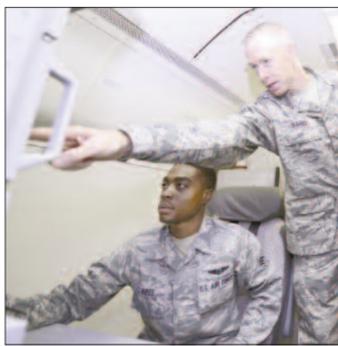


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## Lighter Fare

An up-close look at the Ocmulgee National Monument

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# ROBINS REV-UP

'Team Robins - Performing to Our Potential'

'Making Tomorrow Better than Today'

Nov. 20, 2015 Vol. 60 No. 46

## 'Air Power - a team sport'

DLA Aviation at Warner Robins provides crucial maintenance support, collaboration, capabilities

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

In many respects, in the world of defense supply chain management, the Defense Logistics Agency Aviation Industrial Support Activity at Warner Robins is the center of the universe.

The primary mission of DLA Aviation at Warner Robins is providing aircraft repair parts to programmed depot maintenance lines for the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex at Robins Air Force Base.

That support in turn directly contributed to production numbers posted



Bloker

in fiscal 2015 - the return of 217 C-5, C-17, C-130 and F-15 aircraft to the warfighter.

"We're the single face to the customer," said Col. Rod Bloker, DLA Aviation at Warner Robins commander. Bloker was formerly the commander of the 848th Supply Chain Management Group at Tinker Air Force Base., Okla.

"From a retail supply perspective,

► see CRUCIAL, A3

### ABOUT THE UNIT:

- Headquartered in Richmond, Va., includes three industrial support activity locations at the Warner Robins, Ogden and Oklahoma City air logistics complexes.
- DLA Aviation Warner Robins includes 249 employees
- As part of the Air Force Sustainment Center's Art of the Possible Leadership Model, DLA Aviation has plans to implement 'Process Excellence' that utilizes AoP tools and concepts across its work force.

## Saving LIVES

Fabric Survival Equipment Shop sees uptick in F-15 parachute inspections

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

It's been a busy few weeks in the Fabric Survival Equipment Shop's parachute packing room. Since mid-October, the shop which maintains parachutes for the F-15, has seen an uptick in the number of life-saving parachutes they must inspect - 17 at last count. Normally in a single year a total of seven to 10 parachutes are inspected and replaced as needed.

And that doesn't include other work that happens in the shop, including inspections of critical equipment such as survival and medical kits, and one-man and 20-man life rafts. A nearby team of workers also sews together material for things like flight suits, wall and floor blankets, cargo nets and even curtains for other aircraft in the fleet.

"This equipment is life-saving," said Mike McCarthy, a 573rd Commodities Maintenance Group's Aircrew Flight Equipment/Parachute Shop technician. "If you're coming out of an airplane from 15,000 to 20,000 feet, we want to make sure these parachutes open, and to get a pilot out of harm's way as soon as possible."



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Master Sgt. Kevin Spano, 339th Flight Test Squadron aircrew flight equipment, inspects an Advanced Concept Ejection Seat canopy. Activation of an aircraft ejection seat by a crewmember sets off a chain of events that propels the canopy away from the plane and thrusts the crewmember safely away from the aircraft.

Each parachute onboard an F-15 has a service life of 13 years. When one arrives, panels, harnesses, suspension lines that run from the parachute's risers to the parachute itself, control handles, everything is methodically and painstakingly inspected for any signs of wear and tear.

If anything is found, it is disassembled and repaired or replaced in a timely manner, then taken back to the F-15 Egress Shop on the flight line.

Parachute packers work in a room dedicated for the operation, which includes several 20-plus foot tables. Its components that are inspected originate

► see LIVES, A7



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

## PROMOTING A FUTURE IN ENGINEERING WITH TEAM ROBINS

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

For prospective college graduates who have studied computer science or electrical engineering, the road to a federal career at Robins can begin with a warm greeting from Maci Jackson.

Armed with dozens of pamphlets printed with information about the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, tri-folds describing civilian engineering career opportunities and knick-knacks for curious students, employment

recruiters such as Jackson stand ready for questions.

"What's it like working at an Air Force base? Do I have to enlist? What's the starting salary? What are the benefits?" they ask.

"They have no idea that this world is here," said Jackson. "I enjoy telling them the opportunities available - that it's a stable career and that you're a valuable asset for the Air Force."

A Baton Rouge, La., native, after graduating from Southern University A&M College, Jackson moved to Georgia's historic heartland

and has worked in the Engineering Directorate's office as a recruiter for the last several years.

As every recruiter recognizes, fall season can be a demanding schedule of visits to schools where students reside in respective recruiting territories.

Recruiters rack up heavy mileage on their vehicles, while others experience the same routine flying nonstop across the country. It's an endless appointment with hotel rooms and break-

► see ENGINEERING, A3

## FRIDAY FLYBY: Local Combined Federal Campaign effort ends today, A2

### Where there's smoke, there's fire

Base officials will conduct a controlled burn Monday of a wooded tract on the south end of the installation. Smoke is likely in the area. The burn, which will be the fifth in this forest, will be conducted by the Georgia Forestry Commission and base environmental staff with oversight from the Base Fire Department. The fire will only occur if certain weather parameters are met. Wind direction and speed, humidity and smoke dispersal height are especially important.



### Celebrating Native American Heritage



Susan La Flesche Picotte was the first Native American woman to become a doctor in the United States. She was born in 1865 and grew up on the Omaha Reservation. She left in 1884 to attend the Hampton Institute in Virginia and later earned a medical degree at the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania. She worked as a physician on the reservation until 1894. She treated tribal and white people, advocating for better health care for all. La Flesche Picotte died in 1915.

### Weekend Weather

Friday  
69/41



Saturday  
60/44



Sunday  
55/34



"Safety, it's an all-day affair."

# SECOND FRONT

## All hail the chief

Georgia Air National Guard photo by **TECH. SGT. REGINA YOUNG**  
**Chief Master Sergeant Michael Warner, Air Force Material Command** command chief, points at an operator work station while talking with **Tech. Sgt. Jerard Waymer (right)** and **Senior Airman Devon Ross (left)** during his tour of the E-8C Joint STARS Nov. 13. Warner was visiting Team JSTARS as part of an installation visit with mission partners.

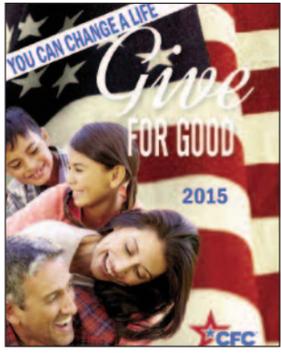


## Active CFC campaign ends today, options continue through Dec. 15

While today may be the final day of the active three-week push of the 2015 Combined Federal Campaign on base, you can still continue to elect to give through next month.

