

YEAR 2008 IN REVIEW

It was a busy and productive year for Team Robins. The Rev-Up takes a look back at the 10 most memorable stories from 2008.

Robins takes aim at saving energy costs, introduces awareness campaign

With energy costs rising and a mandate from the President to decrease energy usage, members of the base were asked to be more responsible when it comes to personal energy usage in the workplace. In May, to help raise this awareness, senior leadership at Robins made energy conservation its No. 1 priority.

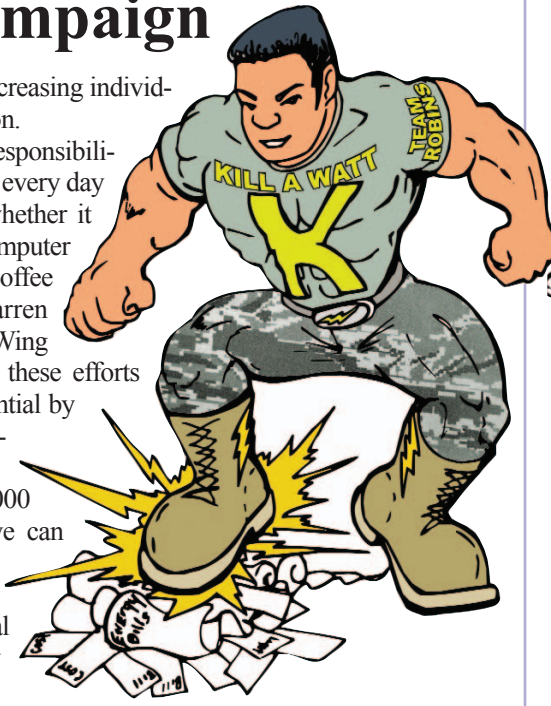
In fiscal 2007, the base's total energy bill was \$27,605,855 with \$18,837,000 going to electricity and the remaining \$8,768,855 going to natural gas.

This means each Robins' employee, active duty, civilian or a contractor, owns about \$1,350 of the base's annual energy costs.

Senior leadership asked all employees to support the "Commander Kill A

Watt" campaign by decreasing individual energy consumption.

"It is each of our responsibilities to take small steps every day to conserve energy, whether it is turning off your computer screen or unplugging coffee pots," said Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander. "Though these efforts may seem inconsequential by itself, when you multiply these small actions by the more than 20,000 workers at Robins, we can make a huge impact on our environment and stop the continual upward spiral of our energy bills."



Base gets excellent rating



Months of hard work and preparation paid off in April, as the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center earned an "excellent" rating in the 2008 Operational Readiness Inspection.

Maj. Gen. Tom Owen, former WR-ALC commander, said the Center put forth a star performance in the inspection.

"I couldn't be more pleased and I could not be more proud of the men and women at the Warner Robins ALC for having worked so hard for literally the last year preparing for this ORI," he said.

General Owen said 100 percent of

Team Robins' organizations scored satisfactory or above in the inspection.

The general said the ratings were a testament to people's abilities, talent and commitment.

The 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing was the only WR-ALC wing to earn an overall "outstanding" rating.

Ms. Brenda Romine, former 542nd CSW director, said the successful inspection results stemmed from hard work, from leadership down.



Robins bids farewell to NCOA

The Robins NCO Academy's long history came to a close May 20, with the graduation of its last class, Class 08-4, and inactivation of the school.

The historical event unfolded at the Robins Heritage Club. Col. Thomas Klinck, commander of the College for Enlisted Professional Military Education at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala.,

presided over the inactivation ceremony. He said the NCOA's closure lined up with the Air Force's plan for its NCO academies.

The NCOA's final festivities included a closing ceremony for the school's final class and the final retreat at the school's drill pad, among other activities observed throughout the day.

Former commandants and staff

members joined current staff members to mark the occasion, one that Chief Master Sgt. Roy Lapioli, the school's most recent commandant, said came with mixed emotion.

"We're done," he said. "It's bittersweet. I'm humbled, sad. I'm proud of what we've done and who we are, and I'm excited about the future."



19th ARG's mission ends at Robins

On May 28, the 19th Air Refueling Group recorded the end to its many chapters of service during the group's residence at Robins.

The unit served in every major conflict since its inception Oct. 18, 1927, and was designated as an observation, bombardment and refueling unit.

The "bittersweet end" was celebrated during a mission complete ceremony in May, where past and present members, community champions and family and

friends of the unit gathered to say farewell.

"It's the end of an era. It's sad for a lot of people and a significant blow to lose a unit with such a great heritage," said Col. Alan Hart, former 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander.

Col. Chris Bence, former 19th ARG commander, said the group's diligence and commitment right up to the groups inactivation was "a true testament to the group's proud heritage."

WR-ALC gets new commander

Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer took command of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Aug. 7 during a ceremony at the Century of Flight Hangar at the Museum of Aviation.

The new commander said she was excited to be taking command of the Center and looked forward to what the future has in store. "This is the job I always aspired to have," she said. "This for me is the epitome of what I set out to do."

Gen. Bruce Carlson, former commander of Air Force Materiel Command, presided over the ceremony. General Carlson assured those at the ceremony the Center is in "solid and great hands."



He added, "I assure you Polly Peyer comes to you with the highest credentials as both a maintenance officer and a logistician."

Motorcycle campaign targets awareness

After a string of serious injuries involving Robins motorcyclists, base leadership implemented the "See Me, Save Me" motorcycle awareness campaign in August.

It's an initiative aimed at educating automobile and motorcycle drivers alike about mutual respect and awareness on roadways.

Col. Debra Bean, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, said Robins and the Middle Georgia community are partnering to make the campaign a way to protect people.

"We do a great job keeping Team Robins safe, on and off the

job, but increased motorcycle ridership has accidents increasing at an alarming rate. We've kicked off the "See Me, Save Me" campaign to make both automobile drivers and motorcyclists aware of each other, and to encourage them to share the road safely."

The campaign was aimed primarily at automobile drivers who may not always be aware of the increased number of new motorcy-

clists on the road or who may be distracted and not paying close enough



attention. Col. Patrick Higby, 78th Mission Support Group commander, said Robins is doing what it can to bring motorcycle safety to the forefront.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2A

THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 5
Last DUI: 116th ACW
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

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



THE TWO-MINUTE REV



President gives early Christmas present, granting Dec. 26 as additional federal holiday — See page 5A

The Robins Rev-Up staff would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. The next edition of the paper will publish Jan. 9.

HOLIDAYS



Season's greetings

WR-ALC commander sends holiday message, 6A

AVIONICS



Increased workload

Lockheed Martin delivers first modernized C-5 to Robins, 2A

REPAIRS



Warfighter support

653rd CLSS team repairs aircraft damage in Africa, 4A

WEATHER

FRIDAY	75/53
SATURDAY	73/53
SUNDAY	68/50



Officials announce closing of Robins Elementary School

Col. Warren Berry, commander of the 78th Air Base Wing, announced the closing of the Robins Elementary School in a press conference held at the school Dec. 3. He said the closing was due to sharply declining enrollment, which was the result of a shift away from on-base housing in recent years.

Enrollment dropped from 448 students in 2003 to 131 students this year. Those students will be zoned to attend Linwood Elementary next year. The current fifth graders

will attend Northside Middle School as they enter the sixth grade next year. Robins Elementary teaches grades kindergarten through sixth grade.

Colonel Berry called the announcement "bittersweet."

"This school has been part of our on-base community for quite a number of years, and so it has educated a whole bunch of military children," he said. "It has a lot of history and a lot of character so that's hard to give up. From that perspective we are sad to see it close."



Museum opens WWII exhibit

The Museum of Aviation opened another door to the past when its 6,000 square foot World War II exhibit "Down To Earth: The 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment and the Air Invasion of Normandy" was introduced to the public.

The hangar's official opening was Oct. 17, and was held in conjunction with the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment's reunion.

The exhibit demonstrates how the cooperation of airborne, troop carrier and glider

units contributed to the success of the invasion of Normandy, France on June 6, 1944 and the eventual victory in Europe a year later.

The 60,000 square-foot hangar, which houses about 15 World War II aircraft and new exhibits, is the first building added to the museum's complex since 1996.

The hangar, located north of the Century of Flight Hangar, expands the museum's total exhibit and education classroom area to nearly 200,000 square feet.

367th RCG calls it quits after more than 50 years of recruiting

The 367th Recruiting Group closed the door on its 50-plus years of recruiting on Sept. 23. The group deactivated as part of the reorganization of the Air Force Recruiting Service, the 367th RCG's parent command based at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio.

The unit, which oversaw recruiting operations of seven recruiting squadrons covering 13 states and two

U.S. territories, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, was charged with bolstering the Air Force's enlisted force strength.

Col. Mike Brice, 367th RCG commander, said his group's deactivation comes as the Air Force faced a draw down of its forces.

