



Making a difference

CONS touching lives in Africa

By Tech. Sgt.
Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

Two Lajes contracting specialists recently traveled to Africa in an ongoing effort.

Tech. Sgt. Kelli Wright and 2nd Lt. H. Augusta Fehn, 65th Contracting Squadron, traveled to Botswana Mar. 28 to Apr. 4 to meet up with the Office of Defense Cooperation representatives from the U.S. Embassy and see first-hand the progress of contracts they award.

While the Lajes mission is to bring Iron to the Fight, the contracting folks are participating in a different type of mission – a humanitarian mission.

Their mission is to provide Humanitarian assistance through construction projects in Botswana, Africa.

"With the introduction of AFRICOM, humanitarian efforts in southern Africa are growing in importance and precedence for the United States," explained Lt. Fehn.

Botswana has the second lowest life expectancy in the world. One in three people have HIV/AIDS – the highest rate in the world.

To help address the life expectancy and the rate of HIV/AIDS, the 65th CONS contracted and built five voluntary counseling and testing centers for HIV/AIDS. They are currently constructing two orphanages and a daycare center as well.

The funding for the projects comes from AFRICOM. USAFE is the contracting agent, and the 65th CONS was chosen to contract these projects. Currently they are the only ones in USAFE with any humanitarian contracting in Africa.

"We use local construction contractors and local (Architect & Engineering) services, just like using Azores companies



Tech. Sgt. Kelli Wright, 65th Contracting Squadron, talks to children from the Bana Ba Keletso Orphanage, Molepolole, Botswana. The 65th CONS awards contracts for daycare centers, AIDS centers and orphanages as part of a humanitarian mission. (Courtesy photo)

here," explained Lt. Fehn. "We try to stimulate the local economy as well."

In three years, they contracted \$2.3 million for projects funded by the Department of Defense in Botswana. This created more than 200 local jobs, stimulating the country with a 40 percent unemployment rate.

"So it really is a dual mission," said Lt. Fehn. "We are there to build for humanitarian assistance as well as invest in local business."

They are helping the economy, but most importantly, they are helping the people of Botswana.

On average, each AIDS center tests 150 people every week. In Fiscal Year 2007, more than 200,000 people were tested.

Contracting projects have added kitch-

ens, libraries and a nursery to existing orphanages. The orphanages provide care and adoption services for children who have lost their families due to AIDS. More than 1,000 children have benefited from the orphanages and daycare centers.

"Our next project to open is the Stepping Stones Day Care which is the most unique of the childcare centers," explained Sergeant Wright. "This organization runs more of a community outreach type program where they bring in teens and young adult volunteers from the local community to support the younger children. Simultaneously these adolescents are provided life skills in the form of higher education, vocational training, travel opportunities and overall given the tools to become exceptional members of Botswana society. After meeting the overwhelmingly grateful administration team of stepping stones it became clear to us how much we are contributing to this humanitarian mission."

The impact was as powerful for Lt. Fehn.

"While from far away we have a slight idea of our impact," said Lt. Fehn, "it is really solidified when you look into that first kid's eyes, and they just won't let go of your hand."



UCI Countdown

120

*Days remaining
until Lajes Field's
Unit Compliance
Inspection*



Environmental concern more than annual event

By Tech. Sgt. Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

Airmen around the world celebrated Earth Day Apr. 22 with the knowledge that they play an important role in keeping the world green. However, it isn't just Earth Day that people need to remember to be environmentally conscious. Everyone can make an impact. Little steps are all it takes to make a difference.

Students here as young as 10 are learning the importance of protecting the Earth's resources. It doesn't stop there. Everyone can make a difference in schools, homes and even the office. Each base has an environmental flight that includes pollution prevention and environmental restoration programs.

The Pollution Prevention element ensures installations prevent future pollution by reducing the use of hazardous materials and the release of pollutants into the environment to as near zero as feasible. This is done through source reduction such as chemical substitutions and process changes.

The Environmental Restoration Element is responsible for cleaning up contamination from past operations by reducing risks to human health and the environment.

They are actively involved in educating Team Lajes as well. The Environmental Flight talked to students at Lajes American Elementary/High School during Earth Week and also on Arbor Day. During Earth Week officials briefed the importance of recycling, the impact on landfills and using alternative energy resources.

Additionally, the Environmental Flight coordinated to have the Environmental Department of the City of Praia da Vitoria give a presentation to students on the island's recycling program and landfill facilities, according to Vera Leonardo, Environmental Program Manager.

Recently, the Airman's Roll Call focused on creating a culture of Environmental & Energy Awareness. Tips were as simple as using a recycle bin or turning off lights when not in a room.

