

Crossroads



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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

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Weekend Weather Forecast

Today

Chance of rain

High 75
Low 68



Saturday

Overcast

High 77
Low 69



Sunday

Scattered clouds

High 75
Low 68



CFC Overseas in full swing here

By 1st Lt. Darrin Eckles
Project Officer

Oh yes, it is that time of year again! It is so cliché, I know, mentioning donation requests one after the other. Let us think of how bad it could really be though. If all of these charities were to get your address or your phone number and start trying to collect from you throughout the year it would be overwhelming.

Well the Combined Federal Campaign, commonly referred to as CFC, is one stop shopping that makes all of the organizations get cleared and approved to solicit our donations all at one time in a relatively unobtrusive manner. Do not worry about me knocking on your door at your residence, e-mailing you at home, or calling you on the phone for your support.

We have CFC POCs that will simply ask you if you wish to participate toward charities of your choice and drop off the



Combined Federal Campaign Overseas project officers for Lajes, 1st Lt. Darrin Eckles and Master Sgt. Mary Thompson watch as Col. Peggy Poore, 65th Air Base Wing commander fills out her CFC-O pledge card Tuesday. (Photo by Guido Melo)

material for you.

There may be an occasional CFC AFN spot on the TV or radio and motivational events.

The campaign is Oct. 1 to Dec. 3 and we are trying to achieve 100 percent contact

and collect all contributions in October to minimize interference with Thanksgiving and other holiday planning.

To read this story in its entirety, visit www.lajes.af.mil or for CFC information, visit www.cfcoverseas.org.

Lajes earns 'Excellent' ATSEP rating

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

Team Lajes' performance was rated excellent in ensuring warfighters move safely and expeditiously to the fight, according to the Air Traffic Systems Evaluation Program report released Oct. 9.

The ATSEP team conducted the evaluation Oct. 6-9 and inspected those organizations directly responsible for the flying mission and support of the airfield.

Those organizations were the Operations Support, Civil Engineer and Communications Squadrons.

Several outstanding performers were recognized by the ATSEP team. They were: Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Clegg, 65th Operational Support Squadron, Portuguese Air Force First Sgt. Rogério, Tech. Sgt. Ryan Edwards, 65th OSS,



65th Air Base Wing commander, Col. Peggy Poore, stands next to the outstanding performers during the Air Traffic System Evaluation Program held Oct. 6-9. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Corey)

Senior Airman Crystal Bone, 65th OSS, Airman Alexander Holm, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron and Staff Sgt. Shawn Johnson, 65th Communications Squadron.



Be proactive, leadership opportunities are out there

By Maj. Edward Simpson

65th Security Forces Squadron commander

Today's Air Force seems to be growing smaller by the day but our taskings and ops tempo are not. Today's Airmen are being asked to perform at a level unknown to many of our predecessors who served in an Air Force with far more personnel and in far fewer places around the globe. What this means for our Airmen is that they are being asked to step up to leadership roles that were previously reserved for personnel one or two ranks above them. The question we have to ask ourselves is are we ready as a service and who does the responsibility of preparing and caring for our Airmen fall on? I would say the responsibility lies on both sides of the coin.

As Airmen we must recognize the need for leadership from all ranks and push ourselves to perform at a higher level. Whenever we are faced with a leadership opportunity we should embrace it and look internally and externally for the help we need to succeed at whatever it is we are asked to do. Everyone has something to contribute to our Air Force whether you are an airman basic or a colonel. Even the youngest Airmen have life experiences that may help solve a problem. No one should ever be afraid to step up and take a chance to better themselves and their work center. However, it is incumbent on leadership to foster an environment in which our Airmen are comfortable in doing that. Our Airmen need to feel they are allowed to

take chances and make mistakes and not feel like they will be penalized for it.

Leaders, that is on our shoulders to encourage our people to step up and take those leadership challenges and to help them along the way in whatever way we can to ensure they succeed. By doing so we will be building Airmen with confidence who will grow into the future leaders our shrinking Air Force needs to stay the dominant Air Power on the globe!

Yet another problem we face is how we get the training to prepare ourselves for these leadership challenges we will all inevitably face? Budgets are shrinking and every person we send TDY is another set of jobs someone in the office, who is probably already short-handed, will have to pick-up to fill the shortage. It's a tough question that section heads, flight chiefs and commanders all must face. However, the benefit we get back from sending our best and brightest to further their education usually comes back threefold. The money has to be spent and the time sacrificed for the betterment of the unit and our Air Force. Professional Military Education courses are there to prepare our enlisted force to be the future leaders. The task for our enlisted and officer leaders is to ensure we are sending the right people who we know will bring that training back to our sections.

To read the rest of this commentary, visit www.lajes.af.mil

Program works to ensure absentee voting opportunities

By Fred W. Baker III

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — It's still not too late to register to cast an absentee ballot in the Nov. 4 general election in many states, a Defense Department official said Oct. 9.

"We want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to vote, and that the vote is counted," said Polli Brunelli, director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

Ms. Brunelli's office has spent the better part of the past two years working to ensure that the more than 4 million voters eligible to cast absentee ballots have them and understand the requirements to get their votes counted.

