



## CheckMATE survey extended

WR-ALC leaders are encouraging employees to complete the CheckMATE (mission accomplishment through engagement) survey, which has been extended through Nov. 13.

The anonymous 12-question survey identifies areas of concern and encourages managers, supervisors and employees to work together to come up with plans for resolution

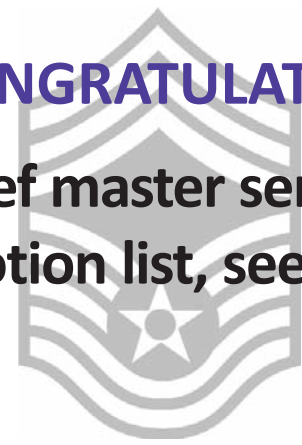
that, in the process, strengthen relationships, workforce engagement and employee commitment to the organization.

Air Force Materiel Command teamed up with the Gallup Corporation and will receive the results of the survey after they've been analyzed by the research group.

— from staff reports

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Chief master sergeant promotion list, see page 3A



# ROBINS REV-UP

November 6, 2009 Vol. 54 No.44



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Col. Carl Buhler, 78th Air Base Wing commander, presents the Bronze Star Medal citation to Tech. Sgt. Ruben Martinez Oct. 30.

## Robins Security Forces officer awarded Bronze Star Medal

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
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One investigator in the 78th Security Forces has been stationed here for five years, but many members of his own unit have never met him.

That's because for most of the time Tech. Sgt. Ruben Martinez has been here, he has been deployed. He is a veteran of three tours in Iraq and one in Kyrgyzstan. On Friday, he was awarded a Bronze Star for his service in Iraq from September 2008 to September 2009.

As Col. Carl Buhler, commander of the 78th Air Base Wing, pinned the medal on him, he leaned forward and whispered something to Martinez that was inaudible to the 78th Security Forces members witnessing the event.

But afterwards Col. Buhler told them exactly what he said.

"I told him he just earned something that is going to be on his tombstone when he passes away from this world," Buhler said. "It's a very rare day when you can do something in the service of your nation, and earn a

medal, of that level of achievement."

Martinez served as a police transition team chief in the 732nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

"Sergeant Martinez's outstanding leadership and technical knowledge as a police transition team chief contributed significantly to the unit's success in developing a more competent and legitimate police force for the Iraqi people," said Maj. Russell Stilling, 78th SFS commander.

Acting on a tip, he led his squad, including Iraqi police officers, to the discovery of a weapons cache.

He also led his squad in providing security for a short-notice visit by President Bush to the country. Additionally, he was critical to the security of 10 election sites, and mentored his Iraqi officers through a double-homicide investigation.

The sergeant said he has seen progress in Iraq from his first tour, especially over the past year.

"I realized we are starting to turn it over to them," he said. "It's a slow process but they are learning."

## Center Initiatives

### Improving performance, reputation of the ALC

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON  
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When it comes to warfighter support at Robins, one of the most visible aspects is performance – the quality and timeliness of the aircraft, commodities, software and electronics that are produced here. Improving that performance has become one of several key initiatives aimed at not only enhancing support but also boosting the base's reputation.

"The products we deliver to the warfighter are what determine our reputation as a center, so improving performance is essential," said Brig. Gen. Lee Levy, 402nd Maintenance Wing commander. "It presents



daunting challenges and it will never be perfect, but we want to make sure our performance is as strong as it can possibly be."

He said improving performance – which is one of senior leaders' five long-term initiatives – is a strategic effort. It's about looking at where the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center is now and determining a plan of action to get to where leadership wants it to be years from now.

"Our job is to deliver better air power, faster and cheaper," he said. "We are taking the tenants of AF5021 and always asking, 'how can I do what I do better?'"

"We want to constantly deliver our components quicker than we did the year before, while looking for ways to reduce cost and save taxpayer's money. That's the mantra of continual process improvement."

The general said efforts to improve performance are already under way. Management held a week-long value stream mapping session to help identify areas that could

► see INITIATIVE, 2A

## Museum of Aviation turns 25; gala event to mark milestone

BY WAYNE CRENSHAW  
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On Nov. 9, 1984, a group of people cut the ribbon to open the first building of the Museum of Aviation.

One person in the crowd at that ceremony was Ken Emery. He was a captain stationed at Robins when he joined the cause of trying to bring an aviation museum here.

He never dreamed what the museum would become in just 25 years.

"Nobody envisioned that it would be what it is today," said Emery, who retired from the Air Force in 2004 and three years later became director of the museum. "Look at how we've grown. We

► see MUSEUM, 2A



courtesy photo

In 1986 the first Robert L. Scott Jr. exhibit opened in the first museum building. Scott (center) cuts the ribbon on the exhibit with the help of Maj. Gen. "Nute" Nugteren, then WR-ALC Commander (left) and Walt Whiting, then Museum Foundation Board Chairman.

## Robins Partnership Council success stories multiply as collaboration continues

### ROBINS WORKFORCE EFFECTIVENESS DIVISION

Leaders at Robins have a vision of labor and management working together to create and sustain an environment that takes care of people so they, in turn, can continue to effectively support the warfighter. One tool they have to achieve this vision is the Partnership Council.

The council was created with the signing of a Partnership Agreement between the

Warner Robins Air Logistics Center and AFGE Local 987. The agreement established the council to strategically plan how to build better collaboration between union officials and senior management.

"The partnership council addresses overarching issues that affect the Center, as a whole," said Ashley Hightower, a labor relations specialist in the Directorate of Personnel. "The council makes recommendations on conditions of employment and other issues, such as joint training and the

alternate dispute resolution process. It also assesses efforts made to improve customer service and reduce adversarial relationships."

While the council has existed for a number of years and mostly works behind the scenes, recent successes have drawn it into the spotlight.

In June and again in September, the council sponsored joint training sessions, with workers from both labor and management. The training emphasized value-added lead-

ership, and focused on differentiating between managing and leading the workforce. The sessions also focused on topics such as how to handle paradigmatic versus tactical changes and identifying personal working styles. About 170 individuals attended.

