

THUNDERBOLT

WWW.MACDILL.AF.MIL

6th MDG maintaining the AF's most important asset: Airmen

- page 12



Photo by Airman 1st Class David Tracy

Airman 1st Class Atiba Timley, 6th Medical Support Squadron laboratory technician, processes bacteria specimens at MacDill Air Force Base, Jan. 30. The samples are taken from patients and processed to enhance growth of the bacteria to better identify medical problems.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



The essential element, leadership

by Lt. Col. Michael Dailey

6th Aircraft Maintenance commander

ESPN sports hosts posed a thought-provoking question on a recent broadcast in reference to the NFL football playoffs. They asked whether it was the process (system) or the players in the process that makes a team successful. I gave it some thought, asked others' opinions and concluded the two are mutually dependent. To be effective, a process requires good players, and in-turn, players need a good process (strategy) in order to win consistently. We all remember our favorite teams that failed to reach their potential because they lacked one or the other.

Whatever sports you follow, there are examples of teams with proven processes that fell short because they lacked the talent to execute. And of course there have been teams of star players that lacked a winning strategy and thus never achieved success.

But does winning not require more than just sheer talent and good processes, perhaps something more elusive and intangible? Can achieving success be as simple as organizing players and running formations? As Airmen, why is this important? To understand, we can draw on one of many parallels between sports and the military.

Let's start with who we are and what we do. Our Air Force and Airmen are widely considered the best. Today we operate in environments with fewer margins for error, requiring more precision than ever. There are fewer of us, often with less experience, to carry out an increasingly complex and demanding mission. So how is it that Airmen always come through, time and time again, meeting the challenge, making the mission happen, and leaving just enough in the tank to do it again the next day?

Certainly our high performance and success must be more than simply good people and processes. Let's go back to that sometimes elusive, intangible element and ask, what makes talented people and good processes effectively synch together to form a great organization? The answer of course is leadership.

In sports, as in our profession of air and space, skillful leadership is what brings the elements together perfectly. People, resources and methods get the job done. Leadership creates and perpetuates the bonds of teamwork, and nothing can replace it. Systems and processes can only do so much, and to move people in the right direction, you need influence. Sports and world history alike show that without leadership, individual star performers and the best strategies will inevitably be



Lt. Col. Michael Dailey

ineffective.

Vince Lombardi (1960s and 1970s football coach) is still renowned today for his mastery of melding and leading individual players with the right plays to win championships. Some attribute his success to having had the

See **CORNER**, Page 19



COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

The Action Line provides two-way communication between the 6th Air Mobility Wing commander and the MacDill community. A 24-hour recording service is provided so personnel may submit questions, concerns or comments. Call the Action Line at 828-INFO (4636) or email macdillwingcommander@us.af.mil.

Commander's vision

To view Col. Scott DeThomas' remarks on his vision for MacDill AFB, go to www.macdill.af.mil and then click on "Col. DeThomas' priorities, mission, and expectations video" in the upper left corner.

MacDill Thunderbolt

Publisher: Bill Barker
Editor: Nick Stubbs

The MacDill Thunderbolt is published by Sunbelt Newspapers, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for distribution to members of the U.S. military services on MacDill. Contents of the MacDill Thunderbolt are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S.

government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the 6th Air Mobility Wing.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, 6th Air Mobility Wing or Sunbelt Newspapers, Inc., of the products or service advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

Display advertising or classified advertising information

may be obtained by calling 259-7455.

News items for the MacDill Thunderbolt can be submitted to the 6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs office, 8208 Hangar Loop Dr., suite 14, MacDill AFB, FL 33621, or call the MacDill Thunderbolt staff at 828-2215. Email: thunder.bolt@us.af.mil.

Deadline for article submissions is noon, Thursdays to appear in the next week's publication. Articles received after deadline may be considered for future use. All submissions are considered for publication based on news value and timeliness.

Every article and photograph is edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity, conformance with the "Associated Press Stylebook and Label Manual" and Air Force Instruction 35-101.



Your T-bolt Today

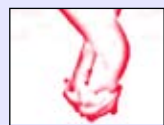
News/Features: page 4

Improving education



News/Features: page 8

What is love?



