



# ROBINS REV-UP

Sept. 5, 2014 Vol. 59 No.35

## HOME *away from* HOME

■ During the next several months, Robins Public Affairs will document the programmed depot maintenance of one C-130H from Yokota Air Base, Japan. We will highlight various stages of the process, telling the stories of the people and organizations who make the mission happen here every day.

BY JENNY GORDON  
jenny.snider.ctr@us.af.mil

When it comes to maintaining aircraft, Team Robins members make sure they cover everything. Once an aircraft arrives at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex for programmed depot maintenance, a network of well-documented puzzle pieces must successfully fit together from the moment its wheels touch the flight line until its wings carry it back to home station.

Let's take a look at one particular aircraft – a C-130H which was built in 1974 and still performs missions around the world to this day.

It arrived at its new home away from home Aug. 22 at 6 p.m., an early Friday evening much like any other, except this specific C-130H had just travelled thou-

sands of miles across the Pacific Ocean and continental U.S.

Its home is with the 374th Airlift Wing, the host unit at Yokota Air Base, Japan.

The base, located near Tokyo, was opened by the Imperial Japanese Army in 1940, and was turned over to American occupation forces in 1945.

According to base history accounts, it was then that the base became an air cargo installation, and in 1974 became home to U.S. Forces Japan.

In 1978, the 316th Tactical Airlift Group, a component of the 374th Tactical Airlift Wing, arrived at Yokota to supervise C-130 intra-theater airlift, with the wing eventually transferring from Clark Air Base in the Philippines.

With well-written accounts of its

▶ see HOME, 8

### THE AFSC WAY

- GATE 1**  
Induction & Disassembly for De-paint
- GATE 2**  
De-paint/Wash
- GATE 3**  
Disassembly for Docks
- GATE 4**  
Inspection
- GATE 5**  
Repair & Build-Up
- GATE 6**  
Paint
- GATE 7**  
Functional Test



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

**JAN. 1, 1958**

Warner Robins Air Materiel Area officially takes responsibility of C-130 management

\*Robins Air Force Base History Office

**\*CURRENT C-130S AT ROBINS:**

- 19 PDMS; 4 are J-models;
- 6 are PDM/center wing combos;
- 2 are center wing speedlines;
- 4 are unscheduled depot level maintenance

\*As of Sept. 5

**BUILDINGS DEDICATED TO**

**C-130 PDM:**

Hangars 110, 44, 91, 2390, 2316

**HANGAR SPACE:**

394,285 square feet



## 'NOW IS THE TIME'

BY JENNY GORDON  
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Ongoing budget challenges, resiliency and force management were the topics of discussion during an Aug. 27 All Call conducted by Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger, Air Force Materiel Command commander.

"If you were to ask me the question as a senior leader what I think is our biggest challenge – it's our budget – the reduced resources that we're living with today and have been for several years," she said. "Our financial status in this country is a national security crisis."

She shared thoughts on long-term strategic planning and discussions she took part in, and how the current environment led to tough decision-making such as with last summer's sequestration across the Department of Defense. AFMC in particular took a hard hit as the command includes a 75 percent civilian population, she said.

Discussion also focused on ensur-

ing there exists a culture of resilience and respect in the workplace.

"That means we're looking after each other, that we're good wingmen and we know what's going on in each other's lives," said Chief Master Sgt. Mike Warner, AFMC command chief.

Wolfenbarger encouraged Airmen to continue to offer up good ideas as part of the Airmen Powered by Innovation, a program to encourage the submission of innovative ideas.

"The aperture is wide open, more than I've seen in my 34 years of service. For people to bring their good ideas to the table, there's an appetite to bring those forward," she said. "You are responsible for our mission execution – now is the time."

"I also credit this environment for allowing us to do something that after two years now in operation has proven itself," said Wolfenbarger, referring to the 2012 stand-up of the Air Force Sustainment Center.

▶ see TIME, 7

U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON



## Air Force Ball tickets now available

BY BRIAN SHREVE  
Robins Public Affairs

It's comprised of more than 3,000 combat aircraft and 300,000 active duty Airmen – by far the largest in the world.

So, when it comes to birthdays, what do you get for an Air Force that has it all?

Honoring America's wounded warriors is a fitting way to start. "A Hero's Welcome," is the theme of this year's Air Force Ball, which will celebrate the branch's 67th birthday Sept. 20 at the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar.

The event, hosted by the Air Force Reserve Command, is set to kick off at 6 p.m. with a social hour before the bell rings signaling the formal festivities at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the celebration are on sale now through Sept. 15. Ticket prices are \$30 for all ranks paid by cash or check only.

▶ see BALL, 7

## 'Give me your tired, your poor ...'

### IMMIGRANTS WHO SERVE SHARE THEIR JOURNEYS

BY BRIAN SHREVE  
Robins Public Affairs

He didn't wear the right clothes, and the other kids at school picked on him because of the way he talked. What did they expect?

After all, his parents worked sewing clothes in what was essentially a sweatshop, the only job they could find for those who spoke no English, the kind of place that didn't exactly yield the cash for the Air Jordans and Tommy Hilfiger shirts that enveloped the American kids of the 1990s.

Now, Senior Airman Luke Hoang remembers it all as he sits comfortably at Robins Air Force Base, far from those schooldays in Southern California, even far-

ther from his birthplace in central Vietnam.

