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MacDill

THUNDERBOLT

Thursday, July 31, 2014

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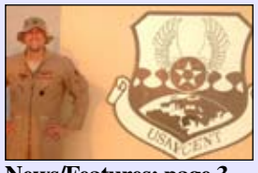

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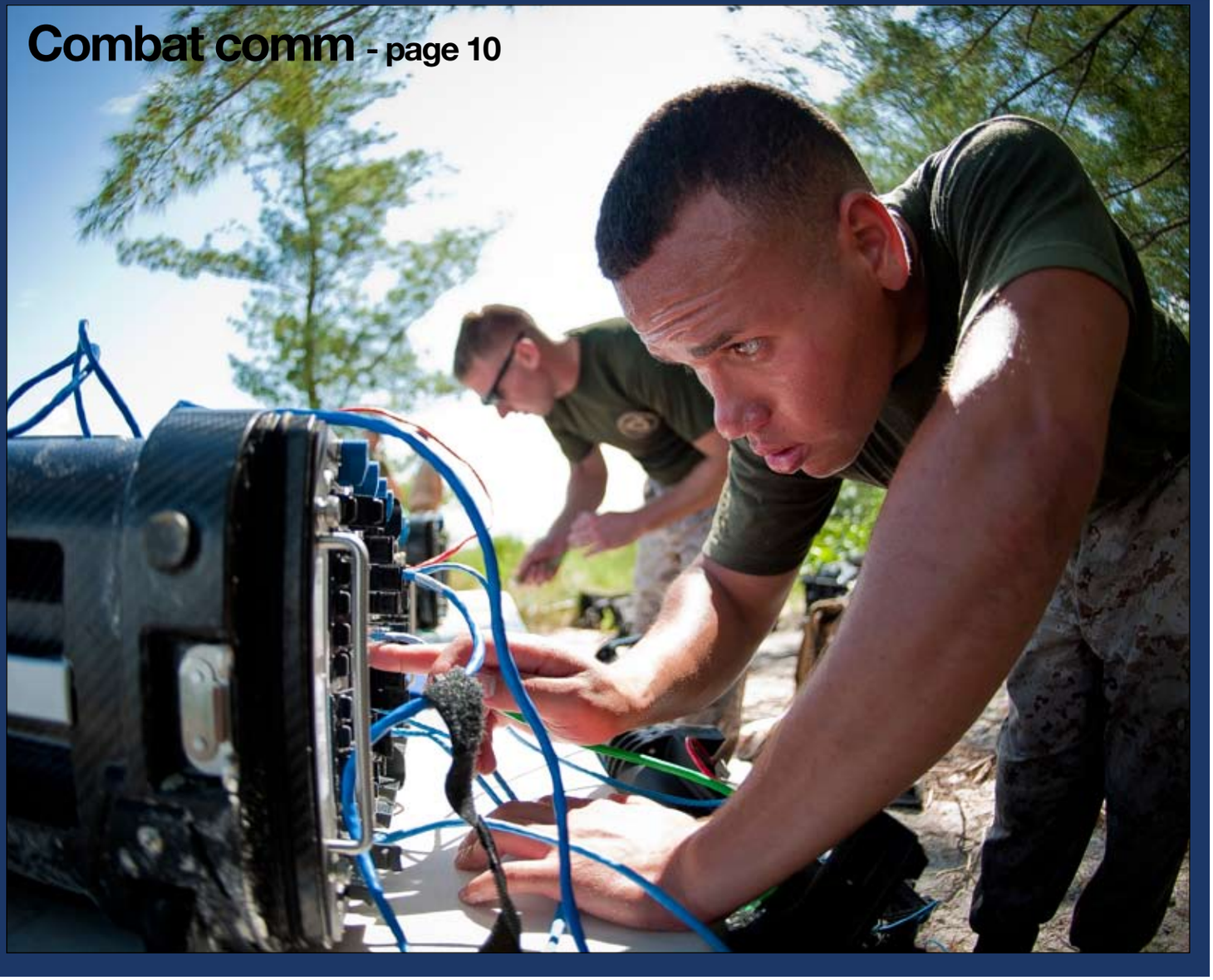

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brandon Shapiro

U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Bryant Viera, Joint Communications Support Element communications operator, assembles equipment at a simulated remote island near MacDill Air Force Base, July 23. Viera is a native of Orlando, Florida. The Joint Communications Support Element conducted an exercise to test the unit's readiness for rapid deployment communications operations.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Analog leadership in a digital world

by Col. David E. Blocker
6th Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander

In today's military, every service member is a leader, and we all live in a "digital world." Look around any gathering of people; most of us are online with some form of computer or electronic device the majority of time we are awake. At home station or deployed, portable electronic devices and tablet computers are "necessary" for reviewing military instructions, routine communication, and documenting mission accomplishment.

