

Crossroads



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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

UCI Countdown

16

Days remaining
until Lajes Field's
Unit Compliance
Inspection



Lajes Priority #2:
Global
Communications

Weekend Weather Forecast

Today

Scattered clouds

High 77
Low 68



Saturday

Partly cloudy

High 78
Low 69



Sunday

Scattered Clouds

High 80
Low 69



Task Training

Right: In full camo and field gear Security Forces troops make their way up the path to Warrior Park where they will begin their next training as part of a Field Training Exercise Monday. The team started their "Ruck" march on one side of the base, stopping at several training stations before setting up camp by Security Forces. The overnight exercise ended with a march back to the starting point. Below: Tech. Sgt. Michael Ellis reassembles an M-4 during the exercise. (Photos by Guido Melo)



Promotion results released for E-5, officers

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force officials selected 12,209 of 28,098 eligible senior airmen for promotion to staff sergeant for a selection rate of 43.45 percent.

The average score for those selected was 268.39, with an average time in grade and time in service of 2.25 and 4.85 years respectively. Those selected for staff sergeant will be promoted according to their promotion sequence number beginning in September.

Congratulations to the following Senior Airman from Lajes who were selected for pro-

motion: Sonny Albrecht, Kristie Barman, Logan Batten, Aldrian Byrd, Bart Bumgardner, Alba Charo, Peter Christensen, Brandon Doach, Shawn Ennis, Marcos Garcia, Taurean Gardner, Ramos Gomez, Rebecca Goodwin, Jerron Gordon, Elizabeth Gould, Chris Graham, Chevelis Gray, David Hyman, Bradley Keszler, Priscilla Leal, Michael Lee, Michael Lowery, Justin Madsen, Jeremy Mayer, Brian Marlett, Ben Meltzer, Christopher Meyer, Ty Miller, Melissa Niffen, Craig Powell, Jason

Ramirez, Benjamin Robarge, Alexander Schaub, Lucas Shay, Travis Smith, Adam Walker and Miranda Wood.

Officer Promotions

The 2008A Line of the Air Force, Biomedical Sciences Corps, and Nurse Corps central selection boards selected 545 colonels, 112 lieutenant colonels and 219 majors for promotion.

Cpts. John Black and Jeane Lambrecht were selected for promotion to major and Lt. Col. Nick DeMarco was selected for promotion to colonel.



Chief of Staff message to Airmen

It is an extraordinary privilege for Suzie and me to join you as your new first family. We are grateful for this rare opportunity. I want to lay out what I think is important as clearly as I can. The U.S. Air Force is a premier organization that provides our Nation a vast array of capabilities in air, space and cyberspace. The Nation is at war and the capabilities we provide our leadership are critical to success. Whether our contribution is in irregular warfare in Iraq and Afghanistan, the fight to save lives through humanitarian relief operations, or deterrence and dissuasion of potential adversaries, the Air Force is a key contributor to the national defense of America.

We are part of a Joint team that trusts us to perform superbly when called upon. Everyone in this organization contributes to our readiness—no one should measure their worth by their proximity to the target. For many years, the U.S. Air Force has been at the forefront of our Nation's business worldwide. As we continue to fulfill the high expectations others have for us, let's approach our business with enthusiasm, quiet professionalism, and an abiding respect for one another and our Joint and Coalition teammates.

Please visit <https://www.my.af.mil/afp/netstorage/csaf/AFLoginVideo.html> to view my introductory message. My promise to you is I will lead from the front; I'll work hard every day and strive to maintain the same high standards as each of you; and along the way we'll have fun, too!

NORTON A. SCHWARTZ
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

New GTC hits the streets this month

DoD's current Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) contract with Bank of America is



ending this year. As the Travel Card Program transitions to the new SmartPay® 2 contract, all USAFE travel cardholders will receive new cards in the mail beginning in mid August.

New Travel Cards will be sent to the address on file with Bank of America, so please ensure it is current.

The card will look similar to the graphic above, a gray Citi VISA card. It is important cardholders recognize the new card, as there is some lag time between when the card will be received in the mail, and when it will be available for use.

The new GTCCs will be ready for use on Nov. 30, after the current cards issued by Bank of America expire on Nov. 29, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Cardholders need to remember to verify receipt of the new travel card to ensure they will be able to use it on Nov. 30. Personnel can verify receipt of their card by phone or online anytime after Aug. 15. The contact information will be on a sticker that is affixed to your card. As part of the receipt verification process, you will be asked to accept the Cardholder Agreement Terms & Conditions. You must agree to the Terms & Conditions in order to use your new Travel Card.

