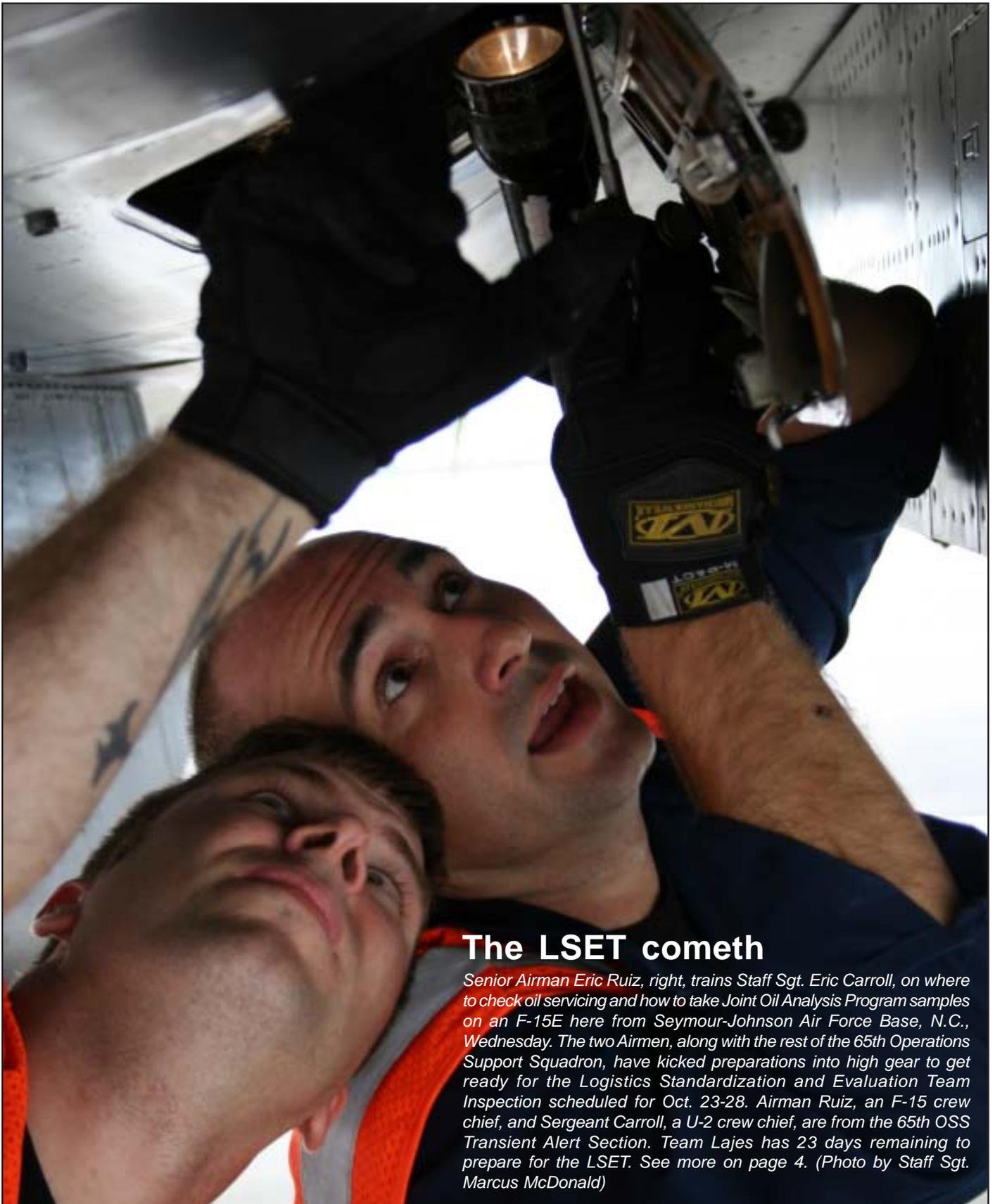


Atlantic Crossroads

Vol. 11, No. 38 • September 29, 2006 | Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal | In the Fight!



The LSET cometh

Senior Airman Eric Ruiz, right, trains Staff Sgt. Eric Carroll, on where to check oil servicing and how to take Joint Oil Analysis Program samples on an F-15E here from Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., Wednesday. The two Airmen, along with the rest of the 65th Operations Support Squadron, have kicked preparations into high gear to get ready for the Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team Inspection scheduled for Oct. 23-28. Airman Ruiz, an F-15 crew chief, and Sergeant Carroll, a U-2 crew chief, are from the 65th OSS Transient Alert Section. Team Lajes has 23 days remaining to prepare for the LSET. See more on page 4. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald)



Your wingman just might save your life

Commentary by Col. Brad Ashley
72nd Air Base Wing
vice commander

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. (AFPN) — The telephone rang and broke the silence of the early morning. I reached for it and realized it was 4:32 a.m.

Being a squadron commander at the time, I had received dozens of late night phone calls. But this one was very, very different. The caller calmly said, "Sir, this is the wing command post and we have a casualty notification."

I was instantly wide awake and unable to imagine a more distressing message.

By 5 a.m. the casualty notification team was formed and the preliminary facts began to filter in — an Air Force member had tragically lost her life in an auto accident and alcohol was a contributing factor.

Thirty minutes later I was on my way to deliver the tragic news to immediate family members. "Sir and ma'am, on behalf of the chief of staff of the Air Force I regret to inform you ..." are the

hardest words I have ever had to say.

By 10 a.m., I was at the funeral home identifying the body of a dearly missed Air Force member, a co-worker and a wonderful young person. Her lifeless body was a mere shell of the vibrant young person that just days before smiled at me and said, "Hello sir, how's your day going?"

The following day, family and friends began to travel to the base. The chapel staff, co-workers and I did all that we could to help her family deal with all of the difficulties inherent in this type of tragedy, while hopefully continuing to provide some measure of comfort.

Co-workers and the base population were stunned at the news. Plans were made for a memorial service with our superb chapel staff and top-notch honor guard. I can still feel the icy chill of air rushing over us as the doors flung open for the 21-gun salute. It is a memory that will forever be etched in my mind. I will also never be able to forget the tears in her mother's eyes as I delivered the urn and remains to the family.

The most tragic aspect of this story is

that it could have been avoided.

This young lady was offered a ride home by two of her squadron wingmen who noticed she had too much to drink. She told them she was not about to drive in her condition and that she had arrangements for a hotel room nearby. Within a couple of hours and a few more alcoholic beverages, she attempted a long drive home. She never made it — partly because she did not listen to her wingmen and take their help when offered.

