

First Look

Movies for kids

A Special Kids' Matinee presenting "CatintheHat" will show Saturday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Anthrax shots resume

On Jan. 7, the DoD resumed giving anthrax vaccinations to service members, after being on hold since Dec. 23, 2003 pending action by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The court was waiting for a final ruling from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on the effectiveness of the anthrax vaccine and on Dec. 30, 2003, the FDA released a "Final Rule and Order" on the effectiveness of anthrax vaccine.

The FDA stated it was their conclusion that "the licensed anthrax vaccine, Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed, is safe and effective for the prevention of anthrax disease - regardless of the route of exposure."

Currently, few members of Team Lajes are slated for deployment. However, as Lajes' participation in the Air Expeditionary Force cycles grows, service members need to know of current vaccination and other deployment issues that could affect them in the future. The DoD stresses that the health and safety of its people are one of its top concerns and that immunizations are but one aspect of ensuring their health and safety. The anthrax vaccine has been licensed for use on humans since 1970 without interruption. For more information on the vaccine, visit <http://www.anthrax.mil>.

Preflight

- Days since last DUI 36
- DUIs since Jan. 1 None
- Current AEF Silver
- Current FPCON Alpha
- Guest DJ Staff Sgt. Brett Robinson and Senior Airman Thomas Hardy
- Next Strong Patriot .Jan. 20
- **Combat Nighthawk:** Capt. Laurie Flagg, 65th Medical Operations Squadron; Capt. John Catoe, 65th Medical Support Squadron; Master Sgt. Richard Pegg, 65th Operations Support Squadron; and Master Sgt. Herbert Gomes, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron

Taxes on myPay

The myPay system provides an around the clock secure method for users to check and manage their pay account information. Page 7.

MLK lunch



Jack Santos, 65th Services Squadron, wraps up fish that he prepared for the afternoon meal Tuesday at the Tradewinds Dining Facility. The dining facility is preparing a special meal Monday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Some of the menu items chicken gumbo, southern fried catfish, baked fish, southern fried chicken, baked ham, gravy, steamed rice, baked macaroni and cheese, vegetables, fried okra, corn fritters, mustard greens, black-eyed peas, macaroni salad, cole slaw, potato salad, dinner rolls, corn bread, devil's food cake, apple cobbler, sweet potato and pecan pie, holiday candies and assorted fresh fruit. (Photo by Staff Sgt Michelle Michaud)

**Celebrate MLK Jr.'s dream
Make a difference in the community**

**By Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe**

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) - Americans all over the world will pause Jan. 19 to reflect upon and honor the commitment and legacy of Civil Rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The national holiday honors the steadfast efforts of this great American who relentlessly fought for the dream of human dignity and equality — regardless of a person's race, gender, faith or skin color.

Although Dr. King's dream of a vibrant multiracial nation

united in peace and reconciliation was targeted for our country, he inspired nonviolent liberation movements around the world. On this holiday, we commemorate a man of action — a man who brought his courage. Dr. King put his life on the line for freedom and justice every day and ultimately paid the highest price to make democracy a reality for all.

The catapult for his dream was community service. His personally held belief that "everybody can be great, because everybody can serve," still holds true, especially today. This year's theme is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On ... Not A Day Off." I encourage you to use the Martin

Luther King Jr. holiday as an opportunity to make a difference in your community. Be it interacting with your host-nation neighbors or mentoring the child of a fellow airman who's deployed down range, make it your personal commitment to serve humanity with the great strength that empowered Dr. King's victories.

As members of an Air Force that recognizes the strength of its diversity, we also share a common bond — as people we are all equal. Dr. King's life exemplified our core value of "service before self," and recalling his work through community involvement lays firmly another stone on the path toward his dream.

Focus Notes

Leap into Learning

Become a student by enrolling at the Education Center by Jan. 29, bldg. T-400, across from the base pool, on the second floor. Win prizes by enrolling in a course with the University of Maryland, Embry-Riddle or the University of Oklahoma. Registration deadlines are today and Jan. 26. For more, call 2-3355.

Library Night Out

Feb. 4 from 6-9 p.m. at the Library. Similar to a hometown book store, the library's Night Out will provide good music, a cup of coffee, books and good company. Bring a friend and a healthy treat to share with everyone. This will be held the first Wednesday of each month. Call 2-3688 for more.

Trail Run

Jan 24. Runners can run a 5K or 10K. Those who want to participate should meet at the Chace Fitness Center at noon, to car pool. The run is off-base, on a cross country course in Terra Cha, near Angra. Great scenery with possible views of Pico and Sao Jorge. Run in the country and not on a base road once in a while. Hot chocolate and cookies to be provided at the end of the run. All fitness levels are welcome. Come out and run, or walk it. Call Capt Dan Sweeney, 2-3272 for more.

Combat Touch



Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke talked to retired Army Command Sergeant Major David Hartzell, a DA civilian with the Army's 4th Infantry Division, at the passenger terminal Wednesday morning. Mr. Hartzell was on the L1011 and made a scheduled stop here before going on to Germany and then Iraq for a 90-120 day deployment. Every week, Chaplain Franke welcomes passengers to Lajes even if it's only for a few hours. Besides being there to assist transients and provide spiritual counseling, he has also handed out thousands of homemade cards from children in Florida. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Olenda Kleffner)

Virtual support shortens out processing

by 1st Lt. Yvonne Levardi
Chief of Public Affairs

An online system new to Lajes will reduce out processing appointment stops from nine to three.

Using the Air Force Personnel Center's Virtual Out processing checklist on the Virtual MPF, the 65th Military Personnel Flight builds a list of appointments and tasks for members who are making a Permanent Change of Station out of Lajes, said Capt. Craig Green, 65MPF commander.

Stops can include picking up medical and personal records, checking out of housing and any necessary briefings or appointments the member needs to attend.

"If a person doesn't have to go to an agency because it doesn't apply - like the vet clinic or the youth center - they can call the POC and be checked off the list without leaving their office," said Capt. Green. "Some agencies just need a copy of the PCS orders, and those can

be faxed, saving another stop."

Capt. Green said agencies that have a requirement for people to out process through them will have their information entered into the central server at AFPC, to include all MPF personnel, commander's support staffs and base agencies. Once the POC for an agency is given access to the vMPF, they build their checklist item in the vOP system.