As of Wednesday, the total pledge was at \$375,864 – well short of the \$1 million goal.

The campaign's total solicitation period ends Dec. 15. Until that time, you may continue to donate with online electronic pledging through the MyPay web site. If you choose to instead use traditional paper forms, they can be turned in to unit super monitors until Dec. 15.



### CFC Unit Super Monitors:

**First Lt. Desiree Patterson, 116th Air Control Wing; Master Sgt. Trenekia Johnson, 448th Supply Chain Management Wing; Master Sgt. Morris Craven, 461st Air Control Wing; Staff Sgt. Dezare Holden, 5th Combat Communications Group; 2nd Lt. Dominique Lewis, 78th Air Base Wing; Dawn Dixon, Air Force Audit Agency; 1st Lt. Andrew Bettinger, JoAnn Boyd, 2nd Lt. Kyle Campbell, Patricia Carter, Capt. Clayton Grace, 1st Lt. Evan Glowiak, Master Sgt. John Herrin, Master Sgt. Brad Houchins, Margaret MacMackin, 1st Lt. John McKinney, Santana Printup, Robert Rutherford, 2nd Lt. Ian Verzoni, 2nd Lt. Tyler Wallis, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center; 2nd Lt. Trevor Pass, Air Force Sustainment Center - Engineering; Heidi Avant, Financial Management; 1st Lt. James Africano, Contracting; Gina Fudge, Defense Logistics Agency; Senior Master Sgt. Sack Sounakhene, Air Force Reserve Command; and Cayatana Palumbo, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex.**

## Construction project

Due to unforeseen conditions, the concrete repair south of Bldg. 110 has been rescheduled. The first phase is complete and the second phase is now scheduled for Saturday through Monday.

Both phases require work in the travel lanes and only one way of traffic is permitted. Cones and signs will be set to identify travel routes.

All dates are contingent on weather. Drivers should exercise caution in this area during these times.

## 78th Air Base Wing promotion ceremony

A 78th Air Base Wing Promotion Ceremony will be conducted Nov. 30 at 3:30 p.m. in the Heritage

Club Ballroom. The event will honor all enlisted promotees who will pin on in December.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Justin McFall at DSN 497-8052 or Tech. Sgt. Denise Rice at DSN 497-8085.

## Celebration of Lights

The chapel will host the annual tree and menorah lighting ceremony Dec. 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. on the chapel lawn. The event will feature Santa as the special guest.

Children will have the chance to visit with St. Nick, and free cookies, hot chocolate and hot dogs will be provided. Bring a



U.S. Air Force photo by **TECH. SGT. TAYLOR WORLEY**  
**U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles taxi the runway after landing Nov. 12, at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. The Strike Eagles deployed to Incirlik to conduct counter-ISIL missions in Iraq and Syria in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. This dual-role fighter is designed to perform air-to-air and air-to-ground missions in all weather conditions.**

## F-15s land in Turkey

BY ROBINS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The F-15 maintenance work Team Robins does is having a direct impact on the ongoing fight with the Islamic State.

A total of six Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles arrived at Incirlik Air Base in Turkey Nov. 12 to assist in combat operations against the Islamic State.

The aircraft were deployed as part of Operation Inherent Resolve in coordination with the Turkish government, according to recent news reports. The move will join additional U.S., Turkish and coalition aircraft in supporting anti-ISIL operations in Iraq and Syria.

Based out of Royal Air Force Lakenheath in the United Kingdom, the six aircraft, designed to perform air-to-air and air-to-ground missions, are part of the 48th Fighter Wing. The wing also deployed six F-15Cs which landed in Turkey on Nov. 6.

The aircraft were part of a move announced earlier this month to send about a dozen F-15s to Turkey, which has seen a steady presence of U.S. fighter aircraft and drones. Its location is ideal for missions since it borders Iraq and Syria to its south.

In mid-October, a dozen A-10 Thunderbolt II ground attack planes deployed from Moody Air Force Base to Incirlik in support of airstrikes.

4x6 family picture to design an ornament.

Stay for a showing of "The Polar Express" at the Base Theater at 7 p.m. presented by 78th Force Support Squadron Outdoor Recreation.

Cost is \$2 and includes movie, popcorn and drink. For more details, call DSN 468-2821 or 478-926-2821.

## Helping agencies icon

Base computers are equipped with a Helping Agencies Icon. Those who want to view it from home, can access it at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil).

The icon provides access to a list of agencies and the services they offer and contact information. The list also has direct links to a number of associated websites and brochures.

## CRUCIAL

Continued from A1

we are the focal point for anything that's needed for our maintenance teammates. We'll work through all the different and complex supply chain networks to make sure the ALC gets the parts required, when they're required," he said. "Air power is very much a team sport. That team is very broad and diverse, and a very collaborative network makes it all happen."

DLA Aviation operations here bridge aviation supply chain capabilities to satisfy retail requirements. For example, when a request is made from one of the aircraft maintenance squadrons for a specific aircraft part, that network of collaboration can extend to such places as DLA Land & Maritime in Columbus, Ohio, DLA Troop Support in Philadelphia, Pa., and DLA Aviation Headquarters in Richmond, Va.

A robust relationship exists with Air Force supply chain partners from the 448th Supply Chain Management Wing headquartered at Tinker Air Force Base. That relationship extends to the 448th's presence here – the 638th Supply Chain Management Group led by Bonnie Jones.

## 2015 highlights

The agency's accomplishments at Robins are many. There has been a 65 percent reduction in back orders – from a high of 6,974 DLA-managed items in fiscal 2011 to 2,500 back orders in fiscal 2015.

That reduction can be attributed to a focused effort to improve material support through the development and

implementation of standard work across the organization.

In fiscal 2015, the organization also sold 510,643 parts, which equates to \$272.9 million in sales.

## Organic contracts:

Retail organic manufacture request efforts resulted in the award of more than 70 organic manufacture contracts to support PDM for the C-130, C-5 and F-15 lines, as well as the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group and 402nd Commodities Maintenance Group. That resulted in \$6.9 million of inventory procured to support the complex – initiatives which directly supported production from fiscal 2015.

## NSN reviews:

Complete reviews were conducted on over 1,000 National Stock Numbers, or official unique labels applied to supply items, in support of the 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron's C-130 Prop Shop transition.

That was critical in maintaining the overall order response time and delivery response time goals for a shop that has 38 percent of all local DLA Aviation orders, according to Bloker.

By the end of October, DLA Aviation achieved a 98.33 percent order response time rate for the prop shop against a 92 percent enterprise-wide goal.

