



# ROBINS REV-UP

March 20, 2009 Vol. 54 No.11

## Robins officer earns Bronze Star Medal

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
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Contracting for goods and services related to military operations doesn't just happen in the safety of offices at installations like Robins.

Contracting is also a vital component of military operations on the ground in places like Iraq and Afghanistan. Friday, Lt. Col. James Boles Jr. was awarded a Bronze Star in recognition of his efforts as a contracting officer in Iraq.

After the ceremony, Colonel Boles said many people do not realize how much contracting has to take place in the war zone in order for Soldiers and Airmen to get their jobs done.

"One thing you learn is that contract-

ing is a catalyst for change," he said. "Things are happening every day where soldiers are trying to get supplies, services and construction done."

Colonel Boles is chief of the Electronic Warfare Contracting Division in the 542nd Combat Sustainment Group here. In Iraq, he served as chief of the Joint Regional Contracting Center in Mosul from December 2007 to December 2008.

During that time, according to the citation, he was responsible for 732 contracting actions worth \$200 million and directly contributed to numerous mission successes. He led an eight-person team that endured direct mortar attacks at their location, the citation stated.

The contracting items Colonel Boles directed included construction of barriers to improve security at locations throughout Northern Iraq, which helped protect Coalition forces from mortar and rocket attacks. He also helped acquire crop dusters that were used to protect Iraqi crops from infestation, thus ensuring a food supply.

Many of the contracts his team arranged were done on very short notice, the citation stated.

Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, presented the medal to Colonel Boles in a ceremony witnessed by about 50 people.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Lt. Col. James Boles stands proudly with his wife, Amy, after receiving his Bronze Star Medal.

► see AWARD, 3A



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Charles Confer, sheet metal mechanic and robot operator, controls the robot away from the computer console with a hand-held teach pendant.

## F-15 wing shop aids C-130 maintainers

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
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When C-130 maintainers were faced with a time-consuming task to replace a single part, a specialized team in the F-15 Wing Repair Flight at Robins came to their aid.

Previously when C-130 workers needed to replace the sloping longeron, a 22-foot long piece of the tail-section frame, it took two weeks and 320 man hours.

That's because the new part required 571 holes to be precisely drilled, which the maintainers were doing by hand. The C-130 team asked the F-15 wing shop for help. Seven sheet metal mechanics who specialize in the use of a drilling robot took on the task. The end result was that they cut the time down to only 64 hours, saving 256 man hours.

David McNeal, director of the F-15 Wing Repair Flight, said it was a notable achievement by the team for numerous reasons, not the least of which is that they had never even seen a sloping longeron

before. The piece was also larger than the robot was set up to drill. They had to build new tooling to hold the piece, and go through a tedious process of setting up the computer to drill the holes in exact locations.

"What these guys did that was really so amazing is that there was nothing to tell them how to do this," Mr. McNeal said. "These guys came together as a team, made the tooling out of scratch, programmed the robot and drilled it. The end result was a perfect fit the first time."

The robot team members are David Ashley, Charles Confer, Ken Conner, Richard Flynn, Gene Manns, Michael Monroe and Thao Nguyen. Due to their efforts, they were recently given a Notable Achievement Award, which carried an extra \$200 in their paychecks.

It's not unusual for the crew to help out maintainers in other areas at Robins who need some high-tech help. The robot is a drill mounted on a large frame so that it can move around to reach any location on the

part. A new robot is under construction.

Mr. Manns said it's interesting to watch the robot work once all the set-up work has been done.

"It looks like a ballet when it's doing it," he said.

The team was first asked to take

on the task late last year and has since completed drilling on four sloping longerons. The team is still trying to improve the process.

"What we are doing now is looking at getting some specific tooling to make it even faster," Mr. McNeal said.

## C-130s near full return to flight

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
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Thanks in large part to Team Robins members, all C-130s being used in Iraq and Afghanistan are flying again.

The planes were briefly grounded until an inspection could be done on suspect wing-joint barrel nuts. On March 1, five cracked nuts were found on a C-130H undergoing routine maintenance here, and three days later the Air Force ordered the immediate inspection of the nuts on all 597 C-130s in the fleet.

Terrence May, director of the 330th Aircraft Sustainment Group, said as of this week all but one of the C-130s had been inspected. The only one not inspected is being converted to use as a ground trainer and is only technically still on the books as operational, he said.

A total of 62 percent of the planes have been returned to flight, he said. All planes being used in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have been returned to flight. Those planes were given priority on shipments of

► see C-130, 3A

## AFAF fundraiser collects money for good causes

The 2009 annual Air Force Assistance Fund campaign kicked off this week and runs through April 23. The AFAF campaign provides an opportunity for Air Force members to "take care of their own."

Robins' goal for this year is \$86,108 with 100 percent contact of all assigned Air Force personnel. Those interested in contributing should contact their unit project officer.