Don't let this happen to you. Don't become a victim. Even if a DUI driver escapes the risk of severe injury and death, DUIs carry extreme financial penalties and are devastating to lives and careers.

YOU can make a difference.

THINK — have a plan BEFORE you drink.

CALL a friend, co-worker or boss for a ride home. Believe me when I say I'd much rather visit a bar at night than a morgue the next day.

And TRUST your wingmen and lean on them whenever you need help or advice. They might just save your life!



FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

Commander's Line

The Commander's Line is your direct link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution. Your chain of command should always be your first option for praise or problems — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Line at 535-4240 or actionline@lajes.af.mil.

- Col. Robert Winston
65th Air Base Wing
commander



Atlantic
Crossroads

The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads. The 65th ABW Public Affairs Office (Unit 7710, APO AE 09720), is located in Bldg. T-100, Room 240.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas. Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The Crossroads staff encourages its readers to call, fax or e-mail with ideas or corrections. Call 535-3347 to speak to the Crossroads editor, fax information to 535-6326 or e-mail news@lajes.af.mil.

Crossroads Editorial Staff

- Col. Robert Winston Commander, 65th Air Base Wing
- 1st Lt. Shilo Weir Chief, Public Affairs
- Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald NCOIC, Public Affairs
- Staff Sgt. Christin Michaud Editor, Crossroads
- Eduardo Lima Adviser, Community Relations



The Enlisted Perspective

By CMSAF Rodney J. McKinley

20 September 2006

Air Force Smart Operations 21

Everyday we see smart, motivated and brave Airmen striving to make a difference. With more than 24,000 Airmen from our total force deployed and those at home station focused on supporting the warfighter, our operations tempo is high and will remain that way into the future.

Added to our operations load are genuine concerns from our Airmen about balancing the mission with the impending drawdown of 40,000 Airmen. The reality is that our budget must focus on recapitalizing and modernizing our aging equipment for the future while at the same time, we do whatever it takes to win today's War on Terror.

The demands of these realities make it more essential than ever for Airmen who are already contributing maximum effort to ensure their time and energy are being used wisely. From the smallest tasks to the most complex, we need to take a hard look at what we do and why we do it.

Air Force Smart Operations 21 gives us the tools we need to shed unneeded work and make sure every Airman's efforts are focused on work that contributes directly to the mission. The proven principles of AFSO 21 allow us to evaluate every process we do against the value it brings to the mission of the organization. If there's no value added by a task, we can't afford to do it's as simple as that.

We are committed to creating a culture within our Air Force that gives each Airman the power to improve processes they are involved with. From the newest Airman through our most senior officers, we all have a responsibility to elevate ideas that will make the quality of our work and those we supervise better and more relevant to today's fight. Our front line leaders are key to our success. NCOs and junior officers who lead work groups must embrace AFSO 21 tools and use them in order for our Air Force to become more productive with our time, tools and talents.

We are at the beginning of the AFSO 21 journey, but I am excited about the strides we are making. Already success stories are flowing from around our Air Force of even the youngest Airmen using AFSO 21 principles to make things better. From the flightline to the dining halls, from offices to back shops and hangars, Airmen around our Air Force are discovering that using AFSO 21 tools to make small changes in their processes can make big impacts in productivity. They are using AFSO 21 to make their operation safer, more reliable and more productive.

I encourage each of you to seek out websites, news articles and senior leader viewpoints about AFSO 21 and explore what it can do for you. Find out how it can help you improve the way you do business. Take advantage of the AFSO 21 training opportunities that are coming your way, and turn those opportunities into action. Our Air Force is counting on your persistence, ingenuity and skill to ensure that everything we do brings value to our service, and to the nation we serve.



RODNEY J. MCKINLEY

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force



Team Lajes prepares for LSET inspection

By 1st Lt. Shilo Weir
65th ABW Public Affairs

Preparation is underway for 65th Air Base Wing Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team Inspection scheduled for Oct. 23-28.

The LSET inspection is designed to take an in-depth look at programs and processes involving aircraft maintenance, transportation, supply and logistics areas at Lajes.

A key player in this inspection is the 65th Operations Support Squadron's "Proud Bull" maintainers. "This inspection will test the wing's support of the mission," said Lt. Col. Roger Wagner, 65th OSS commander. "The team will make sure we are doing the job right, with the right tools and guidance, in the safest and smartest way we can."

In preparing for the LSET inspection, both the 65th OSS and

the 65th Logistics Readiness Squadrons have set up internal preparation teams made up of flight and section leaders.

These teams are responsible for running self inspections, using functional inspection guides, and ensuring the squadron is ready to meet the challenge.

Getting ready for this inspection takes more than just the efforts of two squadrons, according to Colonel Wagner.

"We've asked Team Lajes to help us prepare," he said. "Our great mission partners, the 729th Air Mobility Squadron, as well as 65th Air Base Wing safety office have helped us put additional sets of eyes on all our programs and processes to make sure we are ready."

LSET inspections generally scrutinize every action required by a unit to put an aircraft into the air.

For the 65th OSS, the inspec-

tion team will focus on the support the unit provides to the aircraft transiting the Atlantic that are feeding the fight.

With no U.S. aircraft permanently assigned to Lajes Field, the focus of this inspection will be different.

"Our Aerospace Ground Equipment, Fabrication, and Transient Alert sections will be under the microscope to show how well we perform in keeping Lajes in the fight," said Colonel Wagner.

"Additionally, training, mobility, security and other support functions will be examined to ensure we are preparing our warfighters to meet the next challenge," he said.

Although 65th OSS is the primary focus of this inspection, 729th AMS and the rest of Team Lajes play key roles in the overall performance.

"The LSET will conduct evaluations of the Logistics Readiness Squadron, accord-

ing to Capt. David Black, 65th OSS maintenance flight commander officer. "The team will inspect LRS areas like Supply Management, Fuels Management, Vehicle Management and Traffic Management."

Experience from the past has shown that the entire wing is vital in the overall outcome of the inspection, according to Captain Black.

"Key contributing factors are often general appearance of the base and attitudes towards the team," the captain said. "Base-wide, from billing to computer support, it will definitely put a great image of Lajes in the minds of inspectors."

"As with any inspection, Team Lajes will want to have on our 'game face' to show the inspectors our dedication to the mission," Colonel Wagner added.

