

Atlantic Crossroads

Vol. 11, No. 50 • December 22, 2006 | Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal | Lajes In the Fight!

65 ABW ORI 2007



Lajes Is In The Fight!

ORI Countdown

87

Tip of the Week

□ Always ensure your military ID card is current, your mobility folder is up to date, and you have the required items in your mobility bags.

*Courtesy of
65th ABW Inspections*

Major Selects



Congratulations to the following Lajes captains on their selection for major (O-4) this week:

- Richard Anderson
- Lisa Tauai
- William Vivoni

Weather Forecast

Saturday

Cloudy
Rain
High 66
Low 57



Sunday

Cloudy
Rain
High 68
Low 59



*Courtesy of the
65th OSS Weather Flight*



Visit from Santa

Gonzalo Silva, 5, receives a gift from "Santa Claus" during the Santa Rita Elementary School Christmas Party Dec. 18. Approximately 40 gifts were donated and distributed to the elementary school students by members of the 65th Operations Support Squadron and Portuguese air traffic controllers at Lajes Field. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald)



PERSPECTIVE



THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC



DEC 04 2006

BE SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The holiday season gives many of us the well-deserved opportunity to relax and celebrate with friends and family. But for some the holidays can be stressful, especially when heightened by separation from loved ones. This time of year includes unique opportunities for activities and emotions that we should be both grateful for and wary of. We're asking you once again to keep a close eye on your Wingmen – your friends, loved ones and fellow Airmen – this holiday season, thus continuing to play an important role in preserving the Air Force's most precious resource – you.

Although we already put a lot of emphasis on safety, we can all do more to look out for our Wingmen. Eight of our precious Airmen have committed suicide this fiscal year. Many of these heartbreaking tragedies could have been avoided if Wingmen had intervened.

In FY06 we lost 45 Airmen to private motor vehicle mishaps and countless others were injured. Most of these could have been avoided with proper risk management decisions. During this season, in particular, many off-duty activities carry significant inherent risk that can easily be compounded by exceeding individual capabilities, drinking alcohol, failing to follow proper procedures or wear the proper gear, and failing to plan for winter travel.

It takes leadership – both from individuals and the chain of command – to prevent needless losses. Leaders at all levels must focus attention on sound individual decision making, a disciplined approach to risk management, and the importance of *Educating, Motivating, and Activating*. *Educating* means building the knowledge, skills, and character to behave safely and decrease risk exposure. *Motivating* means giving fellow Airmen the incentive to make the right decisions. *Activating* means providing the tools to act safely and ensuring each Airman understands the importance of making the right choice.

Ultimately, we can all make a difference, both for the friends and families of our Airmen and for the nation as a whole. Each life we save and each mishap we prevent translates directly into preserving combat capability for our nation. We are at war and need every Airman combat ready and in the fight.

We are grateful for the friends and family who understand and support your sacrifices, and wish them warmth and comfort this season under the blanket of security you provide. And we're grateful for Airmen who demonstrate that the defense of freedom is an unyielding endeavor and live by ideals that never take a holiday. Today, nearly 700,000 total force Airmen are answering the call to serve as part of the Joint Team, defending our nation here at home or deployed a world away. Wherever your service takes you this holiday season, be safe, proud and certain that all Americans value and appreciate you. We remain amazed by what you do every day for our great nation. You have our heartfelt thanks.

Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force

T. Michael Moseley
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

535-4240
actionline@lajes.af.mil

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
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing

Who to call for assistance

A&FRC	535-4138
Chapel	535-4211
Command Post	535-4200
Commissary	535-6174
Dining Facility	535-2256
Emergency services	911
	295-57-1911 (if off base)
Fitness Center	535-5151
Flight View BX	535-5236
Housing Maintenance ..	535-6251
LE desk	535-3222
Legal office	535-3546
Military Pay	535-5158
Oceanfront BX	535-3444
Post Office	535-3625
Shoppette	535-3280
Veterinary Clinic	535-3134
Youth Center	535-3273

Editor's note: If calling from off base or from a commercial line, use the prefix 295-57-XXXX.

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 535-2369 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
- Capt. Shilo Weir Chief, Public Affairs
- Staff Sgt. Christin Michaud NCOIC, Public Affairs
- Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald Editor, Crossroads
- Eduardo Lima Advisor, Community Relations



729th AMS officials give advice for Space-A travel

By Capt. Shilo Weir

65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season is here and the social obligations, gift giving and extra long lines at the checkout counter can be enough to put anyone on edge.

