

Did you know you can't just throw government documents in the trash? To help, two industrial shredders are available for use by any organization. For details, visit the Robins Splash Page. Wynonna wows 'em at AFRC Independence Day Concert PAGE 8



PROBINS REV-UP

News

YOU CAN USE

New Workplace Safety and Health tips, slogans program

In an effort to improve the safety and health culture at Robins Air Force Base, Maj. Gen. Robert McMahon, Center commander, and Bill Best, special assistant to the commander for Occupational Safety and Health, have endorsed a new program to push safety tips and slogans weekly to the Rev-up and other media.

The tips and slogans will also be used in briefings, displayed on workplace monitors, and run on the Splash Page, marquees and the base website.

The first tip is as follows:



Did you know that of the 76 Certified Industrial Hygienists in the entire Air Force, two of them work in your Bioenvironmental Engineering Office?

No car idling with children inside

During the hot weather, it's not uncommon for people to leave their car idling as they step away for a few moments.

While there is no law against idling itself, according to 78th Security Forces Capt. Jonathon Murray, there is one against doing so if a child is in the car during extreme weather. Of course, the same applies if the car isn't idling.

Murray said there have been instances on base of parents leaving children in an idling car, and they should know they can be cited even if the air conditioning is on. A citation could



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP Col. Mitchel Butikofer renders his first salute to members of the 78th Air Base Wing after taking command Thursday.

78th ABW welcomes new leader

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

Col. Mitchel Butikofer took command of the 78th Air Base Wing before hundreds of base and community members in a ceremony June 30 at the Museum of Aviation.

He replaced Col. Carl Buhler, who led the wing for two years.

Butikofer comes to Robins from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., where he served as director of communications for Air Mobility Command. Maj. Gen. Robert McMahon, Center commander, told the audience Butikofer is well qualified to lead the wing.

"I have every confidence the 78th Air Base Wing will benefit greatly from Mitch's leadership," McMahon said.

Butikofer said he was "honored and humbled" to take on the assignment.

"Team Robins members, I look forward to working with you as mission partners in developing innovative solutions to the challenges we will overcome together," he said after taking the guidon.

Buhler was given the Legion of Merit award for his efforts in leading the wing. McMahon credited Buhler with numerous initiatives, including reducing energy consumption, coping with "draconian" budget cuts, and sparking an effort to get an east-side entrance to the base.

Juses into Robins Daily

Participation

rising in

commuting

programs

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

the high price of gas.

vehicles at Robins.

Everything has an upside, including

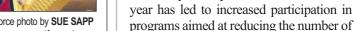
Although gas prices have fallen in

recent days, its upward trend most of this

see LEADER, 9



Clarence Thrower, a 566th Electronics Maintenance Squadron employee, makes corrections to a radome by adding tape.



Buses into Robins Daily, the Transportation Incentive Program and the Clean Air Campaign have all seen significant increases in participation.

potentially be serious because the statute falls under the child cruelty law.

Parents should also know they are taking a huge risk because a child could hit a gear shift, or the car could get stolen. There is a common misconception, Murray said, that people don't have to worry about crime on base.

"We have a criminal element just like everywhere else," he said.

So, while it's not against the law to leave a car idling when there isn't a child inside, Murray said it's still a bad idea for safety and potential theft reasons.

Radome techs ensure pilots can see

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

n a few small buildings tucked away in a corner near the Russell Parkway gate, some of the most high-tech and unique work done at Robins takes place.

The buildings house the 566th Electronics Maintenance Squadron's radome ranges, where radomes for the F-15, C-5, C-17 and C-130 are tested. The radome is the fiberglass nose cone which covers the radar array.

The slightest aberration in the curvature of the radome can throw off the array signal,

giving the pilot false readings. Each range has a working radar array for the particular aircraft, and the radome is placed over the array. The radar signal is emitted, and through a 6-hour testing process, technicians determine whether any adjustments are needed in the radome thickness.

"The best way to describe it is we are like an eye doctor," said Charlie O'Malley, radome range supervisor. "We make it thin in some places and thick in some places. We reshape it so the pilot sees a perfect target."

They also have a separate range for the

▶ see RADOME, 9

The end result is something everyone wants – more places to park.

After starting with little ridership in December, the Macon Transit Authority bus shuttle to Robins has seen a steady increase in ridership. The service was set up to alleviate the chronic parking problem on base. During its first full month of operation in January, BiRD averaged 30 riders per day. It now services an average of 101 per day, and that number continues to increase.

The roundtrip ride costs \$6 but is fully

▶ see COMMUTE, 9



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP CAP members exit an Army Chinook helicopter. They were given a flight during the group's encampment at Robins.

Civil Air Patrol cadets gain experience at Robins

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

Young people are attending various types of summer camps this year, but a group of about 200 had a camp experience at Robins that surely would be hard to top.

The Civil Air Patrol cadets from around Georgia spent the week here learning military traditions and protocol, as well as touring areas around the base. The highlight, however, was a ride on two Chinook helicopters from Hunter Army Airfield near Savannah.

The camp serves as required training for cadets, who can enter the Civil Air Patrol as young as 12. Ages of the cadets in the camp ranged from 12 to 21.

The Civil Air Patrol is a nationwide organization of volunteers who promote aerospace education and conduct searches for missing aircraft.

Air Force Reserve Maj. Will Christian is a liaison to the organization. He said the patrols save the government a lot of money by being the primary search-and-rescue responders for lost aircraft in the continental U.S. They also conduct surveillance flyovers for natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

"For anyone who has an interest in serving their country through search and rescue, or in learning more about the military lifestyle, the Civil Air Patrol is a good introduction," Christian said.