After conducting surveys around the Air Force, the Roll Call reported that leaders determined that most Airmen are aware of the issues facing today's environment, from pollution to increasing gas prices.

EarthDay.net lists several ways people can begin to help the environment and the ben-

efits. Here are just a few:

- ✓ Replace inefficient incandescent light bulbs with energy star bulbs – reduce your carbon footprint by 450 pounds a year
- ✓ Keep tires properly inflated and get better gas mileage – reduce your carbon footprint another 20 pounds for each gallon of gas saved
- ✓ Run dishwasher only when it's full
- ✓ Make sure printer paper is 100 percent post consumer recycled



- ✓ Move heater thermostat down two degrees in winter and up two degrees in the summer – reduce your carbon footprint by 2,000 pounds
- ✓ Keep water heater insulated and the thermostat no higher than 120°F
- ✓ Take shorter showers because showers account for 2/3 of all water heating costs

- ✓ Use a low-flow showerhead because the less water you use, the less energy required to heat the water – reduce your carbon footprint 350 pounds a year
- ✓ Use cold water to wash clothes – reduce your carbon footprint by 500 pounds a year
- ✓ Buy products with less packaging and recycle paper, plastic and glass – reduce your garbage by 10 percent and you'll reduce your carbon footprint by 1,200 pounds a year
- ✓ Plant a tree because trees suck up carbon dioxide and make clean air for us to breathe
- ✓ Turn off what you're not using and even unplug electronics you're not using – reduce your carbon footprint by thousands of pounds a year

Students plant trees and bushes each year for Arbor Day. They are learning to preserve our resources. Earth Day is a reminder of the importance of protecting natural resources, but shouldn't be the only time people focus on recycling or conserving.

Air Force officials have taken strides to be greener. From using new synthetic fuels in aircraft, to taking advantage of renewable energy, Airmen across the Air Force continue to play a pivotal role in protecting the most important resource, the earth.

Information courtesy of Air Force News Service

535-4240

actionline@lajes.af.mil

The Commander's Line is your 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.



Col. JL Briggs

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. JL Briggs
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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

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Annual ceremony recognizes volunteers

By Tech. Sgt. Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

Lajes Field volunteers were recently recognized at a ceremony for their efforts.

The Airman & Family Readiness Center hosted their Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Apr. 30 to honor volunteers in the community.

"We have so many amazing volunteers at Lajes," said Elizabeth Bland, A&FRC.

Two volunteers were recognized for their significant contributions to the community.

The Annual Volunteer Award is presented to one individual who has contributed outstanding volunteer services to the Lajes Community in the past year. It can be awarded to a military member or a civilian. The winner of the Annual Volunteer Award was Jasmin Malboeuf.

"Jasmin Malboeuf has exceeded the 900 hour mark in volunteer hours this year and continues to give to the community every day," said Ms. Bland. "She served as the Enlisted Spouses Club vice president, Key Spouse and PTO president."

Mrs. Malboeuf hand sorted thousands of coupons and attached them directly to commissary line items for savings to Lajes community members.

"There are a lot of times you regret doing things – like seeing a bad movie, working over time for what seems to be better pay, or arguing with friends

and family. I cannot name one time I regretted my volunteered time, even though sometimes others don't see your added value, I can honestly say I realize the importance and my accomplishments," said Mrs. Malboeuf.

"I would like to thank my family, specifically my husband JP and my oldest daughter Alina for supporting me 150 percent – no questions asked," she said. "With all of their support and love I have been able to contribute to the Lajes community and love every second of it!"

The second award was presented to Angie Erickson for her commitment as a volunteer throughout the years. Mrs. Erickson was awarded the Air Force Volunteer Excellence Award, which is authorized by the United States Air Force Chief of Staff, for federal civilians, family members and military and federal retirees who perform outstanding volunteer community service.

"Angie was presented this lifetime achievement award based on her countless hours over the years as an American Red Cross CPR instructor, volunteer crisis counselor, journalist and school volunteer," Ms. Bland explained.

Mrs. Erickson used her real estate experience to teach a Home Buying Seminar to Lajes Field personnel and family members. She also began New Beginnings, a weight-loss support group to help others meet their goals. Additionally,



Volunteer Angie Erickson taught basic soccer skills and rules, sportsmanship, teamwork and discipline to kids ages 5 to 7 years-old as a CPR certified Pee Wee Soccer coach. Mrs. Erickson was recognized with the Air Force Volunteer Excellence Award at a ceremony Apr. 30. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson)

she contributed several stories and photos for the *Crossroads*.

Angie Erickson was overwhelmed to find out she won and was overcome with emotion.

"I volunteer because I want to make an impact in society, a positive impact," she said.