"Pride in service, base appearance, and customer care are always being evaluated," the commander said. "These are staples of 65th ABW pride."

PT gear in high demand at clothing sales stores

By Judd Anstey
Army and Air Force Exchange Service

DALLAS (AFP) — For the first time in the Air Force's 59 year history, Airmen reporting for physical training must show up in the same gear beginning Sunday.

But while several agencies have been preparing for this change for some time, the last-minute rush on the new mandatory gear is creating an overwhelming demand, resulting in backorders in certain sizes, officials at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service said.

AAFES' Air Force military clothing program manager, Maj. Brian Schooley, said what Airmen see on the shelves at Air Force military clothing sales stores is the result of a team effort.

The major said AAFES distributes Air Force uniforms and runs clothing sales stores that are, essentially, "Air Force owned and operated uniform stores."

However, backorders from the military supply system are affecting some clothing sales stores. And since the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia is the only authorized PT gear source, AAFES has no choice but continue to monitor the situation, the major said. He said the exchange service continually requests updates on the backorder status.

"We remain committed to providing customers with the latest information and fix shortages, he said. "Until such notice is received, AAFES is asking for customers' patience as it continues to work with the military supply system to find a solution.

Airmen can check the availability of the PT gear in their area, by clicking the "store locator" link at www.aafes.com to view specific location and contact information. In addition to 90 Air Force clothing store outlets, all sizes of the new mandatory uniform should be available through the Web site — once the backorder situation is resolved.

Clothing sales is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Portuguese holidays from noon to 5 p.m. They are currently waiting on a shipment of PT gear. For details, call 535-3816.

PT gear becomes mandatory Oct. 1

As a reminder, Oct. 1 marks the mandatory wear of physical training gear. All Airmen will be required to have one running suit, two T-shirts and two pair of shorts. Also beginning in October, enlisted Airmen will receive an increase in their clothing allowance to offset the increase of the mandatory number of T-shirts and shorts from two sets to three sets in October 2007.

The revised AFI will clarify wear of the PT gear by specifying that when doing organized PT, the shorts and T-shirts will be worn as a set and not mixed with civilian clothes; however, at other times the PT gear, to include the running suit, can be worn with civilian clothes.

(Information courtesy of Air Force News Service)



Holidays Greetings Hometown greeting team comes to Lajes next week

SAN ANTONIO — An Army and Air Force Hometown News Service Team will be here Oct. 5 and 6 to give Lajes members a chance to say “Hi,” to their family back home.

Broadcasters from the Army and Air Force Hometown News Service began their annual worldwide holiday greetings tour Sept. 11, giving thousands of servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians stationed overseas a chance to send a message to their families in the states.

The holiday greetings program began in 1984 to recognize servicemembers serving in a variety of missions outside the United States at a time of the year when they will miss sharing the holidays with their families, said Tom Taylor, chief of broadcast news for hometown news.

The program gives them a chance to send a personal message to their loved ones back home, and the process is a painless one.

Participants come to where the teams have set up at their location, fill out a form indicating where their families are, stand in front of the camera and say their message. When the teams get back here, they market each greeting to the TV

stations in that person’s area, and turn the video into a release for the radio stations.

Over the years, the greetings have become a regular part of the holiday season for viewers nationwide, airing in every market in the United States on about 1,100 television stations and 1,200 radio stations.

John Boyer, of a news station in Gainesville, Fla., said the program is an integral part of his station, and he loves giving servicemembers the chance to speak to their family.

“The holiday greetings program is one of the best well-kept secrets,” he said. “I’ve been able to do this for 20 years, and we always get many positive responses from families. It brings those who are so far away close to their family.”

Tony Benable, of a news station in Bristol, Va., said he also gets many calls from people requesting copies of the video.

“We love it,” he said. “The program gives us a holiday greeting the public cares about.”

Mr. Benable said his station always provides a complimentary copy of the greeting to the servicemember’s family.

“We give priority to those who are forward deployed or in other remote unaccompa-



SAN ANTONIO— Senior Airman Ryan Nelson tapes a mock holiday greeting during a training session here. A team from Army and Air Force Hometown News Service will be here Oct. 5 and 6, to record holiday messages for Team Lajes. (Photo by Master Sgt. Lance Cheung)

nied assignments, but we do record greetings from families serving in accompanied assignments in Europe and the Pacific,” Mr. Taylor said.

Servicemembers stationed overseas, including families and Department of Defense civilians who will be stationed outside the U.S. during the December holiday, are all invited to take advantage of the program and send a holiday greeting back home.

The team will record greetings from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Oct. 5 and 6 at Warrior Park adjacent to the Top of the Rock

Club. Individuals should have the name, address and telephone number of those who the greeting is being sent to, to ensure they receive notification of when the greeting will air.

Active-duty members must be in uniform for their greetings.

There is a limit of four greetings per family. Members must have an appointment. To make an appointment, or for more information, call 535-6161, or 535-2369 or from off base, 295-576-161 or 295-572-369.



Homecoming

Senior Airman Clevis Bell and Senior Airman Daryl Wiggins, 65th Security Forces Squadron walk through the sliding glass doors at the commercial airport here Sept. 21 and wait to be greeted by squadron members. The troops were returning from a 263-day deployment to Iraq. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Christin Michaud)



CFC-O kicks off Monday

By Staff Sgt.
Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

Make a World of Difference, the 2006 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas, kicks off Monday and runs through Dec. 2.

This year's goal for Lajes Field is 100 percent contact with an overall goal of \$1.9 million for U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

The CFC is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the federal workplace on behalf of charitable organizations.

"The CFC is the largest and most successful workplace giving campaign and it's an opportunity for all federal employees to contribute to worthy causes, said Col. Robert Winston, 65th Air Base Wing commander.

"I believe our people realize the importance of donating to these charities, especially in light of the recent hurricane disasters that have struck our great country," Colonel Winston said. "Also we are a nation at war and there are a lot of charities that support the war effort and our warfighters, and they are deserving of our contributions."

The campaign raises money for more than 1,700 different charities, from local charities here at Lajes to charities around the world.

The CFC-Overseas is unique because it accepts donations for the Lajes Family Support and Youth Programs.

In past years, the Lajes FSYP has received as much as \$10,000 through the Combined Federal Campaign.

In addition, 100 percent of a FSYP donation goes to the program — there are no overhead costs subtracted out from a FSYP donation.

Overhead cost is one thing the CFC helps regulate when it comes to charities.

Organizations that are part of the CFC list the administrative costs in percentages. This helps donors know how much of their money goes to the actual cause.

