a flight simulator to test avionics soft-

ware developed by the 402nd Software Maintenance Group here.

Bob Zwitch, director of the group, led a groundbreaking ceremony for the building Thursday morning. The project is expected to be finished in March at a cost of \$658,625.

Zwitch said the primary advantage of the simulator is that it will allow the group to test software before putting it through a full flight

test, which will save a lot of money.

"It's as close to perfect as we can get without going out there and flying in a flight test pattern," he said.

The cockpit has been in storage at Robins for more than three years. Once the foundation is laid and the steel structure goes up, the cockpit will be craned over and put inside the building, and the rest of the



U.S. Air Force photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JAMES BOLINGER

Airmen from Dover Air Force Base, Del., load a C-5 Galaxy flight deck onto another C-5 for transport to Robins in 2006. The flight deck will be used as a simulator to help train and test aircrews.

▶ see COCKPIT, 2A

## Center Initiatives Part Three: 'Building Better Bosses'

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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Leadership training has long been an important part of employee development efforts at Robins, but the training took on a significant new twist this year.

It used to be that supervisors would attend the 96-hour leadership development program, then go back to their work areas never to be heard from again.

Starting in July, however, that changed.

The Directorate of Personnel's Training and Professional Development Division started an online program called "Friday 5s" that follows the students back into the job to track whether or not the training is being put to use.

It tracks the leadership activities of the students six months after the classroom training ends.



"It's beyond feedback," said Mary Larralde, director of civilian personnel. "What will happen is that people go off to training and get all excited and full of

ideas, but then they come back to work, and they slide back into what they used to do. We want to change those behaviors and institutionalize what they've learned."

The leadership development program and Friday 5s is the cornerstone of efforts to meet one of the Center's five initiatives: "Enhance the workforce by cultivating first-class leadership."

Ken Wallace, acting director of the training division, said Friday 5, is a pilot program at Robins and whether it will be a permanent fixture is yet to be determined. But he said early indications are that it is having

▶ see LEADERSHIP, 2A

## FLIPPING GOOD TIME



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Col. Lee-Ann Perkins, 78th Mission Support Group commander, flips a pancake to the crowd Wednesday at the first-ever Robins Chapel pancake flip. More photos page 1B.

## AFRC commander relocates to Robins; adjustment to meet operational demands

As the next logical step in Air Force Reserve Command's journey to become a fully operational major command, Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr. moved his permanent residence from Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., to Robins earlier this month.

Since before AFRC became a major command in 1997, the commander, who also serves as chief of Air Force Reserve, has lived in Washington and worked at the Office of Air Force Reserve in the Pentagon.

In the past, Stenner routinely left Washington and traveled to Robins and other locations to fulfill his dual-status duties. Those duties



U.S. Air Force photo by TECH. SGT. JEFF WALSTON

Col. Robert Nordberg, right, commander of the 917th Operations Group, shows Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr., commander of Air Force Reserve Command, the Combat Flight Instructor Course book in the group's facilities at Barksdale Air Force Base, La.

will continue. The only difference is the general now resides at Robins.

"Sitting in the seat at the

command headquarters will accelerate the process of

▶ see STENNER, 2A

## Team Robins members to take center stage in 2009 Tops in Blue showcase

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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When the popular Air Force variety show Tops in Blue rolls in town Nov. 5, Robins will be well represented.

Two technicians and one performer in the show are based at Robins. Senior Airman Jennifer Frost of the 78th Force Support Squadron is a performer. Senior

Airman Scott Robinson of the 78th Communications Directorate is stage director.

Also, about a month ago, Robins added a third member to the crew when Airman 1st Class Thomas Henderson of the 78th Communications Directorate was called back into duty as a technician. Henderson served as stage director on the show last year.

Tops in Blue is a traveling variety

show made up of active-duty Airmen, including 27 performers, seven technicians and two directors.

The show includes singing and dancing to a variety of musical styles, and it also has a comedian.

Frost and Robinson started training with Tops in Blue in March, then hit the road in May. In addition to performing throughout the country, the crew has trav-

eled to Germany, Spain, Belgium, and Italy. After their visit to Warner Robins, their remaining tour will include stops in Japan, Hawaii and Guam, as well as numerous locations around the country. The tour will end in February.

The Warner Robins show will be performed at the Homer J. Walker Civic Center next to City Hall on Watson Boulevard. The

show starts at 7 p.m. and admission is free. Those attending are asked to be seated by 6:45. The auditorium usually fills up for the show, so people might want to get there early. Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.

The show is also seeking volunteers, including escorts and set up and tear-down crew. Anyone who wants to volunteer should call Molly Barker at 926-4940.

### THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 28  
Last DUI: 78th SFS

— courtesy 78th Security Forces

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



### TWO-MINUTEREV

#### Outlook update

The 78th Air Base Wing Service Center will be implementing an Outlook update through Oct. 30.

This update corrects text wrapping so e-mail messages retain their original format after being sent. In opening Outlook for the first time after the update, please note that you will experience a delay of 5 - 30 minutes. A pop-up will be displayed which states "In Progress ... Preparing Outlook for First Use." The amount of time required to update Outlook will depend on the size of your e-mail folders.

Please allow the update to complete; otherwise, the process will start over when Outlook is re-opened.

If you must access your email during this delay, click on the following link for instructions on how to access your e-mail via Web mail: <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/email.htm>

### EXPERIENCE



#### Go to guy

Sheet metal mechanic is wealth of knowledge to coworkers, 1B

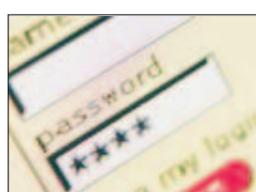
### ENERGY



#### Thin clients

Training division first here to get new energy-saving computer technology, 3A

### SECURITY



#### Network safety

Strong passwords can protect networks at home, at work, 5A

## COCKPIT

Continued from 1A

building will be constructed.

"We are basically going to make a software integration lab, specifically for a C-5 workload," Zwitch said.

