

GULF DEFENDER



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Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

Jan. 17, 2003

In brief

Tax season cometh

The tax season is getting closer and the Tyndall Volunteer Income Tax Assistance center is ready to provide the service free of charge.

The staff of IRS-trained VITA representatives will render tax services 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays beginning Feb. 3 through April 15. The tax center is located in the Marsh Room of the Tyndall Community Activities Center.

MLK service

A service in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is scheduled for 3 p.m. today at Chapel 2.

Attendees are invited for refreshments in the Chapel 2 Annex after the service.

Mobility bag security

People deploying via commercial air who are carrying a mobility bag may be required to open the bag for security inspections.

Upon arrival at your port or duty station, report the damage to your supervisor and return the damaged mobility bags to supply for reissue.

The aircrew eye and respiratory protection system's lithium sulfur dioxide batteries cannot be carried aboard commercial airlines. Upon arrival at the deployed location, aircrews will obtain batteries for the AERPs from their deployed aircrew life support representative.

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Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Raptor preview

Staff Sgt. Shawn Beard, 43rd Fighter Squadron NCO in charge of life support, checks out Tyndall's brand new F/A-22 egress procedures trainer upon its delivery to the 325th Fighter Wing Life Support facility here Jan. 10. The device will be used to train Raptor student pilots in exiting the aircraft in air and ground emergency situations. (Inset) Staff Sgt. Chris Hoggarth, 325th Operations Support Squadron NCOIC of life support training, gets a pilot's view of the trainer.

Air Force begins smallpox vaccinations

MASTER SGT. SCOTT ELLIOTT
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force chief of staff has directed the immediate implementation of the smallpox vaccination program.

In a Jan. 6 policy memorandum to major command commanders, Gen. John P. Jumper outlined details of the commanders' force protection program against the deadly biological warfare agent.

The first Air Force people to be vaccinated will be medical people and designated forces

that constitute specific mission-critical capabilities. The identified medics include Smallpox Epidemiological Response Team members at Brooks City-Base, Texas, those responsible for administering the vaccine to other airmen, and base-level smallpox medical team members (medics who have been selected to treat anyone who contracts the disease).

According to the Air Force smallpox vaccination implementation plan, some civilian employees and contractors will also be vaccinated.

Other U.S. forces will be vaccinated depending upon circumstances.

Although vaccinations will begin immediately, the program's director said airmen would be vaccinated in stages.

"It is expected that up to 30 percent of the people receiving the vaccine will have minor reactions that result in the loss of one or more duty days," said Brig. Gen. Robert L. Smolen, director of nuclear and counterproliferation.

According to medical officials, the small-

●SEE SMALLPOX PAGE 15

F/A-22 = 24-hour "air dominance"

ORM key factor as new year begins

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander



I strongly believe this is an appropriate time to re-emphasize the critical importance of practicing operational and personal risk management.

Historically, the first month of the year is a dangerous one for flying operations. Through the 1990s, the Air Force had more mishaps in the month of January than any other month. As such, this month has been dubbed January Challenge. Basically, the challenge is not only to practice risk management this month but champion safety throughout the year.

When it comes to safety, we cannot let up our guard. Everyone involved with the flying operation from the operators, to our maintainers to all those who support flying operations needs to always remain vigilant. We need to all do our part to ensure all of our sorties are flown safely without taking any un-



“Basically, the challenge is not only to practice risk management this month but champion safety throughout the year.”

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW

325th Fighter Wing commander

necessary risks.

You don't need me to tell you it's officially winter, but I do want to address some other risk-management issues this season brings to mind. Here in the Florida panhandle, cold temperatures and dipping wind chill factors aren't the norm, so I caution those who must work outside to dress properly and look out for our coworkers.

Just because it's cold outside doesn't mean you can't dehydrate when working really hard on the flightline or while responding to an exercise or any intense physical activity.

Also, although we've been spared so

far, freezing rain or frozen-over bridges can be treacherous. Should these conditions strike us over the next few weeks, take your time, increase your following distance and tap your brakes initially to slow down; never slam them on.

We need to practice safe driving practices on our roadways. Air Education and Training Command has put a tremendous emphasis on motor vehicle safety as the command and Air Force experienced multiple deaths on our roadways. This statistic is no different in Bay County. During 2002,

●SEE ORM PAGE 7

Supervisors play key role in career counseling

MASTER SGT. VICTOR TENNANT

14th Flying Training Wing

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. (AFP) — Quick! What is your role in career counseling as a supervisor? Do you have to be a supervisor to provide career counseling? What does career counseling mean to you? How does career counseling tie into any retention problems the Air Force faces today?

If you can answer every question above, you have mastered one of the main roles of being a supervisor and leader. If you are one of the many who question why you have to know career counseling, then you should brush up on this important duty.

As a front-line supervisor and leader you must promote a “career mindset.” It is one of your NCO responsibilities.