"AFRS had to reorganize and restructure to meet the target the Air Force levied on it," he said.

Robins breaks ground on \$21M software support facility

Senior leaders broke ground for a new \$21 million software support facility Feb. 19. The facility will be a two-story building designed to help take Robins' software maintenance mission to the next level.

The new facility is expected to enable the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center to maintain its place as the Electronic Warfare Center of Excellence for the Air Force, and position it to become the Electronic Warfare Center of Excellence for the Department of Defense.

The construction of the new software support facility will join three existing software facilities, Bldgs. 226, 227 and 330, together to form a software support complex. It will also allow the 850 software employees to be located under one roof, rather than being located in six different buildings throughout the base.



OTHER TOP STORIES

General Hoffman assumes leadership of AFMC — Gen. Don Hoffman assumed the top position for the Air Force Materiel Command, the major command responsible for the technology, acquisition, test and sustainment of the service's current and future weapon systems during a ceremony Nov. 21.

VDATS tester deploys on first mission — In a milestone in Robins' mission to establish a universal tester for the depot, the Versatile Depot Automatic Test Station examined its first production asset in its career as an Air

Force and Department of Defense Family of Testers member.

Construction begins on Marine hangar — Members of the Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 celebrated the groundbreaking of a new hangar, symbolizing the unit's impending arrival to Robins. The helicopter flying unit, known as the Red Dogs, is presently stationed at Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Atlanta but is scheduled to arrive in 2010.

VERA/VSIP offers extended — Through the Voluntary Early

Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Program, the base offered 208 civilian employees in the 402nd Maintenance Wing an early retirement option and a cash incentive to retire or resign.

Robins gets positive report in LSET reinspection — Thirty-five inspectors from the AFMC Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team returned to Robins for a second look at areas which were a concern during the September 2007 original LSET inspection, and noted many improvements.

Robins receives first C-5M Super Galaxy

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

The C-5 Super Galaxy is a big part of the workload at Robins, and a newly modernized C-5 that arrived here Dec. 9 is a good sign that it will remain a significant assignment for years to come.

The plane is a former C-5A, but is now designated a C-5M, with the "M" standing for modernized. It's the first of three C-5s to be delivered to the Air Force with new avionics and upgraded engines that allow it to climb faster, higher and with more payload, said Col. Jim Dendes, commander of the 730th Aircraft Sustainment Group. His group has worldwide responsibility for the 111 C-5s in the Air Force inventory.

"It's significant to Robins because it means the Air Force and the DOD are investing in the future of the C-5 by investing in the re-engining modification," Colonel Dendes said. "That means the C-5 will be in the Air Force inventory for many years to come."

Col. John Bukowinski, 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group commander, said the C-5M is scheduled to be at Robins for 271 days for programmed maintenance, with a projected output date of Sept. 6.

"It comes with an increased amount of hours," he said of the workload for the new plane.

The C-5, a mammoth cargo plane, comes in two models: the C-5A and the C-5B. Air



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Herman Arline, C-5 painter, gets a nozzle and wand ready to spray stripper on the C-5M.

Force plans currently call for all 52 C-5As to be modernized, estimated to cost \$9 billion. Both the C-5As and the C-5Bs are also slated for an avionics upgrade, and a total of 46 have already gotten the new avionics, according to a Lockheed Martin release.

"The C-5 fleet is now beginning to realize its full operational potential as we begin fielding both Avionics Program and Reliability Enhancement and re-engining program-enhanced C-5s for the Air Force," said Lorraine Martin, Lockheed Martin's vice president of the C-5 program. "The combined U.S. Air Force and Lockheed Martin team can take great pride in its success, which is keeping this national strategic

airlift asset viable for decades to come."

The C-5M at Robins is the only plane of the former C-5As to get the new engines, said Colonel Dendes. Congress wanted at least one C-5A to get the new engines as a test for the potential of modernizing the entire fleet.

The plane got four new General Electric engines that give 10,000 pounds of additional thrust per engine. It is at Robins for programmed depot maintenance before it is put into action for operational testing. It has already undergone three years of developmental testing, Colonel Dendes said, which is why it is now in need of programmed maintenance before it can be put into action.

Lockheed Martin contends that the operational cost savings of the modernization will pay for the cost of the program.

Once the plane is put back in the skies for operational use, the Air Force will assess how the upgrades are working and then determine whether to go forward with the full modernization program for C-5Bs. Colonel Dendes said he is confident the program will go forward.

"So far it has been very successful in terms of the developmental testing," Colonel Dendes said. "It certainly does climb faster, fly higher cruise altitudes and has greater range with greater fuel efficiency. I don't know why it wouldn't go forward."

402nd MXW, Northrop Grumman seal LAIRCM deal

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

Robins will begin to take on the significant responsibility of maintaining an advanced weapons system that protects large cargo aircraft from attacks from shoulder-fired missiles.

On Dec. 11 Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, commander of the 402nd Maintenance Wing, and Doug Lawton, supply chain management vice president of Northrop Grumman Corp., signed a contract for Robins to perform work on the Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures system, commonly known as LAIRCM.

The system was designed by Northrop Grumman to counter the increasing threat that large, slow-moving cargo aircraft face from shoulder-fired missiles and missiles launched from vehicles. The system automatically detects the heat-seeking missiles and puts out a signal to confuse its path and direct it away from the aircraft.

“The agreement culminates a lot of hard work that has been done behind the scenes by our folks who generate business for us, who generate workload for us, who monitor our business operations,” General Atkinson said. “Our folks who do that along with the contractor folks from Northrop Grumman have done a lot of work together. We’ve looked for the best way to provide the warfighter the LAIRCM capability. This agreement puts in concrete that commitment to

each other, to continue that partnership and to continue to look for the most effective and efficient ways to provide this system to the warfighter.”

Phil Robinson, Northrop Grumman’s system manager for LAIRCM, said one result of the agreement is that the company will move its LAIRCM hub from Fort Walton Beach, Fla., to the Warner Robins area. He also said the agreement means rather than Robins working only on LAIRCM systems on Air Force planes, it will also maintain the system on other planes throughout the U.S. Armed Forces that are equipped with the system.

“With the 402nd being part of the team, they offer affordable, operational availability for the long term,” Mr. Robinson said.

Although the agreement won’t mean a lot of additional workload in the near future – bringing only about 500 hours per year over the next two years – it will ramp up to approximately 8,500 hours in fiscal 2011. That’s to give Robins a chance to get equipment in place and do training to prepare to do the work on a larger scale. General Atkinson said he believes the potential for additional workload is much greater than the current scheduled hours as the system becomes more widely used.

“It’s a steady ramp up,” he said. “What this does is this gets our foot in the door in a very positive way. It helps us establish initial capability. It gives us a nice, steady ramp-up plan, and the future holds that

this system gives us great potential on almost every system that the Air Force operates. Where the workload is only a few hours to begin with, the potential workload for the Center is tremendous.”

Northrop Grumman currently does most of the maintenance work on the system, General Atkinson said. A key reason behind the agreement, he said, is that the Air Force considers the system too important to rely solely on private industry for maintenance.

“It’s always good business to have more than one provider,” he said. “It’s always good business when the Air Force can team or partner with the manufacturer of the system. These kinds of partnerships can really pull together the best we have to offer in terms of teammanship. We get the best of the Air Force organization and the best of Northrop Grumman organization and what comes out of the mix is very, very good.”



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP
Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander, and Doug Lawton, Northrop Grumman supply chain management vice president, shake hands after signing the direct sales partnering agreement Dec. 11.

CONGRATULATIONS PROMOTEEES

The following people from Robins have been selected for promotion to captain:

WR-ALC Matthew Colvin Paul Dolce	576th ACSS Jefferson Seguin	5th CCG Mark Duncan Brian Nooney
78th LRS Susana Avalos	16th ACCS Dana Arrieta Colin Cavanaugh Nathan Colestock Sean Forsman Jared Hutter Chad Krastins Dierk Seifert William White Zachary Wright	5th CBCSS Thomas Osgood Jeffrey Pacini
78th CONS Andrew Eckert Darnell Stephens		52nd CBCS Michael Dragoon Alexander Ortiona
78th FSS Jennifer Fillmore		51st CBCS Kurando Mensen
78th CPTS John Fitzgerald	560th ACSS Adrian Zinnerman	542nd CBSS Thomas Olney
78th MDS Marie Jones	561st CBSS Derek Cada	575th CBSS Keith Pozza
78th OSS Jason Scalzitti	12th ACCS Jennifer Bloomer Gregory Fillmore Robert Hannum Justin Moser Daniel Rand Marcus Sagastume Susan Scott James Lopez	128th ACCS Kevin Alley
565th ACSS Sergio Apeaile		330th CTS Tammy Pacini
830th ACSG Landon Biel		116th OSS Lanetta Purnell
569th ACSS Ryan Cuthbertson		407th SCMS Ronald Dion Thomas Getz
730th ACSG Kyle Ingram Jonathan Reeves	642nd CBSS John Machuca	330th ACSG Christopher Jerome
	580th ACSG Joseph Dolce	

653rd CLSS 'damage docs' make house call to Africa

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

The days of the 653rd Combat Logistics Squadron are numbered, but it is still getting unique and challenging assignments around the globe to repair major damage to aircraft.

