

21 DAYS

# HAPPY EASTER!!

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

# ROBINS REV-UP

March 21, 2008 Vol. 53 No.11

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.



## What time is it? It's 'Happy Hour'!

### Local group helps Robins community in BIG way

BY LT. COL. JOHN BRYAN  
Team Robins Public Affairs Director

Everyday, the 22,000-plus members on Robins Air Force Base get a helping hand from a group called the Houston County Association for Exceptional Citizens, or Happy Hour Service Center, as it's commonly known.

From picking up recyclables such as paper, cardboard, plastic and newspaper in every work center around base to hardware sorting for Air Force planes to de-numbering tools for the 402nd Maintenance Wing, Happy Hour and its 170 "consumers" do their part to support the warfighter.

Not only does Happy Hour help support the mission of the Air Force, it also benefits the consumers, the developmentally disabled citizens who work at the service center. Happy Hour runs programs for consumers to include self-help, socialization and adaptive skills for daily living, work skill training, recreation, community integration, outreach services and residential services.

"Consumers are training in daily living skills, communication skills, social skills and work adjustment skills. Everyone is guided toward reaching his or her fullest potential," said Jim Cheshire, associate director for the Happy Hour Service Center. "We put people who want to work into paying jobs, and provide a quality service to Robins and our surrounding communities everyday."

Mr. Cheshire, a retired Air Force B-52 pilot, has been working at Happy Hour for nearly 20 years and has seen the non-profit organization grow into a \$4 million example of how good ideas turn into a huge community partner.

"I guess you could say I'm doing what I really love," Mr. Cheshire said. "Seeing these hard-working patriots come to work with smiles on their faces each day gives me an incredible amount of pride to be

Happy Hour employee Allen Spence empties recycled shredded paper into a trailer. More than 750 tons of recyclables have been collected from Robins in the last eight months. Since October 2004, the base has received more than \$575,000 back in proceeds.

here." Started in 1956, the center began in modest surroundings at the local Second Baptist Church. It has since expanded to four buildings, which house workshops, administrative offices and classrooms. The center also runs two group homes, which serve four consumers each, and an apartment complex, which serves 10 consumers in a semi-independent living environment.

The developmentally disabled adults work with many businesses and organizations in the community, including Robins. They assemble hospital kits for Houston Medical Center, clean bank code cards for 3SI in Macon, Ga.; and assemble plastic kits for Sunbelt Plastics.

"It's important for folks to know our consumers are just like them," Mr. Cheshire said. "They come to work, get a

#### BY THE NUMBERS

Pounds of recyclables collected from Robins in January:  
45,000 – cardboard  
42,000 – newspaper  
25,000 – white ledger paper  
21,000 – mixed paper  
14,000 – glass  
11,000 – plastics  
1,200 – aluminum

#### WHAT TO KNOW

For more information on Happy Hour and its programs, visit [www.hcaec.com](http://www.hcaec.com). The center is looking for volunteers. Contact Florence Tingerthal at 929-6619 or Jim Cheshire at 929-6622.

paycheck and pay taxes like all Americans. But most importantly, they live productive lives in the community and have accomplished something when they go home each day. We think that's pretty important."

Consumers who might need a little more direction from instructors to keep them on task, work in workshops at the service center. Others are placed in jobs throughout the community, including three consumers who work at base restaurants.

"We have a community employment program that helps place consumers in various jobs," said Lori Pekny, a human resources assistant at Happy Hour. "Job coaches take them to the job site and train with them and stay in contact with the management to make sure there aren't any problems."

Happy Hour's largest project is recycling. More than two hundred tons of items are recycled each month, and 40 percent

▶ see HAPPY HOUR, 2A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Mike Poole, Group Control Center flight chief, demonstrates some of the new amenities of the new facility. With the upgrades, the team can monitor production levels to help guarantee production levels are optimal.

## Group Control Center gets new home with \$400K in upgrades

BY AMANDA CREELE  
[amanda.creele@robins.af.mil](mailto:amanda.creele@robins.af.mil)

When it comes to preparing for the unexpected, members of the 402nd Electronic Maintenance Group's Group Control Center are ready and able to ensure their peers are safe and accounted for. And now they have a new, state-of-the-art facility to help make it happen.

Members of the group agree the GCC's new facility, which holds its ribbon cutting today at 9 a.m., will allow them to achieve all of their missions more effectively.

The 13-person team is responsible for many missions including emergency management, production analysis, command and control and long-range workload for the 402nd EMXG.

"They are the nerve center or hub of the whole organization," said Sandy Faircloth, director of the 402nd Electronic Maintenance Support Squadron.

The new GCC, which is at least five times larger than the old office, will be located in Bldg. 645 within the 402nd EMXG complex.

Some of the many features of the new center include satellite TV capabilities enabling them to watch national and local news and weather channels, six 40-inch plasma screens and one LCD projection screen.

The project cost more than \$400,000 and includes the adjacent conference room, which provides the GCC with video-teleconference capability.

▶ see CONTROL CENTER, 2A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

## AF recruit drops 128 pounds to enlist

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON  
[kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil](mailto:kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil)

Will Sims will enter basic training Monday as one of the Air Force's newest recruits. It is a significant milestone in a wild journey that began more than a year ago, when this young man set forth to overcome an obstacle that might keep others with less determination and resolve out of the military.

When Mr. Sims first met with Tech. Sgt. Damon Andrews, a recruiter attached to the 367th Recruiting Group here, he weighed 128 pounds more than the Air Force's maximum allowable weight. Eight months later, he swore an oath to serve the country as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

"I was told if you dream it, it will happen. Well, I dreamed it and it happened," Mr. Sims said. "It was hard, but I did it."

The first thing Mr. Sims did was cut his calories to around 1,000 per day.

Next, he started exercising at least 20 minutes per day. He gradually increased the duration of his exercises and cut even more calories from his diet.

"I was doing anything to get my heart rate up, but mainly I was running," he said. "I'd do sit ups and push ups to keep my strength up, but the majority of my exercise was running."

Mr. Sims found motivation in various places. First, there was Airman 1st Class James Robinson, a friend who had joined the Air Force months prior. The two had been in the ROTC program together at Warner Robins High School.

"I knew I was overweight, but James encouraged me to talk to a recruiter anyway," Mr. Sims said. "He told me if I really wanted it, I could do it."

So he visited the office of Sergeant Andrews, who put him on him on a scale. Although he weighed in at 303 pounds,

▶ see RECRUIT, 2A

Tech. Sgt. Damon Andrews, 336th Recruiting Squadron, stands with recruit Will Sims, who enters basic training Monday. Mr. Sims lost 125 pounds in eight months to meet the Air Force's maximum allowable weight requirements.

#### THINK SAFETY

**Alcohol Against Driving**  
222-0013  
Days without a DUI: 12  
Last DUI: 78th OSS  
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

To request a ride, call 222-0013, 335-5218, 335-5238 or 335-5236.  
Total rides given this year: 103



#### THE TWO-MINUTE REV

**CDC's junior summer camp**  
The Child Development Center will host its Junior Summer Camp June through July. Children ages 4 and older may participate. Registration begins the week of April 1 and continues as long as spaces are available. Only 24 slots are available. For more information, call Kelly Green at 926-5805.