## CBT forms:

A Constraints Buster Team was formed which involved gathering data and developing a support plan for hydraulic tubes attached to the F-15 nose and main landing gear. Within 30 days, a team of F-15 support stakeholders across Robins ensured a required 21

hydraulics tubes were 100 percent parts supportable. DLA contracts were awarded and tubes were on the shelf to continue to support PDM for one year.

## C-130 efforts:

Multiple emergency offset actions to put material on the shelf for the C-130 fleet proved successful when it came to replacing crucial parts of the C-130 nose landing gear. Along with a contract cancellation, a stock-low and probable stock-out condition would have resulted in PDM stoppages at Robins and Hill Air Force bases.

Planning and support sustainment specialists here reacted quickly to identify potential surplus sources, processing multiple procurement actions in order to support both bases; first article test waivers were taken for alternate sources to produce these parts.

As it is, assets are still on the shelf after finding and procuring additional materials, which remain available to support requirements while efforts continue to pursue C-130 Program Office engineering-approved alternative sources.

"DLA Aviation at Warner Robins continues to partner with the Air Force Supply Chain, 402nd Maintenance Group, and with Air Force Life Cycle Management Center engineers in various system program offices in our Depot Supply Chain Management teams in both aircraft and in exchangeables areas," said Greg Noble with DLA Aviation's Planning and Support. "This teaming provides a quantum advance from previous eras in communication, collaboration, coordination capabilities for looking at supportability issues long before the need date. From my vantage point, after 30 years of Air

*"What we want the maintenance community to know is that if there's a supply challenge that's out there, we will get it resolved one way or the other. We don't just support the mission – we are an integral part of it."*

### Col. Rod Bloker

Commander, DLA Aviation at Warner Robins

Force and DLA supply support, we're able to avoid shortfalls in parts availability with a precision that is at a new level of performance."

He added, "It brings the state of 'Art of the Possible' for retail depot supply to a new standard. I believe the metrics and parts capability delivered to maintenance lines provides the evidence to back this up, but it also opens the door for realizing even greater potential."

No matter the occasion, DLA Aviation's supply chain capabilities play a vital role at Robins in the depot's mission of aircraft maintenance and modification, ultimately ensuring each and every aircraft is returned to a waiting customer.

"What we want the maintenance community to know is that if there's a supply challenge that's out there, we will get it resolved one way or the other. We don't just support the mission – we are an integral part of it," said Bloker.

## ENGINEERING

Continued from A1

fast bars, courtesy snacks and beverages on location, all while transporting suitcases, brochures and visual displays.

From September to late November, Jackson participates in some 30 career fairs, mostly in the southeast and at Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico and the University of Puerto Rico.

She travels to career fairs with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the National Society of Black Engineers.

It's about keeping the Robins name out there and providing insight into the depot's mission. And of utmost importance – giving 20-somethings a realistic look at what they're supporting.

"They get it," said Jackson. "It's not a hard sell. You have to find people who want to do this

type of work."

### Opportunities for graduates

Hiring mechanisms include the Expedited Hiring Authority and Pathways internships and recent graduates programs.

Palace Acquire gives graduates an opportunity for permanent, full-time positions following a three-year development and training program, involving work experience and paid graduate studies.

The Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation Program – a Department of Defense Scholarship for Service program – aims to increase the number of scientists and engineers by offering scholarships, paid internships and post-grad opportunities leading to employment. In fiscal 2015, Robins hired 87 employees through the various hiring mechanisms.

A quick profile of engineers at the base includes electrical and software engineers, and

computer scientists – most of whom work in the 402nd Software Maintenance Group.

Most are from Georgia, with students coming from engineering powerhouses such as the Georgia Institute of Technology and Mercer University. In the Robins acquisition workforce, there are 1,542 civilian scientists and engineers (this number doesn't include the 78th Civil Engineer Group).

So what's a newly-minted engineering grad to do? Entry-level candidates should have a bachelor's or master's degree in electrical, computer, software, mechanical, aerospace or industrial engineering, or computer science.

### So, what does it pay?

Entry-level salaries for engineering grads – depending on degree, GPA and experience – ranges from \$44,615 to \$57,368. That's dependent on the GS level hired at and their major. Computer science majors

can start as a GS-5 at \$38,000.

Among incentives, there's a 25 percent bonus (subject to approval) and 100 percent tuition assistance, a 40-hour workweek, paid holidays and vacation, participation in the federal retirement system and health and life insurance benefits.

In the 402nd Software Maintenance Group, there are 850 computer scientists and engineers – most are electronics and computer engineers.

Louis Santiago, who graduated from Mercer in the spring with a master's degree in software engineering, joined the 579th Software Maintenance Squadron in June.

"I definitely like being here. It's a great place to work and all the people are nice," said Santiago, a Las Vegas, Nev., native and 2010 Houston County High School graduate. His father, Andre, retired from the Air Force and is an F-15 program manager at Robins.

Santiago said Robins is a good place for new graduates. He always had an interest in math and physics in high school, and advises students still in college to ask lots of questions and to take time to discover potential career paths.

"Make sure you do a lot of research in the field you're going into as it may not be what you want," he said. "Do a lot of exploring and ask a lot of questions of your peers. See what actually interests you."

At just 23 years old, as an electronics engineer he works on software for the F-15.

"I believe I'm contributing when I'm dealing with a part of the plane that protects the pilot...any work I do I know will be a great contribution to the warfighter," he said.

**Editor's Note:** *This is part of an ongoing series about hiring and recruitment opportunities for engineers at Robins.*

# AROUND THE AIR FORCE

## Cadet research project designed to improve flight training

BY JENNIFER GREEN-LANCHONY

U.S. Air Force Academy Research Office

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFNS) – Cadet researchers at the U.S. Air Force Academy are using the latest technology to improve pilot training.

It's a seat.

But it's not just any seat. It's a dynamic motion seat, a replica of a pilot seat with electric components that allow it to function like an actual crew seat and imitate the motions a pilot may experience in the air.

The seats are the result of a cooperative research and development agreement with ACME-Worldwide Enterprises.

The research project also included a welding class for the cadet researchers.

"It's our job to build the simulator around the chair," said Cadet 1st Class Jordan Read, a systems engineering major.

The goal of the cadet researchers is to give pilots a realistic experience inside a simulator, said



U.S. Air Force photo by BILL EVANS

**Cadet 1st Class Cody Haggin tests a dynamic motion seat in the Warfighter Effective Research Center at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Cadets will use the chair to research the effects of simulated motion in advancement of flight proficiency in cadet subjects.**

Ken Levanoski, ACME's business development manager.