"The system builds a checklist with suspense dates based on the date the PCSing member is leaving the base," said Capt. Green. "He or she will get an automatic email that they have a vOP checklist and will be emailed if they miss an out processing suspense."

Master Sgt. Mary Jo Perry recently PCS'd in from Laughlin AFB, Texas, out processing with vOP.

"Once I was notified of my reassignment, I had a short 15-minute PCS briefing appointment," said Sgt. Perry. "The relocations specialist briefed how to use the virtual MPF."

The rest of her out processing went

smoothly - and if she had a question about needing an appointment, the vOP checklist had the POC's information so she could call and clarify, said Sgt. Perry.

"I had no difficulties," she said. "It was easy as one, two, three."

The initial email to a member explains how to log on and use the system.

"It's not difficult to use, but people will have to get used to it," said Capt. Green.

He said virtual Out Processing is currently in the test stage at Lajes.

"We'll have a handful of personnel online with the system starting Jan. 19," said Capt. Green. "Once they give us feedback, we'll adjust and bring the system fully on-line. We want to make sure the people who use vOP are comfortable using it and that everything is entered correctly in the system."

"It puts everything at your fingertips, with a lot less paperwork," said Sgt. Perry. "All the information I needed to make appointments and have a smooth move was available to me."

Hammer rewards self-help users

'Golden' contest offers cash, recognition

by 1st Lt. Yvonne Levardi
Chief of Public Affairs

A new competition for self-help users rewards winners with a plaque and \$1,000 in self-help funds.

Combat Proud's Golden Hammer Award is competed for quarterly among

squadrons who've completed a renovation project using the Self Help store.

"This award acknowledges a squadron's hard work and effort towards the Self Help Program," said Master Sgt. Todd Howell, self-help store manager. "Our goal is to help foster peoples' pride and ownership in their facility - a person is much



more apt to take care of their facility if they were involved with renovating it."

Col. Barbara Jacobi, 65th Air Base Wing commander, and four - five others will judge the competing projects, said Sgt. Howell. They will look at how much time and money was spent on the project, how the project affected work productivity and morale, and they will see 'before' and 'after' shots of the project, he said.

Sgt. Howell said the Self Help Program can be used for all base facilities and surrounding landscape. People can also use limited self-help services in base housing, with the consent of the housing office.

"We're trying to get squadrons to look at Self Help first for improvements, rather than purchasing new items or contracting a project out," said Maj. Anton Ramage, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron Operations Flight commander. "Self Help can

help with everything from materials to planning a project, and the cost is substantially less."

The Self Help store stocks minor maintenance and repair items like light bulbs, paint and brushes, and caulking material and tools; it also carries building construction material like plywood, drywall, cement blocks and piping, said Sgt. Howell. Funds come from 65CES.

"We're in the process of building a new Self Help store within the same warehouse, that is scheduled to open in March," said Sgt. Howell. "It is a 1,200 square foot facility, and in addition to all the maintenance and repair items and supplies, it will carry how-to booklets, videos, mock-ups of self-help projects and a demonstration area for training seminars."

For more, call 2-3784 or visit the Self Help store in building T-561. The store is open 8 a.m. - noon and 1 - 4 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

Project Wizard celebrates courage

New USAFE program encourages reading in young people

Crossroads staff

'Courage' is the focus of a new reading initiative hosted by USAFE Libraries and Project Wizard aimed at encouraging reading in young people.

Fifteen books that accentuate the ability to conquer fear or despair were selected to be part of the 2004 'Courage' theme for the 'We the People Bookshelf,' a program sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities in collaboration with the American Library Association directed at children from kindergarten through high school.

"This program is a great way to encourage young people to read the classics

and learn a little about our American Heritage," said Carol Wood, Lajes library director.

Many of the titles cover important chapters in American history, while others express ideals central to the heart of American culture. These books fall into four different categories and are age appropriate for children in grades K-3, 4-6, 7-8 and 9-12.

USAFE Library Services adopted the 'We the People Bookshelf' program for 2004 and will provide one or more sets of the 'Courage' titles for each base library along with posters, bookmarks and program incentives.

"We have our 'Courage'

bookshelf set up right next to the front desk," said Ms. Wood "As incentive, we're giving away a kickball to everyone who reads a book in their age group."

Parents of younger readers can select books for their children from the 'bookshelf' that demonstrate universal themes of bravery. Readers will enjoy the books about facing challenges in America of yesteryear and the stories that open them up to new worlds.



For young readers, The Cabin Faced West, by Jean Fritz, tells of a pioneer family's westward journey. For older readers, John F. Kennedy's Profiles in Courage chronicles the fortitude of various leaders of the United States in confronting the problems of a growing nation.

"We encourage young people in all age groups to read these books, and once they've read all the titles in their age group, for them to explore all the other great books the library has to offer," said Ms. Wood.

The 'We the People Bookshelf' program begins in February 2004. For more, call the library at 2-3688.

Posting of tax statements on myPay

ARLINGTON, VA - It's a new year and that means it's time for the tax world. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service has compiled a schedule of dates when service members, military retirees and annuitants and defense civilian employees can access their tax statements through myPay.

The myPay system provides a secure method for users to manage their pay account information. Available around the clock, customers can conveniently make changes online, avoiding the hassles of an office visit.

Military members and Department of Defense civilian employees have access to view, save and print their tax statements from myPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

Scheduled dates of the W-2s postings and other tax statements are available at mypay.dfas.mil

Tax statements for military retirees, military annuitants, DoD civilians, and the Army, Air Force and Navy Reserve and National Guard are already available on the Web site.

Tax statements for the Marine Corps Reserve and active duty should be posted no later than Jan. 21.

For all active duty members in the Army, Air Force and Navy, they will have access no later than Jan. 26.

"During 2003, more than 1.2 million users viewed their tax statements on myPay, and we continue to encourage users to view and print their statements

online," said Pat Shine, director of DFAS' Military and Civilian Pay Services business line. "Timely access to W-2s and other tax statements is another way myPay gives users control of their pay information."

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is the world's largest finance and accounting operation.

It provides responsive, professional finance and accounting services to the men and women who defend America.

In Fiscal Year 2003, DFAS paid about 5.9 million people, processed more than 12.3 million invoices from defense contractors, disbursed more than \$416 billion and managed more than \$194 billion in military trust funds.

For more about DFAS, visit <http://www.dfas.mil>.