**Team Robins annual awards**  
The Team Robins 2007 Annual Awards Banquet will be March 28 at 6 p.m. at the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar. All base personnel and family members are invited to attend. Ticket information is available through any first sergeant.

#### DIXIE CROWS



**Symposium draws excess of 1,000**  
Electronic warfare professionals gather to discuss industry, 3B

#### BASE COMMUNITY



**Reaccreditation looming for CDCs**  
Centers to be evaluated on more than 400 criteria, 3A

#### EASTER



**Chapel's annual Easter egg hunt**  
Children gather at Robins Elementary for food and fun, 1B

#### WEATHER

FRIDAY 73/47  
SATURDAY 78/44  
SUNDAY 78/45

## HAPPY HOUR

Continued from 1A

comes from Robins. In January alone, Happy Hour consumers hauled away more than 164,000 pounds of recyclable items for the base. Since July, Robins has recycled more than 1.5 million pounds of items, helping divert 750 tons of refuse from going into Houston County's landfill yearly. Much of the recycling proceeds are returned to the base.

Don Kendrick, 78th Contracting Squadron, said Robins has received more than \$575,000 in proceeds from recyclable items since October 2004. He said "Happy Hour does a good job for us and I am sure they do the job for less" than it might cost the base to pay another contractor.

Although the amount paid to Happy Hour exceeds the amount returned in proceeds, Ben Torrey, environmental manager in the 78th Civil Engineer Group, said it still costs far less than what it would cost the base to dispose of the material.

"Even though we don't collect enough revenue to cover the cost of the entire contract, it is a cost effective alternative to disposal. Plus, it's environmentally the right thing to do," Mr. Torrey said.

It would be hard to deny the impact the Happy Hour has, not only on the environment but especially on the lives of those disabled citizens it serves. Like most consumers at Happy Hour, Joe P. enjoys having a job and being productive.

"I like working for Robins. It is a good job," said Joe P., a consumer at Happy Hour. "I pick up paper and sometimes I sort it here in the workshop."

— *Additional reporting by Kendahl Johnson*



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Josh Hall, a consumer at Happy Hour, uses a dremel tool to de-number a tool so it can be reused. Tool de-numbering is one of several Happy Hour projects contracted by Robins.

## Electronics recycling event to help reduce waste

Used, non-government electronics equipment can now find another home besides your attic during E-Cycling Day.

On March 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., people can recycle their computer monitors, computer processing units, laptops, keyboards, printers and other similar electronic equipment. People can bring items to the Happy Hour Recycling Center's parking lot at 802 North Avenue in Warner Robins.

Ben Torrey, an environmental engineer in the 78th Civil Engineer Group's Environmental Management Division, said the recycling event is a great way to do something useful with old items.

"The purpose of E-cycling Day is to promote the proper disposal of unwanted electronic equipment, whether it's abandoned or unusable," he said.

He reminds people not to recycle government equipment, which goes through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office.

Mr. Torrey said E-cycling Day, which is co-sponsored by Robins, will help reduce unwanted waste.

"Electronic waste accounts for almost 5 percent of landfill volume and it contributes up to 70 percent of toxins found in landfills," he said.

While people don't have to package their recyclable electronics, Mr. Torrey said people should clean their hard drives and remove any personal information to protect identity and privacy.

In 2007, the recycling event netted more than 52,000 pounds of equipment that were wrapped, palletized, and shipped for recycling. People at Robins AFB collected 7,000 pounds of electronic equipment.

— *By Holly Birchfield*

## RECRUIT

Continued from 1A

Sergeant Andrews saw a highly motivated individual and recognized his potential to the Air Force. He began bringing Mr. Sims to the recruiting office regularly for encouragement and to measure weight loss progression.

"Being overweight is not a showstopper," Sergeant Andrews said. "If the Air Force is something you are considering and you are willing to put forth the effort, you can serve. Will has shown that."

Mr. Sims was also getting a lot of encouragement at home from his mother, June Sims, a small arms program manager in the 575th Combat Sustainment Squadron here. But she said it was his love for the Air Force that was his true motivation.

"He has always loved the Air Force, so he just decided he was going to get the weight off and join. For someone to lose

that amount of weight in that amount of time is truly remarkable," Ms. Sims said. "We were really amazed by his efforts and his dedication and perseverance. We are really proud of him."

Mr. Sims went from 44-inch pants and XXXL shirts to 32-inch pants and medium shirts. He said he has been enjoying the change.

"Everybody who sees me says 'Is that really Will?'," he said. "And the girls sort of give me a little look now, which is nice."

Mr. Sims will begin his career in aviation resource management, but has aspirations of getting his bachelor's degree and becoming an officer. He is excited for the opportunity and knows his achievements prove that anything is possible.

"Stuff isn't given to you, you have to work for it, but if you have a goal and you want to achieve something in life, then go for it. Don't let anyone tell you it's not possible," he said.

## CONTROL CENTER

Continued from 1A

The facility is also outfitted with secure telephone equipment used for classified communications and a phone linked with the Base Emergency Telephone System.

One of the most important features of the control center is a 900-gallon diesel-powered backup generator. The generator allows the group to operate for 72 hours without power.

"It keeps us running in any circumstance," said Mike Poole, GCC flight chief.

As part of the emergency management mission, the GCC team handles any inspection, plus exercise or real-world situations that might occur.

"We are like 9-1-1 for the group," Mr. Poole said.

Ryan Prosperie, emergency management coordinator, said the center has a plan for every organization and every person during emergency situations such as tornadoes or bomb threats. The office also facilitates any Force

Protection Condition changes such as electronic locking of gates throughout the group's facility, Mr. Poole said. The team is responsible for posting guards and moving cars when security measures are in place.

The facility is also equipped with cameras that allow members of the team to see who's attempting to gain entry into the center.

Along with ensuring the safety of the group's personnel, the group also helps guarantee production levels throughout the group are optimal. The new facility allows the team to monitor production levels using the tenets of visual management.

Members of the team can immediately determine shops that are producing well and shops that aren't by looking at one of the plasma screens. Great producers are shown in blue, while those with production issues are high-

lighted in red. "This way we know where to focus manpower and attention to get problems fixed," said Tammie Hanlin, lead production operation analyst.



MIKE POOLE

Group Control Center flight chief



**What is your favorite Easter tradition or memory?**



2nd Lt. Kathleen Chiarantona  
19th MXS

My Mom still sends Easter baskets with chocolate bunnies and surprises. I've been away from home for the last 6 years but I still get my basket in the mail and I'm still excited to get it.



Chief Master Sgt. Marvin Griffin  
19th MXS

Finding the golden egg at our family Easter egg hunt. Everyone in my family chips in for the prize egg. I won \$75 once and this year the golden egg is worth \$500. I plan to find it.



Laura McLeod  
402nd EMXG  
electronics mechanic

Going to my mother's house, eating her good ham and hunting Easter eggs with the children in the family.



Nick Wacome  
402nd EMXG  
electronics mechanic

I enjoy spending time with my wife and two kids, having Easter dinner and doing the Easter egg hunt.