Regardless of whether personnel from Team Lajes choose to donate to the programs here at Lajes, hurricane relief efforts, animal or cancer societies, every little bit helps.

According to last year's statistics, 40 percent of Lajes personnel made donations through the CFC. "Since we had



40 percent participation last year, Colonel Winston has set a 50 percent participation goal for this year," explained Capt. Lisa Tauai, CFC-O project officer for Lajes.

One of the incentives this year to increase participation is a CFC-O giveaway, which includes a chance to win a Harley Davidson for the grand prize. Second and third place prizes include two roundtrip airline tickets and a \$1,000 savings bond. Individuals are eligible to win by completing a pledge card whether they donate or not. "An individual who wants to enter the drawing, but does not want to donate to the campaign would simply fill out his or her contact information and then scratch through, put zeros or just leave the donation section blank," said Captain Tauai. Only ID card holders are eligible to win.

The chance to win a prize is incentive, but there are other factors that make the CFC a viable option for donating money.

Convenience and anonymity are major advantages of the CFC. The payroll deduction option allows for consistent and predictable contributions to an organization. With CFC, gifts can be given anonymously or with the donor's information if they choose to release it.

During the CFC, there are strict guidelines on other organizations participating in fundraising events. The installation commander has authority to grant private organization fundraisers. In turn, that organization can make a donation to the CFC with the opportunity for special recognition.

Unit representatives will be contacting Team Lajes with pledge cards. For more information about CFC-O, see your representative, call Captain Tauai at 535-1293, 1st Lt. Shilo Weir at 535-6161, or visit www.cfcoverseas.org.

Anti-Terrorism Awareness Bulletin: **Current threat level here is Low**

By Tech. Sgt. Brian Cain
65th ABW Anti-terrorism office

The DoD Terrorism Threat Level classification system is a set of standardized terms used to quantify the level of terrorism threat on a country-by-country basis. The terrorism threat level terms are *Low*, *Moderate*, *Significant* and *High*. The system evaluates the threat using a variety of analytical threat factors.

Terrorism Threat Levels are estimates with no direct relationship to specific Force Protection Conditions. A FPCON is a security posture promulgated by the commander in consideration of a variety of factors such as a terrorist threat analysis or threat level. Threat levels should not be confused with FPCONs.

Terrorism Threat Levels are based on a continuous intelligence analysis of a minimum of four elements: operational capability, intentions, activity, and operating environment. AFI 10-245, *Air Force Anti-Terrorism Standards* defines terrorist threat levels as:

HIGH. Anti-U.S. terrorists are operationally active and use large casualty producing attacks (weapons of mass destruction) as their preferred method of operation. There is a substantial DoD presence and the operating environment favors the terrorist.

SIGNIFICANT: Anti-U.S. terrorists are present and attack personnel as their preferred method of operation or a group uses large casualty producing attacks (WMD) as their preferred method but has limited operational activity. The operating environment is neutral.

MODERATE: Terrorists are present but there are no indications of anti-U.S. activity. The operating environment favors the Host Nation/United States.

LOW: No group is detected or the group activity is non-threatening.

Remember to be mindful when traveling through Europe because terrorist threat levels vary between country and installations. Most USAFE installations are operating in a higher threat levels than Lajes Field. To receive more information, such as specific country terrorist threat levels prior to your travels, call Tech. Sgt. Brian Cain at 535-3015.

USAFE future now includes Parish Enlisted Heritage Room

By Master Sgt. Chuck Roberts
U.S. Air Forces in Europe
Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany

— A former chief master sergeant of the Air Force dedicated to the preservation of enlisted history was honored at a ceremonial opening of an enlisted heritage room bearing his name.

The Parish Enlisted Heritage Room became a reality Sept. 22 at the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Headquarters building where artifacts dating back to World War II have found a home.

It was also a homecoming of sorts for former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Sam E. Parish, the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force from 1983 to 1986, and the USAFE senior enlisted advisor from 1977 to 1980.

“You know it’s always good to come back home, and especially for something like this,” Chief Parish said before a large crowd outside the headquarters building. “I’ve been an advocate for inclusion of our enlisted men and women and our written Air Force history, and anybody that’s ever heard me talk has known that for many years. We’re getting better, but

we’re not there yet. For USAFE to take this step, well in my humble opinion, there’s no honor that could be greater than to be selected to help dedicate this heritage center.”

Chief Parish said he was honored, but noted the honor was not all his.

“There are so many others that have come before and contributed so much to our Air Force and USAFE. To say I’m honored, I think, would be a gross, gross understatement,” said Chief Parish.

In his introductory remarks, USAFE Commander Gen. Tom Hobbins praised the vital contributions of enlisted USAFE Airmen spanning World War II, the Berlin Airlift, the Cold War, two Gulf Wars and the continued fight against the Global War on Terrorism.

“It’s only fitting that as we begin to celebrate these milestones, we dedicate the USAFE Heritage Room in honor of the eighth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Sam E. Parish, for his many contributions to the morale and welfare of enlisted troops throughout USAFE, past and present,” said General Hobbins.

The concept for the Parish Heritage Room came about when USAFE collected about \$32,000 for the Berlin to

Baghdad Memorial Fund conducted by the Air Force Enlisted Heritage Hall at Maxwell Air Force Base – Gunter Annex, Alabama. The purpose of the fund drive was to provide museum-quality exhibits and displays for the Enlisted Heritage Hall’s new wing dealing with the Cold War era.

“It caused us to reflect on what kind of displays, artifacts we had here in the command reflective of enlisted men and women’s contributions,” said USAFE Command Chief Master Sergeant Gary Coleman, who spearheaded the effort to transform the former drab training room into stylish collection that includes artifacts, historical photos and uniforms, and a viewing section for audiovisual presentations. Also contributing toward the drive for a new home for the existing artifacts was the redesign to the entry for the USAFE headquarters building where they were displayed.

Chief Coleman echoed the sentiments of Chief Parish about the need for better care of documenting enlisted Air Force history.

“If you review volumes of text in Air Force history, you will find very little documentation of the contributions of enlisted men and women,” Chief Coleman said. “It’s important for today’s Airmen to know where we’ve been, to appreciate better where we’re at, and more importantly, looking forward to the future,” said Chief Coleman.

The heritage room collection scored high marks from Tech. Sgt. Treena Merk, a professional military education instructor from Kapaun Air Station, Germany, who said Chief Parish was right on the mark about preserving enlisted history.