Planning a holiday get-away doesn't have to add to your seasonal stress.

The 729th Air Mobility Squadron's Passenger Service Center has all the answers when it comes to catching a Space Available flight out of Lajes Field this holiday season.

"We have the experts available who can help you make sure you are ready to travel," said Lt. Col. Steve Lambert, 729th AMS commander.

"If you aren't sure about the process, call us," the colonel said. "Don't wait until the last minute to ask a question that can keep you off the plane."

Smoothing the Space-A travel process can be easy if passengers take a little time to prepare and are ready before arriving at the terminal.

"The documentation you need varies depending on your travel category and status," explained Master Sgt. Rhonda Isaac, NCOIC of passenger services. "Common documents needed for Space-A travel include: ID cards for passengers 10 years or older, passports and visas, leave forms, Environmental Morale Leave authorizations and command sponsorship letters."

The old adage that it is better to be safe than sorry holds true with Space-A travel documents; if you aren't sure whether you will need it, bring it.

Another important aspect of Space-A travel is preparing for the expense.

"It is a common misconception that Space-A travel is free," said Sergeant Isaac. "This simply isn't true."

The cost for Space-A flights can be minimal — from \$26.10 in fees and taxes on patriot express flights to U.S. international air-



Staff Sgt. Dustin Odom, passenger service supervisor, 729th Air Mobility Squadron, provides Staff Sgt. Clay Thompson, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, updated information about Space Available flights out of Lajes Field Wednesday afternoon. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus McDonald)

ports to \$3.55 for box lunches on military aircraft. Unexpected expenses can add up, though, especially when travelers are unprepared.

Space-A travelers should be aware of hidden expenses. Some trips may require overnight stays, which means that billeting, rental cars and meals are all at the traveler's expense. It is most important to remember that Space-A travel is just that — space that is available after all mission requirements are fulfilled.

"Keep it in the back of your mind that Space-A travel is not a guarantee," warned Colonel Lambert. "Anything can happen and you need to be prepared to pay out-of-pocket for your flights."

Taking the time to plan ahead can make your Space-A travel experience stress free this season.

Be prepared for anything, and remember, the professionals at the 729th AMS Passenger Services Center are available to help.

Sign-up Procedures

- Forms are available at the passenger terminal. You can also sign up by FAX or e-mail.
 - * FAX: 535-5110
 - * E-mail: lspacea@lajes.af.mil
- Ensure you have all your paperwork. Leave paperwork will be stamped with the date and time of sign up.
- Sign up time is determined by the time e-mail or FAX was sent or the time self sign-up was accomplished.
- For more information, call the passenger terminal at 535-3227.

Travel Categories

- Category 1:** Emergency leave unfunded travel
- Category 2:** Sponsors in an Environmental Morale Leave status and their dependents traveling with them also in EML status; DoDDS teachers on EML during the school year
- Category 3:** Ordinary leave, house hunting permissive TDY
- Category 4:** Unaccompanied dependents on EML and DoDDS teachers on EML during the summer months
- Category 5:** Permissive TDY (non-house hunting) students, command-sponsored dependents or non-command sponsored dependents with an authorization letter
- Category 6:** Retirees, dependents, Reservists and members of ROTC

Space-A Travel Tips

- Know the rules
- Remain flexible
- Bring money to cover hidden or unexpected expenses
- Keep travel documents available
- Carry telephone numbers for passenger terminals
- Hang around until the flight leaves because more seats become available and flights sometimes leave early
- Choose leave times wisely; consider traveling off season if possible
- Know the show time but keep in touch with the passenger terminal as all are subject to change
- Try to travel light — two pieces not to exceed 70 pounds each for AMC flights; weight allowances vary for commercial carriers



Good to Know

Last issue of 2006

This the last issue of the *Crossroads* for 2006. The first issue of 2007 hits the streets Jan. 12. Jan. 4 is the deadline for submissions for the Jan. 12 issue.

For more details, call 535-2369.

Merry Movie Magic

Movie goers will receive free admission to watch "The Santa Claus 3: The Escape Clause" as well as a free medium popcorn and a medium drink at 7 p.m. Monday at the base theater as part of AAFES and USAFE Services-sponsored Merry Movie Magic — a Project CHEER event.

See page 6 for movie synopsis.