In November a group of 10 from the squadron, which is scheduled to deactivate in August, traveled to Bamako, Mali in Africa to repair a MC-130P. The plane was parked at a public airport when the jet blast from a commercial airliner taxiing onto the runway caused severe damage to the tail section.

Ordinarily when the squadron deploys it works on aircraft at an established military base. But what made this trip unique was that the crew was at a location without logistics support.

"We lost a lot of our supply channels," said Master Sgt. James Ferry, a member of the group that deployed. "For us it was more of a waiting game to get the parts so that we could do our repair."

The plane was in Africa in

support of an exercise being conducted by the Air Force's 8th Special Operations Squadron. The squadron uses CV-22s, the Air Force version of the V-22 Osprey used by the Marines. The tilt-rotor Osprey is one of the world's most unique aircraft, using tilt rotors that allow it to take off like a helicopter then fly like a plane. The MC-130P is used to refuel the Osprey in flight.

The Robins team deployed Nov. 2 and faced a tight deadline. The 8th SOS was flying out Nov. 22 with or without the damaged plane. Had the 8th SOS departed before the repair was finished, that would have left the crew at the airport with no military support at all.

The plane suffered significant damage to the rudder, rudder boost pack, horizontal stabilizer and both elevators. Making the repair itself wasn't especially challenging, members of the crew said. What slowed the mission down the most was waiting on parts. The crew also faced communication difficulties, including a language barrier

and slow Internet service.

They had all the parts they needed by Nov. 17, and by Nov. 20 had completed the repairs and operational testing. The plane was then turned back over to the host unit and flown back the same day to its home base at Hurlburt Field, Fla. The Robins crew put in 1,856 man hours on the mission, including travel time.

Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Hudson, logistics supervision chief in the squadron, said he was pleased with how the group responded to the challenges.

"I think it went smooth," Chief Hudson said of the mission. "There were some obstacles to overcome but they were not major."

Members of the team included Sergeant Ferry, Tech. Sgt. Anthony Rios, Tech. Sgt. Donald McMullin, Tech. Sgt. Bobby Lynch, Tech. Sgt. Richard Sheppard, Staff Sgt. Curran Smith, Staff Sgt. Michael Reid, Staff Sgt. Wali Williams, Staff Sgt. Erik Edwards and Staff Sgt. Edgar Torres.

Chief Hudson was also



courtesy photo

Members of the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron replace the elevator on the tail section of a severely damaged MC-130P in Bamako, Mali in November.

pleased that even with the 653rd CLSS scheduled to deactivate, it is still doing

important work.

"The short-notice challenges are welcome," he said.

"We welcome them, but unfortunately we are going away."



What's your favorite Christmas tradition?



Darryl Mercer
78th CEG

"Drinking eggnog and looking at the tree with a fire going."



Jimmy Jones
Outdoor Recreation

"Going to my grandma's house with the family."



Lara Trussell
78th CEG

"Gathering with friends and family."



Kristi Walls
78th CEG

"The food. We have cold-cut sandwiches on Christmas Eve. It's kind of an Italian thing we do."



Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Allison
Air Force Research Lab

"Everybody goes to my grandmother's house and she shows old videos of everyone and embarrasses them."

Energy savings success: reduction is name of game

Our overall energy goal is achieving energy independence and security for Robins. This is a big challenge but by working together, keeping focused and applying our talents and corporate knowledge we can do it. America deserves nothing less from us.

Achieving energy independence and security rests on a simple concept — reducing energy in everything we do. Simple yet difficult to execute and sustain. We will need to transform our infrastructure, change many of our business practices and integrate energy thinking into our attitudes and behavior — all while accomplishing our mission safely.

The foundation for our success is in place. We are focused on supporting the warfighter. We have been

using continuous improvement thinking and tools over the last 10 years with Lean and AFSSO21. Our energy game plan is to build on this foundation. Using awareness and conservation our efforts to use energy more smartly got off to a good start in 2008. Electric bills show that people are responding.

What can you expect during 2009? Together, we will build on these efforts and “Raise Our Game.” We will move towards energy independence and security on several fronts simultaneously: awareness, conservation, efficiency improvement projects and renewables.

In the next week we will get a report from the State of Georgia detailing the best renewable energy options for Robins. The information in this report will be used by senior leadership to chart the way ahead to meet our goal of obtaining 25 percent of Robins’ energy from renewables by 2025.

Energy improve-

ment projects are another important part. Studies are being currently conducted on chilled water and Bldg. 89 to identify energy improvement opportunities.

Additional detailed energy studies are in the works. By their nature, projects take time to plan, build and get into operation.

ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS

- ▶Unplug your Christmas tree when not home ... this saves energy and helps prevent fires with a real tree
- ▶Lower thermostat temperatures when you're not home
- ▶Use LED Christmas and holiday lights
- ▶Do your holiday baking during the coolest part of the day ... helps warm your house
- ▶Turn-off outside Christmas lights before you go to bed
- ▶Unplug TVs, DVD players and radios when not in use
- ▶Unplug space heaters and fans
- ▶Give the gift of a lower energy bill to RAFB — turn off the lights, unneeded equipment, computer monitors at the end of your work day

You'll hear about and participate in developing no cost and low cost process and procedure improvements focused on conserving energy in the near term. For example, by applying AFSSO21 thinking and tools, the 402nd MXW is working on production process and building efficiency improvements. Similar efforts will occur throughout the base.

Awareness is the foundational capability for our entire effort.

Energy awareness is about us and changes in our energy behavior. We'll enhance our energy awareness through: education and training, awards and incentives, continuous and relevant communication, and partnership with community groups. You'll see and hear of actions in each of these areas during 2009. —

Commander Kill A Watt

(Email your energy-related questions or concerns to: commanderkillawatt@robins.af.mil)



President grants federal holiday Dec. 26

President Bush has issued an Executive Order granting Dec. 26 as a paid federal holiday. Federal employees at Robins will receive the holiday except those in mission essential positions.

Guidance for civilian employees: Employees who are scheduled to take annual leave Dec. 26 will not be charged leave for that day. Those with use-or-lose annual leave should be reminded to reschedule another day of leave to be used before the leave year ends (Jan. 3).

When an employee has scheduled use-or-lose annual leave for December 26th, and is unable to reschedule that leave before the end of the leave year, the leave will be forfeited. When use-or-lose leave is forfeited under those circumstances, there is no authority that permits restoration of the leave. Employees with use-or-lose annual leave also have the option of donat-

ing annual leave to approved leave recipients. Employees may obtain a listing of approved leave recipients and instructions on donating annual leave on the Directorate of Personnel workspace (<https://workspace.robins.af.mil/DP/default.aspx>).

Employees required to work the holiday will receive holiday premium pay in addition to basic pay for their regular hours of work. Holiday work performed outside the regularly scheduled tour of duty is overtime work and will be compensated with appropriate overtime or compensatory time payment.

Employees whose basic workweek does not include Dec. 26, as a regularly scheduled workday (i.e., employees working an uncommon tour of duty or compressed work schedule) will observe the holiday on their last workday immediately before the holiday.

Employees on an intermittent tour of duty are not entitled to pay for the holiday unless they actually work during that period. Employees in a non-pay status immediately before the holiday and at the beginning of the first workday after the holiday are not entitled to pay for the holiday.

Questions may be referred to your servicing employee relations specialist at 926-5802 or 926-0677.

Guidelines for military members: A special pass is available Dec. 26 for military members with concurrence from the unit commander. If Airmen are required to work that day due to mission essential reasons, commanders are encouraged to authorize a special pass on another day. Airmen should be reminded that there are no mileage or travel restrictions on a special pass; however, supervisors and commanders can impose mission or safety related restric-

tions.

AFMC Airmen are required to report any out of the local area travel to their supervisors. They are also required to provide specific travel plans to include dates, times of travel, and contact information if they are unable to return to duty within 6 hours.

Questions regarding guidance for military personnel may be referred to MPF customer service at 327-7362.

Guidelines for contractors: Contract employees should contact their supervisor (or contracting officer) to obtain information on their pay and leave entitlements for Dec. 26.

Contractor employees are not allowed in government-owned buildings without government personnel present, so arrangements should be made with their supervisor for work at a different site if contractor employees plan to work that day.