Traveling during the cutover
If traveling during the cutover (Nov. 29-30), personnel should charge all official travel expenses up to, and including, Nov. 29 on the current Bank of America GTCC. Travel expenses incurred from 12:00 a.m. EST on Nov. 30 should be charged to the new GTCC issued by Citi®.

If scheduled for a Permanent Change Station move, make sure a current address is updated in the database.

Transition checklist for cardholders
☑ Cardholders will need to pay all outstanding, undisputed charges on their Bank of America GTCC before November 29, 2008.

☑ No credit balances can remain on the current Bank of America GTCC after November 29, 2008.

☑ If your Bank of America GTCC has a credit balance, call the phone number on the back of the card to request that it be sent to you.

☑ After the cutover, Bank of America will continue to accept and receive payments for charges previously made on its cards.

Since the new card will also be VISA branded, cardholders will have the same worldwide charging privileges. Charge limits will remain the same and Agency Program Coordinators will have the authority to raise limits to meet mission requirements.

Personnel who do not receive a new travel card by Oct. 31, should notify their Agency Program Coordinator. (Courtesy of the Finance Office)

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. Your chain of command should



Col. Paul Suarez

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. Paul Suarez
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.

Submissions can be e-mailed to news@lajes.af.mil or faxed to 535-6326 and are due the Thursday, a week prior to the publication date.

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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.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

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Notes prepare Lajes students for 2008-09 school year

Open House for Grades 1-5: Students in grades 1-5 will meet their teachers and visit their classrooms at 1 p.m. today at the elementary wing entrance. Due to the traditional hot weather at this time of year, there will be no general meeting prior to classroom visitations. You are invited to proceed directly to your classrooms.

Open House for Grades 6-12: An Open House is scheduled for 3:20 p.m. Sept. 3 for students in grades 6-8. Open House will be held for students in grades 9-12 at 3:20 p.m. Sept. 4. Parents will begin by picking up schedules in the High School Gym at 3:20 p.m. and then proceed to classes. Parents will experience a mini-version of their child's schedule to visit classrooms and meet teachers. Students and parents will hear important information to help ensure a successful school year. More information will be sent in an upcoming e-mail.

Kindergarten Home Visits: The Kindergarten teachers will visit each child's home during the week of Aug. 25. First day of school for kindergartners is Sept. 2. Kindergarten teachers will be contacting families for orientation.

First Day of School and School Hours: Monday is the first day of school for grades 1-12. Kindergarten students will begin Sept. 2 and Sure Start students will begin on Sept. 12.

-Students in grades 6-12 will start school each morning at 7:50 a.m. and will dismiss at 2:35 p.m.

-Students in grades K-5 will start school each morning at 8 a.m. and will dismiss at 2:35 p.m.

Class Assignments/Schedules for SY 2008-09: Class lists for grades K-5 are now posted at on the elementary wing doors. Middle/high school students all received copies of their new schedules at the end of last year or as they registered, but copies will be distributed on the first day of school as they enter the building. Any class changes, glitches or concerns can be addressed during the first two weeks of the school year.

School Lunches: AAFES will

continue to provide school lunches for students. Parents are encouraged to open lunch accounts for their children at the Ocean View BX. Information regarding the lunch program can be obtained there. AAFES will allow a student to charge a lunch if there is no money in his/her lunch account, but this should rarely happen. Please ensure your child has a lunch or money in their account each day. Students may also bring a sack lunch from home.

School Advisory Committee News: The School Advisory Committee comprised of elected parent and educator representatives, will be guiding the administrators on school procedures and policies. Parent input is valued. This is yet another way the Lajes Elementary/High School community can voice their opinions and make suggestions regarding school improvement.

Student/Parent Handbook: All families will receive a copy of the Student/Parent Handbook. The handbook is also posted on the school Web site for reference (www.laje-ehs.edu.dodea.edu). Please familiarize yourselves with the content of the handbook. All policies, expectations, and general information are included.

Vacation: While living in Europe, families have extraordinary opportunities to travel. Please do remember, however, that school attendance is important as well. Please view the school calendar for School Year 2008-09. We encourage you to make every effort to schedule family trips when school is not in session. No make-up work can ever replace in-class instruction and participation.

Student Drop Off Point: Parents are to use the designated drop off point when bringing students to school. Please **DO NOT** drop off children on the main road. Enter through the gate and proceed as far as possible along the side of the curb before stopping to let students disembark. This will help keep the traffic moving. Please do not leave cars unattended between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. and 2 and 2:45 p.m.