Steven Stafford  
402nd EMXG  
electronics mechanic

Eating with my family. It's just nice to have everyone around talking.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, discusses base and community initiatives to replenish the workforce in the years ahead at Robins as Garry Shafovaloff (left), special assistant to the president of Defense Acquisition University, looks on.

## Panel discusses efforts to renew Robins work force

BY AMANDA CREEL

Amanda.creel.ctr@robins.af.mil

When it comes to developing a workforce capable of supporting the warfighter for generations to come, the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center is breaking the mold.

In October members of the WR-ALC joined the Aerospace Industry Committee, Defense Acquisition University and Macon State College to announce a new initiative in educating future and present acquisition personnel. The new initiative is three classes available at Macon State as part of a contracting curriculum. The classes replace 11 DAU training classes needed by Department of Defense employees.

One March 18, the group gathered at Horizons for a panel discussion about the partnership and what it will mean to the Center in the future.

"This is an exciting event. We are combining the resources and the wisdom from Macon State, AIC, DAU and the base. The goal is to recruit, train and interest students into acquisition careers in the DOD and prepare the next generation to service our nation," said Patsy Reeves, WR-ALC Contracting director.

The program is so innovative, DAU staff members are working to migrate and share the concept with other acquisition organizations throughout the DOD, said Garry Shafovaloff, special assistant to the president of DAU.

Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, commander of the WR-ALC, said the outside interest is one of the most exciting things about the classes being offered at Macon State.

John Cole, interim dean of the school of business at Macon State College, said it is important to continue to keep the program in the spotlight.

"It's not just news in

October when we signed the agreement or in January when we started the first class. It's news to us every time we start a class," Mr. Cole said. "And, it will still be news in two years."

Though the first class began in January, measuring the true impact of the program will not be possible until the base work force begins to benefit from the students they train, he added.

Paul McConnell, a business major at Macon State planning to take the classes, said it's good to know the base and the school has found a way to help students gain the knowledge needed in the federal acquisition community.

"It feels like they are helping us and nurturing us. It's good to know they are willing to guide you along," he said.

"It's exciting because we have Macon State, the AIC as well as a lot of young people who will benefit from the workforce development project at the very beginning of their Air Force career," General Owen said.

One of the first students to take the principles of contracting course, Valerie Kirchhefer, said she decided to take the courses to add to her existing business degree.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity to get the education needed to secure a job on the base," she said, adding the class has provided her with the skills necessary to understand the contracting career field.

She said one of the most beneficial things about the curriculum is that it shows students how the course material will be implemented on the job.

Tim Callahan, AIC chairman, said not only does the partnership help provide the base with well-educated acquisition employees it also helps the aviation industries benefit from the knowledge the courses are providing to the students.

## Reaccreditation looms

*Child development centers to be evaluated on more than 400 criteria*

BY AMANDA CREEL

Amanda.creel.ctr@robins.af.mil

When it comes to making the grade, few preschoolers realize just how important it is for their teachers to score high as educators and caregivers.

However, the parents of these developing minds know just how important it is for their children to be in a nurturing and educational environment each day.

The base's two child development centers are working hard to ensure they pass the test — not only with parents but with the National Association for Education of Young Children, who is responsible for issuing the centers' accreditation.

"The NAEYC accreditation tells the families their children are in a safe and educational environment," said Mandy Holovach, training and curriculum specialist.

This year's accreditation process is different than in past years because the ability of a child care center to become accredited now depends on more. The centers are working hard to ensure they surpass the goals at hand, according to staff members.

It is a joint effort that involves, the individual classroom teachers, parents, supervisors and the local community, Mrs. Holovach said.

Parents can help the process by volunteering to read a book or ask questions about their child's care, said

Kelly Green, training and curriculum specialist.

Both the CDC East and West are awaiting a visit from the NAEYC where the staff and their programs will be evaluated on more than 400 criteria. Once the centers complete the reaccrediting process, the staff anticipates hearing the results by late fall.

The criteria are based on 10 different standard areas such as curriculum, safety, health, teaching and assessment of child's progress.

Ms Holovach said it is important for parents to realize the centers develop curriculum based on routine observation and evaluation of the needs of the children in their care.

The new guidelines make the classroom staff more responsible for their individual classrooms. One of the ways the NAEYC monitors individual classrooms is through classroom portfolios used to display students' work.

Most importantly, the new guidelines help the staff understand why they are doing what they are doing, said Julie Hawkins, flight chief of family member programs. It helps them understand these things are designed to teach the students something.

"The benefits to the kids are the standards are set high, so it makes sure our standards are high quality standards of child care," said Margie Cyrus, program assistant for the CDC East.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Child Development Center program assistant Millicent Stillman assists Lauren Sanowar with some building blocks at the Child Development Center East March 19. The center is working towards reaccreditation, which takes place this summer.

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## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Office of Public Affairs at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. Stories and briefs must be submitted as a Word document. They may not exceed two pages, double spaced. They must be typed using the Times New Roman font, 12-point type, with 1-inch margins. All submissions will be edited to conform to Associated Press style. Submission does not guarantee publication.

Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. If there are further questions, call Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

## DELIVERY

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

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## Commander's Action Line

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

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

Col. Warren Berry  
78th Air Base Wing,  
commander

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

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

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

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

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- ▶ EEO Office 926-2131
- ▶ MEO 926-6608
- ▶ Employee Relations 926-5802
- ▶ Military Pay 926-3777
- ▶ IDEA 926-2536
- ▶ Base hospital 327-7850
- ▶ Civil engineering 926-5657
- ▶ Public Affairs 926-2137
- ▶ Safety Office 926-6271
- ▶ Fraud, Waste, Abuse 926-2393
- ▶ Housing Office 926-3776

### CAC readers at Fitness Center Annex

I am very happy to be a regular user of the fitness annex in Building 301. It is a great facility.

Normally, there are CAC reader machines at the front counter where users can put in their CAC cards and then indicate what activity they will pursue during their visit. At one time, there were 3 of these CAC readers at the desk. Later there were just two and then last week there was only one CAC reader there. I thought it was because of the ORI and exercises in progress for the base. This causes the

gym patron to have to wait in line to sign in to the gym.

I went to the gym and was surprised to have to sign in to the facility with a pen and paper. I asked the gentleman at the counter what was going on with the CAC readers. He said they are broken down and that I needed to sign in on the paper on the counter. He said they have been broken for some time.

This causes a slowed down entry process to start your workout at the gym and also it doesn't seem like a good way to track the customers'

usage and attendance at the gym.

This is a state of the art facility and it would be great to use a CAC reader to sign in, not to mention the security features of using your CAC card in an automated system.

### Colonel Berry's response:

The CAC reader machines at the fitness center annex have been inoperable due to software problems. RecTrac, the software system, has been experiencing malfunctions that have affected patron tracking at both fitness centers.

The software company has been contacted on several occasions but the root cause of the malfunction is still undetermined, making system availability spotty. Since we have to report to HQ AFMCA/ISS facility usage and hourly headcounts, we have had to track patrons by using sign-in sheets.

We apologize for the inconvenience and assure you that manual sign in will only be temporary. In the meantime, we will have multiple sign in sheets at the front desk to avoid bottlenecks at peak hours.

