

The base Combined Federal Campaign runs through Nov. 23, with a goal of \$1.4 million. There are currently 50 super monitors and alternates representing organizations across the base, with an additional 300 key workers and monitors available.

Col. Kevin Clotfelter took command of the 116th Air Control Wing during a change of command ceremony Thursday in the Museum of Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar.

Brig. Gen. Bill Welsh, the former commander, is transferring to Washington, D.C., to work as the Mobilization Assistant to the Deputy Commander for JFCC-ISR at U.S. Strategic Command.

ROBINS REV-UP

October 26, 2012 Vol. 57 No.43

Traffic delays no reason to stall

BY COL. MITCHEL BUTIKOFER

Installation Commander

Getting onto Robins has never been easy.

That's partly by design.

The base, like most Air Force and other U.S. military installations, has always worked hard to keep out those who have no business being here in order to provide the safest environment possible. That has included continually reviewing and updating the rules surrounding base access.

For instance, among other things persons with DoD ID Cards must now be registered in the Defense Biometric Identification System or DBIDS, or, while those without DoD ID cards are allowed to come on the



base 'unescorted,' but only after undergoing a background check.

The base has never been safer. Since July, we've denied access to more than 500 people with criminal convictions, and detained 35 with active warrants.

However, the traffic delays are also due, in part, to simple math.

On an average day, about 27,000 vehicles enter Robins. Most enter between 5:30 and 7:30 a.m., with the highest numbers between 5:45 and 6 a.m., 6:45 and 7 a.m. and 7:15 and 7:30 a.m.

Other things also contribute to the challenge of getting onto Robins such as elevations in the force protection level and scenarios in local, Air Force and DoD exercises – such as the two the base participated in the past couple of weeks – each prompt gate closings, which restrict both inbound and outbound traffic.

Our personnel are finding inventive ways to combat

► see TRAFFIC, 7

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

Robins to host Military Retiree Appreciation Day

Military retirees from all branches of service and their guests are invited to attend Robins' Retiree Appreciation Day Saturday.

The appreciation day is to inform, assist and honor all retired military members, spouses and surviving spouses, and their family members with base access.

For more information, call 327-4707, or email richard.delaney@robins.af.mil.

You may also contact Pat Delaney at 225-8653 or pdlaney48@hotmail.com.

Wingman Day

Robins' Fall Wingman Day is slated for Nov. 2. Wingman Day activities will include unit-specific training in the morning followed by sports activities in the afternoon. Both resiliency training and safety talks will be offered.

Pending mission requirements and supervisor approval, participation is voluntary for bargaining unit employees, and employees are not required to take leave if in a duty status.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

The restart of Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures System (LAIRCM) modifications on C-17s at Robins is a collaboration of the 562nd and 559th Aircraft Maintenance Squadrons. Below, Raymond Tennyson, electronics mechanic, checks a clamp which is part of the electrical harness for the LAIRCM mod.

C-17 LAIRCM mods restarted

Work on the C-17 LAIRCM, or Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures System, has been restarted at Robins.

For the first time in two years, the modification line has come to life with a new crew of sheet metal and aircraft mechanics, electricians and hydraulics technicians from the 562nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, working to complete the first aircraft by the end of

this month.

Several sensors and lasers will be installed throughout the aircraft once modification has been completed.

A second aircraft is currently being retrofitted with newer lasers.

LAIRCM is a complex and highly effective missile threat detection system.

It provides defense from widespread and growing missile threats by confusing



guidance components in enemy air defense systems. It is designed to safeguard large transport and rotary-

wing aircraft.

The system is also used on the C-5 and C-130 aircraft.

This too shall pass: A Breast Cancer Survivor's story

BY LANORRIS ASKEW

lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

Turning 40 is one of those milestone birthdays. For some it's a new beginning – a line in the sand, of sorts, between the first and the second part of his or her life.

For Tech. Sgt. Tina Acevedo, it's part of a cautionary tale.

"I was diagnosed on my 40th birthday with Stage 1 Triple Negative Breast Cancer," she recalls. "It's a subtype of invasive cancer. They don't know the cause, which makes it tougher to treat."