The plane crashed at Dover on April 3, 2006. All 17 people on board survived.

"We don't like having planes crash, obviously," Zwitch told about 50 402nd SMXG team members who had gathered for the event. "But from day one our whole C-5 team did some really innovative work to go out there and solicit a



U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON  
402nd Software Maintenance Group team members look on as ground is broken for the new C-5 simulator facility.

cockpit. This lab is going to produce some tremendous work. This is fantastic opportunity."

## LEADERSHIP

Continued from 1A

an impact.

"Typically once a person leaves the classroom, that is the finish line of training," he said. "With this, we've moved the finish line six months out. The finish line is when they've executed and applied what they've learned."

The way that it works is that an organization selects someone to attend the training, then that person identifies goals for making

improvements in their area. Improving communication, for example, might be one goal.

That person then takes the training and learns some ways in which communication might be improved, such as having weekly meetings. After the training, the student is sent a list of five objectives every other Friday designed to account for whether the improvements are being implemented.

The five components are to remind participants about their objectives, prompt them to take

action, track group and individual progress, involve managers and coaches, and document results.

The training is aimed at first-to mid-level supervisors. Larralde said it's important for those who are selected for the training to attend the classes, and for student's supervisors to let them attend without trying to call them back into work.

Even the most experienced supervisors need some time away to learn from others, she said.

"A leader should never believe they know it all," she said. "You

are in a perpetual state of wanting to get better and do better, and so any learning opportunity is a good one."

Wallace said there is great value simply in having supervisors get together and learn from each other. There was some consideration given to separating classes out according to the levels of supervisors and the areas in which they worked.

That might have been the way it was done in the old days, but Wallace said having a good mix in classes helps forge important

friendships among people who might otherwise never meet.

Having military and civilian supervisors in the same classes has also led to some "very robust" discussions about how the two sides can work together better. Blue collar supervisors and white collar supervisors are also put in the same classes together.

"They make partnerships with each other and friendships with each other so that when class ends, the relationship doesn't end; they continue to mentor each other," he said.

## STENNER

Continued from 1A

total force integration," Stenner said.

The impact of the current operations tempo is such that the secretary of defense directed all of the uniformed services to manage their forces in an operational manner, the general said. This directive led him to the conclusion that "the center of gravity for operational taskings involving the Air Force Reserve is at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. Hence, in order to do justice to this directive, I believe it is imperative that I live where the command headquarters is located," Stenner said.

He said his move reflects the emerging expectations of operational demands.

"We will be more directly involved in sending our

reservists overseas to support the needs of combatant commanders," he said.

Stenner said the change in residence does not signal a change in the way he approaches his duties as chief of Air Force Reserve.

"This domicile change does not mean that my Title 10 responsibilities as chief of Air Force Reserve and principle adviser to the chief of staff of the Air Force are any less important than they are today," he said.

The general will continue to travel between Robins and the Pentagon as necessary to carry out his duties at both locations. The two staffs are properly organized to ensure continuity is maintained.

"The scope of my responsibilities have not changed, and the fact that my personal residence has changed in no way dimin-

ishes the importance I place on the roles and missions of both of these staffs," Stenner added.

"Dee and I look forward to making new acquaintances as well as renewing old acquaintances from our previous tour at Robins," Stenner said. From 2003 to 2006, he served as director of plans and programs for AFRC.

"The Middle Georgia community is very special, and I'm excited about the opportunity to spend more time here," he said. "I have always admired the close relationships between the community members, civic leaders and employers. And I have not forgotten, and still absolutely agree, that 'Every Day in Middle Georgia is Armed Forces Appreciation Day!'"

— courtesy Air Force Reserve Command News Service.

## IN BRIEF

### HOUSING MANAGEMENT AND ROBINS II LEASING OFFICE MOVE

The Housing Management Office and the Robins II Leasing Office is relocating Thursday to 500 Warner Robins Street.

Customers of Robins and the Huntington Village Community

are invited to come and see the new facility Oct. 30, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new facility will be held Nov. 17 at 2 p.m.

### PARKING LOT CLOSURE

Half of the parking lot on Perry Street next to Bldg. 222 is

now closed.

The closure, which will last for eight months resulted in the loss of 68 parking spaces.

The closure will provide an area to store materials and equipment during a construction project to upgrade the storm water drainage system along First Street. For more information call Russell Thornbury at

327-8908.

### LANE CLOSURES

The eastbound lanes on First Street between Perry Street and Milledgeville Street will close Oct. 28. The closure will last approximately four months to allow major upgrades to the storm water drainage system and repaving of the road.

During the closure, the two westbound lanes of First Street will be divided to accommodate two-way traffic. Motorists will still be able to cross the eastbound lanes at the intersections of First Street and Byron Street and First Street and Cochran Street.

For more information call Russell Thornbury at 327-8908.

## AFPC accepting nominations for deputy commander positions

BY 1ST LT.  
GINA VACCARO MCKEEN

Air Force Personnel  
Center Public Affairs

Interested and eligible officers in the grade of O-5 may now submit applications to be considered for deputy commander positions in mission support groups in 2010.

Applications are due via e-mail to the base support officer assignments section at the Air Force Personnel Center here by Nov. 20.

Unless in a must-move situation (e.g. graduating squadron commanders, completion of a joint assignment, etc.) in summer 2010, officers interest-

ed in competing for these positions must have a minimum of three years time-on-station and must plan to fill the deputy commander position for at least three years. Officers who are not in a must-move situation and have less than three years TOS must have a waiver request signed by their wing commander in order to compete.

Line officers in any Air Force specialty may apply as long as they have been released by their assignment team and can obtain endorsement from their senior rater. Additionally, applicants must have a current Airman Development Plan updated with their

career desires and assignment location preferences.

Applicants will remain candidates through the 2010 summer assignments cycle.

The base support assignments team will confirm eligibility and will forward nominations to the hiring authorities. Hiring authorities will have three days to make a selection based on the nominees provided.

For more information regarding submissions for deputy mission support group commander assignments and for the statement of intent template, visit AFPC's secure "Ask" site and type "30C0" into the search function.