The AFAF has four avenues through which donors can help active duty, Reserve, Guard, and retired Air Force members and their families:

► **Air Force Aid Society** — provides Airmen and their families with worldwide

emergency financial assistance, education assistance and an array of base level community-enhancement programs. Base family support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements.

► **Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widow's Fund** in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., near Eglin Air Force Base — provides rent subsidy and other support to indigent widows and widowers of retired enlisted people 55 and older.

► **General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation** — provides rent and financial assistance to indigent widows and widowers of officers and enlisted people in their own homes and communities.

► **Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund** in San Antonio — a life-care community for retired officers, spouses, widows or widowers and family members.

For more information, about these organizations and about the AFAF, visit [www.afassistancefund.org](http://www.afassistancefund.org).

### UNIT PROJECT OFFICERS

- 1st Lt. Michael Webber, 78th ABW
- Master Sgt. John Kearney, 402nd MXW
- Senior Master Sgt. Stuart Allison, 330th ASW
- Tech. Sgt. James Brown, 542nd CSW
- Capt. Michael Davila, 638th SCMG
- Capt. Randy Soloman, WR-ALC
- 1st Lt. Tammy Pacini, 116th ACW
- Capt. Darryl McLean, AFRC

### THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 3  
Last DUI: 52nd CBCS  
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

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



### TWO-MINUTEREV

#### Perimeter Road closure

Perimeter Road will be closed at its intersection with First Street from March 28 - April 6 due to the construction of a new turn lane. All traffic will be diverted through the parking lot next to Bldg. 58. This temporary rerouting will close approximately 60 parking spaces and create a temporary inconvenience for personnel.

The new turn lane will be located from the north-bound lane of First Street on to Perimeter Road. During construction the traffic signals at the intersection will be shut off and traffic will be directed by 78th Security Forces personnel.

### INSIGHT



#### Tour of AF duties

Middle Georgia civic leaders learn more about the Air Force during tours, 1B

### SPORTS



#### Sit and swing

Golf cart makes Pine Oaks greens accessible to all, 4B

### DRMO



#### Out with the old

DRMO debuts new web-based appointment scheduling process, 3B

### WEATHER

FRIDAY	63/46
SATURDAY	65/49
SUNDAY	67/53

# Team Robins annual award winners



**Capt. Patrick Tibbals**  
5th CCG  
CGO of the Year



**Senior Master Sgt. Larry Wilcox**  
16th ACCS  
Senior NCO of the Year



**Master Sgt. Juancarlos Cueto**  
330th CTS  
First Sergeant of the Year



**Master Sgt. Bradford Godwin**  
78th OSS  
NCO of the Year



**Senior Airman Jarhid Brown**  
78th CS  
Airman of the Year



**Staff Sgt. Bryon Dunn**  
52nd CBCS  
Guardsman of the Year



**Julie Horton**  
411th SCMS  
Civilian of the Year (Category I)



**Roger Crews**  
560th ACSG  
Civilian of the Year (Category II)



**Joseph Yancey**  
407th SCMS  
Civilian of the Year (Category III)



**Travis Ross**  
402nd MXW  
Civilian of the Year (Category IV)



**Robert Fish**  
78th LRS  
Civilian of the Year (Category V)



**June Nelson**  
542nd CBSG  
Civilian of the Year (Category VI)

## ► IN BRIEF

### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Woman's History Month will continue at Robins with a Hat Party March 23 at 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel.

The Women's History Month Committee would also like to invite you to attend a luncheon, March 27 at 11 a.m. at the Heritage Club featuring keynote speaker Lt. Col. Marie Berry, USAF, Retired.

Mrs. Berry is the wife of Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander, and

recently retired as the Specialty Care Nursing Section Chief at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany. While there she led personnel from three branches of the military providing care to 48,000 Americans as well as casualties from Iraq and Afghanistan.

### VISTA IMPLEMENTATION

Robins, along with the rest of the federal government, is increasing security efforts by updating all Department of Defense computers to the Microsoft

Windows Vista Operating System. Having the same configuration across the board can eliminate more than 80 percent of the known PC vulnerabilities.

Sharon Berryhill, 78th Communications Squadron, said most users who are now using Vista are pleased.

There will be an informational user awareness forum at the Base Theater on March 25 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The briefing will highlight what to expect with the transition, Windows Vista software aspects and what users can do to be ready for Vista.

### HIGH VELOCITY MAINTENANCE CORNER

An HVM cycle is similar to a pit stop at a race track. The goal of HVM repair aircraft and return them to the field in an expedient manner. The work that is currently being accomplished in Programmed Depot Maintenance will be broken into four cycles accomplished at 18 month increments. While the details of the cycles are still being refined, the current concept defines the four cycles as Fuselage, Wing, Empennage, and Paint/Flight Controls. Some of the current field maintenance will be integrated into HVM Cycles.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Robins workers found cracks in barrel nuts in C-130 aircraft like this one, causing the flying of the aircraft to be halted while the entire C-130 fleet was examined.