Just visiting



Tech. Sgt Curt Timmons, 65th Operations Support Squadron, marshals in one of four F-16's that landed at Lajes Tuesday. The F-16s flew in from Lockheed-Martin in Fort Worth, Texas en route to Greece as part of the Foreign Military Sales program. According to Lockheed-Martin, since the F-16 was first built, nearly 50 percent of all FMS jets delivered to U.S. allies have been flown through Lajes Field. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Michelle Michaud)

LHS drama class presents comedy

by Staff Sgt. Olenda Kleffner
Crossroads editor

The Lajes High School Drama Club is presenting a Comedy Drama and Dessert night Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Community Activity Center.

Approximately 25 students in the 7th - 12th grades will present a variety of scenes from different plays and a Reader's Theater Presentation.

Some of the scenes include a blind date gone bad, strangers meeting on a bus and parents with an unusual way of raising their teenager. The Reader's Theater presentation is of "Jack, and The Beanstalk" set in modern times, said Amy Allen the Lajes High School drama teacher.

Mrs. Allen said the children have worked on this every day since the beginning of November in class, at home, during school, during lunch hours and after school.

"This is the first year that 7th and 8th graders have been able to participate in Drama Club ac-

tivities, so we have a much younger and more energetic group than ever before," Mrs. Allen said. "These kids are so energetic and have spent so much time working on this, and they are very excited to show the base what they've been doing."

Although anyone can come to see the play, Mrs. Allen said younger children might not enjoy it as much unless they know someone or have a sibling participating, because the plays are tailored more towards middle school-adult humor.

"We practiced a few of our scenes for the fourth grade last week, and they gave us good feedback, but I don't think children any younger than that would really understand the humor," said Nicole Snead, a drama student.

Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

"We've worked really hard for this production and had a lot of fun, and we hope you'll come enjoy it with us," Ms. Snead said.

Falling down



A demolition crew tore down the remains of the original Lajes Field, Azores, control tower Jan. 8. The space will become a parking lot for the new tower built right next to the site of the old one. The original tower was built in 1950 and was in service until 1994 when the new modernized control tower came online. (Photo by Guido Melo)

Who's who recognizes Lajes sergeant

By 1st Lt Aaron Wiley
Crossroads Staff

With three years of college under his belt and finances drying up, he looked to the Air Force with hopes of finishing his college degree. He never imagined that five and a half years later he'd finish that goal while being honored among the likes of Jesse Jackson, Tom Brokaw, and Elizabeth Dole.



Staff Sgt. Angel Alvarado Rivera does a diagnostic check with a piece of equipment used for weather forecasting. (Photo by 1st Lt. Aaron Wiley).

One month away from completing a Baccalaureate degree in Professional Aeronautics with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Staff Sergeant Angel Alvarado Rivera is among those honored by the Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges program.

"I never imagined I'd achieve national recognition for something that I've done, and that any person can do," said Staff Sergeant Rivera, a 65th Communications Squadron Meteorological/Navigational Systems Journeyman at Lajes.

Anyone can, but not everyone does. Only the top 1 percent of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states and several foreign nations make it, said Tracey Brinyark, the Who's Who among Students program contact administrator.

"When I found out who I was competing against, it hit me that this was something big," said Staff Sgt. Rivera, who's from Santa Isabel, Puerto Rico. "My family and friends would be surprised just to hear me speak English."

Students are selected based on academic achievement, community service, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Tina Lake, field representative for ERAU said, "When asked for our nominee, Angel immediately came to mind; he's the quintessential student."

Ms. Lake said his positive attitude towards

education, community involvement, and life in general set him apart. He's never late, never complains, is involved in the community, and maintains a 4.0 grade point average, she said.

Involved is right. Sergeant Rivera is a member of the Lajes Base Education Steering Committee. The BESC was created to address the different hurdles military personnel face in furthering their education. He's a member of the Rising 6, an organization that enables airmen through technical sergeants to take an active part in the community and address issues that affect the force; and a member of the Organization of Latin-Americans.

Accompanied by his wife and daughter and heavily involved with volunteer opportunities, Sergeant Rivera still finds time for his studies.

"This was the perfect place to pick up with my studies," he said. "At my previous assignments, I was gone a lot or always busy with job training."

Sergeant Rivera is three credits away from finishing his Bachelor's of Science degree and plans to continue pursuing other goals, like applying to Officer Training School.

"It was overwhelming to find out I was selected among everyone in the United States," said Sergeant Rivera. "Many people are unsure about what they can accomplish here, but the small community and educational opportunities allow you to get involved and touch many peoples' lives."

Applying MLK Jr's "Initiatives"

**By Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Vickmark
65th Communications Squadron**

Core values, Combat Programs, initiatives... what more? Many of us, me included, probably wonder why we are flooded with a seemingly endless flow of new processes. Let me draw a comparison of how I deal with these changes as an Air Force member and leader.

January 19th has been set aside to commemorate the life and achievements of one of our most significant leaders, Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. His wife, Coretta Scott King, writes that we celebrate this day to recognize "the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership."

It should come as no surprise that our core values and other endeavors parallel these same ideals. None of these values, or the USAFE projects to emphasize them, is new. Though mankind has called these ideals by different names and have given varying degrees of importance throughout time, they're still basic building blocks to the success of our life-and-times. These building blocks haven't changed but the way we recognize them has.

As military members, we swore to support and defend the constitution of the United States—that's service. As volunteer members of the world's greatest Air Force, we've developed a climate of helping. Helping encompasses

nearly all aspects of our daily lives, believe it or not. We help develop our subordinates, improve quality of life, contribute to professional organizations, and help families in need just to name a few—that's compassion, humanity, caring.

We strive to do our best at everything from profession to volunteerism to self improvement—that's courage. We build dignity in others by practicing humility ourselves. Because of our dedication to these concepts, we've accepted the fundamental building blocks that our forefathers used to launch their ideas of how a free country should be established.

In recent months, we've seen some major changes to our status quo here at Lajes, yet we're doing what we've always done. We've changed the way we do business, but we haven't changed our *business*. We still take care of our people; motivate them to excel; exemplify integrity, truth and courage, much to the advantage of our mission. We can also recite the familiar adage "the more things change, the more they remain the same." That's mostly true, except what has changed is we treat each other far better than we did before Rev. King and others fostered changes to attitudes that existed long before the 60s.