The diagnosis

In May 2009, Acevedo was an average wife and mother of four going through the day-to-



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Tech. Sgt. Tina Acevedo, Air Force Reserve Force, is a breast cancer survivor. She was diagnosed in 2009 prior to attending the NCO Academy.

day things moms do – helping with homework, cooking and cleaning, getting the kids to meets, matches and games and, as she can now see – forgetting

to take care of herself.

A career military member, the North Carolina native was set to attend the Noncommissioned Officer Academy at

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. As is customary, a series of medical appointments were part of her preparations. Since she would be turning 40 in a few weeks, a mammogram was recommended.

"I told the doctor I would take it once I came back, secretly thinking I would probably just put it off again since it wasn't a concern of mine," she explained.

With no family history of breast cancer, and a pretty healthy lifestyle, the disease wasn't something she thought about. Call it luck or divine intervention, but an opening at the base radiology department became available before her

► see SURVIVOR, 2



Hannah Road construction delayed

Repairs to Hannah Road are now expected to be made by Nov. 13, weather permitting, according to base civil engineers.

Work has been completed on about 60 percent of the project, they say.

The repairs – which have closed the road to all traffic – include installing a drainage pipe and making repairs to the culvert.

EO Office closure

The Equal Opportunity Office in Bldg. 536 will be closed Nov. 15 for repairs. It will reopen Nov. 18 for normal business.

For more information, call the office at 468-2131.

Page Two

SURVIVOR

Continued from 1

TDY and, though she tried to get out of it, a very persistent technician persuaded her to come in.

That appointment perhaps saved her life.

“I was given my mammo-gram, and then asked to sit while the doctor took a look at the film,” she said. “I was later told I would be having an ultrasound. I told them I was going TDY and didn’t have time. But the technician told me, ‘No, you’re having one right now.’”

The ultrasound revealed a tumor.

“I wish I knew who the technician was,” she said. “With the type of breast cancer I had, it would have spread to my lymph nodes by the time I would’ve come in to be screened, and I may not be here telling my story.”

Getting through

Treatment was tough. It took the Air Force Reserve Command member to new lows.

“I’m a strong woman,” she said. “I went through natural child birth and gave birth to twins, but nothing could have prepared me for chemotherapy.”

Not willing to give up, Acevedo decided to participate in a clinical trials study where she received standard breast cancer chemotherapy but also received an additional chemo usually reserved for colon rectal cancer patients.

“A lot of people told me I was crazy, but I wanted to receive additional care and follow up. If it weren’t for a lot of brave women before me who participated in a clinical trial, I wouldn’t be here today. This was my way of giving back.”

She went through six months

of chemotherapy and radiation every weekday for four months

Today, her cancer is in remission, and she’s leading a full life with her 6-year-old twins – a boy and a girl. She also has 9-year-old and 16-year-old daughters.

Acevedo said she believes she’s stronger for having been through the experience.

“When you’re diagnosed with cancer, you start to think about things you normally wouldn’t,” she said. “Like, ‘What happens if I don’t get through this?’; ‘Who will help my husband take care of my children?’; ‘Will they remember me?’”

“Now, I can’t think of anything I can’t get through,” she added. “I got through chemo by repeating to myself, ‘This too shall pass.’”

One of her main goals is to tell her story and help educate others.

“Please don’t be misled by thinking only women with a family history of breast cancer are at risk; I was the first in my family diagnosed,” she said. “Although breast feeding may lower your risk of breast cancer, it doesn’t mean you are exempt. I breast feed all four of my children, and my oldest until she was a year old.”

She added that conducting self-breast exams, regardless of age, is vital.

“I’ve seen woman receiving chemo at 28 and 58,” she said. “Take care of yourself first, and pay attention to your body.”

“I was bald, bed-ridden and going through chemo in October 2009, and I watched survivors and volunteers from all walks of life raising awareness on TV to find a cure,” she said. “It was comforting, and gave me strength and hope to know people were walking for me when I couldn’t. This year, I’ll walk for those who can’t.”

PINK PICNIC



Team Robins gathers for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Left, Heidi Marble, breast cancer survivor, author and artist, was the guest speaker Tuesday at the 17th Annual “Pink Picnic” Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon at the Museum of Aviation’s Century of Flight Hangar.

Below, Renee Sconiers, 78th Air Base Wing Protocol Office, participates in the pink glove dance.



