



ROBINS REV-UP

March 6, 2009 Vol. 54 No.9

Wage hearing lets workers give feedback

Robins' blue-collar employees have an opportunity to comment about the upcoming Federal Wage System wage survey.

A public hearing about the survey – particularly the area, industries and jobs to be surveyed – will be held March 18 at 9:30 a.m. in the Museum of Aviation Scott Theater. Employees can request administrative leave to attend the hearing.

To comment, employees must provide written questions, recommendations and supporting documentation before or at the hearing. Before the hearing, these may be dropped off at Directorate of Personnel Customer Service in Bldg. 376 or e-mailed to Cantrell Hollingsworth at cantrell.hollingsworth@robins.af.mil. At the hearing, they will be collected at the

door. The questions, recommendations and supporting documentation will be read aloud during the hearing to ensure their meaning is understood. At the conclusion of the hearing, the information will be forwarded to the Department of Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service for answers.

The survey, which will start in early June, is used to set pay rates for Federal Wage System workers at Robins and other federal agencies in the local wage area.

Several data collection teams will visit private businesses around Middle Georgia to determine salaries paid for work that is similar to that done by wage grade employees in the area, according to Dianne Gauthier, acting chief of

Robins' workforce development division.

The teams will include representatives from the DOD Civilian Personnel Management Service, Robins' Directorate of Personnel, and the local chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees, she said.

Grades and titles of some of the jobs that will be used in the survey include 2-Material Handler, 5-Warehouse Worker, 9-Carpenter, 10-Electrician, 10-Machinist and 11-Electronics Mechanic.

The survey area will include Bibb, Houston, Jones, Laurens, Twiggs and Wilkinson counties, but will also be applicable to federal wage grade employees in the following counties: Baldwin, Bleckley, Crawford, Crisp, Dodge, Dooly, Hancock, Jasper, Johnson, Lamar, Macon, Monroe, Montgomery, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Telfair, Treutlen, Upson, Washington, Wheeler and Wilcox.

WHAT TO KNOW

WHAT: Public hearing about the Federal Wage System survey

WHEN: March 18 at 9:30 a.m.

WHERE: Museum of Aviation's Scott Theater



U.S. Air Force photo by GARY CUTRELL
Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander, joins Jim Holten, Georgia Power project manager, and former 78th Civil Engineer Group employee Bill Fowler in flipping the ceremonial first switch on the new electrical substation.

Base powers up with new substation

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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Robins is getting more powerful. Base officials recently heralded the completion of a new electrical substation that will help Robins keep up with demand from new construction and ensure reliability, said Jonathan Powell, an industrial engineer in the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron.

The substation, located just off Perimeter Road on the north end of the base, is expected to be switched on by Georgia Power in a few days, Mr. Powell said. The station will be the fourth substation on base.

A substation converts high voltage electrical power from distribution lines into a lower voltage for use in base facilities. The new station cost \$2.5 million, which was paid for by Georgia Power. The base spent \$750,000 for lines and circuit breakers that tie the station to the base.

"The new substation will allow us greater capacity and allow us to have greater flexibility with maintenance and switching," Mr. Powell said.

The substation will take the load off existing stations, which have operated near capacity at times, Mr. Powell said. By reducing the load on existing substations, the risk of outages is reduced.

The ceremony also included a tribute to former infrastructure support chief Bill Fowler, who is now retired. Mr. Fowler was instrumental in the development of the power distribution network on base, which is largely underground and thereby more reliable. He was also instrumental in getting the new substation developed.

"He left a large footprint in what he accomplished," Mr. Powell said.

Moving on down the road



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

The Museum of Aviation towed an F-16 aircraft two miles up Ga. 247 to Robins Tuesday. The aircraft, once part of the Thunderbirds Aerial Demonstration Team, is being prepared for a new paint job. The Museum gained the F-16 Falcon a year ago and is restoring it to its original Thunderbirds paint scheme. The aircraft will be on display at the Museum during the Robins Air Show May 2-3, where Thunderbird pilots are expected to help the Museum open the aircraft display.

High Velocity Maintenance

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of brief articles on High Velocity Maintenance. The series will discuss what HVM is, when it will be implemented, how it will be deployed and why it is right for Robins.

High Velocity Maintenance is a mechanic-centered philosophy that will eventually replace programmed depot maintenance. Rather than scheduling aircraft for programmed depot maintenance every five years, HVM will result in scheduling aircraft in for maintenance every 18 months.

The total time in the depot will be greatly reduced over the life of the aircraft. This will greatly increase aircraft availability in the field. Since the aircraft will not stay out in the field for another five years after an HVM cycle, as is the case with PDM, it will not be necessary to conduct a total maintenance package while the aircraft is in the depot.

HVM will put a lot of focus on looking ahead to develop kits for the aircraft mechanic. Future Rev-Up articles will discuss the concept of the HVM cycles, kitting, standard visual work cards, the role of and changes to isochronal inspections, the transition process from PDM to HVM, the validation process and more on HVM's purpose. — *Courtesy HVM communications team*

Great ideas result in cold, hard cash

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW
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Two groups of workers at Robins will do some economic stimulating of their own thanks to some big ideas they had.