## Measuring progress



Top, Secretary of the Air Force Smart Operations Director Brig. Gen. John Posner (left) is briefed by John Dunn, 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group deputy flight director, about gyro shop model cell lean accomplishments.

General John Posner visited the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center March 17 to see how the Center is implementing AFSO21. He was briefed on AFSO21 successes in personnel, information technology and base medical operations and toured our Shingo recognized production lines in F-15s, C-5s, and avionics.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

*Editor's Note: The Rev-Up will print an AFSO21 question-and-answer series the third Friday of every month. Questions may be e-mailed to the WR-ALC/XP workflow with subject line marked AFSO21 question. Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, will respond to AFSO21 questions.*



Maj. Gen. Tom Owen  
WR-ALC command-



**Q:** What was the last Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century activity you attended?

**A:** I am involved in decisions regarding the center's AFSO21 journey on a daily basis and attend event in briefs and out briefs as my calendar allows. I am also heavily involved in a High Velocity Maintenance enterprise initiative aimed to increase aircraft availability using AFSO21 tools to establish a synchronized, integrated, end-to-end process.

One of the more recent out briefs I attended involved the 402nd Maintenance Software Group's workload evaluation for one of its squadrons. The team worked to establish standard guidelines to support analysis and decisions for potential workload opportunities. They developed a workload key factor to prioritize potential workload. They also worked on improving communication with the group Business Office. This one squadron-level event can have a major impact on future center workload. It's just this kind of initiative that has made us so successful in recent years.

**Q:** I understand the center has been involved in Lean, now Air

Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century, for quite a while. What about our tenant units?

**A:** Our Air Force associate units at Robins AFB fall under the Air Force umbrella for AFSO21 and are working to follow the policies and guidance established by the Secretary of the Air Force Smart Operation Office (SAF/SO). The center is committed to supporting the Air Force as a whole as others grow to the level of maturity that we have gained with our AFSO21 efforts. We provided an AFSO21 workshop for our associate units supporting the Air Combat Command and have facilitated events for the 116th Air Control Wing.

We are currently working with our neighbors in the Air Force Reserve Command to get some of their personnel AFSO21 Level 1 certified. All these activities for our associate units, as well as other Air Force agencies across the enterprise, help strengthen the core of our AFOS21 program. As one of the most mature and experienced AFSO21 organizations, it is our duty to support others that are just starting on this journey. I feel honored and privileged for WR-ALC to lead the way and share our lessons learned.

*Editor's Note: The following questions were asked at the October 2007 Commander's Call. Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, has responded to the questions.*

**Q:** When is it going to be in the budget to improve ventilation in the middle of Bldg 300 EW (Bay G particularly)? We continue having major leaks from the roof and the stink that comes from the vents can only be described as funky smelly feet and puts a major damper on attitudes knowing there are other wings in the same building that have already been renovated.

**A:** The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems in Bldg.

300 are old and on the radar scope for replacement. However, due to the size of Bldg. 300, it is difficult and very expensive to attempt replacement all at one time. Another factor that must be considered during replacement of the system is the limited spare space availability for relocation of personnel during construction. Therefore, we are currently phasing the replacement of these systems. In 2006, we completed the changes to the main mechanical room or backbone of the system located in Bay E. The current budget requests include HVAC replacement in Bay F. Funding for this type of project normally comes in September of each year, and assuming no change in distribution of funds Bay F is projected to complete in 2009. Bay G would follow for replacement in 2010. In

the meantime, please report any specific problems with the existing system to your building manager and civil engineering will do what they can to maintain the existing system.

**Q:** What is the possibility of setting up an anonymous Action Line so someone could report very important problems without releasing their identity? This is needed so that you can find out what is really going on.

**A:** An installation Action Line already exists and can be accessed by calling 926-2886 or emailing [action.line@robins.af.mil](mailto:action.line@robins.af.mil). In addition, base employees have several avenues open to report problems or complaints—specifically through the chain of command (supervisor) and/or the base Inspector General's



Maj. Gen. Tom Owen  
WR-ALC commander



office. While the Action Line is not entirely anonymous, submitters' names are kept confidential when processing the action line submission. Only the Action Line monitor knows the identity.

Requiring a name be submitted with Action Line submissions not only helps maintain the integrity of the program, but also provides a way to issue a response to the submitter.

# Military disciplinary actions

Commanders and first sergeants, in concert with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, are responsible for ensuring good order and discipline on Robins Air Force Base. There are many avenues available to meet this responsibility. Examples include trials by courts-martial, Article 15s, administrative discharges, and the U.S. Magistrate's Court. Actions recently reviewed by the 78th Air Base Wing legal office include:

### Courts-Martial

►An airman 1st class was found guilty in a summary court-martial of wrongfully using marijuana and wrongfully using her government travel card for unofficial purchases and cash advances. Punishment was reduction to E-1 and 30 days confinement.

### Article 15s

►A senior Airman wrongfully used methamphetamine.

Punishment was reduction to E-1 and a reprimand.



►A technical sergeant was derelict in the performance of his duties by failing to properly submit leave paperwork prior to taking leave. He also made a false official statement when he stated that he had submitted the leave paperwork to another individual. Punishment was forfeiture of \$1,000 pay and a reprimand.

### Discharges

►An airman received an honorable discharge for mental disorder. The member was diagnosed with a personality disorder so severe that it had an aversive affect on the condition of his assignment and duty performance.

►An airman 1st class received an Under Other Than Honorable Conditions discharge for commission of a serious offense. The member was arrested by civilian authorities for wrongfully possessing and trafficking approximately

40 pounds of marijuana. The member also forged false official government travel orders on his personal laptop computer for the purpose of procuring a rental vehicle at a discount price. The member's case was heard before an administrative discharge board before he was administratively discharged from the Air Force.

►A senior airman received an Under Honorable Conditions (general) discharge for minor disciplinary infractions. The member received a letters of reprimand for: failing to complete the fitness screening questionnaire prior to reporting for his scheduled physical fitness assessment, sleeping in the driver's seat of his vehicle while drunk, failing to pay rent, failing to meet minimum fitness standards, and failing to produce a valid driver's license, valid proof of vehicle registration, and valid proof of vehicle insurance upon request by security forces personnel while driving in excess of posted speed limit. He also had unpaid downtown traffic violation fines.

### OPSEC

#### COMMERCIAL PHISHING

The purpose of OPSEC is to reduce the vulnerabilities of Air Force missions from successful collection and exploitation of critical information by adversaries.

This means that critical knowledge of troop movements, material movements, VIP travel, reassignments, etc., should be safeguarded. Information critical to the Air Force mission should not be divulged to people who do not have a need to know.

According to John Swartz of USA Today, "For several years, groups including al-Qaeda have used cyberspace for communications, recruiting and propaganda. Now they've branched into other areas. Credit card numbers are often swiped through hacking attacks and phishing, fraudulent e-mails that trick consumers into surrendering personal information."

This article calls cyber

fraud the "...new cash cow for terrorists to finance operations..."

When we allow ourselves to fall prey to Internet based scams, the funds and information obtained are used to seek the lives of that young Airman who works in your cube, or

your organizational commander who happens to be the mother or father. Think about that when you are deciding if you should open that email or fill out that form that promises something for nothing.