U.S. Air Force photos by SUE SAPP

NEWS FROM AROUND THE AIR FORCE



F-35: Newest fighter much more than just 'stealthy plane'

The F-35, which features three variants to be used by the Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy, is a single-seat aircraft capable of stealthy operations. The Marine Corps B variant is also capable of performing short takeoffs and vertical-landings as well as the conventional operations of other airplanes.

The F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter program started in 1997. The program includes plans to replace the Air Force's aging F-16 Fighting Falcon and A-10 Thunderbolt II, the Marine Corps' short take-off, vertical landing AV-8B Harrier and dogfighting and air-to-ground attacking F/A-18 Hornet, and the Navy's stock of legacy Hornets.

"The F-35 is a fifth-generation fighter; but it's more than just a stealthy airplane," said Marine Corps Col. Art Tomassetti, a pilot who has been with the JSF program since 1998. "It goes beyond stealth and low observable capability. It brings together everything that today's computer and digital age can bring to how the airplane flies and how it's maintained."

To read more, visit www.af.mil.

Air Force aims to invigorate energy efficiency programs

The deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for energy spoke to a group of industry and civic leaders, and a handful of international military partners, about the service's energy-saving initiatives at the Air Force Association's monthly breakfast Oct. 17 in Crystal City, Va.

The theme was designed to communicate that, "We all have a role, whatever your job is across the Air Force," said Dr. Kevin Geiss of the Air Force's "I am Energy" theme. Every part of the Air Force mission, from administration to intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to humanitarian assistance, medical evacuations and space operations rely on energy.

Last year, the Air Force spent \$9.7 billion on energy, which included more than 2.5 billion gallons of aviation fuel.

"We haven't gotten the final numbers for fiscal 2012, but we're pretty sure it's going to be larger than last year's bill," said Geiss. That's why Air Force leadership is putting so much emphasis on this topic.

"We, as the Air Force, don't care about energy for energy's sake," said Geiss. "We care about energy because it enables every element of the Air Force mission. In order to be successful, we must have assured access to a reliable supply of energy, and the ability to protect and deliver that energy to meet those mission essential requirements. Energy is also a key element to the Air Force's broader modernization efforts."

To find out more, visit www.af.mil.

New York Air National Guard supports Antarctic research

The New York Air National Guard's 109th Airlift Wing kicked off its annual support for the National

Grand Marshal

Senior Airman Jonathon Hartman, 7th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, marshals a B-1B Lancer during Green Flag-West, at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. Green Flag-West provides a realistic close-air support training environment for forces preparing to support worldwide combat operations.



U.S. Air Force photo by SENIOR AIRMAN BRETT CLASHMAN

Science Foundation in Antarctica as ski-equipped LC-130 Hercules aircraft headed to the continent last week.

The aircraft will support the National Science Foundation's research in the Antarctic, running supplies and people to the South Pole station and to field camps across the continent.

Two aircraft departed on the five-day, 11,000-mile trip to Antarctica. A total of six ski-equipped LC-130 aircraft will be on the ice from October to February. About 120 members of the New York Air National Guard will be deployed to Antarctica throughout the support season. The Airmen deploy for 30 to 60 days each, working two 12-hour shifts to cover 24-hour operations, six days each week. They work half-days on Sunday.

The ski-equipped LC-130s operated by the 109th AW are the only aircraft in the U.S. military capable of landing on snow and ice, according to officials. This is the 24th year the 109th will support operations in Antarctica.

Based at the United States Antarctic Program base at McMurdo Station, the 109th AW is slated to fly more than 350 missions across the continent, with more than half of those moving passengers, cargo and fuel to the South Pole, officials said.

To learn more, visit www.af.mil.

Revolutionary artifacts to national park

In a ceremony Oct. 3 at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., Col. Lester Weilacher, 66th Air Base Group commander, handed over several Revolutionary War artifacts to Nancy Nelson, Minute Man National Historical Park superintendent.

The artifacts, including several musket balls, a shoe buckle and a knife, were uncovered during three extensive archeological digs that started in the 1990s and wrapped up in the mid-2000s.

"The Air Force has a cultural resource program that can evaluate historical significance," said Don Morris, Civil Engineering installation asset manager.

