

THUNDERBOLT

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AIRMEN



MISSION



COMMUNITY



TEAMMATES



6th Maintenance Squadron keeps 'em fit to fly - page 10

Photo by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell

Staff Sgt. Robert Agins, 6th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, reattaches a panel to a KC-135 Stratotanker during an isochronal inspection at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 1. Airmen removed the paneling of a KC-135 to check the cables, ducts, ribs, tubing and wires.

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COMMANDER'S CORNER



Servant leadership

by Col. Reggie Godbolt
6th Maintenance Group commander

I have heard several times our current Chief of Staff of the Air Force say, "Leadership is a gift given by those who follow; you have to be worthy of it." To me, this means that successful leaders put the interest of their subordinates before their own desires. They value their subordinate's opinions, reward them for excellent performance and serve them by enabling them with the resources needed to be successful. In return, their subordinates are willing to follow their guidance and implement their visions as if their own. The leader is inspired by this exchange and the desire to "serve" others becomes a calling; thus the concept of "Servant Leadership."

As I reflect upon my own career and successes, one theme emerges.

There were many talented and dedicated subordinates I had the pleasure of leading who were willing to stick with me through tough times because they believed in what I was trying to accomplish. My success was due to the success of my subordinates and I realized early on that the true meaning of leadership was to serve those who are willing to follow.

Servant Leadership requires a transformation from "it's all about me" to "it's all about them." We all have examples of bosses who constantly made things about themselves. Every success or great idea was centered on them with little or no acknowledgment of others' contributions. A senior mentor once told me, "be out front to take responsibility for the bad and stay out of the way for the praise." It is amazing the motivation this instills in your subordinates and in turn their willingness to allow you to lead them.

The "Servant Leadership" approach is formulated on five central aspects:

1. Placing service before self-interest. The primary concern is helping others, not receiving recognition or reward.

2. Listening to others. Recognize the importance of listening to the ideas and concerns of subordinates. Never attempt to impose your will on others. This enables better relationships, understanding of needs, and allocation of resources to improve the group's welfare.

3. Inspiring through trust. Be ethical and trustworthy.

4. Working toward feasible goals. Clarify goals and set performance standards.

5. Helping others whenever possible. Be willing to lend a helping hand when the opportunity arises.

"Servant Leadership" doesn't mean doing whatever your subordinates want either. A good leader will have to do things that are uncomfortable for the betterment of the organization. You must be willing to set standards and hold subordinates accountable to those standards. Always remember, it



Col. Reggie Godbolt

is their affirmation of your character, knowledge and actions that are accepted as models of success, not how well they like you. If you can't tell a subordinate constructively that they are not performing to standards and be willing to help them improve then you are not serving them effectively.

The question to ask yourself is, "Are you going to go into work to-

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Visit the official MacDill website at www.macdill.af.mil



COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

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

Commander's vision

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

MacDill Thunderbolt

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Really big job

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Fit to fly

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Events, Chapel, more...

Our civilians are Airmen, and I'm proud of them

by Lt. Col. George Scheers Jr.
6th Contracting Squadron commander

On the afternoon of Aug. 6, Air Force Public Affairs announced an early end to the FY13 civilian furlough. The welcome news reduced the number of furlough days from 11 to six for our civilian workforce. Although we celebrate the small victory, we can't forget the sacrifices our civilians made, the stress this caused and the detrimental impact to our organizations. The 6th Contracting Squadron is a small squadron with 84 people on our best day, but the furlough made an enormous proportional impact on the organization considering 40 of our Airmen are civilians. Let me also mention that in contracting, our civilian workforce accounts for most of our experience and are critical to leading and training our Airmen. So let's do the math; that's almost 48 percent of the workforce that took a 20 percent pay cut for six weeks and had to budget and plan for five more when they signed their notification letters. In real numbers, that equates 240 man days and 1920 lost hours, all running parallel with our busiest time of the year. In addition to the pay cut and reduction in leave accrual, our civilians had to cope with a great deal of stress and uncertainty in their professional and personal lives.