Machinists Terry Walker, Brad Sirmons and David Wright from the 573rd Commodities Maintenance Squadron are sharing a \$10,000 award for an idea expected to save nearly \$1 million annually.

On Feb. 27, Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, presented the group with an oversized check. They will split the monetary award, each receiving \$3,333.

After that ceremony she went to the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group, where she

made a similar presentation to six people who collaborated on an idea estimated to save \$388,000 annually.

The awards stem from the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program, or IDEA. The program rewards military and civilian employees for money-saving ideas, with the award ranging from \$200 to \$10,000. The award is based on the amount of cost savings.

The workers in the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group, hailing from different units in the group, collaborated to reduce a \$13,000 repair to about \$100.

Members of the group are Samantha Hutchinson, Donnie

▶ see IDEA, 2A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP
Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, looks at C-130 propeller hubs as 573rd Commodities Maintenance Squadron employees Brad Sirmons, Terry Walker and David Wright explain the idea that earned them a cash award.

THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 32
Last DUI: 5th CBCSS
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

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



TWO-MINUTEREV

Return to Daylight Savings Time

The return to DST from standard time will occur on Sunday at 2 a.m. Clocks will be set forward one hour. Employees on a shift when time "springs forward" to daylight-saving time will be credited with the actual number of hours worked. Any time worked in excess of eight hours will be paid at the appropriate overtime rate and/or compensatory time earned. Point of contact is your servicing human resource specialist in Employee Relations at 926-5802 or 926-0677.

INSIGHT



A boy and his dog

Robins teen to soon get new companion, independence, 1B

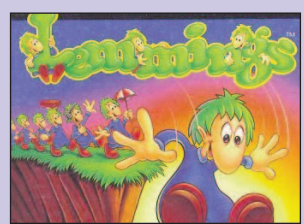
WEATHER



Snow day

Rare snow day turns Robins into short-lived winter wonderland, 4A

SERVICES



Top five PC games of all-time

Editor shares his top five favorite computer games, 2B

WEATHER

FRIDAY	71/42
SATURDAY	77/51
SUNDAY	78/53

IDEA

Continued from 1A

Mimbs, Glenn Collins, Mark Berndt, John Fullington and Michael Nolen. They have already each gotten \$1,666 as their part of the award.

The fix involved the face plate on a Global Positioning Satellite unit used on a variety of aircraft.

The face plates on the units were malfunctioning, with the primary problem being the light panel that lights up the control buttons on the unit. They were replacing the entire face plate, which costs \$13,000, said Mr. Fullington.

But members of the group did some searching and found a place where they could purchase the light panel and replace it rather than replacing the entire face plate.

"I want to thank you all so much for having the initiative," General Peyer told the group, as she handed out awards to each one.

The idea from the 573rd CMMXS trio will keep a \$35,000 part in service. The part is a barrel that anchors the propellers on a C-130. Previously the barrels often



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, visits with employees in the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group. Six workers in the group collaborated on an idea that will save the base an estimated \$388,000 annually. They won \$10,000 for their idea.

had to be condemned when worn bolt holes had been bored out beyond the tolerance level. An average of 29 barrels were being discarded per year.

Mr. Walker, Mr. Sirmons and Mr. Wright put their heads together to figure out how the save the expensive part. They came up with the idea to manufacture bushings that could be inserted into the holes to return the holes to the original manufacture size. The bolts

hold the two pieces of the barrel together.

Now, rather than tossing a \$35,000 part, it only costs about \$1,000 to fix the problem.

Although it is the first IDEA award for Mr. Sirmons and Mr. Wright, Mr. Walker has raked in four major awards and won numerous other smaller awards. He is a former Innovator of the Year.

Mr. Walker said there was

no conflict about who came up with the idea and who should share in the award.

"As a group all three of us put our heads together and came up with a solution and made it work," he said.

EO OFFICE HAS 'BEST PRACTICE'

Congratulations to the WR-ALC's Equal Opportunity Office, identified as having a "best practice" by the Investigations and

Resolutions Division, a component of the Department of Defense Civilian Personnel Management Service. Kudos!

OSI searches for special agents

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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Airmen who have been considering a career change will have their chance next week.

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations, a criminal investigation arm of the Air Force, is holding a recruitment day Thursday. OSI is a federal agency that deals with felony crimes at Air Force installations.

The event will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the First Term Airman's Center auditorium and will last until about 1 p.m. The center is in Bldg. 941 on Warner Robins Street.

OSI Special Agent William Taylor said that although there are civilian positions available in OSI, the

event next week is for active-duty Airmen. Civilians who may be interested can contact the OSI office.

Mr. Taylor said Airmen from any field are welcome to apply. Those interested need only to bring an ink pen and a military identification, he said.