Bus Monitors: Volunteer bus monitors are needed for the school year 2008-2009. For more information or to volunteer, call 535-6104.

Lajes Elementary/High School Calendar SY 2008-2009



- Aug. 25, First Day for Students – Grades 1-12
- Aug. 25-29, Kindergarten Home Visits
- Sept. 1, Labor Day – Federal Holiday
- Sept. 2, First Day for Kindergarten Students
- Sept. 2-5, Sure Start Home Visits
- Sept. 3, Open House for 6-8
- Sept. 4, Open House for 9-12
- Sept. 12, First day for Sure Start Students
- Sept. 19, Students Dismiss at 11:15 a.m. – Teacher Training Day
- Oct. 10, No School for Students – Teacher Training Day
- Oct. 13, Columbus Day – Federal Holiday
- Oct. 30, End of First Quarter
- Oct. 31, No School – Teacher Workday
- Nov. 5, Begin 2nd Quarter
- Nov. 6, Parent-Teacher Conferences K-5
- Nov. 7, Parent-Teacher Conferences K-12
- Nov. 10, Students Dismiss at 11:15 a.m. – Teacher Training Day
- Nov. 11, Veterans' Day – Federal Holiday
- Nov. 27, Thanksgiving – Federal Holiday
- Nov. 28, Recess Day – No School
- Dec. 19, Students Dismiss at 11:15 a.m. – Teacher Training Day
- Dec. 22 to Jan. 2, Winter Recess
- Jan. 5, Instruction Resumes
- Jan. 19, MLK Day – Federal Holiday
- Jan. 22, End of 2nd Quarter
- Jan. 23, No School – Teacher Workday
- Jan. 26, Begin 3rd Quarter
- Feb. 16, Presidents' Day – Federal Holiday
- Feb. 27, Parent-Teacher Conferences for Grades K – 12
- March 6, Terra Nova Practice Test
- March 9-12, Terra Nova Testing for Grades 3-11
- March 13, No School – SIP Training Day
- April 2, End of 3rd Quarter
- April 3, No School for Students – Teacher Workday
- April 6-10, Spring Recess – No school
- April 13, Instruction Resumes – Begin 4th Quarter
- April 17, Parent Teacher Conferences K-5
- May 22, Students Dismiss at 11:15 a.m. –Teacher Training Day
- May 25, Memorial Day – Federal Holiday
- June 5, High School Graduation
- June 11, End of 4th Quarter – Last Day of School for Students



Cody Starks and Dillon Brooks give new students a tour of Lajes American School Monday at the New Student Orientation. School begins Monday for grades 1-12. Kindergarten students start Sept. 2. (Photo by April Benn)



Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>7 a.m. Back to School 5K</p> <p>1 p.m. Squadron Build-A-Boat Challenge, Pool</p> <p>1 p.m. Seamstress available at the community center</p> <p>6 p.m. SNCO Induction Ceremony</p> <p>7 p.m. Teen Night Out, LYP</p> <p>7 p.m. Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (G)</p> <p>10 p.m. Wanted (R)</p>	<p>9 a.m. Self-Pet Wash by appointment only, \$7, Atlantic Island Kennels</p> <p>7 p.m. Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (G)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Member's Only Texas Hold 'Em Sign up, Game starts at 7 p.m. TORC</p> <p>7 p.m. Teen Night Out, LYP</p> <p>10 p.m. Wanted (R)</p>	<p>9 a.m. Evangelical Service</p> <p>9 a.m. CCD</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>Noon Praise Service</p> <p>2 p.m. Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (G)</p> <p>7 p.m. Incredible Hulk (PG-13)</p> <p>7 p.m. Doggy Days Pool Party, Dogs welcome to swim at base pool</p>	<p>10 a.m. Library open - new hours begin</p> <p>11 a.m. Dining Facility features lunch specials</p> <p>11 a.m. Self-pet wash by appointment, \$7, Atlantic Island Kennels</p> <p>5:20 p.m. Body Sculpting Class, fitness center</p> <p>6 p.m. Spin Class, fitness center cycle room</p>	<p>10 a.m. EDIS Playgroup, LYP</p> <p>11 a.m. Breastfeeding Support Group, LYP</p> <p>10 a.m. Thrift Store open</p> <p>Noon Library open</p> <p>5:20 p.m. Step Class, fitness center</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Mongolian BBQ, TORC</p> <p>6 p.m. Spin class</p>	<p>10 a.m. Thrift Store open for consignments and sales - stop by to shop or volunteer</p> <p>Noon Library open until 8 p.m.</p> <p>6 p.m. Open Play Volleyball, Chace Fitness Center</p> <p>6:30 p.m. BINGO sales begin, game starts at 7:15 p.m., TORC</p>	<p>9 a.m. Records Management Class, Ed center auditorium</p> <p>Noon Library open until 8 p.m.</p> <p>2 p.m. Beginner Word class, A&FRC</p> <p>2 p.m. Thrift Store open</p> <p>7 p.m. Wanted (R)</p> <p>8 p.m. Ladies Night, TORC</p> <p>9 p.m. Chili Dog Special and Karaoke with DJ Scooby, TORC</p>