News of the furlough started back in February as it became increasingly likely that sequestration would go into effect on March 1. That started the stress for our workforce as well as the planning to overcome. At that point, we were warned

of a possible 22 discontinuous furlough days of all of our civilian employees. The first plan was to make notifications in April for the 22-day furlough to start in May. After a few delays, definitive word came in May that the furlough would be reduced to a maximum of 11 days for FY13 starting in July. I'm proud to say that from day one, our folks all had the mission in mind and crafted a plan to spread furlough days to minimize impact to the squadron mission.

Friday proved to be the most visible impact for 6th Contracting Squadron. It was an eerie feeling walking around and seeing rows of empty desks and dark offices. I never realized how loud the air handler was until I walked through our third floor on a "furlough Friday." What you may not immediately realize is how the contracting furlough impacted you or your organization. Other furlough impacts revealed an immediate effect for reduced hours at the Child Development Center to the closure of the Commissary on Monday.

The contracting furloughs translated into slower requirements processing, no GPC support or document processing on some days to significantly degraded after hours contracting capability. In addition, 50 percent of our military workforce experienced delays in their upgrade training as a result of our lost civilian manpower that will prolong the "get well" plan for the Air Force contracting workforce. We can't lose sight of the intangible effects of the furlough. How many hours did we spend planning, tracking, reporting and discussing the furlough? What is the oppor-



Lt. Col. George Scheers Jr.

tunity cost of things we could have accomplished if sequestration were avoided?

The good news story in all of this is that our squadron, our base and our Air Force are resilient! We managed the chaos sequestration and furlough created by sticking together as a team and leaning on our pillars to get through the tough times. For some, getting to the gym a few times a week was a welcome relief; for others it was the comfort provided through their spiritual beliefs, but for all of us here in contracting, I believe the social pillar was the key. We were all in it together.

Our civilians step up when our military folks deploy; during this furlough our airmen, NCO's and officers returned the favor and got the job done. The impacts of the furlough will be felt for years to come. It won't be forgotten. We are stronger now that we have weathered this storm and seen the damage it caused. As we continued down the path of fiscal uncertainty, let's hope the furlough is remembered as a cautionary tale and not a viable means to manage fiscally in the future.

Critical Days of Summer
May 24 to Sept. 3

Camping Tips

- ◆ Check the weather before you go. Pay attention where you pitch your tent.
- ◆ Be Prepared. Always take a first-aid kit, prescription medicine, sunscreen, bug-spray, an extra flashlight and batteries.
- ◆ Never start campfires when fire danger is high or when windy. Surround fire pits with rocks and keep water nearby. Never leave a fire unattended.
- ◆ Be aware of animals. Hang food and cooking pots from a rope no closer than 20-30 feet from your campsite.
- ◆ Use the buddy system. Don't wander off by yourself. Share your camping plans with someone at home.