Hoang, 78th Communications Directorate secure network infrastructure technician, is one of roughly 65,000 immigrants currently serving in the U.S. military – about 5 percent. According to the Department of Defense, there are more than 28,000 serving who have yet to obtain American citizenship.

Born in the small village of Hue, Hoang, 28, came to the U.S. at age 6, along with his parents who sought a better life for their eight children away from the dismal routines of communism, settling just outside of Los Angeles.

Life was anything but Hollywood.

▶ see JOURNEYS, 8



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

Senior Airman Luke Hoang points out his hometown of Hue, Vietnam. Hoang came to the U.S. at the age of 6.

# SECOND FRONT

## Feds Feed Families surpasses old, smashes new goal

They're going to need a bigger truck. The Robins' Feds Feeds Families campaign wrapped up Aug. 28. It was a swimming success.

After raising its food donation goal from 2,000 to 4,000 pounds after surpassing the original goal, the final tally came in at 8,712 pounds across base.

Donations will be distributed to nine local food pantries.

"It was a great effort by Team Robins," said Master Sgt. David Counts, campaign co-chair. Of particular note, the 431st Supply Chain Management Squadron collected 3,205 pounds of food.



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

From left, Staff Sgts. Dallas Maltby, Shane Vandework, and Yelitza Turner, make the final Feds Feed Families campaign collection at the Robins Commissary Tuesday. Prepackaged donation bags were put together by Kimberly Graham, Commissary personnel liaison, and placed near checkouts for easy access to customers wishing to donate.

## ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Nelia Lewis

**UNIT:** 78th Force Support Squadron  
**JOB TITLE:** Pizza Depot manager  
**TIME IN SERVICE:** 22 years  
**HOMETOWN:** Warner Robins



**What does your work involve?** "As manager of the Pizza Depot, we feed Team Robins personnel whether it is for lunch or hosting special functions."

**How does your work contribute to the Robins mission?** "We ensure everyone has access to a nutritious and fulfilling meal so they can have the strength to support the mission."

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** "Interacting with the customers, listening to their concerns and making sure we answer them."

**What prompted your interest in your current career field?** "I started as a food service worker in 1992. I became a cook leader, cashier, delivery person and assistant. I did all those jobs while in the cook leader position. While working under the previous manager, I developed a close relationship with her. She recognized my hard work ethic and mentored me which allowed me to be where I am today. What interested me in my career field is that management will continue to allow you to learn and grow. Patience and hard work pays off."

**Who has been the biggest influence in your life?** "My parents. Growing up the second oldest of nine, I had to grow up fast to help take care of my siblings while mom and dad worked. They worked hard to make sure we had food on the table. As I started elementary school, I started working in a factory. I would go to school in the morning and go to work in the evening. My parents inspired me to work hard and be patient."

## Installation Development Plan looks to Robins' future

BY BRIAN SHREVE

Robins Public Affairs

The future of Robins Air Force Base and the steps needed to achieve that vision were the topics of discussion among base leadership and others during a workshop held at Horizons Event Center Aug. 25 and 26.

The workshops are part of a new Air Force-wide requirement in order for Air Force Headquarters to evaluate all installations on the same level.

"We're looking at different sides of things," said Sarah Bowen, MBI planning lead for the project. "We're identifying what's available and how it can be used in an effective way – all assets on base, such as housing, buildings, how they can support missions and the opportunity for growth."

Outlining the proposals were members of the Michael Baker International consulting team – contractors hired by Air Force Civil Engineer Command. The team visited Robins as part of the

Installation Development Plan – a series of assessments and ideas aimed at ensuring Robins is equipped to handle the changes and challenges in the years to come.

The team prepared a map with the entire installation broken up into districts or workable pieces, said Theresa Norris, 78th Civil Engineer Group planning section chief.

The drafted mission statement marked a step in an evaluation which began in March with MBI collecting data and conducting interviews with base leadership.

"This is going to be a document that tells us our capabilities," said Norris. "The feedback has been positive."

Aside from MBI's team of three, a representative from the Army Corps of Engineers, the group responsible for overseeing the project, was also on hand.

With a focus on property, including facilities, computer systems, even pavement and roads, the team proposed several goals that will tie into the plan,

Bowen added, such as improved efficiency and sustainability of base utilities.

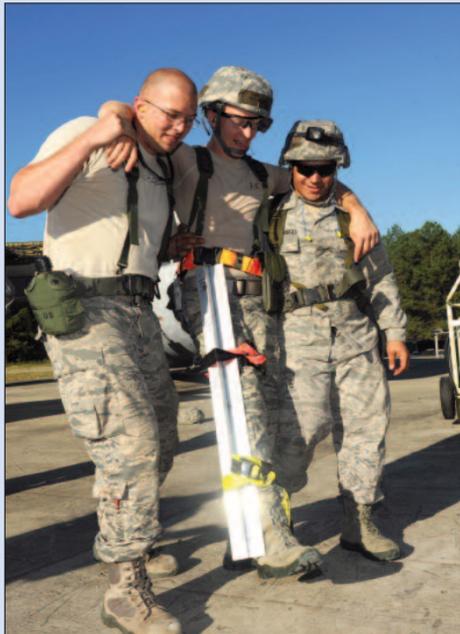
The workshop examined quality-of-life assessments for the purpose of attracting the best people through a variety of services like base dining facilities, recreational activities and flexible working hours, including the possibility of four-day workweeks which could aid employees while saving energy.