## Temporarily open for business



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Gate 15, the Air National Guard gate, will be open to outbound traffic only for a trial period ending Oct. 30. The gate will be open Monday through Friday from 2 to 5 p.m.

Traffic will exit the gate through a single lane and drivers will be required to navigate through a serpentine decelerator zone. Due to safety concerns, traffic will only be allowed to merge into the northbound lanes of traffic on Highway 247.

## ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH

## Training division first at Robins to transition to new energy-saving computer technology

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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If you hear anyone in the Directorate of Personnel's Training and Professional Development Division mention anything about "thin clients," they aren't commenting on the waist size of the people they serve.

A thin client is a different kind of computer system that promises to dramatically reduce energy and maintenance costs. The training division will soon become the first area on base to use it, according to Rob Brown, information technology chief architect in the 78th Communications Directorate.

A thin client replaces a personal computer with what is essentially only a device to connect a computer screen to a server. The training division uses 400 computers in 50 classrooms, and it plans to replace all of those with thin clients over a four-year period. The installation of a "test-bed" of 85 thin clients is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The classroom computers currently burn \$32,240 in electricity each year, according to figures generated by the Communications Directorate. After all 400 computers are replaced with thin clients, that power cost is expected to drop to \$4,040, an annual savings of \$28,200.

That will make a significant contribution toward



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
Mark Brotherton holds the thin client next to a computer currently in use to show the difference in size.

meeting mandatory energy reduction goals at Robins. However, from a dollar point of view, lower maintenance costs will be even more significant.

Instead of doing maintenance and updates on 400 computers, that work will now only have to be done on a few servers, said Mark Brotherton, the training division's chief of resources and planning. The annual maintenance and support cost for the 400 desktop computers is now \$567,500. After all are replaced with thin clients, the maintenance is expected to drop to \$411,432, an annual savings of \$156,068.

The upfront capital cost for thin clients is actually

higher than desktops, but over time, savings from energy and maintenance is expected to more than make up for that initial outlay.

"It's like buying a Prius," said Brotherton, referring to the gas-saving but expensive hybrid car. "The cost up front is going to be significant, but down the road we should get a return on our investment."

Some savings will also be realized because thin clients have to be replaced only about every 7-9 years, where desktops have to be replaced every 3-4 years.

Overall, the total savings over the next five years is estimated to \$738,662.

Brown said thin clients may be considered for other areas on base, but he said there are some limitations. The devices work well in instances where the software applications being used are light, such as in training classrooms. Complex applications such as those that engineers may use need significant processing power and would not work as well in a thin-client environment.

"There are some things that thin clients do well and some things they don't do well," Brown said. "As far as what they do well, (the training division) is a prime example."

One of the first classrooms expected to make the transition is the auditorium where newcomers orientation is done. The theater seating will be removed and replaced with tables where class members will use thin-client versions of laptops.

Brotherton and Brown said the move to thin clients came about when the training division had a need for new computers and wanted to find a way to not have bulky processors at every desk. They started looking at thin clients and concluded they would be a good fit for the needs of the division.

Brotherton said they will not be tossing out good desktop computers, but instead will replace them with thin clients when the computers are due for replacement.

## Federal benefits open season begins Nov. 9

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 begins Nov. 9 and runs through Dec. 14.

OPM's guides to federal benefits provides important summary information on FEHB, FED-VIP, and FSAFEDS 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).

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

Jan. 3, and show up on the Jan. 22 Leave and Earnings Statement received.

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 accessible via the following links: <https://www.my.af.mil> and <https://w20.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AFPCSecurenet20>.

If using the BEST phone system, dial toll-free 1-800-525-0102. For assistance with EBIS or the BEST phone system, or in reaching a BEST benefits counselor, see the access instructions on the BEST Web site.

— courtesy Robins Office of Personnel Management.

**BE KIND TO THE EARTH.  
PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.**

## 578th ACSS detachment to play support role in combat mission planning and execution

Col. Cheryl Allen, commander of the 560th Aircraft Sustainment Group at Robins, recently traveled to Langley Air Force Base, Va., for the standup of a detachment squadron.

Allen passed the guidon to Lt. Col. Stephen MacLeod at the activation ceremony for Detachment 1, 578th Aircraft Sustainment Squadron.

MacLeod will command the unit, which will support modernization of

the Air Force Distribution Common Ground System by operating and sustaining the Distributed Ground System - Experimental, or DGS-X.

The DCGS, operated by the 480th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing, is the ground station that gathers and analyzes information from aircraft. It then delivers the intelligence to support combat mission planning and execution.

The role of the DGS-X will be to test DCGS upgrades and capabilities in an operationally representative environment before being fielded. Prior to standing up as an Air Force Materiel Command unit and assuming its current responsibilities, the DGS-X, operated in the Air Force Command and Control, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Center.

*—from staff reports*

## ROBINS IS AFSSO21 COUNTRY

## New high school proposed zoning released

The Houston County Board of Education will open Veterans High School in the 2010-2011 school year.

With the opening of the new high school, the HCBOE has proposed new elementary, middle, and high school zoning for the 2010-2011 school year.

Parents may view the proposed new school zones and submit questions and comments to the HCBOE by visiting <http://www.hcbe.net/>

The current proposed plans call for students living on base proper to

attend Linwood Elementary School, Huntington Middle School and Warner Robins High School.

In addition to the above, the HCBOE will hold public forums on the following dates and times:

►Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Houston County High School

►Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. at Warner Robins High School

Anyone wishing to address the HCBOE in person, should follow the rules of engagement set forth by the HCBOE.

**Recycle**

# Commentary

"The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave..."  
— Calvin Coolidge

## 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.

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.

For more information on the Action Line, visit <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. 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).