"If anyone is looking for a career-field move and wants to join a premier investigative agency, this is a good event," Mr. Taylor said.

He said the office focuses on government fraud, along with investigations into illegal drugs, assaults and other felony crimes. The office also does counter intelligence work.

The available positions are Air Force wide, not just at Robins.

DP hiring process nets 'excellence' rating

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

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An inspection of the hiring process at Robins earned an "Office of Excellence" rating from a team of Department of Defense inspectors that reviewed the process recently.

The three-person team was from the DOD's Civilian Personnel Management Service. The team reviewed the Directorate of Personnel's Delegated Examining Unit and Employment Office, which together recruit and screen applicants for open positions at Robins.

Angelia Solomon, acting chief of the Delegated Examining Unit, credited the results to teamwork.

"We are a close-knit team and we are all about teamwork and working together to complete our goal," she said.

The Delegated Examining Unit is responsible for advertising open positions, screening the applicants and ensuring that proper practices are being followed, Ms. Solomon said. The office is especially expected to make sure that veterans are given due consideration in hiring.

The Employment Office

then handles the rest of the hiring process, from setting up interviews to making sure new employees get a Common Access Card.

Karl Abernathy, acting chief of the employment office, said the inspection team took away two pages of best practices in the office.

"I think it's the customer-service orientation and pride of our people in their daily efforts," Mr. Abernathy said in describing why the office won the excellent rating. "We were very, very proud of the findings, and very proud of the hard work and professionalism and dedication of our staff."

Ms. Solomon said the inspection is done every two years, and it's particularly

important because a negative finding would mean the office would be on probation for a year.

The report concluded that the personnel hiring process at Robins "functions as a customer-oriented organization that offers quality products and services and supports the component's mission."

The report also noted that the office met personnel hiring requirements and found no violations of veteran's preference or merit system principles.

► IN BRIEF

TECH EXPO

The 78th Communications Group will host a Technology Expo Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Horizons. All military, civilian and contract personnel are invited to attend. There will be more than 25 exhibitors demonstrating the latest in technology.

ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONIES

The Warner Robins Air Logistics Center annual award ceremony will be Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Team Robins annual awards ceremony will be March 14 at 6 p.m. Both cere-

monies will be in the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar. RSVP will be through e-invite.

INVEST IN YOUR MARRIAGE: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS TRAINING FOR COUPLES

Ineffective communication is the typical root of most marriage problems. If a couple masters the ability to listen effectively and work as a team to address conflicts, the ability to weather financial problems, health impairments, and other stressors significantly improves, as does intimacy.

To help improve these skills, the Family Advocacy Program will be providing a six-week

course utilizing a research based program. Military and civilian couples who are engaged or married are welcome to attend. The course starts March 20 and concludes April 24. Each class runs from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Airmen & Family Readiness Center's large classroom, Bldg. 794. Contact Tracy. Snider at 327-8422 or email her at tracy.snider@robins.af.mil for more information.

ROSC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Robins Officer Spouses Club scholarship applications are now available. All applicants can access the applications via the ROSC Web site at

www.robinsosc.com.

Graduating seniors may also pick up a packet from their high school guidance counselors. Application packets must be postmarked by March 16.

Eligibility requirements for all applicants:

- Dependent children or spouses of retired, deceased, or active-duty military members currently stationed at Robins or be a dependent child/spouse of an eligible retired, deceased, or current DOD civilian employee of Robins.

- In the upper 10 percent of their class, or have a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, and must have demonstrated scholarship, leadership and outstanding performance.

GS TIME-IN-GRADE ELIMINATED

Effective Monday, the Office of Personnel Management will eliminate the 52-week General Schedule time-in-grade requirement for promotions.

Currently, GS employees must have 12 months federal time-in-grade as well as 12 months specialized experience to be considered for promotion to a GS-06 and above. Following Monday's

change, GS employees will only need to have 12 months specialized experience to be considered. This specialized experience can be federal, non-federal or military.

Although time-in-grade will no longer be applicable, employees must continue to meet the OPM qualification standard and any other job related requirements.

If you have further questions, contact a human resources staffing specialist at 222-0601.

Rare winter delight



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP



Courtesy photo

Above top, 11- year-old Chris Lewis scrapes snow off the windshield of his family's vehicle to make a snowball Sunday at Robins.

Above, 5-year-old Konnor Johnson muscles wet snow across his lawn, creating the base for his first-ever snowman.