"Because of Hanscom's proximity to Revolutionary War battles, we invited the group to come out and survey the area."

The base is located near the site of a significant battle called Parker's Revenge. Archeologists used grids and magnetometers, plus dug some pits, to uncover the historical objects.

To read more, visit www.afmc.af.mil.

—compiled by Lanorris Askew



U.S. Air Force photo by 432ND AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Load competition

Weapons loaders with the 432nd Maintenance Group, Creech Air Force Base, Nev., load a GBU-12 Paveway II laser-guided munition onto a MQ-9 Reaper during the base's Load Crew of the Quarter competition.

Down Range

Deployed maintainers keep 'Herc' fit to fight

BY RAYMOND GEOFFROY

455th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

Every day, thousands of coalition service members operating in Afghanistan rely on the C-130 Hercules to support their operations. To meet that requirement, the men and women who operate the venerable tactical airlift workhorse not only rely on the work done at Robins, but on a team of maintainers in country who keep the "Hercs" ready to fly.

Maintainers with the 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron's C-130 Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit at Bagram Airfield are charged with daily in-country maintenance and repairs of the Hercules.

The maintainers work long hours to ensure the Hercs are ready to transport people and supplies throughout Afghanistan.

"This plane moves troops, mail, pallets, water, antennas ... pretty much anything you can think of. The C-130 is one of the most versatile aircraft the United States military has," said Staff Sgt. Brett Clayton, a 455th EAMXS C-130 crew chief.

Between missions, maintainers feverishly perform pre- and post-flight inspections on the aircraft. The work is a constant challenge, and keeping the aircraft ready for



U.S. Air Force photo by RAYMOND GEOFFROY

455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintainers Senior Airman Pedro Rivera King and Airman 1st Class Akeem Jackson examine an engine on a C-130 Hercules at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

its missions is no small task.

"It takes an unbelievable amount of work from about 80 people," said Clayton. "It takes us about 10 hours to get an aircraft ready to fly from the time it lands to the time it's ready to fly again."

According to the maintainers, the C-130 is a dependable machine; however, given that the current models stationed at Bagram were built during the '70s, they require regular upkeep.

"These are pretty reliable aircraft; however, they are older so there's quite a bit of maintenance behind the scenes that people don't always see," said Senior Airman William Ahlquist, a 455th maintainer.

C-130s must be brought into a maintenance hangar after 270 flight hours for a more thorough inspection called a "Home Station Check."

The HSC is a complete tear-down inspection of the C-130 in which maintainers carefully examine every component of the aircraft.

Clayton has high standards when it comes to keeping his Herc in peak condition. And, he knows the team will deliver.

"Follow the tech data, always do the right thing, have integrity, and be safe. Because everything we do out here is very dangerous," said Clayton. "My guys are the best in the world."

For the Airmen who keep these aircraft in operation, the sight of a C-130 taking flight can be a thrilling experience and a reminder of their impact on the fight.

"You tend to get goose bumps every once in a while, because you know that you're helping make that airplane fly," said Ahlquist.

ROBINS REV-UP

COMMANDER
Col. Mitchel Butikofer

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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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On the Fly

New child care fees announced

The Department of Defense has announced School Year 2012-2013 child development program fees. The new fees will be effective at Robins beginning Thursday for families billed bi-monthly and Nov. 5 for families billed weekly.

Under the policy, fees decreased in four categories, increased by \$1 in four categories, and remained the same in one category.

DoD also broadened child care fee ranges, raised the income cap on

each fee range, and established the top range at \$126,976 for the school year.

Total family income – BAH and BAS included – continues to determine fee category.

Fees go toward paying caregiver wages and expendable supplies with less than two percent going to supplies. The new fees cover normal operating hours (up to 11.5 hours per day based on facility operating hours) Mondays through Fridays,

including meals and snacks.

Ninety-eight percent of DoD's child development centers are nationally accredited. The Youth Center's Before and After School programs are accredited by the Council on Accreditation.

To view the fee charts go to www.robinsfss.com, Family Programs, Child Development Center or visit the child development centers or Youth Center for a copy.