Commentary

"I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round, as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys." — Charles Dickens

HOW TO CONTACT US

Robins Office of Public Affairs
620 Ninth Street., Bldg. 905
Robins AFB, GA 31098
(478) 926-2137 DSN 468-2137
Fax (478) 926-9597

EDITORIAL STAFF

COMMANDER

Col. Warren Berry

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Faye Banks-Anderson

CHIEF OF INTERNAL INFORMATION

Lt. Chrissy Keeler

christine.keeler@robins.af.mil
(478) 222-0809

EDITOR

Kendahl Johnson

kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil
(478) 222-0804

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Lanorris Askew

lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil
(478) 222-0806

STAFF WRITERS

Holly L. Birchfield

holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil
(478) 222-0810

Wayne Crenshaw

wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil
(478) 222-0807

PHOTOGRAPHER

Sue Sapp

sue.sapp@robins.af.mil
(478) 222-0805

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Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. the Monday prior to the requested Friday publication. They should be e-mailed to kendahl.johnson@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.

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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 suggest ways to make Robins a better place to work and live.

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

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.

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

PHONE NUMBERS

▶ Security Forces	327-3445
▶ Services	926-5491
▶ Equal Opportunity	926-2131
▶ 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
▶ Chaplain	926-2821

Center commander sends holiday greetings

The holidays provide a fine opportunity to look back in appreciation of our accomplishments and anticipate opportunities forthcoming in the new year. The members of Team Robins have many reasons to do both.

The job we do at Robins in support of our nation's warfighters plays a major role in the battle for peace and justice around the globe. It also strengthens our nation's ability to provide worldwide humanitarian assistance to peoples and countries in need. Our success in achieving such noble goals is due to your dedication, perseverance and good old-fashioned hard work. You can all be proud of your contribution to these lofty accomplishments. As your commander, I couldn't be more proud.

It is my wish for each of you to approach this holiday season as a well-earned break from the stress and strain of duty—a mission accelerated by the urgency of war. Take this special time of year to enjoy the warmth and comfort of

family and friends. Leave behind the pressures of work and relax.

If you are traveling this season, please remember to keep safety first. In fact, keep safety in mind in everything you do during all seasonal festivities. Be a good Wingman and look out for each other as you enjoy the revelry of holiday cheer and New Year's celebrations.

As you celebrate with your loved ones, please take the time to remember our deployed armed forces and their families. Most people will never have to know the aching and loneliness felt when duty separates you from your loved ones during the most special time of the year.

What these brave men and women do so for the sake of our country deserves our utmost respect and heartfelt acknowledgement. Please, keep them all in your thoughts and in your prayers.

Also, I want to extend particular thanks to those members of our team who will report to work during the holi-

days. We all know our base and this air logistics center are non-stop operations that must be, at the least, minimally staffed at all times. To those incredibly dedicated teammates, we owe a tip of the cap for reporting to duty while the rest of us are on leave.

To the entirety of Team Robins, I ask you all to return to us in 2009 with a renewed vigor and enthusiasm for our work. We know there are changes and challenges ahead. Let us greet every one as a tremendous and exciting opportunity and give our very best for the good of the team, for the good of our nation and the entire world.

This year, Brian and I are excited by the chance to be closer to home and family for the holidays. We're also greatly thankful for the new family of friends we have found here during our first months at Robins. Our personal thanks go out this season to each of you for your warm welcome and for a tremendous start to my tenure as commander.



U.S. Air Force photo by ED ASPERA

Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, with husband, retired colonel Brian Grady.

To all the members of Team Robins and our neighbors in Middle Georgia, Brian and I wish you a happy and safe holiday season.

— This commentary was written by Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander.

Gifted individuals make for remarkable command

As the holidays approach, we have time to slow down, reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and recall the gifts in our lives and the sacrifices of those that have gone before.

One example is that of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. On Dec. 25, 1776, George Washington and his troops battled a winter storm for 14 hours as they moved horses and artillery across the Delaware River. Then, as the storm



Gen. Don Hoffman

Commander
Air Force Materiel Command

to preserve the gifts of independence, freedom, and democracy passed

down by our forefathers. Within AFMC, almost 1,300 members are deployed this holiday season, serving our country abroad.

I thank every one of you for your service, professionalism, and diligence exhibited each day. I also thank your families and loved ones who support the work you do and contribute so much to our mission. I ask each of you for your continued leadership and vigilance as the year draws to a close.

Please take the time to review travel plans, talk about roadworthy vehicle operation, emphasize seatbelt utilization, review the risks of drinking and driving, and encourage personal risk management for all activities. Those of you who remain in the local

area for the holidays also need to keep safety in mind. Driving locally, especially during adverse weather conditions, presents similar risks no matter how close to home you might be.

Through your intrusive leadership at every level, personal commitment and teamwork, we can safely finish 2008 and posture ourselves for success during the upcoming year.

Jacki and I wish each of you the very best holiday season, along with health and happiness in the New Year. We are proud to serve alongside you and are grateful for your sacrifices on behalf of our great nation and the cause of liberty.

— This commentary was written by Gen. Don Hoffman, Air Force Materiel Command commander.

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Base access entry procedures not random

Most people have very busy lives. We have a lot to contend with — family, work, numerous obligations. There never seems to be enough time in the day. We're in a hurry most of the time just to get from Point A to Point B and we want the fastest route with little delay.

Getting to work is no exception — we want the least amount of resistance. With that in mind, many of us don't think about why we do what we do when it comes to base access at the gates. Some people believe that it's an irritant, that it can be done better, that "the powers that be" have no clue how disruptive or time consuming entry into Robins Air Force Base can be. While there's always room for improvement, I assure you that base access entry procedures are not haphazard.

I'm bringing this up because entry procedures are often questioned and just recently in our ALC/CC Commander's Call, one per-

son asked why there is only one gate open before 5 a.m.

This question may seem to have a simple answer, but that is not the case. There are several variables to consider. First and foremost, we must balance expeditious entry against force protection of the base. Never forget that we live in a different world since 9/11. We could be a target at any time — from the wee hours of the morning to our peak duty hours.

Less than two years ago, the FBI foiled a terrorist plot against Fort Dix, N.J. Exploitation of weak base entry procedures was a major factor in Fort Dix being the selected target over nearby Dover Air Force Base, Del., which has more stringent procedures in place, procedures similar to those we apply here at Robins. The threat is real.

Also, some of our force protection measures are directed by the Department of Defense and cannot be deviated from.



Maj. Russell Stilling

78th Security Forces
Squadron commander

While I can't talk specifically about our anti-terrorism measures, the safety of our people and our assets is paramount. We will not under any circumstances compromise our force protection. Reallocating limited security forces manpower to increase personnel at the gates in the morning is not always the right answer. Once reassigned to the gates, they are not available to work other areas across

the base. While base entry is important, it is not our only job. Daily, we are charged with providing force protection, law enforcement and security for the tens of thousands of employees and billions of dollars worth of resources on our installation.

Because there are fewer people who come to work before 5 in the morning, we only have one gate open. However, periodically we look at how many gates/lanes are open, how many people per lane, etc. Since this question was asked, security forces conducted an informal survey at the Watson gate from 4 to 8 a.m.

What we found is that we indeed needed to shift some manpower at the Watson gate to open up two lanes of traffic starting at 4:30 a.m. on weekdays. However, considering what I've already addressed, it did not warrant opening up other gates before 5 a.m.

Since we are already into our holiday season, we will do

a more in-depth survey to see if any other adjustments need to be made after the new year. We want to make sure we have the most complete, up-to-date data that reflects a "normal" traffic pattern. We will be sure to let you know any changes through the Robins Rev-Up.

In the interim, for those coming through the gates at or after 5 a.m., please note that the most underutilized gate on Robins is the MLK gate. On weekdays it is open from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m. Outbound traffic at this gate begins at noon.

So please understand there are very good reasons for our gate entry procedures. I ask for your patience and understanding — to see the bigger picture. We are here to protect and serve and continue to balance our limited resources to meet the ever-changing challenges we face on a daily basis.

— This commentary was written by Maj. Russell Stilling, 78th Security Forces Squadron commander.

Experts tour Robins, discuss AFSO21

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

Efforts of Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century to find better ways to get things done brought some top military and civilian leaders to Robins this week in part to see where things are being done right.

On Tuesday, a group of 19 general officers toured parts of the Air Logistics Center then spent an afternoon discussing Smart Operations concepts, commonly referred to as AFSO21.

In another tour, a group of current and former civilian industry leaders working for the Air Force's Highly Qualified Experts program toured the 116th Air Control Wing which operates the Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System. The HQEs also toured the ALC.

Brig. Gen. John Posner, director of Air Force Smart Operations, came to Robins with the two groups along with his deputy director, Dr. Ron Ritter. General Posner said Robins was picked for the tour in part because it sets an example of the process improvements that AFSO21 is seeking, which Mr. Ritter described as "trying to do things better, faster and cheaper."

"Robins has a reputation for having started applying these kinds of activities to the way they do business," General Posner said. "A lot of people would argue they have a better record of success in the Air Force than most of the rest of the Air Force."