## C-130

Continued from 1A

replacement nuts, which were in limited supply.

The remaining planes are waiting on a new order of replacement nuts to be manufactured. Mr. May said the new shipment is expected on April 8 and then the other planes with defective nuts can get the replacement.

“I’m pleased the problem

was identified quickly and we were able to take immediate action,” he said. “Normally in a situation like this it’s harder to get new parts in the pipeline. That’s outstanding support from the supply system.”

After the inspection order was issued, members of the 330th ASG set up 24-hour operations to field calls from maintainers around the world on making the inspection and replacement if needed.

## A/TA meeting hosts pilot of unique C-17 airdrop mission

In January 2008, a C-17 airdrop rescue mission provided emergency spare parts for an Argentinean fishing trawler stranded in the Southern Ocean/Ross Sea.

Maj. Mark Brown, the pilot for this unique airdrop mission, will be at Robins Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. to tell his story.

Major Brown will be the guest speaker for the local chapter meeting of the Airlift / Tanker Association, to be held in Horizons’ Daedalians Room.

The Airlift/Tanker Association is a proud organization dedicated to providing a forum for ensuring American military forces continue to have the air mobility capability required to implement U.S.

national security strategy. International in scope, with members and chapters throughout the world, the association is strong and growing.

Membership includes active duty, guard, reserve and retired military personnel, both officers and enlisted, as well as civilian and industry supporters of the air mobility mission. Membership is open to all.

A/TA Team Robins chapter invites members, prospective members and guests to attend this monthly luncheon meeting to hear Major Brown share the story of the rescue mission. No reservations are required.

Questions concerning A/TA should be directed to the chapter president, Col. James Dendis, at 222-1204.

## AWARD

Continued from 1A

“It’s not very often that people get a Bronze Star. Unfortunately, with the conflict we are in, we are giving out more Bronze Stars,” she told the audience after pinning the medal. “But when we have people operating under those circumstances, leaving family behind, I think it is right that we honor people coming back from the theater.”

Colonel Boles told those in attendance that his co-workers at Robins can share in the success because he relied on their support.

“We grew up in the old Air Force where everybody took care of one another, so it was good to see that kind of Robins’ spirit and it really renewed our faith in the Air Force,” he said.

The Bronze Star is the military’s ninth highest medal.

# THIS IS AFSO21 COUNTRY

# Commentary

"Every day, you - the Airmen, civilians and contractors of our Total Force team - impress me with your commitment and professionalism. You combine your tremendous talents with our Joint and Interagency partners, delivering unrivaled air, space and cyber capabilities to our national leaders and combatant commanders. In return, part of my responsibility to you is to create balance across the Department of the Air Force."

— **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.

### HOW TO CONTACT US

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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 [78ABW.PARevUp@robins.af.mil](mailto:78ABW.PARevUp@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

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### ADVERTISING

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### ONLINE

To read articles online, visit [www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp](http://www.robins.af.mil/library/rev.asp)

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**Col. Warren Berry**  
78th Air Base Wing  
Commander

## 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.

Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct

response. Anonymous action lines will not be processed. Discourteous or disrespectful submissions will not be processed.

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

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

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

### 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

### PARKING AT GYM ANNEX

The parking spaces at the gym in Bldg 301 are being abused by people working in the building who do not use the gym. The same cars are in these spaces all day long. What could be done to monitor this situation? Those of us who would like to use the gym can never find a space because of this. I appreciate the time we have to exercise and would like to take advantage of it. Thanks.

### COLONEL BERRY RESPONDS:

The Fitness Center Annex is a tremendous asset to the Robins community. In fact, almost 500 patrons use that facility each day. When it was sited in Bldg. 301, the concept was that the vast majority of people would walk there since it was centrally located to a large portion of our population. As a result of this planning factor and the already challenging parking situation in that area, we only set

aside nine parking places dedicated to the Fitness Center Annex. We'll have our fitness staff work to ensure we have periodic monitoring of the two-hour fitness parking spots. If you see a vehicle parked longer than the two-hour limit, please bring it to the Fitness Center staff's attention. And if you can't find a space close-in, consider the walk a good warm-up period!

Thanks for your patronage and feedback.



## Service before self

U.S. Air Force photo by TECH. SGT. JOE ZUCCARO

Master Sgt. Ray Garcia administers a shot to a villager during a Medical Civil Action Program in the village of Dire Teyara, Ethiopia. During a MedCap, military personnel provide medical assistance and services to tribal members who would otherwise go without help. The programs have been appreciated throughout the Horn of Africa. Sergeant Garcia is stationed at Robins.