“It’s an attribute to the enlisted force and to try to get everybody on the same page on our traditions. We’re part of that history and tradition, and I feel proud to be a part of that.”

The room was created through a wide variety of workers and volunteers, to include civil engineers, the Kisling NCO Academy, visual information center, and the Ramstein Enlisted Spouses Association among others.



Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Sam Parish (left) talks with Senior Airman Timothy Bankich (center) after a ceremony marking the opening of the Parish Enlisted Heritage Room that bears his name. (Photo by Senior Airman Christopher Willis)



Left behind Programs aid spouses, families of deployed

By Staff Sgt. Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

Note: This is the second of a three-part series on the programs, education and advice available for families left behind as a result of a deployment. The first discussed the Key Spouse Program, this one focuses on the Hearts apart program and other benefits available to families and the final will talk about the way deployments impact families.

Deployments are now a way of life in the Air Force and now that people from Lajes deploy, the Airmen & Family Readiness Center has programs to benefit those left behind.

Hearts Apart is one of the programs spouses can take advantage of while the military member is deployed.

Squadrons have adopted months and will provide activities each month for families of deployed personnel.

"Stressors can be lessened or alleviated by hearts apart programs through the support of the base and other spouses going through similar situations," said Tanya Greer, community readiness specialist. "It provides opportunities for spouses and children to participate in fellowship activities and interact with the families of other deployed personnel."

The first Hearts Apart function is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday at the base theater. There will be a free showing of Barnyard and pizza for families affected by deployment.

Additional family readiness programs include:

PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEFING: A briefing to help active-duty members and spouses prepare for deployment. Families are advised of the many community resources available to them during deployment. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.

"HEARTS APART" EMAIL: A service for military members, spouses and DOD civilian's to stay in touch during deployments/TDYs. The Airman & Family Readiness Center has full Internet access available for use from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"HEARTS APART" NEWSLETTERS: A monthly letter for spouses on information, community and A&FRC events/activities as well as news articles and deployment tips.

ISLAND TOURS: Three Combat

Care tours per year. FRAME and Right Start tours on a space-available basis.

CONTACT CALLS DURING DEPLOYMENTS: Unit Key Spouses and Family Readiness staff make phone calls throughout the separation period to waiting families to see how they are doing and to help when there are special needs or concerns.

FREE CHILD CARE: Deployed spouses child care Tuesday and Thursday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the CDC. Funded by the 65th Services Squadron.

WORKSHOPS/CLASSES: The Airman & Family Readiness Center offers a variety of skill improvement and consumer information workshops and classes each month. Our monthly calendar is an excellent resource for information on these events and is emailed to spouses home email accounts.

CAR CARE BECAUSE WE CARE:

Vouchers are available at the Airmen & Family Readiness Center, for a free vehicle safety check, oil and filter change, and lubrication at Manny's Garage during deployments/TDYs of 30 days or more. Limited to one per deployment on the primary vehicle. Sponsored by your Air Force Aid Society.

GIVE PARENTS A BREAK PROGRAM: Funded by Air Force Aid Society, this program provides childcare the last Friday of the month or if it's a holiday, the second to last Friday of the month from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Child Development Center and the Lajes Youth Center. Children between 6 months and 12 years are eligible. Referral vouchers are necessary. Contact your first sergeant, commander, chaplain, family advocacy personnel, doctor or other medical professional, child development program director, lajes youth program director or Airman & Family Readiness Center personnel.

SPACE-A-TRAVEL: Command-sponsored dependents may travel without the active duty member accompanying them. Travelers need a command-sponsored certification letter from the

active-duty member's commander. Space-A upgrade to CAT IV for all deployments of 120 days or more. For more information, contact the passenger terminal at 535-3227.

AIR FORCE AID SOCIETY: Provides emergency financial assistance. Located in the Airman & Family Readiness Center, Bldg. T-126, 535-4138.

SPOUSE TUITION ASSISTANCE: Educational grants available for college classes for spouses of active duty Air Force personnel. If qualified, call or visit the Education Office, 535-1115, Bldg. T-146, 2nd floor.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Get involved, meet new people, keep up your skills or learn a new one! Call or visit the Airman & Family Readiness Center, 535-4138, Bldg. T-126.

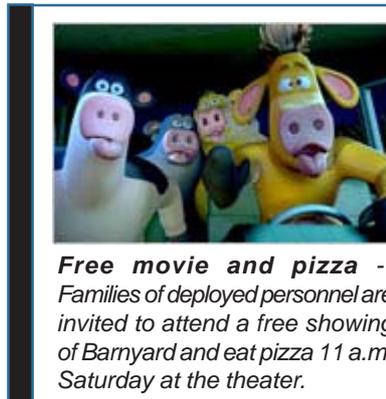
CAREER FOCUS: Is your spouse or family member searching for a job, need assistance with a resume or basic job skills?

Our career focus manager assists them with the process and puts them on the right track. Call the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 535-4138, or visit Bldg. T-126 for an appointment or information.

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE: Are you getting ready to PCS or a new arrival? Our relocation assistance program has many services available for you. We have information about

the island, the Azores, local maps, videos and brochures of other Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine installations and SITES packages available for your use. Call the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 535-4138 for more information.

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE: Preparing for your next adventure after the military can be a frightening or relaxing experience. Let the A&FRC help you make it a relaxing one. If you are within a year of separation or one to three years of retiring, our Transition Assistance Program can assist. We conduct quarterly TAP workshops, as well as individual counseling. Stop by or call for an appointment.



Free movie and pizza -- Families of deployed personnel are invited to attend a free showing of Barnyard and eat pizza 11 a.m. Saturday at the theater.

Motorcycle safety courses now available here

By 1st Lt. Liam Clancy
65th ABW Protocol
Office

I started riding motorcycles when I was 17. I bought a 100cc Honda standard for commuting to and from university. I had never ridden a motorcycle before, had never heard of a motorcycle safety course, and I had no street skills. I would regularly drop my bike going around corners too fast. I eventually stopped riding because I scared myself so badly during one spill involving a city bus on a busy street in Belfast.

While stationed in Hawaii, 15 years later, my friend convinced me that a motorcycle was the answer to my commuting nightmares, but with memories of my previous experience preying

on my mind, I paid \$150 and took the motorcycle safety course at the Sand Island Coast Guard station. I said it then and I'll say it now, "That was the best \$150 I ever spent!"

