

THUNDERBOLT

www.macdillthunderbolt.com



**BE SAFE TEAM MACDILL
101 CDS CAMPAIGN
22 MAY - 7 SEP!**



COMMENTARY

Something special

by 2nd Lt. Lauren Brown
6th Operations Group Intelligence

“The best thing about the military is the caliber of people you get to work with every day.” Capt. Dean R. Brown, United States Navy (Ret).

I can remember the first time my dad told me this; I couldn't have been more than 5 years old at the time. He followed with stories about our family's military service, his own and those of my mom, aunt, grandfathers, and godfather, and even more stories about the men and women with whom he worked. Images of valor storming a Japanese beach in World War II, hunting submarines off an aircraft carrier 50 years later swirled in my young mind. Today is no different; we are among heroes every day, working alongside incredible Airmen, each with exciting stories to share.

When I was asked to write this article, I struggled to think of something in my own military experience--just under two years of service--that would provide insight

into the Company Grade Officer experience. I can tell you that the ops tempo is high and the learning curve is steep. I can tell you that the Air Force is much more paperwork than I thought. I can also tell you that a deployment is exciting and that redeployment is even better. But my Air Force career is not yet about my own experiences; instead, it is about an incredible team effort - a team that performs its duty day in and day out with excellence, selflessness, and dedication.

It all began for me on a bright sunny day in June 2007 when I sat in the joint company of ten other young officers commissioning as Second Lieutenants and Ensigns in the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps. On one of the most liberal college campuses in the United States, Professor Stephen Rosen brought our young minds and hearts together: “We all wish to avoid war, none more so than the men and women who must confront the face of war directly. But the United States is our country. Without the United States, there would be no Harvard, and we should never forget that.”

Two years later, most of us work distinctly with our chosen service, but it is a joint war that we fight so selflessly. I have supported tanker

ops at Al Udeid, our Marine presently serves in Afghanistan, and our Navy and Army have all supported operations in the Middle East. Our story is not unique. In fact, it is rather common, but still extraordinary. Deployment stories ring with iterations of selflessness and dedication. We are a part of something special.

As a young officer, the wealth of advice and wisdom passed from Senior Officers and Noncommissioned officers is unparalleled. It reminds me of my favorite quote from Winston Churchill: “To every man [person] there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered a chance to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talents. What a tragedy if that moment finds him unprepared or unqualified for that which would be his finest hour.”

Serving one's nation is that very special thing for many of us and it is through this unity that we find strength, guidance, and even a friendly smile or a pat on the back for a job well done. I have learned that the Air Force is an exercise in readiness, preparedness, training, and persistence for the real world challenges we are called to face--a challenge that often sur-



Lt. Lauren Brown

prises but never finds us unqualified or unprepared. Again, we are part of something special. In my short tenure as a Second Lieutenant, my father's recognition of the exceptional people with whom he worked has become my story.

It is with pride, honor, and humility that I begin to tell my story. It is not a tale of exceptional achievements, recognitions, or medals, but a story of collective effort--mentors, peers, superiors and subordinates--all Airmen working together every day to achieve something greater than any one individual. The Air Force really is something special--and we are a part of it.

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)

MacDill Thunderbolt

Publisher: Denise Palmer
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, Bldg. 299, at 8208 Hangar Loop Drive, Suite 14, MacDill AFB, FL 33621, or call the MacDill Thunderbolt staff at 828-4586. Email: thunderbolt@MacDill.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 Libel Manual" and Air Force Instruction 35-101.



Your T-bolt Today

NEWS/FEATURES: page 4

Memorial Day events



NEWS/FEATURES: page 8

Summer grilling safety

NEWS/FEATURES: page 10

State joins global warming battle

BRIEFS: page 12

News to know

FEATURES: page 14

101 Critical Days begins



NEWS: page 20

TRICARE portability

NEWS: page 22

Travel, military pay glitch

SPORTS: page 23

Volleyball tourney held



COMMUNITY: page 24
Events, around MacDill



SFS memorial brings close to National Police Week



Photo by Airman First Class David Minor

Attendees bow their heads as the Law Enforcement prayer is said during the memorial service May 15 at the base chapel. The Memorial service was held to remember those who had fallen within the security forces career field.

by Senior Airman Tania Reid
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The 6th Security Forces Squadron members paid tribute to their fallen comrades at a memorial service held at the base chapel May 15.