In October, the 402nd Maintenance Wing conducted its first-ever Supervisor Leadership Training. The wing's commander, Brig. Gen. Lee Levy, and other presenters

► see COUNCIL, 2A

### THINK SAFETY



Days without a DUI: 14  
Last DUI: 78th SFS  
— courtesy 78th Security Forces

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



### TWO-MINUTEREV

#### H1N1 updates

The following link -- <http://www.whs.mil/PanFlu> -- provides helpful information on all current influenza threats, including information on what you can do to protect yourself and others.

For current updates, please visit the Robins Home Page at [www.robins.af.mil](http://www.robins.af.mil), Robins Splash Page, or the Centers for Disease Control Web site at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

Be part of the solution and help us defend our lives, our families and our nation against this growing threat.

— Courtesy 78 ABW Medical Group

— For more information on H1N1 issues see page 3B

### TRAINING



#### Convoys

5th CCG prepares for real-world missions with convoy training, 1B

### COMMENTARY



#### Honoring the ultimate sacrifice

Robins staff sergeant learns life lessons during honor guard duty, 5A

### HEALTH



#### Commit to quit

Robins to join in Great American Smoke Out Nov. 19, 4B

## MUSEUM

Continued from 1A

couldn't have done that if it was not something special."

Today the museum will hold its biggest anniversary celebration as it commemorates 25 years of operation. The event will include a dinner, a performance by the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, and guest of honor Amanda Wright Lane. She is the grand niece of Wilbur and Orville Wright, the fathers of manned flight. She works to raise awareness for two national parks that celebrate the Wright

Brothers. Tickets are no longer available.

According to a museum release, its history dates back to 1978 when Guy Stone, a World War I veteran living in the area, agreed to donate his large collection of aviation memorabilia toward the creation of a museum.

A committee at Robins was formed to explore the idea and on July 8, 1980, the Air Force approved the establishment of a museum at the base. A committee of base and community supporters then began meeting and working toward the construction of a museum.

Emery searched nationwide to find over 30 air-



courtesy photo

**A look from above at the Museum of Aviation.**

craft, helicopters and missiles for the initial museum collection. The 1984 ribbon-cutting was for the Heritage Building, which was the first part of a 3-

phase development plan. The first full year of operation drew 60,000 visitors.

In 1986 the museum opened several new exhibits, including one in

honor of Gen. Robert L. Scott Jr., author of "God is My Co-Pilot." Gen. Scott, a Middle Georgia native, was so impressed with the exhibit that he moved here from Phoenix, Ariz., to become a leading promoter of the museum.

Today the museum has four exhibit buildings, including the new World War II building. Last year the museum drew over 650,000 visitors.

One of the museum's biggest early supporters was Maj. Gen. Cornelius Nugteren, Center commander from 1982 to 1988. Now retired, he still lives in the area and continues to be a big backer of the museum.

"History is something that we shouldn't forget and aviation history is important," he said. "I wanted to make sure that if we did have a successful museum that education would be a part of it and not just airplanes."

Nugteren said that he also never imagined that the museum would grow to become what it is today. That happened, he said, because of the strong cooperative effort between the base and the community that has continually improved the museum over the years.

"A lot of people have put a lot into it," he said. "It just seems to get better every year."

## COUNCIL

Continued from 1A

worked with about 80 first-, second- and third-level supervisors, discussing topics such as servant leadership, proactively engaging with your workforce, and compliance and diversity.

The partnership council will sponsor similar leadership discussions across the Center monthly with an effort to promote the "fostering of leadership in people."

The council also supports the Voluntary Protection Program and recently was instrumental in eliminating a potential safety hazard by lobbying for the installation of lights in a dimly-lit parking

lot on Perimeter Road.

The council is also actively engaged in road studies in an effort to reduce traffic congestion and improve safety. One study resulted in Gate 15, the Air National Guard gate, to be open to outbound traffic for a trial period.

The Council meets quarterly and will continue to report successes and work towards building an even stronger relationship between senior level management and the union.

"We're focused on commitment, collaboration, teamwork and trust," said Maj. Gen. Polly A. Peyer, WRALC commander, following a recent council meeting.

## INITIATIVE

Continued from 1A

be streamlined to improve the effectiveness of C-5 Galaxy program depot maintenance. They've also implemented High Velocity Maintenance, a new and dramatic method of program depot maintenance aimed at reducing aircraft downtime.

In addition, employees here have responded well to attempts to engage the workforce, improve communication, and more closely integrate the workforce. But, he said, it's important to have patience with change, as it's a process that will take time.

"Improving performance is not a speedy process and anyone who thinks it is, is expecting magic in a bottle," he said. "To make our processes a little healthier will take a bit of time. It's not about this month or six months from now, or even a year from now. It's

about years from now."

Leadership knows that having realistic expectations is important; otherwise, people will get discouraged and become unmotivated. Levy said keeping people happy and motivated works hand in hand with improving performance.

"The airplanes and commodities don't fix themselves," the commander said. "They rely on well trained, well motivated people who are well nurtured and cared for."

He cited the Voluntary Protection Program as one program that is very helpful in improving performance. He said at a very simplistic level, the program promotes workplace safety and aids in leadership's efforts to reduce injuries.

"If people aren't getting hurt at work, it means they are available to work," the commander said. "If they are not in our work centers and they

aren't delivering anything, they certainly aren't improving our performance. Reducing injuries and keeping people healthy and safe translates to a better performance because we will have more folks in the shop all pulling on the same end of the rope together."

He added that VPP is more than a safety initiative; it's also a people initiative.

"It's not just about employees working to find safer ways of operating in the workplace, but it gets that dialogue going," the general said. "We start asking, 'how can we do better – not just safer but better? VPP helps get the workforce and management more engaged, and that's never a bad thing."

Levy said VPP also ties very well to the wingman culture – the idea of everyone looking out for the welfare and well-being of coworkers.

"If we feel a sense of responsibility for each other's

safety in the workplace, then we will become closer as coworkers and have a more empathetic approach toward being a good wingman both on and off duty," General Levy said. "That's important not just from a safety perspective, but also from a health and wellness perspective and from a suicide prevention perspective."

There are many different organizations involved in enhancing performance, from the Maintenance Wing to the 330th Aircraft Sustainment Wing, the Global Logistics Support Center, the Defense Logistics Agency, the 78th Air Base Wing and others, and Levy said improvement requires all partners working together. He's proud of the direction the Center is heading.