It is now mandatory for all DoD military and civilian motorcycle operators to have a Motorcycle Safety Founda-

An Experienced Rider Course and Basic Rider Course are now available here. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Brian Cain at 535-3015.

tion certification or equivalent safety course that includes hands-on training and evaluation (AFI 91-207, para. 13). Furthermore within USAFE, it is mandatory that

motorcycle operators attend a motorcycle safety refresher course if their training certification is more than three years old. Fortunately for us, we have our very own certified MSF instructor here at Lajes, and an already established rider course painted on the AEF ramp.



Courtesy photo

Tech. Sgt. Brian Cain has been riding for more than 12 years and instructing MSF courses for more than three years. He plans to offer both refresher courses for current riders, the Experienced Rider Course and Basic Rider Course for unlicensed members who would like to start riding.

ERC's will be held on the last Friday of each month while BRC's will be taught on a quarterly basis. If you are

interested in completing your certification, or need to complete a refresher course contact the wing safety office at 535-3304, or Sergeant Cain at 535-3015.

The minimum number of student for both classes is three and the maximum number of student is six. Lastly, class attendance/admittance will be based on member's expiration date of current MSF certification.

Make your military health benefit work for you:

Finding help when you need it

This month, we're providing information for those new to Lajes or who have recently had a change in their family -- such as a move or a new baby -- about keeping their military health benefit up to date. So far, we've discussed:

- Step 1: Verify eligibility by ensuring your DEERS information is updated (see www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERS for details).

- Step 2: Check your coverage by contacting your local TRICARE Service Center.

- Step 3: Know How to Get Care (Appointment Line: 295-57-3261, option 1; Base Phone for Emergency: 911; Commercial Phone for Emergency: 295-57-1911).

This week, we will discuss:

Step 4: Finding help when you need it

For most questions about your military health care benefit, your first stop should be the TRICARE Service Center. In addition to providing information about your TRICARE benefit, the staff can help with enrollment issues, eligibility (DEERS) questions and claims filing. You can reach your local TRICARE Service Center at 295-57-3261, option 4, 2, 1.

If you or a family member ends up at the emergency room, call the on-call PCM at 91-936-5999. A patient liaison will be dispatched to help with language and cultural barriers.

PCM On-Call

Lajes has an on-call PCM for urgent/emergent after-hour issues. The on-call PCM can advise you on whether to seek care immediately in the emergency room or make an appointment with

your primary care manager. You can call the PCM on-call after hours and weekends at 91-936-5999.

Other Resources

- To find out about services offered by your local military treatment facility, attend the Wing Right Start on Tuesdays. Call the Airman & Family Support Center at 535-4138 or go to T-126.

- For general information about TRICARE in Europe, visit the TRICARE Europe web site at <http://www.europe.tricare.osd.mil>.

- To get general information about TRICARE, including what is and is not covered, go to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>.

- Use <http://www.tricareonline.com> to manage your TRICARE benefit, make appointments and track claims. (Courtesy of the 65th Medical Group)

Ask Ed: Are spiders dangerous?

Question: I've noticed some pretty large black and yellow spiders around our house. Are they dangerous to humans?

The spiders you've noticed around the house are actually black and yellow Argiopes or "Garden/banana spiders" like the Americans call them, and I understand they are also very common in North America.

The people of Terceira call them "aranhas venenosas," which literally means "poisonous spiders," but according to Dr. Eduardo Dias of the University of the Azores' Department of Biology, they aren't dangerous to humans.

They do have neurotoxin venom similar to that of the black widow spiders which is released when attacking other insects or defending themselves. This could be fatal to insects, but not to humans.

However, if a human is bitten by one of these spiders, they could experience some allergies, pain, redness and swelling in the area of the bite, which may require medical assistance.



Still, according to Dr. Dias, the symptoms may vary from person to person, depending on each individual's capacity to react to the bite – just like when a person is stung by a bee.

These spiders can be observed on the island throughout the year in gardens and other areas with vegetation, but they seem to be most common during the fall months.

-- Ed Lima
Community Relations Adviser

At the movies



Today: 7 p.m. - Barnyard starring Kevin James, Courtney Cox Arquette

A free-wheeling cow named Otis and his misfit farm animal friends regularly play tricks on humans—sing, dance and party—but when Otis is suddenly placed in a position of responsibility around the barnyard, he must find the courage and confidence to become a leader. Rated PG (mild peril, rude humor) 90 min



10 p.m. - Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby starring Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly

Ricky Bobby is a NASCAR racing sensation whose "win at all costs" approach has made him a national hero. When a flamboyant French Formula One driver, Jean Girard, challenges him for the supremacy of NASCAR, Ricky Bobby must face his own demons and fight for his place as racing's top driver. Rated PG-13 (crude/sexual humor, language, drug references, comic violence) 111 min

Saturday:

3 p.m. - Zoom starring Tim Allen, Courtney Cox Arquette
When Earth is faced with certain destruction, an over-the-hill superhero is charged with the task of training four super-powered kids to harness their powers and save the planet in an out-of-this-world comedy adventure for the whole family. Rated PG (rude humor, language, mild action) 83 min

7 p.m. - Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby

Sunday:

2 p.m. - Barnyard

7 p.m. - Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby

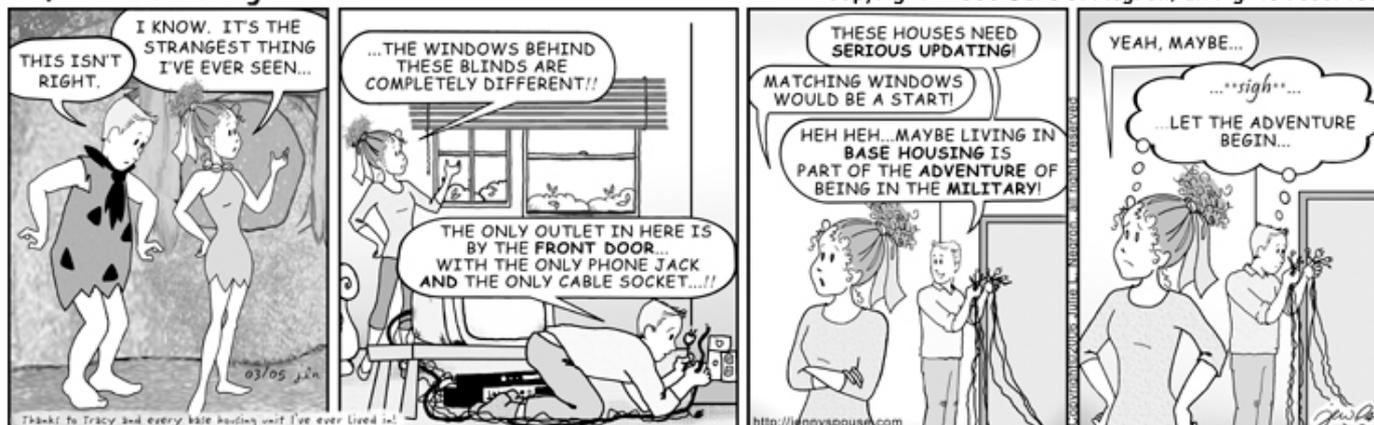
Thursday:

