

THUNDERBOLT

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AF firearms trainers on target - page 12



Photo by Nick Stubbs

Staff Sgt. Kevin Trice, 6th Security Forces Squadron firearms instructor, watches as Army Staff Sgt. Brian Boutin takes aim at the MacDill firing range. The 6th SFS trainers work with all branches of the military at MacDill.

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Carrying the MacDill message to Capitol Hill; this week's standouts

by Col. Lenny Richoux

6th Air Mobility Wing commander

Last week I had the opportunity to brief U.S. Congress members on what we're doing here at MacDill and what we need to keep the mission going.

Visiting Capitol Hill to connect with the top decision-makers in this country is an honor and something I take very seriously. I had a chance to engage in dialogue with some of our elected officials to discuss our mission and how we comprehensively take care of the people, aircraft, technology assets and the missions we execute.

This base supports approximately 11,000 active-duty military and civilian workers, their families, and more than 6,000 military reserve and guard members. Additionally, there are more than 39,000 retirees and 6,800 surviving spouses living within a 50-mile radius of MacDill AFB who rely on services provided by MacDill AFB.

Our elected officials are busy and understand the importance of a strong national defense. Carrying our message to Congress to support you is important to me.

Now I want to recognize a few of the servicemembers who are carrying out the mission — **1st Lt. Karl Bolt**, 6 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Vehicle Management Flight commander, ensured his flight earned an "Outstanding" during the 2011 Logistics Compliance Assessment Program. Also, as the Squadron safety officer, he led the squadron

to its sixth consecutive safety award. Furthermore, 1st Lt. Bolt secured the Wing Company Grade Officer of the quarter, 1st quarter 2011 while waiting to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology.

The 310th Airlift Squadron recently recognized the outstanding performance of **Tech. Sgt. Kevin Yanders**, C-37A communications system operator and 310th AS NCOIC of Scheduling. During a recent 6th Air Mobility Wing Information Assurance Assessment and Assistance Program inspection, Tech. Sgt. Yanders received a Satisfactory rating, with zero discrepancies. Due to Tech. Sgt. Yanders' outstanding attention to detail, the 310th Airlift Squadron communication security account was lauded by inspectors as "the benchmark for others to follow for COMSEC organization".

Recently, two crews from the 91st Air Refueling Squadron returned from Moron Air Base, Spain flying multiple air refueling missions in support of NATO forces during Operation ODYSSEY DAWN. They refueled multiple NATO receivers enforcing the no-fly zone. These crews were essential elements in providing Humanitarian Aid to the oppressed people of Libya. During their mission they offloaded approximately 90k pounds of fuel to NATO aircraft. In Crew One were **Capt. Jeff Lascurain**, **Capt. Shawn Poche**, and **Staff Sgt. Kris Echols**. In Crew Two were **Maj. Joe Leeper**, **1st Lt. Dave Chambers** and **Airman 1st Class Bobby Cash**.

For the 6th Operations Group's "Knuck-



Photo by Tech Sgt. Tanika Belfield

Col. Lenny Richoux addresses runners at the Asian Pacific Heritage Month 5K run Wednesday.

lebuster" Annual Awards ceremony, I'd like to thank **1st Lt. Joshua Levine** and **Capt. Brandon Greenawalt** and the 6th Operations Group Annual Awards committee for organizing a great event.

Kudos to the 6th Operations Group Outstanding Crew Chief Award winners — Birmingham Air National Guard Base, the 99th Air Refueling Squadron's **Staff Sgt. William Lorenzo**; the winner from Seymour Johnson AFB, 911th Air Refueling Squadron was **Staff Sgt. Salvadore Cruz**; and from MacDill's 91st Air Refueling Squadron, **Staff Sgt. Ruben Mariscal**. These top performers, along with the 24 other award winners, were recognized for their outstanding contributions to operations, aircraft and munitions maintenance.

I am proud to serve with you in the finest Air Mobility Wing on the face of the planet!



COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

The Action Line provides a 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 e-mail macdillwingcommander@macdill.af.mil



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MacDill Thunderbolt

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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 Libel Manual" and Air Force Instruction 35-101.



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Events, movies, more...