"We are going to keep improving and will continue to keep Robins a gem in the AFMC crown of the air logistics center system," he said.

## 2009 Requirements Symposium begins Nov. 17

Hundreds of representatives of companies from around the country will soon congregate at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry, for the 7th Annual Requirements Symposium.

The symposium is a three-day event where senior leaders and managers at Robins share with businesses their plans, current and future requirements, and organizational visions for the next three to five years.

“This insight allows industry to better respond to current and future needs of the Center and plan for support of the warfighter,” said

Chuck Pollard, of WR-ALC’s Enterprise Acquisition Division.

The theme for this year’s symposium is “Collectively Solving Acquisition and Sustainment Challenges.” Guest speakers will include Maj. Gen. Polly Peyer, WR-ALC commander, and Maj. Gen. Gary McCoy, commander of the Global Logistics Support Center, the supply chain manager for the Air Force.

In addition to the guest speakers, breakout sessions will detail future requirements and provide other information helpful to con-

tractors.

“These sessions are led by subject matter experts at Robins, which ensures direct contact with program managers, engineers and other decision makers with detailed information on many ongoing and future programs,” Pollard said.

Last year’s symposium was an “enormous success,” said Pollard. There were more than 800 participants, including 550 attendees from industry representing over 300 different companies. The information shared helped play a role in the WR-ALC signing contracts worth

a total value of more than \$5.16 billion in 2008.

“Attendees were very enthusiastic and supportive about attending follow-on symposiums,” Pollard said. “Post-conference feedback indicated last year’s symposium was the best symposium ever. This year’s symposium also promises to be a successful event.”

Additional information on the event is available on the Aerospace Industry Committee Requirements Symposium web page at [www.wrcoo-aic.org/reg1.asp](http://www.wrcoo-aic.org/reg1.asp).

—*from staff reports*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ROBINS CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT PROMOTEES

Keith Davis 78th Security Forces Squadron  
Lori Gawan 116th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
Phillip Gawan HQ Air Force Reserve Command  
Wesley Hardin 78th Medical Support Squadron  
Wanda Lee 116th Maintenance Squadron  
Gregory Joy 116th Maintenance Squadron

## Air Force updates guidance on PTU wear

Air Force officials have updated guidance for wear of the physical training uniform, replacing previous guidance published in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

Effective immediately, individual items making up the PTU and improved PTU are considered uniform items.

Wear of the PTU is mandatory during physical fitness assessments and while participating in organized PT events, as designated by the commander. Unit commanders will determine the PTU configuration.

If PTU/IPTU items are worn during personal PT, the following is required:

- ▶ During periods of low light, reflective belts and armbands are required when wearing the optional running shorts. Reflective accessories are optional when wearing the standard PTU.

- ▶ Footwear is to remain conservative. No bright colors or excessive ornamentation is to be worn.

- ▶ Socks must be white, but small trademark logos are acceptable.

- ▶ The PTU jacket must be

zipped at least halfway between the waistband and collar. Sleeves will end within 1 inch of the wrist.

- ▶ The PTU running pants waistband will rest at or within 2 inches of the natural waistline. Both pant legs will extend below the ankles and will be zipped to within 1 inch of the bottom.

- ▶ Both the PTU shorts and running shorts will rest at or within 2 inches of the natural waistline.

- ▶ The short sleeve PTU shirt will be tucked into shorts or running pants at all times. Do not remove or cut sleeves.

- ▶ The long sleeve PTU shirt will be tucked into the PTU shorts or running pants at all times. Do not push up, remove or cut sleeves.

- ▶ The optional IPTU sweatshirt will extend no lower than 6 inches below the natural waistline. Do not push up, remove or cut sleeves.

- ▶ Undergarments must be appropriate and worn with all uniform combinations.

- ▶ Short or full-length spandex may be worn under both the PTU and IPTU, but must be black or dark blue.

- ▶ Headgear may be

authorized by commanders, but may only consist of either a solid black or dark blue baseball cap with the Air Force symbol or “U.S. Air Force” logos. Headgear is to be worn outdoors only.

- ▶ Bandanas are not authorized unless due to a medical waiver condition.

- ▶ Cold weather accessories may be worn outdoors only.

- ▶- The knit watch cap will be solid black, dark blue or sage green without any logos.

- ▶ Gloves will be solid black or dark blue without any logos.

- ▶ Scarves and earmuffs will be solid black or dark blue, and may wrap around either the top or rear of the head.

- ▶ Green or black fleece is not authorized with the PTU/IPTU.

- ▶ The IPTU running suit top or bottom may not be mixed with the current PTU running suit top or bottom.

- ▶ The lining of the PTU/IPTU shorts may be removed, but no other uniform alterations are authorized.

- ▶ Headphones are authorized inside fitness centers or

designated running areas, unless prohibited by the commander.

- ▶ Personal grooming and appearance standards apply during physical fitness activities with one exception: Long female hair will be secured but may have loose ends.

- ▶ Proper military customs and courtesies to honor the flag during reveille and retreat will apply. Saluting due to rank is not required when wearing the PTU.

The few exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of commanders for accessions, professional military education or academic training when unit distinction is required, such as identifying instructors from students. Temporary adjustments may also be authorized when safety is a concern or in a deployed location.

Any long-term exceptions to this policy must be submitted through the respective major command to Headquarters Air Force A1 for approval. Any questions regarding this policy should be addressed through the proper chain of command.

— *Air Force Uniform Office Public Affairs*

## Presidential proclamation November Military Family Month

President Barack Obama pledged his support of military members and their families and said Americans have a “solemn obligation” to preserve their well-being in his proclamation declaring November as Military Family Month.

The proclamation reads: “No one pays a higher price for our freedom than members of our nation’s military and their families. As sons and daughters, husbands and wives, and mothers and fathers are deployed, military families endure with exceptional resilience and courage. They provide our troops with invaluable encouragement and love,

and serve our nation in their own right. During Military Family Month, we honor the families of our armed forces and thank them for their dedication to our country. “Though only a small percentage of our nation’s population, our troops bear the great responsibility of protecting our people. They, along with their families, serve us every day with courage and dignity. Ensuring that military families receive the respect they deserve and the support they have earned is a top priority for my administration. “The strength of our nation is measured not just by our success on the battlefield,

but also by our ability to support those families who have made so many sacrifices for us. Time and again, military families have shown their heart in the face of adversity. We have a solemn obligation to ensure that while our men and women in uniform discharge their duties, we do all we can to promote and preserve the well-being of their families. We must also support the families of our wounded warriors and our fallen heroes who have paid the ultimate price for the freedoms we enjoy. “This month, we celebrate the tremendous contributions of military families,

convey to them our deepest respect and appreciation, and recommit ourselves to their support.

“Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, president of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2009 as Military Family Month. I call on all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in the support of our servicemembers and our nation.”

—Air Force News Service

## AFRC Veterans Day concerts to honor service to nation

The largest and most versatile unit of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve, the Concert Band, is scheduled to perform Veterans Day concerts Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Tuesday performance is scheduled for the Dublin Theater in Dublin at 7 p.m., and the Wednesday performance will be at

the Zuver Center Auditorium at Mount de Sales Academy, at 7:30 p.m.

“Our Veterans have served our nation with great distinction. This Veterans Day concert is a small gesture in which the Reserve Command can say thank you, and to honor them, their families, and their com-

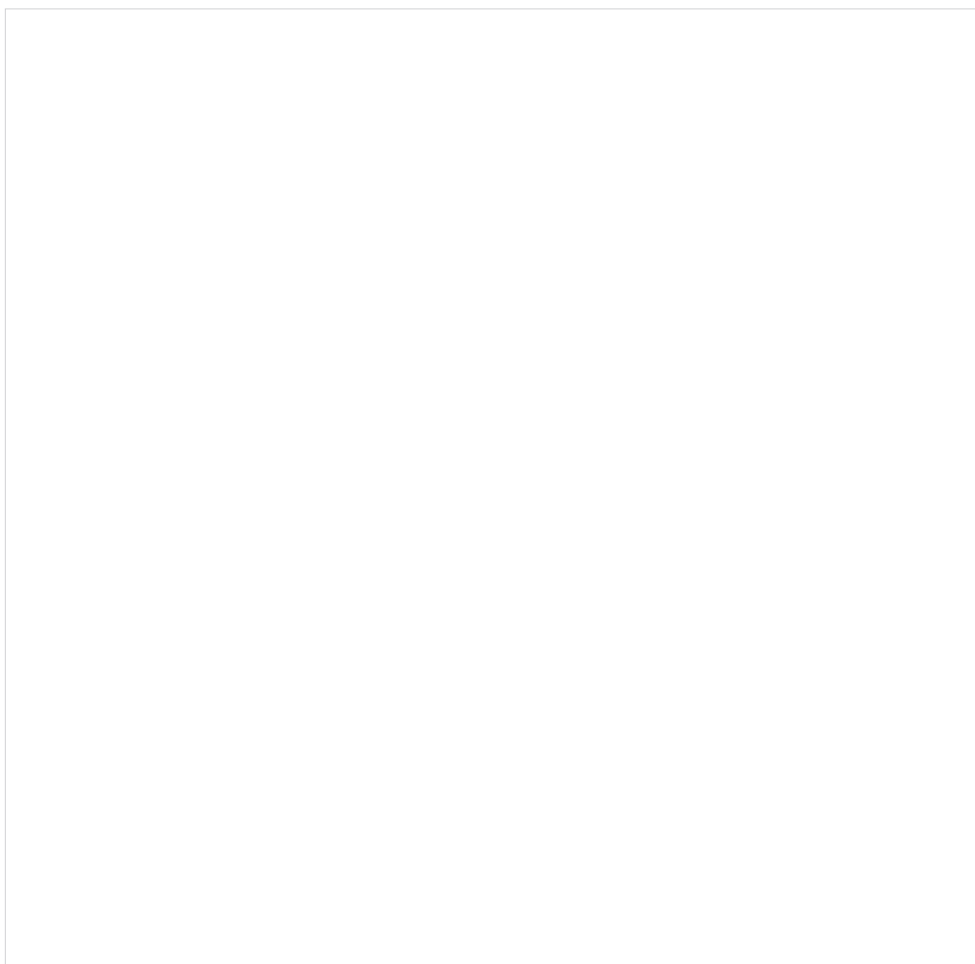
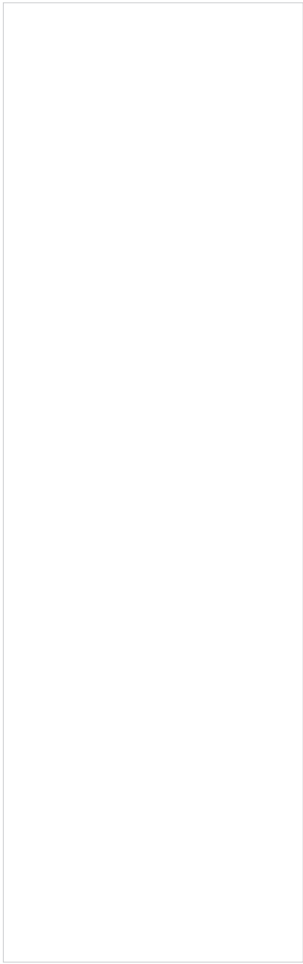
munity for the sacrifices made,” said Maj. Don Schofield, U.S. Air Force Reserve Band commander.

Concert goers are encouraged to arrive early.

For more information, call the AFRC Public Affairs Office at 327-1760.

—Courtesy AFRC Public Affairs

### RECYCLE THIS PAPER



# Commentary

"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

— Thomas Jefferson

## 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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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 Lanorris Askew at (478) 222-0806.

## DELIVERY

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## Veterans' sacrifices can have far-reaching effects

On Veterans Day, we honor those who have served in our nation's armed forces, as well as those who continue to serve.

This being the Year of the Air Force Family, it's also appropriate that we acknowledge not only the service and sacrifices of our military veterans, but those of their family members as well.

Deployments are tough on family members, multiple deployments more so. Veterans returning from hostile environments sometimes find it difficult

to re-enter their families, a situation that causes family members heartache and tests their capacity for patience and understanding. Family members of veterans who come home wounded or disabled



Gen. Donald Hoffman  
AFMC commander

must adapt to permanent changes and sometimes permanent sacrifices. Children may find a parent veteran isn't fully present to them for a time ... or for good.