Congratulations to Team Robins senior master sergeant selects

Jennifer Alexander HQ AFRC
Ronald Ater 578th ACSS
Charles Bentley HQ AFRC
Gregory Butler 116th ACW
Claireasa Campbell HQ AFRC
Eden-Phillip Clore 16th ACCS
Jamie Dutcher 330th CTS
Gregory Horvath 330th CTS
Jack Howard 653rd CLSS
Gary Hunkins 78th FSS
Charles Jackson HQ AFRC
Adrian Keys 116th MXS
Scott Main 116th MOS
Beniel Malohi 116th ACW
Chad Maronge AFRS
Matthew Ogle 78th FSS
Stillman Parker 730th ACSSS
Andre Prince HQ AFRC



Robert Rafferty HQ AFRC
Christopher Ramos 53rd CBCS
Keith Robinson 116th MXS
Michelle Rootes HQ AFRC
Jeffrey Stroup 402nd EMXG
Melissa Williams 116th MOS
Lisa Wills 78th FSS

Commentary

"Across the Service, we represent a broad range of diverse missions, family situations, ethnicities, faiths, races and educational backgrounds. Yet together, this rich tapestry forms the world's finest Air Force drawn from the best talent that America has to offer. I am proud of the work you do on behalf of our great country."

— Michael B. Donley, Secretary of the Air Force

WR-ALC VISION STATEMENT

Be recognized as a world class leader for development and sustainment of warfighting capability

WR-ALC MISSION STATEMENT

Deliver and sustain combat-ready air power ... anytime, anywhere.

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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 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.

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 Kendahl Johnson at (478) 222-0804.

ADVERTISING

For advertising information, call The Telegraph advertising department at (478) 923-6432.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, call The Telegraph at (478) 744-4234.

ONLINE

To read articles online, visit www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp

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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

FEMALE CONTRACTORS IN THE MALE LOCKER ROOM

I attend the fitness center regularly and have noticed everyday at approximately 1100hrs, the cleaning staff come in and block off the toilet area so they can clean it. I understand the need to keep the fitness center clean. They have a very important job and I appreciate them for the job they do. However, with the emphasis placed on physical fitness and the desire to go work out and get back to work in a timely manner, it is imperative individuals have full access to the facilities, especially during peak hours.

Today, during this time period, the showers were closed for cleaning. Not only that, but there were females assigned to clean in the showers during this peak period. When the situation became untenable as you would expect it would, the staff decided to close the locker room instead of adjust the cleaning schedule. I concede I am not aware of all the facts and circumstances surrounding this issue but it would seem to me if this were a planned cleaning event, the staff should have notified fitness center users in advance so they could plan accordingly. I would suggest it would have been even better to schedule the cleaning at a time other than peak usage time.

The fitness center is there to assist military members in maintaining their fitness levels as directed by the Air Force. Priority should be given to the military members and not to the cleaning staff. As I stated before, I appreciate the job they do and I think it is a very important one. There must be a way to make this work without going through what the members had to go through today. I am sure this is not the only e-mail you will receive concerning this issue. I hope you will take this into careful consideration and make a serious attempt to address this concern. Thank you.

COLONEL BERRY RESPONDS:

I'm guessing you've experienced the following dynamic at some point in your career. Hard-charging people who want to be customer-focused move so fast to solve a customer complaint that they get just a little in front of their own headlights. That's

what happened here. Our fitness staff has made some remarkable improvements in our fitness centers, from daily checks on our equipment in order to increase our TLC on heavily used items to an increased emphasis on cleanliness and safety. Alas, when a customer pointed out that our male bathrooms needed deep cleaning (where normal cleaning just won't do), our pros jumped into action.

We had the contractor out there in record time. Unfortunately, the contractor didn't send a male cleaning crew...none were available. The crew that did show up began work, and by the time the staff realized what happened, it was too late to realistically stop the work. Trust me, the entire staff assumed a male crew would do the work; after all, that was standard procedure with the contractor.

So, we've altered our processes to ensure it doesn't happen again. I give them an A+ in velocity/responsiveness, an A+ in taking ownership of the problem, but we erred in not being specific enough in our cleaning crew request. I have no doubt they'll get As across the board from now on.

Center commander answers Commander's Call questions

Editor's Note: The following questions are from the November Commander's Call. Responses are provided by Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, will respond to questions.

Q: What can be done about the limited parking available for motorcycles? Per regulations, motorcycles are allowed to park in any regular parking space. Does Robins honor this?

A: While continuing to look for opportunities to maximize parking spaces around the base, 78th Civil Engineering Group began an evaluation of motorcycle parking beginning Feb. 1, with an estimated com-

pletion date of March 2. Motorcycles are considered to be regular vehicles, and according to base parking regulations motorcyclists are allowed to park in any unreserved space open to privately owned vehicles.

Q: How do civil service employees volunteer for deployments?

A: Civilian deployment opportunities and instructions on volunteering are listed at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/expeditionary>. Interested civil service employees should apply to their services or agencies, and submit a current resume, the specific position identification number and the title from the position listing on the Web site to civdeploy@cpms.osd.mil.

Q: It would benefit several thousand employees if we had a sub-postal facility and a few eating establishments (similar to the food court on the south end) on the north end of the base near the flightline. The base restaurant provides good food, but day after day is too much.

A: The 78th Force Support Squadron has evaluated the opportunity to open a food court on the north end of the installation; however, the physical locations to support this venture are not currently available. In the meantime, 78th Force Support Squadron will continue to research sub-postal facilities with their contract facility.