Harrison Liu, 17, of Savannah, said he found the camp "fun and interesting" and a departure from the classroom training he typically gets at local CAP meetings.

"We get the opportunity to actually go out and do things," he said.

The cadets stayed in the dorms here and engaged in various activities around the base, including visiting the K-9 unit and the 116th Air Control Wing Explosive Ordnance Flight.

The Georgia wing of the CAP holds the camp each year in different locations.

THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: **49** Last DUI: **116 AMXS** – courtesy 78th Security Forces

9 AADD To request a ride, call 222-0013.

TWO-MINUTEREV

78th Medical Clinic functions

The 78th Medical Clinic will be closed Monday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for official functions. All services will resume at 2 p.m. both days. The clinic will also close Thursday at 2 p.m. for a commander's call. All services will resume normal operations July 15. For more information, call Capt. Catishia Mosley at 497-7613.

INSIDE

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se Iwo

UNIT PROFILE: WR-ALC/GRLA

What it does

The Center Quality Assurance Program Coordinators' office provides the tools and training employees in the Aerospace Sustainment Directorate, Global Logistics Support Center and other base organizations need to make certain money is spent wisely. It's also responsible for making sure performancebased work statements and performance plans clearly state what services are purchased and what's paid for is delivered.

Why it matters

The Center QAPC office acts as the checks and balances for the government's service contracts programs. They're stewards of the taxpayers dollars



Helen Porter and Sherrl Coonfield, Quality Assurance Program coordinators, discuss the next QAP newsletter.

What they say

"The roles we play are very important. We provide assistance to the document writers to make sure clear guidance is given for what we expect the contractor to do. We also make sure that with service contracts we tell the Quality Assurance contractors the end

Program results we want rather coordinator than how to do the job."

Helen Porter

Sherrl Coonfield Quality Assurance Program

coordinator

"Our job is to make sure surveillance is done on the contracts and to teach those that do the surveillance how to do it properly. We make sure the government gets what it pays for and the contractors provide warfighters what they need to do their jobs."

By the numbers

5

100 +

700+

2K+

Quality Assurance

Robins OAPC office

personnel in the

Years of com-

bined federal

team

experience on the

Quality Assurance

personnel in organi-

zations on Robins

Contracts man-

database

aged in the QAPC



Britanny Smith

TITLE: Electronics technician, 566th Electronics Maintenance Squadron.

BACKGROUND: Smith has worked at Robins for four years and on the radome range for two years. Prior to that, he was a car salesman.

HOMETOWN: Thomaston.

In the Spotlight

"It's a good learning environment here. Guys will take a lot of time to help. There's a lot of fine-tuning that needs to happen, and they make sure I understand it."

"I like working in the radome shop because no radome is the same. There's a little bit of troubleshooting that goes on with each one we get. There's nothing like having a problem with a radome and actually being able to fix it. Seeing it go out and help the warfighter is very rewarding."

"Selling cars you are like an independent contractor, but here it is more of a team effort. We work together and look out for each other to achieve a common goal."

"Never buy a new car because it loses value from the time you drive it off the lot."

"I like to read. I recently just re-read Alex Haley's 'Roots.'"

Corrosion Control Flight efforts bring new perspective, positive change

BY FAYE BANKS-ANDERSON 78th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

• ometimes it just takes a little new blood to get things going in the right direction. On the job only a few months, David Rice has brought a new perspective and positive change to workers in the 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Support Squadron's Corrosion Control Flight.

Rice, deputy flight chief, uses his background in quality assurance, paint, and as a FOD manager as a basis for change.

Since arriving, Rice has concentrated on "having everything at the nose of the aircraft" to make the mechanics' lives easier and reduce cross contamination.

Another initiative he created has resulted in some permanent limited-duty restriction workers returning to full duty without restrictions.

"His changes make a lot of

ideas and working with Cerka, Rice devised a plan to have pointof-use type cabinets and shadow boxes to house the mechanics items like sanders, sealing paint guns and fall arrest harnesses in the regulated area.

"This creates a tool control process ... leads to accountability," said Rice. "It's also helpful to our decontamination process."

Another area the organization has experienced success in is how it uses limited-duty restriction workers in their flight.

The results have been successful; three out of seven permanent limited-duty restriction workers have returned to full duty without restrictions.

Rice decided, after talking with Emily Celner, a rehabilitation specialist, to change how limited-duty restriction employees worked in his area.

With the buy in from the union and Ed Montano, Aircraft Maintenance Group deputy director, Rice instituted a program to put the workers in jobs where they truly contribute to the flight.

to find something meaningful for them to do. Sometimes we lose sight of the person."

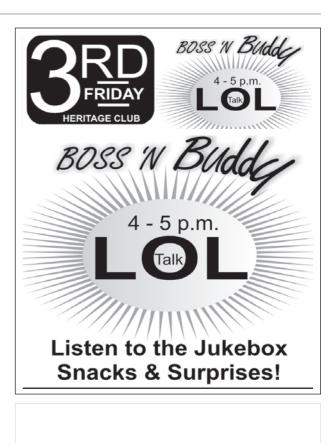
After looking at the workers' core documents and working within their restrictions, their new jobs included lean initiatives such as 6S. Workers cleaned locker rooms, break rooms and all common areas to reduce cross contamination.

Under the program, the workers were put on day shift so they could also work with the rehabilitation specialist and their doctors.

"We've proven with this program it works," said Rice. "There's one employee who shakes my hand every week. It was a way to give them self worth."

"At least they're doing something, not nothing," said Cerka. "In the past, all of the issues weren't addressed."