The Air Force, as well as our sister services, are committed to helping family members cope with the emotional hardships that often accompany a veteran's service. We've gotten a lot better at it over the last 40 years. Something we call the Integrated Delivery System

brings together all the resources devoted to physical, mental, spiritual and emotional wellness to better serve the needs of all members of Air Force families.

The Air Force, however, isn't able to help everyone who needs it. Wingmen, good neighbors, caring coworkers, and resilient family members have an important role too. We set aside one day each year to honor our nation's veterans. This year, let's also honor the people who sustain and love them.

## Honor, sacrifice, valor

## Virtues, ideals servicemembers remember most

Personally, I am really looking forward to the federal holiday on Wednesday. Brian and I are taking a very special trip — one I am certain will stir deeply-held emotions and create lasting memories.

Our destination is the Carl Vinson Veterans Administration Medical Center just down the road in Dublin. There, we'll have the privilege of spending some valuable time with the people who've made this country great, our veterans. I am truly honored to have the opportunity to speak at the facility's annual Veterans Day ceremony. And I am very excited at the prospect of personally visiting many of the veterans being treated at the center.

Lately, I've given some thought to an interesting aspect of my upcoming visit. While there, it is quite possible I will meet some veterans who have fought in battles as long ago as World War II. It is also likely that I may meet some brand new veterans, servicemembers who have just recently returned home from deployment in the Middle East.

What an interesting notion, a "new veteran." The two words don't naturally fit together, but in the times in which we live today, and as

we are a nation at war, we are adding daily to the totals of those who have experienced combat.

At present, the Carl Vinson center serves approximately 28,000 veterans in 52 counties. The center has expanded its care management team to meet the influx of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans. Currently, the facility is managing approximately 60 such cases, and the Dublin facility and its outpatient clinics continue to enroll 25 to 30 OEF/OIF veterans every month.

The veteran of a distant era is being joined by much younger men and women. Their experiences have been vastly different; yet their experience is in many ways the same. Warfare may have changed throughout the ages, but the toll of battle is no less devastating on the warrior in the field. The foreign lands where the wars are waged have different names and locales. But the solemn, patriotic pledge to fight and even die for the sake of our country is the same.

All of these facts serve as urgent reminders of the immense value of our men and women in uniform. The noble calling answered by our servicemembers fulfills a never ending need. That the totals of American servicemembers who have been witness to war increases on a daily basis is modern-day proof that we must always be prepared to stand guard for our nation's cherished liberty. And our reasons to

be thankful and the numbers of people we owe our gratitude and respect increase as the veterans' population swells.

I am glad for my opportunity to say "thanks" in person to some of America's greatest. I'm also very proud that 60 military members from Robins will visit with patients in Dublin and escort them to the auditorium for the ceremony. Through their actions, they too will know that lump in the throat and that good feeling that comes from paying your respects to true American heroes.

So, what are your plans for Veterans Day? I hope every member of Team Robins has some rest and relaxation on tap for your day off. You've certainly earned it. But I also trust you will do something you likely can't help but do every day you are at work here. Please, take the time to remember and give thanks for the brave men and women who have fought — and are fighting — for our country.

Veterans Day is a tribute to all our service people, living and dead, from all wars. It's a time when words such as "valor" and "sacrifice" are used and heard in speeches and ceremonies across the land. It's a time for remembrance. By paying tribute and giving thanks to our nation's veterans, we help keep alive the memories of those who've gone before us.

It's up to us to remember, to honor, the people who have served and whose actions purchased our freedom.

## 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.

For more information on the Action Line, visit <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. 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).

► Security Forces	327-3445
► FSS (Services)	926-5491
► Equal Opportunity	926-2131
► Employee Relations	926-5802
► Military Pay	926-4022
► IDEA	926-2536
► Civil engineering	926-5657
► Public Affairs	926-2137
► Safety Office	926-6271
► Fraud, Waste, Abuse	926-2393
► Housing Office	926-3776
► Chaplain	926-2821

## UNSAFE STREET CROSSINGS

I am writing you regarding a situation I witnessed recently, at approximately 3:30 p.m. which appeared to put some base contractors in an unsafe situation.

I was on my way to exit the main gate after my work shift when I saw a white van labeled "Good Vocations" drop off three uniformed employees (blue shirts, tan pants) at the corner of Perry Street next to Bldg. 231 on the east side of Perry Street next to the building.

The employees proceeded to cross to the west side of Perry Street — no crosswalk there. Then they proceeded to cross Watson Boulevard at the main gate area on that corner. There are no crosswalks there that I could see.

There was quite a bit of traffic and it seemed to me that this was a somewhat unsafe situation for those employees. I am writing to let you know about this because it seemed dangerous for the employees and also because it seemed to me that the van driver should have dropped the employees off in an area not necessitating the crossing of dangerous intersections during peak traffic times.

I know that the Voluntary Protection Program applies to all of us here on the base and I was concerned for the safety of those employees. I don't know if this is a usual practice of "Good Vocations", but I wanted to let you know what I had observed.

We all need to be safe here on the base and everywhere else. Thank you.

## COL. BUHLER RESPONDS:

Thank you for bringing this incident to my attention. I agree that the operator of the van should have taken steps to ensure his passengers were dropped off as close to their destination as possible, preferably just outside the building or at a clearly marked pedestrian crosswalk.

We've forwarded your concern to the Director of Contract Services and he discussed the issue with Good Vocations. During the meeting, he conveyed the importance of using pedestrian crosswalks and the need to drop off employees in safe locations, to ensure a safety first environment.

Your concern for these workers is exactly what VPP is about—well done!



## What are your thoughts on Veteran's Day?



Miguel Cole  
Base education office

"It's a great honor that we have that day for those that served and the ones serving now. Everyone should reflect on the sacrifices servicemembers have made for our nation."



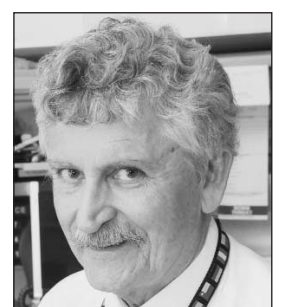
Fathma Carlisle  
Family member

"I respect and admire them. My husband is a veteran. They're not given as much respect and recognition that they deserve for the sacrifices they make."