OPSEC is not just an ORI discipline, it is a way of life.



Patsy Reeves  
Director,  
WR-ALC Contracting

<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>6-2821</b>	<b>A&amp;FRC</b>	<b>6-1256</b>
<b>Life Skills</b>	<b>7-8398</b>	<b>Occupational Health</b>	<b>7-7590</b>
<b>SARC</b>	<b>6-2946</b>	<b>CHPS</b>	<b>7-8031</b>
<b>HAWC</b>	<b>7-8480</b>	<b>Family Advocacy</b>	<b>7-8398</b>
<b>Medical Clinic</b>	<b>7-7850</b>	<b>AADD</b>	<b>2-0013</b>

**Personal Wingman:** \_\_\_\_\_

### TALKING POLITICS:

## Attorneys explain election rules for military, civilian

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Although the Georgia primary election is behind us, voters can still look forward to the 2008 presidential election in November. While people are encouraged to vote in the election, Robins legal experts said there is a list of dos and don'ts that military and civilians must abide by.

The rules are clear-cut and are laid out in the Hatch Act and the Joint Ethics Regulations for all federal employees. Air Force Instruction 51-902 governs what military members can and cannot do in elections.

Paul Davison, an ethics counselor in the Acquisition Law Division of the Base Legal Office, said the rules ensure the government remains neutral in the election process.

"One of the basic reasons we do this is it's a very important principle of our government that the government agencies are not going to take partisan sides in an election, even in a presidential election," he said.

Bryce Abel, an attorney adviser in the Base Legal Office, said the rules provide necessary limitations.

"In general, the Air Force wants its members, both military and civilian, to carry out their obligations as citizens to vote for the candidates of their choice," he said. "But, of course, there has to be restrictions."

While base contractors don't have a list of rules governing their political actions, Mr. Davison said contractors' political activity must be kept separate from Robins.

"Basically, there are no direct laws or regulations on contractor employees," he said. "However, they can't do things on our base because we don't allow campaigning on our base."

Mr. Davison said it's an important principle that the government, particularly the military, doesn't take sides in elections.

Debby Stone, chief of civil law in the Base Legal Office

who has practiced civil law at Robins for nine years, said a range of punishments can happen to individuals who violate one or more of the rules.

Ms. Stone said the lowest level of punishment for civilians and military members may include counsel from their unit or organization's leadership.

For more serious violations, Ms. Stone said officials at Robins consult the Office of Special Counsel and the

alleged violation is investigated.

Ms. Stone said in extreme cases, people's violations of the rules have resulted in loss of employment and serving jail time.

Mr. Davison said if people are in doubt about their actions, they should call his office.

"Call before you do something because it's a lot easier to give advice before they unknowingly do the wrong thing," he said.

### GUIDELINES FOR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

#### Civilian employees may:

- be candidates for public office in nonpartisan election
- register and vote as they choose
- assist in voter registration drives
- express opinions about candidates and issues
- contribute money to political organizations
- attend political fundraising functions
- attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- join and be an active member of a political party or club
- sign nominating petitions
- campaign for or against referendum questions, municipal ordinances or constitutional amendments
- campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- display bumper stickers on a personally owned vehicle
- hold office in political clubs or parties
- run as independent candidates for election to partisan political office and accept or receive political contributions in local city elections. (Candidacy for and service in a partisan political office shall not result in neglect or interference with the performance of the duties of the Federal employee or create a conflict of interest)

#### Civilian employees may not:

- use official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- collect political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
- knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency
- engage in political activity while on duty this includes sending of political e-mail, in any government office, wearing an official uniform or while using a government vehicle.
- solicit political contributions from the general public
- be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- wear political buttons on duty
- display large political signs, banners or posters on personally owned vehicles while on base

### GUIDELINES FOR MILITARY MEMBERS

#### Military members may:

- register to vote, and express a personal opinion on candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces.
- attend political meetings or rallies as a spectator while not in uniform
- join a political club and attend its meetings while off duty and not in uniform
- display a bumper sticker on a private vehicle

#### Military members may not:

- participate in partisan political management, campaigns, or conventions
- speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind
- march or ride in a partisan political parade
- make campaign contributions to a partisan political candidate
- display a large political sign, banner or poster on a private vehicle on or off base
- attend political meetings or rallies or join a political club and attend its meetings while in uniform



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Senior Airman Tyrone Moreland (left) and Staff Sgt. Michael Steele, 5th Combat Communications Support Squadron maintenance operations controllers, volunteer in their free time as firefighters and first responders at the Houston County Fire Department's Station 2 in Bonaire.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

## Master Sgt. Richard Macias

### TITLE:

Section chief for the Fitness Center's main facility and annex.

### HOMETOWN:

Miami, Fla.

### FAMILY LIFE:

He and his wife, Cynthia, have been married for 18 years. They have two daughters: Kathryn and Samantha

### HOBBIES

Cooking Italian and Latin food and doing yard work, especially landscaping.

### ON FITNESS :

"We must be fit so we can perform our duties as deployed, active-duty servicemembers and to improve our quality of life for everyone, both military and civilian."

### LIFE'S MOTTO:

"Do unto others as you'd have done to you" and "If momma isn't happy, nobody's happy."

## Robins workers moonlight as volunteer firefighters

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

When Staff Sgt. Michael Steele and Senior Airman Tyrone Moreland aren't defending their country, they're defending people's property and lives.

Sergeant Steele and Senior Airman Tyrone Moreland, who are both maintenance operations controllers in the 5th Combat Communications Support Squadron at Robins Air Force Base, are volunteer fire fighters and first responders at the Houston County Fire Department's Station 2.

Airman Moreland's father, Rennelle Moreland, has been a fire fighter in Melbourne, Fla. for 27 years. Now, his 25-year-old son is following in his footsteps.

"I always had an interest," Airman Moreland said. "For me, it's more about helping people in need. Fighting fires is a rush for me."

Sergeant Steele, a father of two, said his desire to help others fueled his fire fighting passion also.

"It's knowing that I have the ability to help somebody else in a time of need," he said. "It's knowing that if one of my next door neighbors's children or loved ones gets sick or falls and gets hurt, they don't have to wait necessarily on 911. They can come (and knock on my door)."

For both Airmen, their fellow fire fighters are a second family, one they often spend more time with than their families at home.

Sergeant Steele, a 27-year-

old Huntington, W.Va. native, who has been with the local fire department's Station 2 since February 2002, is totally committed to his fire fighter service.

"(With a fire fighter's job), you've got to be 100 percent committed, because if you're not and your mind isn't right and you're not where you need to be exactly when you need to be there, that's somebody else's life at that given second that you're risking," he said.

Sergeant Steele said his fire fighter service has caused him to miss many birthday parties, holidays, and family functions.

Sergeant Steele and Airman Moreland keep their 'bunker gear' with them at all times so they can respond at a moment's notice.

On more than one occasion, Sergeant Steele has been behind the wheel driving to the scene of a fire, while Sergeant Moreland gears up in the passenger seat.

But, Sergeant Moreland said when military duty calls, such as a military exercise, his ultimate passion has to take a backseat.

While both men have pledged allegiance to military service, they take just as much pride in their commitment to saving lives – a job Sergeant Steele said isn't for everyone.

