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ROBINS REV-UP

August 30, 2012 Vol. 57 No.35

Local C-130 PDM team takes DoD Maintenance Award



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

PDM like that done on this Coast Guard C-130, earned Robins the Robert T. Mason Award for Depot Maintenance Excellence.

BY JENNY GORDON
jenny.gordon.ctr@robins.af.mil

The C-130 Programmed Depot Maintenance Team at the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex has recently been awarded the 2012 Secretary of Defense Depot-level Maintenance Award, known as the Robert T. Mason Award for Depot Maintenance Excellence.

The 560th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron includes a workforce of more than 1,100 who provide programmed depot-level maintenance and modifications to C-130 aircraft. The award covers the time period from Oct 1, 2010 to Sept. 30, 2011.

After beginning fiscal 2011, a

recovery plan was put in place with the 25 projected late aircraft and 13 carryover aircraft that would move into the new year.

“We developed a transition plan of care and we built that focusing on due date performance,” said Richard Frey, 560th AMXS director. “We looked at focusing on quality and safety, maximizing manloading, increasing our throughput and managing our infrastructure.”

“Part of the plan for the PDM line was to also stop working so many aircraft and maximize that manloading,” he continued. “So we developed a six dock plan that allowed us to only work six aircraft at a time.”

The squadron also focused on quality improvement initiatives, such as building new break rooms, a snack bar, and renovating rest-rooms as well as the facility where PDM is accomplished, to improve morale and motivation.

Through additional initiatives, such as Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century and utilizing high velocity maintenance tenets to increase throughput, Frey concluded that the plan set the team up for success moving ahead.

“We knew that if we put a detailed plan together, that fiscal 2012 would be successful,” he said.

► see **AWARD**, 7

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Get Your Tickets Now!



Anniversary celebration

Today is the last day to purchase tickets for the 65th Air Force Birthday Celebration. The event will be at the Museum of Aviation Sept. 15, from 6 to 11 p.m. Keynote speaker is Lt. Gen. Andrew Busch, Air Force Materiel Command vice commander. The Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve will also perform.

The ticket prices are on a tiered structure based on rank. E1 - E4/WG and GS 9 and below are \$10; E5 - E7/ 01-04/WS and GS 10- GS 13 \$20 and E8 - E9/ 05 and above \$30.

Free childcare will be provided for children ages 5 weeks to 12 years old. For children ages five to 12 years old, contact Mandie Holovach at 327-6833; for those six weeks to 4 years, call CDC East at 926-5805. Deadline is today.

For more info and how to get tickets, visit www.robins.af.mil and click on the anniversary tab.



Critical Days of Summer campaign wrap up

This year's Critical Days of Summer safety campaign wraps up Tuesday. The campaign, with the theme “Safety – It's Personal,” began May 25, and is a reminder that safety is everyone's responsibility and that the decisions we make have an impact.

As of the campaign's 12th week, the Air Force had suffered 13 fatalities.

Seven of the 11 were from motorcycles; two from drowning; two from four-wheeled vehicles; and one residential fire, according to Dave Decker, 78th Air Base Wing Ground Safety chief.

None of those fatalities were local; however, Robins Airmen have accounted for 34 off-duty injuries here through week 12, according to Decker.

Investigations he said have shown that of the 34 injuries, six happened at home, five were vehicle accidents, 21 were sports and recreation related, and two involved water activities.

Moving into the Labor Day weekend, everyone is reminded to continue to stay focused on safety.

To learn more, visit the Air Force Safety Center at <http://www.afsec.af.mil/criticaldays/summer/index.asp>.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

A U-2 arrives at Robins Aug. 24, where local battle damage experts will see if it's possible to repair and return it to the Air Force's reconnaissance aircraft fleet.

Dragon Lady gets once over at Robins

BY APRIL BENTON
U-2 Engine Program manager

A new partnership is in the works at the new Air Force Life Cycle Management Center here.

The Command and Control, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance division, which manages the U2 Program, is exploring options for organic repair and partnering with the Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex to fully repair a damaged U-2 aircraft and bring it back into service.

The aircraft was transported by truck to Robins and arrived Aug. 24.

The plane incurred damage during scheduled maintenance in 2008 and soon after, returned to Air Force Plant 42 at Palmdale, Calif., where U-2 Flight Test and Periodic Depot Maintenance are routinely performed. The aircraft was later retired under PBD720 - Public Law stating that one U-2 would be retired in 2009.

Ultimately, the most cost-effective repair process will be selected, and the aircraft will be returned to Fully Mission Capable status.

It's possible the effort will be the start of long-term organic support for the U-2. The U-2 program was recently extended to

2025 and these extended operations warrant another look at the jet by aircraft battle damage repair experts at the complex.

About the Dragon Lady

The Lockheed U-2, nicknamed “Dragon Lady,” is a single-engine, very high-altitude (70,000 feet) reconnaissance aircraft operated by the Air Force and previously flown by the Central Intelligence Agency.

It provides day and night all-weather intelligence gathering. The aircraft is also used for electronic sensor research and development, satellite calibration and satellite data validation. The U-2

is capable of simultaneously collecting signals, imagery intelligence and air samples. While flying at operational altitudes, the U-2 is invisible to the naked eye.

The U-2 has been the global eyes and ears of the U.S. for more than 50 years, and remains an essential and irreplaceable reconnaissance asset. That's due to its ability to direct flights to objectives at short notice, which satellites can't do.