DC-8 cancelled

The DC-8 scheduled for Dec. 30 has been cancelled.

New Year's party

Team Lajes' Family New Year's Party kicks off at noon Dec. 31 at the Chace Fitness Center and continues at several Lajes facilities.

❑ Chace Fitness Center — Parents vs. Kids Dodgeball Game, 12:30 to 2 p.m.

❑ Bowling Center — Cosmic Bowling, 2 to 6 p.m. (tickets for free bowling to be given out at Community Center from 2 to 5 p.m.)

❑ Community Center — DJ in the ballroom, tables for eating

❑ Youth Center — Kids games

❑ Library — Story Time

❑ Outdoor Recreation — Inflatables and clowns outside

❑ AAFES Movie Theater — Family movie from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Call Jeffrey Adams at 535-1334 for more information.

Permanent closure

The local Geico office, located outside the Main Gate, will permanently close Dec. 29.

To service your account, call toll free from a Portuguese phone 800 811 042.

For more information, call Celine Mattie at 295-513-467.

Gates sworn in as 22nd SECDEF

By Army Sgt. Sara Wood
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Robert M. Gates was sworn in as the nation's 22nd secretary of defense in a ceremony at the Pentagon Monday.

"It is an honor to have the opportunity to work with the people in this department — dedicated professionals whose overriding priority is the defense of our nation," Gates said upon taking the oath at the Pentagon.

The Defense Department is carrying on many different activities, all of which are important, but the most pressing concern is the situation in Iraq, Gates said. Since being confirmed by the Senate, Gates said he intends to travel quite soon to Iraq and meet with military leaders and other personnel there.

"I look forward to hearing their honest assessments of the situation on the ground and of having the benefit of their advice, unvarnished and straight from the shoulder, on how to proceed in the weeks and months ahead," Gates said.

The situation in Afghanistan is also very important, Gates said. The progress made there in the last five years cannot be undone, he said, and the U.S. and NATO must keep their commitment to the Afghan people.

"How we face these and other challenges in the region over the next two years will determine whether Iraq, Afghanistan, and other nations at a crossroads will pursue paths of gradual progress towards sustainable governments, which are allies in the global war on terrorism, or whether the forces of extremism and chaos will become ascendant," he said.

Lajes Salutes

❑ Way to go to **Staff Sgt. Sean Belmonte**, 65th Communications Squadron, on his five-year re-enlistment Dec. 15.

❑ Congratulations to the winners from the base library's 17th Annual Cookie Contest on Dec. 6: **Cornelia Brantley**, first place; **Brigitte Brantley**, second place; and **Lorna Vivoni**, third place.

❑ Way to go to **Joanne Deuermeyer** and **Mary Etheredge**, Lajes winners of the USAFE Libraries InfoQuest contest.

❑ Congratulations to recent high scorers on their Career Development Course end of course test: **Staff Sgt. Bruce Davis Jr.**, 65th Contracting Squadron, scored a 92; **Airman David Smith**, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, scored a 92; **Luiz Moniz**, 65th Operations Support Squadron, scored a 92; and **Pedro Fagundes**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, scored a 91.

Team Lajes meets, exceeds CFC goals

A spirit of giving was evident as Team Lajes met and exceeded its goals for the 2006 Combined Federal Campaign — Overseas, which wrapped up here Dec. 1.

Contributions from 456 contributors — a 60 percent base-wide participation rate (highest in Lajes' history) — amounted to \$74,476.87.

"Team Lajes really stepped up to the plate and hit a home run this year," said Col. Jeff Derrick, 65th Air Base Wing vice commander. "Our contributions prove our commitment to helping people and organizations locally, as well as around the globe."

Capt. Lisa Tauai, Lajes community/area project officer for this year's campaign, said Lajes Field truly lived up to this year's CFC

motto of "Make a World of Difference."

"We achieved 120 percent of our CFC participation goal with a 19.7 percent increase in participation compared to last year's results," the captain explained. "Thanks to Team Lajes' generosity, the gift per capita was \$97.87, the largest in ten years."

Team Lajes also achieved another feat — 100 percent contact by the end of the first reporting week.

"We were the first base in USAFE to accomplish this feat and certainly surpassed COMUSAFE's goal of 100 percent contact by the end of the third reporting week," the captain said.

In recognition of their efforts and of units who earned specific awards based on the amount contributed, a CFC Recognition Ceremony is set for 3 p.m. Jan. 24 in the Top of the Rock Club Ballroom. (Article courtesy of the Lajes CFC Committee.)