THINK OPSEC:
YOUR TRASH
COULD BE
AN
ADVERSARY'S
TREASURE

Transition Assistance Program changes

Retiring and separating service members, and Reservists and Guardsmen coming off a tour of 180 days or more, are in for some changes to the Transition Assistance Program.

The changes will be implemented Nov. 21, and result from the Veterans Opportunity to Work to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, better known as the VOW Act.

The biggest change to the program is the mandatory TAP Workshop. The workshop had been a four-day optional workshop. The newly-revamped program is five days long and includes a transition overview, a military occupational code crosswalk, and an extensive financial component. The newly-redesigned workshop is more in line with new technology and hiring practices in both the federal and civilian sector. Additionally, every service member will now need to complete an Individual Transition



Plan and sign up for eBenefits. Each service member will attend the VA Benefits briefing so they will have a better understanding of the benefits and entitlements available.

The overarching goal of the changes is to decrease veteran unemployment, especially for those ages 18 to 24. The unemployment rate of veterans ages 18 to 24 is 32 percent – twice the national average rate for non-veterans.

The service member must bring the following items to the TAP Workshop: laptop, tablet or smart phone if they have one, copies of

medical records, copy of LES, copy of credit report, the ITP, VMET, OPRs/EPRs, and CCAF transcripts.

The new workshop will be more interactive and is meant to provoke discussion. In the transition overview, information on family considerations, the value of a mentor, and special issues will be discussed.

The MOC crosswalk is designed to assist the service member in deciding the necessary steps to help them meet their educational and occupational goals. It identifies what type of training or certifications the service member might need to pursue their desired career.

The first TAP Workshop at Robins will be Dec. 3-7. In order to sign up for the TAP Workshop, the service member first needs to attend a pre-separation briefing.

For information, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 468-1256 or 478-926-1256.

ACSC Distance Learning Program 6.0

The rollout of the new Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning Program has begun. The next-generation Distance Learning program is entirely online, giving students the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of course concepts and build critical-thinking skills.

The content doesn't deviate extensively from the old 5.2 program; however, the new program offers a completely different learning experience in that students are able to more actively engage with the material. In addition to lesson narratives, reading materials and lesson progress checks, students will use videos, computer-based interactive learning activities and "game-like" exercises in the online environment.

Self-paced study is enhanced by collaborative, online facilitated courses that enable students to more actively engage in course concepts via faculty-guided, peer-to-peer interactions. Comprehensive multiple-choice tests and visits to the test

center are things of the past.

More updates about the new program will be posted at acsc.au.af.mil/distance-learning.asp and ausis.maxwell.af.mil.

The websites outline the transition process to the new program and notify current students of legacy program completion deadlines to mitigate any disruptions to PME progression.

The grand opening of the Cinderella Closet is set for Monday at 10:30 a.m.

The closet, sponsored by the Robins Enlisted Spouses' Club, will lend evening gowns and cocktail dresses to members of the Robins community for special events.

For more information, contact Melody Rogers at 208-440-0274.

The Traffic Management Office will be minimally manned all day Nov. 2 due to Wingman Day activities. For more information, call Hope Johnson at 472-0131.

In conjunction with the Federal Employee's Health Benefits Open Season, the Employee Relations

Branch of the Civilian Personnel Flight will host **health benefits information seminars at the Base Restaurant on Nov. 6 and 7** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Representatives from various federal health plans will provide updates on their coverage offerings.

Workload permitting, supervisors may excuse employees without charge to leave to allow attendance and return to work in no more than one hour. Additional time, if needed, may be requested by employees to their supervisors in the form of annual leave, leave without pay, available credit hours, comp leave, or time off award.

Questions regarding leave use may be addressed to your servicing Employee Relations Specialist through the Customer Service Office at 472-0601 or 472-0602.

Legal Notice

Anyone having claims against or indebtedness to the estate of Senior Master Sgt. Chad J. Hughes should contact 1st Lt. Lashundria Dorsey, Summary Court Officer at 497-1887.



CLICK IT
OR
TICKET

ON
ROBINS
IT'S THE
LAW

BE
SAFE

E85 tank install near completion

BY KENDAHL JOHNSON

kendahl.johnson@robins.af.mil



and Millard Harrington of the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron are spearheading the project.

Cheeks said Weston Solutions – which was awarded the contract in October 2011 for the installation – has begun digging and laying the foundation for the tank.