"When something malfunctions, you really don't

want (the pilot) to first feel it in a plane," he said.

The seat is designed to cue the pilot so they know what is happening to the aircraft, Levanoski said.

The results of the project are scheduled to be published in 2016 and will go to training commands across the Air Force and the Air Force Research Laboratory, said Lt. Col. Christopher McClernon, the research director for the Academy's Warfighter Effective Research Center.

"From those results, we can hopefully build more efficient training systems that are a better use of our taxpayers' money and produce better pilots," he said.

McClernon said the results of the project could also benefit the Academy as cadets who participate in the research project are expected to use the seats prior to the Academy's Powered Flight Program.

"The powered flight class takes cadets who have no flying experience and gives them 10 lessons (in a simulator)," he said. "What we are trying to prove is that we can train cadets to fly solo after eight lessons instead of 10."

## In Other News

### Global Hawk reaches new milestone, helps in fight against ISIL

**SOUTHWEST ASIA (AFNS)** – As the morning sun beat down on its nearly 131-foot wingspan, the EQ-4 Global Hawk unmanned aircraft descended from its 60,000-foot perch for the 500th time, coming to rest at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia Nov. 11.

The Veterans Day landing was a historic one for the Global Hawk. It was the first time that a single weapon system reached the 500-sortie milestone, and with nearly 13,000 flight hours logged, this weapon system is living up to the nickname "workhorse."

"We call this one the workhorse because it's putting in all the hours," said Staff Sgt. Bradley, a 380th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron tactical aircraft maintainer craftsman. "Reaching 500 flights is a pretty big accomplishment, especially for how new the fleet is."

**Denton Program delivers SOTO CANO AIR BASE, HONDURAS (AFNS)** – A C-5 Galaxy delivered 23,415 pounds of

### This week in Air Force History



On November 18, 1949, a C-74 Globemaster I became the first airplane to cross the Atlantic Ocean with more than 100 people aboard.

humanitarian aid supplies to Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, Nov. 9 through the Denton Program.

The 68th Airlift Squadron's C-5 traveled from Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, with stops at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, and Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, picking up 10 pallets of cargo consisting of medical supplies and equipment, clothing, donations and a tractor destined to Desarrollo Oropoli of Siguatepeque. The Denton Program was created

to allow private U.S. citizens and organizations to use space available on U.S. military cargo planes to transport humanitarian goods to countries in need.

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex provides depot maintenance on the C-5.

### Air Force International Affairs builds international Airmen

**WASHINGTON (AFNS)** – The Air Force's International Affairs deputy shared why building global air force partnerships through integrating political-military relationships, security assistance, technology and information disclosure issues ensures relationships endure during an Air Force Association monthly breakfast Nov. 10.

Allies and coalition partners from around the world listened while Maj. Gen. Lawrence M. Martin Jr. tied shrinking budgets, natural disasters and asymmetric threats to the necessity of building partnerships – not only for the immediate threats the world faces, but also to prepare for future threats as well.

"We believe the best way we can successfully take on these challenges



U.S. Air Force photo by STAFF SGT. MARIANIQUE SANTOS

## Sling load

**Airmen from the 321st Contingency Response Wing from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., try to attach a sling load to a Mississippi Army National Guard medical evacuation UH-60 Black Hawk at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, Miss., during exercise Turbo Distribution.**

is by building global partnerships, because we are stronger together," Martin said. "Building the relationships needed for today's challenges takes time, diligence, effort and persistence – a commitment to preparation in the advance of possible threats."

## PERSPECTIVE

### Planes by day, cars by night; airman's passion brings balance

BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CHRISTIAN CLAUSEN

432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

**CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nevada (AFNS)** – By day, Tech. Sgt. Gabriel, a 432nd Wing/432nd Air Expeditionary Wing sensor operator and junior executive officer, helps support global operations by flying eight-hour MQ-9 Reaper sorties from the comfort of a cushy, thick seat inside a ground control station.

But by night, he finds himself strapped into a thin, lightweight racing seat inside a raw, stripped-out track monster.

Gabriel, a soft-spoken Texas native, enlisted into the Air Force in 2004 as a C-130 Hercules crew chief until 2011 when he made the decision to cross-train and become a Reaper sensor operator. He would also find his voice through his love of cars, racing, and the raucous roar of his heavily modified Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution VI.

"I was still a first-term Airman and the sensor operator career field was in high demand and was very different than what I was doing," he said. "Just the idea of seeing a different aspect of the Air Force and giving myself a broader spectrum of what it does made me decide to open my eyes to another field."

As a sensor operator, he controls the remotely piloted aircraft's multi-targeting system ball and camera to conduct intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, as well as weapons guidance in support of U.S. and joint operations around the world.

"I love my job even though it can be highly stressful," he said. "We're flying three to four times as



U.S. Air Force photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CHRISTIAN CLAUSEN  
**Tech. Sgt. Gabriel, a 432nd Air Expeditionary Wing MQ-9 Reaper sensor operator, takes his helmet off after a race Nov. 1, in Pahrump, Nev. His name has been withheld due to security purposes.**

many hours compared to manned aircraft and we're also flying combat lines on rotating shifts continuously for years sometimes."

The RPA enterprise is at war every day, fighting long hours on changing schedules, sometimes causing missed time with the family. The airmen are charged with bringing a combat mindset to work and then leaving that mindset at the base gates when they return home.

"Despite the many stressors, I've enjoyed the sensor operator career field so far. I go to work and see things many others don't ever get to and knowing I have that experience is something special to me," he said. "What I appreciate most about my job is being able to support the military members on the ground

and make sure they can go home to their families."

To help cope with the stress, Gabriel has his passion waiting for him when he pulls in his driveway. No matter what he may have seen that day, he said it all fades away when he opens the hood of his Evo and cracks open the toolbox to tackle the next upgrade or repair.

"I feel like the racing and working on the car centers me," he said. "I've done most of the work myself except for the motor and assembling it, every other part was me, suspension, brakes, safety, and interior. The whole car and track scene is a great release."

His Evo represents a culmination of five years spent pouring himself into his car and preparing for his love of racing. Each night his garage is home to the sound of the clicking socket tools, metal clinking together as he trades one tool for another, and the occasional dropped bolt hitting the concrete.

"When I got the car it was mostly stock, it just had a few minor upgrades such as the brake lines. Since then there's not a part of it that I haven't touched other than the body," he said. "I started off with brakes, pads, two-piece rotors, full coil-over suspension setup, fully built motor with a bigger turbo which puts down about 430 horsepower to the wheels, and the last thing I did was get the car fully caged and upgraded all the safety equipment to be fully ready to go as a track car."