Like it or not, digital technology is here to stay, and navigating daily life in our world is increasingly complex and integrated. Here's the challenge: we are "analog" by design, designed to focus on one thing at a time, traveling in one direction in time and space, anticipating future events at the limited processing speed of a human brain. Multitasking effectively drops our IQ and requires more time and energy to complete any single task. Because analog "feels" more natural, most popular digital interfaces simulate analog devices and make things seem simple to the user. No matter how digitally connected we are, we all still share the analog interface, and need to operate and relate within both realms.

In this brief article, I want to share five concepts of analog leadership that stand out the most to me in our increasingly digital world:

1. Use digital media for information, not discussion. Analog leaders understand that effective communication happens best face-to-face, and requires feedback. "Sending" does not equal "receiving." More than 90 percent of communication is non-verbal, happening with tone of voice and body language. While one-way communication, like texts or emails, is fine for sharing general information or preparation for later discussion, topics that are followed up in person get done more completely and correctly. If more than three emails are needed, take the discussion offline; use the phone or meet face-to-face.

2. What goes TDY stays online. Analog leaders understand that any foolish or heroic moment can easily be captured and shared, becoming the next social media sensation or national embarrassment, with Uniform Code of Military Justice consequences for service members. I've never liked the concept of "what goes TDY stays TDY." The reality now is if something happens while TDY or deployed, you can expect the folks at home to know by breakfast.

3. Stay positive with digital media. I believe that analog leaders know to praise in public (including online), but correct in private (keep it offline). Just because you can post it or email it, should you? Once an email, text, or photo is online, you can't take it back! I like the test of the "3M's" – if you don't want to share this information with your mother, your minister, and the media, then don't post it or share it online! If you blog, post or email, don't complain in the digital forum. Make a conscious choice to share positive information and images about yourself and others, and always remember Operational Security.

Col. David E. Blocker

4. Use the chain of command, even in the digital world. If you wouldn't blindside your supervisor with the information in a face-to-face meeting with their boss, don't send or publish outside of your chain of command without their visibility and support.

5. Monitor and address issues in digital media quickly. Responsive honesty and trans-

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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. Email macdillwingcommander@us.af.mil.

MacDill on the web

Website: www.macdill.af.mil

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MacDillAirForceBase

MacDill Thunderbolt

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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.

'There I was...'

Getting DVs to destinations

by Capt. Travis Fugler
310th Airlift Squadron

This deployment started off different than all the previous ones: I was not a pilot in the cockpit preparing to fly our aircraft to the Middle East. Instead, I took my seat in the center aisle of a military-chartered commercial airliner, and shared travel space with 300 people rather than three.

It was the start of a five-month staff (non-flying) duty to the hub of the U.S. military's mobility airlift "plans and executions" division for USCENTCOM's area of operations. In years past, I had flown missions delivering fuel over the skies of Iraq and Afghanistan. Now I would facilitate the hi-visibility airlift movements of strategic civilian and military leaders throughout Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, the Arabian Gulf region, and even Europe.

As with all other deployments, a familiar face is not hard to find (usually in the chow hall). It started out by connecting with an old college buddy and close friend, who was passing through for a few days, traveling home to St. Petersburg following a six-month MC-12 deployment. I saw a good number of friends from my Air Refueling days (out here for another of many deployments), and ultimately closed out the deployment by reuniting with my cousin for the first time on active duty since I performed his commissioning ceremony more than four years ago. It was a privilege to see Airmen that served well and were heading home, and then also those that were just getting started with their tireless service to this nation. This certainly was not a glamorous deployment by any means, as the entirety was spent in an air conditioned, secured office far from the fight, so I had much respect for those I saw or tasked to "push the mish" downrange.