"Now, our management works with us," continued Cerka. "They've done a lot in the past



sense," said Tim Cerka, work leader.

According to Cerka, having more items available in the regulated area reduces the chances for cross contamination.

After listening to his mechanics'

"It wasn't their fault they were hurt on the job," said Rice. "We should have been more committed

few months to keep us safer. We are going by OSHA standards, OIs and process orders.

"They are making sure we stay compliant."

And it all started with new blood - David Rice.

RECYCLE THIS PAPER

Command budget, personnel changes top issues at annual meeting of AFMC, union leaders

BY MONICA MORALES Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

Air Force Materiel Command will face the challenge of maintaining strategic priorities while operating within an environment of reduced or flattened budgets, command officials said during a meeting of AFMC senior leaders and representatives of the military's largest employee union.

Gen. Donald Hoffman, AFMC commander, and John Gage, national president of the American Federation of Government Employees, and other command and union officials met June 28 during the annual joint national labor management meeting.

The group held briefings and had discussions aimed at sharing information about the issues facing the AFMC work force and outlining AFMC and AFGE management-labor partnership expectations for the upcoming year.

"All four of the command's mission areas are enabled by a high-quality work force, and meetings like this are important business to us," said Hoffman. "Retaining that level of quality is important, particularly as we acclimate to an atmosphere of efficiencies."

The command's financial briefing highlighted the potential for future budgets to be constrained. The bottom line, according to finance officials, is upcoming budgets will call for



"tail to tooth realignment of dollars to preserve capability and readiness."

Similarly, the Air Force's implementation of civilian hiring controls in May limited the hiring to one action for every two vacancies, said an AFMC manpower and personnel official. Additionally, survey data gauging interest in applications for the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Program is being compiled.

Top among civilian personnel policy topics discussed was the Defense Department's adoption of the Telework Enhancement Act, signed into law in December.

The act mandated DoD to designate by early June how many of its 900,000 civilian positions are eligible for telework.

President Obama signed the act into law with the overarching goal of increasing telework to improve the Defense Department's capability to continue operations in crisis situations.

The law also reflects a response to the efficiencies outlined by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates in August.

Gage said the last year has presented great challenges in the form of assessing work force and budgetary reductions.

"Meetings like this continue to be important, particularly in a time when the full education of the challenges facing personnel is critical," Gage said. "We have to be informed and ready to respond."

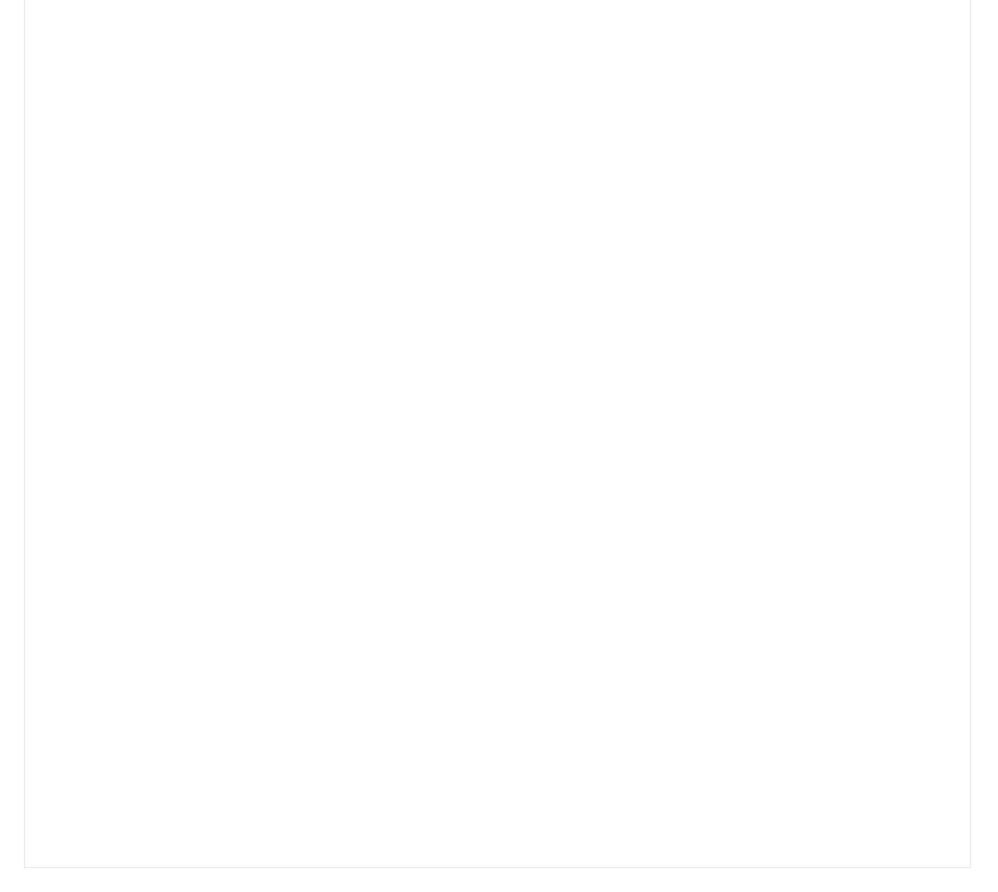
The meeting also included a briefing of the Partnership Council's annual report.

Dr. Steve Butler, AFMC executive director, and Scott Blanch, AFGE Council 214 president, noted the council's recent meetings at two AFMC bases allowed for discussion regarding issues like the command's transition to a single staffing tool for streamlined hiring, better accessibility to benefits and entitlements for segments of the work force, and civilian academic programs.

The Partnership Council was formed in the late 1990s, following several turbulent years of labor relations in the command.