Other goals pertained to using the base's existing resources to improve environmental sustainability and areas of education to support mission training.

The plan's first draft also called for designs to ensure resiliency and flexibility for future endeavors, ideas that may change as different phases of the IDP are completed. Bowen said the plan is due for a 35-percent submission to Robins in October with an overall completion date expected next March.

"Things change," said Bowen. "It's hard to play fortune teller because knowing what to expect is hard to do, but we can make sure we're prepared."

## Practice makes Prepared



U.S. Air Force photos by TOMMIE HORTON

Far left, 2nd Lt. Nick Svirbely, Air Force Lifecycle Management Center aerospace engineer, is assisted from a mock aircraft battle damage repair site by Senior Airman William Kesler, left, 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group structural maintenance technician and Senior Airman Joshua Massas Borges, 402nd Expeditionary Maintenance depot aircraft battle repair technician, during an Operational Readiness Exercise Aug. 27.

Left, Senior Airman William Kesler, 402nd Expeditionary Maintenance depot aircraft battle repair technician, makes repairs to a damaged aircraft during the ORE. The exercise included Aircraft Battle Damage Repair scenarios and Ability to Survive and Operate training.



### MANDATORY MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EVENT SET FOR TUESDAY

A Motorcycle Safety Focus Event titled "Survival Tactics" will be conducted Tuesday at the Base Theater at 8 a.m. with a second session scheduled for 3 p.m.

The event, hosted by the 78th Air Base Wing Safety Office, is mandatory for all military members who are riders or prospective riders. All motorcycle riders, including those who may not currently own a motorcycle but are considering joining the community – including members of the civilian workforce who ride – are encouraged to attend.

**For more information contact Brandon Mitchell at DSN 472-2059 or 478-222-2059.**

# AROUND THE AIR FORCE

## Air Force OSI Tip Line offers easy, anonymous reporting tool

**HQ AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS** – Reporting suspicious activity has become easier.

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations established a tip line for the Air Force to support the Insider Threat mission.

The Tip Line is an anonymous reporting tool used to advise law enforcement of illegal activities. It provides an easily accessible avenue for people to provide info to AFOSI.

Tips can be submitted to report all types of suspected criminal activity, such as fraud, theft, drug use, rape and espionage.

There are three reporting methods individuals can use: Web based, SMS and a smart phone application.

### Use any of the following methods to send a tip:

1. Go to the following website:

<https://www.tipsubmit.com/WebTips.aspx?AgencyID=1111>

2. Text AFOSI plus your tip information to 274637, or CRIMES.

3. Download the TipSubmit Mobile application from your provider's marketplace. Select **Federal/Military**, and then select **Air Force Office of Special Investigations**.

AFOSI encourages using the line but reminds tipsters that making a false report to law enforcement is a serious offense and may be punishable by law.

Submitting tips for a training scenario is also not appropriate. All tips received are taken seriously and followed up by AFOSI agents. Once submitted, a unique tip number is provided to the tipster. That number can be used by the tipster to provide more information or update the original tip.

It can also be used to establish an anonymous two-way communication between the tipster and AFOSI.

The AFOSI Tip Line provides service members and civilians a safe, discreet and anonymous option to report criminal information, counterintelligence indicators or force protection concerns.

See something? Say something! Report suspicious activity! At Robins call 468-EYES (3937)

## Nominees sought for 2015 Joan Orr spouse award

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, TEXAS (AFNS)** – Air Force officials are seeking nominations for the 2015 Air Force Association Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year Award.

The award honors significant contributions made by non-military spouses of Air Force military members.

The nominee's spouse must be serving in the Air



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. STEPHANY RICHARDS

## The Lookout

Staff Sgt. Michael Wright, a 459th Airlift Squadron UH-1N Huey helicopter crew chief, scans an area for obstacles during a training mission Aug. 12, near Yokota Air Base, Japan.

Force – active duty, Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve.

Organization and base-level personnel must contact their major command, field operating agency or direct reporting unit for information regarding nomination.

Each MAJCOM, FOA may submit one nomination. Completed nomination packages are due to the Air Force Personnel Center by Jan. 31, 2015.

For details, visit: <https://mypers.af.mil>.

## President pledges support to veterans

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – The country is welcoming home a new wave of veterans, and Americans have a sacred trust to get them the benefits they earned, President Barack Obama said Aug. 26.

In a speech at the American Legion's annual convention in Charlotte, N.C., Obama said more than a million service members will return to civilian life in the coming years.

"We have to do more to uphold that sacred trust, not just this year and next year, but for decades to come," he said.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has had problems. There is a backlog of cases, and an internal VA investigation has found some hospitals cooked the books on waitlists for veterans to receive care.

"We're gonna get to the bottom of these problems," the president said. "We're gonna fix what is wrong. We're gonna do right by you, and we are gonna do right by your families. And that is a solemn pledge and commitment that I'm making to you here."

To read more, visit [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).



U.S. Air Force photo by TECH. SGT. MATT HECHT

## Patrolling the shadows

Staff Sgt. Luis Rodriguez, 177th Security Forces Squadron, conducts an early morning patrol around a Thunderbirds F-16D Fighting Falcon at Atlantic City Air National Guard Base, N.J. The Thunderbirds are the premier flying demonstration group and performed for Atlantic City's Thunder Over the Boardwalk Airshow Aug. 13.