News/Features: page 10

Youth Center survey



News/Features: page 12

A day in the 6th MDG



Community: page 21

Events, Chapel, more...



Diamond Sharp: page 18

This week's standout



Briefs: page 22

News to know



Settlement of estate

Col. Kirby Watson of the Joint Communications Support Element regrets to announce the death of Lt. Col. Michael Dawson, formerly assigned to the Joint Communications Support Element. Maj. Edward Taylor has been appointed as the summary court officer to handle the disposition of personal property of Dawson. Anyone indebted to or having a claim against the estate of Dawson should contact Taylor at 813-828-0668 or edward.taylor@jcse.mil.

Meet the new 927th ARW commander

by Staff Sgt. Shawn Rhodes
927th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

Colonel Doug Schwartz assumed command of the 927th Air Refueling Wing Jan. 12, 2013. He took the time to sit down with me and introduce himself to the MacDill community and the 927th ARW's Citizen-Warriors by answering a few questions.

927th ARW Public Affairs: What do you hope to accomplish during your tenure as commander?

Schwartz: To continue the march of excellence that this wing has achieved. I want us to be world-class, both in our facilities and in our processes.

927th ARW Public Affairs: What do you expect of the Airmen under your command?

Schwartz: I expect the Airmen to do the job right the first time, every time. My belief is that compliance is an "each and every day thing." Whether you are administering a medical procedure, processing an Airman's paperwork, maintaining a jet or flying a refueling mission, we owe it to our nation and ourselves to get it right the first time and every time. Where we encounter "roadblocks" or "speed bumps" we will work together as a team to overcome any obstacles to mission success.

927th ARW Public Affairs: Who are your favorite leaders and role models, and why?

Schwartz: I have been fortunate to serve under many great commanders and leaders. One leadership trait that is common to all the "great ones" is that they were great servant leaders. The welfare and success of those under their command were their first priority. Very simply - take care of the people and they will take care of the mission.

927th ARW Public Affairs: What does it mean to you to be a new commander?

Schwartz: I am honored and humbled to be



Col. Doug Schwartz

leading this wing. I see it as an opportunity to serve the men and women of the 927th ARW by helping them maintain and improve the standard of excellence they've worked hard to achieve.

927th ARW Public Affairs: When you hold your first commander's call, what is the first thing you are going to tell your Airmen?

Schwartz: First - a very heartfelt thank you for their service, sacrifice and dedication. I know that each and every one of them plays a role in the success of this wing. They are outstanding!

927th ARW Public Affairs: What are your thoughts about MacDill and living in Tampa?

Schwartz: My wife Ann and I are excited to be back in Tampa! I look forward to working with Col. Scott DeThomas and his 6th Air Mobility Wing team to take our Total Force Integration efforts to even greater success. The community's support for the military couldn't be better. I believe two words describe the folks in the Tampa community - great patriots! There are none finer anywhere - we are honored and humbled to be back here with them.



MacDill strives for improved education opportunities for military children

by Senior Airman Michael Ellis
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Good schools and a good place for families to live, have been among the top priorities since Col. Scott DeThomas took command of 6th Air Mobility Wing last summer.

DeThomas met with representatives from the Florida Department of Education, the Hillsborough County School District, MacDill group commanders, members from the Airman & Family Readiness Center and some key spouses, Monday, to formulate strategies to improve the working relationship between the base and the school district.

The base has a great relationship with the county; and while numerous improvements have been noted, the goal is to make processes easier for new families transitioning to the base and ensure children are comfortable and enjoy going to school, said DeThomas.

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (originally enacted in 2008) has been the mode by which military members can address educational issues encountered when transitioning to a new area.

“By the time military children finish high school, they will have moved an average of six to nine times and twice during high school,” said Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, during a military children education speech last June; adding, “Each move, as we all know, means a transition to new friends, to a new school system, and potentially inconsistent academic opportunities and standards.”

Inconsistencies in academic opportunities and standards were among the top concerns mentioned during the roundtable.