During my time serving in U.S. Air Forces Central Command's Distinguished Visitor airlift planner section at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, our three-pilot team utilized six different types of aircraft to meet the AOR's number two priority—delivering 120 strategic leaders and 1,600 passengers on 300 flights to many time-sensitive locations. On our watch, we managed military airlift for numerous congressional delegations—reaching four nations—and directly supported the speaker of the house, assistants to the pPresident of the United States, secretary of defense/state leaders, ambassadors, the head of the armed forces in Afghanistan, countless military leaders of the highest ranks, and other government officials. It was gratifying to know that some daily critical actions on our team's part permitted key civilian and military leaders timely access to various strategic locations on this side of the globe. It was fascinating to see certain world events or leadership engagements on the news and know that we helped get our DVs there.

Capt. Travis Fugler joyfully returned to his wife (Jenny) and three children (Bella, 5, Summer, 3, and Rhett, 1) who eagerly awaited his homecoming.

Our team developed airlift missions that supported the POTUS/SECSTATE international

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Brig. Gen. Cornum and CMSgt. Dowler visit

by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Kory Cornum, Air Mobility Command surgeon general, and Chief Master Sgt. Marc Dowler, AMC chief of medical enlisted force, visited MacDill Air Force Base July 24. New to the command, Cornum is touring the medical facilities for which he is responsible.

Cornum and Dowler oversee the health care services provided by 6,250 Air Mobility Command medical personnel located at 12 military treatment facilities, an Air Mobility Command medical budget of $781 million, and assets exceeding $1.6 billion.

"Our visit to MacDill was spectacular," commented Dowler. "To see firsthand how our Airmen take care of the mission is truly impressive, from consolidating specialty services to physical therapy occupying space at the fitness center, the MacDill Medical Group has found ways to better enable quality patient care."

During their visit, Cornum and Dowler toured the 6th Medical Group Clinic, the MacDill Area Resilience Center, Health Promotion Services, formerly known as the Health and Wellness Center located in the Short Fitness Center, and the Brandon Clinic.

Cornum and Dowler reviewed the various locations' processes and discussed each clinic's mission, highlights, challenges and ways they are moving ahead.

"The Brandon Clinic was superb; while the facility is undersized for the population enrolled, it was bustling with beneficiaries, and everyone had a smile on their face," said Dowler. "The MacDill Medical leadership is forging new paths to better care for our beneficiaries; simply an outstanding visit."

As chief medical consultant to the Air Mobility Command commander, Cornum ensures maximum combat readiness, operational health, and the efficient delivery of healthcare to 448,000 beneficiaries by providing guidance on medical capabilities through plans, operational policies, military specific medical training, consultation, and financial management.

Photo by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Kory Cornum, Air Mobility Command surgeon, shakes the hands of Airmen from the 6th Medical Group clinic at MacDill Air Force Base, July 24.

Cornum and Dowler sat down with several Airmen to discuss strategies and processes that could improve the quality of care provided to the

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WEEK IN PHOTOS

Photo by Senior Airman Melanie Bulow-Gonterman

Airmen from the 6th Air Mobility Wing bounce over obstacles during Wingman Day July 21, at MacDill Air Force Base. Wingman Day promotes esprit de corps, camaraderie and team-building skills between the units.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Ned T. Johnston

Air Assault School candidates prepare for a 12-mile diagnostic ruck march evaluation at MacDill Air Force Base, July 22. The 12-mile ruck march has to be completed in under three hours in order to be eligible for Air Assault School.

Photo by Senior Airman Vernon L. Fowler Jr.

Col. Peter Santa Ana, 6th Mission Support Group commander, passes the guideon to Maj. Tamara Duke, incoming 6th Force Support Squadron commander, at the 6th FSS change of command ceremony, MacDill Air Force Base, July 25.

MacDill kennel master renders first-aid, saves injured bicyclist

by Airman 1st Class Ned T. Johnston
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

"I didn't take the time to think whether or not to help him; I saw him get struck by the vehicle and by the time he hit the ground, I was running to his aid," exclaimed Tech. Sgt. Lewis Collins, 6th Security Forces Squadron military working dog kennel master.

Collins, a Chester, Virginia, native, was driving home from a medical appointment July 10, when he witnessed Walter Padron, a 78-year-old man, get struck by a vehicle when he was crossing the street on his bicycle.

"My first reaction, instinctively, was to help him," said Collins. "I think it has a lot to do with being a first responder.

According to a Tampa Police Department report, Padron was struck by a vehicle moving approximately 10 mph. Unfortunately for Padron, he was not wearing a helmet.