Nick Anello  
DOD AIMS program office

"Thanks to America for finally recognizing veterans' contributions."



Victor Hunsicker  
DOD AIMS program office

"Veterans Day is important to keep the youth of today aware of the sacrifices veterans have made for our country, so they can be free."

# 'As important as your life'

## 5th CCG practices convoy skills

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

In early 2004 Col. Amando Gavino headed out of Camp Victory in Bagdad in a four-vehicle convoy.

They were on a short trip to the airport, but before they arrived he heard the front gunner yell out "RPG 3 o'clock!" He pulled out his 9 mm and started firing its 15-round clip.

"It felt like about three or four seconds I was shooting, and I was out," he said. "And the Army guys were yelling commands I wasn't very familiar with."



Gavino

The convoy survived the attack, but his reaction did not sit well with him.

"I said to myself, 'Never again,'" he recalled. "If there is arms training, I'm in."

Today he is vice commander of the newly stood-up 689th Combat Communications Wing at Robins. He is plenty busy with that job, but even so he is taking time out to complete the 3-week combat skills training course that the 5th Combat Communications Group gives to deploying Airmen.

In convoy training last week, Gavino was perched on the back of a truck just like the 48 Airmen in the course. The convoy was parked in a protective box formation and Gavino kept his eyes trained ahead for any 'insurgents' that might be about to attack.

The convoy, made up of six big trucks and a vehicle that carried the convoy commander, was practicing "contact left" and "contact right" drills. They would leave the formation and drive through a short course where they would come under fire by insurgents and



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Airmen take part in 5th Combat Communications convoy training.

"All the sounds and the explosions and things that you hear, if you haven't had this kind of experience, you will panic."

**Flight Lt. Paul Jennings**  
Commander of 5th Combat Communications Group training school

would have to return fire. The objective was to keep moving and get through the danger area as quickly as possible.

Gavino said he found it to be good training, and he was impressed with the knowledge of the trainers.

"Even though I'm busy in the office, I told the guys I don't want to be pulled out," he said. "I want to finish this training."

Flight Lieutenant Paul Jennings of the British Royal Air Force is commander of the 5th CCG's training school. He is also an Iraq veteran who has come under fire while in a convoy.



Jennings

Convoy training is one of the most important parts of the course, he said. In addition to learning what to do in certain situations, he said, it's also important for the troops to hear the gunfire and explosions that are used as part of the training.

"All the sounds and the explosions and things that you hear, if you haven't had this kind of experience, you will panic," Jennings said. "It gives you a sense of what it is like even though it is not real."

Tech Sgt. Harry Gregory, non-commissioned officer in charge of the school and veteran of several deployments, gave a succinct answer when asked how important convoy training is to troops.

"It's as important as your life is to you," he said, noting that in the news that very day was a report about eight Soldiers lost to coordinated attacks on convoys. "You never know what you may encounter on the road and doing battle drills is very important so that it becomes muscle memory."



5th Combat Communications Airmen take a defensive stance within an enclosed circle of trucks.



Tech Sgt. Harry Gregory, non-commissioned officer in charge of the 5th Combat Communications Group training school, speaks to troops after a session.



An Airman posing as a member of the opposition opens fire on the convoy.

## 78th FSS BRIEFS

### TODAY

**Year of the Air Force Family Kids Night Out** will be from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Youth Center. Party your socks off with food, fun and much more! Open to kids ages 5 – 12. For more information call 926-2110.

**The Bowling Center will have Thunder Alley Family Bowling Night in celebration of Year of the Air Force Family** Nov. 6 from 9 to 11 p.m. Bring your children out for a fun night of bowling and enjoy two hours of glow-in-the-dark bowling for \$25 per lane (up to six family members per lane). For details, call the Bowling Center at 926-2112.

**The Horizons front entrance renovation is complete.** Please stop by and see the improvements. For more details, call Horizons at 926-2670.

### SATURDAY

**Texas Hold'Em will be held in the Heritage Club Lounge today,** Nov. 14 and 21 with a Base Championship Tournament to follow Dec. 5. Texas Hold'Em will not be held Nov. 28 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Sign-ups will begin at 1:30 p.m. and games will start at 2 p.m. Entertainment fee is \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. For more information, call 926-2670.

### SUNDAY

**Every Sunday watch all the play-by-play NFL football** action on the Heritage Club multiple television screens and three new high definition plasma televisions with satellite. Doors open at noon and games begin at 1 p.m. There will be prizes, food and beverage specials all season long. For more information call 926-2670.

### MONDAY

**The Arts & Crafts Center is now offering sewing classes on Mondays** from noon to 2 p.m. and Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. For more details on this class and

more call the Arts & Crafts Center at 926-3004.

### TUESDAY

**Youth basketball registration ends today for ages 5 – 18.** Cost is \$45. Registrations accepted until teams are full. Volunteer coaches needed. To register or for details, visit the youth center, located in Bldg. 1021 or call 926-2110.

### WEDNESDAY

**All veterans bowl for \$1.50 per game from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.** on Veteran's Day. The Bowling Center will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### UPCOMING

**Private pilot ground school will be conducted Jan. 4 – Feb. 26.** 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 Base Restaurant will be serving a customer appreciation Thanksgiving meal Nov. 19** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dine at the main restaurant or purchase a meal at one of the snack bars or mobile trucks. Meal includes sliced turkey, cornbread dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, giblet gravy, roll and cranberry sauce for \$2.25. For more information call 926-6972.

**The Youth Center is now accepting registration for Thanksgiving Camp Nov. 23 – 25.** Current shots are required. Space is limited. For more information please call 926-2110.

**There will be a Turkey Trot 5K Race Nov. 20** beginning at 11 a.m. For details contact the Fitness Center at 926-2128.

**The Youth Center grand re-opening will be Nov. 20 from 5 – 8 p.m.** Information on youth sports, instructional programs, before and after school care, holiday camps, teen employment opportunities and much more will

## Native American Heritage Month



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Susan Green enjoys an ear of corn at the Native American Heritage corn roast and artifact identification Nov. 4. Other events will include the movie "Brother Bear" to shown at Robins Park Nov. 13 at approximately 6:30 p.m. On Nov. 16 a luncheon will be held at Horizons from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by Plainsmen Drum and Dance Troup. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by contacting Capt. Lurie Walton at 926-5705.

be available. Prize drawings will be held. For more information call the Youth Center at 926-2110.