People volunteer for many different reasons. Some of the reasons, explained Ms. Bland, include the opportunity to meet new people, update skills, explore new careers, to make a difference in the community and the satisfaction of helping others.

"Both Jasmin and Angie have contributed so much time, dedication, and enthusi-

asm to our base and the local community," Ms. Bland said.

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer here. They include Scouts, the library, the chapel, post office, Key Spouse Organization, DoDDS, AWANA, Enlisted and Officer Spouses' Clubs, MOPS, Thrift Shop, Youth Sports, Atlantic Island Kennel, and within the squadrons.

"Thank you to all those who volunteer," stressed Ms. Bland. "We are so appreciative of your dedication and countless hours contributed to serving the Lajes community."

For more information on volunteering, contact the A&FRC at 535-4138.

Lajes Salutes

☐ Congratulations to **Barbra Langmaid**, 65th Air Base Wing Historian, for being selected as USAFE Category 2 Civilian of the Year at the USAFE Outstanding Airmen of the Year banquet Apr. 26.

☐ Way to go to Team Lajes' promotees for April: *To Airman 1st Class:* **James Gillissen**, 65th Communications Squadron; **Walter Humko**, 65th CS; and **Cory**

Littlefield, 65th CS. *To Senior Airman:* **Shaun McVey**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron; and **Francis Winslow**, 65th CES. *To Staff Sergeant:* **Edward Auty**, 65th CS; **Tiffany Kornegay**, 65th Medical Support Squadron; **Susan Sooknanan**, 65th Contracting Squadron; and **Ryan Wood**, 65th Medical Operations Squadron. *To Technical Sergeant:* **Amanda Wholly**, 65th MDOS; and **Brian Yannarelli**, 65th MDSS. *To Master*

Sergeant: **Stephen Burroughs**, 65th CES; **Melissa Hasse**, 65th Contracting Squadron; and **Michael Kimsey**, 65th CS.

☐ Kudos to **Airman 1st Class Kaylon Dunn**, 65th CS, who scored 90 percent on his CDC end of course test, and **Senior Airman Anthony Garcia**, 65th Security Forces Squadron, for scoring a 93 percent on his CDC end of course test.



Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
11 a.m. Bowl Red Pin games to 1:30 p.m. 5 p.m. Teen Money Matters, LYP 6 p.m. Build Your Own Pasta Buffet, TORC 7 p.m. Teen Night Out, LYP 7 p.m. Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears A Who (G) 7:30 p.m. Cosmic Bowling 10 p.m. Never Back Down (PG-13)	8 a.m. Bottom Fishing, ODR 9 a.m. Fitness Center open 10 a.m. Gamers' Swap Meet, community center 2 p.m. Ladies 9-ball Tournament, community center 7 p.m. College Road Trip (G) 7 p.m. Teen Night Out, LYP 10 p.m. The Bank Job (R)	9 a.m. Fitness Center open 9 a.m. Evangelical Service 10:30 a.m. Mass 11 a.m. Mother's Day Brunch, TORC Noon Mail pickup Noon Praise Service 2 p.m. Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears A Who (G) 7 p.m. Jumper (PG-13)	Portuguese Holiday - commissary, AAFES facilities and library closed 7:30 a.m. Police Week 5K relay 10 a.m. Thrift Store open 11 a.m. Daily lunch specials, Dining Facility 11:30 a.m. Daily Mass 5:30 p.m. Post office closed	9 a.m. Power of attorneys on a walk-in basis until 11 a.m. 10 a.m. EDIS Playgroup, LYP Noon Women's Bible Study, lunch provided, chapel 5:30 p.m. Mongolian BBQ, TORC 5:30 p.m. Beginner's Beading Class, Arts & Crafts 6 p.m. AWANA, chapel	9 a.m. Preseparation counseling 10 a.m. Police Week Jail & Bail 11 a.m. Bowl w/ your Boss special 5 p.m. Family Night, bowling alley 6:30 p.m. \$.35 Wings, TORC 6:30 p.m. Mega Bingo Ticket sales. Books will be \$50. \$1,000 payout. Game begins at 7:15 p.m.	7:30 a.m. Flag ceremony, T-100 8 a.m. Pancake breakfast, chapel 9:30 a.m. Mothers of Preschoolers, chapel 10:30 a.m. Beginner Excel, A&FRC 3 p.m. Home Buying Seminar, A&FRC 6:30 p.m. OSC meeting, TORC 7 p.m. Shutter (PG-13)

Community Bullfights

6:30 p.m. Saturday: São Mateus; Casa da Ribeira; and Rua Professor Augusto Monjardino, Angra.
6:30 p.m. Wednesday: Terreiro, São Mateus.