## Women's History Month: Taking the lead to save our planet

In our nation's history, women's contributions to our great country have been overlooked and completely omitted at times. The idea of acknowledging women's contributions to American History had little support until 1978, when the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week."

In 1981, Sen. Orrin Hatch and Rep. Barbara Mikulski followed California's lead and co-sponsored the first Joint Congressional Resolution to proclaim "Women's History Week." In 1987, Congress approved the resolution and officially proclaimed March as Women's History Month.

This year, the Department of Defense recognizes Women's History Month as "Women Taking the lead to Save Our Planet." Of note are a few women who have and con-

tinued to make a positive impact on the Earth's environment for future generations.

Mary Arlene Appelhof, who lived from 1936 to 2005, also known as "worm woman," advocated using the earthworm to recycle food waste into fertilizer and introduced the environmentally-significant action of vermicomposting.

Mollie Beattie, who lived from 1947 to 1996, was the first woman to head the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She led the reintroduction of the gray wolf into the northern Rocky Mountains. For this accomplishment, Congress named a wilderness area in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in her honor.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, a name we are all familiar with, is now our Secretary of State. While serving as a senator, she worked to secure federal legislation to protect the environment both on the Senate's

Environment and Public Works Committee and as the senior democrat on the fisheries, wildlife and water subcommittee.

She also co-sponsored the Petroleum Consumer Price Gouging Protection Act and Close the Enron Loophole Act that allowed the president to declare an energy emergency and trigger federal gouging protections.

While observing great women of the past, what about a woman serving in the Air Force and deployed while assisting in Earth's survival.

Captain Elizabeth Yesue, the 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron programs flight chief, arrived in July 2008 to an air base in Southwest Asia. She also deployed to Baghdad International Airport in Iraq from September 2004 through January 2005. Throughout her deployments, she accomplished many tasks to directly influence the

environmental stewardship of those in the area of responsibility and directly impacted us all. She wrote the environmental standards for joint implementation in the area of responsibility, established the base solid waste management plan, and remediated a 186,000-gallon fuel spill that occurred after an attack, just to note a few accomplishments.

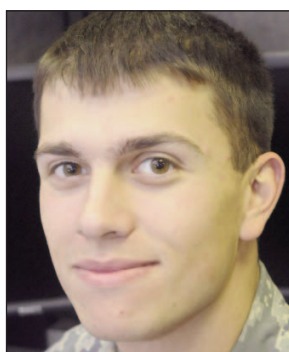
During Women's History Month and throughout the year, we should remember all of the women who have made contributions to ensure future inhabitants of Earth have a place to call home.

The contributions of these women — officers, enlisted Airmen and civilians — continue to shape women's history as they make American history.

— *This commentary was written by Staff Sgt. Jessica Blace 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron*

# OFF THE CUFF!

## March is Women's History Month. Who is an inspirational woman to you?



**Airman 1st Class Nicholas Patterson**  
78th CS

"Betsy Ross. She created something as a symbol for our nation that anyone can recognize worldwide."



**Airman Nicholas Johns**  
78th CS

"Joan of Arc. She was one of the first women to command an army and step up in a world where women weren't seen as leaders but she did it as well as any man or woman could have done."



**Raquel Bryant**  
78th CS

"Harriett Tubman. There might still be slavery today without her work with slavery and the Underground Railroad."



**Carren Desrocher**  
78th CS

"Tena Dominy, 78th Communications Group deputy director. She's a wonderful mentor and effective leader. She exhibits wisdom and is passionate about our mission."



Marlan Nichols, an accountant with Nichols, Cauley & Associates, volunteers to try on life support equipment while touring Hurlburt Field, Fla.

# Learning the Air Force mission

## Middle Georgia civic leaders learn about Air Force during Florida base tours

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

Chuck Shaheen has been a staunch supporter of Robins Air Force Base since his family moved to Warner Robins in 1964, but even he can still be impressed by the work of Airmen.

Mr. Shaheen, who serves as one of Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander's honorary commanders, was one of 25 civic leaders in Middle Georgia who went on a tour of Tyndall AFB and Hurlburt Field on March 3-4. The purpose of the trip was to give area civic leaders a chance to see what goes on at other bases.

"The two things I picked up," said Mr. Shaheen, "is that the Air Force is always trying to do things better, and they are trying to do them more cost effectively."

Also in the group was General Peyer; Col. Warren Berry, 78th Air Base Wing commander; Maj. Gen. Allan Poulin, Air Force Reserve Command vice commander; and Brig. Gen. Tom Moore, 116th Air Control Wing commander.