At the ceremony nine security forces Airmen were honored and remembered for their service and contributions to the Air Force.

Lt. Col. Brent French, 6th Security Forces Squadron commander, spoke on behalf of the fallen Airmen at the chapel.

"While this service is about remembering the deceased, it is also about taking time to consider how we can best honor their sacrifice," said Colonel French. "By being here and engaging with this ceremony, we can allow it to be a transformational moment, renewing our personal commitment to the ideals for which they gave their lives."

The memorial was held during National Police Week and National Peace Officers 'Memo-

rial day,' May 15. Both were inspired 46 years ago by the proclamation signed by then President John F. Kennedy Jr..

"I'd like to spend the next few minutes talking about why this memorial service during National Police Week is important to all of us who have made a commitment to serving others," he said. "We have an opportunity, here and now, to make new meanings of the sacrifices of those we memorialize today."

He spoke about the self sacrifice of the men and women being honored at the service.

"In this way, to me, National Police Week seems like a paradox, about the challenge of looking forward while at the same time looking back," he said. "As we reflect on our brothers and sisters who've given their lives in order to protect those who cannot protect themselves, I think we need to reflect on the reflection, to think about why it is so important to recognize these men and women as heroes."

See **MEMORIAL**, Page 6



Host of Memorial Day events planned for Tampa Bay area



U.S. Air Force Photo

Thunderbolt staff report

Indian Shores' annual Memorial Day celebration will take place Monday, May 25 at 2 p.m., at the pavilion behind Town Hall (19305 Gulf Blvd). Town officials will serve a traditional fried chicken dinner and the town library will host a book sale.

The First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks will host a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 25 at 9:30 a.m. at Indian Rocks Memorial Gardens (13401 Indian Rocks Road, Largo). The service will include a special tribute to all veterans from the Tampa Bay area who gave their lives in the Iraq War.

The Florida Orchestra Super Pops will present Star-Spangled Pops on Saturday, May 23 at 8 p.m., at Mahaffey Theater at Progress Energy Center (400 First St. S., St. Petersburg). The concert will feature patriotic tunes by American Composers.

There will be a ceremony Monday, May 25 at 7 p.m. at the Military Court of Honor, Largo Central Park, (101 Central Park Drive, Largo). Chaplain Gordon Mauldin will act as master of ceremonies and the keynote speaker will be Nevin Weaver of the Bay Pines Veterans Administration.

Celebrate Memorial Day Monday, May 25 with Harley Davidson of Tampa and New Port Richey! Beginning at 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., enjoy free food/drinks, live music, and much more. Kids welcome. <http://www.h-dtampa.com>

The Sirata Beach Resort and Conference Center will be giving away free rooms in thankful recognition of outstanding current military service. Between the dates of May 25 and May 28, Sirata Beach Resort will provide up to 100 free rooms each day for any U.S. active military and

Area attraction events

LOWRY PARK ZOO

On Monday, 25 May Active Duty, Retired, Reservist & National Guard and up to three immediate family members will receive free admission on Memorial Day only. Personnel must show valid Military ID and dependents may take advantage of the offer without the service member, however, an adult must accompany minor dependents

FLORIDA AQUARIUM

From May 23-25 Active Duty, Retired, Reservist, National Guardsman & Coalition military members will receive two free admission tickets for themselves and a guest.

Additional family members (up to 4 people) can receive 50% off admission. Personnel must present a valid Military ID.