Address the problem

The Air University receives 40 to 50 diploma returns per month due to invalid or outdated mailing addresses listed in student records. To prevent this problem, please contact the AU Registrar office with any address changes before testing.

Students may submit their address change request to <https://www.auecampussupport.com/vdoc/index.jsp>. Request should include student's full name, last four digits of their Social Security number, and current mailing address.

The AU Registrar/Student Records personnel print and mail diplomas for the following distance learning courses: Airman Leadership School Distance Learning Course (Course 1), NCO Academy Distance Learning Course (Course 9), Senior NCO Academy Distance Learning Course (Course 14), Civil Air Patrol Senior Officer Course (Course 13), Squadron Officer School Correspondence Course (Course 20), Air Command and Staff College Correspondence Course (Course 30).

Meet the new 6th OSS commander

The 6th Air Mobility Wing would like to welcome Lt. Col. Leslie Maher, the new commander for the 6th Operations Support Squadron. Colonel Maher took command of the unit April 29.

Colonel Maher took time to answer a few questions for the Thunderbolt.

Thunderbolt: What do you expect of the Airmen under your command?

Colonel Maher: I expect my Airmen will complete their portion of the mission to the best of their ability. In addition, I want my Airmen to stretch themselves in ways that improve their personal lives as well as the way we achieve mission goals. I just completed my "immersion" recently and couldn't be more pleased with the caliber of Airman I am fortunate enough to serve with.

Thunderbolt: Who are your favorite leaders and role models?

Colonel Maher: I have been fortunate to be mentored by so many great leaders, both Air Force and the other services. The two that stand out for me are names you will likely hear about in the future – Army Lt. Gen. Charles Jacoby and Air Force Maj. Gen. Darren McDew. Both of these gentlemen make time in their day to share the lessons they've learned over their long careers. The most important aspect of command they taught me was how imperative it is to expand and nurture your "web" of relationships, which in turn enable members to maximize the advice and knowledge available to tackle problems efficiently.

Thunderbolt: What does it mean to you to be the new 6th OSS commander?

Colonel Maher: I have the responsibility to build upon the already solid foundation laid by my predecessors. With that in mind, I look at this position as being the "major weapons system" for the men and women of the 6th OSS. Once armed appropriately with the right data and background on an issue, I go to work to facilitate and improve the working conditions for my members.



Photo by Senior Airman Linzi Joseph

Col. James "Slim" Morgan, 6th Operations Group commander, hands the 6th Operations Support Squadron's unit flag to Lt. Col. Leslie Maher at MacDill Air Force Base April 29.

Thunderbolt: When you hold your first commander's call what is the first thing you are going to tell your Airmen?

Colonel Maher: I held my first commander's call just five hours after taking command. I explained my background and how each experience shaped me for command. In addition, I used the call to shape the boundaries of what I expect of my Airmen and what they can expect of me.

Thunderbolt: What are your thoughts about MacDill and living in Tampa?

Colonel Maher: Since I am coming in from an assignment with the Pentagon, MacDill and Tampa provides me an opportunity get back to thinking about Air Force issues vice the global political issues. As for my family life, Tampa allows the Mahers to spend "better" time together since we are getting away from the challenging commute and heavy traffic. I will miss the work I did in the Joint Staff and the friends we just left, but each new adventure brings a different excitement that keeps me from even considering ending this career any time soon. Lots of smiles in the Maher household these days!



SERE training at MacDill provides skills to survive

by Nick Stubbs
Thunderbolt editor

In the military, training can teach most things, but it can't teach the will to survive. That is something contained deep inside, says Staff Sgt. Patrick Ray, the non-commissioned officer who heads up Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape training at MacDill Air Force Base.

SERE is essential training for military members who fly or otherwise may find themselves above or in enemy territory. The 6th Air Mobility Wing SERE unit provides preservation training not only for Airmen, but all branches of the military at MacDill.

The course is open to any military member who believes their job puts them at risk of capture or otherwise places them in a survival situation.

"It's an open course, and I'm trying to get the word out," said Sergeant Ray, who said he's trained members of the Wing, U.S. Special Operations Command, U.S. Special Operations Command Central and the Joint Communications Support Element among others.