## Legal

# Robins military justice actions

*Nonjudicial punishment, pursuant to Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice, provides commanders an essential and prompt means of maintaining good order and discipline, and also promotes positive behavior changes in service members without the stigma of a court-martial conviction. The punishments are determined based on the individual facts and circumstances of each case.*

### The following Airman has received courts-martial:

►An Air Force Life Cycle Management Center master sergeant was convicted and sentenced Aug. 19, for the wrongful use of marijuana on diverse occasions in violation of Article 112a, Uniform Code of Military Justice, at a special court-martial convened by Col. Chris Hill, Installation commander.

The military judge accepted the accused's guilty plea to the drug charge and specification, and deliberated on the sentence after receiving evidence and hearing argument by trial counsel and defense counsel.

In summary, trial counsel argued that military standards are important and must be adhered to by all Airmen no matter their rank or circumstances.

The accused was sentenced to five months confinement, reduction to the rank of senior airman and forfeiture of \$500 pay per month for five months.

### The following Airmen have received

#### Nonjudicial Punishment:

►A 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron senior airman assaulted his spouse in violation of Article 128, UCMJ. For this offense, the senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class



and a reprimand.

►A 78th Security Forces Squadron senior airman willfully damaged military property, to a sum of more than \$500, in violation of Article 108, UCMJ.

For the offense, the senior airman received a reduction to airman first class and a reprimand.

►A 52nd Combat Communications Squadron senior airman failed to obey a lawful order by bringing a personally owned weapon on an honor guard detail in violation of Article 92, UCMJ.

The senior airman also committed a willful dereliction of duty by bringing a personally owned weapon on base without authorization in violation of Article 92, UCMJ.

For those offenses, the senior airman received a suspended reduction to airman first class, forfeiture of \$250 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

►A 78th Medical Operations Squadron airman first class committed adultery in violation of Article 134, UCMJ. For this offense, the airman first class received a suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$88 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

►A 78th Security Forces Squadron airman was caught sleeping on post in violation of Article 113, UCMJ. The

airman also used indecent language towards another airman in violation of Article 134, UCMJ. For those offenses, the airman received a reduction to airman basic and a reprimand.

### The following Airman has received an administrative demotion:

►A 52nd Combat Communications Squadron technical sergeant was administratively demoted to staff sergeant for failing to fulfill noncommissioned officer responsibilities under AFI 36-2618 when he operated a motor vehicle off-base while under the influence of alcohol.

### The following Airmen have received administrative discharges:

►A 78th Security Forces Squadron airman basic was discharged for minor disciplinary infractions including providing a false statement to the first sergeant, failing to report to duty, sleeping on post, wrongfully drawing another Airman's firearm for an unauthorized purpose being disrespectful to a senior noncommissioned officer and making inappropriate comments to a senior airman. For this misconduct, the airman basic received a General service characterization.

►A 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron airman was administratively discharged for a pattern of misconduct, conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline, including wearing the incorrect rank, stealing headphones from AAFES on three separate occasions while deployed and shoplifting at an off-base store. For this misconduct, the airman received a General service characterization.

– Courtesy 78th Air Base Wing Legal Office

## ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER  
Col. Christopher Hill

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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

They should be e-mailed to [lanorris.askew.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew.ctr@us.af.mil) and [vance.janes@us.af.mil](mailto:vance.janes@us.af.mil)

Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. For information, call Lanorris Askew at 472-0806.

## DELIVERY

To report delivery issues, call 472-0802.

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# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## Building Blocks

Family Child Care Program offers safe home-like environment to grow

BY BRIAN SHREVE  
Robins Public Affairs



Parenthood is a gargantuan job. Throw in the additional challenges that come with serving in the military, and you've got yourself a litany of urgent responsibilities and one frenzied life.

But the Robins Family Care Center is here to help alleviate the tough task of finding a well-qualified babysitter right here on base.

For decades, the FCC's Family Childcare Program has supported Airmen, Department of Defense civilians and their families by offering daycare services in FCP providers' homes.

The benefits are substantial to Robins parents, who can rest assured the licensed child-care providers are well suited for the job, according to Tricia Gurr, 78th Airman and Family Services Flight chief.

Parents know the provider's home is thoroughly inspected on a regular basis to meet Air Force environmental and safety standards for in-home childcare and the provider has received the required yearly training in emergency procedures and appropriate care methods.

Gurr said the in-home method offers a smaller, more intimate environment, representing an alternative option to the services provided at the base's Child Development Center, which cares for up to 144 children in four age groups.

Speaking from her own experience in 1985, Gurr added that for many parents, that's a crucial component.

"For me, I had a special-needs child in the program," she said. "This offered a warm, homey atmosphere for a child who may have been overwhelmed with a larger program, espe-

cially when parents' hours can be so long."

To obtain a license, providers must have an active duty or retired military member as a sponsor and live on base or in off-base housing at Huntington Village. The process takes roughly six weeks due to an extensive background check on all adults living in the home, and providers must attend a 40-hour orientation on conducting the business.

The providers can't provide care for more than six children at a time and no more than two children under age 2.

And the program also offers significant incentives to the providers themselves. The FCC lending center in Bldg. 942 provides them with all necessary supplies, such as bedding, toys and even food for those who enroll in a connected program with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"You can take care of your own kids and make money helping others," said Maria Camacho, who has worked as an on-base provider since 2009. "That's not too bad."