GATORLAND

For the entire month of May (offer expires: 31 May) Active Duty and Retired military members will receive one complimentary admission and a 25% discount at the gate on admission for up to four guests. Prices at your ITT office in the BX are cheaper

Adult: \$15 (Gate Price: \$24.39) Child (3-12): \$9.75 (Gate Price: \$15.96)

MOSI

On Monday, May 25 - 25 percent off admission at the gate! Personnel must present a valid Military ID. Prices at your ITT office in the BX are cheaper Adult: \$21.75 (Gate Price: \$29.95) Child: \$13.75 (Gate Price: \$19.95) Senior: \$20.25 (Gate Price: \$28.95)

U.S. military reserve member that calls our reservation center (1-800-344-5999 and asks for the MMDS 2009 special).

Any additional successive night to the one free night will also have a military discounted rate of \$89! This is on a first-come, first-call basis and is a limited offer. All one has to do, is show an active military card upon check-in, with the reservation to receive this very special offer. The entire Sirata Beach Resort and Conference Center Family wanted to give back to, and thank active military and active reserve members, as a way of getting a day of no-stress and relaxation.

The Sarasota Concert Band, conducted by William Barbanera, will perform a musical tribute to the country's fallen war heroes Monday, May 25 at 5 p.m., in Philippi Estate Park, (5500 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota). Featured artists will include Lorraine Murphy, soprano, and Robert Thurston, euphonium soloist.

Cost is \$5 adults. Children under 12 will be admitted free.



Diamond Sharp

**Senior Airman Danny D. Wilson
6th Communications Squadron**



Job Title: Client Services Technician

Home town: Gwinnett, Georgia

Short-term goals: Attain the rank of Staff Sergeant and complete CCAF in Information Management.

Long-term goals: Attain Bachelor's degree in Computer Science.

Advice to others: Do not follow where the path leads, rather go where there is no path and leave a trail.

Role model (s): My Grandfather. I always admired his persistence and family values that he represented.

Why did you join?: Educational benefits, travel, and new experiences.

MEMORIAL

From Page 3

In attendance to honor the Airmen were representatives from the Tampa Police Department, Hillsborough County Detention center and other off base law enforcement departments.

“Every year around National Police week we hold the memorial service to remember the fallen,” said Senior Airman Brian Hannon, 6 SFS member and event coordinator. “We invite all the local law enforcement to attend and participate in the events we have at the base.”

Throughout the week there have been various activities which both the on and off base law enforcement participated.

“We’ve had the torch and a 5k run to kick off the week, the security forces memorial service as well as a barbeque to end the week,” said Airman Hannon.

The memorial service unites the on and off base security departments annually, strengthening the bond with the community.

The ceremony ended with a dedication to each fallen servicemember and respect for their actions.

“The heroes we honor today show us we are capable of living without hypocrisy; their actions were in perfect alignment with their values,” said Colonel French. “For this reason is it not enough to simply remember them and grieve for them and wonder what might have been.”



Photo by Senior Airman David Minor

Members of the 6th Security Forces Squadron take roll call during the 6th Security Forces Memorial Service at the base chapel on May 15. Names were called out loud of the individuals and of the names of the fallen security forces members.



Barbecue season is here; safety tips to pain-free grilling

by **Tech. Sgt. Byron Beasley**
6th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Inspector

The MacDill Fire Department would like wish everyone a happy barbecue season. Here are a few things to watch out for when cooking outdoors so you can enjoy yourself and stay safe!

BEFORE BARBECUING

- Check your grill thoroughly for leaks, cracking or brittleness before using it.
- Clean out the tubes that lead into the burner.
- Make sure the grill is at least 10 feet away from your house, garage, or trees.
- Store and use your grill on a large flat surface that cannot burn (i.e. - concrete or asphalt).
- Don't use grills in a garage, porch, deck or on top of anything that may catch on fire.
- Keep children away from fires and grills. It

is a good idea to establish a safety zone around the grill and instruct children to remain outside the zone. A chalk line works great for this purpose.

- Have a fire extinguisher, a garden hose attached to a water supply, or at least 16-quarts of water close by in case of a fire.

DURING BARBECUING

- Don't wear loose clothing that might catch fire.
- Use long handled barbecue tools and/or flame resistant mitts.
- Never use any flammable liquid other than a barbecue starter fluid to start or freshen a fire.
- Never pour or squirt starter fluid onto an open flame. The flames can easily flashback along the fluid's path to the container in your hands.
- Keep alcoholic beverages away from the grill, they are flammable!
- Never leave the grill unattended.