Sergeant Ray's shop provides five major courses, covering everything from desert, jungle and water survival, to evading capture and escape if captured. In cases of servicemembers or units being deployed, specialized classes focusing on the nature and tactics of the enemy in the theater to which they are deploying are custom tailored.

While much of how a survival situation plays out is determined by the psychological makeup of the individual, having the skills and knowledge

of how the military treats captured or stranded members can make all the difference in the outcome of a bad situation, said Sergeant Ray.

"One of the most important things anyone needs to know is that the U.S. military does not give up until you are found," said Sergeant Ray. "If you know and understand America's dedication to get you back, your will increases."

Of all survival situations, perhaps none is more perilous than being stranded in the open ocean, said Sergeant Ray.

"You are limited to only the man-made materials you have," he said. "There is nothing in the environment you can use to help you survive; if it isn't on your body, you don't have it."

While desert survival is important in today's conflicts, jungle survival remains a focus, as servicemembers must be prepared to deploy to any environment. Likewise, the SERE unit at MacDill must be ready to deploy anywhere – and in a hurry.

"We are part of the Guardian Angel Weapons System," said Sergeant Ray, under whose umbrella also are pararescue units and combat rescue officers.

When a servicemember is lost or captured, Sergeant Ray is equipped to respond on site to assist with the search, rescue and reintegration of the military member. With training always in mind, these rescue missions are video taped and audio tapes are made for analysis and possible inclusions in future SERE training classes.

"We are here; we have a lot of capability, and we're here for anyone who has a need for us," said Sergeant Ray.



Photo by Nick Stubbs

Self defense and unarmed attack are skills taught in the SERE course. The techniques, like this head lock demonstrated by Staff Sgt. Patrick Ray, can be used to avoid capture or to escape if captured.

AFOSI seeks top quality NCOs for special agent positions

Special to the Thunderbolt

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is the Air Force agency responsible for investigating major crimes and works against terrorist and foreign intelligence efforts. It's also constantly seeking exceptional non-commissioned officers for duty as enlisted special agents.

With more than 2,700 members, AFOSI has been the Air Force's major investigative service since August, 1948. It provides criminal investigations and counterintelligence services to commanders of all Air Force organizations. To do that consistently well, AFOSI must constantly replenish its agent force and its primary source of new agents is the active duty enlisted force.

"Airmen from all career fields in the Air Force can join AFOSI and bring something to the fight," said Special Agent Angelina Montecalvo, superin-

tendent of the Applicant Processing Branch at Headquarters AFOSI. "We are constantly seeking top quality Airmen to join our team by retraining into OSI."

"The standards are high and it's tough to make the cut, but we know there are many good Airmen who meet the standards and would make great agents," said AFOSI Command Chief Master Sergeant John Fine. Chief Fine retrained into AFOSI 23 years ago from the Security Forces career field and said his career as a special agent has been "very exciting and tremendously rewarding."

According to Agent Montecalvo, AFOSI's primary recruiting focus is on staff sergeants with five to 10 years in service, technical sergeants with less than one year in grade, and top quality senior airman who are eligible

AGENTS

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to retrain. She added, "We will consider others who don't fall within those parameters, but that's our primary target group."

Once approved for retraining, all new special agent candidates attend training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Ga. The candidates must complete both the 11-week Criminal Investigator Training Program and seven weeks of AFOSI-specific coursework. Both courses offer training in weapons use, forensics, surveillance and surveillance detection, antiterrorism techniques, crime scene processing, interrogations and several other topics.

After successful completion of a one-year probationary period, some agents receive specialist training in economic crime, antiterrorism ser-

vice, counterintelligence, computer crimes and other sophisticated criminal investigative capabilities. Others attend 12 weeks of training to acquire skills in electronic, photographic and other technical surveillance countermeasures.

"Besides being inquisitive and able to interact with a variety of different personality types, agents must be able to take initiative and be detached enough to handle the possible shock in criminal investigations," said Special Agent Paul Greene, AFOSI Det 340, MacDill Air Force Base.

For more information about AFOSI's mission, visit the AFOSI public Web site at www.osi.andrews.af.mil. NCOs interested in becoming an AFOSI agent should review the applicant Web site at www.osi.andrews.af.mil/join/enlisted/index.asp and contact Agent Greene, from Det 340, at 813-828-4921.