**Editor's Note:** To read the full story, visit <http://www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/628021/planes-by-day-cars-by-night-airmans-passion-brings-balance.aspx>.

## ROBINS REV-UP 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

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## 'Tis the season for flu shots



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Technical Sgt. Konshinea Edwards, 78th Medical Group maternal child flight chief, immunizes Staff Sgt. Tam Nguyen, 78th MDG, at the base medical clinic.

### *Robins military justice actions*

**The following airman received Administrative Demotion:**

► **A 461st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron** senior airman received a demotion to airman first class for failing to fulfill Airman responsibilities by driving under the influence of alcohol.

**The following airmen have received Administrative Discharges:**

► **A 52nd Combat Communications Squadron** senior airman was discharged for minor disciplinary infractions, including making a false official statement, failure to pay debts and numerous instances of failure to go. The member received a General service characterization.

► **A 78th Security Forces Squadron** airman first class was discharged for a pattern of misconduct (conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline) and minor disciplinary infractions. The member's misconduct and infractions included indecent language to several



airmen and several instances of failure to follow processes and procedures. The member received a General service characterization.

► **A 78th Security Forces Squadron** airman was discharged for minor disciplinary infractions, including disrespect toward a superior commissioned officer, disorderly conduct, making false official statements, assault and failure to follow procedures. The member received a General service characterization.

# SNAPSHOTS



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA



U.S. Air Force photo by TOMMIE HORTON

Above, Senior Airman Joseph Mulcahy, 78th Medical Group medical material apprentice assists customers with medical logistics needs at the group's warehouse.

Left, Marine Corps Birthday Cake Bearers present the birthday cake at the Marine Corps birthday ball. Each year as part of celebrating the Marine Corps birthday, a ball is held to commemorate the heritage of those who served and continue to serve our country. At Robins, members of Marine Aircraft Group 49, Detachment A, enjoyed an evening gala Nov. 14 at the Museum of Aviation. The Marine Corps celebrated its 240th birthday Nov. 10.



U.S. Air Force photos by MISUZU ALLEN

Left, Sandro Casas, a Georgia contractor, installs new tiles to the Fitness Center's swimming pool, Nov 5. When the renovation is complete, the pool will have new lights and a resurfaced interior and deck. Work is scheduled to be complete Jan 4. Above right, Lawrence Barley, Army and Air Force Exchange Service hard line supervisor, arranges Thanksgiving decor at the Robins Exchange.

## LIVES

Continued from A1

from the aircraft's Advanced Concept Ejection Seat, or ACES II ejection seat, which also contains additional critical survival equipment, which the Egress Shop works on when an F-15 comes in for programmed depot maintenance.

Extend a parachute out and it can reach nearly the entire length from one of the parachute's risers, which hook up to the pilot, to the top. Following inspection and replacement, they're rolled tightly again to be placed back into the pilot's seat.

The fighter aircraft are maintained at Robins by the 561st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. When one arrives for PDM, its parachute equipment is turned over to the team that includes McCarthy, Grant Morgan and Master Sgt. Kevin Spano, who packs similar canopies in Bldg. 12 that are used in backpacks worn by C-5 and C-130 pilots.

"The hardest part about this job is technique. It's so intricate that you're essentially packing this canopy into a shoebox," said Spano, NCOIC of Aircrew Flight Equipment with the 339th Flight Test Squadron. He's been packing parachutes for 13 years. "It's very tedious especially with folding."

If no repairs are made to a parachute, it can take up to five hours to inspect and roll back into its packed form.



**SAFETY SAVES LIVES.  
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## Thought for the Day

"Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore."

— Andre Gide



## What's inside

Diabetes Awareness Month, B2

Holiday cooking safety tips, B4

Holiday hours, B5

# Lighter Fare

THE ROBINS REV-UP ■ NOVEMBER 20, 2015

THE PLACE TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK AND PLAY



Looking for something to do off base but not sure where to start? Well, we've come up with a recurring series of stories and videos that's just right for you. "One Tank Trips" features day trips that – depending on what you drive – most folks can take using a tank of gas or less.

The trips will focus mostly on Middle Georgia, and they won't cost an arm and a leg. So grab your keys, fill up your tank and let's go explore!



U.S. Air Force photo by ANGELA WOOLEN

Jim David, Ocmulgee National Monument park superintendent, discusses the site's history. Native Americans first came here during the Paleo-Indian period hunting Ice Age mammals. Different cultures occupied the land for thousands of years.



## WHAT TO KNOW

Ocmulgee National Monument, 1207 Emery Hwy. Macon, Ga. 31217. Call 478-752-8257.

Check out the video story on the Robins Facebook page or on the official Robins website at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil).



U.S. Air Force photos by MISUZU ALLEN

Clockwise from top, An exhibit models the Ocmulgee Earth Lodge 1,000 years ago where meetings were held.

Many pieces of pottery have been unearthed at the site and are now on display.

The gift shop has a wide variety of memorabilia.

Miles of trails lead visitors to various historic sites.



# Step back to prehistoric times at the Ocmulgee National Monument

BY ANGELA WOOLEN  
[angela.woolen.ctr@us.af.mil](mailto:angela.woolen.ctr@us.af.mil)

For 17,000 years the Ocmulgee National Monument site has been the center of some incredible points in history.

From the Ice Age to the current day, the land has seen its share of turbulent times.

In the 1920s and '30s, individuals from Macon decided the area needed to be preserved from looting and development, said Jim David, park superintendent.

The railroad took one of the mounds and sliced it in half to build the tracks. Both sides of the Civil War were based out of the Dunlap House which was built in 1857 and two battles were fought at the park.

One of the largest archeological digs took place just 20 minutes up the road from Robins Air Force Base in the 1930s. At one time, more than 800 people were employed at the site by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Archeologists thought the site was about 1,000 years old with the visible funeral and temple mounds until they found a Clovis point, a type of projectile tip that was used in the Paleoindian period.

"That meant there were mammoth hunters in this area," David said. It also meant that the site was much older than originally thought. People had been in the area during the Ice Age and hunted the large sabre tooth tigers and woolly mammoths.

One of the most unique features of the park is the Ocmulgee Earth Lodge. The floor of the preserved lodge is 1,000 years old. Crouching through the original opening through a small tunnel, visitors can view the floor which contains 47 seats around the outside of the circle as well as three central seats near the bird effigy.

The interior is an inch or two from being a perfect circle while the fire pit is almost directly in the center and the four poles form an almost perfect square, David said.

"Twice a year, the sun comes in the hallway and lights up the center seat," he said.

There are seven mounds on site including the funeral mound, the great and lesser temple mounds and the cornfield mound. Six and a half miles of trails will take visitors to each of the historic sites.