AFTER BARBECUING

- Allow the barbecue to cool before attempting to move it.
 - Always follow the manufacturer's cleaning and storing instructions that accompany the grill.
 - Keep your grill clean and free of grease buildup that may lead to a fire.
 - Never store liquid or pressurized fuels inside your home and/or near any possible sources of flame.
 - Damp charcoal can cause spontaneous combustion resulting in fire. Store your charcoal in an area free from moisture and dampness.
 - Ensure the charcoal is completely extinguished before discarding the used briquettes.
 - If repairs are needed, always follow the manufacturer's operating instructions, and if in doubt use a trained professional.
- If you have any questions or would like additional information, contact the MacDill Fire Prevention section at 828-4236.

Florida joins EPA campaign encouraging Americans to fight global warming

Courtesy 6th Civil Engineer Squadron

MacDill AFB has joined the United States Environmental Protection Agency's 'Change the World, Start with Energy Star' campaign to encourage all military and civilian personnel to reduce energy use in their home.

The base has joined with millions of Americans in the fight against global warming by encouraging individual actions that can make a big difference in reducing energy bills and greenhouse gas emissions. This month, MacDill AFB urges all military and civilian personnel to take the Energy Star Pledge by visiting www.energystar.gov. Be sure to enter 'AMC MacDill AFB' when asked how you heard about the pledge so we can track how we are doing.

The Energy Star Pledge at www.energystar.gov/changetheworld encourages Americans to:

- Change light bulbs to those that have earned the Energy Star
- Use a programmable thermostat to save energy while asleep or away from home
- Enable power management settings on computers and monitors so they go into "sleep mode" when away or not in use
- Make their next purchase an Energy Star qualified product, such as home electronics, office products and/or appliances
- Make sure their homes are well sealed and insulated

"We want to do our part to reduce our country's greenhouse gas emissions and help fight global warming," said Dan Price, 6th Civil Engineer Squadron energy manager. "We are proud to spread the word about the difference that individuals in our community can make by taking energy-saving steps in the workplace and at home."

If every American household took the actions in the pledge, we would save more than 110 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, more than \$18 billion in annual energy costs and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to more than 18 million cars.

"Becoming part of the solution to global warming takes less time and effort than you might think. You can start by taking simple steps like changing a light or looking for the ENERGY STAR when you purchase new products," said Kathleen Hogan, Director of the Climate Protection Partnerships Division at EPA. "We are delighted to work with MacDill Air Force Base and others across the country who are helping in the fight against global warming. Together, we can all make a difference and protect our environment through simple everyday actions."

About Energy Star

Energy Star was introduced by the EPA in 1992 as a voluntary, market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. Today, the Energy Star label can be found on more than 50 different kinds of products as well as new homes and buildings. Products that have earned the Energy Star designation prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy-efficiency specifications set by the government. In 2007, Americans, with the help of Energy Star, saved \$16 billion on their energy bills while reducing greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of 27 million vehicles. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit www.energystar.gov or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937). The MacDill Energy Team asks all military and civilian personnel to Change the World, Start with ENERGY STAR. For more information contact Dan Price at 828-4807 joe.price.ctr@macdill.af.mil.



Screening of ‘Team Lionness’

The Women Veterans Network (WOVEN) supported by American Legion Post 24 of Bradenton will present the film titled Team Lionness on Friday, May 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. The film documents the experiences of five female members of the team sent to Ramadi, Iraq in 2003 to accompany Marine unit raids. Film trailers can be viewed at www.lionesthefilm.com. A panel of women veterans will answer audience questions after the film. For more information call 941-794-6118.

Mentor Call 2009

Volunteers are needed for the “Drug Education for Youth” (DEFY) program. DEFY takes an active role in providing the youth of today with interactive, positive role enforcement program. The deadline to volunteer is May 26. For more information call Ms Jeri Horne at 828-3051.