The general officers group was made up of high-level

military and civilian leaders. It included Robins' executive director Brenda Romine and Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson, commander of the 402nd Maintenance Wing.

"They are looking at Robins to provide them with lessons learned," General Atkinson said. "They are looking at Robins to provide them with some trained people that can help institutionalize these concepts throughout the Air Force. As a team,

"As a team, Robins really is on the leading edge of AFSO21 implementation throughout the Air Force."

Brig. Gen. Mark Atkinson
Commander
402nd Maintenance Wing

Robins really is on the leading edge of AFSO21 implementation throughout the Air Force. That was very evident throughout the course."

He said the course and its content were great, and he believes the logistics and maintenance communities are "ahead of the game" compared to the rest of the Air Force. He also said Robins is leading the way for the Air Force.

"The third thing I got out of the course was pride in Robins. As I look back over the past five or six years and the things Robins has accomplished, Robins really is an Air Force leader and the rest of the Air Force is looking to Robins to continue that leadership," General Atkinson said.

The HQEs were brought here both to learn more about the Air Force and to share ideas about process improve-

ments. General Posner said the HQE program was created to help the Air Force improve through "a new set of eyes."

"A lot of people have had the experience of walking into an organization fresh, with fresh perspective, and not inculcated into what that organization has been doing for a long period of time," General Posner said. "They can see things that folks in the organization that are ingrained and entrenched in that organization can't see anymore."

The four HQEs - Don Doles, Craig Habakangas, Maria Elena Stopher and Matthew Bohnert - all said they entered the program in large part because they want to give back to the country by offering their experience to the Air Force.

Mr. Doles, who is retired from a tool-making company, said he hopes he can contribute to improving the way the Air Force does things.

"It's really about creating the culture of how do we do work and how do we get better about doing work," he said.

Considering how many highly trained, experienced people are in the Air Force, Mr. Doles said not everyone is necessarily enthused about taking advice from an outsider.

"It's a spectrum," Mr. Doles said in describing the reactions he gets when communicating with Air Force personnel, "all the way from people who are absolutely excited and pushing the ball up hill to people who think this is just another program and they can outlast it. I will say that the leadership has

Meeting the mission: MGMAC tour gives members first-hand look at Team Robins



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Penny Byrd of Security Bank of Perry and a member of the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee, gets to see inside a mobile air control tower with Airman 1st Class Brittany Walters, 54th Combat Communications Squadron during a MGMAC tour of Robins Dec. 3.

At left, 2nd Lt. Matthew Kahley, 54th CBCS greets members of the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee. The committee members were shown a video about the mission of the 5th Combat Communications Group and were able to look at static displays of the group's technology during their tour of Robins Dec. 3.



ROBINS TV
Watson 15
Cox 99

Behind the lens

2008 photographic year in review



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Staff Sgt. Chris Cisco gets a big hug from his 5-year-old son, Trevor. Eleven Airmen from the 19th Air Refueling Group Black Knights, who were deployed, returned from the unit's last deployment tasking.



The Robins Rev-Up recalls a few of its favorite images of 2008



U.S. Air Force file photo by GARY CUTRELL

A group of young Mexican folkloric dancers perform at Robins' Hispanic Heritage Month picnic Sept. 13. The picnic, which was held at Gator Park, featured music, dancers, piñatas and family games including a children's version of Spanish Bingo.



U.S. Air Force file photo by CLAUDE LAZZARA

Chuck Studstill with the F-15 Functional Test Unit does pre-flight inspection of the intake and exhaust prior to flight.



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Eric Danforth, Robins Fire Department, walks in front of the aircraft model in the fire training pit. Members of the Robins and Macon Bibb County fire departments worked side by side in a two-day joint exercise sharing knowledge and experience in an effort to become better trained for a real emergency.



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Cadet Steve Gregory does a high crawl with weapon through the mud pit during Gator Gully training. The Cadet was part of a group of Air Force ROTC students that spent three days training with the 5th CCG.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Laura Abbott and Della Smith, 802nd Maintenance Support Squadron, perform a liquid nitrogen pressure transfer to a dewar for use in cooling various laboratory instrumentation.

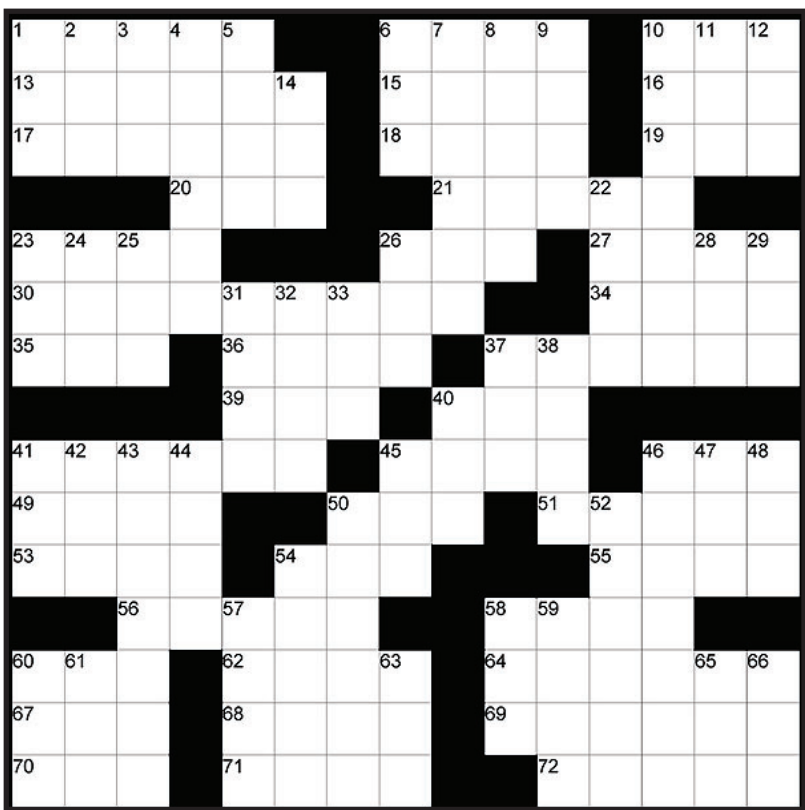
DONATE YOUR LEAVE

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 person has been approved as a leave recipient: **Howard Taylor, 78th CEG. POC is Rose Mansfield at 926-1295.**

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The puzzle program will be coming to an end effective January 2009. Capt. Tony Wickman, who has provided the puzzles, hopes everyone has enjoyed his work, but due to his inability to devote the needed time to the program has decided to discontinue it.



The Buckeye State's Base

By Capt. Tony Wickman
USAFE Public Affairs

ACROSS

1. Swelling
6. MAJCOM the Buckeye State base is assigned
10. Buckeye State base product center tenant unit, in brief
13. C-5; plane flown by the Buckeye State base's 445 AW
15. Hammer's target
16. Possible duty status
17. Metal grating
18. ___ mater
19. Decorative vase
20. Permit
21. Pennies, nickels and dimes
23. Away from the wind
26. Earth
27. Clue
30. With 37 ACROSS, part of the Buckeye State base name
34. In a short time; soon
35. Federal org. concerned with airport security
36. Crest
37. Namesake of the Buckeye State base
39. Towel marking
40. ___ Claire
41. Ohio city home to the Buckeye State base
45. Buckeye State base R&D tenant unit
46. Slice
49. Margarine
50. Baseball tool
51. Hide
53. Buckeye State tenant unit for advanced education, in brief
54. Golden actress Arthur
55. Region
56. Projecting handle used to operate a mechanism
58. Sinister
60. Father
62. Loiter
64. Discovers the absence or loss of something
67. Mock
68. Like
69. Superfluous or useless
70. Head movement

DOWN

1. Breakfast item
2. Patriotic org.
3. Cotton gin inventor Whitney
4. Hammer
5. Car part
6. Actress Ortiz of Ugly Betty
7. F-16
8. Acted out
9. Tribe
10. Entertaining
11. Title of address for a male officer
12. Discard
14. Still
22. Asian person
23. Given
24. ___ Vegas
25. Greek letter
26. Drunkard
28. Classical drama of Japan with stylized music and dance
29. Explosive combo
31. Resound
32. Derail
33. Draft org.
37. Combat
38. Make a determination
40. Young newt
41. 1988 Quaid/Ryan film
42. Alien TV show
43. Surrendered
44. Carry
45. Auto club
46. Current MAJCOM commander at the Buckeye State base
47. Exploit
48. Afternoon beverage in London
50. Site of famous 1948 airlift
52. Dried grape
54. Current commander of 45 ACROSS
57. Glass container
58. Punk-rock offshoot music genre
59. Resume
60. Dolphin great Marino
61. Overseas mil. address
63. Terminate
65. 112°30' east of due north
66. Male or Female

SOLUTION



78th FSS BRIEFS

Bring the children to Horizons for a Sunday brunch with Santa Dec. 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A jolly elf will take photos of the children with Santa. Cost is \$11.95 members, \$12.95 guests, \$6.95 children ages 3 – 10 years and free for children two years and younger. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

All active duty and retired military members and their families are invited to a Christmas Day meal at the Wynn Dining Facility. The meal will be served by Robins leadership from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 25 for Airmen and Airmen with families and guests and retirees with families. The evening meal for Airmen only will be served from 2 to 4 p.m. Enjoy prime rib, roast turkey and baked ham, cornbread dressing, glazed sweet potatoes and mashed potatoes, peas with mushrooms and onions, green beans with mushrooms, corn-on-the-cob, shrimp cocktail, sweet potato pie, apple pie, cherry cheesecake, almond pound cake and more holiday fare. For more information call the dining facility at 926-6596.