In addition to the cochairs, the council consists of four union representatives, who usually are AFGE local chapter presidents from AFMC bases, as well as four management members, who typically are executive directors from AFMC centers.

The meeting also included briefings about Air Force efficiencies and an initiative aiming to reduce civilian hiring to 80 days, an improvement over the present 116-day timeline.



ViewPoints

WR-ALC VISION STATEMENT A "World-Class" Center of Acquisition and Sustainment Excellence

WR-ALC MISSION **STATEMENT Deliver and sustain** combat-ready air power ... anytime, anywhere.

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SUBMISSION **GUIDELINES**

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to the requested Friday publication

No pencil eraser for social media

BY TECH. SGT. BARBARA PLANTE 944th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

In February 2010, Pentagon officials authorized access to social networks on unclassified military computers. They believe the benefits of social media outweigh security concerns.

However, operational security has always been a military constant, and that has not diminished with the advent of social media. If anything, OPSEC has become more important because of what we can say and where we can say it.

Loose lips and unchecked gossip on social media sites have the potential to harm military operations and missions, as Sailors and Marines serving aboard the amphibious assault ship Bataan learned in May.

Escalating arguments and "the airing of dirty laundry" led Fleet Forces Command to shut down the ship's official Facebook page, citing OPSEC concerns.

"Numerous cases regarding OPSEC violations have arisen on several sites," said a spokesperson for the Bataan Amphibious



Ready Group. "This makes it very difficult to support a social networking site - while keeping the mission clear and our Sailors safe.

Once the command has conducted a thorough review, the page will be brought back online, but the ability for guests to post comments will be removed in the short term."

It is a privilege to be able to use social media sites from military computers, but with that privilege comes responsibility.

"Enjoy using social media as a means to keep in touch with loved ones and friends, especially while deployed, but always be mindful to protect the mission and your own personal critical information when posting," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey McMillen, 944th Fighter Wing OPSEC program manager.

As in the past, every military member and civilian employee is responsible for OPSEC.

"When tempers flare, it is best to disengage from public forums and Internet communication," McMillen said. "Cool heads are better than angry ones at protecting critical information, as well as avoiding embarrassment. Remember, there's no such thing as a Number 2 pencil eraser for the Internet. It's like publishing a book: Once it's out there, it's out there."

The idea that terrorists, foreign governments or spies might be looking for secrets from Facebook pages might seem a bit farfetched, but the enemy is watching.

Ultimately, social media is just another form of communication where OPSEC rules, which have been around for decades, must be followed. The only thing that has changed is the technology and the speed of communication.

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 responsible organization. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve its processes

Please include your name and a way of reaching

you, so we can provide a direct response. Anonymo action lines will not be processed. Discourteous or di respectful submissions will also not be processed.

Commander's Action Line items of general interest the Robins community will be printed in the Robins F Up

For more information, visit

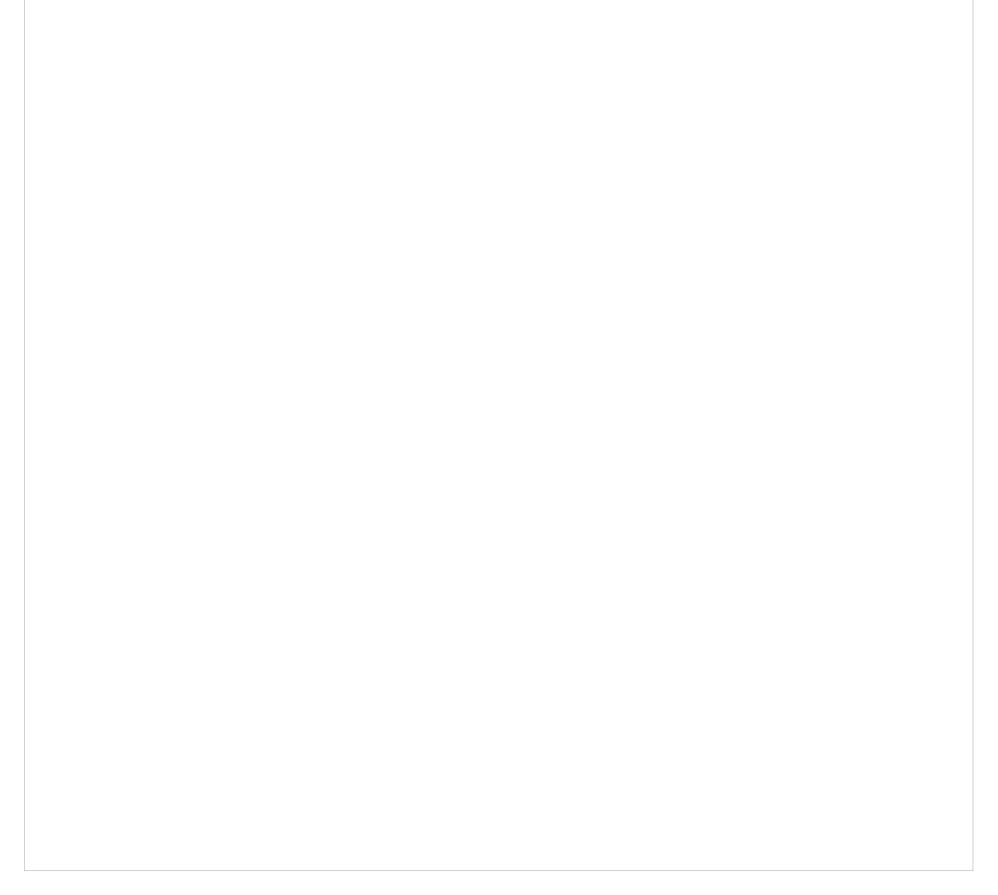
https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm. To contact the Commander's Action Line, call 468-2886 or e-mail action.line@robins.af.mil.