They departed Robins March 3 on a WC-130, which is a C-130 modified for weather reconnaissance and was provided by the 403rd Wing, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Keesler Air Force Base,

Miss. They flew to Tyndall AFB, Fla., where they saw an F-22 fighter and the 325th Air Control Squadron's Air Battle Manager School that trains officers for the 116th Air Control Wing at Robins. They also had a mission briefing on the 325th Fighter Wing, and toured the 601st Air & Space Operations Center (Northcom) along with the 53rd Weapons Evaluations Group.

After an overnight stay, they flew to Hurlburt Field Fla. At Hurlburt they saw the 1st Special Operations Wing, which is a special tactics unit. They were shown a memorial to members who had died in action since the Sept. 11 attack.

Ed Rodriquez, president of the Warner Robins Area Chamber of Commerce, went on the trip and said he found it to be a worthwhile experience. He said he was especially interested to see such operations as the unit that trains JSTARS officers at Robins. He also said it was "extremely thrilling" to see the F-22.

"What stood out the most to me was the ability to see how our base fits in with other facilities," he said. "They are doing things that work in conjunction with the base here. Overall, to me, the biggest benefit was being able to see the big picture of where we fit in."



Above, An Airman from the 43rd Fighter Squadron, Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., gives Henry Lowe (left), Lowe Aviation president, a closer look at the underbelly of an F-22 Raptor, while Lee Minor, Appraisal Service, looks on.

Below, An Airman from Tyndall AFB explains the F-22 Raptor's capabilities to civic leader tour participants.



Joe Kiefer, account representative at Office Images Inc, inspects a weapon at the Air Force Special Tactics facility at Hurlburt Field.



Civic leaders enjoyed the chance to see an F-22 Raptor, both inside and out.

U.S. Air Force courtesy photos

## 78th FSS BRIEFS

### SUNDAY

**Join outdoor recreation on a Wonder Works adventure in Orlando, Fla. to be held April 6 - 8.** Meet at outdoor recreation at 9 a.m. with a departure of 9:30 a.m. on April 6 and return on April 8 at 7 p.m. Package includes travel, one room only, entry ticket to Wonder Works Exhibits and laser tag and dinner show to Hoot N' Holler. Cost is \$330 for one; \$475 for two; \$610 for three and \$745 for four. Deadline to sign up is March 22. A minimum of 10 people are required for outdoor recreation to host the trip. For more information, call 926-4001.

**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.

### MONDAY

**A Women's History Month Art Exhibit will be held March 23 and 24** from 11 am to 6 p.m. at the Arts & Crafts Center. For more details call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-5282 or visit the web at [www.robinservices.com/artsandcrafts](http://www.robinservices.com/artsandcrafts).

### WEDNESDAY

**A membership bar bingo will be held on March 25.** Big Bingo is located in the east wing of the Robins Enlisted Club. The hours are Tuesday,

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with games starting at 7:15 p.m. Games begin at 2:45 p.m. on Sundays. Enjoy bar bingo five nights a week at 6 p.m. Anyone with an active duty, reserve, guard, retired, DOD or family member identification card is eligible to play. The entry fee is free to all Robins' club members, bona fide guests and active duty or retired widow club members and \$5 for eligible non-club members. For more information call the Heritage Club at 926-4515.

### 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

**The Airman and Family Readiness Center holds classes each month** in Bldg. 794 for active duty, retired, spouses and family members, interviewing basics and preparation March 24 from 9 a.m. to noon and a Veterans administration benefits briefing March 25 from noon to 4 p.m. For more information call the A&FRC at 926-1256.

**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.

**Come on out for an evening of fun during the family night bingo on March 30** 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.

**Learn a new skill or brush up on an old one starting April 6** in the community center. Piano classes starting April 6 from 7 to 8 p.m., cost \$65 per person; salsa and belly dancing starting April 7 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and belly dancing from 6:30 to

## Engraving for any occasion



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Tracey Osborn, lead engraver at the Arts and Crafts Center, helps customers with all their engraving needs. For all your engraving needs visit the shop Mon-Thurs, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

7:30 p.m., cost \$40 per person when you register for one class, get the other for free. All classes need to be paid in advance. For more information call the community center at 926-2105.

**An Air Force Chess tournament is scheduled for April 8** starting at 5 p.m. in the community center. All players should register now by calling the community center at 926-2105.

**The Air Force Space Camp is scheduled for July 26 - Aug. 1.** Interested youths, ages 12 - 18 years old, with a minimum GPA of 2.8 must complete a nomination form and resume and submit package to Youth Programs. The camp is divided into two age divisions; youth ages 12-14 who are selected will attend the Space Academy and teens 15-18 who are selected will attend the Advanced

Space Academy. Both camps are held at the US Space and Rocket Center, Huntsville AL. This program is open to family members of active duty military assigned to or living on Robins Air Force retired military, Air Force civilian employees, or activated Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve. Deadline to apply is April 14. For more information contact Marvin Hawkins, at 926-2110 or email [marvin.hawkins@robins.af.mil](mailto:marvin.hawkins@robins.af.mil).