Combat CHEER, Touch, Intro/Exit, Nighthawk, Proud, Education, Care, and Flightline; Hidden Heroes and Customer College, are titles to programs that simply emphasize areas we've always supported to enhance others' well being and give them hope. Project Wizard and

Combat Fitness give opportunities to improve ourselves so we can better serve our country and our fellow man.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day must be looked upon as a reminder of this great man and his contribution to our society. In small ways, we too make contributions to our smaller society here at Lajes. The new programs and initiatives shed more light on our humanity while documenting what we've always done.

We can use this day to remind us that General Foglesong's initiatives aren't necessarily new, they're simply renamed road maps to practices we've had for longer than we can remember. We should also remember there's no better reward than the simple satisfaction we get in helping others.

You're probably wondering what the connection is. Hopefully, you've already concluded that one individual CAN make a difference! Dr. King made himself a public figure even when it was painful.

Each of you also has the potential of getting into the spotlight, and being a leader, even if it causes discomfort. You simply have to follow our core values and conspicuously demonstrate your strength in being a great, positive example for others; get out there and participate; pick up that little bit of trash; give an hour or two to an important undertaking.

In addition to our core values that support a better world, another connection to the Martin Luther King Jr. Day and our "Combat" actions today is "spirit" and you, Lajes members, have it!

At Their Best

The following members of Team Lajes were recognized as winners of fiscal year 2003 unit and base level Mission Support awards at a ceremony at the Top of the Rock Club Dec. 9.

The Base level **Personnel Manager of the Year** award winners were:

Airman category: Senior Airman Jennifer **Parker**, 65th Mission Support Squadron

NCO category: Tech. Sgt. Daniel **Thompson**

Senior NCO category: Master Sgt. Onofre **Martin, Jr.**

The Unit level **Personnel Manager of the Year** award winners were:

Civilian category: Madelena **Lima**, 65th Medical Support Squadron.

Airman category: Senior Airman Vincent **Cabrera**, 729th Air Mobility Squadron

NCO category: Staff Sgt. Patricia **Deleon**, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron

The unit level **Air Force Education**

and Training Manager award winner for the NCO category is Staff Sgt. Kristina **Richardson**, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The following Team Lajes members were selected for **Senior Airman Below the Zone**:

Airman 1st Class David **Wood**, Jr., 65th Security Forces Squadron; Airman 1st Class Lance **Heinzelman**, Detachment 6 Air Force News Agency; Airman 1st Class Joseph **Wilkinson**, 65th Communications Squadron



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"The Juice:" Is it in you?

by Chief Master Sgt. Darryl Foster
65th Civil Engineer Squadron

Gatorade is using the new slogan, "Is it in you?" The saying isn't new, but it's a great question. When I was growing up we referred to someone that had things together as having the "juice." It's like having the "right stuff." The "juice" consists of things like willpower, dedication and courage. Is the "juice" in you?

I hail from the far deep backwoods of Alabama. I don't have medical knowledge or training on how the human body works, so this isn't based on some expensive medical study. It is however, something that works for me. What I know is if you stand out in the rain, you'll get wet. If you put your hand in a fire, it will burn. I know some of you are saying "duh;" the chief has gone off the deep end. Well you say this because those things are common sense.

Well, here's another one for you. If you take in more calories than you burn each day, you'll gain weight. How many calories are you willing or able to burn off in a day? If you're going to burn 1,000 calories, try taking in only 950. If you are willing to burn 3000 calories then you can take that many in. Ninety calories in minus 100 calories out equals weight loss. If you go by the Health and Wellness Center in the gym, you can speak to some folks who know exactly how to do this in a healthy, effective way that combines exercise and good eating habits.

But along with exercise, you have to use your "juice" and exercise some willpower.

My boss has an exercise that will help anyone lose weight: push-aways. All you do is push yourself away from the table before you take in too many calories. That's willpower - that's part of having the "juice." What are too many calories? Well that's up to you, and it's something else the HAWC can help you find out.

On Jan. 5, our wing leadership took the

new fitness test, and they all passed! We've all witnessed them out on the track or in the gym working to meet or exceed standards. This is leading from the front. They are showing that they have the "juice."

At the same time, I know troops who've lost stripes, line numbers, assignments and even careers because they couldn't or wouldn't meet standards. What's really disturbing about this is instead of doing what it took to lose the weight; they blamed their supervisors, commanders, spouses or something else. They weren't willing to accept responsibility for their actions.

I don't say this to get you upset, but if you do get fired up, I can tell you what to do with that new-found energy and it involves the fitness center. And remember, you and only you have control of what you put in your mouth; just because someone buys or cooks it doesn't mean you have to eat it. Me, I love to eat. Ask anyone that knows me and they'll tell you I have a sweet tooth, and the sweeter the better ... which is why you'll see me working out in the fitness center or running the base streets. Most days I get started at about 5 a.m. with calories-in/calories-out! When I'm sick, I can't work out and that means less calories-out; it also means less calories-in. When the ability to burn calories changes, for whatever reason, the calorie intake needs to change. I think you get the point; it's something you can control.

There are several people right here on Lajes that are living proof that this common sense approach works. The question is, how bad do you want it? God willing you will wake up tomorrow ... what you do after that is up to you. It's in your control to meet standards - the choice is yours.

Bottom line is, you're an important part of Team Lajes, and I appreciate all that you do. I only have one request of you: please don't tell me that you can't lose weight. Do you have the "juice" in you?

Have a fantastic Air Force Day!



Everyday Hero

Tech. Sgt. Tommy
Richardson

65th Air Base Wing

Duty Title: NCOIC of Protocol

Job description: Present the Lajes team in the best possible light. Avoid misunderstandings. Coordinate DV/ Guest visits. Arrange and coordinate ceremonies.

Time in military: 19 years as F-15/ A10 Crew Chief, and two years in the Army as a 54E Nuclear Biological Warfare Professional.

Time at Lajes: 24 months and still love it!

What's the best aspect of your job: Showing off Team Lajes. Meeting the front line troops that pass through America's gateway to the East.

Why did you join the Air Force: To serve my country. I entered the Army in 1982.

What are your career goals: Retire with honor. Making Master Sergeant would be nice!

Life goal: Serve God and be happy. Build a big home in the country and fill it full of happy healthy kids, a wife might help!

Best Air Force Experience: Shaking hands with pilots coming back from kicking sand in OIF.

Hometown: Cisco, Texas!

One word to describe you: Service.