PLANNER

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.

Around Lajes

Holiday helpers: Due to the amount of packages coming in and out of Lajes during the holiday season, the post office staff welcomes support from the base community. The best times to volunteer is from 3 to 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday and starting at 10 a.m. Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information, call 535-1203/4251.

Pet supply donations: The Atlantic Island Kennel takes pet supply donations to the Angra Shelter on a routine basis. If you'd like to donate pet food, toys, bowls, litter or litter boxes, visit the kennel in Bldg. T-587 or call 535-3855 for details.

New WICO nurse: Beginning the first week of 2007, Becky Heerema will take over as the new nurse for the Women's Infants and Children Program at Lajes beginning. Office hours will remain the same - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 9 a.m. to noon Thursday. The WICO office is located in room 122 of Bldg. T-425. For more information on Lajes' WICO program, call 535-1440.

OSC elections: The Lajes Field Officer Spouses Club is recruiting new board members for 2007. Elections will take place in January. OSC provides various volunteer opportunities and the chance to work with others to enhance the quality of life for the Lajes community. For more information, call Bethany Spratley at 295-549-220 (e-mail bethksp@msn.com) or René Arnold at 295-549-201 (e-mail wmrene@msn.com).

CDC openings: The Child Development Center currently has openings for children 6 weeks to 4 years old in their hourly care and full time program. Room is also available in the Part-Day Enrichment Program for 3 and 4 year olds. For more information, call 535-3188.

Spiritual Fitness

Upcoming Masses, Services/Events: Catholic Youth of the chapel lock-in, 5 p.m. today and Saturday; Protestant children's Christmas party, 9 a.m. Saturday; Advent Mass, 5

p.m. Saturday; combined Protestant Worship Service, 9 a.m. Sunday; no 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass this Sunday; no noon Praise Worship Service on Sunday; Candlelight Service, 7 p.m. Sunday; Christmas Eve Children's Mass, 5 p.m. Sunday; Christmas Midnight Mass, midnight; no Christmas Day Mass; Protestant Christmas Worship Service, 9 a.m. Monday; Mother's Study based on Pope John Paul II's Familia Confortio, 11 a.m. Dec. 29; Watch Night Service, 11 p.m. Dec. 31.

All events take place at the chapel unless listed otherwise. Call 535-4211 for details.

Education, PME

Hour changes, holiday closings: The Lajes Educational Center will close on Christmas and New Year's Day. DANTEs program testing will continue throughout the holidays but will be cancelled Jan. 3-5 and Jan. 10-11. Testing resumes Jan. 12.

University of Maryland University College: The UMUC field office will close today through Jan. 1 for the holidays. For more details, call Johnny Bryant at 535-4187.

University of Phoenix: The UOF field office will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Jan. 1 for the holidays. UOP offers a savings of more than \$200 for new students who start their MBA or MAED program by Jan. 2. For more information, call Etleva Davis at 535-1970, e-mail etleva.davis@phoenix.edu or visit Room 227 of the Education Center in Bldg. T-146.

University of Oklahoma: The university will close Monday through Dec. 28 and Jan. 1 for the holiday season. For more details, call Kate Etheredge at 535-3171.

Central Texas College: Central Texas College holds registration for three on-site classes beginning Tuesday. Registration for distance education classes can occur at any time; classes start every month. CTC will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day. For more information, call Anneke Cerri at 535-6722.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University: The Embry-Riddle

Aeronautical University office is now open from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays. The office will close on Christmas and New Year's Day. For more details, call Shannah McQuarry at 535-3375.

Spouses to Teachers briefing: DANTEs Europe holds this briefing at 3 p.m. Jan. 9 in the ACE Center (T-146) auditorium. For more details, visit <http://www.spousetoteachers.com> or call Michael Schendel at 535-3355.

Troops to Teachers briefing: This briefing is set for noon to 1 p.m. Jan. 11 in the ACE Center (T-146) auditorium. Food and refreshments will be provided. For more details, visit <http://www.proudtoserveagain.com/index.html> or call Michael Schendel at 535-3355.

My EDP: My Enlisted Development Plan is a tool that has been added to the Air Force Portal for enlisted information on education, CFETP requirements, CDC's, mentoring tools, assignment information, PME information and more. With My EPD, Airmen will now be able to produce resume-like products in the form of reports that will help submissions for EPRs, assignments, medals and awards.