Perhaps more importantly, providers are allowed to set their own, competitive prices.

The FCP currently has four providers and is in the recruitment process, with orientation set to begin in a few weeks, according to Shirletta Murray, FCC coordinator.

As for the future, the FCC is trying to establish a program that offers care during off-duty hours or even 24-hour care, as more providers become licensed, Murray added. Currently, providers' working hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"This is a good time to come on board and be a provider," she said. "It's a good business, and we have all the things available for you. And if you get licensed here and go to another base, you can transfer it and continue to provide care."



U.S. Air Force photos by  
MISUZU ALLEN

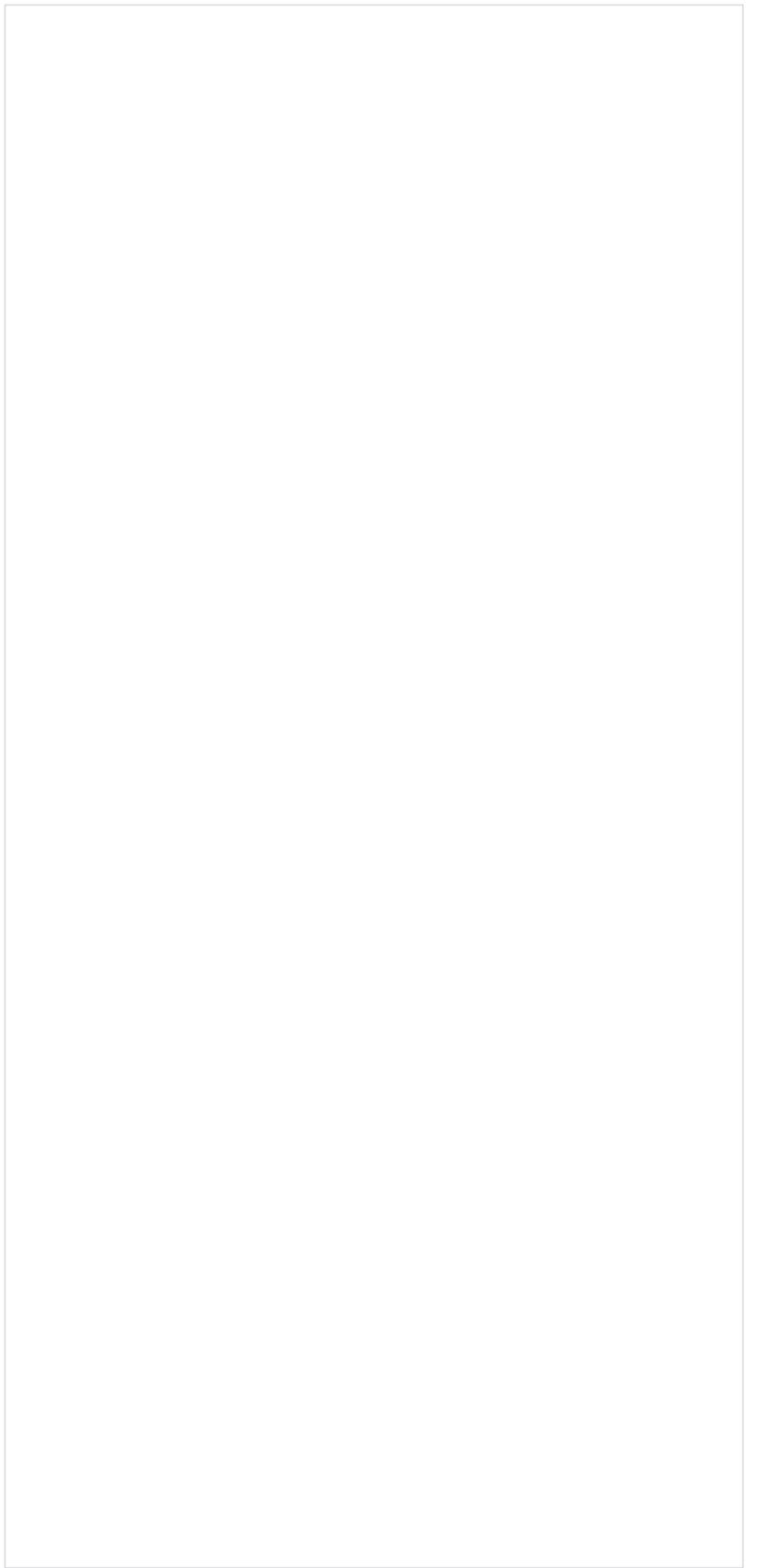
Maria Camacho is one of four Family Childcare Program providers who care for children in their homes. The FCC is now in the recruitment process and anyone who lives on base or in Huntington Village can apply to be a provider.





U.S. Air Force photo by RAY CRAYTON

A little bad weather didn't stop Middle Georgia music lovers from coming out for a few free tunes. Members of Sky Country performed for more than 160 people at the Museum of Aviation Wednesday. Sky Country is the newest ensemble of the U.S. Air Force Band of the West from Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. Two of the musicians, Staff Sgt. Jason Byrd, a guitarist, and Staff Sgt. Andy Wendzikowski, a drummer, are former members of the Band of the Air Force Reserve which was deactivated at Robins due to Air Force budget cuts. The concert, originally scheduled for Tuesday, was postponed due to inclement weather and a power outage.