### ONGOING

**Child Care requests are being accepted** for school-age children to attend the Robins school-age program during the April spring break for Houston County Schools. Care will be offered April 6 - 10 from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (limited to 50 hours of care for the week) at the youth center. Eligible children must be five (and attending kindergarten) to 12 years old.

Fees are based on total household income. Please stop by Bldg. 1021 (youth center) to pick up registration documents. For more information contact Tommy Henson at 926-2110.

**Private pilot ground school registration will be now through April 5** from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with school starting April 6 - May 29. Cost is \$585 and is due at the time of registration. Register soon as classroom seating is limited. For more information call the aero club at 926-4867.

**The annual Volunteer Excellence Award package** has been extended to April 1 and will be presented to the honored recipient at the annual Volunteer Appreciation reception to be held in April during National Volunteer Week. For additional criteria and nomination information, please contact Mike Bullard at 926-1256.

**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](mailto:kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil).



## POTENTIAL BRACKET BUSTER

As a sports fan, this is one of my favorite times of year. The NCAA men's basketball tournament is one of the most exciting of all sporting events. A total of 63 games will be played in single elimination format. Although an e-mail from the Legal Office has guilted me into not joining any pools, it hasn't prevented me from filling out my brackets "just for fun." To help others who are filling out brackets, I've identified five potential "bracket busters," underdogs that could upset top-seeded opponents. Here they are:

**5 Western Kentucky — No. 12 seed, South Region**  
Look out for Western Kentucky. The Hilltoppers made it to the Sweet Sixteen last year and beat Louisville earlier this year. Western Kentucky has the talent and heart to repeat its performance of last year. First round opponent Illinois will be a challenge, but it's certainly a winnable game.

**4 USC — No. 10 seed, Midwest Region**  
Momentum is a big deal when it comes to these tournaments, and the Trojans have a lot of it. The team is coming off a surprising upset victory against Arizona State to capture the Pac 10 conference championship. It is USC's first-ever conference title, and could provide the confidence the team needs to make it through the first few rounds and into the Sweet Sixteen.

**3 Mississippi State — No. 13 seed, West Region**  
If you are a fan of the Southeastern Conference, this could be a fun Cinderella pick. The Bulldogs are another team that is playing their best basketball at the right time. The team shocked the SEC by upsetting Tennessee in the conference tournament championship game, but winning the conference title is the only reason the team is in the Big Dance. Still, they face Washington in the first round and could carry the momentum to the upset.

**2 Virginia Commonwealth — No. 11 seed, East Region**  
VCU faces UCLA in the first round in what could be one of the best first-round matchups of the tournament. VCU beat Duke two seasons ago as a No. 11 seed, and now the Rams go after another of the nation's premier programs. UCLA made it to the Final Four last year, but wasn't even good enough to win the Pac 10 title and could be caught looking ahead to a second round matchup against Villanova.

**1 Utah State — No. 11 seed, West Region**  
My favorite Cinderella team of the tournament is Utah State. They've played well all year, with just four losses. They did have weak strength of schedule, with a win over Utah being the team's biggest. But don't count them out against Marquette, a team that has struggled down the stretch. If they get past Marquette, the Aggies have the potential to get to the Sweet Sixteen and beyond.

## 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 have been approved as leave recipients: **Jerrel Pierce**, HQ AFRC. POC is Precious Stewart 327-1051; **James Hamrick Jr.**, HQ AFRC. POC is Brian Daniel 926-8870; **Roy Cross**, HQ AFRC. POC is Harvey Rosenmeier, 327-0275.

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](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil).

### 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](http://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.

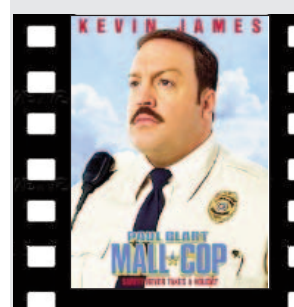


### NOW PLAYING



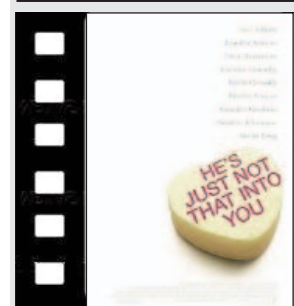
**MARCH 20 — 7:30 P.M.**  
**TAKEN**  
**RATED PG-13**

Bryan, a former secret agent relies on his old skills to save Kim, his 17 year-old estranged daughter, who has been forced into the slave trade. Using his contacts in the CIA and the business connections of his ex-wife's husband, he travels to Paris to find her.