Two out of the more than 140 students from the base who attend Robinson High School are in the International Baccalaureate Program (the program that gives students college credit for advanced courses and enhances admission opportunities to prestigious colleges). The major stipulation, which excludes 99 percent of MacDill high school students due to frequent moves, is that students are required to be enrolled in the Pre-IB Program at the start of their freshman year. The freshman-year requirement is atypical from most schools, as



Photo by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

Col. Scott DeThomas meets with representatives from the Florida Department of Education, the Hillsborough County School District, MacDill group commanders, members from the Airman & Family Readiness Center and some key spouses, Feb. 4, to formulate strategies to improve the working relationship between the base and the school district.

the IB Program is generally considered a two-year program that commences during the junior year.

Another topic discussed was the school district’s weighted grade system evaluation for advanced placement and honors courses. Tori Molinoux, key spouse and wife of the 6th Operations Group commander, explained her distress transferring her daughter into a Florida school.

She always did well in school and maintained a high GPA, but when coming to Florida she was required to be enrolled in a remedial reading course because she had never taken the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, said Molineux.

Currently, no bylaw excludes children transferring from out-of-state districts to forgo remedial classes that prepare for FCAT testing. During the discussion, ideas were offered to assess students’ current academic standing, which would reduce time from attending re-

dundant classes and ultimately save the county money. Ideas as such, would also alleviate some of the stressors military members and their families face with children being inadequately challenged following a move.

It’s important for parents and educators to voice their concerns, as changes can affect children’s “GPA, college opportunities and their future,” said Mary Tappen, Florida Department of Education.

Considering the compact is a national-level policy, member states meet annually to review its language, said Tappen, adding that the best way to enact change is getting involved and proposing solutions.

For more information on benefits of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children or suggestions for improvement contact the MacDill School Liaison Nelly Richards at 828-0146 or Hillsborough County Public Schools at 272-4000.

Settlement of Estate

Lt. Col. Collin Gilbert, commander of the 6th Logistics Readiness Squadron, regrets to announce the death of Staff Sgt. Emily Clayburn, formerly assigned to the 6th Logistics Readiness Squadron. 1st Lt. Melvin Boothe has been appointed as the summary court officer to handle the disposition of personal property of Clayburn. Anyone indebted to or having a claim against the estate of Clayburn should contact Boothe at 813-828-8135 or melvin.booth@us.af.mil.





What is love?

by **Andrea Bowen, LCSW, CFLE**

6th Medical Group Family Advocacy outreach manager

February marks a special month for many of us as we celebrate Valentine's Day- the day of amour, the French vernacular. How would you recognize or define love? What are key healthy elements that are important in maintaining safe and nurturing relationships? Is it a once a year event for you or a lifestyle commitment?

Family Advocacy Program at MacDill AFB is interested in hearing from you. Please send your thoughts, ideas, stories and pictures to us. We would welcome

your comments to help us in building a collage in the Medical Group lobby that reflects positive and nurturing depictions of what love means to you. The collage will be displayed Feb. 25-28. You may submit your material to Family Advocacy, 3250 Zemke Building 1078 or email to andrea.bowen.4@us.af.mil by Feb. 18.



Courtesy graphic

February marks National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. In America, there are youth who are experiencing violence in a variety of ways: physically, emotionally and sexually. The consequences of violence are rampant, affecting teenagers in a variety of settings, high schools, college campuses and in a variety of different ways. The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control cite dating violence as a public health problem. "Among adult victims of rape, physical violence and or stalking by an intimate partner, 22.4 percent of women and 15 percent of men first experienced some form of partner violence between 11 and 17 years of age. Approximately 9 percent of high school students report being hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months before surveyed. Victims are often hesitant to speak out and seek help.

How do we prevent dating violence before it starts? Teenagers are in the formative years of building healthy social relationships. Much of the styles of interactions developed in earlier stages can often carry over into adulthood, which is why it is so important to promote healthy relationship skills early in a child's development. Humans are social creatures and skills such as anger management, self- control, coping skills, effective and open communication are important problem solving techniques. Additionally, addressing gender roles, expectations and cultural implications are necessary in building positive relationships. Discussion with youth about what is acceptable and what is not needs to be discussed on an ongoing basis into adulthood. How we demonstrate love is critical.

Family Advocacy currently hosts monthly Family Advocacy Safety Education Seminar classes to address healthy relationship building. Please contact us at 827-9172 or andrea.bowen.4@us.af.mil to reserve your seat.