▶ Security Forces	327-3445
▶ FSS (Services)	926-5491
▶ Equal Opportunity	926-2131
▶ Employee Relations	926-5802
▶ Military Pay	926-4022
▶ IDEA	926-2536
▶ Civil engineering	926-5657
▶ Public Affairs	926-2137
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### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Stories and briefs must be submitted as a Word document. They may not exceed two pages, double spaced. They must be typed using the Times New Roman font, 12-point type, with 1-inch margins. All submissions will be edited to conform to Associated Press style. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to [78ABW.PARRevUp@robins.af.mil](mailto:78ABW.PARRevUp@robins.af.mil). Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. If there are further questions, call Lanorris Askew at (478) 222-0806.

### DELIVERY

The Robins Rev-Up is published 50 times a year on Fridays, except when a holiday occurs during the middle or latter part of the week and the first and last Fridays of the year. To report delivery issues, call Lanorris Askew at (478) 222-0806.

### ADVERTISING

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### ONLINE

To read articles online, visit [www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp](http://www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp)

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### JOGGING POLICY

What is the policy regarding jogging/running on the roads on Robins?

I usually arrive at work around 6 am. Like many who work on the far side of the base, I take Ninth Street to Warner Robins Street to Hannah (Swamp) Road to get to the JSTARS area.

On several occasions, I have encountered folks jogging/running in the road on Seventh Street between Warner Robins and the turn off for Hannah. One morning there were three ladies (civilians) walking side by side in the middle of Seventh Street Westbound and they didn't have on any reflective gear at all and it was still pretty dark.

To their credit, all the military folks who have been in the road have had on reflective clothing or belts, but I still don't understand why they needed to run in the road when

there is a perfectly good running/jogging path on that side of the base.

I do understand the need to use the roads when the Army and Air Force do formation or flight runs. But, they always post road guards and are easy to see, so that's no problem.

Perhaps the security forces could give these folks some kind of ticket or warning when they see them running in the roads instead of on the jogging paths, which might help!

Thanks for your time and consideration.

### COL. BUHLER RESPONDS:

Thank you for your question. I also share your concern for the safety of runners on base roads.

The rules for jogging/running on base are very clear; specifically, all people jogging or

running on roadways during the hours of darkness or during limited visibility (e.g., pre-dawn, dusk, night, fog, rain, sleet, snow, etc.) must wear retro-reflective clothing or devices which must be visible from the front and the back. SFS law enforcement personnel may issue a DD Form 1408 (traffic violation) to personnel failing to comply with the reflective gear policy.

Additionally, personnel are not authorized to jog, run, or walk on roadways with high traffic density and are encouraged to use the track and designated trails to avoid conflicts with vehicle traffic. For those who choose to run on the roadways when traffic is low, they should run single file, along the road edge, and facing oncoming traffic. Again, thank you for sharing your concerns as the darker days of fall and winter are around the corner.

## What's the most popular computer password?

Do you know what the most popular computer password is?

My guess would have been "password" or the every sneaky "p@ssword." Turns out, the most common password is "123456." Wow, that will surely baffle cyber crooks.

Believe it or not, some folks have looked into that. They researched passwords stolen from a popular e-mail service by phishers. Another popular password is "111111." My guess is security is not on the mind of anyone choosing that password.

I bring this up because October is Cyber Security Month. It's time for everyone to think about their efforts to protect their computer systems and identity while online.

Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley and Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz wrote about the importance of cyber security in a memorandum dated Aug. 20.

"Cyberspace is a contested domain, and the fight is on, today," they wrote. "Every Airman holds the key to success, and every Airman must become a cyber defender, whether acting as part of a team or individually on Air Force networks. We must all conduct ourselves as 'Cyber Wingmen,' recognizing that our actions and activities on the network affect every other

## Simple cyber safety tips

Airman and impact our ability to execute the broader Air Force mission. We will, in short, deliver on our promise to fly, fight and win ... in air, space and cyberspace."

No doubt, everyone has read cyber security tips. It's always a good idea to review them if you've read them before. And if these tips are new to you, I hope you will take them to heart. Air Force cyber security officials recommend the following tips for your home computer:

- ▶ Use Anti-virus programs.
- ▶ Servicemembers and government employees can download free antivirus programs at [https://www.jtfgno.mil/antivirus/antivirus\\_homeuse.htm](https://www.jtfgno.mil/antivirus/antivirus_homeuse.htm).
- ▶ Keep firewalls turned on. Firewalls keep out hackers and prevent any malware from sending out your personal data over the Internet. Both Windows and Mac OS X have basic firewalls installed.
- ▶ Install a spyware/malware removal tool. Not all antivirus software removes spyware and adware. Look for spyware/malware removal tools.
- ▶ Don't use an administrative account. Administrator accounts on your computer should only be used when you want to make big changes to your system, or install new software. At all other times you should be using "standard user" accounts.
- ▶ Choose a strong password.

This is one of the most important security steps anyone can take. Use a password with a minimum of 12 characters; however, more is even better. Your password should include capital letters, lowercase letters, punctuation, numbers and special characters.

According to National Cyber Security Alliance (<http://www.staysafeonline.info/>) one way to choose a strong password is to choose an easy-to-remember phrase and convert initial letters into a password. "For example, 'Only you can prevent forest fires' could become: oYcp4estF,'" according to NCSA officials.

▶ Keep the operating system up to date. Be sure to install the updates to ensure your computer has the latest protection. The best solution is to have the computer set for daily automatic updates.

▶ Be careful what you download. Carelessly downloading e-mail attachments can circumvent even the most vigilant anti-virus software. Never open an e-mail attachment from someone you don't know and be wary of forwarded attachments from people you do know.

Many people like to surf the Internet while enjoying a "cup of joe" at the local coffeehouse. NCSA officials warn users of WiFi hotspots.

"The most convenient wireless services — free hotspots offered by coffee shops, schools,

libraries, etc. — carry the greatest risks," according to NCSA officials. They warn criminals can use the public network to intercept your online activities.