**MARCH 21 — 2 P.M.**  
**PAUL BLART: MALL COP**  
**RATED PG**

Paul is a single, suburban dad, trying to make ends meet as a security officer at a mall. It's a job he takes very seriously, though no one else does. When Santa's helpers at the mall stage a coup, shutting down the megaplex and taking hostages (Paul's daughter and sweetheart among them), Jersey's most formidable mall cop will have to save the day.



**MARCH 21 — 7:30 P.M.**  
**HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU**  
**RATED PG-13**

A group of interconnected, Baltimore-based twenty and thirty somethings navigate their various relationships from the shallow end of the dating pool through the deep, murky waters of married life, trying to read the signs of the opposite sex and hoping to be the exceptions to the "no-exceptions" rule.

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

# New Web-based appointment system helps ease DRMO turn-in process

BY LANORRIS ASKEW  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The Robins Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office, a one-stop shop for gently used or unneeded equipment, now offers a Web-based alternative for turning in equipment for reuse or demilitarization.

Claire Shadden, DRMO property disposal technician, said the new system was the brain child of the Defense Logistics Agency Headquarters as a more efficient way for customers to schedule appointments.

“Customers can now go to the Web site and request their appointments,” she said “We confirm it by making sure our schedule doesn’t conflict with their request. That way, they don’t have to wait until we are actually in the office; they can schedule the appointment at anytime during the day or night.”

The new process, which launched Jan. 28, replaces a system which involved customers calling the DRMO during business hours and scheduling

an appointment with Ms. Shadden that was confirmed and tracked on a spreadsheet.

Now, to request an appointment to bring property in, customers access the DRMO Turn in Scheduler via the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service Web site at [www.drms.dla.mil](http://www.drms.dla.mil).

After selecting the closest DRMO site, the user is asked to select a desired appointment date, time and type. If these specifications are available, the customer then enters his or her contact information and an e-mail confirmation is sent.

Danny Snow, area manager for the DRMO Warner Robins hub, said although the system is new and still in its 90-day implementation phase, they are being proactive by soliciting feedback from customers on ways they can improve the program and compare it to the way the process was done before.

“I’m in favor of the new scheduling system for a number of reasons,” he said. “First it’s an improvement to the scheduling program we had previously. It allows the customer the opportu-

nity to pick their own schedule and have confirmation and a certainty that they can turn their property in on that particular day at that particular hour.”

He said they are utilizing Lean to continually improve the process.

“There are a couple of enhancements in the works already that will make it even more user-friendly,” he said.

Mr. Snow said they have also done a few training sessions geared to the customer to help them understand how the program works and what they can do to ensure the transitions is indeed seamless so they are not impeded in getting property turned in.

He said so far feedback from customers so far has been mixed but mostly positive.

“As expected starting out things were slow because, as with most change, there was a perceived negative,” he said.

That’s quickly changing.

“Customers I’ve engaged are positive,” he said. “We are also getting unsolicited feedback.”



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Leslie Capers, an examiner in the Robins Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office, labels property for placement in inventory. A more efficient scheduling system allows customers to make appointments for turning in unneeded equipment to the DRMO.

## Tax Center gives assistance to filers

The April 15th deadline to file a tax return is rapidly approaching. The Robins Tax Center is here to assist eligible taxpayers with their tax filing needs.

The center is open Monday through Thursday each week from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. and is located in Bldg. 905 on the second floor of the library. To get to the tax center, you must go through the library and take the stairs or the elevator to the second floor.

Robins Tax Center provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active

duty, reservist, National Guard, retirees and their eligible dependents. Per AFI 51-504, Legal Assistance, Notary and Preventive Law Programs, Reservist and National Guard members must be on Title 10 orders in order to receive tax assistance. This applies to their eligible dependents as well.

In order to receive assistance, filers should attend a briefing held at the Tax Center at 8 a.m. Monday through Thursday. Military personnel in uniform will be first to be assigned an appointment for that day. All others will be

called in the order they arrived and assigned same day appointments.

To date, Robins Tax Center has prepared 525 federal returns and 407 state returns.

“If you’re interested in saving some money in preparation fees, our knowledgeable staff has saved taxpayers \$114,841 in tax preparation fees and generated client refunds totaling \$857,739,” said Jennifer Keister, tax specialist.

To contact the Robins Tax Center, call 327-7390. — *Courtesy WR-ALC Judge Advocates Office*

## Time is now for civilian appraisals

The 2009 annual appraisal cycle for General Schedule and Federal Wage System employees which began April 1, 2008 will end March 31, 2009. Annual ratings and monetary awards are effective June 1, and time-off awards are effective June 2. Completion of appraisals on the AF Form 860A, Civilian Record of Rating, dated July 1, 1999, is mandatory.

Beginning this rating cycle, time-off awards will be used as an additional form of recognition for the GS/FWS appraisal cycle. This adds yet another tool for managers to reward high performing employees. Wing and staff offices will make the decision to authorize the use of TOAs, monetary awards or a combination of both.