The base has worked closely with the Army Corps of Engineers and Defense Logistics Agency-Energy activity to ensure the tank met all requirements and specifications.

“I’m very pleased that the project is nearing completion. It’s been a long time coming. Cheeks said. “Having the fuel available here will help reduce the chances of accidents or mishaps to government vehi-

cles that have to leave base to buy the fuel commercially, as well as provide a much quicker refueling turnaround.

“Additionally, by installing the E85 tank on base, it allows all government vehicles which use E85 to save gas, eliminating the six-mile trip to get gas.”

He added the E85 tank project is groundbreaking because it’s the first biofuels tank to be installed in Air Force Materiel Command.

E85 is an abbreviation for an ethanol fuel blend of up to 85 percent denatured ethanol fuel and gasoline.

The ethanol component effectively displaces fossil fuels with energy harvested from renewable sources, like corn. The fuel has many advantages over conventional gasoline, such as a reduction in tailpipe emissions and a high effective octane rating, reducing engine heat and wear, and increasing performance.

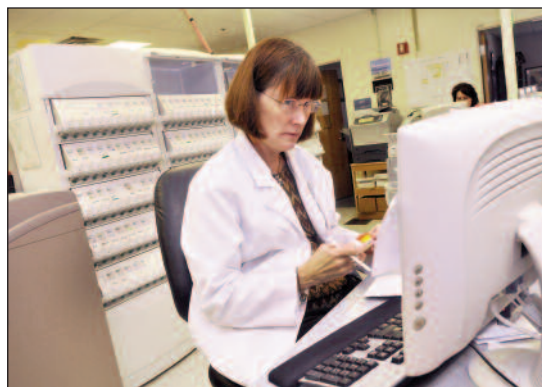
parking spaces near the industrial flight lines, and we have the ability to expand to 127 spaces with increased participation.

Additionally, the Macon/Bibb Transit Authority brings Buses into Robins Daily and provides five off-base stops and 10 on-base stops. Employees who use our mass transit system are also eligible for incentives.

Some employees have opted to use an alternate gate. According to a recent study, drivers and passengers can expect to pass through the Russell Parkway gate in about 8.5 minutes or

less; the Watson Boulevard gate in about 9 minutes or less; the Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard gate in about 9.5 minutes or less; and the Green Street Gate in about 12 minutes or less (although we know there are days where some gates exceed this average).

As the installation continues to look for ways to trim wait times at the gates, I applaud those who are doing what they can to help, and I encourage those who want to carpool or use mass transit to contact our TIP coordinator, Staff Sgt. John Rogers at 468-4453.



U.S. Air Force photo by SUE SAPP

Debbie Bozeman, pharmacist, works on a prescription at the base pharmacy. October is National Pharmacy Month.

History of Air Force Pharmacy

BY MASTER SGT. MICHELE OLDS

NCOIC Pharmacy Support

Early in Air Force history, the majority of pharmacists served in other roles such as medical supply, medical administration and as laboratory officers. As late as 1957, only 25 of the 232 Air Force pharmacists actually worked as pharmacists.

In 1966, the Air Force Surgeon General tasked the first Associate Corps Chief for Pharmacy to assign pharmacists to each of the 110 Air Force medical facilities.

Today, as the number of MTFs draws down to about 75, pharmacists continue expanding their roles to reflect the national trends of patient safety, pharmaceutical care, and positive clinical outcomes.

The pharmacy profession has evolved throughout history, along with the practice of medicine. As noted, the move to expand services and provide state-of-the-art inpatient services drove a number of changes in the late 70s and early 80s.

Air Force Pharmacy continued with significant transition and growth through the 80s and 90s with increasing roles in readiness and deployment, to adaptation of rapidly growing technology. Significant among these were the deployment of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians during the first Gulf War.

Following national trends and acknowledging ever-increasing drug expenditures, the Department of Defense Tri-Service Pharmaco-Economic Center was established in the late 90s. Its role is to supply information and guidance to health care providers, promote rational drug prescription and use, and develop and manage a common formulary – a process that continues today with the Basic Core Formulary.