Bring in 2009 at Horizons. Amenities will include a buffet dinner from 6:30 to 9 p.m., party favors and champagne at midnight in the ballroom and at the Wellston. A continental breakfast will be available to all guests at midnight in the ballroom. Featured entertainment will be Bob Cummings Band in the ballroom from 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. and DJ Rockmaster "D" at the Wellston from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets on sale at the cashier office, located at Horizons. Ticket price for buffet and entertainment before 9 p.m. in the ballroom, is \$45 for members and \$50 for guests. Ticket price at the Wellston with light hors d'oeuvres or at the door after 9 p.m. is \$35 for members and \$40 for guests. For more information, please call Horizons at 926-2670.

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

- Jewelry class: Jan. 12, 19 and 26 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$15 (earrings) \$20 (bracelet)
- Acrylic painting day (deer): Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10 a.m. to noon, \$12 per day
- Kids acrylic painting (deer): Jan. 13, 20 and 27 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$7 per day
- Scroll saw: Jan. 14 and 28 from 6 to 8 p.m., cost \$12 per day
- Card keeper w/dividers: Jan. 13 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$17 (includes supplies)
- Beginning matting/framing: Jan.

Tops in Blue coming Jan. 25



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

The musical showcase, **Tops In Blue 2008 "Déjà Blue" tour** will be held at the Warner Robins Civic Center Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. **Tops In Blue** is sponsored in part by AT&T, Coca Cola and Ashford University. **No Federal endorsement of sponsors intended. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.**

13 and 15 from 6 to 9 p.m., cost \$12.50 (both days)

- Beginning scrapping: Jan. 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., cost \$7 (include supplies)
- Basic scrapbooking: Jan. 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., cost \$7 (includes supplies)
- Encaustic painting w/wax: Every Monday from 4 to 6 p.m., cost \$15 (need three to start)
- Beginning stained glass (day): Starts Friday Jan. 9 for six weeks from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., cost \$90 (includes supplies)
- Beginning stained glass (evening): Starts Thursday Jan. 8 for six weeks from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., cost \$90 (includes supplies)
- Advanced stained glass: Starts Jan. 6 for six weeks from 9:30 am. to 4:30 p.m., cost \$75 (includes supplies)
- Pen and Ink drawing (day): Jan. 9, 16 and 23 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., cost \$10 adults per day
- Pen and Ink drawing (evening): Jan. 14, 21 and 28 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$10 per day
- Lathe class (woodshop): Starts Jan. 7 for four weeks from 6 to 8 p.m., cost \$45
- Perpetual calendar: Jan. 8 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$15 (includes supplies)
- Cherish Club Scrapper: Jan. 15 from 4:30 to 6 p.m., cost \$15 (includes supplies)
- Valentine Card class: Jan. 29 from 5 to 7 p.m., cost \$15 (includes supplies)

Advance registration and payment is required for all classes. Classes are subject to change without notice. Wood shop safety classes are held

Tuesdays at 6 p.m. and auto shop safety and orientation classes are held every Wednesday at 6 p.m. and every Saturday at 11 a.m. free of charge. Registration is not required. Do-it-yourself framing is available Monday - Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Do-it-yourself framing, during the evening and Saturdays, is scheduled by appointment only. All classes are open to active duty, reserve and retired military and family members and DOD civilians. For more information, please call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282.

A Give Parents a Break and Hourly Care will be held Jan. 9 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Child Development Center East and School Age Program (unless otherwise posted). Advance sign-up is required. An advance \$6 nonrefundable deposit is required by the prior Monday for hourly care. Cost is \$3 per child per hour for children six weeks to 12 years old. New enrollees must have up-to-date shot records for their children and required forms prior to making reservations. For more information call the child development center at 926-5805.

A table tennis club will be held every Thursday starting Jan. 8 from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom. No sign ups are necessary. Open to all. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

For more 78th Force Support Squadron briefs see page B8.

78th FSS 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.robinservices.com

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic

Catholic masses are at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. vigil the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Islamic

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

Jewish

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

Orthodox Christian

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

Protestant

The traditional service meets Sunday in the Chapel at 11 a.m. featuring hymns, anthems, congregational prayers and readings. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel sanctuary, singing the latest praise and worship music. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel, praising God with inspirational music. Religious education meets in Bldg. 905 at 9:30 a.m.



NOW PLAYING



DEC. 19 — 7:30 P.M.
MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA
RATED PG

The New York crew has hatched a plan to escape Madagascar. With military precision, the penguins have repaired an old crashed plane - sort of. Once aloft, they stay airborne just long enough to make it to the wildest place of all - the vast plains of Africa, where the members of our zoo-raised crew encounter species of their own kind for the very first time.



DEC. 20 — 7:30 P.M.
QUANTUM OF SOLACE
RATED PG-13

On a mission that leads him to Austria, Italy and South America, Bond discovers that Greene, conspiring to take total control of one of the worlds most important natural resources, is forging a deal with the exiled General Medrano.



DEC. 21 — 6:30 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR

High school seniors Troy and Gabriella face the prospect of being separated from one another as they head off in different directions to college. Joined by the rest of the Wildcats they stage an elaborate spring musical reflecting their experiences, hopes and fears about their future.

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

Fire prevention tips to ensure safe holidays

BY TOMMY KENNEDY
Assistant Fire Chief

The holiday season is an important time to remember fire safety and prevention. The holiday season brings an increased usage of electrical lights, decorations, candles, and the very popular Christmas tree, all of which can be potential fire hazards.

Additionally, cooking fires increase during the holidays as family and friends gather to celebrate. The following fire safety precautions, potential holiday fires, deaths, and injuries remain preventable.

Christmas Trees:

A Christmas tree is the center of attraction during holiday festivities. It is also the center of many holiday fires. Remember, when purchasing a live tree, do not buy too early or it will be dry, brittle, and brown before Christmas.

Check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between fingers, needles do not break.

When setting up the tree at home, place the tree away from the fireplace, away from traffic areas, away from furnace radiators, or other heat sources, and above all, do not block exits.

Christmas trees tend to dry out rapidly in heated rooms; be sure to keep the stand filled with water on a daily basis. Live trees are beautiful to look at and they make the house smell like

Christmas, but they require careful attention.

Artificial trees come in many shapes and sizes. When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant," UL Listed or Factory Mutual approved for indoor use. Although the label does not mean it won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.

Lighting:

Before use, check lighting sets and electrical cords thoroughly for broken or frayed wiring to include plugs, wall outlets, and above all that the lighting sets are compatible with your original set. Never use Christmas lights on a metal tree due to conductivity and possible electrical shock; indirect lighting is the safest.

Use indoor lights only indoors, and outdoor lights outdoors. Never mix the two sets.

Unplug lights and decorations before you leave the house or retire at night. Never leave lights unattended.

If lights are desired in windows, curtains and other combustible materials must be at least six inches from the lights. Do not allow light bulbs to come in contact with any combustible materials.

Candles:

Take care when burning candles. Be sure they are kept away from decorations or other combustible materials. Don't leave children unattended in a room with lit candles, and always keep candles, as well as matches and lighters, out of their reach. Never display lighted candles in windows or near

exits and never leave lit candles unattended. Never place candles on or near a Christmas tree. Make sure all candles are placed in noncombustible candleholders, and when placing candles, place them away from areas where they can be knocked over.

Decorations:

Use only decorations that are fire resistant and bear a label stating so. Unlabeled materials seldom meet safety standards. Do not use spray snow, angel hair or Styrofoam; these substances can produce chemical reactions that are highly flammable.

Ensure decorations do not interfere with fire protection systems and make sure decorations do not obscure or block any means of egress. In all cases, decorations should be kept to a minimum to prevent the possibility of fire spread.

Cook with Care:

The holidays are very festive with a verity of meals and deserts. When cooking, do not wear loose fitting clothing. The hot burners can ignite them. Always turn pot handles in. Do not store items on the stovetop; they could catch fire.