"I saw him hit the ground pretty hard," said Collins. "When I came up to him, he was on his back with his bike tangled up in his legs. He was

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Ned T. Johnston

Tech. Sgt. Lewis Collins, 6th Security Forces Squadron military working dog kennel master, shakes the hand of 78-year-old Walter Padron, Sunday. Collins rendered life-saving first-aid after Padron was struck by a vehicle when he was crossing the street on his bicycle.

45th AES concludes three day training mission

by Senior Airman Adam Borgman
927th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

Photo by Capt. Joe Simms

Maj. Jose Bayron (upper left) evaluates a team of 45th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron members during an in-flight training scenario.

Members of the 45th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base completed a three-day training mission July 20 to maintain their currency on a KC-135 Stratotanker.

The 13-member team accomplished multiple scenarios including a patient succumbing to altitude sickness due to an in-flight emergency and another patient experiencing heart palpitations.

"We accomplished a lot of training this weekend, including some scheduled evaluations and some no-notice check rides to test our member's skills and abilities without warning," said Master Sgt. Darryl Ford, 45th AES senior enlisted evaluator.

One of the members who received a no-notice evaluation was Master Sgt. Jarrard Mack.

"Providing care to patients at 35,000 feet brings a unique set of challenges, and the medical and aircraft emergency evaluations we received this weekend prepares us for real word missions while maintaining our medical readiness," Mack said.

Each of the medical professionals on this mission had a specific role which fulfilled a quarterly training requirement.

"There are six primary positions that make up our crew, the mission clinical coordinator runs all the scenarios, the mission clinical director is the flight nurse in charge of the overall mission, assisted by a second

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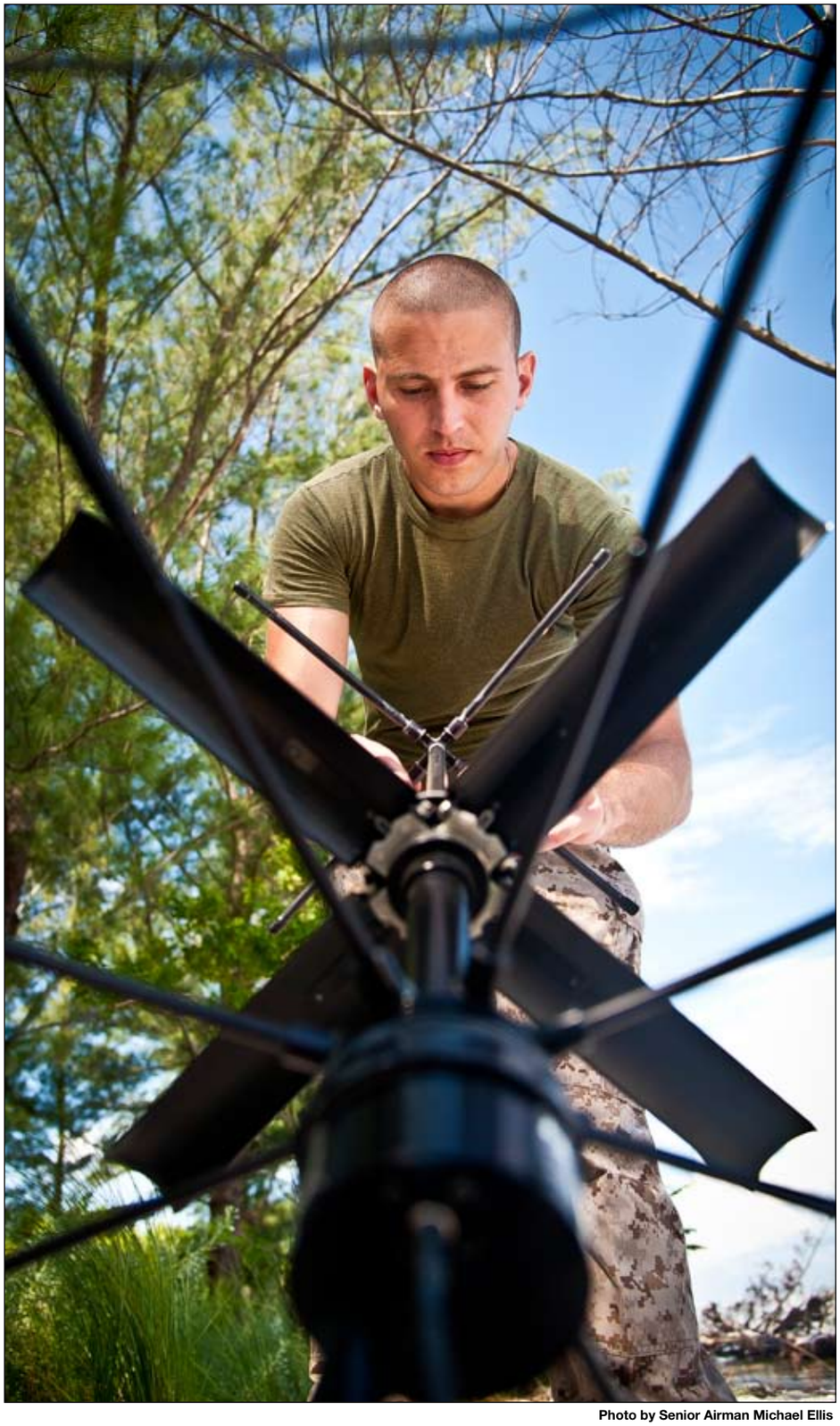