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

Andrew Ollikainen, a manager with the C-17 Globemaster Aircraft Structural Integrity Program, enjoys dancing with his wife Stephanie last year during the Robins Air Force Base 66th Anniversary Ball at the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar.



## BALL

Continued from 1

Dress for military is mess dress or semi formal; and civilians, formal attire. Guest speaker will be retired Maj Gen. Jim Graves, the former Assistant to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Reserve Matters.

Senior Master Sgt. Lee Wright will be the DJ for the evening.

**POCs for ticket sales:**

- ▶CMSgt. Angela Vazquez – DVs
- ▶SSgt. Brena Wilkerson – 5th CCG
- ▶TSgt. Jessica Helgerson – 51st CBCS

- ▶SrA Abosede Ajayi – 52nd CBCS
- ▶TSgt. Janine White – 53rd CBCS
- ▶TSgt. Felecia Jones – AFRC
- ▶MSgt. Lesharee Hicks – 78th ABW
- ▶MSgt. Dawninella Ghoddi – 116th
- ▶TSgt. KY Greene – 116th
- ▶MSgt. Nicholas Caines- 461st
- ▶TSgt David “DJ” Bace – 461st Ops
- ▶SMSgt Carlos Rivera- AFLCMC
- ▶Capt. Justin Shetter – ALC
- ▶TSgt. Lawrence Henry – ALC
- ▶Urania McCormick – AFSC OIs
- ▶Dennis Shema – DLA
- ▶1st Lt. Loren Bryant – CGO
- ▶SMSgt. TJ Duplantis – Off base sales

## USE YOUR WITS NOT YOUR WATTS

## TIME

Continued from 1

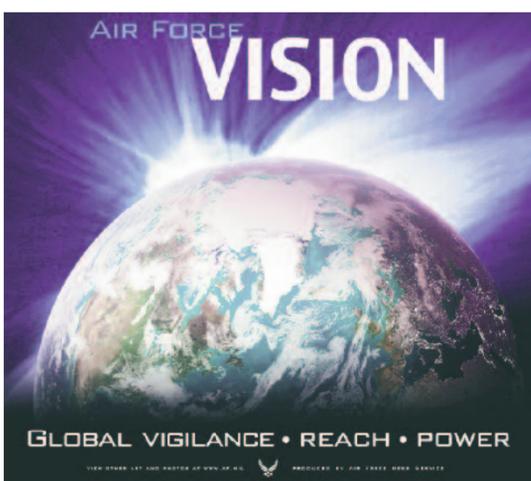
Warner touched briefly on force management actions and personnel programs, discussing VERA/VSIP, Headquarters AFMC staff reductions, military reduction in force boards and others.

When joining the service during the 1980s, he said the Air Force was at 660,000 members; at the beginning of this fiscal year, it was 330,000. The goal is to reduce to about 310,000.

Wolfenbarger thanked the Robins workforce for its support for the mission, saying it was important to be able to visit bases throughout the year and share information.

“I’m excited about the progress we’ve made,” she said, citing AFMC’s current five-center organizational construct. “I think we’re just at the forefront of realizing how much we can accomplish.”

The two-day visit included stops in the 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group, 402nd Commodities Maintenance Group, 402nd Software Maintenance Group and the C2ISR Division, and a luncheon with community representatives.





ability to operate missions across various military commands, the C-130 is said to be the go-to aircraft, performing global airlift operations from sometimes difficult landing and takeoff strips, to airdropping troops and equipment, and aerial delivery for humanitarian assistance.

It's been around for much of the latter half of the 20th century, with the C-130H first deployed in June of 1974.

Now, fast forward to 2014, and this C-130 is being prepared for an extremely thorough once over by nearby skilled mechanics.

During the next six months it will be here, floating through different locations as it moves through various processes, or gates, within the complex.

A total of 791 mechanics and support personnel in the 560th Aircraft

Maintenance Squadron will handle most of the details throughout – men and women who are aircraft mechanics, sheet metal workers and electricians. Avionics, and hydraulics specialists will perform work on the plane, and planners, schedulers and forward logistics specialists will also roll up their sleeves.

Other areas include management and program analysts, administrative and program specialists, logistics management and equipment specialists, tool and parts attendants and production supervisors.

“There are so many things that feed into the C-130 PDM line,” said Al Hainse, 560th AMXS PDM Flight chief. “There is a method to the madness.”

After arriving, the aircraft was first marshaled to the “X,” a designated location where the crew disembarks, personal belongings are removed, and the aircraft is signed over by its air crew.

Mark Marley, 560th AMXS aircraft mechanic, will have boarded the plane, and for about an hour, taken countless, detailed pictures. He does so for every incoming C-130.

“It's for accountability, but also to

identify any defects or damages to the aircraft when it gets here,” he said. “For example, I photograph every antenna, every panel, every part of the plane's exterior, wheel wells, the flight deck ... everything.”

Photos are saved and available for use by planners and engineers during PDM.

He also takes inventory of the plane, removing personal equipment and other loose items, which are stored for safe-keeping.

The induction phase is part of Gate 1, which also includes a disassembly process for de-paint operations. That work will be completed this week.

There are seven gates every plane at Robins passes through. After incoming operations checks are performed, each plane must first be de-fueled. The aircraft we're following for this story had about 1,000 gallons removed from its tanks by a member of the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Service Center.