Walking /Running Incentive Program

The MacDill Fitness Center will be having a walking running incentive program from April 29 until May 31. For more information contact the fitness center at 828-4496

PWRR Requests no longer Accepted after June 1

Beginning June 1, the 6th Communication Squadron will no longer accept telephone and communications requirements via the Project, Workflow, Requirements, and Resource Manager system. New requirements must be submitted by each squadron’s Telephone Control Officer using an electronic AF Form 3215 and emailing it to the 6cshelpdesk@macdill.af.mil or calling by phone to 828-2666 option 6.

Your unit’s TCOs can be found at the 6th Communications Squadron Customer Service SharePoint Site by selecting Group, then unit at:

<https://eim.amc.af.mil/org/6cs/CustomService/Lists/Wing%20%20Unit%20POCs/TCO.aspx>

Any questions or concerns can be directed to TSgt Douglas Tupper at 828-1512, email douglas.tupper@macdill.af.mil.

Give Parents a Break Program

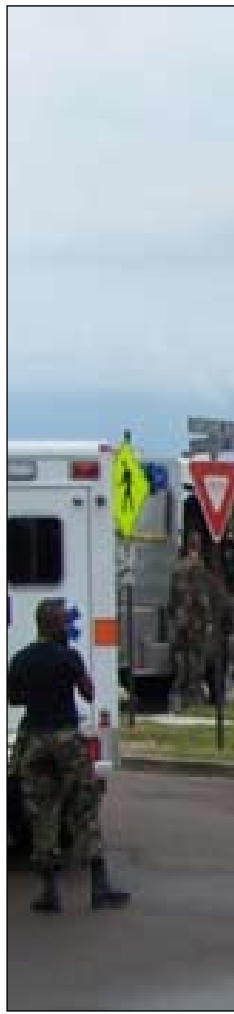
The Child Development Center members host the Give Parents a Break program which offers child care for families with deployed sponsors or families suffering any type of hardship. Referrals are made by base agencies and First Sergeants. Two sessions are offered, both funded by Air Force Aid:

1. The “deployment only” session, held one Friday night a month, from 6:30 until 10:30 p.m.
2. A session for all families suffering a hardship, including those with deployments, held one Saturday a month, from 5 until 9 p.m.

Parents are able to take the time to handle personal business, grocery shopping, etc. with a peace of mind that their young ones are being well taken care of. For more information call the CDC at 828-3332

Coming Together Around Military Families

The Child Development Center will be having a Coming Together Around Families program to support spouses of deployed military mem-



101 Critical Days of Summer begin; summer poses spe

by Airman 1st Class Katherine Holt
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

MacDill AFB is kicking off this year's 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign on May 22.

This campaign, which runs until Labor Day, helps raise awareness about the possible mishaps that can happen off-duty to service members during the summer months.

For this year's campaign, the 6th Air Mobility Wing Safety Office is focusing on getting back to the basics.

"This year, we're emphasizing a Back-to-Basics approach to safety, both at home and at work," said Lt. Col. Jason Wolfe, 6 AMW Chief of Safety. "This means taking a few extra seconds to do things the

right way, the way you were trained, and avoiding shortcuts which might lead to an accident"

Getting back to the basics starts with training.

"Safety may be Number 1, but training is 0.5. As we get Back-to-Basics, we first need to start with good training," said Maj. David Eisenbrey, 6 AMW Flight Safety. "Taking the time to renew your training for the tasks that you need to perform will allow you to approach those tasks with fresh eyes and safety in the forefront of your mind."

The campaign exists to let service members know that it is fine to have a good time, but to take precautionary steps to stay safe.

"The A-C-T process can be applied anytime, at home, on the road or at work," said Major Eisenbrey. "Taking the time to ANALYZE the problem,

CONSIDER solutions and TAKING the appropriate action can be just as helpful as you consider what you need to keep your family safe at the beach, such as sunscreen and water, or as you get ready for your Memorial Day barbeque in the backyard."