Smoke Detectors:

Make sure you test your smoke detectors. This should be done at least once a month. Also check to make sure your fire extinguisher is fully serviceable in the house.

Robins Air Force Base Instruction 32-2001 outlines the use of decorations, Christmas trees and candles for Robins personnel. If you should have any questions, feel free to contact the Fire Prevention Office at 926-2145.

The great cookie caper



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Volunteers invade the Wynn Dining facility Monday to bag cookies and assorted goodies for the Airmen residing in Robins' dorms. The cookies were donated from different groups and organizations on base, including the Girl Scouts. The volunteers filled the bags and decorated them with a candy cane and bow. The bags were delivered this week.

Operation Popcorn Drop



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Charles Gilbert stands with a group of Scouts who helped collect more than \$2,000, enough to send 192 canisters of caramel popcorn to deployed 116th Air Control Wing troops in Iraq. The Scouts also included holiday cards with the popcorn to let the troops know how much they appreciate their service to America.



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander, gives a commander's coin to Nick Martens, a member of the Warner Robins American Little League world champion team, following a charity softball game in February.

Little league brings HQ to area, Robins played role in decision

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON
kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil

The Little League International Board of Directors recently selected Warner Robins as home of the Southeast Region headquarters.

The choice was made in large part because of the local community's overwhelming support of little league baseball and softball, but the location of the base and its ability to provide volunteers was also a factor in the decision.

Master Sgt. Ken Hathaway, a supervisor in the 116th Maintenance Squadron and the president of the Warner Robins American Little League, said there was tremendous community support and leaders from all levels came together to make it happen.

"A lot of volunteers put in a lot of hours to make this happen. We showed to the Little League organization how much we really care about the youth," he said.

Sergeant Hathaway said the board of directors was particularly impressed with the support of Robins Air Force Base and its potential volunteer force.

"It impressed them to know we have so many people here willing to volunteer," Sergeant Hathaway said. "Robins is a big part of the community and to have the support of base leadership was a big plus for us."

He said Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander, met with Little League representatives during the site evaluation. They were impressed with his enthusiasm towards Little League and of his knowledge of baseball.

"He made a real good impression," the sergeant said. "It was a tremendous benefit to have him there showing support."

Colonel Berry said he was pleased to offer his personal support and the support of the base community.

"Little league is a tremendous organization that helps teach our youth valuable prin-

ciples such as sportsmanship and teamwork," Colonel Berry said. "Since those are the same qualities we embody as military and civilian representatives of the Air Force, it's a good partnership. Our service-minded individuals will look forward to the numerous volunteer opportunities that will abound."

Colonel Berry said although there is no central tracking for volunteer hours of base employees, he estimates that nearly 3,000 volunteers have given approximately 100,000 hours of service this year alone.

Sergeant Hathaway said having the headquarters here will bring nationwide name recognition.

"This decision will make a really, really positive impact," he said. "We'll have ESPN here every year. Tournaments will bring thousands of people to our city every year. It will help generate revenue for local businesses. I couldn't be more excited."

Initially, Little League International looked at 18 sites for the region headquarters. That original field of 18 cities in six states was narrowed to Morganton, N.C., and Warner Robins in November.

The Southeast Region Headquarters serves as the administrative center for little league activities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The annual Southeast Region Championship game has been televised nationally every year since 1997.

As the site for the new Regional Headquarters is developed in Warner Robins, it will be necessary to play the 2009 regional tournaments at an alternate location. That location, Ceredo-Kenova, W.V., will be used only for one year.

Little League Baseball and Softball is the world's largest organized youth sports program, with more than 2.6 million players and 1 million volunteers throughout every U.S. state and 75 other countries.

A guide to planning your bowl viewing

This year, there are 34 college football games on the bowl schedule, four more than last year. Since watching football competes with so many other holiday activities, it's nearly impossible to watch all of them. So viewers must pick and choose a handful of games to watch.

In an effort to help our readers make the difficult decision of which games to watch, we offer a few of what we think are the best matchups on the schedule. There are many great games, but we've narrowed it down to six "must see" bowl games.

Las Vegas Bowl (Dec. 20) — As a BYU grad, I'd be remiss if I didn't give a shout out for my alma mater, facing Arizona. Biases aside, this game features two teams with potent offenses. The game should be an entertaining offensive shootout, as neither defenses had memorable seasons.

Armed Forces Bowl (Dec. 31) — Air Force takes on Houston in a rematch of a regular season game. The 8-4 Falcons defeated Houston 31-28 in September. Houston has a potent offense and no defense, notching 100, 79 and 98 combined points in its last three games. Should be fun!

Rose Bowl (Jan. 1) — One blemish on USC's record -- a loss to Oregon State -- keeps the Trojans from playing for a title this season. Penn State suffered a similar fate, with a lone loss (to Iowa) knocking them out of championship contention. Both teams are highly talented, a good recipe for an entertaining bowl game.

Sugar Bowl (Jan. 2) — Alabama was ranked No. 1 for much of the season, but missed its opportunity to play for a national title with a loss to Florida in the SEC title game. Utah is the highest ranked undefeated team in the country. Both teams have something to prove.

Fiesta Bowl (Dec. 20) — This bowl has a history of providing great games, including the Oklahoma/Boise State classic of a few years ago. Texas, still reeling from being passed over for title consideration in favor of Oklahoma, takes on Ohio State, the Big 10's top team.

BCS Championship Game (Jan. 8) — The top two teams in the country -- Florida and Oklahoma -- square off for the national championship in the last college game of the season. Should be a great game and a no-brainer to make everyone's list of Must See bowl games. — *Kendahl Johnson*

2008-09 BOWL SCHEDULE

DATE	BOWL	MATCHUP
Sat., Dec. 20	EagleBank	Navy vs. Wake Forest
Sat., Dec. 20	New Mexico	Colorado State vs. Fresno State
Sat., Dec. 20	St. Petersburg	South Florida vs. Memphis
Sat., Dec. 20	Las Vegas	Brigham Young vs. Arizona
Sun., Dec. 21	New Orleans	Troy vs. Southern Miss
Tue., Dec. 23	Poinsettia	TCU vs. Boise State
Wed., Dec. 24	Hawaii	Notre Dame vs. Hawaii
Fri., Dec. 26	Motor City	Central Mich vs. Florida Atlantic
Sat., Dec. 27	Meineke Car Care	North Carolina vs. West Virginia
Sat., Dec. 27	Champs Sports	Florida State vs. Wisconsin
Sat., Dec. 27	Emerald	California vs. Miami (Fla.)
Sun., Dec. 28	Independence	No. Illinois vs. Louisiana Tech
Mon., Dec. 29	Papajohns.com	N.C. State vs. Rutgers
Mon., Dec. 29	Alamo	Missouri vs. Northwestern
Tue., Dec. 30	Humanitarian	Nevada vs. Maryland
Tue., Dec. 30	Holiday	Oregon vs. Oklahoma State
Tue., Dec. 30	Texas	Western Michigan vs. Rice
Wed., Dec. 31	Armed Forces	Air Force vs. Houston
Wed., Dec. 31	Sun	Oregon State vs. Pittsburgh
Wed., Dec. 31	Music City	Boston College vs. Vanderbilt
Wed., Dec. 31	Insight	Kansas vs. Minnesota
Wed., Dec. 31	Chick-Fil-A	Georgia Tech vs. LSU
Thu., Jan. 1	Outback	Iowa vs. South Carolina
Thu., Jan. 1	Capital One	Michigan State vs. Georgia
Thu., Jan. 1	Gator	Clemson vs. Nebraska
Thu., Jan. 1	Rose	USC vs. Penn State
Thu., Jan. 1	Orange	Cincinnati vs. Virginia Tech
Fri., Jan. 2	Cotton	Texas Tech vs. Mississippi
Fri., Jan. 2	Liberty	East Carolina vs. Kentucky
Fri., Jan. 2	Sugar	Alabama vs. Utah
Sat., Jan. 3	International	Connecticut vs. Buffalo
Mon., Jan. 5	Fiesta	Texas vs. Ohio State
Tue., Jan. 6	GMAC	Tulsa vs. Ball State
Thu., Jan. 8	BCS title game	Oklahoma vs. Florida

AF quarterback named MWC's top freshman

Air Force Academy freshman quarterback Tim Jefferson was named the Mountain West Conference's freshman of the year by Sporting News, according to a release Dec. 15 by the sports magazine. Jefferson also earned MWC freshman-of-the-year honors in a vote of head coaches and media within the league earlier this month.

Jefferson recorded a 5-2 record as the starting quarterback after taking over in the sixth game of the season.

Just the fourth freshman starting quarterback in school history, Jefferson rushed for 373 yards and hit 37 of 66 passes for a team-best 557 yards with five touchdowns and three interceptions. His 142.86 quarterback efficiency rating is the eighth best in school history.