Other tasks at this stage will involve the removal of many items, including flight controls and floorboards, as the aircraft is being prepped for whether it will

need a full de-paint or wash-only prior to its move to Gate 2.

In Gate 3, it's disassembled, and more parts are removed, such as the cargo door and wing leading edges. Fuel tank foam is removed from most of the wing fuel tanks, as well as plumbing and pumps, bladders and wings, if required.

This plane will require an isochronal inspection, conducted at Gate 4, before moving to Gate 5 for Repair and Build-Up. At that stage she's basically made whole again.

Once the aircraft is completely re-assembled, Gate 6 is where aircraft are painted as needed. After paint, the aircraft gets weighed and balanced, and then avionics checks are performed on all instruments and avionics systems disturbed during the PDM process. Once the avionics checks are completed, it moves to Gate 7 for Functional Check Flight.

**Editor's note:** *So, you think you know PDM at Robins? Journey with us during the next several months to learn more about the people and processes which make this incredible production machine move forward.*

## JOURNEYS

Continued from 1

“I found it really hard to gain acceptance where I grew up,” he said. “We were very poor. When I was a kid I dreamed of going to Disneyland, but that couldn't happen.”

Hoang said his family valued education and honor – integral factors in his choosing to enlist in the Air Force – which provided him with both those things.

“I wanted to fulfill their wishes for me to be successful,” he said. “I'm telling my family all these wonderful things I'm doing – opportunities they never had. They're really happy. That's the biggest reason they came to America.”

Though all Airmen aim high, the path toward those heights may be a bit more extensive for those born abroad.

Senior Airman Princeter Fazon, 78th Comptroller Squadron quality assurance manager, was born in the Philippines

and remembers well his days as a young immigrant in Houston.

Even to other Filipinos, given his accent, he was referred to as a “FOB,” meaning fresh off the boat.

Enlisting in the Air Force before gaining citizenship, Fazon said the military, particularly unit cohesion, has provided him with connections with those from all walks of life.

“It makes me appreciate my own culture and want to share it with people,” he said. “Everyone has a story, a story that matters. Being part of the Air Force is getting to know someone's story, and every one can relate and find some significance in that.”

If you ask Staff Sgt. Aliaksei Krasouski about the American dream, perhaps his mind will flash back to the long and winding bread lines, waiting for hours in the howling winds of the Soviet Union just to eat. Maybe he'll recall the days he and his friends shared a single piece of gum, each one chewing for 15 minutes at a time before passing it to another.

But as the renowned American poet Dr. Seuss once wrote, “Oh, the places you will go ...”

Krasouski, 78th Aerospace Medicine Squadron medical technician, arrived in the U.S. from Minsk, Belarus at age 25, alone and with hopes of making it with a cruise line company in Miami.

Though the Iron Curtain had long since fallen, Belarus remained an impoverished nation in which Krasouski worked three jobs and still couldn't afford to pay rent.

Service in the Belarusian military was mandatory, and Krasouski spent his own six months there, earning the equivalent of \$5 a month.

“We didn't even have shoelaces, no socks,” he said. “I had to wrap cloth around my feet. And, we were marching and running in these shoes in the cold like something from the second world war. I wasted my time in the Belarusian military. That's how it was.”

Krasouski, now 32, said he initially came to the U.S. with plans to make money, save up and return home. But

things quickly changed, and a couple of years later he joined the U.S. Air Force, started his own family and obtained his full citizenship in 2010.

His main obstacle was his English, he said, but he always made it a point to have a dictionary handy because he's that appreciative.

“I liked it here, and life gradually got better,” Krasouski said. “And I thought if I choose to stay in the U.S., I need to do something for this country, something more important. I wanted to be something bigger than being just another immigrant.”

Hoang said if he had to give any advice to those born outside the U.S., he would say, “Just do it,” inadvertently quoting the popular slogan of a brand of shoes which his parents couldn't provide.

“Take every opportunity you can,” he said. “Don't be close-minded and evaluate what you want to accomplish in life. Don't let your culture hold you back.”

And though he was much older, yes, Hoang did indeed get to see Disneyland.

# A BETTER YOU

## Airman & Family Readiness Center Classes, workshops & seminar schedule

► **Group Pre-Separation Briefings (separates)** - Tuesday and Sept. 30 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. (retirees) – Sept. 23 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

► **Writing a Winning Resume** – Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m.

► **Right Start** – Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

► **DoL/TAP/VA Workshop** – Sept. 15 through 19 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

► **Career Technical Training Track** – Sept. 17 through 18 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

► **Bundles for Babies** – Sept. 23 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Call 478-327-8398 to register.

► **Navigating USAJOBS & Resume Writing** – Sept. 24 from 8 to 11 a.m.

► **VA Benefits Briefing** – Sept. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

► **Educational Track** – Sept. 25 through 26 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 478-327-3410 to register.

► **Military and Family Life Counseling** – Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

► **PreDeployment Briefings** – Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m.

► **Survivor's Benefit Plan** – Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only.