WEEK IN PHOTOS

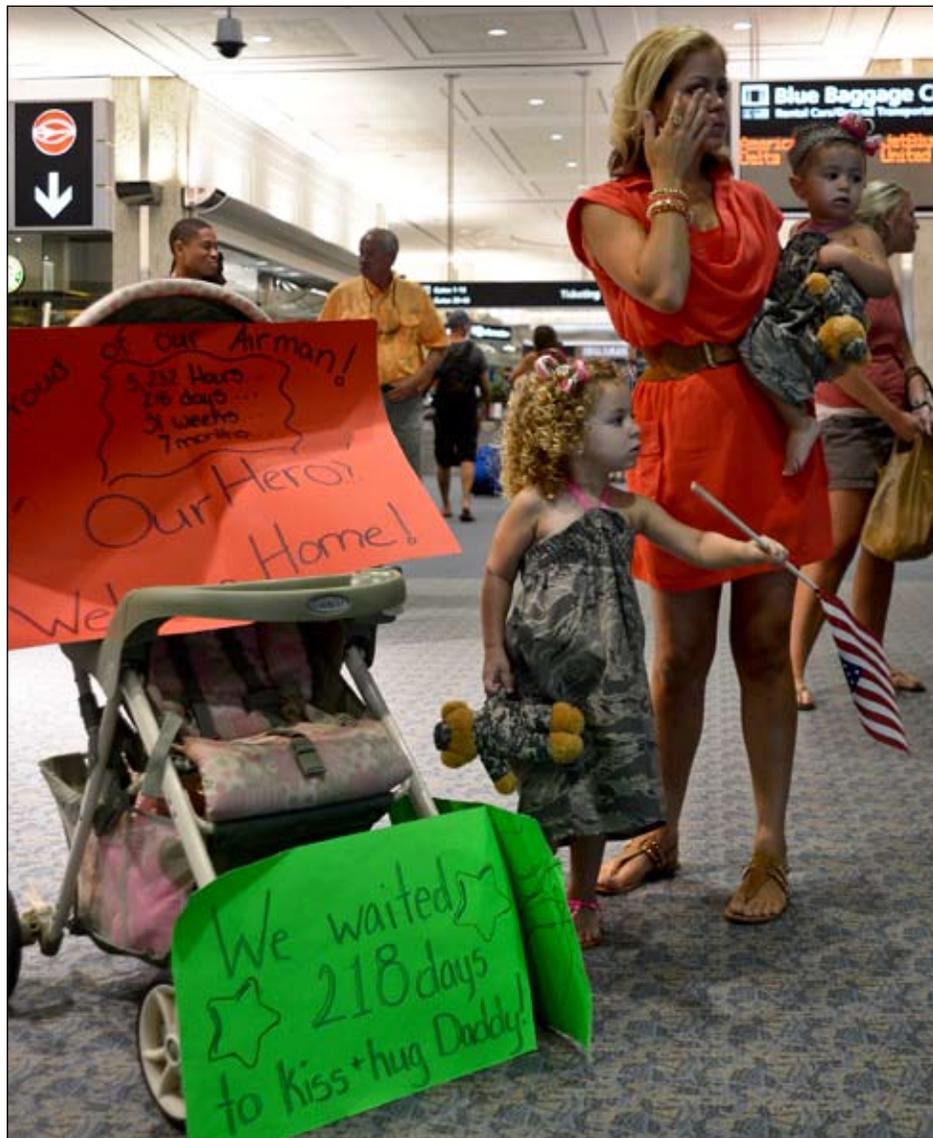


Photo by Senior Airman Melissa Paradise

Linnette Reyes and her two daughters Soelani, 3, and Carleys, 20 months, wait for Senior Airman Carlos Reyes Vasquez, 6th Security Forces Squadron entry controller, to arrive at Tampa International Airport, Aug. 8.

Col. Robert Rocco, 6th Medical Group commander, passes the guidon to Lt. Col David Blocker, 6th Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander during a change of command ceremony held at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 9. The passing of the guidon symbolizes the beginning of Blocker's tour as the 6th AMDS commander.



Photo by Senior Airman Adam Grant



Photo by Senior Airman Melissa Paradise

Airman 1st Class Zachary Tierney, 6th Security Forces Squadron entry controller, kisses his son Matthew, 6 months, upon his return from a deployment, at Tampa International Airport, Aug. 8. It was the first time Tierney had seen his son in person.



Photo by Senior Airman Adam Grant

Col. Robert Rocco, 6th Medical Group commander, passes the guidon to Lt. Col William Baez, 6th Dental Squadron commander, during a change of command ceremony held at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 9. The passing of the guidon symbolizes the beginning of Baez's tour as the 6th DS commander.