Significant events during the early 2000s included a \$25 million project to implement standard bar-coding technology to help decrease waste and mitigate errors. Today, the Air Force leads DoD in automation and risk reduction and was recognized in June 2004 by APhA with the Pinnacle Award.

TRAFFIC

Continued from 1

the traffic. Some have changed the time they leave home so they arrive at base when traffic at the gates is lighter. Others are participating in carpools or mass transit.

What some of you may not know is Robins has the second largest Transportation Incentive Program in the Air Force and distributes thousands of dollars and up to \$125 a month to those employees who carpool. In fact, there are 23 reserve carpool

Cast your ballot

Election Day is Nov. 6, and all base employees – military and civilians – are encouraged to vote. Civilian employee absence for voting is covered by Air Force Instruction 36-815, Absence and Leave. Paragraph 8.4.1 of the instruction states, “As a general rule, employees requesting time off to vote are excused without charge to leave for the amount of time necessary to permit them to report to work three hours after the polls open or to leave work three hours before the polls close, whichever requires the least amount of time off. Normally, where the polls are open either three hours before or three hours after the employee’s regular duty hours, no time off is granted. Employees on flexible work schedules may be excused only for those hours which can’t be accommodated by their flexible schedule.”

Employees should only be granted an excused absence for early voting when (1) the employee will be unable to vote on Election Day because of activities directly related to the mission and cannot vote by absentee ballot, or (2) early voting hours are the same as, or exceed, voting hours on Election Day. If an employee chooses to vote early, but polling place hours are shorter than on Election Day, the employee is not eligible for an excused absence because the employee has opted to vote early.

Employees, who are given time off for voting, are required to obtain a certificate of voting from the polling site and must submit it to their supervisor. For time and attendance purposes, supervisors should use the code "LV" for excused absence.

If you have questions regarding this, call a human resource specialist at 222-0601.

EARLY VOTING IN GEORGIA

Georgia residents can vote early; information for Houston, Peach and Bibb counties follows, while information on all Georgia counties is available at: <http://sos.ga.gov/elections/countycontacts/AdvanceVotingDisplay.aspx>.

Houston:

► Now through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Board of Elections
801 Main Street, Perry

► Now through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Houston County Annex Building
200 Carl Vinson Parkway, Warner Robins

► Now through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Middle Georgia Technical College
80 Cohen Walker Dr., Warner Robins

► Saturday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Board of Elections
801 Main Street, Perry

Peach:

► Now through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to noon
Peach County Courthouse Annex
205 West Church Street, Fort Valley

► Now through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
1 to 5 p.m.

Peach County Courthouse Annex
205 West Church Street, Fort Valley

► Saturday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Byron Municipal Complex
401 Main St., Byron

► Saturday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Peach County Courthouse Annex
205 West Church Street, Fort Valley, Ga.

► Monday through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to noon
Byron Municipal Complex
401 Main St., Byron

► Monday to Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
1 to 4:30 p.m.
Byron Municipal Complex
401 Main St., Byron

Bibb:

► Now through Nov. 2
Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Office Depot Plaza
2445 Pio Nono Avenue, Macon

► Saturday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Office Depot Plaza
2445 Pio Nono Avenue, Macon

The Robins Voter Assistance Office is open year round. Contact us at DSN 497-VOTE, 478-327-8683, or robins.vote@robins.af.mil.



Robins Fall Festival

Mark your calendar for the Annual Fall Festival! The free event will take place Nov. 7 starting at 4 p.m. at Robins Park. There will be games galore, bounce houses, food and drinks, and the traditional pancake flip.

The IDS is still seeking volunteers. If you'd like to help at the event, contact 2nd Lt. Robert Campbell at 468-7615.

For more information, visit www.robins.af.mil.

Equal Opportunity Lessons Learned

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission case of Sipriano v. Napolitano highlights the discriminatory culture in some federal offices that disabled workers must overcome. The case involved a Department of Homeland Security clerk working part-time for the agency while attending school. The clerk suffered from a birth defect in his right ear and a hearing impairment, which made it hard for him to understand multiple speakers or people not facing him. He was also sensitive to loud noises.