Parents urged to complete Youth Center needs survey

by Nick Stubbs
Thunderbolt editor

The needs of MacDill's children and parents evolve, which is why the MacDill Youth Center tries to stay on top of the parents' top wants, something accomplished annually with a needs survey.

“It helps us make the program better.” - Charlie Lechner

The latest survey is available online now at <https://www.research.net/s/YouthCenter-Survey2013>. Parents can fill out the survey through Feb. 18, and parents with children at the center are encouraged to use it to express their wants and ideas to improve the system.

“It's in the best interest of everyone to fill

it (the survey) out,” said Charlie Lechner, the Youth Center's youth program director.

Lechner said the information gathered by the survey is vital to the Youth Center in planning and adjusting offerings and program elements for the coming year.

“We use it for determining what types of classes to offer, requests and comments, and what is most needed to improve the facility,” said Lechner.

There are common “threads of interest,” from year to year, such as fees and hours of operation at the Youth Center, but the dynamics of families change each year, which means the Youth Center must always evolve and adapt to new needs.

“From year to year the population of families with children can change,” said Lechner, who added that fact can dictate the direction of the center.

In the past, parents used the survey to express an interest in opening the Youth Center

earlier during the summer (the center opens at noon during summer), when children are out of school, or offering Saturday programs. The Youth Center responded by offering “special” early events or offerings during the summer, and occasional Saturday programs, said Lechner.

Not all requests can be met, said Lechner, nor are all survey responses about wants.

“We get a lot of positive feedback about the things we are doing — the things we are doing right,” he said.

Once the survey process is complete, the results will be recorded and processed to identify the predominant interests among parents. The information is then passed on to leadership for evaluation and discussion for possible implementation, said Lechner.

“It's (the survey) a valuable tool for us to assess what the current makeup is and the current needs are,” said Lechner. “It helps us make the program better.”

Mental resiliency; recognize, respond

Part II of IV

by Staff Sgt. Brandon Shapiro

6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Would it be surprising to find out that enlisted military personnel took the top spot for having the most stressful job in America in 2013? Well, don't be surprised, as holding the dubious distinction is not unusual.

According to an annual report published by a prominent internet job site, enlisted military members are at the top when it comes to stress, nearly maxing each of the 11 stress factors used to determine the ranking. Those factors included areas such as hazards, travel, physical demands, competitiveness, and risk to one's own life or to others.'

That military personnel have earned the most stressed distinction for years may be old news, but what is new are the ways to counteract the mental and emotional strains from such a demanding lifestyle, a system of coping now taught to Airmen throughout the Air Force and detailed in its Resiliency Training Manual.

It all boils down to this. If an Airman's mental resiliency is lacking, daily stressors can take hold of his life.

By lacking resilience, Airmen will more than likely succumb to mental pitfalls that will keep him at risk. Those pitfalls can cause him to have a pessimistic perspective, see problems as one-sided, feel victimized, and choose unhealthy coping mechanisms such as alcohol and drug abuse.

Eventually, no matter one's rank or reputation, everyone experiences the ebbs and flows of life and sometimes need help getting through them.

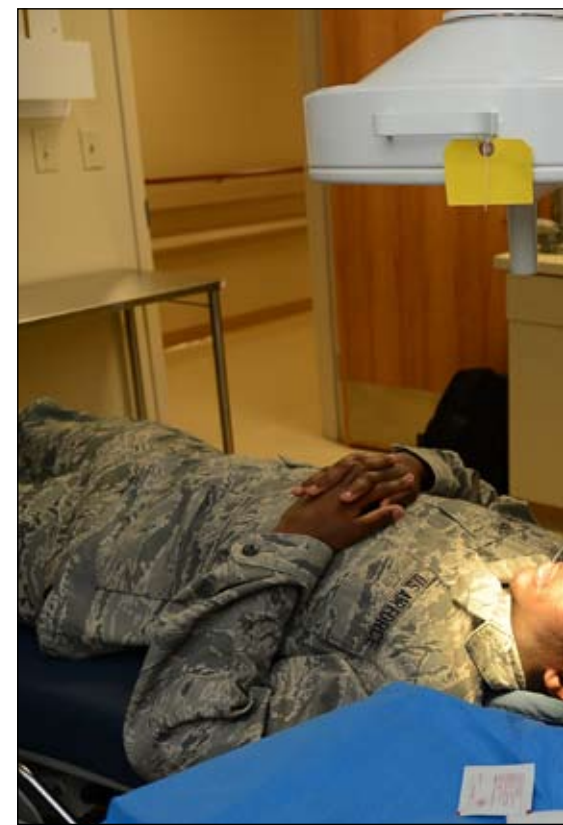
One of the most important skills being taught in Department of Defense resiliency programs is personal preparation and recognition techniques.