Q: There are road conditions near

Q&A

Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer
WR-ALC
Commander



Bldgs. 125 and 140 with patchy concrete that is not safe for motorcycles. Is it possible to resurface the concrete?

A: 78th Civil Engineering Group is aware of the poor condition of the road surface in that area, and has a project programmed for the repair pending availability of funds.

Robins member sends thanks to wingmen for concern, help

The following is a letter sent to Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, from a person wishing to express his gratitude to Robins:

Dear General,

If this e-mail is not proper I do apologize. But my conscience requires me to express my appreciation to you and everyone at Robins for everything that has been done for me by Robins. While I do not know all the names of everyone directly involved everyone at Robins deserves my gratitude, I hope you will understand this statement and please pass my gratitude down to the people at Robins but especially the 402nd Electronics

Maintenance Group, benefits group, employment group and the base gym. Thank You!

My decision to come to work at Robins due to a considerable decrease in income was not an easy one. But concerns of need for excellent benefits when I turned 60 won my decision to pursue employment. I had no idea that those benefits I did not expect to need for another 12 years would be required so quickly. Then to learn the efforts and concerns of Robins' employees during my time of need was astounding and confirmed without question my choice of employment.

You see in September this past year I had a deer hit me while I was on a motorcycle, there were 12 days

in an induced coma and five weeks in the hospital. Due to a traumatic brain injury all of my skills had to be regained. When I was released from the hospital it took extreme effort just to walk a few blocks. But the people at Robins did not give up on me. When it takes every bit of effort you have to stand up and walk across a room, it is so enticing just to give up and quit. But to know that people were there for me, made me understand that giving up was not an option. So please when expressing my appreciation, let them know their time was not wasted.

Something everyone deserves to know, how long never really is. On Feb. 4 I met with the surgeon for my left shoulder and while reviewing

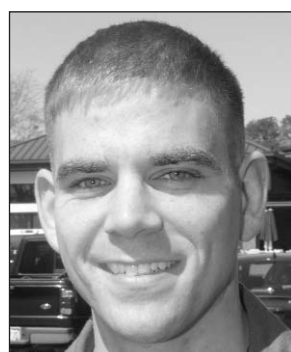
the file she became concerned that I was running a few blocks, when she inquired why, I explained my desire to complete a Triathlon. She stated I would never be able to swim again. Due to her concern I did not mention the half marathon I intended to run Feb. 7, and completed at Tybee Island.

Not only did I complete it, I did it only 10 minutes slower than my best time prior to the accident and we can now rest assured that never is 14 days as I swam yesterday. Thanks to the efforts of Robins so many of my goals have been accomplished and that goal for a Triathlon, it will happen!

General, Thank you so much for such a great crew.

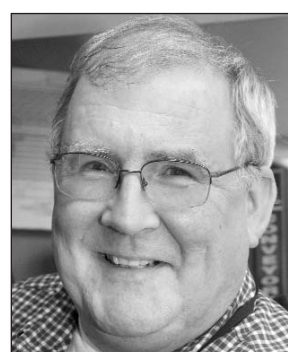
OFF THE CUFF!

How did you spend our rare snow day Sunday?



Airman 1st Class Jason O'Brien
16th ACCS

"I went to the gym in shorts. I'm from Boston so it didn't really affect me. I never thought I would see it while I was down here though."



Jay Breyer
DDWG

"It was the first time for my 3 1/2 year old daughter Hannah to see snow. She loved it. We made snowballs, a snowman and ice cream."



Senior Airman Frederick Winters
116th MSG

"I went to a friend's house and we had a snowball fight with her little sisters."



Yvette Rutledge
DDWG

"I took my three little girls outside. We made a snowman and took pictures. It was a wonderful time."

A boy and his dog



Hayden Martin, center, cuts a cake in his honor at a ceremony at Robins Commissary Feb. 26 as Marie Berry, Connor Martin, Dede Martin and Paula Lewis look on. Hayden will be getting his own service dog through a partnership between Milk-Bone and the Defense Commissary Agency.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Hayden Martin gets acquainted with Caesar, Canine Assistants' representative dog, at a ceremony at Robins Commissary Feb. 26.

Partnership makes companionship, independence possible for Robins teen

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

Hayden Martin will get a good friend within a few months. The 15-year-old son of Maj. Mike Martin, a crew commander in the 16th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, suffers from facioscapulo-humeral muscular dystrophy. The disease causes progressive weakening and loss of skeletal muscle.

Hayden can stand with assistance and walk, but he has trouble keeping his balance. That's where his new friend will help, courtesy of the Milk-Bone Canine Heroes Program and the Defense Commissary Agency. The two organizations, through Canine Assistants, are sponsoring a specially trained dog that will help Hayden become more independent.

The donation was announced Feb. 26 at the Robins Commissary. Although he got to meet Caesar, a Canine Assistants golden retriever, Hayden's permanent dog will be selected when

Hayden attends a two-week Canine Assistant's camp in Alpharetta later this year. He will be matched with a dog and learn how to work with it.