During the summer months, alcohol is a primary drink of choice for servicemembers over the age of 21; especially during holidays such as Memorial Day or the Fourth of July.

"Alcohol Does Not Mix Well with High Risk Activities!" said Mr. Jason Jackson, 6 AMW Chief of Ground Safety. "Alcohol doesn't mix with any type of vehicles, including ATV's, dirt bikes, motorcycles, cars, trucks and SUV's."

Mr. Jackson added that alcohol should never be



ocial safety threats

consumed when participating in any water related activity. Also, consuming alcohol before doing any yard work that may include tools that cut or slice is a dangerous risk.

“I have worked in Safety for nearly 20 years and the main cause of too many mishaps is alcohol,” said Mr. Jackson.

This year, the Safety Office’s goal is no fatalities.

“Last year was a very good one for AMC, with no fatalities during the 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign. Our challenge this year is to repeat that success,” said Colonel Wolfe. “I’m confident that with the right mindset, and a Back-to-Basics approach, we can have fun, safe summer which will keep all of our Airmen in the fight.”



Congratulations new Master Sgts.

RONALD ADKINS	6 CS	CHRISTOPHE GULOTTA	6 AMXS	KRISTOFOR NORMAND	DISA
BRIAN BARNETTE	6 MOS	BRIAN HAYNIE	JCSE	PAULETTE PEA	CENTCOM
AYANNA DARA BEARD	SOCOM	RICHARD HEDGEPEETH	6 AMXS	CHRISTOPHER RADCLIFFE	6 SFS
BRIAN BLUMER	6CS	PAUL HOHN	JCSE	RONALD RAY	6 LRS
STEPHEN BRANDON	6 MXS	JAMES HUBBARD	6 MXG	KIMBERLY REEDER	6 OSS
MICHAEL BURSAW	SOCOM	LOUIS ILLIDGE	SOCOM	ALBERT RHODES	6 AMDS
GAYLEAN CHARLES	SOCOM	DESHAUN JOHNSON	AOS	ALTON ROBINSON	6 CS
REBECCA CHILDERS	JCSE	KENNETH KALIAN	310 AS	ERIC SANDERS	6 MDOS
TIMOTHY CLOUGH	SOCOM	RICHARD KAMINSKY	6 AMW/ PA	ROBERT SCOTT	6 MDG
ADALBERTO CORONADO	JDSS	ANTHONY KARPENKO	6 LRS	JOHN SHUMAN	SOCOM
JOHN COTE	6 MOS	ROGER KENNEDY	310 AS	DENNIS STEHLEY	SOCOM
IVAN CRESPO	6 MXS	RYAN KENSEY	CENTCOM	DOUGLAS STEVENS	6 CS
RONALD DANIELLO	6 CES	BRIAN KETNER	CENTCOM	PAUL THOMAS	6 CS
GAIL DELBIANCOFRYE	6 OSS	LARRY KISNER	SOCOM	DYNELL TRUDELL	6 LRS
DEVORE GARY D	6 LRS	RONALD LEHMAN	JCSE	MARK VOLLMER	6 MXS
SHANNON EGGLESTON	SOCOM	RICHARD LIGON	6 MDSS	JAMIE WALKER	SOCCENT
JENNIFER FARMER	6 FSS	PAUL MACKAY	6 MXS	KAREN WASHINGTON	6 MDOS
HOWARD FOURNIER	6 CS	JENNIFER MARTINEZ	6 MDOS	NATASHA WEAVER	JCSE
ANTHONY GARCIA	6 OSS	TOBIN MCDONALD	6 MXG	MAURICE WHITLOCK	6 DS
		JON MCGILL	CENTCOM	PIOTR WILKIEWICZ	6 LRS
		JOHN MCKINNON	CENTCOM	JOHN WILLBANKS	CENTCOM
		VICTORIA MEYER	SOCOM	SHAWNTREL WILLIAMS	SOCOM
		ERIC MORGAN	6 FSS	ANTHONY WOLFE	CENTCOM
		TRENTON MUSEL	6 CS	ROBERT WRIGHT JR	JCSE
		MARTIN NOLAN	CENTCOM	GREGORY YEOMANS	JCSE

BRIEFS

From Page 12

bers with children between the ages of zero to three. Efforts to serve military families will occur in a variety of professional settings. We are asking parents to sign up if they are interested. A program survey has been developed to collect inputs, ideas and concerns. To find out more information about this program, please contact Tech. Sgt. Kris Keyser at 828-0122 or Paula Cox at 828-7760.