The ability to recognize "thinking traps" so that the proper measures can be taken to head off negative or harmful reactions, ensures readiness, an important element of mental fitness.

Tunnel vision, jumping to conclusions, personalizing and evaluating the situation from



Photo by Airman 1st Class David Tracy



Carol White, 6th Medical Operations Squadron, performs an excision around the eye of a patient prior to an examination. Excisions are used to remove foreign objects.

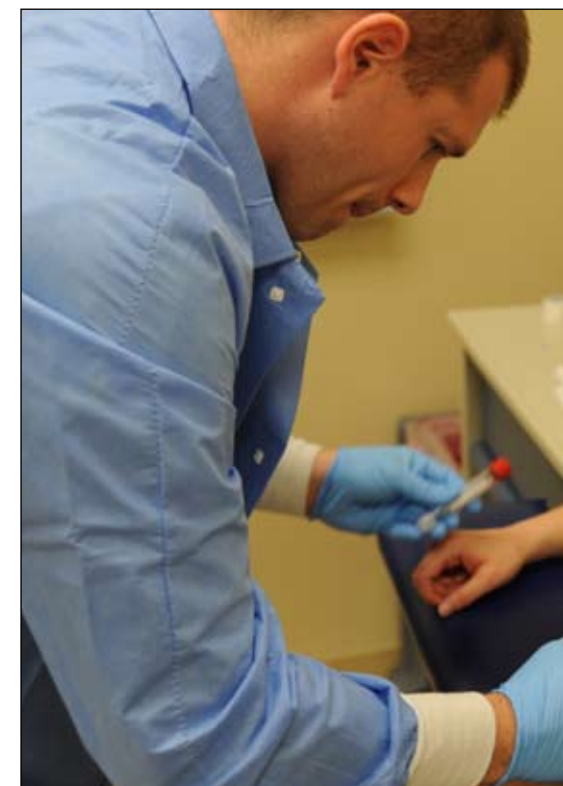


Photo by Airman 1st Class David Tracy

A day in the 6th MDG

Maintenance is a key job of an Aircraft Refueling Wing, but so is the maintenance of its most important asset: Airmen. It's a job tackled daily by members of the 6th Medical Group. From routine tests and examinations, to mending broken bones and vision and dental care, the 6th MDG keeps Team MacDill fit to fight.

(Top left) Airman 1st Class Victoria Jacobo, 6th Medical Support Squadron laboratory technician, reads a hematology slide at MacDill Air Force Base, Jan. 30. Blood slides are used to check for illnesses and abnormalities. (Left) Torenza Shephard, 6th Medical Support Squadron laboratory technician, stores previously tested blood samples at MacDill Air Force Base, Jan. 30. Laboratory technicians test blood samples for illnesses and abnormalities.



Senior Airman Devin Adrian, 6th Medical Operations Squadron, prepares to take a blood sample from a patient. Blood samples are taken for multiple reasons to identify illnesses or abnormalities.



Photo by Airman 1st Class David Tracy

Support Squadron ophthalmic technician, cleans surgical incision at MacDill Air Force Base, Jan. 30. The technician removes debris from patient's eyes.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Vernon Fowler

Support Squadron laboratory technician, prepares a patient at MacDill Air Force Base, Jan. 30. The technician performs tasks such as pre-deployment or to identify



Photo by Airman 1st Class David Tracy

Staff Sgt. Dustin Sieff, 6th Medical Operations Squadron orthopedic technician, applies fiber glass cast tape to a patient's arm at MacDill Air Force Base, Jan. 31. The fiber glass tape hardens and holds the injury in place to allow it to heal.

RESILIENCY

From Page 11

an emotional perspective, are the common traps military members fall into.