"It will be pretty good help," Hayden said.

Sue Harrison, director of volunteer services for Canine Assistants, brought Caesar to the ceremony. She said the dogs the non-profit group provides include golden retrievers, Labrador retrievers and some other cross breeds. The dogs are trained to perform over 90 commands, including turning on light switches and picking up dropped items.

The dogs at the camp will be fully trained, a process that takes up to two years, Ms. Harrison said. The purpose of the camp, she said, isn't to train the dog but to train the people receiving dogs. The sponsorship will cover the cost of Hayden attending the camp and free veterinarian costs for the life of the dog. The cost of care and training can exceed \$20,000.

Major Martin said the dog will mean a lot to his son, who is a sophomore at Warner Robins high school and plays drums in the

marching band, although he doesn't march. He is also active in the Boy Scouts.

"It's going to mean more independence and it will be a companion who will be with him all the time," Major Martin said.

Col. Warren Berry, commander of the 78th Air Base Wing, was also on hand for the ceremony.

"This is a big day for Hayden," Colonel Berry said. "He's been waiting a little while for this day."

J.D. Fenessey, a sales representative for Milk-Bone, said the company has sponsored over 800 service dogs nationwide over the past 11 years.

Robins road Trip

Ministry outing builds camaraderie among Airmen

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

On Sunday afternoon Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua Payne peered intently through the windshield of the van he was driving up Interstate 75 in a heavy snowfall and talked about the Airmen sitting quietly behind him.

He told the story of how one of his passengers, Senior Airman Thomas Lee, helped a Team Robins member who was away from her family in Texas getting medical treatment. The woman, a dorm manager at Robins, needed a computer hookup with cameras so she could have the company of her daughter back home while she received treatment.

Working through the Airman and Family Readiness Center, Airman Lee got two laptops and cameras and created the linkup.

"Airman Lee put in hours and hours of time to make sure (the woman) had everything she needed," Chaplain Payne said. "That, in a nutshell, is what this ministry is all about: giving back to our Team Robins members."

Airmen Lee and others in the two vans that made the trek to Atlanta on Sunday are part of the Base Chapel's Airmen Leadership Program. The members have keys to the Airmen Ministry Center. They help extend the hours of the Ministry Center so Airmen can have greater access, especially when they have spiritual needs.

That's especially important in a time when the base



Mitch Ried, Atlanta Hawks representative, (right) talks with Chaplain (Capt.) Joshua Payne as members of the Airmen Leadership Program watch the Hawks shoot around prior to their game Sunday against the Cleveland Cavaliers.

U.S. Air Force photo by WAYNE CRENSHAW

is making a concerted effort to reduce suicides. Chaplain Payne said he and the other chaplains are on call so when an Airman comes to the center after hours, the Airmen leaders or other volunteers can contact them.

"Airmen can come to the ministry center anytime, day or night, and find someone to talk to," Chaplain Payne said.

They went to Atlanta on Sunday to watch the Hawks play the Cleveland Cavaliers. It was the first in what

Chaplain Payne hopes is a series of trips for the Airmen Leadership Program to help build camaraderie and, most of all, reward the Airmen for their contributions to the base ministry.

Airman Lee said he isn't especially a Hawks fan, and hadn't been to an NBA game before, but he was going to the game for the social aspect. He joined the leadership group when the center opened at its new location a year ago.

"It's definitely been a blast and it's given me a ton of opportunities," said Airman Lee, who works on satellite communications in the 5th Combat Communications Group.

Although eight Airmen make up the Airmen Leadership Program, Chaplain Payne took a total group of 17 to Atlanta because he wanted to bring along some who had been volunteering and might make good recruits for the leader-

ship group.

A key role of the Airmen leaders, along with other volunteer groups, is to help man the Airmen Ministry Center, which started in 2006 in a vacant room in a dorm. Since then, the center has found a permanent home in Bldg. 706, formerly the base housing office, at the corner of Macon and Seventh Streets.

The center serves as an alternative to bars for Airmen looking to relax. The center

has couches, TVs, Wi-Fi, video games, a pool table and even a guitar. Alcohol and smoking is not allowed, but the Airmen do play some pretty violent video games, Airman Lee said. The most popular one right now is the zombie shoot 'em up, "Left For Dead."

Senior Airman Jonathan Torres, an assistant chaplain, keeps a full-time office in the center along with Chaplain Payne. He said about 700 Airmen per week visit the center, which is targeted to junior Airmen, from airman basic to senior airman.

The Airmen Leadership Program helped buy furniture for the center and helps with making decisions on additional purchases for furniture and equipment.

They also help the chaplains reach the other Airmen on base, Chaplain Payne said.

"They are our eyes and ears to make sure we are reaching our objectives," he said, adding that it's also a non-denominational group.

The Airmen demonstrated their leadership and foresight on the trip to Atlanta. As the snow picked up, the windshield wipers on both the vans were having trouble keeping up. The Airmen in the rear van phoned Chaplain Payne to pull over, and they produced sets of replacement windshield wipers for both vans and made the switch.