*Editor's Note: All A&FRC classes require pre-registration. For more information, call DSN 468-1256, commercial 478-926-1256, or visit Bldg. 794 Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

### Civilian Health Promotion Services

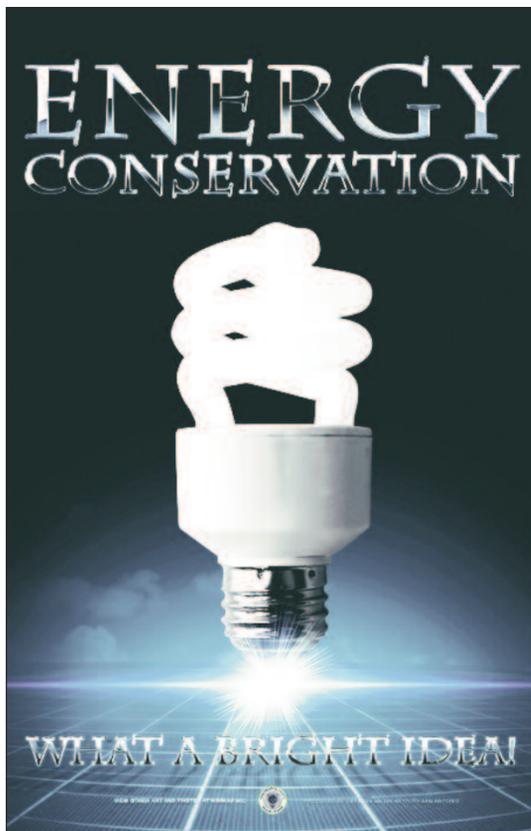
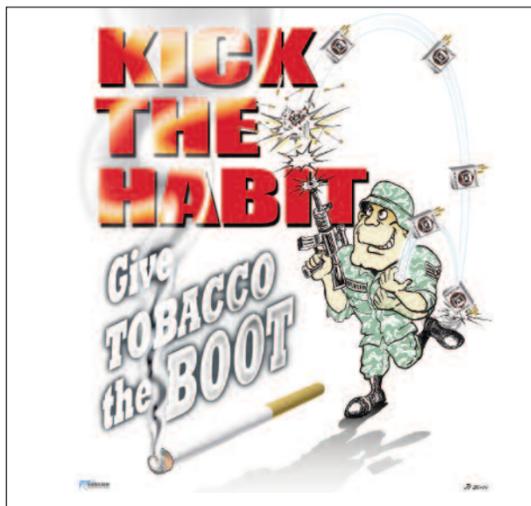
You're always invited to join Civilian Health Promotion Services in the Fitness Center Annex conference room in Bldg. 301, east wing, Wednesdays at 1 p.m. for a weekly wellness class. Classes are open to anyone with base access. Classes typically last 45 to 60 minutes.

Call DSN 497-8034 or email [April.Gray.2.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:April.Gray.2.ctr@us.af.mil).

### Upcoming class:

► **Nutrition Labels** – Wednesday  
For a calendar of all CHPS classes and health screenings, visit [AFMCwellness.com](http://AFMCwellness.com).

*Editor's note: Workload permitting and with prior supervisory permission, employees may be excused to attend CHPS classes. Employees may use any leave options that are available to them.*



# OUT AND ABOUT

FRI 5 SAT 6 SUN 7 MON 8 TUE 9 WED 10 THUR 11

**ON TAP**  
**2014 Education Fair**  
 Today  
 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
 Heritage Club Ballroom  
 For details,  
 call 497-7312.

**First Friday**  
 Today  
 5 to 7 p.m.  
 Heritage Club  
 For details,  
 call 472-7899.

**Robins Youth Bowling League Registration**  
 Saturday  
 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
 Bowling Center  
 For details,  
 call 468-2112.

**NFL Kickoff Party!**  
 Sunday

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
 Heritage Club  
 Food & Prizes  
 For details,  
 call 472-7899.

**UPCOMING**  
**Airman Chef Competition**  
 Oct. 3  
 6 to 9 p.m.  
 Base Restaurant  
 For details,  
 call 478-926-3031  
 or DSN 468-3031.

**Asian Cuisine Membership Party**  
 Sept. 16  
 5 to 7 p.m.  
 Heritage Club Ballroom  
 Free to all Robins Club members  
 For details,  
 call 472-7899.

**Family Movie Night**  
 Finding Nemo

Sept. 19  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Base Theater  
 Cost is \$2 and includes popcorn and drink.  
 For details,  
 call 468-2001.

**Military Retiree Appreciation Weekend**  
 ▶Sept. 25 through 27; commissary case lot sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 ▶Sept. 27- Military retiree pay-as-you-go breakfast, briefings open at 5:30 a.m.  
 ▶Sept. 27 - yard sale 8 a.m. to noon  
 ▶Sept. 28 - golf tournament 1 p.m.

**Job Fair**  
 Sept. 26  
 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
 Heritage Club  
 Open to all Team Robins members and eligible family members with base access.



## Robins Air Force Base on Facebook

Check out Robins on Facebook.  
 Get regular news updates and other base information.  
 Visit [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil) and click on the Facebook link.



U.S. Air Force photo by MISUZU ALLEN

## Technology Expo

Second Lt. Ani Ikon, 78th Air Base Wing Information system security engineer, talks Aug. 26 to Amy Blankenship and Mike Brown of Keysight Technologies about their products during the Technology Expo at the Horizons Event Center. The Expo showcased vendors displaying state-of-the-art information technology hardware, software and communications solutions. Interactive displays included radio frequency identification devices; touch-and-enable software; system-integration software; test inspection and tactical equipment; signal and network analyzers; and multi-level security solutions for secure and non-secure platforms which provide secure connections for servers and desktops.