Hobbies: Simulating blowing things up. Video games, paint ball and war simulations.

Favorite food: Baked beans and cornbread.

Pet peeve: Being late - I hate being late!

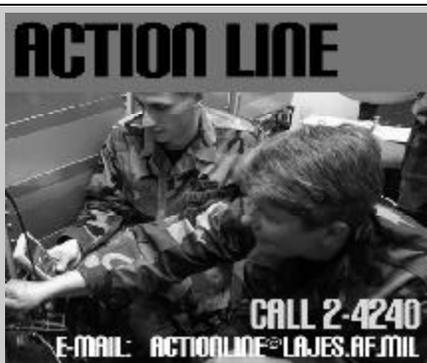
No one knows I'm: a cowboy at heart.

Question: Can we get two separate lines in the shoppette, maybe one for military personnel and one for Portuguese? Sometimes I want to buy just one item and there's a line of Portuguese customers all with full shopping. Is there any way we can get this to be more efficient?

Answer: This question has come up many times and though AAFES provides the same services to all customers regardless of nationality; they've searched for a solution to lower their overall checkout times.

Just recently, the shoppette created three separate checkout lines. Two are at the front of the store, one down the furthest aisle from the front door for all purchases and one down the center aisle for express purchases of 10 items or less. The third checkout is located at the Military Clothing Sales Section in the back of the store. This checkout is the newest addition and can handle up to 10 shoppette merchandise items, including video rentals, as an express checkout.

All in all, these changes will shorten the checkout times for each of our customers, creating a more efficient and convenient shopping experience.



The Action Line is your means of addressing a problem, concern or challenge to me about something in the 65th Air Base Wing or J.S. Forces Azores.

I however, your chain of command should always be your first option. When that's not the answer, then call the Action Line at 2-4240 and I'll address it quickly and with care. Thank you!

Col. Barbara Jacobi
65th Air Base Wing commander

Good to go



MANAS AIR BASE, Kyrgyzstan — Staff Sgt. Charles Swartwood inspects the wheel well of a KC-135 Stratotanker before flight. The tanker's primary mission here is to supply fuel to the fighters and bombers providing close-air support to the soldiers on the ground in Afghanistan. Sergeant Swartwood is a crew chief with the 376th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron. (Photo by Tech Sgt. William Seabrook Jr.)

AAFES/Red Cross thank troops

DALLAS - The Army & Air Force Exchange Service and the Red Cross continue to find new and creative ways to show support for troops serving in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. Recently, a 2'x4' card signed by hundreds of people from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area went up by the front door of the Baghdad International Airport PX.

The card's creation and delivery was months in the making. The process began when U.S. veterans, reservists, service personnel and the general public signed the "Thank You For Your Service" card at the 2003 Veterans Day Celebration on Nov. 11. The card was on display at the Dallas Area Red Cross exhibit table located at Dallas City Hall plaza. Hundreds of people came by to sign the back of the card.

On Dec. 18, chairman of the Greater Dallas Veterans Foundation retired Col. Bill Soleman, Red Cross CEO of the Dallas Chapter Cheryl Sutterfield-Jones, and chairman emeritus of the Texas National Cemetery Foundation Cloyde Pinson delivered the card to AAFES Commander Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, who accepted the card on behalf of U.S. Military troops stationed overseas. Gen. Frost then arranged for the card to be delivered thousands of miles away.

Gen. Frost cited the banner as another example of AAFES' partnership with the Red Cross.

"Deployed troops are seeing both organizations' support in many ways," she said. "The

Red Cross has been the conduit for thousands of Americans to pass 'Gifts from the Homefront' gift certificates to troops in Iraq. With the help of organizations like the Red Cross, the certificates are being distributed to deployed troops who need a little extra cash to make purchases that bring them a little closer to home."

The "Gifts from the Homefront" initiative allows anyone to make a direct impact on the quality of life for deployed troops. Since its inception, more than 17,000 Americans have made a contribution to the "Gifts from the Homefront" program, with a total of \$332,475 in donations.

Those wishing to send a "Gift from the Homefront" can log on to www.aafes.com or call 877-770-4438 to purchase gift certificates in \$10, \$20, \$25 or \$50 denominations. From there, the gift is sent to an individual service member designated by the purchaser or distributed to "any service member" through organizations such as the American Red Cross, Air Force Aid Society or Fisher House.

Voluntary NCO retraining

WASHINGTON — The Air Force needs 1,100 noncommissioned officers in surplus career fields to voluntarily retrain into shortage career fields to balance the enlisted force in 2004.

The voluntary phase of the fiscal 2004 NCO Retraining Program began Jan. 5 and ends Feb. 23. The program helps balance the enlisted force by moving staff, technical and master sergeants from specialties with surpluses to specialties with shortages.

Imbalances in the mid-level NCO grades among specialties occur as a result of personnel force structure changes, differing retention trends among specialties, and the equality of promotions across all skills.

If needed, an involuntary retraining phase will run March 8 - April 26.

"While every effort is made to attract volunteers, some NCOs may be selected for involuntary retraining if the number of volunteers falls short," said Lt. Col. Kim Haney, chief of the Air Force skills requirements branch at the Pentagon.

The Air Force's fiscal 2003 retraining program was the first action taken in five years, Colonel Haney said. Some NCOs did not act upon the opportunities presented to them and as a result were involuntarily retrained.

Tech. Sgt. Derek Hughes, NCO in charge of Air Force enlisted retraining at the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, said he believes more people identified for retraining in 2004 will consider their options and seek out opportunities.

A Web page shows them how vulnerable they are and where they stand on a list of their peers by Air Force Specialty Code and grade. The Web page is available at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/retraining/retraining/htm. Users must log onto their virtual MPF account to view the data.

"Last year, there weren't enough volunteers in Phase 1, so we did a non-vol phase," Sergeant Hughes said. "And even after that, 200 people still didn't submit applications, so we had to pick jobs for them. They chose not to decide and were not necessarily happy with results. We'd rather tell them how to be pro-

active, how to find something that would interest them."

A complete list of retraining-in opportunities is available on the retraining advisory at local military personnel flights. Vulnerability listings for retraining-out by grade and specialty code will be updated on a weekly basis. The MPF also provides real-time updates for applications and actual program status numbers. (AFPN)

Law protects members

A new law replacing the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 provides servicemembers greater protections to handle personal financial and legal obligations, officials said.