One day, the clerk was suffering from a migraine caused by loud noises in his work environment and as a side effect from a recent surgery. He was unable to locate his supervisors, but a person in charge gave him permission to extend his 15-minute break by 10 minutes. Shortly after, the clerk put his head down. His supervisor passed by him, claimed he caught the clerk sleeping on the job, and subsequently fired him. The clerk filed an EEO complaint, claiming his termination was based on disability discrimination. The agency dismissed the complaint, but on appeal the commission partially reversed the decision.

While upholding the agency's dismissals of claims based on the creation of a hostile work environment and failure to provide reasonable accommodations, the commission found the termination was motivated by unlawful discrimination based on the fact the agency failed to articulate a legitimate non-discriminatory reason for the termination during the EEOC investigation. The complainant was awarded back pay, plus interest and benefits, from the time he was terminated up to when his temporary appointment was supposed to expire, and the case was remanded back to the agency for further investigation on the damages issues.

Federal Employees have 45 days after an adverse action occurred or a request for reasonable accommodations was denied to contact an EEO counselor.

**Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Office of Federal Operations
Federal Sector Programs
P.O. Box 19848
Washington, D.C. 20036**



**U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes**

WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

**REPORT
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
TO 468-EYES**

'Long Shot'

By Harry Paige



If you have an idea for a 'Long Shot' comic, contact Geoff Janes at vance.janes@robins.af.mil, or Harry Paige at harry.paige@robins.af.mil.

Base Trick-or-Treat activities, hours

The installation will observe Halloween Wednesday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Drivers on base should slow down and be extra cautious during those hours.

Participating residents should leave an exterior light on during those hours, and those not participating should leave exterior lights off.

The security forces squadron will increase safety and security measures in the housing areas with their annual Halloween Pumpkin Patrol.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Amanda Brown at 472-1980 or commercial 222-1980.

In addition, AAFES and the Exchange will host the following activities:

Food Court

►Half-priced kids meals for all children in costume; ages 10 and younger, Saturday and Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m.

Main Store

►Department Trick or Treat: Children ages 1 to 12 – wear your Halloween costume and trick or treat through the Main Store Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m. and Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

►Parade of Costumes contest: children ages 1 to 12 wear your Halloween costume and enter to win AAFES gift Cards (1st, \$25; 2nd, \$20; and 3rd, \$15) Wednesday starting at 6 p.m.

►Pumpkin Carving contest: Bring your carved pumpkins to the Main Store for a chance to win an AAFES gift card (1st, \$25; 2nd, \$20; and 3rd, \$15). Winners will be



announced Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

►Halloween fun and games: Children ages 1 to 12 can win Exchange gift cards by playing in various games Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m.

Burger King

►Half-priced kids meals with the purchase of an adult value meal from 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday and Wednesday.

Class Six and Service Station

►Candy given to anyone in costume Saturday and Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m.

Services and Concessions

►Concession employees at each shop will hand out candy to customers Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

►The Optical Shop will have a table with treats. Also, register to win a \$150 gift certificate good for eyewear in their shop, Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

►Guess the weight of the Super Pumpkin in the Concession Mall Saturday and win prizes from Exchange concessionaires.

For more information, call 923-5536 or 923-5537.

FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ON TAP

Debt Reduction

Monday
1 to 3 p.m.
Bldg. 794
For details,
call 468-1256.

First Term Officers' Financial Beginnings

Tuesday
9 to 11 a.m.
Bldg. 794
For details,
call 468-1256.

UPCOMING

Veterans Day Racquetball Tournament

Nov. 3
9 a.m.
Fitness Center
For details,
call 468-2128.

Casino Cruise

Nov. 17
Sign up by Nov. 3
Brunswick, GA
\$35 per person
For details,
call 468-4001.

Thirsty Thursday and Trivia Night

Nov. 8
5 to 7 p.m.
Golf Course
\$3 per person
For details,
call 468-4103.

Callaway Gardens Fantasy in Lights

Dec. 20
Sign up by Nov. 9
\$80 per person
For details,
call 468-4001.

Zip Line Trip

Nov. 10
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Free to all single Airmen
For details,
call 468-4001.

Smoke Out & Turkey Trot 5K

Nov. 15
7:30 a.m.
Fitness Center
For details,
call 468-2128.

ONGOING

Golf Shoot Out

Open to anyone with a USGA handicap
\$2 per attempt
Qualifying tournament each month
For details,
call 468-4103.

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