The visitor's center houses a lot of the artifacts in its exhibits which were revamped in 2009. The collection from the 1930s dig netted 2.5 million items. The Ocmulgee National Monument ended up with the largest archeological collection in the National Park Service.

David explained that the location is ideal for settling because of the climate and its location geographically to both the coastal plain and the Piedmont regions.

The park has an average of 120,000 people each year, although in 2015, the park has already hosted more than 139,000 visitors.

The third weekend in September is the Ocmulgee Indian Celebration which is the only time there is an admission fee to the park.

For more information, visit [www.nps.gov/ocmu](http://www.nps.gov/ocmu).

# A BETTER YOU

## Diabetes education and support: What's your role?

BY STUART BAPTIES

Health and Wellness Center

National Diabetes Month is observed every November to draw attention to diabetes and its effects on millions of Americans.

This year the National Institute of Health's National Diabetes Education Program theme is "Diabetes Education and Support: Everyone Has a Role. What's Yours?"

It highlights the need for ongoing education and support among people with the disease. While the vision is a life free of diabetes, simply raising awareness is one of the main efforts behind National Diabetes Month.

Almost 30 million people in the U.S. have diabetes and another 86 million have prediabetes – a condition in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal but are not high enough for a diagnosis of diabetes.

People with prediabetes are at increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes, as well as, for heart disease and stroke. Type 2 develops most often in middle-aged and older adults, but can appear in young people.

Many people with diabetes are not aware they have diabetes due to the fact that symptoms, on their own, seem more like annoyances than signs of a dangerous condition.

### SO WHAT IS DIABETES?

Diabetes is a group of metabolic diseases characterized by high blood sugar (glucose) levels resulting from defects in insulin secretion, or its action, or both. It was first identified as a disease associated with "sweet urine" and excessive muscle loss in the ancient world because elevated levels of blood glucose lead to spillage of glucose into the urine.

Normally, glucose levels are tightly controlled by insulin, a hormone produced by the pancreas and the insulin lowers the blood glucose level. When blood glucose elevates (for example, after eating food), insulin is released from the pancreas to normalize the glucose level by promoting the uptake of glucose into body cells.

However, in patients with diabetes, the absence of, insufficient production of, or lack of response to insulin causes hyperglycemia. Diabetes is a chronic medical condition, meaning that although it can be controlled, it lasts a lifetime.

There are three main types of diabetes:

► **Type 1** – Your body does not make insulin. That



### The 10 most common early warning signs of diabetes

1. Numbness;
2. Increased Urination;
3. Unexplained Weight Loss;
4. Increase in Appetite;
5. Blurry Vision;
6. Itchy, Dry Skin;
7. Unexplained Fatigue;
8. Unquenchable Thirst;
9. Slow Healing Cuts or Bruises; and
10. Irritated Gums.

creates problems because you need insulin to take the sugar (glucose) from the foods you eat and turn it into energy for your body.

► **Type 2** – Your body doesn't make or use insulin well. In this case you may need to take pills or insulin to control your diabetes. Type 2 is the most common type of diabetes.

► **Gestational diabetes** – Some women get this kind of diabetes when they're pregnant. Most of the time, it goes away after the baby is born but, even if it goes away, these women and their children have a greater chance of getting diabetes later in life.

### THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND IF DIAGNOSED WITH DIABETES

You're the most important member of your health care team. If diagnosed with diabetes, you're the one who will manage it daily, so talk to your doctor about how to best care for your diabetes to stay healthy.

Some others who can help are:

- dentists;
- certified diabetes educators;
- dietitians;
- eye doctors;
- foot doctors; and
- pharmacists.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT DIABETES

► Take classes to learn more about living with diabetes. To find a class, check with your Primary Care

Manager or contact the Health and Wellness Center at 478-327-8480 to see what classes are available in the local area.

► Join a support group, in person or online, to get peer support with managing your diabetes.

► Read about diabetes online by checking out [www.YourDiabetesInfo.org](http://www.YourDiabetesInfo.org).

### TAKE DIABETES SERIOUSLY

You might have heard people say that they have "a touch of diabetes" or that their "sugar is a little high."

Those words suggest that perhaps diabetes is not that serious but, that's incorrect. Diabetes is serious, but you can learn to manage it very effectively. People with diabetes need to make healthy food choices, stay at a healthy weight, move more every day, and take their medicine even when they feel good.

### WHY TAKE CARE OF YOUR DIABETES?

Taking care of yourself can help you feel good today and in the future and when your blood sugar (glucose) is close to normal, you are likely to:

- have more energy;
- be less tired and thirsty;
- need to pass urine less often;
- heal better; and
- have fewer skin or bladder infections.

You will also have less chance of having health problems caused by diabetes such as:

- heart attack or stroke;
- eye problems that can lead to trouble seeing or going blind;
- pain, tingling, or numbness in your hands and feet caused by nerve damage;
- kidney problems that can cause your kidneys to stop working; or
- teeth and gum problems.

### IMPORTANT ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

- Ask your primary care provider what type of diabetes you have;
- Learn where you can go for support;
- Learn how caring for your diabetes helps you feel good today and in the future; and
- Follow your care plan carefully and follow up.

**Editor's note:** For more information on local education or support programs call the HAWC at 478-327-8480.

# GETTING TO KNOW YOU



U.S. Air Force photo illustration by **CLAUDE LAZZARA**

**UNIT:** 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron

**JOB TITLE:** Senior Production Scheduler

**TIME IN SERVICE:** 30 years

**HOMETOWN:** Warner Robins, Ga.

**What does your work involve at Robins?** "The work I do for the vehicle maintenance fleet results in scheduling the maintenance requirements for all vehicles, to include the fire department along with all first-response vehicles. That ensures critical vehicles are mission capable and ready to support the air crews flying missions and are able to respond to any emergencies here."

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** "All the people I've met and worked with over the years."