The aircraft at Robins is a 1980s model, which consists of a more rigid airframe than its predecessor from 1968. It was the last jet of its kind off the assembly line.

Local Master Sergeant presented Bronze Star with Valor

BY JENNY GORDON
jenny.gordon.ctr@robins.af.mil

In August 2011, exactly two days after celebrating his birthday, Master Sgt. Gene Jameson III found his combat communications training put to use at a Bagram Airfield compound in Afghanistan.

A year later, he was recognized for heroism here with a Bronze Star Medal with Valor during a ceremony Aug. 23.

During his deployment, insurgents attacked the base with rockets. One hit a building inside a United Arab Emirates Special Operations compound, and ignited a fire which moved to nearby buildings.

“It was spreading pretty fast,” recalled Jameson, 689th Combat Communications Wing manager of wing policy. “It started out with one building, and ended up burning five and a half acres – roughly 80 to 90 buildings.”

Once on site – about 10:30 p.m. on Aug. 20 – he began



U.S. Air Force photo by ROBERT TALENTI

Master Sgt. Gene B. Jameson, III, was presented the Bronze Star Medal with Valor in a ceremony Aug. 23. Jameson received the medal for heroism while deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

directing heavy equipment operators, and determining a fire break to stop the fire.

There was a lot of fuel inside the compound to feed the fire, including a multitude of explosives, 80,000-gallon fuel tanks and a diesel generator. Hours into helping fight the flames,

Jameson found himself entering and exiting the compound several times, carrying materials away from the fire.

“The fourth time I found two crates of explosives – one was filled with shoulder-launched anti-tank missiles, and the other crate held grenades,” he said.

“When we went to relocate them, the last building we were trying to demolish fell slightly to the left.

“It completely blocked our entrance and exit to the compound,” he added. “It left me and one of my staff sergeants trapped.”

The chaotic scene included random munitions explosions and flames raging up to 60 feet high.

Jameson assessed the situation, and found a way out through an area 150 yards long and a yard and a half wide surrounded by flames. He and the sergeant carried the two crates, holding 250 pounds of high explosives, down the path and out safely to the other side.

Exhausted, and having already churned out a 16-hour workday, he came out alive – but with boots melted, hair burned off his arms and a charred uniform. He also had

► see **VALOR**, 7

Page Two



U.S. Air Force photos by TECH. SGT. PETER DEAN

Wounded Angels, from left, Master Sgt. Frankie X. Reilly, Staff Sgts. Scott Bilyeu and Jimmy Settle, took a break during a hike on Mount Hood, Ore. The three participated in a week-long healing retreat on Mount Hood that was geared to connect injured Rescue Airmen.

AFRC chief helps vets find solace

BY TECH. SGT. PETER DEAN

920th Rescue Wing Public Affairs

The love that Chief Master Sgt. Richard Konopka, Air Force Reserve Command Headquarters, has for the Cloud Cap Inn, Mount Hood, Ore., prompted him to call the ‘That Others May Live Foundation’ with an idea to bring wounded Guardian Angel Airmen together on the mountain.

Guardian Angels are an Air Force weapons system comprised of combat rescue officers, pararescuemen, and survival, evasion, resistance, and escape specialists known as SERE.

“I’m very familiar with the beauty of Mount Hood and its tranquility,” said Konopka. “So this seemed the perfect place for our veterans to recharge themselves after very horrific, life-changing events.”

According to Konopka there are about 500 PJs in the Air Force, and many of the wounded Angels know each other – either from indoctrination school, training together or combat.

To rekindle the friendships and rehash old times, the retreat kicked off with the wounded Angels coming together with Angels from the 304th Rescue Squadron, Portland Ore., who co-sponsored the retreat.

All climbed aboard a Timberline Lodge tracked vehicle that took them thousands of feet up the north side of Mount Hood where they bonded during lunch.

The rest of the week the wounded Angels were hosted by the Crag Rats, an all-volunteer mountain rescue group that maintains the U.S. Forest Service-owned inn.

“It’s a real pleasure to

“When you get injured, you come back and you’re removed from your unit ... you sort of get isolated. You don’t feel so much like it’s your fault that you can’t ‘play’ with your [rescue team], but you feel that you’re not worthy, you go to a dark place..”

Staff Sgt. Jimmy Settle
212th Rescue Squadron,
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

host this event; it’s a natural fit,” said Bill Pattison, Crag Rats spokesperson. “The Crag Rats and the 304th have a long history of working together.”

All details throughout the week were taken care of: transportation, shelter, daily menus and all activities. Angels spent their days hiking Mount Hood, swimming at a local swim hole, fly fishing, and visiting local attractions – but most of all enjoying the serenity the mountain has to offer.

“When you get injured, you come back and you’re removed from your unit ... you sort of get isolated,” said Staff Sgt. Jimmy Settle, 212th Rescue Squadron, Joint Base Elmendorf/Richardson, Alaska. “You don’t feel so much like it’s your fault that you can’t ‘play’ with your [rescue team], but you feel that you’re not worthy, you go to a dark place. This [retreat] connects you with dudes who get it.”

Settle struggles to cope with what most would consider simple daily tasks.

While on a rescue mission in Afghanistan in 2010, the helicopter Settle was on came under fire. Rounds from AK-47 assault rifles pelted the chopper from all directions. Rounds penetrated the floorboards of the chopper. Upon impact one round fragmented,

sending it on a trajectory that went between Settle’s helmet and forehead, finally lodging into his scalp.