"It's a big deal," he said. "I am a fire fighter. I do carry that rank and honor with pride, because not just anybody can be a fire fighter. The physical demands and the training we're required to go through and the gear that we wear, it's pretty intense."

### ► IN BRIEF

#### COMMISSARY ADVANCED RESALE TRANSACTION SYSTEM COMING SOON

Starting April 15 the Robins Commissary will begin installing the Defense Commissary Agency's new state-of-the-art checkout stations.

"This new front-end operation, known as the Commissary Advanced Resale Transaction System, or CARTS, features new cashier stations designed to make purchasing groceries easier and more efficient," said Paula Lewis, store director. "It also includes self-checkout modules that will enable customers to scan and pay for their own purchases."

Ms. Lewis said customers will definitely benefit from the checkout operation scheduled to be installed in each of DeCA's 261 stores.

Features of the new checkout

stands include the following:

►A 15-inch, color-screen display to allow customers a better view of their purchases. The screen can also be used to remind shoppers of store specials and other promotions.

►A touch-screen display for cashiers that will speed up the checkout process.

►A hand-held scanner that allows cashiers to reach bulkier items in the cart.

►Price-check stations that will enable customers to scan the price of products before they reach the checkout station.

►Electronic check conversion which speeds up the check-writing process by eliminating handling of paper checks and bank deposits by store personnel.

"This system represents a new era of service for the customer," said Ms. Lewis "Our customers will be amazed at how this technology will improve their shopping experience."

# Easter celebration

*Although rain postponed the annual Robins Easter egg hunt for one day, the delay didn't put a damper on the fun, as this year's event was still an 'egg-ceptional' success*

Photos by Sue Sapp



Katelyn Anderson, 2, with the Easter bunny.



Keira Gallagher, 22 months



Children scatter in a hunt for Easter eggs



Brandon Nelson, 4

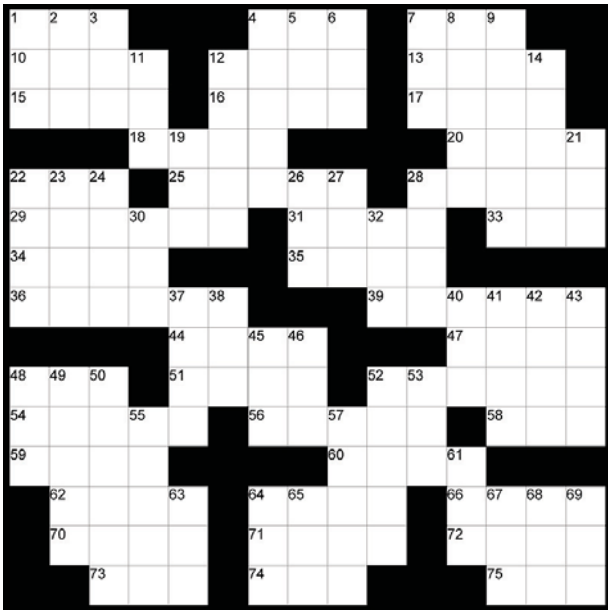


Katelyn Anderson, 2



Caeden Simpson, 3

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## Plane English

By Capt. Tony Wickman  
71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

### ACROSS

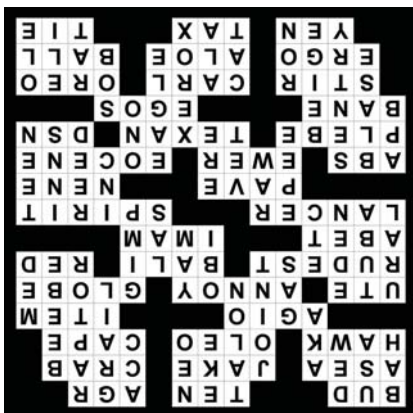
1. Begin to develop
4. X, to Cicero
7. USAF Guardsman status
10. On the ocean
12. Jarhead actor Gyllenhaal
13. Decapod crustacean
15. HH-60 Pave \_\_\_\_
16. Margarine
17. \_\_\_\_ Fear
18. Premium on money in exchange
20. Single article or unit in a collection or series
22. American Indian people of Utah and W Colorado
25. Bother
28. C-17 \_\_\_\_master III
29. Most obnoxious
31. Southern Indonesia island
33. Sea between Africa and Arabia
34. Encourage illegally
35. Officiating priest of a mosque
36. B-1
39. B-2
44. MH-53 \_\_\_\_ Low
47. Barred, gray-brown wild goose of Hawaii (state bird)
48. Stomach muscles, informally
51. Pitcher with a wide spout
52. Epoch of the Tertiary Period
54. S. Military and Naval academies freshman
56. T-6
58. Mil. phone system
59. Person or thing that ruins or spoils
60. Self-esteem or self-image feelings
62. Affect strongly; excite
64. Gen. \_\_\_\_ Spaatz, first CSAF
66. Sandwich cookie
70. Therefore
71. Lotion additive
72. RC-135 Cobra \_\_\_\_
73. Desire
74. Burdensome charge, obligation, duty, or demand
75. Bind, fasten, or attach with a cord, string, or the like

3. Morning precip
4. T-38
5. To make (a living) or support (existence) laboriously
6. Keanu in The Matrix trilogy
7. USAF MAJCOM
8. Holy \_\_\_\_; medieval legend
9. F-22
11. Alias id
12. E-8 \_\_\_\_ STARS
14. Buffalo Bills, Green Bay Packers former WR Don
19. Fuel
21. Teaching degree, in brief
22. Eurasian mountain range
23. Valved, brass wind instrument having a low range
24. Garden spot
26. Japanese sash
27. Sweet potato
28. Cripple; lame person
30. And others; and so forth, in brief
32. \_\_\_\_ Vegas
37. Fencing sword
38. Uncooked
40. Combined in one body; made part of, in brief
41. Saxophone need
42. Hotels
43. Young person
45. Animal doc
46. Before, poetically
48. Police acronym for everyone to search for someone
49. Indifferent to or bored with life; unimpressed
50. E-3
52. F-15
53. Lennon's lady
55. Very light brown, as of undyed wool
57. Brand name for a copying machine for reproducing materials
61. Cry
63. Actor/director Howard
64. Feline
65. Pie \_\_\_\_ mode
67. Fink
68. NY Giant Manning
69. Bullring cheer

### DOWN

1. Mil. pay entitlement
2. Home to Americans

## SOLUTION



## DONATE YOUR LEAVE

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

To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, wings should send information to Lanorris Askew at: lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks. The following has been approved as leave recipient: Robert Johnson, 581st SMXS. POC is Chris Overcash at 926-1877.

## SERVICES BRIEFS

### FRIDAY

**A Gourmet Night will be held tonight in the Georgia Room at Horizons.** A menu including an exquisite five-course menu paired with hand-picked wines from around the world will be created by Chef Douglas Goodridge. Cost is \$56.95 for club members and \$59.95 for nonmembers.

