

# Crossroads



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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

## Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha  
Threat Level: Low

## Daylight Saving Time



The European Union members will set their clock back at 1 a.m. Sunday morning. Lajes members are reminded to set their clock an hour back. **Note:** In the United States, DLS will be on Nov. 2.

## Weekend Weather Forecast

### Today

Scattered clouds

High 75  
Low 69



### Saturday

Scattered clouds

High 75  
Low 68



### Sunday

Clear

High 73  
Low 66



## Bone Marrow Drive scheduled Oct. 30

The 65th Medical Group will host a bone marrow drive for individuals interested in becoming a bone marrow donor.

The C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program began in 1990 through an Act of Congress, explained Master Sgt. Tony Fisher, 65 Medical Group First Sergeant. The program is named after Congressman C.W. Bill Young who initiated the founding and development of the program. It's aimed directly at Department of Defense members and families.

The drive is open to active duty military, their immediate dependents and DoD civilian employees age 18-60. Once a person is registered they are in the Marrow Registry until they turn 60. "So, unlike donating a regular unit of blood, this is a one-time event," said Sergeant Fisher "If a person has already registered at a previous base, they do not need to do this again."

Becoming part of the registry is a painless and easy process. Personnel fill out a consent form and brief medical questionnaire, then take an oral swab. "We then mail the swab and paperwork together back to a testing facility where



Staff Sgt. Michael Buongiorno, from the 65th Medical Operations Squadron lab, demonstrates the swab process on a bone marrow donor last year. The 65th Medical Group will be hosting a bone marrow drive here Oct. 30. (U.S. Air Force archive photo)

information will be stored in a national registry," said Sergeant Fisher. Blood isn't drawn until an individual is identified as a possible match. "If selected as a possible match, you will be notified to report to a local lab, where the possible donor will get blood drawn for further compatibility testing," Sergeant Fisher said. The odds of being compatible are 1 in

12, according to the National Bone Marrow Program. Donors who are compatible go to the next stage in being able to help save someone's life. Potential donors are informed about the entire bone marrow collection process and what they can expect.

**To read the entire story, visit [www.lajes.af.mil](http://www.lajes.af.mil).**

## Giving Airmen time back increases efficiency

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Improvements in technology, review of manpower solutions and additional duty workload, and refining ancillary training topped the recommendations presented to Lt. Gen. Richard Newton III, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services, by a team he chartered to find what impacts Airmen's time.

In August, the team spoke to Airmen on 10 bases in Pacific Air Forces, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and continental United States to determine what programs and duties are taxing both squadron commanders and Airmen with a focus on personnel and administrative workload, additional duties and ancillary training.

Among the team's findings, the impact of force

shaping on personnel and information managers put residual administrative duties on squadron commanders and their Airmen who were not equipped to handle the workload. Additionally, the steady growth in ancillary training requirements have strained the time available for core work and are frequently being accomplished outside of regular duty hours.

"In the past, our Airmen were able to make the Air Force's garrison model work. However, with today's war and our expeditionary focus, quality of work-life is being impacted by a number of time consuming duties and training events," said Mr. Mark Doboga, director of personnel programs integration and the leader of the assessment team.

**To read the entire story, visit [www.lajes.af.mil](http://www.lajes.af.mil).**



# What's the meaning of Hispanic

**By Maj. Eduardo Quero**  
65th Logistic Readiness Squadron

I am honored by the opportunity to address you on such an important occasion in our country—a month where we celebrate the many contributions to our American society made by people of Hispanic descent. This year's theme "Getting Involved: Our Families, Our Community, Our Nation" couldn't be more appropriate for the question I want to answer—what's the meaning of Hispanic Heritage Month?

I could easily bore you with statistics on U.S. Hispanic population, percent graduating from high school or college, average income and how many joined the U.S. Air Force—they are important and to a greater degree, more attention needs to be given to these so the percentages can increase. However, I want to instead offer you this other perspective.

This year's theme is a call for more action. These three words: Family, Community and Nation are the core of what Hispanics are, what we believe and the focus we should have to achieve success—only then our contributions can be long lasting.

Sure, determining our success and contributions can be done in many ways. It can be political, as with current Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez or Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico.

It can also be in entertainment, as with actor Antonio Banderas or singer Gloria Estefan, and it can also be in other areas, as with renowned writer Isabel Allende,

NASA astronaut Franklin Chang-Diaz and Medal of Honor recipient CWO Louis R. Rocco—someone I was honored to meet in 1998.

However, it can also be determined as that Hispanic mother, who sacrifices time, energy and her youth to ensure her children go to school to have a better future. It can be that husband who kisses his wife and kids goodbye before working on farm fields and learning English at night with the sole purpose of pursuing a better future.