	Security Forces	468-2187
us lis-	FSS (Services)	468-5491
	Equal Opportunity	468-2131
	Employee Relations	497-8253
	Military Pay	468-4022
est to Rev-	Civil Engineering	468-5657
	Public Affairs	468-2137
	Safety Office	468-6271
	Fraud, Waste & Abuse	468-2393
	Housing Office	468-3776
	Chaplain	468-2821

► IDFA

497-7281

STRAIGHT TALK HOT LINE Up-to-date information during base emergencies 222-0815



On the Fly

Manager of the year

James Wood, 402nd Electronics Maintenance Support

Squadron acting deputy director, was recently n a m e d outstand-

ing man-



Wood

ager of the year by Chapter 121 of the Federal Manager's Association.

Wood was recognized as an accomplished engineer, manager, and leader who serves as chief engineer and prime engineering authority of the Department of Defense's largest and most vital Air Force avionics depot.

Wood led 90 engineers and technicians to record achievements, enabling the 1,300person EMXG to deliver more than 86,000 critical assets to the warfighter.

An expert in aging and emerging technologies, he directs a one-of-a-kind hybrid lab – unique to the DoD, and one of only 40 in the world.

Wood is also charged with sustaining the \$26 million Versatile Depot Automatic Test Station, the first approved family of testers for the Air Force which is primed for expansion during fiscal 2011 to other DoD services and industries worldwide.

He will now represent Chapter 121 at FMA's regional competition.

Upcoming

The south end of

Milledgeville Street, bet-Richard ween Ray **Boulevard and First Street**, will be closed Monday through Aug. 12 for reconstruction.

The closure will affect access to the parking lot on the corner of Richard Ray and Milledgeville.

Under normal conditions the lot can be accessed from Milledgeville Street and Cochran Street.

However, during the closure, the lot will have to be accessed from Cochran Street only.

Vehicle operators need to exercise extreme caution.

Central Georgia Marine Corps League Detachment #1373 will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Flint Energies off Highway 96, between Sun Trust Bank and Houston County High School. Bring your DD214 or retired I.D. card and \$35. For more information, call John Harmon at 472-0853.

The Team Robins **Senior NCO Recognition** Banquet will be July 21 in the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Hangar.

Keynote speaker will be retired Chief Master Sgt. Orlando Justice, former Robins NCO Academy commandant.

A social will begin at 6 p.m. with dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$25.

For more information, call your unit point of contact or Master Sgt. Tammala Lawson at 497-3395.

The 78th Medical

Group will be providing **Healthy Start Screenings** for Tricare beneficiaries entering Georgia schools for the first time.

Screenings are for students from pre-k to 12th grade and will be conducted July 23 from 9 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 700A. No appointments are necessary.

Children will have vision, hearing and dental exams, all of which are required by the Georgia school system. In addition, height, weight, blood pressure and scoliosis screenings will be performed.

Immunizations will be available, so bring a copy of your child's latest shot record.

Georgia school forms 3300 and 3231 will be available and may be completed at the event.

Only the above services will be performed at the school screenings.

If a sports physical is needed, call 497-7850 to schedule an appointment.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Joseph Prunty at 497-8220.

The Robins Military Education and Training Center will hold an Education Fair July 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom.

About 30 colleges and universities from across America will be represented. For more information, call LaShondria Smith, education and training guidance counselor, at 497-7312.

Bill Kirkland, Georgia



U.S. Air Force photo by MASTER SGT. ROGER PARSONS

Pilot for a day

Randal Austin, 14, from Arlington, Texas, flies the E-8 Joint STARS flight simulator here June 23 as part of the Air Force's Pilot For A Day Program. Austin is a flight simulator enthusiast with more than 665 hours flight time and 4,500 landings. Austin is going blind from retinitis pigmentosa and currently has a 20-degree field of vision.

Air Force workers can find help here

Finances & Work-Life Balance	Airman & Family Readiness Center	468-1256
Health and Wellness Education	Health and Wellness Center	497-8480
Health Screenings	Civilian Health Promotion Services	497-8030
Work, Personal or Family Issues	Employee Assistance Program	(800) 222-0364
Work Stress, Psychological Issues	Organizational Consulting Office	497-9803
Mental Health & Substance Abuse	Houston Healthcare	(478) 922-4281
Unplanned Pregnancy	Houston Healthcare	(478) 922-4281
Suicide Prevention	National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	(800) 273-8255
Sexual Assault & Victim Advocacy	Sexual Assault Response Coordinator	468-2946
Crime Victim Advocacy	Victim Witness Assistance Program	497-4584