Paperclips office supplies should be first choice

Special to the Thunderbolt

Following extensive market research, Mr. Roger S. Correll, SAF/AQC, determined use of the Federal Strategic Sourcing Initiative Office Supply Blanket Purchase Agreements to be the best value for the Air Force.

This strategic sourcing initiative leverages the federal government's buying power, resulting in an average savings of 10 percent on office supplies, while reducing Air Force administrative procurement costs. Today, more than 14 federal agencies are active participants in the FSSI Office Supply Initiative. Effective Oct. 1, all CONUS Air Force contracting offices and Government Purchase Card holders will use only the Federal Strategic Sourcing Initiative Office Supply BPAs or a local AbilityOne Base Supply Center (Paperclips at MacDill) to purchase office supplies. Until this mandatory date, the FSSI BPAs should be the preferred solution when an AbilityOne store is not available. The FSSI BPAs are currently available on the Air Force Advantage Web site at <http://www.afadvantage.gov>. The only exception is for the purchase of toner cartridges. Due to highly competitive pricing on toner, it is important to check prices on both FSSI and the Air Force Toner BPAs available on AFWAY <https://www.afway.af.mil/> for the specific toner cartridge needed.

Additional information on the Air Force FSSI Office Supplies program can be found at the Office Supplies Commodity Council EIM page at <https://cs.eis.af.mil/airforcecontracting/esg/AFOSCC/default.aspx>.



Memorial Day ceremony

Team MacDill members are invited to attend a Memorial Day Ceremony May 26 at 8 a.m. at the Base Flag Pole. Guests are asked to arrive and be in place 15 minutes before start time. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Gregory at 828-1445.

MacDill members needed for ecosystem restoration project

MacDill AFB and Tampa Bay Watch have partnered to accomplish a coastal ecosystem restoration project centered around the installation of an oyster reef along the base's southeastern shoreline. Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting base members to help assemble and install oyster shell bags to create a new oyster reef. Work events currently scheduled are May 25 and 26, but more dates may be added in the future. Work hours are from 8 a.m. until noon. This project is only available to MacDill members who are able to participate during OFF-DUTY hours. To participate, contact Tampa Bay Watch, Communications coordinator, Rachel Arndt at 727-867-8166 or e-mail rarndt@tampabaywatch.org. Let Rachel know you want to help out with the MacDill AFB Oyster Shell Program and the dates you want to sign up. Rachel will provide you with additional information.



AF shooters, training changing notions about military marksmanship

story and photos by Nick Stubbs
Thunderbolt editor

When military marksmanship is the topic, Marines and Soldier slinging battle rifles may come to mind, but overlooking the shooting skills of today's Airman is a sure sign of being behind the times.

Not only are shooting skills an integral part of an Airman's training, Air Force training can be more rigorous, thorough and challenging than what members of other branches are used to, said Tech. Sgt. David Walker, 6th Security Forces non-commissioned officer in charge of small arms training at MacDill Air Force Base. Additionally, some of the top competitive shooters today are products of the Air Force.

Responsible for firearms training for other branches stationed at MacDill, shooters who go through the 6th SFS program are sometimes surprised.

"We've had Army members say it was the best class they've had in their years in service," said Sergeant Walker. "They don't equate the Air Force with small arms training, but they find out what it's all about (once they take the course)."

Soldiers are not the only ones to discover the shooting expertise of today's Air Force. The Tampa Police Department learned a hard lesson after challenging the 6th Security Forces to field a team of sporting clay shooters to shoot against them in a recent competition (see adjoining story).

Misconceptions about the emphasis of small arms training in the Air Force predate the Korean War, said Sergeant Walker, after which Gen. Curtis LeMay put a new emphasis on firearms training when Airmen in Korea were found to be unable to effectively defend their bases from attack without support from Marines or Soldiers.

Over the years, the training resulted in a more capable force, something that has been important in the wake of 9/11 and the frequent integration of Airmen into Army combat units in forward locations.

Just about any Airman at MacDill could find themselves in a deployment that calls for anything from slinging a rifle on patrol, to manning a .50 caliber machine gun in a convoy.