"These guys are incredible," Chaplain Payne said, pulling back onto the highway, and now peering through clear windows.

78th FSS BRIEFS

FRIDAY

A First Friday will be held at the Heritage Club and Horizons March 6 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. First Friday means great food, chances to win prizes, entertainment and drink specials. Members must be present to win. Cost is members free and nonmembers \$5. For more information call 926-2670.

SATURDAY

A yard sale will be held March 7 from 8 a.m. to noon in front of the Heritage Club, Bldg. 956. Set up starts at 7:15 a.m. and tables can be purchased in advance for \$7 per table (limit three per person). For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

SUNDAY

Texas Hold 'Em will now be held on Sundays in the Heritage Club. Sign-ups start at 1:30 p.m. with games beginning at 2 p.m. Prizes will be based on customer participation. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. All ranks and grades are welcome. For more information call the Heritage Club at 926-2670.

Super Sunday brunch will be held once a month at Horizons from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Brunch will always include breakfast items, omelet station, dinner entrees, carving station, salad bar, dessert and ice cream bar and more. Cost is \$11.95 for members, \$13.95 for guests and \$6.95 for children (3 – 10 years old) and children two years and younger are free. Please mark your calendar for the following dates: Super Sunday brunches will be held April 12 (Easter Sunday), May 10 (Mother's Day), June 21 (Father's Day), July 12, Aug. 2, Sept. 13, Oct. 4, Nov. 1 and Dec. 6 (Santa comes early). For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

WEDNESDAY

Want to learn new tricks? Join in on the fun and play Bridge at the Heritage Club starting March 11 at 6 p.m. for five weeks. Cost is free. For more information contact Ruth Suggs at 923-4574 or the Heritage Club at 926-2670.

THURSDAY

The table tennis club will meet every Thursday in the Heritage Club

ballroom from 4 to 8 p.m. Open to all and sign up is not necessary. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

UPCOMING

Play Bunco March 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Horizons. Cost is \$5 per person and open to all ranks and grades. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

Come on out for an evening of fun during the family night bingo March 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Horizons ballroom. Doors open at 6 p.m. with games starting at 7 p.m. Cost is \$4 per pack, limit three per person. For more information call Horizons at 926-2670.

The Air Force Teen Aviation Camp will be held May 30 – June 4. Teens interested in applying must complete a nomination form and familiarization exam and submit package to Youth Programs. This camp is for high school students entering their sophomore or junior year in the fall of 2009 and interested in aviation, leadership or the USAFA. Eligible applicants include teen dependents of active-duty military assigned to or living on Robins, AF retired military, AF civilian employees, or activated Air National Guard or AF Reserve. Camp will be held at the USAFA in Colorado Springs, CO. Deadline to apply is March 17. Teens who participated in the 2008 camp are not eligible to apply this year. For more information call Marvin Hawkins, at 926-2110 or e-mail marvin.hawkins@robins.af.mil.

Visit ITT's 9th Annual Explore & Expand Your Horizons Travel Show March 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Heritage Club, Bldg. 956. Visitors will have chance to win a variety of prizes and gain information to plan their next weekend getaway or vacation. For more information call ITT at 926-2945.

A Women's History Month Art Exhibit will be held March 23 and 24 from 11 am to 6 p.m. in the Heritage Club ballroom. Tickets will go on sale March 1 for \$5 for both days. For more details call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282 or visit www.robinservices.com/artsandcrafts.

Celebrating Black History Month



U.S. Air Force photo by SHERRY TRAUTHE

The children and teachers of Child Development Center West dressed up and marched around Feb. 27 in celebration of Black History Month.

A skeet tournament and steak dinner will be held March 29. The tournament will be from noon to 6 p.m. and the cost is \$20 and includes skeet with 50 challenging clay targets and steak dinner with the trimmings or non-shooters for \$12. Dinner will be from 2 to 6 p.m. For more information call outdoor recreation at 926-4001 or the skeet range at 926-4733.

An Air Force Chess tournament is scheduled for April 8 starting at 5 p.m. in the community center. All players please register now. To learn more call the community center at 926-2105.

ONGOING

Come by the Heritage Club and check out and play the XBOX 360 in the Mouse Pad. To check out games please show your ID card. Hours of operations are Monday – Thursday 8

am. to 8 p.m. and Friday 8 am to 5 p.m. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

Time to play and win a trip to a final four game during the Air Force March Madness. Pick up a game piece, one per customer per visit at the Base Restaurant, Fairways Grille (Golf Course), Heritage Club, Horizons, On Spot Café (Bowling Center) or Pizza Depot. Go online for more details. Go to www.airforcemarchmadness.com to enter your code for the online bracket tournament. Prizes will include first place a trip for four to the 2010 Final Four game for three days/two nights, hotel, air, car rental, game tickets and \$1,000 spending money, second place receives \$5,000; third place \$2,500, fourth place \$1,000 and five subsequent winners will win a Coca Cola NCAA Pop-A-Shot arcade home-style

basketball game. For more information call Marketing at 926-5492.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the bowling center. Bowl a strike when the green pin is in the number one position and that game is complimentary. For more information call 926-2112.