AFMC Wellness Support Center — www.afmcwellness.com

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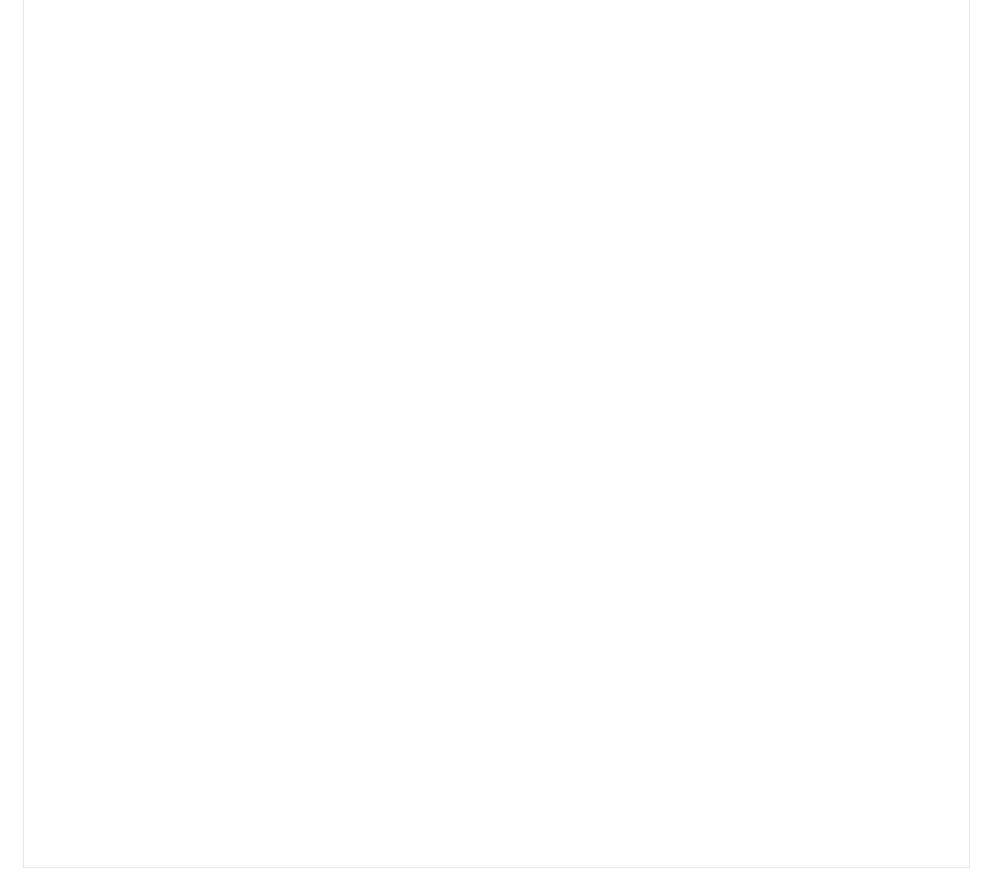
Troops to Teachers program manager, will conduct a 90-minute Transition to Teaching class July 29 in Bldg. 905, Room 122.

The Troops to Teachers program provides eligible service members up to \$10,000 to help with transition and teacher certifica-

The class will also include an overview of teacher certification programs and options available for those seeking second careers as teachers in Georgia. For more information, call LaShondria Smith, education and training gui-

dance counselor, at 497-7312.

The following leave recipient has been approved through the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program: Celestine King of the 78th AMDS. POC is Eugene Swinney at 497-7594.



Robins food service facilities follow the rules, get good ratings

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

R estaurants at Robins get health inspections just like restaurants off base, and last year's results indicate food facilities here are following food safety guidelines.

According to figures from the 78th Medical Group Public Health office, which conducts the inspections, nearly 400 inspections were done at base food facilities in 2010, and all but three were satisfactory or better.

Off-base restaurants are inspected by county health departments and are given numerical scores typically posted in a visible location in the restaurant. Rather than scores, the base Public Health office gives ratings of excellent, satisfactory, marginal or unsatisfactory.

Of 397 inspections conducted last year, 65 rated excellent, 329 were satisfactory and three were marginal. None were rated unsatisfactory.

Patricia Tooley, Public Health office chief, said 2010 was typical for the



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP Fred Brown, 78th Medical Group Public Health Office, checks hot items in the kitchen of Taco Johns at the BX food court to make sure they are the proper temperature.

evaluation results, and most of the food services on base do a good job.

The most common violations relate to cleanliness of items not in contact with food, such as floors, she said

In addition to evaluating restaurants, Public Health office inspectors also do a weekly walk through of the commissary, and they check such services as foodtruck vendors.

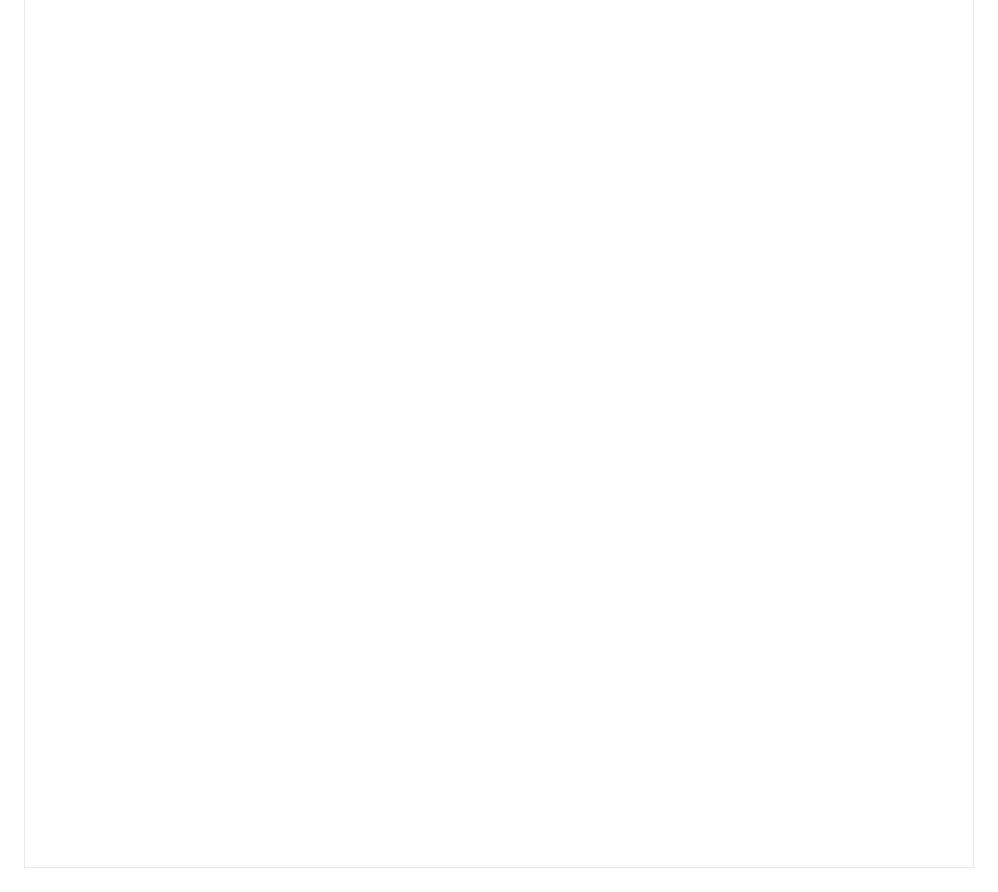
According to Tooley, cross contamination is one thing both restaurants and families at home should be aware of.