Congrats to FTAC grads

Thunderbolt staff report

The following Airmen graduated Aug. 9 from the First Term Airman's Center:

6th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
Derek Weber Millburn, N.J. 6 AMDS

6th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Cecil Sweeney, Saint Croix, VI 6 AMXS

6th Air Mobility Wing staff
Ned Johnston, Seminole, Fla. 6 AMW

6th Civil Engineer Squadron
Steven Murphy, Johnsburg, Ill. 6 CES

6th Communications Squadron
Niall Shimmell, Grand Rapids, Mich. 6 CS

6th Comptrollers Squadron
Cory Taylor, Jackson Tenn. 6 CPTS

6th Logistics Readiness Squadron
◆ Cordale Wade, Pensacola, FL 6 LRS
◆ Heather Zaretskyi, Yucca Valley, Calif. 6 LRS

6th Medical Operations Squadron
◆ Aaron Gola, Philadelphia, Pa. 6 MDOS
◆ Aubreika Martin, Pasca Geula, Miss. 6 MDOS

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FTAC

From Page 6

6th Operations Support Squadron

Richard McCleery,
Palm Bay , Fla. 6 OSS

6th Security Forces Squadron

◆ Nicole Ankerbrand,,
Mercersburg, Pa. 6
SFS

◆ Ryan Dean, Orlando,
Fla. 6 SFS

◆ Brittany Fisher,,
District of Columbia 6
SFS

◆ Toby Grinnen, War-
ren, Pa. 6 SFS

◆ Jerome Harmon,
Kathleen, Ga. 6 SFS
Devin Hurley Biscoe,
N.C. 6 SFS

◆ Richard Jackson, Sa-
vannah, Ga. 6 SFS

◆ Russell Koons,,
Acorth, Ga. 6 SFS

◆ Andrew Pierce Bil-
lerica, Mass. 6 SFS

◆ Ashelee Villela, Tra-
cy, Calif. 6 SFS

◆ Lana Sexton, Onei-
da, Tenn. 6 SFS

◆ Hunter Wright,,
Havelock, N.C. 6 SFS

◆ Wei Zheng, Simpson-
ville, S.C. 6 SFS

91st Air Refueling Squadron

Christian McPeak,,
Summerville, S.C. 91
ARS



Few medics; 200,000 beneficiaries



Photo by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

Pharmacy technicians use an automated system to fill prescriptions at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 2. The 6th Medical Group fills approximately 625,000 prescriptions annually.

by Senior Airman Michael Ellis

6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Can you imagine working a job where your office takes in more calls than the local police department? Or what it would be like to work on a staff with less than 1,000 employees but your company interacts with more 200,000 customers a year?

For the members of the 6th Medical Group that is their reality. On average the clinic receives 1,000 calls a day. The little more than 750-member staff provides health services for approximately 220,000 military members, their families and retirees each year in the Department of Defense's largest single catchment area.

The clinic meet's the Air Force Medical Service's strategic goals of readiness, better care, better health and best value, by providing trust care, anywhere.

- ◆ **Readiness:** The 6th MDG currently has the highest individual mobility readiness rates in the last 12 years, thus enabling personnel to support the full spectrum of military operations.

- ◆ **Better Care:** Last year the clinic ensured reliable access to quality care by providing more than 900,000 ancillary services to its beneficiaries, while promoting positive patient experiences.

- ◆ **Better Health:** With the addition of, MiCare secure messaging, a web-based tool to communicate securely and privately between patients and their healthcare team (both on and off base), patients now have easy access to their health records which encourages healthy behaviors to reduce illnesses and injuries.

- ◆ **Best Value:** The clinic recently received the highest possible rating (Outstanding) on the Health Services Inspection and the Combined Unit Inspection; in addition, they received a perfect score on the nationally-recognized Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.

So the next time you think that your job is demanding, think about the medics at the 6th MDG. They process an average of 625,000 prescriptions a year. Considering the clinic is open nine hours a day, five days a week, that's 2,300 prescriptions a day and 260 an hour— which is no easy feat.