It's natural to subconsciously resort to these mental crutches. Remember, it's not the end of the world; this type of negative thinking can become second nature. The brain is complex, and without proper conditioning it may automatically make faulty determinations.

The first stride in mental conditioning is to always remember to step back and analyze the situation; by doing so, Airmen can avoid irrational emotional responses, tunnel vision and senseless reactions.

What is one's first reaction when cut off by another driver? Rage, agitation or feeling disrespected, right?

It's frivolous to dwell on such incidents. Clean one's mental process and emotions, and if the situation dictates action, reasoned evaluation will make it easier to take the appropriate action.

As mental anxiety and stress mount, remembering to analyze the situation will help pinpoint the source of one's frustrations. One of the best ways to identify the sources of stress is to analyze one's habits, at-

titudes and excuses. Write them down and reflect on how these three things dictate one's mental resiliency and toughness. What could have been done differently to avoid any thinking traps? Maybe it's just time to relieve some pent up stress and emotions.

The famous writer James Howell once said, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." It's a truth that results in mental health professionals to consistently prescribe the same stress relief technique—make time for fun and relaxation.

Whenever encountering an unfamiliar situation that affects one's mental, spiritual, social or physical wellbeing, never hesitate to utilize the trained professionals the Air Force provides. The mental MacDill mental health office, family advocacy, chapel, Health and Wellness Center or Airman & Family Readiness Center are ready to help ensure one's mental toughness and conditioning is paired with positive self-esteem and coping skills. These professionals are available during challenging times and will bolster one's ability to react to stress in a constructive manner.



Career Fair Friday

Employers at Career Fair eager to recruit from military ranks

by **Nick Stubbs**
Thunderbolt editor

What does the Federal Bureau of Prisons, CSX Railroad, the FBI and Busch Gardens have in common?

They are among some six dozen companies and organizations who want to hire service members making the transition from military service to civilian employment. Representatives from each will be on hand to speak with interested prospects at the MacDill Air Force Base Career Fair, tomorrow between noon and 3 p.m. at the Surf's Edge Enlisted Club.

The event is hosted by the Airman & Family Readiness Center, which organizes the event and recruits the recruiters who come to the base in search of future employees. The pool of prospects with prior military service is highly prized among some employers, said Evans

Dasque.

"They (employers) appreciate the type of people and the qualifications of our candidates," said Dasque, adding that the management and leadership skills exhibited by those with military backgrounds are desirable in today's job market.

Additionally, specialized training, security clearance levels and other attributes obtained and attained while in the military make former service members particularly desirable, said Dasque.

"Most of the high tech companies value specialized skills, and particularly security clearances, especially when it comes to government contracts," said Dasque.

The skills of an aircraft mechanic departing from the Air Force are particularly attractive to companies like Lockheed Martin, GE Aviation and Sikorsky Aircraft, all of which will be on

hand for the Career Fair, but hiring companies also are willing to invest in training former military members, said Dasque.

"They will send them (employees) to school for specialized training," he said, adding that companies often see ex military members are "good investments."

Dasque said the A&FRC works to ensure that only companies actively hiring and committed to hiring veterans are invited to attend the Career Fair.

"We want people who are not there just to promote their company, but are actively hiring veterans," said Dasque.

For their part, the companies attending are most interested in military members about to leave the service, said Dasque, but are also willing to discuss the futures of military members who may enter the civilian job market in the near future.

DIAMOND SHARP



Airman 1st Class Timothy Branch 91st Air Refueling Squadron

Job Title: Aviation resource manager

Hometown: Miami, Fla.

Short-term goals: I plan to complete my career development course and my on-the-job training.

Long-term goals: Complete my community college of the air force degree and start taking college courses.

Advice to others: Always work hard and do not get distracted.

Role model and why: My father, who is a veteran, has always been a positive influence. He encouraged me to join the Air Force.



CORNER

From Page 2

best players and a smart strategy; but it is undeniable that without his vision, situational leadership and emphasis on fundamentals, championships would have been unlikely.

As all Airmen today are expected to be leaders in some capacity, it is important to remember that one doesn't have to be high ranking or a famous coach to make a difference. Whatever your leadership role, especially first-line supervisors, strive to know your people, find ways to capitalize on their strengths and improve their weaknesses; do your best to influence them and lead the team to greatness.