7 p.m. - Zoom

Jenny, the military spouse

I ♥ Base Housing

Copyright©2006 Julie L. Negrón, all rights reserved



Sports Shorts

New fitness center hours

The fitness center hours change Sunday. New hours are Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., weekends 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and holiday and goal days 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Volleyball

Senior men's and women's volleyball teams for the ADREP athletic club of Praia are accepting both men and women who were interested in playing some competitive volleyball to come out and play. For more information, e-mail ricky.baptista@lajes.af.mil.

5K Charity Fun Run

Lajes High School cross country team will host a 5K charity fun run 9 a.m. Saturday. All donations will help with travel costs of the fall athletic teams who are traveling to Germany. For more information, e-mail brian.daly@eu.dodea.edu

Raquetball

The Raquetball League begins Oct. 10. Units that wish to participate need to sign up by Thursday. For more information, call Tony Batista at 535-1290.

Intramural Bowling

Intramural bowling begins 6 p.m. Tuesday. Get your team ready at the bowling center on that day and that time to vote on the by-laws, league officers and for the first night of bowling. This year intramural bowling teams will be 4-person teams and the bowling night will be 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, except the first night. For more information, call Tony Batista at 535-1290.

2006 USAFE Body Building Championship & Fitness Expo

2006 USAFE Body Building Championship & Fitness Expo will take

place at Darmstadt, Germany Cambrai-Fritsch Kaserne Fitness Center, Bldg. 4017 Oct. 14-15.

Oct. 14

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Fitness Expo

1 p.m.: Strong Man Competition

Oct. 15

* Events held at Darmstadt: Movie Theater, Bldg. T-4021

8 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.: Weigh-ins and registration

11 a.m.: Prejudging

5 p.m.: Men and women's bodybuilding championship and women's figure competition

All events are free to the public.

The bodybuilding championship is a sanctioned event (pro-qualifier) by the International Natural Bodybuilding Federation.

Participants pay a \$35 sanctioned fee in the championship and figure competition.

For more information, call DSN 314-348-7441 or visit www.mwr-europe.com.

Armchair Quarterback Challenge

Each week during football season, the Crossroads publishes a list of the National Football League games of the week for Team Lajes to predict. The person with the most correct picks will win an AAFES coupon.

The No. 1 ranked Armchair Q.B. each week will get his or her name and photo published in the *Crossroads* and we'll also print any smack talk the winner chooses to submit. Congratulations to week three's winner, **Lyle Riley** who only missed two and won with the tiebreaker points for Monday's game. Now for the losers -- they get the honor of the "You Don't Know Jack" award. This week, five people missed six -- I thought about giving you a break since there were so many, but just couldn't do it, so Lisa Casterline, Liam Clancy, Rhonda Isaac, Becky Wheeler and Paul Granholm, welcome to Loserville.

Bring picks to the Public Affairs office in room 240 of Bldg. T-100 or e-mail them to news@lajes.af.mil. All entries must be submitted before the opening kickoff to the first game Sunday. In the case of a tie, a winner will be decided by who picks the closest combined score of the Monday Night game.

"I had to send Wayne back to his World. I'll be back next week as well."

-Lyle Riley



- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Arizona Cardinals vs. Atlanta Falcons | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | San Francisco 49ers vs. Kansas City Chiefs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | San Diego Chargers vs. Baltimore Ravens | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New Orleans Saints vs. Carolina Panthers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Minnesota Vikings vs. Buffalo Bills | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Miami Dolphins vs. Houston Texans | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Indianapolis Colts vs. NY Jets | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dallas Cowboys vs. Tennessee Titans | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Detroit Lions vs. St. Louis Rams | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New England Patriots vs. Cincinnati Bengals | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Washington Redskins | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cleveland Browns vs. Oakland Raiders | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Seattle Seahawks vs. Chicago Bears | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Green Bay Packers vs. Philadelphia Eagles | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Total Points for Monday's Game: _____



EVENTS

Submission deadline is Thursday one week prior to publication. E-mail announcements in normal text with event, location, date, time, point of contact's full name and phone number/e-mail address to news@lajes.af.mil.

Note: If trying to reach POCs off base, dial 295-57-XXXX (last four digits of the number listed).

In the Community

Street bullfights: Today: 5:30 p.m. Canada das Mercedes, Feteira; **Saturday:** 5:30 p.m. Canada do Caldeiro, Biscoitos; 5 p.m. Rua Gervasio Lima, Praia; 5:30 p.m. Angra bullring's parking lot; **Sunday:** 5 p.m. Rua Senhora da Saude, Praia; **Monday:** 5 p.m. Lajes; **Tuesday:** 5 p.m. Lajes; **Wednesday:** 5 p.m. Lajes **Thursday:** 5 p.m. Lajes.

Miscellaneous

Halloween Candy Grams: The 65th Medical Group Booster Club is taking orders for Candy Grams. The choices include an 8-inch Plush Velcro figure for \$7 or a 3-inch Tricot Bear for \$5. Both come with a little goody bag filled with candy treats that they deliver. To order, contact Staff Sgt. Jennifer Ellison at 535-1987 or jennifer.ellison@lajes.af.mil, Staff Sgt. Amanda Sais at 535-3139 or Amanda.sais@lajes.af.mil, or Tech. Sgt. Michael Deleon: 535-4244 or Michael.deleon@lajes.af.mil. Money will be collected when the order is placed.

Fire Prevention Week: The Lajes Field Fire Protection Flight will begin Fire Prevention Week 2006 with a Parade Oct. 7. Other events include: Scout Day, Oct. 9; DoDDs Day, Oct. 10; a soccer match, Oct. 11; fire muster; Oct. 12; 5K run, Oct. 13; and Battle of the Badges, Oct. 14. For more information, call Staff Sgt. James Mullis at 535-5166.