The injury left Settle with traumatic brain injury and struggling with daily responsibilities, such as remembering to shave, how to wear his uniform and even recognizing his wife.

“I’m walking around with my cool-man beret ... that beret that I worked so many years for, and now, if you run down the checklist, I’m not qualified,” said Settle. “I feel like I’m putting on a costume, a PJ costume. I feel I’m not worthy, and I don’t belong anymore. It’s very lonely and leads to dark places in the mind. Coming out here kinda stokes the fire, these guys understand, they have walked the same path.”

“[It] created an environment that I didn’t have to worry about the little stuff,” he added. “I could focus on the social stuff and working on me.”

Plans are in the works to make this an annual event.

“We’re very pleased on how the retreat turned out,” said Maj. Christopher Bernard, 304th RQS combat rescue officer and retreat organizer. “We gained an understanding of what it is to be a wounded Angel; we’re all touched.”

Civic leaders meet for forum, share top military-support strategies

BY STAFF SGT. AMANDA CURRIER
9th Air Force Public Affairs

A small group of Robins civic leaders representing the 461st Air Control Wing joined their counterparts from 9th Air Force wings across the Southeastern United States at Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., Aug. 14 and 15, for the 9th Air Force Civic Leader Forum.

The forum offered civic attendees a better understanding of 9th Air Force’s missions, challenges and community-related needs. It also provided them an opportunity to garner best practices in supporting military communities from each other.

“As a first for 9th Air Force, this effort brought together motivated civic leaders from four states to share their experiences of helping our Airmen,” said Maj. Gen. Lawrence Wells, 9th Air Force commander.

Forum attendees represented civil-military partnerships in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. They came from all seven of 9th Air Force’s active-duty wings, including the 461st Air Control Wing here; the 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.; the 20th Fighter Wing, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.; the 23rd Wing and 93rd Air Ground Operations Wing, Moody Air Force Base, Ga.; and the 633rd Air Base Wing and 1st Fighter Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

The Robins group consisted of Scott Free, Coldwell Banker Robbins & Free; Kathy Balletto, Golden Key Realty; Beth McLaughlin, Houston County Board of Education; Janet Kelly, Middle GA Technical College; and Michael Chalmers, Spherion Staffing Corporation.

On Aug. 15, the parties met at Shaw for a day of briefings and open discussion. Wells kicked off the briefings with a presentation on 9th Air Force’s mission.

“We organize, train and equip Airmen. We’re the only numbered Air Force solely focused on that mission,” he said. “We prepare the forces to go downrange and fight in combat.”

When 9th Air Force Airmen are sent to support deployment operations, their communities rally to help care for their families. Forum attendees described how their communities hold dinners and other events for families of deployed Airmen. For instance, at Robins, the Houston County Board of Education and Robins partner to provide support groups within local schools for children with deployed family members.

Following the mission briefing, members from each civic leader group described the structure of their military-support organizations.

“It provided them an opportunity to show what their civic community is doing to support its local Airmen, bases and military missions,” Wells said. “Our goal is simple: to take care of our Airmen and their families; this forum is a huge step forward in meeting our goal.”

Forum discussion topics were selected with First Lady Michelle Obama’s “Joining Forces” initiative in mind, which seeks to “mobilize all sectors of society to give our service members and their families the opportunities and support they have earned,” according to the White House Web site, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces>.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE AIR FORCE



Air Force Spice testing lab goes full throttle

The Air Force Spice Testing Lab became fully operational Aug. 1, in support of the Air Force's focus on quality Airmen. The lab establishes a robust urinalysis testing program as part of the Air Force's ongoing efforts to deter use of "spice," the common name for synthetic cannabinoids.

The spice lab is capable of handling 2,500 active-duty Air Force samples per month, with the potential to increase testing to 60,000 samples per year. Equipped with two liquid chromatography/tandem mass spectrometry (LC/MS/MS) instruments and a trained staff, the lab is taking over the full spice-testing responsibility from a commercial contract laboratory that previously handled the testing.

During the past year, the Air Force has made significant strides in the deterrence of spice abuse among its members. Spice compounds are sprayed onto plant matter that is then generally smoked, causing hallucinogenic, psychotic and other harmful and sometimes deadly effects. In July of 2012, the President signed legislation placing 15 of these compounds on Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. However, the possession and use of any synthetic compounds, such as spice and other intoxicating substances other than alcohol and tobacco, remain strictly prohibited for Airmen.

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

Dempsey: Political activity erodes public trust in military

Using the uniform for partisan politics erodes the trust the American people have in their military, said Army Gen. Martin Dempsey.

During a discussion with reporters aboard a C-17 returning from Afghanistan and Iraq, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff addressed a question about a group of Navy SEALs who have put together a political action committee.

Dempsey has been outspoken that service members have truly earned their right to vote, and that all Americans are entitled to private and personal opinions.

But, the chairman said, he and his fellow members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are the stewards of the profession of arms, and must ensure service members don't cross an important line.

"One of the things that marks us as a profession in a democracy is it's most important we remain apolitical," he said. "That's how we maintain our trust with the American people. The American people don't want us to become another special interest group. In fact, I think that confuses them."

To find out more, visit www.defense.gov.