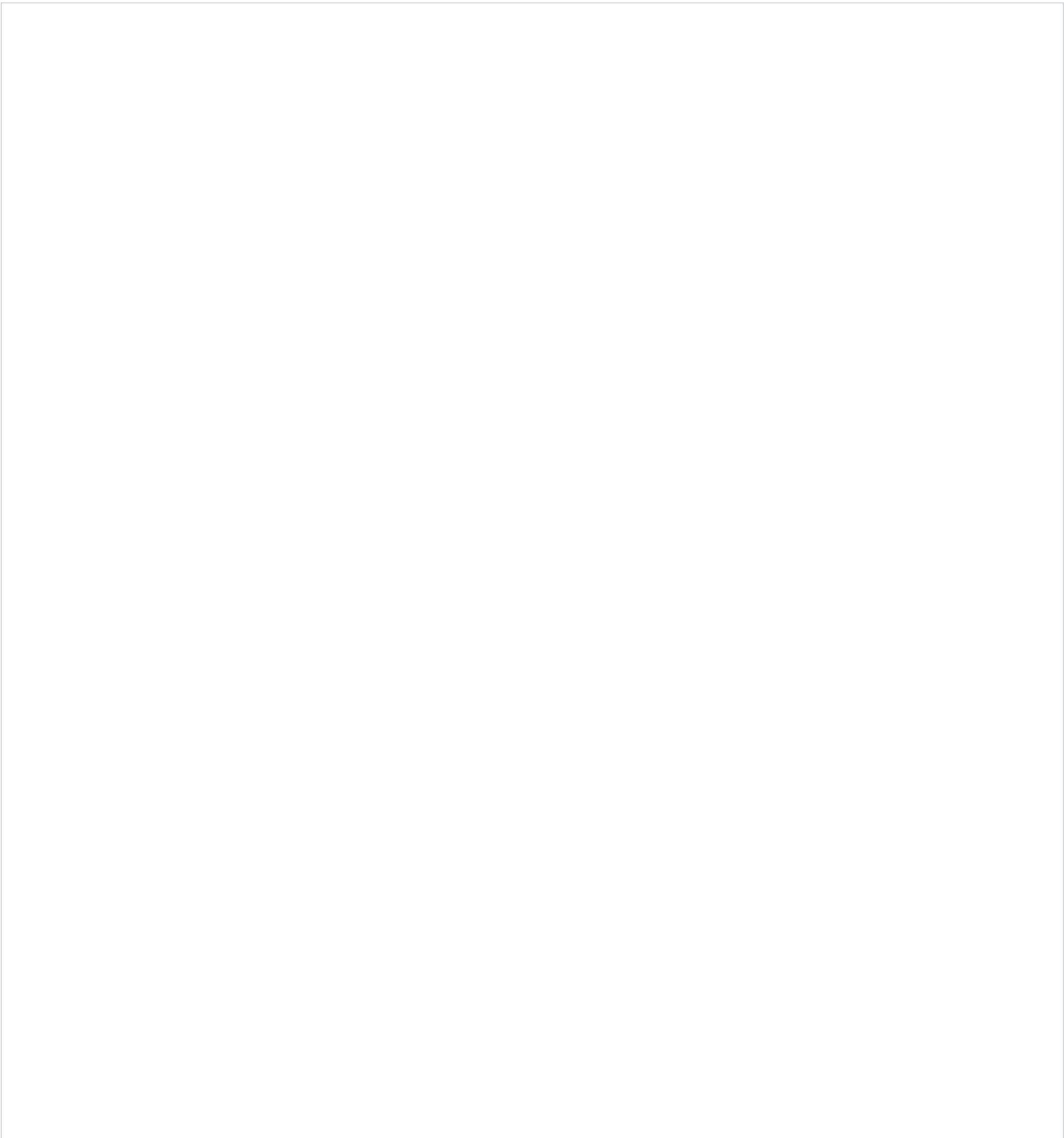
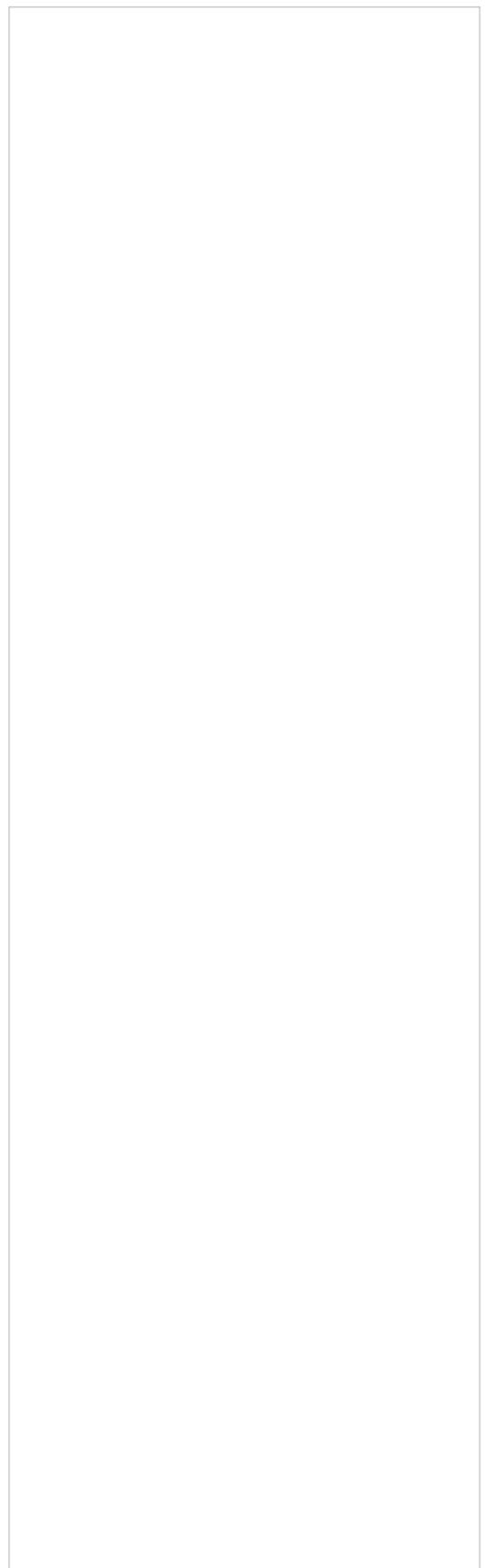
**How does your work contribute to the Robins mission?** "I feel the main contribution is to have a wonderful working relationship with our customers and vehicle control officers to ensure that all aspects of the Robins vehicle mission are met."

**What prompted your interest in your current career field?** "I love meeting new people from all over the world and hearing their stories; some of them have become lifelong friends. Also I truly love paper work, keeping accurate records and being very organized."

**Who has been the biggest influence in your life?** "God. His word has taught me to do my job as though I am working for Him."

**What is an accomplishment of which you're most proud?** "Raising my two children to become responsible, hardworking adults."

**What is the best advice you've learned?** "If you are going to do a job or anything in this life, do it well or don't do it at all."



# HOLIDAY COOKING SAFETY TIPS

BY ROBINS  
FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES

Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas and Christmas Eve.

Unattended cooking is the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths in the U.S.

Cooking equipment is the leading cause of home fires and associated injuries, and is the third leading cause of home-fire deaths.

The United States Fire Administration estimates more than 2,000 residential fires are reported each year during Thanksgiving.

With those facts in mind, Robins Fire Emergency Services is passing along these safety tips with the gravy to keep you and your family safe this holiday season.