He was named MWC offensive player of the week earlier this season vs. the University of Nevada-Las Vegas after rushing for a career-best 99 yards and hitting of seven passes for 162 yards and the first two touchdown passes of his career.

The Falcons finished the season 8-4 overall and finished fourth in the MWC with a 5-3 mark. They play the University of Houston (7-5, 6-2 C-USA) in the 2008 Armed Forces Bowl in Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 31, at noon. central in Amon G. Carter Stadium.

U.S. Air Force photo by MIKE CAPLAN

Air Force Falcon quarterback Tim Jefferson was named the Mountain West Conference's freshman of the year by Sporting News.



Holiday giving

Robins Elementary chorus entertains local ex-prisoners of war with holiday, patriotic tunes



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Robins Elementary Chorus members, comprised of 3rd -6th grade students, sing holiday and patriotic songs for the Middle Georgia Chapter of Ex-Prisoners of War Christmas luncheon at Horizons Dec. 2. The children also handed out handmade Christmas cards to the members.

Robins units grant Christmas wishes



U.S. Air Force photo by CLAUDE LAZZARA

Col. Joseph Veneziano, 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing commander, hands a gift to Barbara Pernet, Child Protective Services investigation supervisor. The 542nd CSW and 638th Supply Chain Management Group Joint Advisory Council Team's project for December involved working with the Houston County Department of Family and Children Services. DFCS presented the team with a Christmas Wish List that contained 50 names of children who are so deserving, but are so often overlooked at this time of the year. Each child's request was randomly submitted to each flight to participate in fulfilling the child's wish list.

IN BRIEF

BASE PHOTO LAB TO CHANGE STUDIO HOURS

The base photo lab, Bldg. 270, will change its customer walk-in studio hours Jan. 5 to correspond to Blues Monday — the Air Force mandatory

day for wearing of the dress blues uniform. The change will better accommodate military members needing photographs in uniform.

New studio hours for portraits, passport and ISOPREP photos will be Mondays from 8:15 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4

p.m. and Wednesdays 1:15 to 3:30 p.m. Appointments are not required during these times.

Walk-in service will no longer be available Tuesdays and Thursdays. As usual, appointments will be required for all other photo requests.

READ THE ROBINS REV-UP ONLINE
www.robins.af.mil/library/

**Stop accidents
before they stop you
Think VPP**



78th Force Support Squadron — Holiday Day hours

The following 78th Force Support Squadron facilities will have adjusted hours due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays:

Open

►Arts & Crafts Center, Dec. 29 - 31 and Jan. 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 ►Base Library, Dec 19-20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Dec. 21, 12 to 5 p.m.; Dec. 22 -23, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Dec. 29-30, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Dec. 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; resume regular hours Jan 2
 ►Base Restaurant, Dec. 22 - 24 (with limited service Dec. 24 and Dec. 29 - 31)
 ►Mobile truck reduced routes Dec. 22 - 24
 All snack bars close at 1 p.m. Dec. 22 - 24 (no deli service offered in snack bars) Only snack bars 125, 91, 640, 301,

140 and 300 foyer will be open until 1 p.m. Dec. 29 - 31 (all others closed)
 ►Bowling Center, Dec. 24, 1 to 6 p.m.; Dec 26, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Dec 27, 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Dec. 28, 1 pm. to 8 p.m.; Dec. 29-30, 11 am. to 8 p.m.; and Dec. 31, 1 to 5 p.m. (open bowling) and 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. (New Year's Party)
 ►Education Office, Dec. 26
 ►Fitness Center, Dec. 24 and 26 and Dec. 31 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 1 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 ►Flight Kitchen
 ►Golf Course, open Dec. 24 and Jan. 1 (normal hours)
 ►Fairways Grille, Dec. 24
 ►Heritage Club, open Dec. 28 (Football Frenzy Festivities) 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 ►Horizons, Dec. 31 at

6:30 p.m. for New Year's festivities
 ►Lodging, normal hours of operation
 ►Pizza Depot, Dec. 24 till 1 p.m.
 ►Rasile Indoor Pool, Dec. 24 and 26 and Dec. 31 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 1 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 ►Teen Center, Dec. 27 - 29 from 2 to 8 p.m.
 ►Wynn Dining Facility
 ►Youth Center, Dec. 31 from noon to 5 p.m.
Closed Dec. 25, 26 & Jan. 1 or as listed
 ►Aero Club
 ►Airman and Family Readiness Center
 ►Airman Leadership School
 ►Arts & Crafts Center
 ►Auto Skills Center
 ►Base Library, Dec 25-28 and Jan 1
 ►Base Restaurant, Dec. 25 and 26 and Jan. 1; Deli operations, Dec. 22 - Jan. 5; All Mobile routes closed

Dec. 25 - 28; All Snack bars, Dec. 25 - 28 with night shift operations Dec. 22 - Jan. 5; Snack bars 210, 645, 300H and 376; Dec. 29 - Jan. 5; Vending, closed Dec. 24 - Jan. 5; Administration Office, Dec. 25 and 26 and Jan. 1
 ►Bowling Center, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1
 ►CDC East and West
 ►Community Center
 ►Education Office, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 only
 ►Equipment Rental/Outdoor Recreation, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1
 ►Fairways Grille, Jan. 2
 ►Family Child Care
 ►First Term Airman Center
 ►Fitness Center Annex, Dec. 24 - 26 & Dec. 31 & Jan. 1
 ►Golf Course, Dec. 25
 ►Heritage Club, Dec. 24 - 27 & Dec. 31 - Jan. 2

THE ROBINS REV-UP WISHES YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

Tooting his own horn



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Tech. Sgt. Ryan Miles, Band of the United States Air Force Reserve, plays French horn with the band during their annual Christmas Concert Dec. 11 at the Museum of Aviation. The Band performed a wide variety of holiday music.



Becky McCoy



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

TITLE: 78th Civil Engineer Group Environmental Management Division chief

DUTIES: Ms. McCoy is responsible for the operations and sustainment of the environmental clean up, conservation, compliance and pollution prevention programs for the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, 78th Air Base Wing, 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing, 402nd Maintenance Wing and associate units at Robins.

WHY IS THE ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM IMPORTANT TO ROBINS?: "The energy program is important at Robins because Executive Order 13423 requires us to reduce energy consumption, it saves ever dwindling dollars, and it is the right thing to do. The philosophy of the entire Center is to prevent pollution and the first line of prevention is reduction, then reuse, recycle and dispose as a last resort. We should not only reduce energy consumption but also conserve water and all of our precious natural resources."

► FSS BRIEFS

Outdoor Adventure invites you to a 10K walk-Volkssport Jan. 1 at the Silver Comet Trail located in Powder Springs, Ga. This paved trail accommodates hikers and strollers. The van will depart outdoor recreation at 8:30 a.m. and will return at 3 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person and includes transportation and entry. Sign up by Dec. 29. For more details call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

Take a tree top excursion with Outdoor Adventure on Jan. 3 at the Panola Mountain State Park in Stockbridge, Ga. The van will depart outdoor recreation at 10:30 a.m. and will return at 6 p.m. A minimum of 10 people are required for outdoor recreation to host this trip. Cost is \$30 per person and includes transportation, three hours of rappelling, assisted guide and all equipment. Sign up by Dec. 22. For more information call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

Join outdoor recreation on a Georgia Aquarium trip Jan. 19. Meet at outdoor recreation at 8 a.m. with an 8:30 a.m. departure. Bus will arrive back at 6 p.m. Cost is \$56 for individuals (13 – 54 years old); \$51 senior citizens couples (55 years and older) and \$47 child (up to 12 years old). Cost includes transportation, parking, Georgia Explorer, Ocean Voyager, Cold Water Quest, River Scout and Tropical Diver. Deadline to sign up is Jan. 5. A minimum of 10 people is required to host the trip. For more information, call 926-4001.

A fun way to spend your spare time is during Hook Up 2 Bowling Jan. 2 – 5 from 3 to 5 p.m. each day. Open to new, infrequent or former bowlers. All graduates will receive a ball, bag and towel, eight hours of group instruction and on-lane lessons. Cost is \$99 for adults and \$69 for children 17 years old and younger. For more

information call the bowling center at 926-2112.

An indoor flea market is scheduled for Jan. 9 starting at 10 a.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom. Reserve your tables for \$7 each in advance by calling the community center at 926-2105.

Join Outdoor Adventure Feb. 16 – 18 on a ski trip to Cataloochee, N.C. Meet at outdoor recreation on Feb. 16 at 9 a.m. and depart at 9:30 a.m. and return Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. Package includes transportation, one room only, lift tickets, ski-day session, ski rental and a 20- minute instructional lesson. Snowboards available for an additional cost of \$17 per person. Cost of trip is \$370 for one, \$540 for two, \$710 for three and \$880 for four. Food not included. A minimum of 10 people is required to host this trip. Sign up by Jan. 26. For more information call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.