Lajes Schools

School bus monitors: Lajes is looking for volunteer school bus monitors. If interested, call Yolanda Castro at yolanda.castro@lajes.af.mil or call 535-1314.

Classified Ads

E-mail classified ads to news@lajes.af.mil by 5 p.m. the Thursday prior to the week you need it published. Remember to notify the Crossroads editor when items have been sold.

For sale: 1989 Chevrolet full-size conversion van. Automatic, AC, all electric. Great island bomb or large family vehicle. \$1,700 or best offer. Contact Lyle Riley at 535-2465 or 295-579-594.

For sale: 1991 Burgundy BMW 520i, 5-speed manual trans, sunroof, excellent condition. Car is tagged until Oct. 2007. Call Carl at (work) 535-1385, (cell) 96-915-6583. Asking \$3,500.

For sale: 1991 Honda Civic. Great running car; no mechanical defects. Power moonroof, power steering, power windows, 5-speed manual transmission, and working A/C. Clutch and tires less than one year old. Inspection valid until May. \$2,100 OBO. Call Chris Summers at 295-903-055 or 535-6152.

House for rent: 3-bedroom house located on the main road going to Biscoitos (10 minutes from the base by car) in a nice and calm neighborhood. Has two double bedrooms, one children's bedroom, two living rooms, a kitchen, a storage room and a big garden. Furnished. Cable and TV line available. Price negotiable. E-mail q_uaresma@hotmail.com or call 91-876-8415 for more details, house visit or photos.

PCS'ing to MacDill? Brand new 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage for rent. Built in 2005 in new community 15-20 minutes from MacDill. Kitchen is fully loaded with new fridge, stove, and dishwasher. Appliances never used. Only lived in a couple days due to PCS. Great view of man-made pond, public pool, and many more amenities. Immediate move in available! Call Chris at 295-549-826 or 535-5280.

Wanted: Large dog travel kennel. If anyone has one they're willing to sell, please call David or Tanya at 295-549-756 or e-mail at david.saltis@gmail.com.

For sale: JVC portable CD, cassette, radio w/ 10 CD changer, double cassette recorder, remote control, detachable speakers, original owners manual. In perfect condition. Please make an offer. Call 295-542-341.

Items for sale: Car subwoofers: Three 10 inch JL and one 10 inch MTX, \$75 each; box for two 10inch subwoofers, free if you buy two subwoofers or \$35, one 12 inch subwoofer in box with amp, \$150 OBO; 7-foot Christmas tree including some lights and ornaments, \$50; large (tropical island scene) lighted motion sound (fiber-optic) picture, \$100 OBO; Sony Handycam DCR HC46 video camera, \$499 OBO (retail \$700+ with all extras); 1 MegaPixel CCD/ 2.7 inch 16:9 touch LCD screen/12x optical, 800x digital zoom/progressive shutter system/Super SteadyShot and Super NightShot plus technology/AC-L25 power adapter/in-camera charger, two NP-FP50 InfoLithium rechargeable batteries, remote control, stereo A/V cable, USB cable, lens cap, CD-ROM with USB driver camera extras: DCR-HC46 docking station, 252mb memory stick duo, high resolution wide-angle lens, high-resolution telephoto lens, high resolution-professional three-piece filter kit, deluxe carry case, 'tabletop' tripod and cleaning kit. If interested call David or Tanya at 295-549-756 or e-mail david.saltis@gmail.com.

Wanted: In need of a Graco infant car seat base. Will also consider the full Graco infant car seat. Doesn't matter what color. Call Merin at 535-3153 or 295-549-824.

For sale: 2003 Honda Element EX. 53,500 miles, champagne exterior with gray and black interior, low emissions vehicle, CD player, MP3 ready, built-in subwoofer, manual transmission, 2.4 Ltr, removable rear seats, sunroof, water-proof interior, suicide doors, rubber front and rear bumpers (ideal for this location), extra head clearance and rear seat leg room, lift gate rear for easy loading and great gas mileage. Great car and sad to get rid of. Call CB or Kim at 295-549-681.