Ms. Brunelli said her office also has worked out an agreement with the mail systems to provide express mail for ballots returning from overseas military and State Department post offices from Oct. 29 to Nov. 4.

Fifty-one states and territories allow registration by fax, and 23 allow registration by e-mail. Thirty-eight will fax blank ballots to voters, and 21 will e-mail blank ballots. Twenty-six allow a ballot cast by fax and 11 permit voting by e-mail.

Ms. Brunelli said she encourages anyone who does not receive a requested ballot to use the federal write-in absentee ballot available on the FVPA Web site, www.fvap.gov.

**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 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. Peggy Poore

Col. Peggy Poore
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

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This week in photos



The Lajes Field Fire Department partnered with off base fire departments and paraded through base housing Saturday for Fire Prevention Week. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Christin Michaud)

Fire Prevention Week Parade



Toyland Grand Opening

Sra Paula Nunes, stocker for the BX, stocks the shelves of Toyland in preparation for the Grand Opening Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. at the base exchange. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Corey)



Breast Cancer Awareness Walk

Members of Lajes Field and the local community come up the walking street in Praia da Vitoria, during the 5K Breast Cancer Awareness Walk held Oct. 11. To read more about the event, visit www.lajes.af.mil. (Photo by 1st Lt. George Tobias)



Now that's what I'm talking about

Col. Peggy Poore, 65th Air Base Wing commander and Command Chief Master Sgt. Douglas McIntyre, 65th ABW Command Chief, present Lt. Col. William Ratledge the ATLAS award at the Wing Recognition Ceremony Oct. 10. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Corey)



Mark your calendar

Oceanview Closure: The Oceanview will be closed Oct. 20 for maintenance. They will resume normal hours Oct. 21.

Lajes Youth Sports Program: Sign-ups for the 2008-2009 Flag-Football and Cheerleading season are ongoing through Oct. 30. All children ages 3-18 are eligible to participate. Registration forms are available at the LYP (Bldg. T-240). Anyone interested in coaching or officiating, can contact Scotte Mendiola at 535-1197.

Interviewing Skills: Get the information you need to prepare for an interview from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at the A&FRC. Call 535-4138 to register.

October 5Ks: Education "Wii"K 5K Not-So-Fun Run, Monday; Breast Cancer Awareness Fun Run, Oct. 24; Halloween Fun Run, Oct. 31. Showtime is 7:15 a.m. for each, run begins at 7:30 a.m.

Ol' Haunted Fire Station: 6 to 11 p.m. Oct. 25 and 26 and 6 to 10 p.m. Oct. 27-29 at Bldg. T-717. Adults - \$3/Children 15 and under - \$1.50.

Fall Fest: 2 to 11 p.m. Oct. 25 at the AEF Ramp. Bouncy castle, costume contest, trunk-or-treat, tug-o-war, face painting, food booths, pumpkin carving, scavenger hunt, outdoor movie and more.

At the Movies



Admission: Free

Location: Community Center

6 p.m. Friday - House Bunny (Rated PG-13)

2 p.m. Saturday - House Bunny (Rated PG-13)

6 p.m. Saturday - Pineapple (Rated R)

2 p.m. Sunday - Pineapple (Rated R)

Refreshments are available for those who wish to purchase them.

Recycling Quiz

Test your knowledge on recycling and support the Lajes Recycling Program

- Glass is ___% recyclable and can be used again and again.**
 - 80
 - 50
 - 100
 - 90
- Lajes Fields recycles:**
 - Plastic and glass
 - Paper
 - Aluminum
 - All of the above
- One recycled can would save enough energy to power a TV for:**
 - 30 minutes
 - 10 hours
 - 3 hours
 - 4 hours
- Which of the following is not included in the three Rs policy?**
 - Reduce
 - Reform
 - Recycle
 - Reuse
- 1 recycled glass bottle would save enough energy to power a computer for ___ minutes.**
 - 25
 - 35
 - 45
 - 15
- 1 recycled plastic bottle would save enough energy to power a 60-watt light bulb for ___ hours.**
 - 2 hours
 - 3 hours
 - 4 hours
 - 1 hour
- Up to ___% of the rubbish that ends up in the dustbin could be recycled.**
 - 60
 - 50
 - 70
 - 80
- Up to ___% of a vehicle can be recycled**
 - 80
 - 75
 - 70
 - 35
- Soda bottles are typically made from which type of plastic?**
 - LDPE
 - PP
 - HDPE
 - ABC



Answers: 1c, 2d, 3c, 4b, 5a, 6b, 7a, 8a, 9c

LAJES COMMUNITY BOARD

ADVANCED EDUCATION "Wii'K"

Advanced Education Week begins Monday with events including Jeopardy, bowling and a 5k run. Scholarships and prizes will be awarded, including a surround sound system and a Nintendo Wii. Contact 535-3171 or e-mail aplajes@ou.edu for more information.

Bone Marrow Drive Oct. 30

The 65th Medical Group will host a bone marrow drive for individuals interested in becoming a bone marrow donor. Becoming part of the registry is a painless and easy process. Personnel fill out a consent form and a brief medical questionnaire, then give an oral swab. To join the national registry and become a donor, stop by the bone marrow drive, scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 30 in the Bldg. T-416 conference room. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Fisher at 535-5129.