U.S. Air Force photo by AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KENNETH NORMAN

Refueling reflected

Tech. Sgt. Bartek Bachleda refuels an F-22 Raptor from Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. The F-22 was refueled outside of New York in support of the Brooklyn Cyclone flyover during Air Force Week in New York City. Bachleda is a boom operator instructor with the 54th Air Refueling Squadron at Altus Air Force Base, Okla.

Hurricane Hunters track Isaac as SOUTHCOM, NORTHCOM prepare

With Tropical Storm Isaac bearing down on the Dominican Republic and Haiti and threatening to strengthen over the eastern Caribbean, the "Hurricane Hunters" from the Air Force Reserve's 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron were in the air, relaying critical data to National Weather Service forecasters

in Miami.

Meanwhile, staffs at both the U.S. Southern and Northern Commands are monitoring the storm closely and ensuring they are ready to provide support to civilian authorities, including the U.S. Agency for International Development and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Three six-person crews from the 53rd WRS and their maintainers and support staff deployed to St. Croix from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., last weekend, Air Force Lt. Col. Jon Talbot, the squadron's chief meteorologist, told American Forces Press Service. Operating out of the international airport there, they began flying their specially equipped C-130J Hercules aircraft through the storm Aug. 21.

For further details, visit www.af.mil.

'Joining Forces' initiative exceeds hiring goals for vets, spouses

The White House initiative to hire veterans and military spouses has surpassed its goals, having led to the hiring or training of more than 125,000 veterans and spouses in the past year, First Lady Michelle Obama announced today.

Speaking to sailors and their families at Naval Station Mayport in Jacksonville, Fla., the first lady said 2,000 companies have hired 125,000 employees through their pledges to the "Joining Forces" campaign, and, of those, 140 employers have hired 28,000 military spouses.

"That's 125,000 people who are providing for their families, contributing to our economy and serving the country they love," Obama said.

For further details, visit www.af.mil.

— compiled by Holly Logan-Arrington

Muddy Spartans

Staff Sgt. Ashley Davin low crawls Aug. 11 through the mud in Amesbury, Mass. Davin is assigned to the 102nd Security Forces Squadron and was participating in the Spartan Race, testing her strength, endurance, and resilience against a course of challenging obstacles.



Air National Guard photo by SENIOR AIRMAN JEREMY BOWCOCK

Total Force F-22s first to employ small-diameter bombs



U.S. Air Force photos by TECH. SGT. DANA ROSSO

Above, During a Combat Hammer exercise, Alaska F-22 Raptors became the first operational F-22 unit to drop GBU-39 small-diameter bombs. Combat Hammer is a weapons system evaluation program sponsored by the 86th Fighter Weapons Squadron, and provided an opportunity for an operational unit to employ the bombs in a realistic tactical training environment.

Left, Tech. Sgt. Bobby Breher, 477th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron dedicated crew chief, cleans the canopy of an F-22 during Combat Hammer.



BY TECH. SGT. DANA RUSSO

477th Fighter Group
Public Affairs

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah —

During a Combat Hammer exercise, Alaska F-22 Raptors became the first operational F-22 unit to drop GBU-39 small-diameter bombs.

Although small-diameter bombs have been employed by test pilots, Combat Hammer, a weapons system evaluation program sponsored by the 86th Fighter Weapons Squadron, provided an opportunity for an operational unit to employ them in a realistic tactical training environment.

"The Utah Test and Training Range is the only location in the United States where the F-22s can employ SDBs at speeds and altitudes unique to the Raptor," said Maj. Wade Bridges, a Reserve F-22 pilot assigned to the 302nd Fighter Squadron.

The 3rd Wing F-22s that have the upgraded increment 3.1 software were able to drop the GBU-39 SDB.

The GBU-39 is a 250-pound, precision-guided glide bomb that is intended to provide aircraft with the ability to carry a higher number of bombs and to employ with greater stand-off.

"The employment of the GBU-39s was very successful," said Bridges. "The ammo and weapons personnel who built and loaded the weapons did so with amazing

professionalism and technical expertise.

"They were evaluated during the entire process and received nothing but praise for their work. The pilots who employed the weapons did an excellent job delivering the weapons in a tactical environment. The entire process from building to employing the weapons was a tremendous success resulting in 100 percent of the SDBs being released successfully."

The training event allowed for Total Force Integration across the F-22 fleet. The 302nd Fighter Squadron led a Total Force team from Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson.

Pilots from both the 302nd and the 525th Fighter squadrons and maintainers from the 3rd Maintenance Group and the 477th Fighter Group filled the deployment roster making it a true total force effort from Alaska.

In addition to the Alaska based effort, pilots from the 199th and 19th Fighter Squadrons and their associated maintainers participated in the exercise. It was the first time operations and maintenance personnel from the 199th and 19th Fighter Squadrons stationed in Hawaii have deployed.

"The successful deployment experience and delivery of air-to-ground weapons is a major milestone for the Hawaiian Raptor operations and maintenance team towards declaration of Initial Operational Capability," said Lt. Col. Robert Jackson, 19th FS commander.

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
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Submissions must be received by 4 p.m. Wednesday, the week prior to the requested Friday publication.

They should be e-mailed to lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil and vance.janes@robins.af.mil

Submissions should be of broad interest to the base populace. For information, call Lanorris Askew at 472-0806.

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To report delivery issues, call 472-0802.

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On the Fly

Study shows BiRD still moving along

BY JENNY GORDON

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BiRD, or Buses into Robins Daily, continues to be a viable source of transportation for those working on base.