COMMUNITY



Hours of operation



☐ **Ocean Front BX:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday

☐ **Flight View BX:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

☐ **Shoppette:** 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays; 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday; noon to 8 p.m. Sunday

☐ **Military Clothing Sales Store:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday through Saturday

☐ **Car Care Center:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday

☐ **Furniture Store:** noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

☐ **Reel Time Theater:** Showings on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

☐ **Beauty Shop:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday

☐ **Barber Shop:** 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

☐ **New Car Sales:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; noon to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday

☐ **AAFES Administration:** 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

☐ **Ilha Rent-a-Car:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday

☐ **Vescovi Coffee Shop:** 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

☐ **Burger King:** 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday

Holiday hours: The Ocean View BX, Flight View BX and Burger King are closed on Portuguese holidays. The shoppette opens from noon to 8 p.m., and the military clothing sales store opens from noon to 6 p.m. All facilities are open normal hours on U.S. holidays.



At the movies

Today

7 p.m. – The Santa Clause 3 starring Tim Allen and Elizabeth Mitchell. It's Christmas time once again and Scott Calvin juggles a full house of family and the mischievous Jack Frost, who is trying to take over the "big guy's" holiday. At the risk of giving away the secret location of the North Pole, Scott invites his in-laws to share in the holiday festivities, and upcoming birth of baby Claus with expectant wife, Carol. *Rated G (98 minutes).*



10 p.m. – Saw III starring Tobin Bell and Shawnee Smith. Jigsaw has disappeared; and with his new apprentice Amanda — the puppet-master behind the cruel, intricate games that have terrified a community and baffled police — he has once again eluded capture and vanished. While city detectives scramble to locate him, Dr. Lynn Denlon is unaware that she is about to become the latest pawn on his vicious chessboard. *Rated R for violence, gore, terror, torture, nudity and language (107 minutes).*

Saturday

7 p.m. – Flags Of Our Fathers starring Ryan Phillippe and Adam Beach. February 1945. Even as victory in Europe was finally within reach, the war in the Pacific raged on. One of the most crucial and bloodiest battles of the war was the struggle for the island of Iwo Jima, which culminated with what would become one of the most iconic images in history: five Marines and a Navy corpsman raising the American flag on Mount Suribachi. *Rated R for war violence and language (132 minutes).*

10 p.m. – Saw III

Sunday

2 p.m. – The Santa Clause 3
7 p.m. – Flags Of Our Fathers

Thursday

7 p.m. – Saw III

SFS Blotter

VANDALISM TO PRIVATE PROPERTY

DATE: Dec. 11

LOCATION: Bldg. T-252

SUMMARY: The complainant entered the Security Defense Control Center to report unknown person(s) vandalized his privately-owned vehicle at T-252. He provided a sworn written statement that, from 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Dec.10, someone damaged his vehicle by smashing both side-view mirrors, chipping the lower passenger side of the front windshield in two places and a dent in the driver's side quarter panel. Estimated cost of repair is approximately \$600.

STOLEN PRIVATE/GOVERNMENT PROPERTY UNSECURED (EAGLE EYES)

DATE: Dec. 10

LOCATION: Praia da Vitoria

SUMMARY: The complainant reported that he could not locate his wallet and Common Access Card. He contacted the SDCC and provided a sworn statement that he remembered having his CAC in the back pocket of his jeans. He first noticed his wallet missing at 1:30 a.m. on Dec. 9 while he was at a local establishment in Praia. The complainant searched the premises attempting to find the wallet and CAC. He also stated he talked to the owner of the establishment before leaving. The complainant returned to base and notified Security Forces to report the missing property and was instructed to report it again in the morning.





Sports Shorts

Pool competition

A double-elimination, nine-ball, race-to-five pool tournament is set for 6 p.m. Dec. 27 in the Community Activity Center.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Adam Caldwell at 535-3301.

Basketball, cheerleading

Youth basketball/cheerleading sign-ups continue through Dec. 29. Basketball skills day for players ages 7 and up is Jan. 13. The season begins Jan. 27.

Call Cheryl Karnes at 535-1197 for details.

Christmas break special

This special, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., continues through Dec. 31 at the

bowling center. Cost is \$1.50 per game for an adult and child. Shoes rental is \$1.

Those who get a strike with a red head pin win a free game. Bowlers must notify an employee of the red head pin before rolling the ball.

For more details, call Jesse Davis or Luci Lima at 535-6169.

Survival Challenge

As a way to keep Team Lajes focused on fitness after the holiday season, the Chace Fitness Center will hold a survival challenge in 2007.

Those who sign up in FitLinx between Jan. 1 and March 31 and burn 17,500 calories (equivalent to five pounds of fat) will win a fitness T-shirt. People also registered in FitLinx are also welcome to participate.