Tinker Elementary School 2009-2010 registration

The Tinker Elementary School will be registering new students beginning Monday, May 18. Registration will be held from Monday until Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To register your student you will need the following documentation:

- Original birth certificate (Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before

Sept. 1, 2009)

- Florida School Entry Health Exam
- Florida Certificate of Immunization (Kindergarten students must have two varicella vaccines or have had the disease)
- Child's social security card

For first to fifth grade students you will also need a copy of their last report card showing grade placement for next school year. Please be able to provide the contact information for their previous school. If you have any questions, you can contact the school office at 840-2043.

Writing Clinic

The Legal Office will host a writing clinic on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month beginning in May. The class will be held in room 120 of the Education Center from 11a.m. until 1 p.m. and is open to everyone. For more information contact Colleen Otero at 828-9289.



Tricare portability and what you need to know

by **Kaye Sass**

6th Medical Support Squadron, TRICARE Element

As the summer season approaches, many of our MacDill AFB personnel and their families will move to other regions. The information provided below will assist you with making the health-care transition as seamless as possible.

Prior to departing MacDill, please stop by the TRICARE Service Center to pick up one of our "Traveling With Prime" brochures to carry with you on your trip. If you have questions regarding TRICARE and your new location, ask to speak to one of our qualified Health Benefits Advisors who can assist you with information on the new region. You may also call 1-

813-827-9900, Option 2.

Key Points

- Do not disenroll from TRICARE Prime before you leave.

- Make sure you have enough medication to last until you arrive at your new location

- Have all routine care taken care of before you leave. TRICARE Prime will not cover routine care while traveling. Only emergent/urgent care is covered. Remember to notify your Primary Care Manager at MacDill or your civilian provider the next business day in order for the emergent/urgent care visit to be authorized. This will avoid claim issues while you are traveling.

- Assigned to the MTF call toll free 1-877-495-7120

- Assigned to a civilian provid-

er, try to call your PCM first, and if necessary Humana-Military at 1-800-444-5445.

- If you have the need for emergent/urgent care while traveling, please make sure the provider of services or facility has the correct information to file the claim. If you are assigned to the South Region while traveling, all claims will need to be filed with Palmetto GBA, South Region, P. O. Box 7031, Camden, SC 29020-7031. The number for PGBA is 1-800-403-3950.

- Upon arrival at your new duty location, your first stop should be to the nearest TRICARE Service Center to change your enrollment to the new region, or for those moving within the South Region, your provider. If you are unsure where the nearest TRICARE Ser-

vice Center is located please visit the TRICARE Management Activity site at www.tricare.osd.mil, click on the region on the map you need and this will take you to the region with all information you will need.

- ALWAYS update DEERS any time your address or status changes. This can be done several ways:

- DEERS at 1-800-538-9552

- www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERSAddress

- Visit your nearest Pass & ID office

TRICARE WEST REGION

TriWest Contact Information:

1-888-874-9378

Web site: www.triwest.com

See **TRICARE**, Page 22



Tech problems impacting travel, military pay systems

Technical Problems lead to halt of Air Force travel and military pay processing

During the week of May 4 -8, as migration of the Air Force Material Command (AFMC) workload to the Air Force Financial Services Center (AFF-

SC) was taking place, AFFSC encountered a significant technical problem that resulted in an immediate halt to all travel and military pay processing.

According to Air Mobility Command's Financial Management leadership, the

cause is technically complex. However, the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) and Secretary of the Air Force Office of Warfighting Integration and Chief Information Officer (XC) experts have stated they believe

this problem emerged as AFFSC reached its capacity on the number of concurrent users, while completely filling out the library storage capacity.