"We have members of the LRS (6th Logistics Readiness Squadron) who are joining troops in convoys all the time now," said Sergeant Walker. "The same goes for EOD (explosive ordinance disposal)."



(Clockwise from top left) Tech. Sgt. Patrick Gibson, U.S. Central Command combat weapons instructor, addresses a class before heading to the range for pistol qualifying. Firing at seven meters is the first stage of qualifying. Each shooter gets 90 rounds of 9mm ammunition for practice and qualifying, and a box of ear plugs. Army Staff Sgt. Brian Boutin takes aim. He's a member of Bravo Company, 741st MI Battalion.



Team MacDill drums Tampa PD trash-talkers

by Nick Stubbs

Thunderbolt editor

It started as good-natured jabs, a ranking Tampa Police Department officer doing a little trash talking on the phone with Lt. Col. Kenneth Ohlson, 6th Security Forces commander.

“They were saying their shooters could beat our shooters in a sporting clay match,” said Staff Sgt. Keith Corcoran, a firearms instructor with the 6th SFS. “Without even knowing if we had anyone who could shoot skeet or trap, Colonel Ohlson took up the challenge.”

The match was a Tampa Bay Safety Council charity event held last month in Land O’ Lakes, and when the shotgun smoke had cleared, competitors learned that Air Force members can shoot - Team MacDill took second-place honors. The Tampa PD team didn’t place.

“We pretty much settled that,” said Sergeant Corcoran, who was the top scorer on the MacDill team. Colonel Olson also competed.

The event was a sporting clays challenge, which is designed to approximate bird hunting. Clay targets are thrown from cover, mimicking a bird flying from brush. Sergeant Corcoran has a background in skeet and trap, and was up for the task, though going in he didn’t know what he and his teammates would be up against.

“I figured with all the talk they (Tampa PD) were doing, they probably had some top shooters,” said Sergeant Corcoran. “When they showed up I saw a couple of their guys were using entry guns (short-barreled combat shotguns designed SWAT and assault operations), so I knew we were going to be OK.”

Corcoran used a borrowed shotgun and shot a 43 out of a possible 50 points, helping his team to a 141 out of a possible 200 score. It was enough to secure second place, and more than enough to best the “big talkers” on the Tampa PD team.

“They said they’d see us next year for a rematch,” said Sergeant Corcoran, who added that Team MacDill would not be opposed to trouncing them again.

SHOOT

From Page 12

Despite a well developed culture of Air Force shooters, there are those who “didn’t join the Air Force expecting to shoot guns,” said Staff Sgt. Keith Corcoran, a small arms instructor with the 6 SFS.

“We treat them with kid gloves,” he said. “We’re gentle with them, brief them on what they are doing wrong and try to bring up their skill and safety levels.”

The small arms trainers are part of the 6 SFS, but it is a specialized career field in which few “don’t want to be here,” said Sergeant Corcoran.

Sergeant Walker echoed that.

“Most of us would prefer to stay here through our service careers if we could,” he said. “It’s something most of us love, and we get to interact positively with the public.

“In fact, if you listen to what we are teaching you, you can earn yourself a ribbon for marksmanship.”

There are eight members of the small arms training unit, operating in a newly completed building adjacent to the firing range near the FamCamp at the southern end of MacDill.

Commentary

Know your opportunity cost

by Maj. Michael T. Bryant

71st Comptroller Squadron commander

VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. - Everyone knows how to calculate the cost of buying something. First, you want an item. Then you shop around, find the best price, buy it, and add sales tax if necessary. Then it’s yours, with the numbers on a receipt that show how much you paid.

What the receipt doesn’t show you is “opportunity cost.”

Opportunity cost is the cost of not being able to do something because you are doing something else. In other words, the price of the road not taken. For example, the opportunity cost of buying new furniture for your living room might be the value of a summer vacation. While new furniture involves larger dollar amounts, even small spending decisions include an opportunity cost.

I can attest to this personally with my addiction to Starbucks coffee. In the early 2000s when Starbucks coffeehouses were popping up everywhere, I reluctantly went with my wife to see what all the hype was about.

At the time, I was perfectly content with my plain “cup of joe” brewed at home and told myself I didn’t need one of those overpriced “froufrou” coffees.