If you use a laptop, there are additional security considerations, according to NCSA officials:

- ▶ Treat your laptop like cash.
- ▶ Keep it locked with a security cable.
- ▶ Keep it off the floor.
- ▶ Use a non-descript carrying case.
- ▶ Keep your passwords elsewhere.
- ▶ Password protect your system.
- ▶ Backup important data before traveling.
- ▶ Write down serial numbers to your laptop and keep it safe.
- ▶ Mark or engrave your name and telephone number on it.
- ▶ Report theft to local authorities immediately. Also, go to the Consumer Information section of the Federal Trade Commission ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)) to learn about data breaches and identity theft.

Remember, you are the key to your cyber security, either at home or at work.

—This commentary was written by Master Sgt. Russell Petcoff, Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs.



## What is your favorite tip to save water at home?



**Commander Kill-A-Watt**  
Robins energy mascot

"Fix all leaks and observe the water meter to determine if there are slow leaks that are not obvious."



**Jaime Shugart**  
78th FSS

"Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth."



**William Dumas**  
Heritage Club barber

"Cut back on washing cars and watering lawns, and don't take long showers."



**William Koehler**  
402nd EMXS

"Use low flow faucets. It's inexpensive and saves 30 percent on water usage."

# IDEA Program gets mate with SAVE Award, not replacement

BY RENEE' BERINGER  
IDEA Program  
Manager/Management Analyst

“Is the SAVE award replacing or duplicating the Air Force IDEA Program?”

The answer is no on both counts. The intent of the President’s SAVE Award is to encourage federal employees across the government to submit ideas for efficiencies and savings as part of the annual budget process.

There is no monetary award for submissions to the President’s SAVE Award.

The IDEA Program meanwhile, fulfills the DOD requirement for an employee incentive program which provides monetary award for suggestions.

Second, the SAVE Award looks to be, at best, possibly an annual award, with the announcement of one winner.

The Air Force IDEA Program is a continually-available program which awards numerous approved ideas. The Air

Force IDEA Program is a proven vehicle dedicated to a culture of continuous process improvement.

Third, can the “winner” of the SAVE Award also submit through the AF IDEA Program?

The answer would be yes, as long as it met established Idea eligibility criteria outlined in AFI 38-401. It would then be processed as any other idea would from a submitter. In fact, any submission by an AF member into the SAVE Award could potentially be eligible for processing through the AF IDEA Program as an After-the-Fact idea.

The SAVE Award judging criteria includes the following: Does the idea reduce costs in a way that is concrete and quantifiable? Does the idea improve the way that government operates by:

- ▶Improving the quality of output at lower costs; or,
- ▶Simplifying processes to reduce administrative burden; or,

- ▶Improving the speed of government operations to improve efficiency?

- ▶Does the idea have a tangible impact on citizens’ lives or environment?

- ▶Is there a clear and practical plan for implementing the idea?

- ▶Will it be possible to begin realizing savings immediately?

While these are SAVE criteria, and most of this info would be needed in a submission to the AF IDEA Program, there is a strong possibility that more detail, with attached supporting documents may be necessary. Please refer to AFI 38-401 for specifics.

The Robins IDEA Program Office supports the President’s SAVE initiative and hopes it generates numerous new submissions to the AF IDEA Program which yield the results that everyone in government is looking for...more effective and efficient use of valuable AF resources.

To access the IDEA Program go to the Robins Home page or the AF Portal Home page and look under AF Information (Air Force IDEA Program).

## Return to standard time occurs Nov. 1

The return to Standard Time from Daylight Savings Time will occur on Sunday, Nov. 1 at 2 a.m.

Clocks will be set back one hour.

Employees on a shift when time “falls back” to



standard time will be credited with the actual number

of hours worked.

Any time worked in excess of eight hours will be paid at the appropriate overtime rate or compensatory time earned.

For more information contact human resource specialist at 222-0601.



78th ABW Command Chief Master Sergeant Harold "Buddy" Hutchison flips pancakes to eager youngsters.

# Flipology 101



Above, Sam Shelton, 5, chows down on his pancakes. He caught three pancakes and said they tasted "good."

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

At right, Sidney Hill catches a flying pancake.

## Robins gets introduced to tasty tradition

Rather than having the usual Wednesday night dinner, the Robins Chapel and Airmen's Ministry had a combined pancake flip this week.

Col. Carl Buhler, 78th Air Base Wing commander, said the pancake flip is a 50-year tradition of the United States Air Force "Thunderbirds" that he formerly served with as maintenance officer and he decided to bring the idea to

the Robins community.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Clyde Cunningham and his son, David, made preparations for the event and whipped up enough batter for more than 500 pancakes along with all the trimmings and toppings anyone could ask for.

78th ABW Command Chief Master Sergeant Harold "Buddy" Hutchison, Col. Lee-Ann Perkins, 78th

Mission Support Group commander, Chief Master Sgt. Mark Connelly, 78th ABW squadron superintendent, and Mary-Therese Tebbe, 21st Century Partnership executive director, joined Buhler at griddles in front of the chapel to cook the pancakes and, as a special treat, threw some of them to people waiting to catch their meals on metal trays or paper plates.

—Sue Sapp



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP  
Bernard Stevens uses a computerized measuring machine to get exact measurements to create the geometry so the program can be written for use on the water jet.

## Sheet metal mechanic "go to guy" after nearly 50 years in Robins manufacturing flight

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

When Bernard Stevens started working in the Sheet Metal Manufacturing Flight in 1979, most of the sheet metal was cut with a band saw.

Today, that work is done by a 3 Axis CNC robotic water jet cutter, a high-tech piece of equipment that cuts sheet metal precisely with a tiny stream of water and fine abrasive blasted at 55,000 pounds per square inch.

A computer on the machine follows a program that tells it how to cut each part. The program uses data created by Stevens and his co-workers in the layout shop with equally high-tech measuring equipment which reverse engineers

sample parts.

At 68 years old and approaching 50 years doing sheet metal work, including during service in the Air Force, Stevens has never been one to shy away from learning new technologies and trying new techniques.

"It's just interesting and it's fun," he said. "If it peaks my interest, I like to do it."

Known as "Sarge" to his co-workers, Stevens started working in the shop immediately upon retiring from the Air Force as a master sergeant. His military career began in 1960 and included a year in Vietnam.