Numbers of passengers have slowed during the summer due to vacations, lower gas prices and personnel changes, but have remained steady since the program began in November 2010.

The transit route is offered by the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority for Robins personnel, and has experienced continued growth since it began with 214 riders in December 2010.

BiRD has averaged 905 riders from May through July.

Robins continues to offer other alternative methods to get to work, including carpool and vanpool.

Since more than 60 percent of Robins' military and civilian employees live in Houston County, a feasibility study was conducted to determine additional mass transit options.



U.S. Air Force file photo by SUE SAPP

Dennis and Julie Julius catch the BiRD in front of Bldg. 301.

WHAT TO KNOW

The BiRD Park and Ride area has permanently relocated to the Hutchings Career Center on Riverside Drive in Macon. It was previously located at the downtown Macon Marriott Centreplex. The move is designed to eliminate the confusion caused by the parking area having to be moved for various reasons in the past. There is no change for scheduled pick up and drop off times.

For the Warner Robins Area Transportation Study, input for public comment has closed, and a final recommendation will be made in September.

Warner Robins officials have been working with Atkins and Connetics Transportation Group on the study, resulting in 385 surveys collected.

Survey Results by the numbers

84% in favor of transit.
79% willing to use tax dollars to fund.
52% would use for work.
37% would use for shopping or personal appointments.

Warner Robins in CNN top 25 affordable cities to live poll

Robins Air Force Base is a key reason the city of Warner Robins was recently listed as number seven out of 25 in a CNN feature on cities with most affordable housing.

The feature states, "The fortunes of this central Georgia city revolve around Robins, which generates many highly paid engineering and technical jobs. Several schools have opened facilities in Warner Robins to support the base, as have



businesses like General Dynamics.

Warner Robins' median home price is \$115,000 with a median family income: \$63,665.

"While salaries are high, the cost of living is low. Inexpensive land, labor and material costs, as well as an excess of

available homes built during the housing boom, have all helped to keep prices down."

For residents, the location is another perk. The town offers easy access to Atlanta and the beach, both of which are less than a two-and-a-half hour drive away."

Hannah Road is now closed so repairs can be made to the culvert near the cattle guard and the asphalt around the bridge.

Previous efforts to fix the problem were unsuccessful. Signs will be placed along Seventh Street and Richard Ray Boulevard to redirect traffic.

Colonel Mitchel Butikofer, installation commander, cordially invites you to attend the **78th Air Base Wing Recognition Celebration today**, at 3 p.m. in the Heritage Club Ballroom

Attire for military is uniform of the day and business attire for civilians.

The Munitions Operations Office will be closed Sept. 10 through 14 for a semi-annual inventory of the munitions stockpile.

Only emergency issue

requests, submitted in writing and approved by a group commander, will be accepted during this time.

The following leadership classes are scheduled for September:

►Max Wyche will present "External Awareness & Partnering" Sept. 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 141.

►Gregory Huttner will present "Financial Management" Sept. 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 139.

►Ches Rehberg will present "Empowerment Core Competencies" Sept. 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 141.

►Ellen Griffith will present "Communication and Interpersonal Skills" Sept. 24 from 9 to 11 a.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 141.

►Col. Mitchel

Butikofer will present "Leadership Insight" Sept. 26 from 8 to 10 a.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 141.

►Carl Unholz will present "Diversity" Sept. 27 from 9 to 11 a.m. in Bldg. 905, Room 141.

The Commissary will host its annual tent sale in the parking lot between the commissary and the car wash from Sept. 13 through 15. The tent sale will open at the same time as the commissary, but will close two hours earlier for cleaning and restocking for the next business day.

Et cetera

To have a leave recipient listed here, email Lanorris Askew at lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil. Submissions will run for two weeks.

Air Force workers can find help here

Finances & Work-Life Balance	Airman & Family Readiness Center	926-1256
Health and Wellness Education	Health and Wellness Center	327-8480
Health Screenings	Civilian Health Promotion Services	327-8030
Work, Personal or Family Issues	Employee Assistance Program	(800) 222-0364
Work Stress, Psychological Issues	Organizational Consulting Office	327-9803
Mental Health & Substance Abuse	Houston Healthcare	922-4281
Unplanned Pregnancy	Houston Healthcare	922-4281
Suicide Prevention	National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	(800) 273-8255
Sexual Assault & Victim Advocacy	Sexual Assault Response Coordinator	926-2946
Crime Victim Advocacy	Victim Witness Assistance Program	327-4584

AFMC Wellness Support Center — www.afmcwellness.com



AF Club Membership still pays

BY JENNY GORDON
jenny.gordon.ctr@robins.af.mil



and remains the same across Robins.

“There is a perception out there that we have closed the Horizons Club,” said Johnson. “In fact, the club membership that you were paying before is buying you exactly the same thing now.”

For example, loyal club members in good standing continue to receive:

■ *10 percent discount on purchases on base;*

■ *2 percent cash back on 78th Force Support Squadron activities and the commissary and exchange and 1 percent elsewhere;*

■ *Eligibility to receive \$2 off when attending a special function on base;*

■ *\$1 off any plated luncheon, and more.*

Active duty, civilians, and military and civilian retirees pay an \$18 monthly membership fee; NCO’s pay \$8 per month. There are about 3,400 club members enrolled.