For sign up or registration information, visit the fitness center or call Calvin Dixon at 535-1290.

Four Corners

Upcoming Four Corners competition is set for Jan. 10 in the Top of the Rock Club.

Card sales start at 6 p.m. and games begin at 7:15 p.m. Call 535-3202 for more details.

Local shooting competitions

The Portuguese Shooting Club is looking for people to join them in upcoming competitions starting in January.

For more information, call Andre Guimaraes at 969-291-004 or e-mail guimaraes@mail.telepac.pt.

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 a book of AAFES coupons.

Congratulations to this week's winner, **Michael Flores** of the 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, who only missed two. He was also our Week 12 winner and apparently decided it wasn't enough to be a one-time champ.

The "You Don't Know Jack" award goes to **Dustin Odom** of the 729th Air Mobility Squadron, who missed six games. Dustin should try to catch the rotator before heading down the Lajes Field Football Hall of Shame.

The schedule for Week 16 is on the right-hand side of this page. To find the Week 17 schedule, visit nfl.com and then e-mail your picks by kickoff time of the first game with "Week 17" in the subject line. The results for both Week 16 and Week 17 will be announced in the Jan. 12 issue of the *Crossroads*.

"The big dog is here to stay. No one can take the bone from me! Where's the competition?"

Michael Flores
65th LRS



Game Schedule

Week 15

Saturday Game

Kansas City at Oakland

Sunday Games

Baltimore at Pittsburgh

Carolina at Atlanta

Chicago at Detroit

Indianapolis at Houston

New England at Jacksonville

New Orleans at N.Y. Giants

Tampa Bay at Cleveland

Tennessee at Buffalo

Washington at St. Louis

Arizona at San Francisco

Cincinnati at Denver

San Diego at Seattle

Monday Night Games

Philadelphia at Dallas

N.Y. Jets at Miami

Total points for last game listed

Editor's note: Bring picks to the Public Affairs office in room 240 of Bldg. T-100 or e-mail them to news@lajes.af.mil. Submissions must be made before the opening kickoff to the first game listed. In the case of a tie, a winner will be decided by who picks the closest combined score of the last game listed.



Ed discusses Christmas traditions in the Azores

By Eduardo Lima

65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The Portuguese on the mainland and those in the Azores celebrate Christmas much like some other European countries and the United States, although there are some differences in local traditions.

These differences vary with the regions, especially when it comes to food and religious services.

Although decades ago it was traditional to have a nativity scene, most Portuguese families now have Christmas trees in their living rooms, although some families still set up a nativity scene.

On Christmas Eve, families and friends usually gather for supper and to exchange gifts. The exchange of presents usually takes place after the meal is served, but it can take place at any other time.

The menu varies with the region and the families' economic situation, but it's common to have boiled codfish or stuffed turkey accompanied with red or white wine and other beverages. Many years ago, the tradi-

tional dish was chicken – codfish and turkey were scarce and too expensive.

After dinner, many people go to the church for Christmas Eve Mass, which is normally held around midnight.

Some families prefer to attend Mass on Christmas Day.

On Christmas Day and the days following, people visit relatives, friends and live nativity scenes around the island.

This Christmas visiting period usually runs from Christmas until the Epiphany on Jan. 6, also known to the Portuguese as the "Day of the Three Kings."

A long time ago in the Azores, people would make home-made liqueurs during the Christmas season and invite friends to go to their homes to taste the liqueurs, Christmas cakes or other sweets.

Since these drinks were made in honor of Baby Jesus, whenever they were poured into a glass it was referred to as the Baby Jesus urinating or "O Menino Mija" in Portuguese.

This tradition still continues today. Although people no longer make the home-made liqueurs, they still invite friends and



José Raposo, 65th Air Base Wing Safety, and his wife, São, decorate their Christmas tree Tuesday. Azoreans celebrate Christmas similar to most Americans. (Photo by Xana Raposo)

relatives to visit them during the season to participate in "O Menino Mija" by having a drink and tasting the Christmas cake.



Enjoy the holidays. Be safe. Be responsible.

If you drink, don't drive. If you drive, don't drink.

Call a supervisor, first sergeant or LADD.



964-955-992



In the spirit

Students play their xylophones during the first Lajes American School Christmas Conert Dec. 14 in the elementary school gym. Students in grades 3-12 joined together to sing and play holiday music. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Sanford)