Alcoholics Anonymous: AA meetings take place at 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the basement of the base chapel (T-305). This is an English-speaking meeting. For more information, call 295-513-297.

An Al-Anon meeting takes place at the Azorean Baptist Church at 7 p.m. Thursday evenings. Al-Anon is a support group for friends and family of alcoholics. This is an English speaking meeting. For information or directions, call 295-549-731.

2006 Spirit House Ornament Sale: The Officers' Spouses' Club will be selling ornaments from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday outside the Commissary and Ocean View BX. The ornament is a solid pewter design of the Imperio, "Largo do Comendador Pamplona," located in Porto Martins. Cost is \$12 for one ornament or \$10 each for two or more. There is a limited number of ornaments available so come early.

Pet swimming party: The 65th Services Squadron will host a Dog Daze of Summer pool party for pets and their owners at the base pool 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday. The pet swimming party is free for pets and owners.

Dog obedience class: The next dog obedience class will be in October. Sign ups will be taken until the class is full. Fees are dependant upon rank. Stop by or call Cari Gardiner-Hall at 535-3855.

New Family Services/ Loan Closet hours: Beginning Monday, the Family Services/Loan Closet T-125 hours of operation will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. For more information, call 535-4138.

Bowling for Good Grades: The bowling center will be having Bowling for good Grades starting the first semester. Two free games for all "As;" shoes not included. Coupons expire 30 days from date of issue. Participants must show report card within two weeks. For more information, call Jesse Davis at 535-6169.

Belly Dance for Beginners: Belly dance classes taught by Nikki Watson are 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the CAC ballroom. The class is for ages 15 and up, and the cost is \$40 per month. Belly dance is fun and a great way to get in shape.

Education

University of Phoenix: The University of Phoenix offers the MBA and several Master of Arts in Education programs to the Lajes community. classes are six-weeks long and

people can earn their degree in less than 24 months. There are no entrance exams or thesis requirements. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday. For more information, call *Etleva Davis* at 535-1970 or e-mail etleva.davis@phoenix.edu.

Jobs/Volunteer

TolTest Incorporated: TolTest Inc. has an immediate job opening for an office administrative assistant. Experience with U.S. business office practices preferred but not required. Preference will be given to candidates with knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word/Excel/Outlook) and Adobe. Job responsibilities will include filing, printing, scanning and typing. More advanced duties such as managing invoices and drafting correspondence possible depending on the experience of the selected candidate. Interested applicants should email their resumes to dan.firsdon@toltest.com

AAFES vacancies: AAFES is now accepting applications for a theater supervisor and an intermittent theater worker. Theater supervisor: Experience in theater operations and supervision is preferred. must have ability/knowledge to operate/use systems, hardware and software. Intermittent theater worker: General experience to perform a variety of food service, ticket sales and janitorial/custodial duties related to theater operations.

Applicants must be able to work a flexible schedule.

Anyone who has applied with AAFES in the past, may wish to resubmit an application since they are only kept on file for six months. Applications are available at AAFES stores, theater and AAFES Human Resources Office, Bldg. T-800. For details, call 535-3634 or 535-3209.

Chapel

Gospel Extravaganza: Lajes Field Gospel Extrava-

ganza IV will be 7 p.m. Saturday at the chapel. The event will feature the "Body of Praise" and various other dynamic groups, bands and guest soloist. For more information, call Master Sgt. James Kelier at 535-6844.

Can Food Drive at Mass: 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the chapel.

For more information on chapel events call 535-4211.

Classified Ads

E-mail ads to news@lajes.af.mil. Ads are due by 5 p.m. Friday. Please remember to notify the Crossroads when items have been sold.

For sale: DVD of the Asian Pacific Heritage Festival 2006 - Tae Kwon Do Demonstration, Fashion Show and Singkyl Dance (Filipino Dance). Contact 295-549-256 or e-mail geridave@gmail.com for details.

For sale: 220V Microwave \$40, 220V Toaster \$10, Boys Clothes Size 6/7 Contact 295-549-256.

The Perfect House for Rent!! Don't need a car to get to work! Two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath (huge bathtub), huge walk-in closet, fenced back yard, attached carport and street parking, small storage building in back yard, brick BBO pit, second gas range in storage building, 110 and 220V, contemporary style amenities. One minute drive from base, 15 minute walk! Great landlord. House available early-November, everyone can afford the rent! Must see! E-mail Donna.mccallum@lajes.af.mil or call 968-095-916 or 295-543-339 or 535-6349.

For sale 1997 Camaro, Green Engine: V6 3.8 Liter Trans: 5 Speed Manual A/C Drive: RWD Mileage: 68,400 Price: \$5,200 OBO Call: 919-182-497 or 295-542-279.

For sale: White and Blue Nike 360 running shoes, never worn, size 11.5. \$160 shoe, selling for \$90. Call 295-549-819.

CGO mug sales: Customized Tankards \$20 Ceramic Tankard with map of Terceira and your customized call sign/phrase Tankard entitles you to Dollar Draft/50 cent sodas at TORC Proceeds in aid of Company Grade Officer's Council For information/to place an order contact Lt. Liam Clancy at 535-2325.

For sale: 19" TV w/remote and RCA adapter \$30, 2 phones w/caller ID \$5 ea, PS1 bundle w/2 mem cards & extra controller w/8 kids games \$30, 12 cup coffee pot black \$10, Fry daddy \$10, Black elect can opener \$5, DVD cases 20 for \$1 (have over 100), Weber one touch charcoal grill \$20, 12 PS2 games varying from \$1-\$15. Call for info on games. Contact 295-549-489/963-791-511.

For rent: 2-3 bedroom/ 2 bath house in Porto Martins. Ocean view, large bathroom and all appliances included. AFN satellite dish already set up for all channels - all you need is the decoder. Asking 1350 euros, but negotiable. Call 919-404-876.

For sale: African-American Art Print for sale by the famous artist Annie Lee. The print is called Holy Ghost. The print is new, unframed and still in the mailing tube. Asking price \$50, firm. Call Kowana 295-549-250.

For sale the Limousine of Island Bombs: 1988 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series: Automatic, 90,000+ miles, working AC, CD player, new springs and shocks, transmission filter. I have a new muffler and pipes that I haven't put on. Transmission needs work. Make me an offer. Call 968-713-450

For sale: 5 speaker Kilps system with receiver: \$300: 27 inch TV: \$50 Call Tara at 963345385