David Foskey, deputy director of the flight, said Stevens combines "old school work ethic and technology" to be one of the unit's best workers.



A stream of water cuts a rib for a C-130.

"I need more like him," Foskey said. "Even though he is around 70 years old, he outworks just about everybody in the shop. He's an inspiration to all of us."

Virgil Murry, who works in the layout shop with Stevens, also had high praise for his co-worker.

"That's what you call a

cornucopia of knowledge over there," Murry said, motioning toward Stevens. "Any time we have any question about anything, we always go to Sarge."

He and his wife have been married for 45 years and have three children, including a son who recently retired from the Air

Force. A native of Massachusetts, Stevens came to Warner Robins in 1977 while he was still in the Air Force. When he retired, he saw the job opportunities here and decided to stay.

He doesn't claim any hobbies, except for what he calls "puttering." He likes to fix things, especially music boxes and clocks, but that's about it.

He keeps working, he said, because it keeps his mind sharp, but most of all because he enjoys it.

"I like it because it's a challenge," he said. "It's something new every day."

Stevens also said a talk given by one of his first supervisors in the Air Force has had a lifelong impact on how he approaches his job.

"He said 'You don't work for me, you work with me,'" Stevens recalled. "I think that's the way our organization here is — we are a team and we all work together. If it wasn't that way I wouldn't stay."

He admits that he isn't always brimming with enthusiasm.

"I get angry a lot of days and threaten to quit and go home," he said.

But he has learned that if you just wait, things will get better.

"I've been out here for weeks and just felt despondent and frustrated for day after day and day after day," he said. "Then finally maybe a weekend goes by or overnight, and you wake up one morning and it all goes away."

## 78th FSS BRIEFS

### TODAY

**Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to Movies Under the Stars tonight** for a presentation of "A Nightmare Before Christmas." The movie will start at dark behind the Heritage Club. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and register for a free webcam. Free popcorn will be available. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

**The Airman & Family Readiness Center will have a Pumpkin Decorating Contest for families** of deployed Airmen today from 6 to 8 p.m. The contest will take place in the Airman & Family Readiness Classroom, Bldg. 794. For more information call 926-1296.

### SATURDAY

**Texas Hold 'Em Base Championships will be held in the Heritage Club Lounge today and Oct. 31.** Starting today, sign-ups will begin at 1:30 p.m. and games will start at 2 p.m. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. For more information, call 926-2670.

### SUNDAY

**Watch WWE Wrestling "Bragging Rights" today in the Heritage Club 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 Heritage Club at 926-2670.

**Every Sunday watch all the play-by-play NFL football action on the Heritage Club's** multiple television screens and three new high definition plasma televisions with satellite. Doors open at noon and games begin at 1 p.m. There will be prizes, food and beverage specials all season long. For more information call 926-2670.

### MONDAY

**Piano lessons will be offered at the community center** on Oct. 26 from 7 to 8 p.m. Cost is \$65 per person for four weeks. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

**The Arts & Crafts Center is now offering sewing classes on Mondays** from noon to 2 p.m. and Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. For more details on this class and more call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-3004.

### UPCOMING

**Enter the Year of the Air Force Family Photo Contest** at the The Airman & Family Readiness Center. Entries must be received by the A&FRC Oct. 30. Photo theme is The Air Force Family and includes all Airmen, Air Force civilians, retirees, married/single, spouses, children and extended family. Entries may depict Team Robins at work, rest or play. Photos should have a central theme that encompasses what the Air Force family represents. Judging will take place during Air Force Family week Nov. 1 - 7. For more information, contest registration forms and rules, contact Senior Master Sgt. Gary Hunkins at 926-1256.

**A Happy Howling vet clinic costume contest and open house will be held Oct. 31** from 9 to 11 a.m. Enjoy a pet costume contest and tricks and treats. Costume categories will include: scariest, pet and owner look alike, most original/creative and best trick gets a treat. There will be a children's costume contest as well. For more information call 327-8448.

**Youth fall sports registrations are under way** through Nov. 2 from 3 to 6 p.m. Monday - Friday for cheerleading (ages 5 - 12 years old), cost \$90 and basketball (ages 5 - 18 years old), cost \$55. Registration accepted until teams are full. Volunteer coaches are needed in all areas. To register or for details, visit the youth center in Bldg. 1021 or call 926-2110.

**The musical showcase, Tops In Blue World Tour 2009 "To Dream" will be held at the Warner Robins Civic Center Nov. 5** at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to general public. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. first come, first serve.

## Robins hosts energy expo



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

**L-R, Barry and Linda Larson talk with Paul Lewis of Kim Lighting about an LED lighting fixture that is long lasting and uses very little energy during Robins' first Energy Expo. The Expo gave Team Robins a chance to learn about the latest energy saving products available.**

Bags and packages will be subject to search. Tops In Blue is sponsored in part by AT&T, Coca Cola and Coca Cola Zero.

No Federal endorsement of sponsors intended. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

**Year of the Air Force Family Kids Night Out will be held Nov. 6** from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Youth Center. Party your socks off with food, fun and much more! Open to kids ages 5 - 12. For more information call 926-2110.

**The Youth Center will be hosting a family fun camp out Nov. 7** in celebration of Year of the Air Force Family. Cost is \$5 for each family member. Dinner, breakfast, and snacks will be provided. The evening will be full of family fun. Register by Nov. 4 at the Youth Center. For more information, call

327-KIDS.

### ONGOING

**Hunting season is open now through Jan. 15, 2010.** Hunting requires a valid Georgia state hunting license and hunting safety class offered by outdoor recreation. Cost is \$10 for archery hunting and \$30 for gun and archery. For class times and dates call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

**The Horizons front entrance will be closed until further notice for renovation.** Please use the rear entrance for your dining pleasure (some parking is available in the rear by the Wellston). For more details call Horizons at 926-2670.