Photos by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell

Airman 1st Class David Richards, 6th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, reattaches a panel to a KC-135 Stratotanker during an isochronal inspection at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 1. Airmen systematically dismantled a KC-135 Stratotanker from nose to tail and inspected it for functionality and corrosion.



(Left) Airman 1st Class Micah working on a KC-135 Stratotanker during an isochronal inspection for functionality and corrosion. (Right) Airman 1st Class David Richards working on a KC-135 Stratotanker during the inspection.



Airmen with the 6th Maintenance Squadron inspect a KC-135 Stratotanker during an isochronal inspection at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 1. Airmen systematically dismantled a KC-135 Stratotanker from nose to tail and inspected it for functionality and corrosion.



Photos by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell

Senior Airman Austin Montgomery, 6th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, lubricates the flight controls of a KC-135 Stratotanker at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 1. Airmen opened the flight control panels to inspect them for functionality. Senior Airman Austin Montgomery, 6th Maintenance Squadron crew chief, checks a technical order.



Photos by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell

6th Maintenance Squadron perform an isochronal inspection on a KC-135 Stratotanker at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 1. Airmen dismantled a KC-135 from nose to tail and inspected it for functionality and corrosion.

Dismantled

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

“Isochronal inspections...It all began in 1903, when two men stood on a hill...” joked Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Phillips, 6th Maintenance Squadron isochronal dock coordinator, July 31, 2013 at MacDill Air Force Base.

The isochronal inspection is one of the most thorough inspections that the 6th MXS conducts.

“The ISO inspection is a periodic inspection that occurs every 1,800 flight hours or 24 months, whichever comes first,” Phillips said.

The inspection consists of Airmen systematically dismantling a KC-135 Stratotanker from nose to tail and inspecting every inch of it for functionality and corrosion.

Aiming for a two-week completion time, Airmen begin the process by washing the aircraft before taking it into the ISO hangar. They then begin detaching the aircraft’s paneling to inspect the cables, ducts, ribs, tubes and wires.

“From removing panels to check wires to removing the boom to check the cables, the Airmen do it all,” said Tech. Sgt. Orbie Butler, 6th MXS maintenance section chief.

The inspection is a tedious process that requires a significant amount of attention to detail. Airmen open the engine panels to check the wiring, computers and to inspect the flight controls’ panels for proper lubrication.

After all components are inspected, the Airmen begin reassembling the aircraft and ready it for operational checks.

“While the aircraft is in the hangar, the process takes about eight days. When the inspection has concluded, the KC-135 is pulled back on the flightline to ensure that all systems are operational, which gives the Airmen a six-day safety net to guarantee that all systems are functioning properly and no other maintenance is needed,” explained Butler.

Once all system checks are achieved, the aircraft is ready for take-off.

MacDill has a total of 16 KC-135s, each on a different inspection calendar, lasting up to 14 days.



The truth about the MEB

by Senior Airman Melissa Paradise

6th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Everyone knows how the rumor mill works. Someone hears something and assumes that information is factual, then passes it along to a friend, who tells a friend and so on until all the truth has been squeezed out of it, like ringing out a sponge.

The Medical Evaluation Board process isn't exempt from the mill, and Ms. Brenda Brock, 6th Medical Support Squadron physical evaluation board liaison, quashes the top five rumors.

MYTH: Your Air Force career is over.

FACT: Not necessarily. There are several outcomes for a MEB; you can be retired, discharged with severance pay or returned to duty with assignment limitations. Currently 123 people assigned to MacDill who have been through a MEB, have been returned to duty.

MYTH: The process takes 90 days to complete. The process takes two years to be completed.

FACT: The average time frame, to include appeals, is six to nine months. Years ago the process could take two years, but it has been fixed. MacDill has 100 days from the time a person is referred a MEB, to process the paperwork and send it to AFPC, but they average 30-45 days.