Community Events

Bullfights: 6 p.m. Saturday, Rua Padre Lino, Lajes; and Rua do Regelo, Fonte do Bastardo; 6 p.m. Sunday, Street next to Modelo Store, Praia; and Refugio, Vila Nova; 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, São Brás.

SEPMs

Special Emphasis Program Managers: The Civilian Personnel Flight is soliciting interested U.S. civilian or military personnel for subject programs. Responsibilities of SEPMs, instructions and guidelines for applying are available at S:\65 MSS\DPC\Special Emphasis Program Managers.tif.

Outdoor Recreation

Free Golf Clinics: 2 to 4 p.m. Sept. 13. Depart at 1:30 p.m. Transportation and equipment provided. Deadline to sign up is 3 days prior at Bldg. T-319. For more information, call 535-4140.

On the Water Trips: Saturday - Boat Trip around Terceira Island; 8 a.m. Sunday - Inshore Fishing Trip. Call 535-4140 for more information or to register.

Job Opportunities

Theater Supervisor: AAFES is accepting applications for a theater supervisor. Experience in theater operations and supervision preferred. Must be able to work night shift. Visit www.aafes.com to apply. The Vacancy number is H-031830-2008. Deadline to apply is Wednesday. For details, call 535-3634.

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University: Currently looking for local faculty to teach on-site courses. Contact Shawna Basco at 535-3375 or e-mail Shawna.basco@erau.edu.

New Library Hours

Library Hours Change: Effective immediately, the new library hours are as follows: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday; Noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 2 to 6 p.m. on U.S. Holidays. Closed on Portuguese Holidays.

A&FRC 535-4138

Smooth Move Seminar: 2 to 4 p.m. Monday. This informative seminar helps prepare personnel for an upcoming PCS move. Orders not required.

Investment Workshop: 11 a.m. Sept. 15, A&FRC. Learn about risks vs. return, retirement planning and more.

Give Parents a Break

Give Parents a Break is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 30 at the CDC and LYP. Certificates are due by noon Wednesday.

Breastfeeding Support

Breastfeeding Network Support Group: 11 a.m. to noon, Tuesdays (after playgroup) in the LYP. This is for mothers who want to learn more about breastfeeding or want to support other moms with breastfeeding. Expecting moms are also encouraged. For more information, call 961-674-454 or e-mail alygirly@gmail.com.

Post Office 535-1203

All box holders who will be leaving the island (leave, TDY, Deploying) for more than 5 days must come to the post office to place your mail on hold. For someone else to pick up mail, fill out a PS Form 3801 at the post office.

DoDDS

Free/Reduced Lunches: Applications can be obtained at the MSG office in Bldg. T-100, the A&FRC or the school offices. Call 535-6104 or e-mail tammy.williams@lajes.af.mil for an electronic version. Families who participated last year need to re-apply.

School Bus Transportation: Families who live off base should e-mail tammy.williams@lajes.af.mil or call 535-6104 for a 2008-2009 school bus registration form.

HAWC 535-3889

Organic Market Tours: The HAWC is sponsoring Organic Market Tours on the last Saturday of every month. The August tour will be Aug. 30. Meet at 8:45 a.m. in the commissary parking lot. Ensure Euro is brought if planning to purchase fruit or vegetables at the market. To register, or for more information, call 535-4292.

Fitness Library: The HAWC has up-to-date fitness DVD's for check out.

MicroFit Assessment: Find out how fit you really are. The HAWC offers a full MicroFit assessment for active-duty, dependents and local nationals. Call 535-HAWC and set up an appointment.

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 or the Air Force.

Nanny available, any time day or night, Laura has more than 20 years of experience working with children, if you are looking for a great nanny, please call Laura at Ext. Home - 295-542263 Cellphone - 960304256 For more information call Amber Madsen CDC 295- 573188.