It can also be that Hispanic couple, who both work to bring an even bigger opportunity for the family. It can be that neighbor who brings everyone together to visit someone in need. It can also be that first generation university graduate, a newly opened Hispanic small business or a first time voter. Closer to home, it can be Lajes' OLA president, bringing the entire base community together for a common cause—including this year's celebration grand finale: the Hispanic Heritage Month Ball on Oct. 24.

Finally, it can also be that Hispanic Airman who decides to join the military and serve our Nation for an even bigger cause.

Everyone determines their own success and contributions to our rich American history and Hispanic contributions in family, community and this great Nation are varied, visible, and enduring. Follow a path already established or make your own; either way, do not sit still—take up the call for more action!

Now, returning to my question on the meaning of Hispanic Heritage Month...it is an opportunity to remind ourselves who we are, re-energize our core beliefs and continue our focus on the future.

**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**

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Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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

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*Tech. Sgt. Enrique Ferrelra serves Senior Master Sgt. David Heurd at the Hispanic Heritage Month Food Tasting Luncheon Sept. 15 at the base chapel, sponsored by the Organization of Latin Americans. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Christin Michaud)*

# THIS WEEK IN PHOTOS

## Toyland Grand Opening



Customers file in the BX for the Grand Opening of Toyland on Oct. 19, 2008. (U.S. Air Force photo Tech. Sgt. Rebecca F. Corey)



## Haunted House

A 65th Civil Engineer Squadron Utilities Systems craftsman, Tech. Sgt. Cona Billyzone selects light speed for a visual effect for a room in the 65th CES Haunted House on Oct. 20, 2008. The haunted house will open Oct 25, 2008 and run through Oct. 29, 2008. It will offer a carnival and games for children as well as the haunted house. (U.S. Air Force photo Tech. Sgt. Rebecca F. Corey)



Customers enjoy the Toyland Grand Opening at the BX on Sunday, Oct. 19, 2008. (U.S. Air Force photo Tech. Sgt. Rebecca F. Corey)



## Mark your calendar



**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.

**Pink Tie Gala:** The Pink Tie Gala, in support of National Breast Cancer Awareness month, is scheduled for 1 November 2008, 5:30-10 p.m. at the TORC. Dress is Semi-formal or Business Casual. Pink Ties and Dresses are optional but encouraged. Tickets are \$20 for club members or \$22 for non-club members. For tickets, contact your unit POC or the Chairs for this month's events— Capt. Patricia Rohrbeck, 535-3217, or Senior Airman Miranda Wood, 535-1035.

**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.

**HCAC meeting:** The Health Care Advisory Council meeting is planned for Nov. 6 at 1:30 p.m. in the T-416 conference room. The HCAC is a valuable forum for Medical Group personnel to communicate the latest news and services for your healthcare benefit, as well as an excellent way to bring feedback directly to the 65th Medical Group leadership. Health care is considered one of the top 3 morale issues for airmen overseas. HCAC attendance is voluntary, and open to everyone. Contact 1st Lt. Jennifer Preyer at 535-3017 for more information on this meeting.

**65th ABW FALL FESTIVAL**

When: Saturday, October 25th  
Time: 1400 - 2300  
Where: AEF Ramp

---TRUNK or TREAT---  
Prizes to be awarded to the best decorated trunk!  
There are prizes and fun to be had by all. Come on out, bring the family and have a good time at the 1st Annual 65th ABW Fall Festival!

## At the Movies



**Admission:** Free  
**Location:** Community Center

**6 p.m. Friday** - Mama Mia (Rated PG-13)  
**2 p.m. Saturday** - Mama Mia (Rated PG-13)  
**2 p.m. Sunday** - Hellboy II: The Golden Army (Rated PG-13)

Refreshments are available for those who wish to purchase them.

## Commissary Closure Nov. 1

The Lajes Field commissary will be closed Nov. 1st due to the Portuguese holiday "All Saints Day".

**LAJES COMMUNITY BOARD**

**SMOOTH MOVE WORKSHOP**

The smooth move workshop is scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday. The workshop is held twice monthly and is for active-duty members departing the island. Obtain information from Legal, Housing, TMO, MPF and much, much more. Orders are not required to sign up for the workshop

**Victim Advocates Needed**

The SARC office is looking for members who wish to volunteer as Victim Advocates. VA: Must be active duty military, Reserve or National Guard in active status or DoD civilian employees. The goal is to provide the VA training (40-hours) in November/December. Contact Capt. Carlington at 535-2123 for more information.