President Bush signed the Service Members' Civil Relief Act into law Dec. 19.

"The focus of the (new act) is the same as under the SSCRA: To provide protections to servicemembers who have difficulty meeting their personal financial and legal obligations because of their military service," said Lt. Col. Patrick Lindemann, deputy director for legal policy in the office of the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

This is significant, because it clarifies and updates SSCRA provisions and adds some protections.

"Servicemembers on long-term deployments, or called to active duty, should not have to worry about their families in their absence being evicted from their quarters without sufficient legal protections, or that they are paying on a leased car or apartment that they can't use, or about civil legal proceedings they can't attend because of their deployment," he said.

An automatic 90-day stay of civil proceedings upon application by the servicemember is what Colonel Lindemann called "a significant change" in the new act. This applies to all judicial and administrative hearings. Previously, stays were discretionary with the courts.

The new relief act also makes it clear the 6-percent limitation on interest rates for pre-service debts requires a reduction in monthly payments, and any interest in excess of 6 percent is forgiven, not deferred, Colonel Lindemann said.

The new relief act gives the servicemember with permanent change-of-station orders or who is being deployed for 90 days or more the right to terminate a housing lease with 30 days' written notice. Before, servicemembers could be required to pay for housing they were unable to occupy.

One of the more significant new provisions is protection for motor-vehicle leases. Any active-duty servicemember with PCS orders outside the continental United States, or who is being deployed for 180 days or more, may terminate a motor-vehicle lease. The law prohibits early termination charges.

"Now, servicemembers won't have to pay monthly lease payments for a car they can't use," Colonel Lindemann said.

"Servicemembers may not always realize all the protections they have under the law," Colonel Lindemann said. "If servicemembers have questions about the SCRA or the protections that they may be entitled to, they should contact their unit judge advocate or installation legal assistance officer for further assistance." (AFPN)

Sports briefs

Men's Basketball

Team	W	L	PF	PA
CES/Fire	8	0	427	314
Angra	7	2	469	279
COMM	5	3	408	361
Vitorinos	5	3	429	399
JAMS #1	5	3	382	354
SFS	4	5	420	400
CES	4	4	404	409
AMS	3	5	355	430
OSS	2	6	247	344
LRS	2	6	346	380
JAMS#2	0	8	197	434

AFN weekend sports

Saturday

1:30 a.m. Friday night fights - welterweights: diosbelys Hurtado vs. Joe Hutchinson

7 a.m. NHL: Phoenix Coyotes vs. Detroit Red Wings

11 a.m. NBA: San Antonio Spurs @ Indiana Pacers

College basketball

4 p.m. Big Ten: Iowa @ Illinois

6 p.m. Atlantic 10: St. Josephs @ Xavier

8 p.m. ACC: Connecticut @ North Carolina

10 p.m. Big East: Syracuse @ North Carolina

Sunday

College basketball

3 a.m. WCC: St. Mary's @ Gonzaga

7 a.m. Big XII: Kansas @ Texas A&M

10:30 a.m. NHL: San Jose Sharks @ Colorado Avalanch

4:30 p.m. NBA: San Antonio Spurs @ Boston Celtics

7:30 p.m. USA Soccer: Denmark @ USA

Women's College Basketball

9:30 p.m. Auburn @ Vanderbilt



Kevin Smith, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, puts up a shot over Victor Figueiredo during an intramural basketball game between the 65LRS and Praia on Jan. 12. Praia went on to win the game 57 to 46. Lajes members can sign up for table tennis thru Tuesday, the season starts Jan. 28; co-ed, intramural and women's volleyball deadline is thru Feb. 9, season begins Feb. 16. For more, contact unit sports representative or call 2-5151.

(Photo by Tech Sgt. Robert Valenca)

Incirlik 'tribes' face survivor challenge

INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey (USAFENS) — Although finding creative ways to torture younger siblings or developing the "ultimate creation" from various foodstuffs may have been tempting options for teens here to find ways to pass time during the winter holidays, some couldn't pass up participating in the youth services nine-day Survivor Challenge event recently.

Shrouded in mystery, the program was open to teens, ages 13 through 18 and attracted six three-person teams.

"I wanted to participate because it was something to do over the holiday and my friends were participating," said Monica Immel, 13, of the Babez team.

Each event was kept secret until the teens arrived for the competition. Teams were required to read a cryptic "tree mail" message, which gave the date, time and location of the

next event.

The message didn't reveal the event, but offered a hint by providing information about a certain item each team should bring or wear for the challenge.

Like the "Survivor" show, each tribe faced certain challenges which granted winning teams immunity, and after each immunity challenge, tribal council was held. Unlike the show, teams were not voted out of the game. Teams received points for completing a challenge and lost half of their points if voted for by the tribal council.

"No tribe was voted out of the game to help keep teens busy throughout the entire vacation break," said Ms. Joann Brown, 39th Services Squadron youth center office automation clerk. "Keeping all the teams in play also helped build the suspense as to which team would be the final victor."

Each competition day teams were faced with a new challenge. Challenges consisted of events like a "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" event that required the team to collect three flags by having the 'speak no evil' person give nonverbal directions to the 'hear no evil' person who then shouted them to the blindfolded 'see no evil' person who took the action to retrieve the flags; or tossing cheese balls at a third team members' whipped cream covered face. The team that was able to get the most cheese balls to stick won; and in another highlighted event nine disposable diapers were smeared with a different melted candy bar and immunity was granted to the team that identified the most candy bars.

After each feat, the three teams who performed the best received points. The first eight days of competition helped

teams prepare for the final challenge, which consisted of nine timed mini-challenges.

"The final challenge was videotaped and, in true Survivor fashion, we also decided to seal the final times in an envelope and not announce the results until the youth center director returns," Ms. Brown said. "A Survivor Challenge party will be held at which time the videos will be played, winners will be announced and prizes will be distributed."

The first place tribe will receive their choice of a trip to Teen Ropes Camp in Germany or a gift certificate from the base exchange. Second and third place winners will receive BX gift certificates.

"I'd like to do something like this again. It was a lot of fun and it was competitive, and I'm competitive," said Travis Kunder, 13, of the Short Manziz's team.