►Stay in the kitchen when you're cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.

►Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check it frequently.

►Set a timer as a reminder that the stove is on.

►Avoid distracting activities such as watching television, talking or texting on the phone, checking email or doing laundry.

►Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.

►Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.

►When removing lids on hot pans, tilt them away from you to



protect your face and hands from steam.

►Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids' toys, pocketbooks or bags.

►Keep kitchen knives out of the reach of children.

►Be sure electric cords from items such as electric knives, coffee makers, plate warmers or mixers aren't dangling off the counter within reach of a child.

►Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet.

►Never leave children alone in the room with a lit candle.

►Make sure your smoke alarms are working.

►Keep anything that can catch on fire away from the stovetop. Pot holders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels and other flammable objects should be kept a safe distance from the stovetop.

►If there's an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning

you or your clothing.

►Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of emergency and know how to use it. Make sure the fire extinguisher is UL listed and rated for grease and electrical fires.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time.

Games, puzzles or books can keep them occupied.

Engage children in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.

Contact the Robins Fire Emergency Services, Fire Prevention Section, at DSN 468-2145 for advice if you have any questions concerning fire safety.

And, if you do experience a fire emergency on the installation, evacuate everyone from your home and call 9-1-1, or 478-222-2900.

**Editor's Note:** *Some information courtesy [www.allstate.com](http://www.allstate.com); [www.libertymutual.com](http://www.libertymutual.com); [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).*

## Frying a turkey? Do it safely

Because of the dangers associated with turkey frying, the base fire department and the National Fire Protection Association discourages the use of outdoor gas-fueled turkey fryers that use oil.

Turkey fryers can lead to injuries and property damage.

Instead they urge folks to look for grocery stores and restaurants that sell deep fried turkeys, or consider using an oil-less turkey fryer.

Below are some facts from the NFPA Public Education Division about turkey fryers consumers should consider when deciding whether to fry turkey.

### To fry or not to fry

►Hot oil can splash or spill, resulting in injury.

►Outdoor fryers use stands that can tip over or collapse. Countertop units reduce that risk.

►Cooking oil can catch on fire. If it's heated above its cooking temperature, vapors can ignite.

►Propane-fired turkey fryers must be used outdoors. If rain or snow hit the hot oil, it could splatter or turn to steam, causing serious burns.

►Partially-thawed turkey causes oil to splatter.

►Fryers use a lot of oil. Caution should be taken

when placing the turkey in and removing it from the fryer.

►Never leave food unattended. If cooking indoors and outdoors, have an adult in each area.

►When using a turkey fryer, set it up at least 10 feet away from the building and overhangs, all walls, fences, or other structures.

►Never leave a turkey fryer unattended

►Turkey fryers should be handled just like a propane grill. Ensure its burners are at least 2 feet away from the propane tank.

►Always follow manufacturer's recommendations for adding oil to your fryer. If none are available place your turkey in the cold kettle, fill with water until covered by one-half inch of water.

Mark the level, drain the kettle, dry turkey and kettle before filling kettle with oil. Raise and lower turkey into cooking oil slowly.

If a fire does occur, immediately call 911.

Don't attempt to extinguish a fryer fire with water.

For more info safety tips call the base fire prevention office at 478-926-2145.

– *Courtesy Robins Fire Emergency Services and [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).*

# HAPPENINGS/SERVICES

FRI SAT SUN MON TUE WED THUR

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

## **ON TAP**

### **Boss N Buddy**

Today  
4 to 5 p.m.  
Heritage Club Lounge  
For details, call DSN 468-2001.

### **Turkey Trot 5K**

Today  
7:30 a.m.  
Open to all Robins personnel  
For details, call DSN 468-2128.

### **Turkey Bowl Flag Football**

Saturday  
8:30 a.m.  
Fitness Center  
Open to all Robins personnel  
For details, call DSN 468-2128.

### **Trap and Skeet Club 2nd Annual Robins Trap & Turkey Shoot**

Saturday  
Noon  
Skeet Range  
\$20  
For details, call DSN 468-4001.

### **Tips from the Pro**

Tuesday  
4 to 5 p.m.  
Pine Oaks Golf Course  
All the balls you can  
hit for \$5  
For details,  
call DSN 468-4103.

### **Kids Bowl FREE**

Monday  
Bowling Center

Ages 17 and under bowl up to two games  
free (rental shoes not included)  
For details, call DSN 468-2112.

### **Dollar Day**

Tuesday  
All Games are \$1 until 4 p.m.  
Bowling Center  
For details, call DSN 468-2112.

### **Thanksgiving Bingo Bash!**

Tuesday  
6:15 p.m.  
Heritage Club Bingo Room  
For details, call DSN 468-4515.

### **Bowling Movie Day**

Wednesday  
2 p.m.  
Bowling Center  
\$6 per person  
Includes up to three games of bowling,  
rental shoes, movie showing and popcorn.  
For details, call DSN 468-2112.

## **ONGOING**

### **Afterburner**

#### **November Special**

Mondays through Fridays  
5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Base Restaurant, Bldg. 166  
White Mocha  
For details, call DSN 472-7827.

### **Atlanta Falcons Tickets**

Tickets at ITT  
\$55 Upper Level  
\$90 Lower Level  
For details, call DSN 468-2945.

# HOLIDAY AND FAMILY DAY HOURS

## **78th SFS**

- ▶ Gate 3, the Watson Boulevard Gate; open 24 hours a day Thursday and Friday
- ▶ Gate 14, the Russell Parkway Gate; open 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday and Friday.
- ▶ The Visitor Control Center and Gates 1 and 4, closed Thursday and Friday
- ▶ Police Services, closed Thursday and Friday.

## **78th MDG clinic**

- ▶ Closed Thursday through Sunday.

## **Services Activities**

- ▶ Bowling Center, open Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

- ▶ Fitness Center, open Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ▶ Golf Course, open Thursday and Friday regular hours
- ▶ Wynn Dining Facility, open Thursday, lunch from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; open Friday, lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Dinner 4:30 to 7 p.m.
- ▶ Flight line Kitchen, open 24/7

*\* Unless listed all FSS activities will be closed Thursday and Friday. For more FSS hours, visit <http://www.robinsfss.com>.*

## **Exchange Main Store**

- ▶ Closed Thursday
- ▶ Open Friday from 4 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## **Service Station**

- ▶ Closed Thursday
- ▶ Open Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## **Shoppette/Class Six**

- ▶ Closed Thursday
- ▶ Open Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## **Commissary**

- ▶ Closed Thursday and Friday.

## **Military Clothing Store**

- ▶ Closed Thursday
- ▶ Open Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more Robins Exchange holiday hours, visit [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com).