Photo by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Daniel Bunnell, Joint Communications Support Element radio frequency operator, assembles equipment at simulated remote island near MacDill Air Force Base, July 23. The JCSE conducted an exercise to test the unit's readiness for rapid deployment communications operations.

JCSE tests readiness

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Daniel Bunnell, Joint Communications
equipment at simulated remote island near MacDill Air Force B

U.S. Army Sgt. Derek Roland, Joint Communications Support
loaded onto a boat that will transport his team to a simulated r
Force Base, July 23.

Photo by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

s Support Element radio frequency operator, assembles ase, July 23.

Photo by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

Members from the Joint Communications Support Element unload gear from the boat that transported them to a simulated remote island near MacDill Air Force Base, to conduct an exercise July 23.

Photo by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

t Element, carries gear to be emote island near MacDill Air

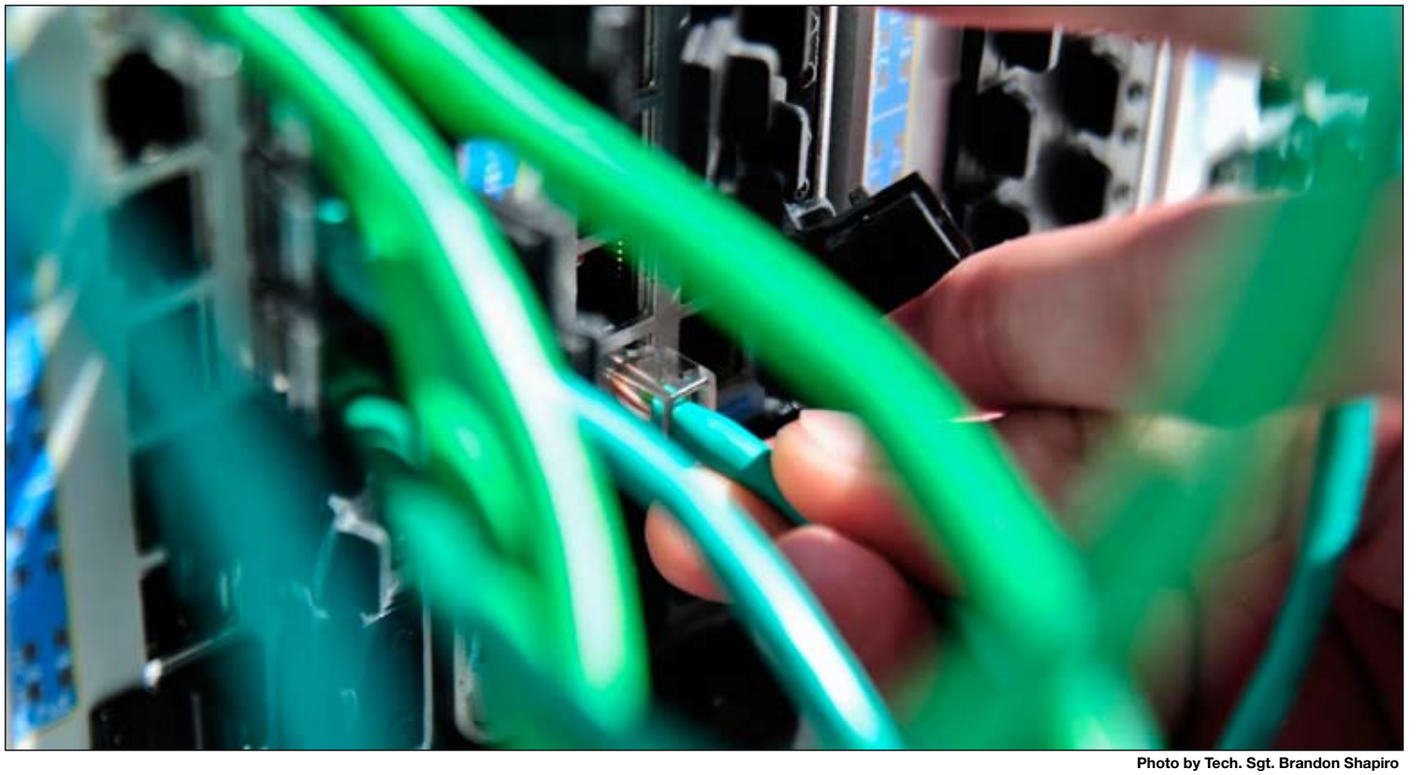

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Brandon Shapiro

Wires are connected to the Orthogon system that transmitted information wirelessly to a satellite location near MacDill Air Force Base, July 23.

TRAINING

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flight nurse," said Master Sgt. Mary Beth Young, 45th AES mission scheduler. "Then there are three patient-care med technicians that consist of a charge med tech that controls all the equipment and oversees the other med techs, the next med tech controls the littered patients, and the third that controls the baggage, meals, and ambulatory patients."

The primary mission of the KC-135 Stratotanker is air-to-air refueling, but when these nurses and medical technicians need to transport injured service members to safety, they can quickly be converted into mobile hospitals. In addition to the KC-135, the members of the 45th AES must be universally qualified on the C-130 and C-17 aircraft.

Several AES members on this training mission have served on multiple deployments overseas, and many just recently returned home. Their experiences are both rewarding and humbling according to Tech. Sgt. Monica Eastman, 45th AES.

"Over the years we have increased the patient survival rate to 99 percent, primarily because evacuation missions that used to take months now takes days," Eastman said. "As a team we have probably touched over 300 lives during our deployments, but we are not the heroes, we are just doing our job to bring the real heroes home to their families."