PLANNER

Today

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 7 a.m.; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; CWOC Mass (1st Friday of the month) 5:30 p.m.; Gospel Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Child Development Center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Seafood Newburg, Beef and Corn Pie, and Roast Turkey; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Simmered Corn Beef, Pineapple Chicken, Yankee Pot Roast. Midnight meal, 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Lasagna, fries or salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: Gourmet fish sticks, curly fries, coleslaw, fresh fruit, cookie, milk.

Skating Rink: Open 7-11 p.m.
Skills Development Center: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Teen Center: Teen social, 9 p.m.-midnight.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., seafood buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m., Prime and Wine

Saturday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Chapel: Mass, 10 a.m.; Gospel Children's Choir Practice, 2 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Child Development Center: Closed
Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dining Hall: Brunch 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Savory Baked Chicken, Swedish Meatballs, and Creole Shrimp; Supper 4 - 7 p.m., Baked Fish, Hungarian Goulash, BBQ Chicken. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Skating Rink: Open 7-11 p.m.
Skills Development Center: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Teen Center: Teens social 8 p.m.-midnight.

Top of the Rock Club: Brunch 8:30 a.m.-noon. Huff and Fin dinner special 5-9 p.m.

Sunday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Shoppette: Open noon-8 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Closed
Chapel: Traditional Protestant service, 9 a.m.; Catholic religious education, 9 a.m.; Fellowship, 10 a.m.; Mass, 10:30 a.m.; Religious Education, 10:30 a.m.; Gospel service & Fellowship, noon; Catholic choir rehearsal, 4 p.m.; Mass, 5 p.m.; Rosary and Adoration, 5:40 p.m.; PYOC/PTOC, 6:15 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Child Development Center: Closed
Community Activities Center: Open noon-5 p.m.

Commissary: Closed
Dining Hall: Brunch 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Oven Fried Fish, Cantonese Spareribs, Grilled Mustardy Chicken; Supper 4 - 7 p.m., Stir Fry Beef w/ Broccoli, Turkey Nuggets, Steak, Loin Strip; Short Order: Cheese Pizza and Reuben Sandwich.

Dry Cleaners: Closed
Gas Station: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Gas only)

Library: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Oceanview Island Grill: Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Skating Rink: Closed
Skills Development Center: Closed.

Top of the Rock Club: Bits & Bits menu, 4 p.m.

Monday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Closed
Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 11:30 a.m.; Women's Bible study, 7 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight
Child Development Center: Open 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Closed
Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Pot Roast, Baked Stuffed Fish, Roast Pork Loin; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Beef Canelloni, Chili Mac, and Southern fried chicken. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Gas only)

Library: Open 4-9 p.m.
Oceanview Island Grill: Meatball sandwich, fries or salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Closed

School Lunch: Soft shell beef taco, lettuce & tomato, spanish rice, chilled peaches, cookie, milk.

Skills Development Center: Closed

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Southern buffet.

Tuesday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 7 a.m.; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; AWANA (3 yrs to 6 grade) 6 p.m.; Catholic Women of the Chapel (3rd Tuesday of the month), 7 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Child Development Center: Open 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Teriyaki Chicken, Veal Parmesan, and Salmon Cakes; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Country Captain Chicken, Meat Loaf, Turkey a La King. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: 16" pizza with 2 toppings and drinks; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: hamburger on a bun, lettuce, tomato and pickles, curly fries, sweetened applesauce, Rice Krispie Bar, milk.

Skills Development Center: Open noon-8 p.m.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Mexican buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m.

Wednesday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 7 a.m.; PMOC lunch/study noon; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; Catholic men of the chapel (2nd Wednesday of the month) 6 p.m.; Traditional choir practice, 6 p.m.; Bell choir practice 7 p.m.; Catholic choir rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Child Development Center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., BBQ Ham Steak, Turkey and Noodles, and Beef Ball Stroganoff; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Lemon-Herb Chicken, BBQ Spare-ribs, and Stuffed Pork Chops.

Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Library: Open 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Fried shrimp, fries or salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, garlic bread, seasoned green beans, chilled peas, graham crackers, milk.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Italian Buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m. Family Buffet

Thursday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass 7 a.m.; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; RCIA, 7 p.m.; Gospel Praise Team practice and Men's Bible study, 7 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Child Development Center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Herbed Baked Chicken, Stuffed Cabbage Rolls, and Southern Fried Catfish; Dinner 4-7 p.m., Roast Loin of Pork, Jaegerschnitzel, and Glazed Cornish Hen. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Taco salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, lettuce and tomato, seasoned potato wedges, seasoned peas, fresh fruit, milk.

Skills Development Center: Open noon-8 p.m.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Oriental buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m., 2-4-1 Steak Night

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted via e-mail to news@lajes.af.mil. Ads are due by COB, Monday.

PCS'ing to Japan and need to sell my beloved, "like new", top of the line, 2000 Toyota Tacoma Pick-up Truck. Has all the extras to include 2 & 4 wheel drive, auto, air, stereo/cd, big wheels, emerald green and much, much more! Only 21,000 miles. Asking \$15,720.00. Call 295-549-378

For Sale: Available immediately, 1992 Toyota Vista, in excellent condition, Japanese Specs, automatic transmission, 4 door, 6 disk changer, 55,000 miles. (\$2000) For more information call Penny or Rich @ 2-3695/295-549-793.

Free Sofa & Charcoal Grill. Must arrange own delivery. Call 295-549-652.

Free Fish. Approx. 1 dozen of various sizes shapes and colors. All fish are fresh water and none eat other fish. Please save this happy family from a tragic septic death. Call Jon at 295-549-766 between noon and 5 p.m.

EVENTS

The deadline for announcements on this page is C.O.B. Monday for each week's paper. Submit announcements in normal text with the what, when, where, who, why and contact info in an email to news@lajes.af.mil. Dates and times should be in civilian format, and include full name of P.O.C.

Closures/Shifts

Military Personnel Flight facelift: Bldg. T-112 is being re-carpeted. Housing Inspectors will move into the main Housing area. The Civilian Personnel Office will move into the main Civilian Personnel area. Non-appropriated funds is with the American Red Cross and DoDDS is in T-100.

Education and Developmental Intervention Services Child Find: This month's find date is Friday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at the clinic, bldg. T-425, room 123. Call EDIS at 2-3194 or email to EDIS@lajes.af.mil to request an appointment.

Education

Graduate Course: Introduction to Graduate Studies in Human Relations, a required course for the University of Oklahoma's Master of Human Relations degree, is Feb. 24 - 29. Enroll by Jan. 26. Contact Erika Golart at 2-3171, for more information.