Awarded time off will be scheduled within 90 calendar days after the effective date of the award (Aug. 30).

Employees forfeit any time off not used within one year from the effective date (June 1, 2010). Employees may never convert a time-off award to a cash payment. TOAs will be awarded in accordance with AFI 36-1004, Managing the Civilian Recognition Program, Chapter 3, Time-off Incentive Award.

Newly hired employees to Robins or NSPS employees entering a GS/FWS position between Jan. 2 and March 31 will receive an annual appraisal.

The rating cycle will be extended until the employee has 90 days of observed performance under an approved core document.

The appraisal is to be completed within 30 days after the 90-day period ends. If the rating is rendered after June 1, the effective date should be the date the appraisal and/or award are approved.

Contact your servicing employee relations specialist at 926-0677 if you have any questions. — *Submitted by Directorate of Personnel*

## Light duty program provides work for injured employees

The light duty program at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center is designed to accommodate employees who have sustained work-related as well as non-work-related injuries, by providing meaningful work for these employees that are on light or restricted duty.

Employees who receive medical care and treatment, which can range from physical therapy to surgery, are eventually returned to work, with restrictions if necessary, dictated by their primary treating physician.

An employee returning to work with restrictions can remain in this status until the employee has medically achieved full-duty status or is determined to have permanent restrictions that physically disqualify him or her from his or her current job position.

The light duty program at Robins is a coordinated effort by base organizations to

include the Workforce Development Division and the Workforce Effectiveness Division of the Directorate of Personnel, and the 78th Medical Group along with other organizational units. Thus far, over 400 employees with temporary or permanent restrictions have been accommodated through the Light Duty Program.

“Our goal at Robins is to take care of our employees by ensuring they receive the appropriate medical treatment first and foremost,” said Dairlyn Brown, nurse case manager in the 78th Medical Squadron.

“We aim to ensure their restrictions are accommodated for, and once they have fully recovered, based on medical treatment received from their primary treating physician, they are returned to full-duty status, which is in the best interest of the employee and the Air Force,” she said.

# New carts accommodate disabled golfers

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW

wayne.crenshaw.ctr@robins.af.mil

Pine Oaks Golf Course is now handicapped accessible.

People in wheelchairs or with other mobility problems can play golf at the base course now, thanks to two specially designed golf carts.

The SoloRider golf carts, which list for \$9,300 each, arrived at the course in December. The carts were paid for by the Air Force because it requires all golf courses on Air Force installations to have them, said Clay Murray, the manager of Pine Oaks.

So far no one has used the carts, but he figures many disabled people might not even know there's a way for them to play the game. That's why he wants to get the word out to anyone who might have a need.

"You never know if there's someone out there who has no use of their legs and would actually want to play," Mr. Murray said.

The carts differ from regular carts in several ways. One is that the carts are for only one person. Another is that rather than placing the club bag in the rear of the cart, the bag is placed in the front, so that the clubs can be easily reached by the operator.

But the most important is the way the seat works. It swivels to either side – so that it would work for both right and left handed people – and the user can swing at the ball while sitting in the seat.

Another key difference is

the cart can be driven onto greens. Ordinarily if a golf cart is driven onto a green, that would likely have the golfer promptly thrown off the course.

But the SoloRider is designed with its weight balanced so it can be driven onto greens without so much as making a track on the green. When Mr. Murray drove the cart onto the practice green, there was no indication of a track.

The cart is fast-moving, smooth riding and fun to drive, Mr. Murray said. Where a regular cart operates with a steering wheel, the SoloRider uses handlebars, steering more like an all-terrain vehicle.

Mr. Murray said rangers sometimes use the carts on the weekend so that golfers can see them and possibly get the word out that the course can accommodate disabled golfers.

"We would just like for somebody to use it," Mr. Murray said as he gave a demonstration on the practice green, adding that anyone with access to the base can use the course.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

**Clay Murray, Pine Oaks Golf Course manager, demonstrates the new golf cart for the disabled. It is designed with hand driving controls, easy access to golf clubs and a swivel seat for playing.**

## INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL

Regular season standings (through March 18)

TEAM	W	L	FINAL REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE:
402 EMXG	11	3	<b>March 19</b> 402 EMXG vs 78 LRS 581 SMXS vs 78 MDG
542 CBSG	11	4	
581 SMXS	10	4	<b>OVER-30 LEAGUE HAS COMPLETED ITS SCHEDULE</b>
116 ACW	11	5	
78th LRS	9	5	
5 CBCS 1	7	9	
5 CBCS 2	6	10	
78th CG	4	12	
78th SFS	4	12	
78th MDG	3	12	

### OVER 30 LEAGUE

TEAM	W	L
542 CBSG	6	2
5 CBCS	5	3
116 ACW	5	3
78th FSS	3	5
78th MDG	1	7