**Horizons will host a Thanksgiving Day Buffet Nov. 26** from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy home-style turkey, ham, stuffing, pies and much more. Open to all ranks and grades. Cost is \$12.95 for members, \$14.95 for guests, \$7.95 for children (3 – 10 years old) and free for children 2 years and younger. Reservations are required for parties of 10 or more. For more information on the best Thanksgiving buffet in Middle Georgia, call 926-2670.

### ONGOING

**The annual base Holiday Food Drive has begun.** The 78th Force Support Squadron will be collecting canned goods to make holiday gift baskets for families in need. Collection boxes are located

throughout the base. If you know of a Robins family in need, come by the community center, Bldg. 956 and fill out an application. All applications are confidential. For more information call 926-2105.

**Hunting season is open now through Jan. 15, 2010.** Hunting requires a valid Georgia state hunting license and hunting safety class offered by outdoor recreation. Cost is \$10 for archery hunting and \$30 for gun and archery. For class times and dates call outdoor recreation at 926-4001.

**The Afterburner, which proudly brews Starbucks coffee, is open Monday – Friday from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.** November's specials are the Red Eye (one shot of espresso fused with Starbucks' world class blended coffee), Cross Eye (double shot of espresso fused with

Starbucks' world-class blended coffee) or the Black Eye (triple shot of espresso fused with Starbucks' world-class blended coffee). The Afterburner is located in the Base Restaurant, Bldg. 166 on Byron St. It offers a variety of hot and cold beverages, pastries and snacks. For more information call 222-7827.

**Fitness center renovations:** ►The women's locker room in the main Fitness Center, Bldg. 826 will undergo a complete renovation through Nov. 19. For more information, call 926-2128.

**The Pine Oaks Lodging now offers wireless high speed internet** access available in all rooms. Room reservations may be made up to two weeks in advance or you can register online at [www.robinservices.com](http://www.robinservices.com). For more information call 926-2100.

## 78th FSS Veterans Day hours

### OPEN

- Bowling Center, open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Fitness Center, open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Flight Line Kitchen
- Golf Course
- Rasile Indoor Pool, open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Lodging
- Wynn Dining Facility

### CLOSED

- Aero Club, administration and sales
- Airman and Family Readiness Center
- Airman Leadership

### School

- Arts & Crafts Center
- Auto Skills Center
- Base Library
- Base Restaurant
- CDC East and West
- Community Center
- Military Education & Training Office
- Equipment Rental Center
- Fairways Grille
- Family Child Care
- Fitness Center Annex
- Flight Line Dining Facility (fast food)
- Food Service Office
- Heritage Club
- Honor Guard/Mortuary Affairs/Readiness

### ►Horizons

- Human Resource Office
- Information, Tickets and Travel
- Marketing
- Military Personnel Flight
- Outdoor Recreation
- Pizza Depot
- Professional Development Center Resource
- Management Office
- Skeet Range
- Teen Center
- US Veterinarian Services
- Wood Hobby shop
- Youth Center

## Club spotlight

The following is a listing of the services, hours or operation.

### Horizons, Bldg. 542 926-2670

Administrative Office • Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Check Cashing

Cashier Office • Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bar Daily • During operational hours

Dining Room Daily • During operational hours

### Lunch

Monday - Friday - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Evening Dining

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Thursday - 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Friday and Saturday - 6 to 9 p.m.

### Sunday Champagne Brunch

Sunday - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Lounge and Entertainment

Main Lounge

Sunday and Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Thursday 4 to 9 p.m.

Friday 4 to 10 p.m.

Saturday 5:30 to 10 p.m.

(Hours may be adjusted for special entertainment events.)

The WELLston is available for special functions only.)

## 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: **Ronald Hughes**, 559th AMXS. POC is Todd Kirkpatrick, 222-3820.

To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Robins Rev-Up, send information to Lanorris Askew at: [lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil). Submissions run for two weeks.

### 78th FSS 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 (Jumua) 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.

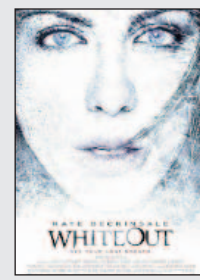
### Orthodox Christian

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. Contemporary service meets at 6 p.m. in the Chapel sanctuary. The gospel service meets at 8 a.m. at the Chapel. Religious education meets in Bldg. 905 at 9:30 a.m.

## NOW PLAYING



NOVEMBER 6  
7:30 P.M.  
WHITEOUT  
RATED R

The only U.S. Marshal assigned to Antarctica, Carrie Stetko will soon leave the harsh environment behind for good. When a body is discovered out on the open ice, Carrie's investigation into the continent's first homicide plunges her deep into a mystery that may cost her her own life.



NOVEMBER 7  
7:30 P.M.  
SORORITY ROW  
RATED R

Cassidy, Jessica, Claire, Ellie and Megan are sorority sisters and true-blue friends to the end -- until a prank gone wrong resulting in Megan's demise. Rather than risk their futures by reporting the crime, the friends agree to cover it all up. Cassidy and company learn to regret their decision one year later when a stalker begins sending them videos of the night Megan died.



UPCOMING  
THE INFORMANT  
RATED R

What was Mark Whitacre thinking? A rising star at agri-industry giant Archer Daniels Midland, Whitacre suddenly turns whistleblower. Even as he exposes his company's multi-national price-fixing conspiracy to the FBI, Whitacre envisions himself being hailed as a hero of the common man and handed a promotion. But before all that can happen, the FBI needs evidence.

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

# Tricare plans announce new H1N1 immunization policy

Immunizations against the H1N1 virus will soon be available, and people are eager to take precautions. Tricare Prime, Standard and Extra beneficiaries can get their shots from network and non-network providers without paying a deductible or making a co-payment.

A temporary waiver allows retired Tricare Prime enrollees to get the H1N1 immunization from non-network providers without a referral or authorization, eliminating point-of-service charges. Prime enrollees will not be charged a co-payment or cost share.