Let the 78th Force Support Squadron know how they rate!

Go to www.robinservices.com and click on the ICE icon. At the next screen, click on the activity link that you want to give a rating and/or comment. Please provide contact information about yourself if you want to receive an answer. To learn more about ICE, call FSS Marketing at 926-5492. You can give your opinion and ideas by filling out a comment card. Comment cards and drop boxes are located in 78th FSS facilities.

Editor's note: Have an opinion? If you have any suggestions for topics or would like to sound off on my top five, email kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil.



FAVORITE PC GAMES OF ALL TIME

Over the past 15 years, I've played hundreds of computer games. I have fond memories of staying up hours playing games, much to the chagrin of my parents, college professors and spouse. While I still enjoy playing computer games, the demands of real life and lack of stamina due to aging prevent me from pulling all-night video game marathons. However, it doesn't prevent me from looking back on my favorite games of all-time. Here they are:

5 Secret of Monkey Island (1990)
In college I would play this with my girlfriend. We would sit for hours guiding wannabe pirate Guybrush Threepwood through a fantastically humorous adventure. I was enthralled with the game almost as much as I was enthralled with the idea of finding a girl who liked computer games. I knew the girl, who is now my wife, was a keeper (and so was this game).

4 Starcraft (1998)
One of the best selling computer games of all time, this title was my first foray into real-time strategy games. Players could choose from one of three races: the insectlike Zerg, the interstellar "everymen" Terrans, and the high-tech Protoss. The gameplay itself was so addictive, I played the game through three times just to experience it from the perspective of all three races.

3 Lemmings (1991)
This popular puzzle game lets you manipulate lemmings in an effort to save them from destruction. The game is divided into a number of levels, grouped into several difficulty levels. Some puzzles were diabolical to the point of frustration, making the solving of the level satisfying and rewarding. Problem solvers and puzzle lovers of all ages can enjoy this classic.

2 Railroad Tycoon 2 (1998)
I never played Sid Meier's original, but this sequel was one of the most addicting games I have ever played. It's in essence a business simulation, where the objective is to build and manage a railroad company by laying track, building stations and buying and scheduling trains. The game challenges the intellect, rewarding forethought and planning.

1 X-Com: UFO Defense (1993)
Poor grades my junior year of college were a direct result of spending far too much time playing X-Com and not enough time studying. No other computer game has captured my interest like this one did. The gist of the game is simple: hostile aliens have begun invading the Earth, killing and enslaving the human race. I can't explain exactly why I wasted hours upon hours of my life playing this turn-based strategy game, but I did ... and enjoyed every minute of it.

DONATE YOUR LEAVE

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

The following person has been approved as a leave recipient: **Candice Shinholster**, 578th SMXS. POC is Brad Simmons 926-0427.

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.

78th FSS PHONE DIRECTORY

- ▶ Services926-5491
- ▶ Community Center926-2105
- ▶ Outdoor Rec926-4001
- ▶ Arts & Crafts926-5282
- ▶ Horizons926-2670
- ▶ Heritage Club926-7625
- ▶ Library327-8761
- ▶ HAWC327-8480
- ▶ Fitness Center926-2128
- ▶ Fitness Center Annex926-2128
- ▶ Youth Center926-2110
- ▶ ITT926-2945
- ▶ Bowling Center926-2112
- ▶ Pine Oaks G.C.926-4103
- ▶ Pizza Depot926-0188

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



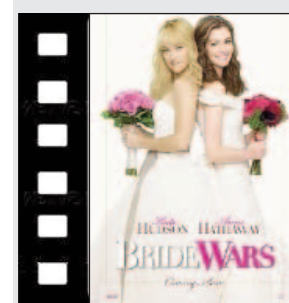
MARCH 6 — 7:30 P.M.
HOTEL FOR DOGS
RATED PG

When Andi and her younger brother, Bruce, find themselves in a foster home with a strict "No pets" policy. Andi has to use her quick wit to help find a new home for their dog, Friday. The kids stumble upon an abandoned hotel and begin transforming it into the perfect home for Friday- as well as all the strays in the city.



MARCH 7 — 2 P.M.
INKHEART
RATED PG

Mortimer and his daughter, Meggie, share a unique gift for bringing characters from books to life when they read aloud. But for every character brought to life a real person disappears into its page. While at a secondhand book shop, Mo hears voices when he locates the book they're coming from, it sends a shiver up his spine.



UPCOMING
BRIDE WARS
RATED PG

Liv and Emma are best friends who since childhood have planned every detail of their weddings. At the top of their "must have" list: a ceremony at New York's ultimate bridal destination, the Plaza Hotel. Now, at age 26, they're both about to get married; realize their dreams; and live happily ever after. Or maybe not.

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