When cutting chicken, for example, it's impor-



tant to clean cutting surfaces and wash hands thoroughly before touching food which may be eaten raw, such as lettuce.

Positive workplace relationships enable everyone to perform at their very best



'Big Bang Boogie'

Wynonna Judd, Robin Meade and the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve light up Warner Robins during **Independence Day Concert**

U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP



A fireworks display lights up the sky to top off the evening.





Wynonna Judd pauses during her performance to allow a youth to take a close-up photo.





Left: Airman 1st Class Michelle Hooper and Staff Sgt. Frances Kness of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve share their talents at the Independence Day concert. Center: Robin Meade, anchor of CNN's "Morning Express with Robin Meade," sings for the crowd. Right: A group of veterans from the Dublin VA Medical Center were distinguished guests and given front-row seats to the concert.

Strengthening partnerships with the renewable energy industry

BY JENNIFER ELMORE Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency

A recent Air Force Renewable Energy Symposium provided industry members a chance to learn about opportunities to partner with the Air Force to increase the use of renewable energy on installations across the United States.

The symposium marked the second time the Air Force and industry came together to engage in an open dialogue and identify productive, affordable methods for maximizing the value of renewable energy on Air Force installations.

"Industry brings unparalleled expertise to our renewable energy efforts, and it is an expertise the Air Force cannot do without," said Debra Tune, principal deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics.

Last year, U.S. Government Accountability Office officials found that all 34 of the DoD's most critical assets require continuos electricity to support their military missions, and 31 of those assets rely on the commercial power grid. Renewable energy lowers the probability that the Air Force will be without energy when it needs it most. Today, the Air Force operates 85 renewable energy projects on 43 bases with 30 megawatts of power capacity. An additional 31 projects are currently under-



U.S. Air Force photo

Air Force engineers are aggressively expanding the number of renewable energy projects on installations like this sixacre solar array.

way or slated for construction.

Air Force engineers have made significant headway in the six months since the last meeting, in Irving, Texas, with the renewable energy industry experts. Following that meeting, Terry Yonkers, assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics, tasked the Air Force energy team to develop a specific plan to create projects over the next three years that would add 1,000 MW of renewable generation to the Air Force portfolio. Members of the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency and the Air Force Real Property Agency have worked together to develop the plan.

AFCESA specialists also issued three Requests for Information for geothermal and small wind and solar projects. More

than 60 companies responded.

"We're excited about the response we got for the small wind Request for Information," said Ken Gray, AFCESA's Rates and Renewables Branch chief. "We got good coverage across industry and some good concepts. We're working on pilot demonstrations for vertical axis turbines. We haven't concentrated on those in the past because we knew it was harder to make the economics work."

Geothermal well exploration incurs major costs for the Air Force and energy industry.

"We've had some firms that identified themselves to us which are willing to finance and do some of the well exploration work," Gray said.

During the next three months, Air Force officials plan to issue RFIs to collect information on woody biomass, large solar, and waste-to-energy (municipal solids) technologies.

Air Force engineers currently are working with specialists at the Idaho National Laboratory to drill a well at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

"We've also been very engaged in ground source heat pumps for some time, and we continue to make significant effort to develop those and put them into place," Gray said.

Since the first industry day, AFCESA

experts are working with Air Force Research Lab engineers to create a database to document and categorize technologies that need research, development and evaluation versus those that are fully vetted.

Gray says this effort could be used throughout the DoD.

"Instead of wondering how to get your new technology into the Air Force so that it can be used, we can refine the time that you will spend calling or visiting multiple offices," he told members of industry. "We can direct you to a single office at AFRL that would be your initial starting point."

Air Force officials hope the symposium will help dispel the belief that it's often difficult to do business with the government and is asking industry to identify the contracting roadblocks.

"I can tell you we have the committed senior leadership of the Air Force that can help change that," Tune said. "I don't want you to walk away thinking we're never going to get there because we will and we can. We have proven that in the past, and we will prove it in the future."

The symposium was hosted by officials with the Secretary of the Air Force Office for Energy; the Office of the Air Force Civil Engineer; Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.; the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group; and AFCESA.



"He has fundamentally transformed the air base wing," McMahon said.

Buhler thanked the members of the wing, leaders around the base

COMMUTE Continued from 1

reimbursable through the Transportation Incentive Program, or TIP. The program allows reimbursement for commuting expenses for those who come to work in vehicles of six or more passengers.

Senior Master Sgt. Arthur Cassidy, who works with the TIP program, said it now has 487 participants, about double what it was nine months ago.