After my first sip of a café mocha, I played off the taste to my wife and told her it was “okay,” but deep inside I knew I was hooked. I quickly found myself sneaking to Starbucks whenever possible for a fix, and it didn’t stop with me. It soon became a family affair. The kids discovered the coffee-free cream based “frappuccinos.” At the height of our addiction, we were spending \$100 a month.

In the back of my mind I knew I was spending a lot of money on this froufrou coffee that I had once made fun of people for drinking, but didn’t realize the magnitude until I sat down and ran some numbers. Over a one year period, I spent about \$1,200 at Starbucks. If I had invested that money at 8-percent interest, I would have over \$13,000 extra for my retirement nest egg at age 65.

Another option for the \$1,200 could have been to pay down credit card debt. Not only would the \$1,200 pay down some of the outstanding loan amount, it would also lower the amount of interest paid.

Now I’m not saying live poor to die rich or start depriving yourself of everything except the basic necessities - just understand the big picture consequences of the decisions you are making. In my case, deciding whether to buy a \$5 cup of coffee did not require deep thought or analysis. If I bought that cup of coffee four days a week, the expense quickly adds up and that amount is definitely worth analyzing.

To some, routinely enjoying life’s simple pleasures may well be worth not having the extra savings at retirement or lower credit-card balance. That’s fine, as long as you understand the effects of your actions.

The concept of opportunity cost applies to more than just money. It applies to life. The opportunity cost of talking to your troops to get to know them better might be leaving work later than normal. If you golf once a week, the opportunity cost is four hours of lost family time. The opportunity cost of eating in front of the TV is lost dinnertime conversation.

I’m not trying to tell you what to do. Just realize the lost opportunities from the choices you are making so you can make better informed decisions. Evaluate your choices based on your financial needs, wants and life goals and then use your time and money in a way that will benefit you the most.

BRIEFS

From Page 10

Military Spouse Education Fair

The Airman and Family Readiness and Education and Training Center will host a Military Spouse and Family Member Education Fair May 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the HCC at the Regent, 6437 Watson Road, Riverview, Fla. The organizations and schools participating are military friendly and understand the needs of the military family. For more information, call the A&FRC at 828-2721/0145.

Commissary Warehouse Case Lot Sale

The MacDill Commissary is holding a Warehouse Sale located in the warehouse through May 31. Come out and support your Commissary while enjoying savings.

Southern Trophy Hunters 8th Annual Big Buck Expo

In its 8th year, the BIG BUCK EXPO will help kick hunting season off a little early this year at The Lakeland Center, July 8-10. Tickets are free to active and reserve military with ID cards. Expo hours are July 8, 3 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; July 9, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and July 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 334-699-3976 or visit www.southerntrophyhunters.com

Hole-in-one

Congratulations to Tom Boerger, member of the MacDill Air Force Base Golf Complex, who scored a hole-in-one April 26 on the 5th hole of the North Course.



Teamwork across the board earns 6th OSS tops in AMC

by Nick Stubbs
Thunderbolt editor

It was the little things, but it was also the big things that got the attention of Air Mobility Command judges, who awarded top Operations Support Squadron honors

to Team MacDill.

The award was for accomplishments during 2010, and is “one very big” honor, said Maj. Leslie Picht, 6th OSS assistant operations officer.

“We have great Airmen doing lots of outstanding work,”

said Major Picht, adding that “they don’t do it for the awards, though.”

The award was a nice bonus for everyone with the 6th OSS, she said, and while the award was not expected, winning wasn’t a complete surprise.

The 6OSS had two John Levitow award winners, and three below the zone winners in 2010, and was involved in a wide range of activities and missions, not the least of which included support for the Haiti earthquake relief op-

erations, and support for the Gulf oil spill disaster.

The high level of professionalism in the 6th OSS “allows us an extra edge, and to mentor and grow leaders,” said Major Picht.

Additionally, “every (6th OSS) shop

is lucky and blessed, and operates at a sustained high level of performance.”

Major Picht said she suspects the substantial support provided to Haiti operations was likely a big factor in the win, but that a range of performance standouts in the 6th OSS would have been hard to ignore.

“It’s not necessarily one part or item, but performance across services.”