Tricare for Life beneficiaries must follow Medicare rules regarding H1N1 vaccine. Medicare will pay for administering the H1N1 vaccine, but not the H1N1 vaccine itself if it is supplied to providers free of charge. Payment will be subject to normal



billing and payment rules that apply to influenza vaccine.

Preventive medicine is a very important part of Tricare's goal of keeping retirees and families healthy, said Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the Tricare Management Activity.

"To that end, we make getting vaccinated as convenient and affordable as possible," she said. "Beneficiaries should talk to their primary care manager if they have any questions about the H1N1 or other vaccines."

The vaccine for the seasonal flu is not expected to protect against H1N1, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention officials; therefore, immunization for the

2009 H1N1 strain is recommended. Both vaccines can be administered on the same day.

Officials with CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends that everyone get the H1N1 vaccine, but for certain groups the vaccination is more critical. These include:

- ▶Pregnant women.
  - ▶People who live with or care for children younger than six months.
  - ▶ Health care and emergency medical services personnel.
  - ▶ Everyone between the ages of 6 months and 24 years.
  - ▶People ages 25 through 64 with chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.
  - ▶ Older people with diabetes, cardiovascular disease, asthma or HIV.
- *Courtesy of Tricare and Medicare*

## Military Health System experts will host a Web-based town hall-style meeting Tuesday from 3 to 4 p.m. to respond to questions about H1N1 influenza.

Military members, their families, health-care providers and Defense Department civilians may submit questions starting now, using the comments box at <http://www.health.mil/flu>. As many as possible of the

submitted questions, as well as questions asked during the live event, will be answered during the Web hall. A transcript of all questions and answers will be posted to the site after the event.

Subject-matter experts from the Army, Navy and Air Force, the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection and Readiness, the Military Vaccine Agency, Tricare

Management Activity and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are scheduled to participate.

Participants are asked to limit questions to H1N1 flu-related topics and to refrain from disclosing personal information. When possible, officials said, servicemembers should contact their chain of command to resolve issues.

— *Courtesy American Forces Press Service*

## CONSERVE ENERGY

TURN OFF THE JUICE WHEN NOT IN USE



# Health and Wellness Center will mark 34th Great American Smokeout with walk

BY STUART BAPTIES

Robins Health and Wellness Center

More than 70 percent of adult smokers say they want to quit, but without help, fewer than five percent succeed.

Nov. 19, is the 34th Great American Smokeout, and the Robins Health and Wellness Center continues its legacy of supporting this important American Cancer Society initiative by providing free resources to help smokers quit. The HAWC will also sponsor a walk to allow smokers to mark their special day and to allow non-smokers to show friends and family that they are supportive of those efforts.

Do you have a co-worker, friend or family member that you want to show support to?

Why not adopt a smoker for the month by stopping in at the Health and Wellness Center next week

and picking up adoption papers for your smoker along with a commit to quit kit?

You can show your fur-

With all the resources available to help smokers quit, there has never been a better time to quit smoking, and the Health and Wellness

Center is here to help. If you smoke, make a plan and set Nov. 19, as your quit date. The Health and Wellness Center is standing by to help with monthly Tobacco Cessation Classes offered during the workday and in the evening. Just call 327-8480 to schedule your class. Don't have time to sit in class? Then we have another avenue for you. By simply calling the American Lung Association Quitline at 1-866-QUIT-8937, people who are considering quitting will be able to speak with a trained coun-

selor and receive free, confidential counseling. Studies have found that Quitlines can more than double a person's chances of successfully quitting tobacco. Callers to Quitlines can be connected with smoking cessation resources in their communities, social support groups and internet resources. Tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the United States accounting for an estimated 443,000 premature deaths, including 49,400 among nonsmokers as a result of second hand smoke. Half of all Americans who continue to smoke will die from smoking-related diseases.

For more information call the Health and Wellness Center at 327-8480.

— Statistics quoted are courtesy American Cancer Society Cancer Facts and Figures 2009.

**QUIT TOBACCO.**  
**make everyone proud**

[www.ucanquit2.org](http://www.ucanquit2.org)

ther sup-

port by walking with your adopted smoker Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. during the Robins Great American Smokeout Walk.

The Great American Smokeout was inaugurated in 1976 to inspire and encourage smokers to quit for one day. 44.2 percent of the 45.3 million Americans who smoke have attempted to quit for at least one day in the past year, and the Great American Smokeout remains a great opportunity to encourage people to commit to making a long-term plan to quit for good.

Center is here to help. If you smoke, make a plan and set Nov. 19, as your quit date.

The Health and Wellness Center is standing by to help with monthly Tobacco Cessation Classes offered during the workday and in the evening. Just call 327-8480 to schedule your class.

Don't have time to sit in class? Then we have another avenue for you. By simply calling the American Lung Association Quitline at 1-866-QUIT-8937, people who are considering quitting will be able to speak with a trained coun-

## ► IN BRIEF

### ROSC EVENT

The Robins Officers' Spouses' Club will present DESIGN ON A DIME as its theme, Nov. 19.

The event will take place in the Horizons Club Ballroom, at 10 a.m.

There will be a variety of simple, creative, and inexpensive ways presented on

how to stretch your holiday decorating and gifts budget. All ROSC members are invited to attend.

Reservations are due by Nov. 12. RSVP at [reserve4you.osc@gmail.com](mailto:reserve4you.osc@gmail.com).

If you are interested in joining the ROSC, check out [www.robinsosc.com](http://www.robinsosc.com) for eligibility guidelines as well as membership forms.

For more information, see the OSC web site, or e-

mail the OSC at [robinsosc@gmail.com](mailto:robinsosc@gmail.com).

### ROBINS ANGEL TREES

It's Angel Tree time again!

The Robins Officers' Spouses' Club in conjunction with the First Shirts will be setting up trees full of angels at the Robins Base Exchange and the commissary. Each angel represents a wish of a member of a

Team Robins family.

Take an angel and then return it with the requested item to the gift boxes located in the front entrance of the BX or commissary.

All Angel Tree contributions can be turned in at any time through Dec. 11.

For more information, send an e-mail to the Angel Tree POC-Darla-at [OSC@gmail.com](mailto:OSC@gmail.com).

**RECYCLE THIS PAPER**