**Registration for the summer camp lottery ends today at 5 p.m.** Camp is open to children, ages five to 12 years old (5-year-olds must complete kindergarten). Priority is given to current users of the School-age program. The next top two priority categories that will be drawn first are single employed parents (active duty or DOD civilian) and then dual employed parents (dual military/DOD and active duty with DOD spouse). All other spaces will be filled by the lottery. The drawing will be March 31 at 11 a.m. Go to www.robins-services.com to print out the registration form and either bring it to the Youth Center or fax it at 926-2356.

### SATURDAY

**Bring the children to a magical eggstravaganza to be held today** from noon to 3 p.m. at the community center parking lot, opposite the swimming pool. Enjoy a magic show, face painting, egg decorating, bunny hop, egg race, bouncy castle, Freedom Skaters and other activities. Free food and drinks for children. Please bring a towel or blanket to watch a magic show. Photos can be taken with the Easter Bunny. If you would like to volunteer, please call the community center. This event is presented by the community, youth and child development centers.

### SUNDAY

**An Easter Sunday brunch** will be today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Horizons ballroom. Cost is \$12.95 for members, \$14.95 for guests, \$6.95 for children (10 years old and under) and free to children two years and younger and is open to all ranks and grade.

### THURSDAY

**The 78 Air Base Wing Sports Day is scheduled for March 27** at the outdoor fitness track. For more information call the fitness center at 926-2128 or fitness center annex at 926-2840.

**A 2008 Bridal Show will be March 27** from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom. The show will feature catering services, a bridal wear fashion show, exhibits from Horizons, the Heritage Club, Pizza Depot, the Base Chapel, Arts & Crafts Center, Outdoor Recreation, ITT and a host of local vendors to help make wedding planning easier. As a part of the show, the 78th Services Division will give away a wedding dress valued at \$600 and plenty of other prizes. Enjoy fun, food and wine tasting, education and prizes. Cost is \$10 per person and \$5 for club members. Tickets go on sale March 3 at Horizons and the Heritage Club.

### UPCOMING

**Information, Tickets and Travel** Robins Enlisted Club, Bldg. 956 has the following tickets for sale. For more information on these or other events, call 926-2945.

**The Child Development Center will host its Junior Summer Camp** its centers June 1 through Aug. 1. Children ages 4 and older may participate. Only 24 slots are available. Registration begins the week of April 1 and continues as long as spaces are available. For more information, call Kelly Green at 926-5805.

**Watch "Wrestlemania XXIV" on March 30** at 7 p.m. in the Heritage Club Lounge, located in Bldg. 956. Cost is free for members and \$5 for nonmembers.

**A 9-pin no-tap tournament will be held at the Bowling Center** March 29 at 6 p.m. Entry fee is \$15.

**A Link Up 2 Golf orientation class** will be held April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at Pine Oaks Golf Course with classes starting April 17. Link Up 2 Golf offers participants over \$300 in savings for \$109 per person. Class I will be held April 17, 24 and May 1, 8 and 15 at 5:30 p.m. and Class II on April 18 and 25 and May 2, 9 and 16 at 5:30 p.m. Sign up at the pro shop.

**The Arts & Crafts Center will hold the following classes in March:**

- Scroll saw March 26 from 6 – 8 p.m., cost \$12
- Watercolor painting landscapes March 27 from 1 to 3 p.m., cost \$12
- Acrylic painting landscapes March 27 from 10 a.m. – noon, cost \$12
- Sketching March 28 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., cost \$7 kids/\$10 adults
- Cherish scrapbook March 25 from 5 – 7 p.m., cost \$15
- Beginning scrapping March 27 from noon – 1 p.m., cost \$15
- Mosaic weekly March 24 to April

14 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., cost \$60. Advance registration and payment is required for all classes. Classes are subject to change without notice.

**A bike trip is slated for May 3 at Red Top Mountain** in Atlanta, Ga. Cost is \$25 per person and includes transportation, guide and water. Arrive at outdoor recreation at 8:30 a.m. and depart at 9 a.m. Must have 10 people to make trip. Registration deadline is April 5. For more details call outdoor recreation.

**The Airmen Against Drunk Driving program** provides rides free of charge to all Robins DOD card holders. Coverage is from Perry to Macon. For a free, anonymous ride, call 222-0013. The 78th Services Division also offers designated driver programs. To learn more call 926-2670.

## SERVICES PHONE DIRECTORY

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

Additional information on Services events and activities can be found in **The Edge** and at **www.robins-services.com**

## Blood drive



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Elvia Guyton, phlebotomist with Kendrick Memorial Blood Donor Center, checks the arm of Judy Register, 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group aircraft records manager, preparing her for a blood donation March 14 at the youth center.

## WWW.ROBINSSERVICES.COM

## CHAPEL SERVICES

### Catholic Lenten Schedule

Good Friday Liturgy March 21 at 7 p.m.; Holy Saturday Mass at 8 p.m. with reception to follow in the annex; Easter Sunday Mass March 23 at 9:30 a.m.

### Islamic

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

### Jewish

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

### Orthodox Christian

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

### Protestant Easter Week Schedule

Good Friday Service March 21, 5 p.m. chapel sanctuary; Easter Sunrise Service March 23, 6 a.m. chapel with sunrise breakfast to follow; Easter Worship Service March 23, traditional 11 a.m.; contemporary 6 p.m.

The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.



## NOW PLAYING



FRIDAY  
JUNO  
PG-13

Juno is a whip-smart teen confronting an unplanned pregnancy by her classmate Bleeker. With the help of her best friend Leah, Juno finds her unborn child a "perfect" set of parents: an affluent suburban couple, Mark and Vanessa, longing to adopt.



SATURDAY  
WELCOME HOME ROSCOE  
JENKINS  
PG-13

Talk-show sensation R.J. Stevens left his modest southern upbringing and family name to transform into a self-help guru to millions of adoring fans. His parents request he come home for their 50th wedding anniversary. The TV host heads back to Georgia to prove to his family that he's no longer the awkward kid they relentlessly picked on.

Tickets: \$4 adult; \$2 children (11 years old and younger). Movies start at 7 p.m., unless noted. For more information, call the base theater at 926-2919



## AtHoc System enables base officials to push out emergency messages

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
hollybirchfield@robins.af.mil

Getting information out quickly when an emergency strikes or weather threatens is important for workers at the Robins Command Post.

The AtHoc System, which combines a network alerting capability with a reliable emergency notification management system, now helps keep people informed.

The system came online in temporary fashion at Robins in February to notify people of exercised tornados, lightning and severe thunderstorms during the base's emergency management exercise portion of the Operational Readiness Exercise.

The system was meant to be used in the Operational Readiness Inspection in April.

Master Sgt. Gary Nale, NCO in charge of console operations at the Command Post, said before the system's use, information was thrust out via the "giant voice," the Mass Notification System and the Automated Emergency Notification System.

Sergeant Nale said the AtHoc system makes disseminating information much easier now.

"The AtHoc is a network notification system that's a test base messaging to e-mail Blackberry and it's a system that will integrate with the telephone and the giant voice system and computer systems," he said. "It provides constantly updated metrics and real-time feedback for the controllers or the Installation Control Center who are putting out these broadcasts."

Sergeant Nale said using the AtHoc notification system is simple.

"We go to a URL on the Web and put in our password," he said. "There's a server down in Eglin (Air Force Base, Fla.) and basically it's a commercial phone center that distributes the alerts to Robins users."