MYTH: Your commander has influence over the evaluation board's decision.

FACT: The commander is not the deciding factor whether or not a person is retired, separated or returned to duty. The commander writes a letter with inputs on the person's abilities to do their job. The commander's opinion is taken into consideration, but the physical evaluation board will do what it thinks is best for the Air Force.

MYTH: You cannot test for promotion while going through a board.

FACT: There was a time period several years ago when a person could not test but that has changed. Air Force Personnel Center decided that it could not withhold promotion testing from a person, as if they are returned to duty it could cost them a promotion. However, if you test and make rank, it is up to your commander whether you can put on that next rank or not.

MYTH: If you cannot do one of the components of the physical fitness test then you are automatically put up for a MEB.

FACT: If you can run at least 100 yards, lift 40 pounds, work at least a 12-hour shift and survive eating MREs, you are considered deployable and are not put up for a MEB. The fact that you cannot run 1.5 miles, do pushups or sit ups does not mean you will be going through the MEB process. However, if you fail your PT test and a doctor reviews your medical condition and concluded that the failure was due to a medical condition that meets the qualifications listed in AFI 48-123 chapter 5, then you will be reviewed for a MEB. Also, if you are on a profile for a year, that excluded you from one or more components of the PT test, then the member's medical condition is reviewed by a deployment availability working group who determines if the member meets the criteria for the MEB.

In 2012, MacDill processed 80 MEBs. For more information on MEBs refer to AFIs 41-210 and 48-123 chapter 5.

MacDill's new staff sergeants

6th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Cullen Babcock

Brian Doyle

Estevan Vasquez

6th Air Mobility Wing Staff

Laura Beckley Taylor Donnelly

Michael Ellis Adam Grant

Christopher Hinchee Robert Waggoner

6th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Steven Beckett Taj Black

Jeremias Campos Adam Caplette

Christopher Cook James Davis

Michael Eichorn Kyle Gahring

Matthew Hintz Allen Jackson

Daniel Lewis Corey Matera

Anthony Oswandel Leonard Owens

Chad Shinn Jackson Stacey

Sean Surber Dustin Tatem

91st Air Refueling Squadron

Bobby Cash Bobby Jones

99th Air Refueling Squadron

Gregg Braun Jonathan Goke

Taron Hodge Benjamin Dressin

Alexandria Lightning Dale Marx

Traivon McGee Jody Rose

John Vincent Brian Welch

See **STAFFS, Page 16**

STAFFS

From Page 14

911th Air Refueling Squadron

Joshua Allison
Ashley Armstrong
Justin Crothers
Philip Garcia
Jeremias Ramos
Shawn Raquet
Bryan Shull
Casey Vandeweert

6th Civil Engineer Squadron

Jarrold Jensen
Joshua Nick

6th Communications Squadron

Jean Bermudez
Katherine Ching
Christopher Dewitt
Heather Ellsworth
Randy Feltman
Christopher Nadeau
Micheal Nguyen
Jetavious Pressley
Mark Steinert

Joint Communications Support Element

Jason Bartok
Tam Phan
Kelsey Stanford

6th Comptroller Squadron

Cecilia Dodds
Bobbi Jurewicz

6th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Darci Cromack
Gonzalez Cruz
Abraham Cruz Gonzalez
Dorixa James
Dunae Nathaniel
Yasmeen Powell
Ashley Spriggs

6th Maintenance Group

Joy Day

6th Maintenance Squadron

Curtis Cross
Nicole Finley
Robert Gregory
Benjamin Guthrie
Matthew Krenz
Erik Kvamme
Domenic Mariani
Jon Mickiewicz
Krystina Minter
Austin Montgomery
Walter Powell

49th Material Maintenance Squadron

Brandon Armagost
Luke Morehead
6th Medical Group
Eric Nixon

6th Medical Operations Squadron

Thomas Frederick
Hazel Mangabat
Cassidy Parolin

6th Medical Support Squadron

Franklin Dover
Dante Love
Ashlyn Nieves
Justin Ouellette
Pieter Potgieter
Anastasia Suvorova