Visit www.robinservices.com to learn more. Monthly “Edge” magazines are also mailed to club members, and are available

at various locations and online.

The former Horizons Club is now known as the Horizons Event Center.

It’s open for anyone to use for meetings, conferences and special events at no cost.

There will be set-up and clean-up fees if you would like these provided, and also when food is brought in from outside. Fees are not charged for FSS-catered events.

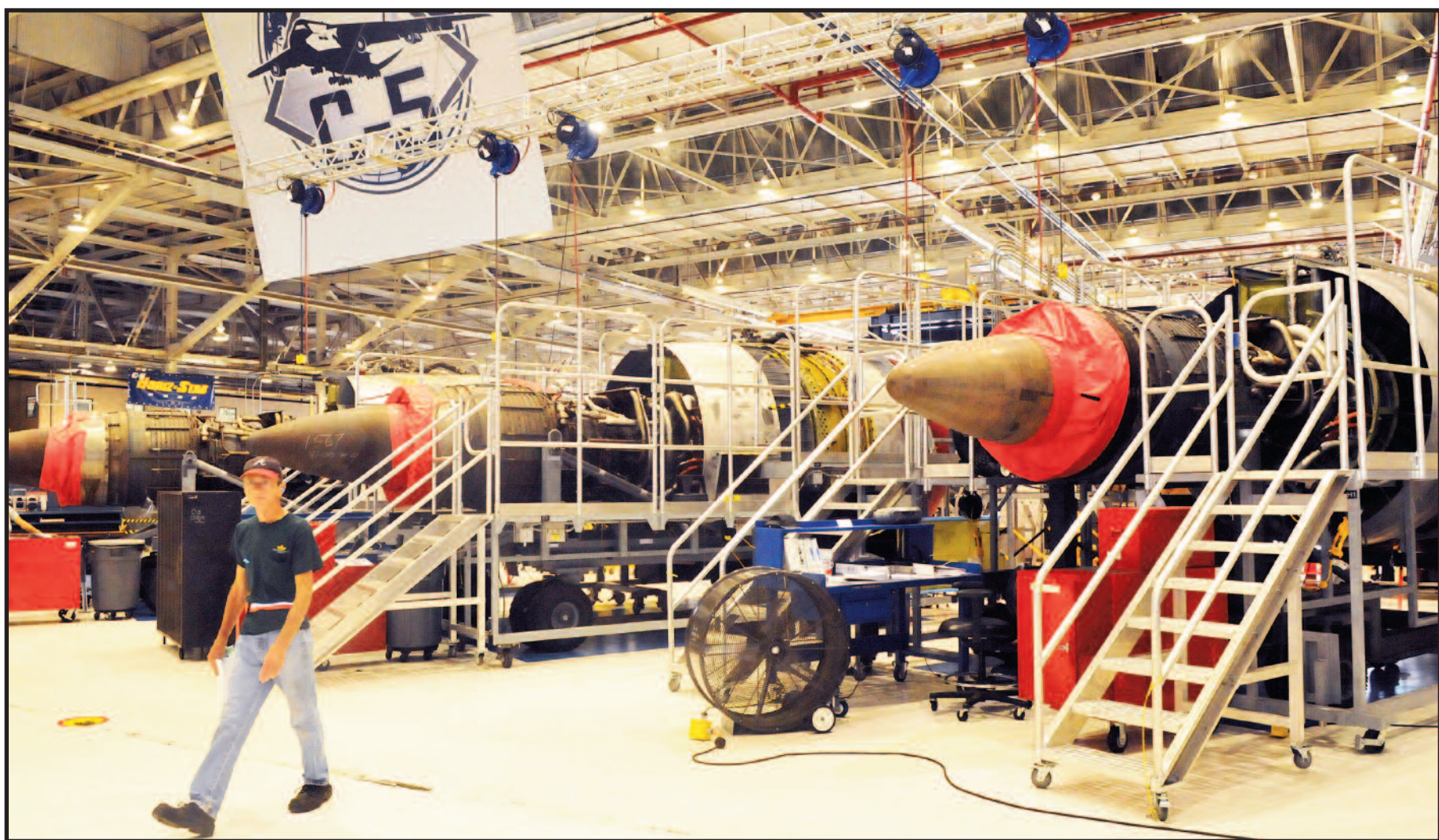
“This has now become a building for the entire base to partake in,” said Alexander Kovras, 78th FSS director.

By contributing to the club membership program, Robins members have received \$120,000 worth of discounts in the first nine months of fiscal 2012. If you did anything from buy bowling shoes to eat at a base facility, the 10 percent discount you received added up to that discount total.

Club dues have remained unchanged for many years, added Kovras. So even as costs have continued to rise, giving back 10 percent is worth more every year.

“We’re reinvesting into our community, and the club member is getting something for their dues,” he said. “It pays to be a member.”

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U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Improvements in the C-5 engine shop have made the environment safer and streamlined the process for mechanics.

Implementing success

C-5 Engine shop advances create user-friendly space

BY JENNY GORDON

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Advances inside the C-5 Engine Shop have resulted in not only higher morale, but also quality of life and efficiency improvements.

As C-5 engines are brought into the shop for Isochronal inspections, maintainers must move over, under and around each engine. In the past year, new engine stands were introduced, which allow various access points on different levels so mechanics can move more freely around the entire engine.