Job Opportunities

Branch Service Representative: Pentagon Federal Credit Union has a job opening for a Branch Service Representative (part-time). Banking experience is preferred but not required. Job applications are available at PFCU, Bldg T-202. Call 295-513-221 for more information.

Officer Spouses' Club

OSC General Assembly Meeting: 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the TORC. Cost is \$9 club members / \$10 non. Hot chicken breast sandwich or turkey sandwich with potato salad and fruit bowl. Come play Lucky Squares (bingo) to win prizes (current members whose dues are paid only) and say goodbye to people PCSing. RSVP to lajesosreservations@yahoo.com by Monday.

Relocation/Closures

Housing Relocation/Closure: The Housing Office will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday to relocate. They will reopen Thursday in Bldg. T-701. The Housing Office will have limited services Monday for the Portuguese Holiday. For details, call 535-3507.

TMO Relocation: The Traffic Management Office is relocating from T-112 to T-701 (top floor). They will have limited customer service today. For personal property or passenger travel emergencies, call 96-893-7057. They are scheduled to reopen Monday.

Fitness Center 535-6126

New Weekend Hours: New weekend hours at the gym are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Survivor Challenge: 7 a.m. May 16. One team per squadron/4 people. Active-duty military only. Register by Monday. For details, call Tech. Sgt. Casey.
Open Volleyball: 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays.

Top of the Rock

New Brunch Prices: The Breakfast Buffet (waffle and omelet stations, scrambled eggs, bacon and sausage, home fries potatoes, coffee and juice) is \$7.95, member price. Brunch (Breakfast buffet, lunch buffet, salad buffet, dessert buffet and refreshments) is \$13.95, member price. POC: Teresa Cordle, 535-3202.

Membership Night Party Hawaiian Luau: 6 to 8 p.m. May 23. Cost is \$3 for members and \$10 for nonmembers. Adults only.

Police Week

Jail and Bail: The Security Forces Squadron will host their annual Jail and Bail event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday at the tennis courts. Call 535-3400 or e-mail thomas.churchill@lajes.af.mil to have someone "arrested." Individuals have the option to buy their way out of being arrested.

Memorial Pancake Breakfast: Pay tribute to fallen SF/Police Officers during this pancake breakfast 8 a.m. Thursday at the chapel. All proceeds (by donation only) will go to the OIF/OEF Memorial.

Bike Rodeo: SFS will host a safety inspection and obstacle course, Ident-a-bike and Ident-a-kid from 1 to 5 p.m. May 17 at the Oceanview softball field.

Island Tour

Lajes School Guided Tour: The Host Nation program, the Eco-Island Club and the Information Center of the Lajes E/H School is hosting a tour of Northern Terceira for anyone interested 10 a.m. Saturday. Carpool to Vila Nova and Agualva Holy Spirit fest grounds for a quick lesson. The tour will then visit Fajazinha, Quatro Ribeiras and Biscoitos, including the local wine museum. Lunch will be at the Restaurant Caneta in Altares. In case of inclement weather it will be rescheduled for May 17.

Gift Shop

Closure: The Silver & Gift Shop will be closed from May 17-31.

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. Notify the Crossroads when items have been sold. Lajes personnel may also post ads at Lajesads.com. This site is not affiliated with the Crossroads.

For Sale: 97 Ford Ranger Extended Cab XLT 4x4, (159,500 miles) original owner, call Rick 295-905-311 \$3,400. Firm

Pet/House Sitter Wanted In Porto Martins: Are you tired of the dorm? Want to live in a real house sometimes? We are looking for a responsible person or couple to stay with our pets, 7 well-behaved, indoor/outdoor dogs, when we go on vacation or for long weekends. There are 4 big dogs and 3 small dogs, some with special needs. They love to play and walk/run but also like to settle in and watch some TV before bed. We are hoping to find a "permanent" sitter to establish a relationship with them and us before we go away. Salary negotiable. Please email: mayhewdriver@yahoo.com for an appointment

Amazing Nanny Available: If you are looking for a warm-hearted, caring and loving Nanny, then look no further. Iria has more than 27 years of experience. She has truly been a gift from above for us over the past 2 years. Especially great for dual-military or single parents. She's available anytime, day or night. Call AJ or Lori at 295-549-604 or 963-135-463.

Wanted: Donations needed! PCSing? Spring Cleaning? Please donate your unwanted items, such as clothes, household items, toys, books, etc. The High School uses your donations to raise money for traveling sports teams. Show your support and donate! We will pick up your donations! Email Lajes15@yahoo.com or call 295-549-206 Thank you!