6th Operations Support Squadron

Christopher Barnett
Jason Lackey
Jay Smith
Aaron Suranofsky
Dustin Tarpley
Gregory Wallace

6th Security Forces Squadron

Leonardo Akens
Joshua Bow
Tyron Burks
Justin Foster
Scott Hall
Patrick Hallesy
Kristen Hamako
Frank Irvin
Austin Johnson
Joseph Jones
Michael Kelley
Nicholas Matzdorf
Juliana Mejia
Andreka Moody
Tisha Perkins
Cordell Petty
Michael Phillips
William Rodgers
Jessica Sackett
Randall Sawdy
Alexander Stewart
Yeritza Tapia
Cleteis Washington
Demarris Young
Macelman Zemke
U.S. Central Command
Stefan Hackler
Kevin Sackett

MACDILL COMMUNITY



EVENTS

Friday

SeaScapes Beach House

Friday Bash is from 4-8 p.m. Bar snacks and drink specials! Guaranteed \$100 club card drawing, Bar Bingo - \$1,000 jackpot and DJ!

Family Fun Night starts at 5 p.m. Food and drink specials! \$2-and-under menu items for kids! Kid's activities! Free ice cream sundae bar (peanut free) with all meals.

Saturday

SeaScapes Beach House

Steak & Date Night from 4-9 p.m. Creole Seasoned or blackened rib eye with garlic roasted potatoes, fresh vegetable du jour and crispy French bread and butter \$15.95.

MacDill Lanes & Family Fun Center

Famarama Bowling fun starts at 5pm! Kids bowl for \$1.50 a game from 5-8 p.m. Food and drink specials!

Sunday

Bay Palms Golf Complex

Club Member Appreciation Day – free golf and cart. *Must show valid club card when check-in at Pro Shop.

Tuesday

MacDill Lanes & Family Fun Center

Brown Bag Lunch & Bowl from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and bowl for \$1.50 per game. Grab a to-go lunch at the DFAC. Single Airman bowl free. Call 828-4005 for lane availability.

Thursday

Base Theater

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



Photo by Senior Airman Shandresha Mitchell

(Left to right) Maj. Shannon Whiteman, third-place winner female division; Staff Sgt. Edith Brooks, first-place winner female division; Chelsea Hamashin, second-place winner female division; Col. Peter Santa Ana, 6th Mission Support Group commander; Cmdr. Robert Hyde, second-place winner male division; Staff Sgt. Nicholas Chase, first-place winner male division; and Matt Shanklin, third-place winner male division, display their awards after completing the Dash-n-Splash Duathlon at MacDill Air Force Base, Aug. 10. The event started with a 3-mile run, followed by a 200-meter swim and ended with another 3-mile run.



EXCHANGE
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE



CHAPEL SCHEDULE

Protestant service

Sunday - 11 a.m. - Contemporary 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-Wednesday - 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>.

CORNER

From Page 2

morrow as a “me-centered” leader or a “them-centered” servant leader?” Check yourself on this question by seeing how many times you say “I” instead of “we” when talking about your work center. Servant Leaders are part of a team and say things like “our team did this...” or “my people accomplished this....” The only time the word “I” leaves the mouth of a Servant Leader is to say “I failed to lead my team.” Leadership is no doubt a gift and if practiced with care and justice will keep the trust of

your subordinates intact. With this attitude, the gift of “leadership” will be gladly handed over to you as well by those who are willing to follow.

Leighann and I are blessed to be entering a new chapter in our lives with Team MacDill. To be chosen to command the 6 Maintenance Support Group is truly an honor that I do not take lightly. Now more than ever, it is incumbent upon me to display the leadership to which past supervisors and subordinates have witnessed and come to expect.