**The Afterburner, which proudly brews Starbucks coffee, is open Monday - Friday** from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prices are falling in October. Purchase a tall coffee for \$1.55

(refill \$1), Grande coffee for \$1.75 (refill \$1.25) or a Venti coffee for \$1.85 (refill \$1.35). The Afterburner is located in the Base Restaurant, Bldg. 166 on Byron St. The Afterburner offers a variety of hot and cold beverages, pastries and snacks. For more information call 222-7827 or 926-6972.

**Fitness center renovations:**  
►The women's locker room in the main Fitness Center, Bldg. 826 will undergo a complete renovation through Nov. 19. For more information, call 926-2128.

**The Pine Oaks Lodging now offers wireless high speed internet** access available in all rooms. Room reservations may be made up to two weeks in advance or you can register online at [www.robinservices.com](http://www.robinservices.com). For more information call lodging at 926-2100.

## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: What do you know about literature?

Do you think you know a little bit about literature? Take this quiz, and see how much you really know.

### QUESTIONS:

**Q1:** What novel ends with the following line? "It is a far better thing I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known."

A) The Sound and the Fury, B) A Tale of Two Cities, C) Moby Dick, D) Wuthering Heights

**Q2:** What famous literary character offers this sage advice: "Neither a borrower nor a lender be"?

A) Ebenezer Scrooge, B) Tom Sawyer, C) Polonius, D) King Lear

**Q3:** What was the working title of Margaret Mitchell's 1936 novel Gone With the Wind?

A) The Plantation, B) Tara, C) The Rhett Butler Affair, D) Ba! Ba! Black Sheep

**Q4:** What play by Tennessee Williams contains characters named "Big Daddy" and "Big Mama"?

A) A Streetcar Named Desire, B) Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, C) The Glass Menagerie, D) Long Day's Journey Into Night

**Q5:** What poet wrote the following lines? Two roads diverged in a wood, and I ... I took the one less traveled by.

A) Emily Dickinson, B) Robert Frost, C) Walt Whitman, D) Langston Hughes

### ANSWERS:

**A1:** B. Charles Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities ends with the famous line. **A2:** C. Polonius offers the sage advice "Neither a borrower nor a lender be" to his son Laertes in Hamlet (Act I, Scene III). **A3:** D. Believe it or not, Ba! Ba! Black Sheep was one of several working titles Margaret Mitchell used for her most famous novel, Gone With the Wind. She also considered the titles Tote the Weary Load, Bugles Sang True, Not in Our Stars, and Tomorrow Is Another Day before finally settling on a phrase that she had used in the critical scene where Scarlett returns to Tara and asks, "Was Tara still standing? Or was Tara also gone with the wind which had swept through Georgia?" **A4:** B. One of Tennessee Williams' greatest plays, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, contains characters named "Big Daddy" and "Big Mama." These roles were played in the original Broadway production by Burl Ives and Mildred Dunnock.

**A5:** B. Robert Frost finished his famous poem "The Road Not Taken" with the lines: I shall be telling this with a sigh / Somewhere ages and ages hence: / Two roads diverged in a wood, and I - / I took the one less traveled by, / And that has made all the difference.

Source: [usefultrivia.com](http://usefultrivia.com)

## DONATE YOUR LEAVE

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to receive or donate annual leave.

The following have been approved as leave recipients: **Charles Lee Jr.**, 78th ABW. POC is Charydi Gambill, 926-8141 and **Susan Nagel**, 568th EMXS. POC is Carol Hall, 327-3293.

To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, send information to Lanorris Askew at: [lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil). Submissions run for two weeks.

### 78th FSS 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
- ITT ..... 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 (Jumuah) 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. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel sanctuary. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel. Religious education meets in Bldg. 905 at 9:30 a.m.

### NOW PLAYING



**OCTOBER 23  
7:30 P.M.  
GAMER  
RATED R**

Humans control other humans in mass-scale, multi-player online games: people play people...for keeps. Mind-control technology is widespread, and at the heart of the controversial games is its creator, reclusive billionaire Ken Castle.



**OCTOBER 24  
7:30 P.M.  
INGLOURIOUS  
BASTERDS  
RATED R**

In German-occupied France, Shosanna Dreyfus witnesses the execution of her family at the hand of Nazi Colonel Hans Landau. Shosanna narrowly escapes and flees to Paris, where she forges a new identity as the owner and operator of a cinema. Elsewhere, Lieutenant Aldo Raine organizes a group of Jewish soldiers to engage in targeted acts of retribution. Known to their enemy as "The Basterds," Raine's squad joins a German actress and undercover agent on a mission to take down the leaders of The Third Reich.



**UPCOMING  
I CAN DO BAD  
ALL BY MYSELF**

When Madea, America's favorite pistol-packing grandma, catches sixteen-year-old Jennifer and her two younger brothers looting her home, she decides to take matters into her own hands and delivers the young delinquents to the only relative they have: their aunt April.

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

# Homeowners to benefit from updated assistance program

BY CAPT. BRIAN HARRIS  
WRALC/JA

Recently in the Air Force Times, there was an article describing recent updates to the Homeowners Assistance Program.

The HAP was authorized to financially compensate eligible military and civilian federal employee homeowners when the real estate market is adversely affected due to the closure or reduction-in-scope of operations due to Base Realignment and Closure.

With the recent downturn of the real estate market, the HAP was expanded by Congress, and now the Army has published the implementing regulations which will allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help out servicemembers.

Now, the Department of Defense will provide financial assistance to offset financial losses of homeowners who need to sell their homes not only due to base closures but PCS moves, combat injuries, or

loss of a spouse in the line of duty.

If an applicant is unable to sell the primary residence after demonstrating reasonable efforts to sell, the government may purchase it.

The government will calculate the benefit using one of the following methods: either by applying a percentage of the Prior Fair Market Value of the primary residence, or the total amount of the eligible mortgage(s) that remains outstanding; or if an applicant sells, has sold, or otherwise has transferred title of the primary residence, the benefit calculation shall be the amount of closing costs plus an amount not to exceed the difference between the applicable percentage of the PFMV and the sales price. If an applicant is foreclosed upon, the benefit will pay all legally-enforceable liabilities directly associated with the foreclosed mortgage.