"You save on gas and

and members of the community.

"This is by far the best community I've been associated with," Buhler said. "Your patriotism and support is unlike any community I have ever seen, and unlike any I will ever see."

vehicle maintenance, and you avoid the hassle of not driving," Cassidy said.

Also on the increase is the Clean Air Campaign. It encourages carpooling by making participants to be eligible to win gas gift cards. Also, by going to www.logyourcommute.org, participants can find carpooling partners.

According to Heidi Schwingle, the Clean Air Campaign manager at Robins, there are currently 760 Robins employees registered in CAC compared to 584 a year ago.

Continued from 1 MC-130 II Combat Talon, which has a different type

of radar from a standard C-

RADOME

130. The radomes can be tested on outdoor ranges, but weather issues can delay the testing, and it takes about twice as long. That's because the first step is to run the array without the radome on it, so technicians can see any difference when the radome is in place. On the outdoor range, the array-only test had to be done each time a radome was tested because weather changes could disrupt the test. Indoors, however, the array test without the radome has to be done only once per week.

Until a couple of years ago, all of the F-15 radomes were tested outdoors, but then the new, \$6 million indoor range opened, significantly speeding up production.

The walls and parts of the floor are covered with distinctive coned foam to assure the radar signal is not distorted by interfer-

ence from the building.

Kelcey Jones, an electronics technician, said learning how to interpret the testing data to make adjustments to the radome takes some practice.

"Every single radome is different," he said.

Sometimes a radome checks out on the first test, Jones said, but more often it takes two tests. If a spot is too thin, they add a special fiberglass tape. If it's too thick it has to go back to the Plastics Shop to have some sanding done.

The F-15 range is the busiest because F-15s go through programmed depot maintenance at a faster pace. O'Malley said about 22 to 24 F-15 radomes are done per month.

The radome shop has 13 employees, and all are cross trained to test radomes on different aircraft.

The shop also checks the radar arrays for the B-52 and the Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night system.

WINGMEN WANTED ASIST – 926-2821; 327-8480 EAP – 327-7683; 926-9516 AIRMAN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING – 335-5218; 335-5236; 335-5238

FRI SAT Get Out 8 9

10 The Robins Rev-Up July 8, 2011

HAPPENINGS

ON TAP

First Friday Today 5 to 6 p.m. Dinner 6 p.m. Heritage Club and Horizons Cost \$.70 per ounce For details, call 468-2670.

Heritage Barber Shop

Closed Saturday For details, call 923-9593.

Summer

Reading Program A Midsummer Knight's Read Monday 10 a.m. Base Library 12 years and younger For details, call 497-8761.

Swim Lessons

Tuesday to Thursday Heritage Club Pool Prices vary For details, call 468-4001.

Thunder Alley Wednesday 2 to 4 p.m. **Bowling Center** \$6 per person

For details, call 468-2112.

UPCOMING

Mongolian BBQ July 11 – 15 Fairways Grille For details, call 923-1717.

Pre-Separation Briefings

July 14, 21 and 28 1 to 2 p.m. Bldg. 794 For details, call 468-1256

Interview Preparation

July 18 9 to 11 a.m. Bldg. 794 For details, call 468-1256.

Jekyll Island Beach Trip Aug. 19 – 21 Sign up by July 18 \$100 - \$200 per person For details, call 468-4001.

Great Adventure Race July 23 Check in 6:45 a.m. Race starts 7:30 a.m. **Fitness Center** For details, call 468-2128.

Fee DIDECTOD

78th FSS D	IRECTORY
 FSS Admin	 HAWC
• Outdoor Rec468-4001	 Fitness Annex472-5350 Youth Center468-2110
Arts & Crafts468-5282	► Tickets, Travel468-2945
 Horizons	 Bowling Center468-2112 Pine Oaks G.C468-4103
Library	▶ Pizza Depot468-0188

Note: Unless otherwise noted, numbers listed in the Rev-Up are DSN numbers. If calling from a commercial or off-base phone, dial prefix 222 if listed as 472; 327 if listed as 497; or 926 if listed as 468.

The Club Closet July 30 5 to 8 p.m.

Youth Center Entry fee \$1 Donate gently-used items by July 25 For details, call 468-2110. SUN

10

MON

11

ONGOING

Men's Locker Room **Closed for Renovation** Through - Jan. 2 **Fitness Center** Temporary shower trailer is available For details, call 468-2128.

ITT Discounted Summer Tickets Six Flags \$35 White Water \$30 For details, call 468-2945.

Lap Swim

Through Aug. 5 8 to 9 a.m. Heritage Pool For details, call 468-4001.

Atlanta Falcons Tickets

\$77 lower level \$40 upper level Four tickets per family For details, call 468-2945.

9-Hole Golf

Tournament Package Cost \$13 and includes green fees, cart and range balls For details, call 468-4103.

Bowling Movie Days

Mondays and Thursdays 2 p.m. \$5 kids 12 years and younger

\$6 kids 13 years and older For details, call 468-2112.

Host a Golf Tournament

Monday through Thursday Receive \$2 off per person For details, call 468-4103.

TUE

12

WED

13

THUR

U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Showtime

Robins youth participate in a Missoula Children's Theatre production of The Wiz of the West at the Base Theater. MCT tours cities around the world with scenery, costumes, props, make-up and basic lighting. The troupe casts local children for a week-long residency, which culminates with a full-scale musical production. MCT has been touring for 35 years.



MyAirForceLife.com then select Robins AFB

See page 5 of June Edge for more details!

Safety saves lives. Start your savings account today.



THINK OPSEC: YOUR TRASH COULD BE AN ADVERSARY'S TREASURE