As a result of this, safety hazards have decreased. Once this process progressed, mechanics also saw a need for an idea to reduce hazards from tripping on cords which lay across the shop floor. Now there are overhead trusses which have been installed which provide air and electric capabilities through drop-down cords. Upcoming plans are also in the works to add a hydraulic power supply line to the overhead system.

“Everything we’ve done inside this shop has made it more user friendly,” said Scott Ball, 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production supervisor.

“Much of what has driven this is the result of the Voluntary Protection Program,” added Roy Rudd, 559th AMXS team lead.

Other improvements included mounted LED lights installed under each engine stand so mechanics can use



Improvements in the C-5 engine shop have made the environment safer and has streamlined the process for mechanics like Jacqueline Ashby shown here.

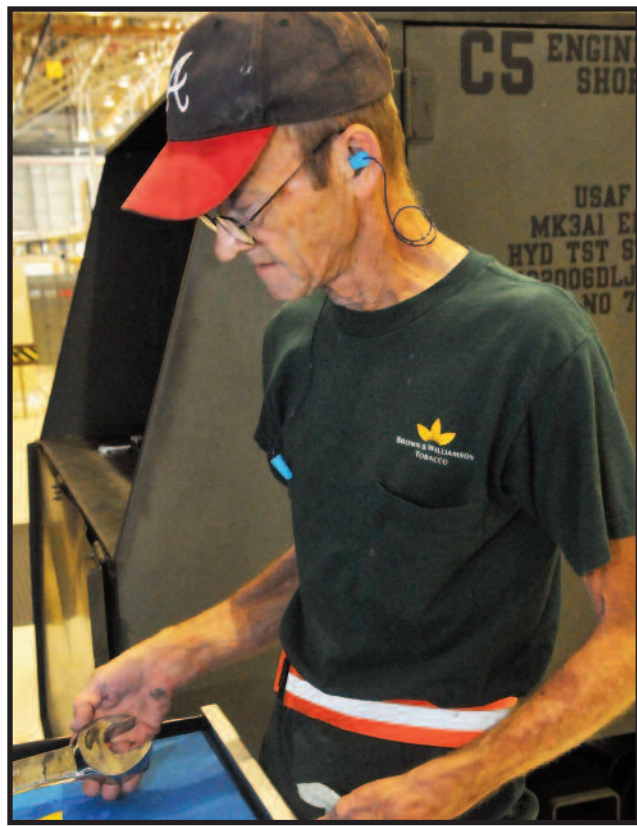
both hands while working (they’re also magnetized). The shop floor was stripped and painted bright white to add better light reflection, and a large consolidated shop tool kit was added to speed up the work process, eliminate lines and increase efficiency.

The shop has moved to eliminate paper copies of technical orders through the use of 10 Toughbooks, or laptops with hard, protective shells, so they can be used by mechanics as they work.

The shop is the first in the 402nd AMXG to prototype the new Electronic Work Control Documents. By having information automated, the new system will save time and benefit the workforce with future inspections by reducing opportunities for mistakes.

“All of these improvements make a better quality of life for

the mechanic and maximize our efficiencies,” said Kevin Hamilton, C-5 Production Support Flight chief.



John Crews gets what he needs from the tool cabinet that is convenient to the work area.



David Murray displays a magnetic or hook drop light used in the C-5 engine shop. Improvements in the C-5 engine shop have made the environment safer and have streamlined the process for mechanics.

VALOR

Continued from 1

trouble breathing.

Jameson’s heroic actions helped save more than 50 lives, facilities and equipment that prevented mass detonations.

He spent more than six hours on the scene, and was finally able to lay his head down to rest during the early morning hours the following day.

Reflecting on the situation a year later, he described the medal as a huge honor.

“I’ve spent 18 years in the Air Force, and have received a lot of good training which I was able to put to use. It’s pretty humbling,” he said. “You never know whether or not you’ve met all the criteria in your own mind, but someone thought I did. So I am honored to accept this.”

On his training with the 689th CCW

at Robins, whether during exercises involving explosives going off around you or people shooting at you, he said that much of what he has learned has taught him to prioritize situations in the midst of the unexpected.

“It teaches you how to keep calm while there is chaos around you,” he said. “And with all the chaos that was going on – with fire advancing, smoke, explosions – that training kicks in and you know your to-do list. You say ‘these are my priorities and I have to get these things done to get myself out of here.’”

Jameson served in Afghanistan from March to November 2011, as the 455th Expeditionary Communications Squadron operations flight chief.

Editor’s note:

The Bronze Star Medal with Valor is the fourth highest combat award in the armed forces.

AWARD

Continued from 1

“And because of that plan we sold nine aircraft in September 2011, which allowed us to go into fiscal 2012 with zero carryovers, zero late aircraft, and 100 percent on-time delivery.

As of August 21, the squadron had a 98.2 percent on-time delivery rate. And the team has the goal to win the award again next year.

The Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards Program recognizes outstanding Department of Defense depot-level military programs each year.

This year there were eight

nominations.

“The world’s finest aircraft maintainers work on the Robins flight line, and receiving the prestigious Robert Mason trophy is testament to the maintenance professionalism of not only our C-130 production team, but our entire 402nd Aircraft Maintenance Group,” said Col. Tim Molnar, 402nd AMXG commander. “I’m honored to serve here on this world-class team. Our goal now is to capitalize on this achievement, continuously deliver high-quality aircraft to the warfighter, and earn the right to perform additional work for our Air Force and our nation.”