The Command Post now uses the system to alert people about suspicious packages, bomb threats



or other severe situation notifications, Sergeant Nale said.

Sherry Pfeifer, a project manager in the 778th Communications Squadron, said the system opens a small window on base computer screens that contains relevant emergency information.

"You've got a little icon (on) your taskbar now and that application goes out every couple of minutes and looks to see if you've got any alerts that it needs to pick up and deliver to you," she said. "When it gets one, it brings up that little window on your screen with an audio alarm letting you know something is coming in."

Ms. Pfeifer said people should use the "acknowledge and close" button to exit the window so the Command Post can account for notifications made.

Mark Stallings, a project manager in the 778th CS, said the AdHoc has a far better reach of people than previous notification methods.

"The giant voice might not touch every area," he said. "So, if they just go out with a verbal announcement, it may not get to everyone."

Tech. Sgt. Theodore Jackson, NCOIC of the Systems and Training Management Function at the command post, said while the system has limited use right now, it has great potential.

"AtHoc has the capability to notify all base (local area network) users of situations currently or about to take place at our base. As of right now, we are using it for our weather notifications, but that will soon expand to a multitude of notifications approved by the commander," he said.

## Electronic warfare symposium draws huge crowd

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
hollybirchfield@robins.af.mil

More than 1,000 people in the electronic warfare profession from the government and private industry turned out for the 33rd Annual 542nd Combat Sustainment Group and Dixie Crows Electronic Warfare Symposium at the Museum of Aviation March 16-20.

About 50 exhibitors set up more than 60 booths displaying electronic warfare technologies at the event.

Brig. Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger, director of intelligence and requirements at Air Force Materiel Command Headquarters, served as the symposium's keynote speaker, addressing the Air Force's new direction for electronic warfare management and several other movements in the electronic warfare profession.

Kermit Quick, president of the Association of Old Crows, said the symposium offered electronic warfare professionals from around the globe a chance to learn from each other through technical sessions and a number of courses provided during the event.

"I think it's one of the better symposiums we have," he said. "We have a national symposium, but the Dixie Crows symposium is one of the annual events that many of us attend to support the work they do here and support the discipline of electronic warfare."

Several people from the Robins community were presented with awards recognizing their contributions to the profession during the event.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

The floor of the Century of Flight hanger was filled with vendors' displays at the 33rd Annual 542nd Combat Sustainment Group and Dixie Crows Electronic Warfare Symposium this week.

Wes Heidenreich, president of the Dixie Crow Chapter of the Association of Old Crows, said the symposium raised \$120,000. Part of that money funded scholarships awarded by the organization.

Mr. Heidenreich said this year, the symposium provided about \$41,000 in scholarships for base employees, both civilian and military, to pursue education goals.

Lisa Fruge, current vice president of the Dixie Crows Chapter and incoming president of the organization, said the chapter will donate \$5,000 generated by the symposium to the Museum of Aviation.

Ms. Fruge said she's very pleased with the interest the symposium generated.

Randy Inboden, a flight director in the 542nd CSW, said the symposium helped him learn how to better serve his customers.

"I'm here to see what the vendors have that might be coming out new and also (learn more about) strategic plans as far as how to support our customers," he said. "It actually brings all of the customers, as well as all of the contractors and vendors, together in one area and allows you to interface with all the people involved with electronic warfare from around the globe."

### ► IN BRIEF

#### ASMC MONTHLY MEETING

The Middle Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers will hold its monthly meeting and luncheon March 25 at 11:30 a.m. in the Horizons Club. The featured speaker will be Dr. Jim Moyer of the 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing Financial Management office.

The meeting will recognize the local chapter award winners and new members.

Attendees will enjoy a "serve yourself" buffet that costs \$10 for members and \$11 for non-members. For more information, call Lorenzo Hill at 222-2381.

#### JOB FAIR

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will host a job fair March 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Robins Heritage Club. This job fair is open to individuals with Military and DOD ID cards and their family members. Bring resumes and be prepared to interview. For more

information call 926-1256.

#### AFAS FALCON LOAN

Falcon Loan is now available to Air Force members. Download the application off the AFAS website at [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org).

#### SAM SHORTLINE TRIP

The Airman & Family Readiness Center is hosting a Deployed Families Event. Come ride the Sam Shortline excursion train out of Cordele March 29. Transportation, Train Ticket, and lunch provided. This is

an all-day affair. Registration is required no later than March 21. Contact the A&FRC for more information at 926-1256 or visit [www.samshortline.com](http://www.samshortline.com).

#### COMMISSARY CLOSURE

The Robins commissary will be closed March 23 for Easter. There will be a side-walk sale at the commissary March 28-29. The next case lot sale will be May 16-18.

For more information call Paula Lewis, store director, at 926-3714 or Chris Milligan at 926-2125.



# Robins scrubs special interest areas for compliance inspection

## ORI in focus

(Editor's note: This is the eighth installment in a weekly series outlining Robins' efforts in preparing for April's Operational Readiness Inspection.)

BY HOLLY L. BIRCHFIELD  
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The Operational Readiness Inspection isn't the only test Robins Air Force Base will undergo in April.

Certain functional and special interest areas outside of military and civilians' primary responsibility could be reviewed in a targeted compliance inspection while the Air Force Materiel Command's Inspector General Team visits.

Target compliance inspections are spot reviews of work areas to ensure all is in good working order.

Col. Kenneth Sharpless, inspector general for Robins AFB, said TCI susceptible areas include records management, safety, security, and Wingman Boldface Program management just to name a few.

"During the course of the ORI and TCI, we're going to have to focus in on records management (and) ensuring the vehicle fleet is safe," he said. "When the inspection team comes in and they conduct a unit compliance inspection of an installation, they're looking at it from a broad perspective."

Colonel Sharpless said inspectors will check units' compliance with Air Force and Defense Department instructions, laws, and regulations.

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Holt, Unit Self Inspection



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Leon Berry, millwright, checks the "lock out, tag out" procedure on a roll grooving tool in the pipe shop in Bldg. 321. The procedure controls the energy source of the machine when performing repairs or maintenance.

Program manager in Robins' I.G. Office, said Robins' units recently conducted unit self inspections in their respective areas and the results were given to Colonel Sharpless for tracking as critical and major findings as a whole.

Colonel Sharpless said Robins is postured for success.

"I think we are in good shape," he said. "Our own internal units have just gone through a self inspection. All units have reported and pulled out their checklists and they know where their weaknesses are. Obviously, they've expended time and effort to correct those deficiencies that they've self identified."

Units should be ready to give inspectors a plan of action for any deficiencies, Colonel Sharpless said.

"If inspectors come down

and conduct a (TCI) and they find things, we have a game plan in which we're working," he said.

Colonel Sharpless said people should be honest about problem areas and show inspectors how they'll be fixed.

Sergeant Holt agreed.

"Be true and honest on your self inspections and get an accurate look," he said. "It will be all right in the long run. If you've identified it and have an action plan to correct it, then that's going to be good for everybody."

Any time a major command conducts an inspection, everyone is watched for other things such as military courtesies, Colonel Sharpless said.

If violations are found in such areas, they can be included in the base's ORI report, Colonel Sharpless said.