Closures

◆ The 6th Medical Group will close at 11 a.m. May 26 for the 6th AMW half-day “Safety Day.” However, the drive through Pharmacare will remain open until 5 p.m. May 26 and the Afterhours Clinic at Brandon will remain open. The entire Medical Clinic, Pharmacare, and Brandon Clinic will close May 27 and 30 in observance of Memorial Day. All clinics will reopen for normal business hours May 31.

◆ The Airman & Family Readiness Center will temporarily close at noon May 19 and reopen at 7:30 a.m. May 23 in order to relocate to a new facility at 8105 Condor St. (same bldg as Subway). For emergency financial assistance, contact the Command Post at 828-4363.

MacDill ambulance response capabilities

by Maj. Lee Alexander
6th Medical Group

The primary responsibility of the base ambulance services is to provide rapid response, on-scene initial medi-

cal care, and transportation of the ill or injured to civilian hospitals. The ambulance services are available on MacDill Air Force Base at all times.

When a base am-

bulance responds to a call for assistance, they must first determine the patient's required level of care. Therefore, it's important to understand the difference between basic life

support and advanced life support response units. Basic life support is a level of care used for patients with minor, non-life threatening illnesses or injuries. The MacDill ambulance is staffed with nationally registered emergency medical technicians providing basic life support only.

In comparison, advanced life support is used for patients when required care is more serious, and potentially life-threatening. If ambulance members determine the patient needs advanced care, they call for an advanced life support unit from Tampa Fire Rescue. If there's any doubt regarding the level of care indicated, ambulance services contacts the Medical director for consultation.

Once basic treatment has begun and the patient (or parent) has consented to transport, ambulance services completes the transport to the civilian hospital emergency department. In the event of an advanced life support response, Tampa Fire and Rescue completes the transport.

When you dial 9-1-1 from any phone you must inform the dispatcher if you are on MacDill. This will prevent delays in response time due to geographical location. The base ambulance is here to serve you.

MACDILL COMMUNITY



EVENTS

Friday

MacDill Lanes

Family Fun Friday! 8 p.m.-midnight. Games! Prizes! Snack Bar specials!

Saturday

America's 2011 Armed Forces Kids Run

Register before or from 6:30-7:30 a.m. on the day of the run at the Pavilion across from the Bayshore Club. Run at 8a.m. Open to youth 5yrs & up. For more info call 828-7956.

Monday-Sunday

Bay Palms Golf Complex

Bingo Bonanza available everyday from 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. \$1 a card. Instant payout!

Tuesday

MacDill Family Resource Center

Spouse-2-Spouse from 9:30-11 a.m. Open conversation about issues relating to deployments and an opportunity to meet new friends.

MacDill Lanes

Rays Fever from 11a.m.-5p.m. Wear a MLB shirt, bowl for \$1 per game!

Tuesday & Thursday

Bay Palms Golf Complex

FREE Active Duty Clinic from 12-1 p.m.

Wednesday

MacDill Family Resource Center

Peaceful co-parenting from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Ideal for divorced or single parents. This workshop will identify and explore the many unexpected and overlooked issues that challenge peaceful co-parenting for divorced or unmarried parents.



Photo by Airman basic David Tracy

Remembering the fallen

The MacDill Air Force Base Honor Guard marches away after performing a 21-gun salute during a National Police Week memorial service at the 6th Security Forces Squadron headquarters building, MacDill Air Force Base, May 15. The memorial service was held to honor fallen security forces Airmen and Tampa police officers.



CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Protestant services

Sunday - 9 a.m. - Praise Worship Service

Noon - Gospel Service

Islamic services

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

Catholic services

Saturday - 4:30 p.m. - Confession

5:30 p.m. - Mass

Sunday - 10:30 a.m. - Mass

Monday to Thursday: 12:10 p.m. - Mass

For all other faith inquiries or to view upcoming event information, call the Chapel at 828-3621 or visit the Web site at www.macdill.af.mil/macdillchapel



AT THE MOVIES

\$4 for adults / \$2 for children 828-2780

Friday - 7 p.m.

Hanna (PG-13)

Saturday - 3 p.m.

Arthur (PG)

Saturday - 7 p.m.

Your Highness (PG-13)