Under current law, the benefit, is taxable and subject to withholding. However, payments to mil-

itary members are not subject to Social Security or Medicare taxes.

Those who've been wounded or injured, or are ill and, surviving spouses do not need to show any type of minimum economic impact, but all other participants must show a minimum level of economic impact to qualify.

The purchase of the home must have been made within the last three to four years depending on status of the applicant, unless the participant is moving due to wounds or illness, or is a surviving spouse.

The PFMV may not exceed an amount equal to the 2009 Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac conforming loan limits, which range from \$417,000 to \$729,500 and are established for each city or county.

Applications are accepted using DD Form 1607 for HAP benefits submitted at [hap.usace.army.mil](http://hap.usace.army.mil).

The local HAP field office can be reached at 1-800-861-8144 or at [www.sas.usace.army.mil/hapinv/index.html](http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/hapinv/index.html).

## On-base housing regulations

Many new servicemembers are moving into base housing, and housing officials are encouraging these new residents to know and follow resident guidelines.

Resident guidelines are given to new occupants at the pre-lease signing, but the guidelines are also available at the leasing office located in Bldg. 664 on Macon Street.

Lana Reaves, Capital Asset Management Element Chief, said it's important that everyone read and follow the guidelines to maintain order as well as develop a spirit of unity among residents.

In addition, she said, following the guidelines helps improve security.

— from staff reports

## NEW LOOK



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

**Rockee LeShoure runs the newly resurfaced track at the fitness center. In addition to the six lanes, there is a yellow line circling the track that marks exactly a quarter mile.**

## New promotion policy tied to senior NCO academy completion

Effective Jan. 1, Air Force officials will implement policy aimed at improving the skill sets of Air Force senior noncommissioned officers and increasing the return on investment for the Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

The new policy will require the completion of resident SNCOA prior to promotion to senior master sergeant.

“The goal is to provide enlisted (professional military education) at correctly targeted career points,” Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Roy said. “By providing enlisted PME earlier and more



U.S. Air Force photo by MELANIE RODGERS COX

**Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James Roy makes his first visit to Maxwell-Gunter AFB, Ala.**

evenly spaced over an enlisted Airman’s career, we ensure enlisted leaders have the tools they need to be successful sooner and at more relevant periods of their career.”

In addition, the policy change will reduce the

time span between attending an NCOA and the SNCOA by approximately two years and align Air Force enlisted PME requirements with those of other services.

— *courtesy Air Force Link*

## Employer tool box

# New Web site helps supervisor growth through e-learning tools

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON

kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil

Supervisors now have online access to a robust collection of continuous learning tools.

The Supervisor Resource Center is a Community of Practice site that offers an assortment of Air Force e-learning tools, such as training courses, books, simulations, exercises and job-aids, and the resources to help supervisors guide the development of employees interested in a supervisory career path.

“The site provides a litany of excellent tools for both new and seasoned supervisors,” said Mark Brotherton, Resources and Planning Branch chief. “It’s a really nice place to go to shop for information and gain experience and knowledge.”

One of the highlights of the site, which can be found at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/src>, is the Leadership KnowledgeCenter. This area provides numerous resources for supervisors including:

► *Featured Topic* — updated monthly, it con-

tains a suggested reading, a course spotlight, a leadership challenge, a brief presentation of a situation or problem that asks the learner to think of a solution before consulting recommended solutions, and more.

► *Business Impact and Challenge Series* — a set of concise, scenario-based vignettes designed to engage the learner in rich content that enables problem analysis and solution definition.

► *Practice Zone and Labs* — a variety of learning assets designed to meet the needs of different learners. Users can access hands-on, interactive assets that let them put growing skills to the test in realistic situations.

► *SkillSoft Courses* — a set of courses and aids with specific focus areas such as building improved working relationships, leading the workforce generation, giving effective presentations, and effective use of feedback.

► *Books 24x7* — topical references from the books library on a wide variety of leadership subjects.

Other highlights of the site include Knowledge Nuggets, where subject matter experts in various leadership areas impart wisdom via videos, a discussion forum, and access to mandatory first-time supervisory training.

Brotherton said one of the neat things about the site is that users are invited to submit content they feel will benefit others.

“There is already a great foundation, but the future is limitless,” he said. “As more and more people get involved with it, I expect it to really continue to grow. There are endless possibilities.”

Brotherton said he is impressed with the development of the site and expects it to have a major impact in helping supervisors improve and grow.

“The people behind this site are dedicated and sincere,” he said. “It’s not going to be one of those sites where they just float it out there and wish everyone good luck. They really want to groom this thing and help it grow in a positive and professional manner.”

### WINGMEN WANTED

ASIST – 926-2821; 327-

8480

EAP – 327-7683; 926-9516

AIRMAN AGAINST DRUNK

DRIVING – 335-5218; 335-

5236; 335-5238

## ► IN BRIEF

### ROBINS HEALTH BENEFIT SEMINAR

In conjunction with the Health Benefits Open Season, the Retirement Section of Civilian Personnel will host a health information seminar in the Base Restaurant, Bldg. 166, Nov. 3 - 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

Representatives from various federal health plans will be available with 2010 updates on coverage. Workload permitting, supervisors may excuse employees without charge to leave to attend and return to work in no more than one hour. Additional time will be charged to annual leave.

Questions regarding leave use may be addressed to an employee relations specialist at 926-0677 or 926-5802.

### GIFT VOUCHERS AT COMMISSARY

The commissary is offering patrons the opportunity to once again give the gift of groceries. Gift vouchers are available at the commissary.

Visit or call the commissary customer service desk at 222-7637 for more information.

### END OF THE DAY COMPUTER LOGOFF

All computer users are required to LOGOFF workstations at the end of every work day. Simply removing the CAC and locking the workstation prevents automated security checks and updates, and increases the vulnerability of the network.

More information on changes, appearance and icons can be found by clicking the Blue Star for IT Central Quick Solutions