SAVE

From Page 6

unconscious from the blow to the ground."

Collins immediately contacted 911 and began to assess Padron's injuries.

"I noticed he had lacerations on the back of his head," said Collins. "I immediately checked to make sure his airways were open, that he was breathing and that his circulation was steady."

Collins maintained steady pressure on the gash to Padron's head and tried to get him to come back to consciousness all while constantly checking vital signs and assessing Padron's overall condition.

"I don't remember much," said Padron. "The only thing I vaguely remember was a man hunched over me holding my head telling me everything was going to be alright."

It took Tampa police officers and Tampa Fire Rescue crews about 8 minutes to respond to the scene from the time the 911 call was made by Collins. When TPD and TFR arrived, Collins briefed them on Padron's condition, and Padron was taken from the scene in an ambulance.

"I've seen numerous things throughout my almost 13-year career, so standing around in shock is something I just can't do anymore," said Collins. "I saw someone in need of help, so I helped out. I'd like to believe anyone would do the same in that situation."

Driving preparedness

by Airman 1st Class Tori Schultz
6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

The daily task of driving from point A to point B can become monotonous and a driver can get stuck in a routine. When it comes to long trips, safety needs to be a top priority and a part of your routine.

While driving, distractions, fatigue and a properly maintained vehicle are potential safety concerns.

Death or serious injury can be a result from operating a phone while driving. Calling, texting or using a global positioning system adds cognitive distractions to the brain. Intentionally schedule calls for a time when you will not be driving and set your GPS while in a parked position. If a ringing phone is too tempting, get in the habit of silencing your phone before you start to drive. Other types of distractions include eating and drinking, talking to passengers, grooming, reading, and adjusting a radio.

Just like drugs or alcohol, sleepiness slows reaction time, decreases awareness, and impairs judgment.

To avoid fatigue while driving, maintain a regular sleep schedule that allows adequate rest. When planning a long trip, share driving responsibilities with a companion and begin the trip early in the day. Stop every 100 miles or two hours to get out of the car and walk around. Allow time to stop for food and beverages and keep the temperature in the car cool. When signs of fatigue begin to show, get off the road. Take a short nap in a well-lit area. Do not simply stop on the side of the road.