“This is similar to win-

ning the Super Bowl in our business. Words cannot express how proud I am of this significant accomplishment,” said Brig. Gen. Cedric George, WR-ALC commander. “Our C-130 team returned 64 aircraft to the war fighter, reduced work-in-progress from 41 to 36 aircraft, slashed flow days from 102 to 69 days and achieved 100 percent on-time delivery by the end of fiscal 2011. Congratulations and job well done.”

An awards ceremony is scheduled for Nov. 15 at the DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids, Mich., as part of the 2012 DoD Maintenance Symposium and Exhibition.

THUR 30	FRI 21	SAT 1	SUN 2	MON 3	TUE 4	WED 5
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EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

OUT AND ABOUT

ON TAP

Texas Hold 'Em
Saturday
Sign-up 1:30 p.m.
Games start 2 p.m.
Heritage Club Lounge
Cost \$15 members
and \$20 guests
For details,
call 472-7864.

Glow-In-The-Dark Bowling
Saturday nights
9 to 11 p.m.
Bowling Center
\$10 per person
For details,
call 468-2112.

Dept. of Labor/TAP/VA Workshop
Tuesday through Sept. 7
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Bldg. 794
For details,
call 468-1256.

UPCOMING Pre-Separation Briefings
Separatees
Sept. 6 and 20
12:30 to 4 p.m.
Bldg. 794
For details,
call 468-1256.

First Friday
Sept. 7
5 to 6 p.m.

Heritage Club
For details,
call 472-7864.

Clinic & Exhibition Event
NextLevelBowling.com
Sept. 8
Session 1 from 8:45
a.m. to noon
Session 2 from 1:45
to 5 p.m.
For details,
call 468-2112.

Youth Bowlers Registration
Sept. 8
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Fee \$18
For details,
call 468-2112.

Teen Council Meetings
Sept. 8 and 22
3 p.m.
Youth Center
For details,
call 468-2110.

Keystone Meetings
Sept. 8, 15, 22 and 29
4 p.m.
Youth Center
For details,
call 468-2110.

Ropes Course
Sept. 22
\$50 per person

Panola Mountain
State Park
Register by Sept. 8
For details,
call 468-4001.

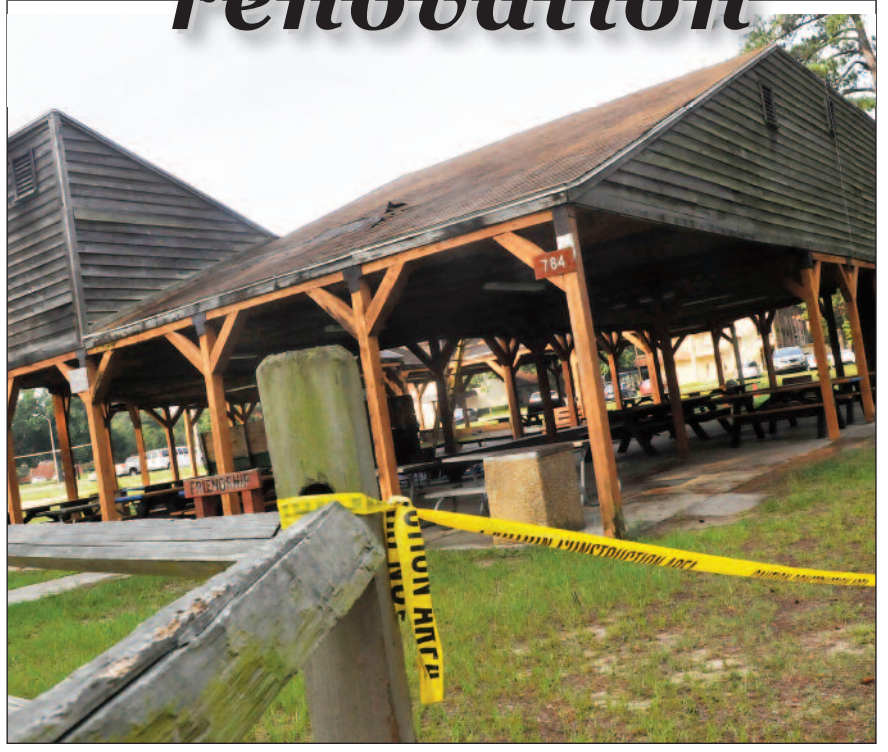
USAJobs Resume Writing
Sept. 13
9 to 11 a.m.
Bldg. 794
For details,
call 468-1256.

Pre-Separation Briefings
Retirees
Sept. 13 and 27
12:30 to 4 p.m.
Bldg. 794
For details,
call 468-1256.

Wine Tasting
Sept. 14
5:30 p.m.
\$20 for one or \$35 for two
Horizons Event Center
For details,
call 468-2105.

ONGOING Blue Man Group Orlando
Special Military Offer
Monday – Oct. 28
Adult \$44
Child \$29
For details,
call 468-2945.

Robins Park renovation



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

Friendship pavilion at Robins Park is taped off while undergoing a \$37.5K renovation. The pavilion will be re-shingled and the missing boards on the roof are being replaced.



Left, Lee Galpin, a local contractor, removes old shingles from the roof of Friendship pavilion. The other two smaller pavilions require less work which will be completed later this fall.



THINK OPSEC:

**YOUR TRASH
COULD BE
AN ADVERSARY'S
TREASURE**