As soon as problems were noticed, AMC/FM, AFMC, AFFSC, SAF/FMP, SAF/XC and DISA all began diligently working to straighten out these issues. Collaboration included numerous teleconferences between all AF controllers and senior leaders.

As of May 11, a fix has not been found. However, it is being worked with utmost urgency and will continue to be until a resolution is found.

The Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force

was briefed on this issue May 8.

AMC/FM is working closely with AFFSC to develop a temporary set of work around procedures that should allow for a limited set of documents (TDY advances, Accrual payments for deployed members, etc) to be transferred to AFFSC to be processed as the system will allow.

Additionally, procedures have been set up for high priority cases.

These types of procedures have been sent to our wings for implementation starting May 11 and will continue until the issues are resolved.

AMC is one of only two commands with

responsibility for processing military pay documents, so for AMC-serviced members, only travel voucher processing is impacted.

Other commands transferred both travel and military pay functions.

Another plus, according to AMC/FM is AMC has much experience with the proposed workaround process, which will allow for our wings to begin sending their appropriate documents to AFFSC first thing in the morning on May 11.

AMC wings began transferring their travel voucher processing function to AFFSC in February and March of 2008.

TRICARE

From Page 20

TRICARE NORTH REGION

Health Net Contact Information: 1-877-874-2273

Web site: [\[netfederalservices.com\]\(http://netfederalservices.com\)](http://www.health-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

TRICARE SOUTH REGION

Humana-Military Contact Information:

1-800-444-5445

Web site: www.humana-military.com

TRICARE PRIME REMOTE: 1-888-363-5433

TRICARE OVERSEAS: 1-888-777-8343

The TRICARE Flight would like to wish each of you a safe journey to your next assignment. It has been our pleasure to serve with you.

SPORTS/FITNESS



Photos by Senior Airman David Minor

Serve's up!

(LEFT) Staff Sgt. Michael Mongillo reaches for the ball during the volleyball tournament held May 18 at the Base Gym. (RIGHT) Staff Sgt. Jason Riker of the 6th Maintenance Operations Squadron, serves the ball during the tournament. Volleyball is one of several team sports available to Airmen on base which promote competition and fitness.

MACDILL COMMUNITY



EVENTS

Friday

Fitness Center

May Fitness Month crossfit will be Friday, May 22 at the MacDill Fitness Center from 7a.m. until 12 p.m.

Boomers bar and Grill

There will be a Boomers Memorial Weekend Special Friday, May 22 at the Boomers Bar and Grill from 7 until 9 p.m.

Monday

Bayshore Club

Crunch and Munch will be Monday, May 25 at the Bayshore Club from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Fitness Center

The May Fitness Month personal training demo will be Tuesday, May 26 at the MacDill Fitness Center from 7 until 8 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Wednesday

Fitness Center

May Fitness Month bench press will be Wednesday, May 27 at the MacDill Fitness Center from 11 until 11:30 a.m.

Surf's Edge

Surf's Edge has drive by pizza Wednesday, May 27, from 4 until 6 p.m.



Photos by Senior Airman Linzi Joseph

Job Fair

Ms. Beverley Sherard, Defense Commissary Agency store personal liaison hands Christopher Garcia, King High School International Baccalaureate Program student an application for the base commissary during its annual youth job fair here May 14. The job fair was the host of several companies interested in hiring youth 16 years and older, coordinated by the Airman and Family readiness center.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Protestant services

Sunday - 9 a.m., Traditional Service
10:30 a.m., Religious Education, Noon, Gospel Service

Tuesday - Noon, Promise Keepers

Wednesday - 10:30 a.m., Women of the Chapel

Thursday - 11:30 a.m., Officers' Christian Fellowship

For more information regarding the Chapel or Chapel services, call 828-3621.

Catholic services

Saturday - Mass, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday - Mass, 10:30 a.m.

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

Saturday - Sacrament of Reconciliation, 4:30 p.m., (or by appointment)

Jewish and Islamic services

Call 828-3621 for information



AT THE MOVIES

Base Theater closed for renovations