Before hitting the road for a long trip, preparing the vehicle is just as important, if not more important, than preparing yourself.

Making sure your vehicle has been serviced and is ready for a trip is one of the first things you should do during the planning phase of your trip. Having an emergency kit and some extra water in the car can only help the process. It is better to have it and not need it, than need it and not have it.

Simply following the rules and practicing risk management can decrease accidents and improve safety. Summer is a great time for family and friends to come together and create lasting memories. Utilizing simple safety tips can help keep everyone safe and out of harm's way.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Brittany Liddon

MacBones, 6th Air Mobility Wing safety skeleton, performs a routine maintenance check-up on his car at MacDill Air Force Base, June 12. Ensuring your vehicle has been serviced and is ready is important.

MACDILL COMMUNITY

EVENTS

Friday

Surf's Edge Club

Membership Breakfast from 6:30-9 a.m. Club members free; Non-members: $7.95.

SeaScapes Beach House

Lei'd Back Luau – Everyone Welcome. Wear your tropical wear. live music 5-7 p.m. Free interactive Polynesian/luau show 7-8 p.m. Hula dancers, fire/knife dancer, giveaways and prizes. Limbo contest, best dressed contest, kids luau crafts, traditional Hawaiian luau buffet and kids island menu.

Saturday

Seascapes Beach House

Steak-n-Date Night served from 5-8 p.m. Creole seasoned or blackened rib eye with garlic roasted potatoes, fresh vegetable du jour and crispy French bread and butter $15.95. Add a house salad with your choice of dressing $1.95. Ask about our dessert and drink specials.

Thursday

Base Theater

Free movie: "Madagascar" at 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome and feel free to bring your own food and drink.

Good eats

Check out the new food trucks on base. Slow & Low Barbeque, Wicked Wiches #2 and Buddy Brew Coffee. For more info go to http://tinyurl.com/macdilleats.

Sing it

Looking for the best singer on MacDill for the 7th Annual AMC Icon Competition August 14. Prizes awarded for 1st Place ($500), 2nd Place ($300) and 3rd ($200)! For rules & registration go to http://tinyurl.com/macicon.

On tour

The Mayor Neighborhood University Alumni came to visit MacDill Air Force Base Friday.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Protestant service

Sunday - 11 a.m. - Contemporary Service

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

Islamic service

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

Catholic services

Saturday - 5:30 p.m. - Mass

Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Mass

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

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

EXCHANGE
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

‘THERE I WAS...’

From Page 3

political/military agenda, governmental stability and counterterrorism in Yemen/Iraq/Saudi Arabia/Afghanistan/Pakistan, the recount/audit of the disputed Afghanistan presidential elections, ceremonial honors for fallen soldiers in Afghanistan, NATO leadership conferences, charitable organizations like the Wounded Warrior Project, natural disaster relief, and Aeromedical Evacuations. One of the last missions we planned and executed on extremely short notice flew the retiring special rep to AFG/PAK, whom Secretary of State John Kerry honored by saying, “He will be forever known as the guy who raised the first flag over our embassy in Kabul after the fall of the Taliban.”

CORNER

From Page 2

parency from our military leaders and organizations are even more important in a digital world, where information is shared and opinions are formed “real time.” A quick honest answer in response to an online question or embarrassment is preferable to a detailed report or apology days later. This requires awareness and access to popular social media and digital interfaces in our communities. Digital rules of engagement exist for military organizations using social media; Public Affairs and the Judge Advocate General are available to assist.

Remember that service members are always held to UCMJ standards, in and out of uniform, including content posted or shared online. Your digital DNA will be traced to you, so live the core values and let them be reflected in your online interactions.

I hope these insights provide food for thought as you navigate your own path as an analog leader in our digital world.

VISIT

From Page 3

clinics’ patrons.

Throughout the tour, Cornum expressed how impressed he was with the contracts that were in the works, funding provided for the clinic, and the steps they have taken to improve the services provided at the clinic.

“I was very impressed with the hard working medics and the leadership of the entire 6th Medical Group,” Cornum said. “Everyone I talked to is dedicated to the delivery of compassionate care of the highest quality to our patients.”

Cornum coined several individuals, Airmen and civilian employees, for their innovative ideas that have contributed to the success of streamlining several processes and the management of funds and resources.

“I am very appreciative of the Medical Group for hosting the chief and I for this orientation, and I am pleased I had the opportunity to recognize a few medics who really make the mission happen,” said Cornum.