School registration: Embry-Riddle will begin registering students for Aircraft Accident Investigation, Monday. The course will be taught on-site Feb. 25-March 2. For more information, call 2-3375.

Spouse scholarship: Thirty scholarships are awarded each year to spouses of active duty Air Force, National Guard and Air Force Reserve. Deadline for applications to be received at Air Expeditionary Force headquarters is Jan. 31. The 2004 spouse scholarship applications are available at the AEF Web site <http://www.aef.org>, or by calling AEF directly at (800) 291-8480, and at the base education office. For more, call the base education office at 2-3355/5291.

Academic Advisor Visit: University of Maryland's academic advisor visits the island Feb. 3-6. Call 2-4187 or email Melinda.casey@lajes.af.mil and make an appointment today for academic advice.

Classes

Beginning & Intermediate Power Point: Free beginning class is 10 a.m., Tuesday in the T-126 computer classroom. In-

termediate class starts at 10 a.m., Wednesday, in the T-126 computer room. Call 2-4138 for more or to sign up.

Free E-Resource Training: 6-7 p.m., Wednesday, at the Education Center. Learn to make the best use of the databases available through the base library and the resources available through the library at the University of Oklahoma. Call the library at 2-3688 for details and to sign up.

Free Debt Management class: 6 p.m. Jan. 29, in the T-126 class room. A variety of financial topics are covered, along with money saving tips on how to handle debts. For more information, call 2-4138.

Events

Mason's First Annual Dress To Impress: Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., Saturday, at the ballroom at the Top of the Rock club hosted by the Masons of Jacob's Lodge #86. Contact Terrence Packer at 295-517-891 for information on tickets.

Diabetes Support Group: The 65th Medical Group is forming a Diabetes Support Group. If you would like to be a member or participate in this activity, contact Maj. Aura Melendez at 2-5077.

Special Kids' Matinees: "Cat in the Hat", 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, at the base theater. Doors open 1 1/2 hours before show time for tickets. Call Laura Hillebrand for more information at 2-4100.

Comedy Drama and Dessert: 6 p.m., Saturday, at the Community Activity Center. Lajes High School Drama Club's 7-12 grade students will present a variety of scenes from different plays. Enjoy a variety of desserts during the show. Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for students and may be purchased from Amy Allen at the high school, or at the door. Call 2-4151 for more info.

Men's breakfast /Leadership study: 8 a.m., Saturday, at the base chapel. Call Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke at 2-4211.

Singles of the Chapel game night: 7 p.m., Saturday, at the base chapel. Call Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke at 2-4211.

Single Unaccompanied Member Dinner: 5:30 p.m., Thursday, in the Fellowship

Hall. The 65th Mission Support Squadron will host the International buffet. All single or unaccompanied Lajes members are invited. Tell a friend. For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Stan Pieczara at 2-4211.

Health Care Council: 1p.m., Friday, in the Base Chapel upper classroom. The Health Care Council is a quarterly forum to discuss health care issues that are important to the community of Lajes. Everyone is welcome. Call Capt. Robert Paz at 2-2264 for more information.

Children and youth of the Chapel movie night: 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Friday at the base chapel. The evening will be a pajama night for grades 5 and below with Finding Nemo showing. Teens will see Galaxy Quest. Hot dogs, chips and cookies will be served. For more, call Brandy Marsh at 2-4211.

Spelling Bee Contest: 1 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Community Activity Center. Call Jessica Dunn at 2-3685 for more.

Singles of the Chapel Movie Night: 7 p.m., 24 Jan. at the base chapel. Call Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke at 2-4211.

Singles of the Chapel Dinner and Bible Study: 7 p.m., 31 Jan. at the base chapel. Call Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke at 2-4211.

Fatima Pilgrimage - Portugal: Feb. 13-16. Anyone interested in visiting "Our Lady of Fatima" in Portugal should call Donna Fillman at 295-549-201 or email her at donnafillman@msn.com to confirm hotel arrangements, so she can convey this to the travel agents.

Card and Collectibles show: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Jan. 31 in the Community Activity Center ballroom. Collectors of all ages can buy, sell and trade their sports cards, memorabilia, stamps, coins, Yu-Gi-Oh cards, Hot Wheels and any other collectible items to other Lajes collectors. Tables are free, but must be reserved before Jan. 30. Contact Tech. Sgt. Michael Hollandsworth at 2-1246 to reserve a table.

Winter reading contest: Contest will run thru Jan. 31. Prizes will be awarded to the person who reads the most books. Stop by the library to pick up log sheet and rules of the game. For more, call 2-3688.

"Room for Six": Six single or unaccompanied Lajes members are invited to a free home-cooked meal at a "home," every first Saturday of the month. February's menu is spaghetti and homemade meatballs, garlic bread, salad, dessert and beverage. Dinner is served at 6 p.m., Feb. 7. Call Danielle or Tech Sgt. Aubrey Posey at 295-549-825 to reserve a spot.

Sports

Military Men and Women's Varsity Volleyball Tryouts: Saturday, at the Chace Fitness Center. Women's tryouts are 2-3:30 p.m., and men's tryouts are 3:30-5 p.m. For more information, call Senior Airman Sarah Haylett at 2-6126.

Volunteers/Jobs

Tumbling Instructor Needed: The Lajes Youth Center is looking for a tumbling instructor to teach ages 3 and up. Contact Jolene Wilkinson at 2-1197 in the afternoon.

Positions available: The following positions are open at Lajes Elementary School: special education assessor, lunch room monitors and substitute nurse. For more information and application materials, visit www.odedodea.edu/pers/employment or call 2-3491.

Pentagon Federal Credit Union: Branch Service Representative position open. Previous banking experience preferred. DEROS must be after June 05. Apply at building T-202 or call 295-513-221 for more information.

Miscellaneous

Non-commissioned officer retraining program: Air Force Officials have announced the start of the Fiscal Year '04 Non-commissioned officer retraining program.

The FY04 NCORP will target about 1,100 NCOs to retrain from Air Force Specialty Codes with NCO overages to AFSCs with NCO shortages. The voluntary phase of the program runs from Jan. 5-Feb. 23. Some restrictions apply, depending on grade and AFSC. If necessary, an involuntary phase will run from Mar. 8-Apr. 26. Senior Airman Jennifer Parker at 2-5143 for complete details.