EVENTS

Friday

Career Fair

At the Surf's Edge Club from 12-3 p.m. More than 50 companies will be participating. Dress professionally and bring resumes.

Boomers Bar & Grill

Friday Bash! 3-7 p.m. Bar snacks and drink specials! Guaranteed \$100 club card drawing, Bar Bingo - \$1,000 jackpot, and DJ!

MacDill Lanes

Club Member Appreciation from 6-8 p.m. All club members and their family members bowl FREE!

Saturday

Seascapes Beach House

Beach on Fire from 3-9 p.m. Sassy Saturdays - Live band, drink specials, complimentary hors d'oeuvres served at 3 p.m.

Monday

Youth Center

Black History Month Celebration Talent Show from 2:30-5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Seascapes Beach House

Mardi Gras Party from 4-9 p.m. Taste of New Orleans menu & drink specials!

Wednesday

Arts & Crafts Center

Canvas & "Cocktails" from 4-6 p.m. Cost: \$10 per person or Free for Single Airman. Call 828-4413 to sign up.

Thursday

Surf's Edge Club

Sweetheart Dinner with seatings at 5 & 7 p.m. Glass of wine or champagne and four course meal. Members: \$20.95. Non-Members: \$22.95. Call 840-2020 for reservations.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Shandresha Mitchell

Tuskegee Airman coming

The MacDill Black History Month Committee hosts the "Taste of Soul" event, Feb. 1, to kick-off Black History Month at MacDill Air Force Base. Team MacDill was able to experience the flavors of various countries, such as Ethiopia, Jamaica, Haiti and more.



EXCHANGE
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE



CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Protestant services

Sunday - 11 a.m. - Contemporary Service

Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - FamCamp Service

Islamic services

Friday - 1:30 p.m. - Muslim Prayer Service

Call the chapel at 828-3621 for more information or visit the chapel web site at <http://www.macdill.af.mil/macdillchapel>.

Catholic services

Saturday - 5:30 p.m. - Mass

Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Mass



BRIEFS



Holiday commissary hours

In observation of Washington's Birthday, the MacDill commissary will have reduced hours and will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Feb. 18.

Tukegee Airman to visit MacDill

The Black History Month Committee will host Tuskegee Airman retired Tech. Sgt. George Watson from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the base theater, Feb. Wednesday. Feb. 20 the committee will put on a 5K run at the Short Fitness Center at 6:45 a.m. For more information or to volunteer, contact Maj. Justin Sandholm at 827-9137 or Capt. Brandy Conway at 827-9601.

Tax assistance

The Retiree Activities Office at MacDill Air Force Base and the Brandon Airman and Family Readiness Center satellite office offer free tax assistance services to active duty members, military retirees and their families. Services

are available by appointment and on a walk-in basis five days a week. Call the RAO at 813-828-4555 and the Brandon AFRC at 813-655-9281.

Bounce Back Series

The 6 AMW Chapel staff will be hosting the following events during the first quarter of 2013 to help Team MacDill bounce back from any challenges you face. Call 828-3621 to RSVP for these events. Current chapel activities can also be found at www.macdill.af.mil/macdill-chapel.

Feb. 9 - Marriage Workshop, Bethany Retreat Center, Lutz, Fla., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Facilitators will be retired Col. Rick and Sandee Lester.

March 1 - Riding the Dragon Resiliency Workshop, Base Theater, 10 a.m. to noon.

March 22-24 - Singles' Retreat, Christian Retreat Center, Bradenton, Fla., March 22 at 7 p.m. to March 24 at noon. Keynote speaker will be Georgia Shaffer.

Scholarship for dependents

The 2013 Fisher House Scholarships for Military Children Program is available Feb. 22. The application can be downloaded from www.militrayscholar.org. Scholarship awards will be based on funds available; however, the anticipated individual awards amount is at least \$1,500. Children of active duty, reserve, guard, or retired military personnel may apply. Applications should be returned to the commissary customer service or secretary office no later than Feb. 22. For more information contact the scholarship managers at 856-616-9311 or militaryscholar@scholarshipmanagers.com.

Daddy daughter dance

The base chapel will host a daughter-father dance from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Surf's Edge Club on Feb. 22. For more information or to register contact the chapel at 828-3621.