Several years ago, the Air Force did away with base career advisers and transferred those responsibilities

to front-line supervisors, first sergeants and commanders. Today, due to the increased operations tempo throughout the Air Force and force reductions during the 1990s, career advisers are back.

The Air Force has realized supervisors, first sergeants and commanders often don't have enough time or detailed information to provide definitive answers about career decisions to help guide our airmen. Providing that type of advice requires specialized knowledge and training.

When there weren't any career advisers, many airmen had to make the critical decision of “Should I stay or should I go?” without proper guidance and necessary information. It became obvious there was an urgent need to fill this void, so the Air Force responded by creating career assistance adviser positions at each installation.

As the career assistance adviser at my base, it's my responsibility to help supervisors, first sergeants

and commanders get out the right information on the benefits of making the Air Force a career. The ways I do this are by briefing airman leadership school classes; conducting informed decision briefings; and speaking to groups at enlisted professional development courses, first-term airmen center classes and commanders' calls.

This is my role, but what about yours as a supervisor and leader?

According to the most recent Air Force exit survey, three of the top five reasons members are leaving the Air Force are directly related to our supervisors and leaders. The reasons are “lack of recognition of one's efforts, lack of leadership at the unit level and lack of job satisfaction.”

These three areas cost the Air Force years of experience and thousands of dollars in training every time an airman walks out the door and into the civil-

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or emailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

This week in history

→ Col. Susan Helms

Jan. 13, 1993 — Colonel Helms, then a U.S. Air Force major and a member of the space shuttle Endeavor crew, became the first U.S. military woman in space.

She became an astronaut in July 1991. She is a veteran of five space flights, logging 5,064 hours in space, including an extravehicular activity, or “space walk” of eight hours and 56 minutes — a world record — to install hardware to the external body of the laboratory module. On STS-54, in 1993, Colonel Helms became the first U.S. military woman in space. She also served aboard the International Space Station as a member of the Expedition-2 crew in 2001. Colonel Helms lived and worked onboard the ISS as a member of the second crew to inhabit ISS Alpha.

Colonel Helms spent a total of 163 days aboard the space station and returned to earth with the STS-105 crew aboard Discovery on Aug. 22, 2001.

After a 12-year NASA career that included 211 days in space, Colonel Helms returned to the U.S. Air Force in July 2002 to take a position at Air Force Space Command headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colo.

→ Gulf War

Jan. 17, 1990 — B-52s and F-117s strike targets in Iraq, beginning the Gulf War.

● **FROM CAREER PAGE 2**

ian workforce. As supervisors and leaders, we must address these issues head-on.

Not surprisingly, these three responses are also mentioned numerous times in civilian job satisfaction questionnaires. Apparently, the grass isn't always greener on the other side.

Think about what kept you in the Air Force. Was it a mentor? Was it patriotism or personal or professional pride? Whatever the reason, it was positive or you wouldn't be here today.

We are part of the most powerful Air Force in the

world, an organization that stands second to none in several areas including tax-free allowances, free health care, family support programs, educational benefits, promotion opportunities and the only retirement program in America where, after 20 years, you don't pay a penny to collect a retirement check for the rest of your life.

Expose your airmen to these and other military benefits. Don't leave them to find out for themselves. It is time we, as supervisors and leaders, stand up and enthusiastically talk to our young troops about all the positive reasons, both personal and professional, why

we made the military a career.

Your comments, thoughts and guidance on what led you to stay in the Air Force will not only affect the individual you're counseling, but could ultimately affect your entire workcenter.

Career counseling should be a daily, weekly or monthly activity. As a minimum, career counseling should happen twice a year during mandatory feedback sessions. The general NCO responsibilities section of Air Force Instruction 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure, mandates you provide an "Air Force Benefits Fact Sheet" and discuss this with the individual. You can find this sheet at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.com under "Enlisted Benefits."

Learn everything you can about our benefits and entitlements, and share this information during counseling sessions. Remember, you've been in the Air Force for several years and know about many of the benefits. Many junior personnel aren't aware of some of their benefits. This is where you come in. This is why your role as a supervisor and leader is so critical in successful career counseling.

Admittedly, the Air Force isn't for everyone. I'll be the first to admit that military life includes much stress on the person and their family. Yet, the closeness of the military family is one of those intangibles to think about when people consider their future.

We owe it to our junior personnel to help them make an informed decision based on facts and the intangibles. If they still choose to separate, thank them for doing their country a great service and wish them luck in their future.

If an individual chooses to re-enlist, don't take it for granted. Also take time to thank him or her. They, along with their family, have just made one of the most important decisions of their life, and, hopefully, you played a small role in this commitment by providing them with good career counseling.

(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)



**Think
before
you
drink.**

Air Guard director says ANG full partner in Total Force during visit

MASTER SGT. ROGER TIBBETTS

1st Air Force public affairs

The National Guard Bureau's senior Air Force officer discussed the Air Guard's continuing support for Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Northern Watch and other challenges facing the Air National Guard during a recent 1st Air Force commander's conference.

Lt. Gen. Daniel James III, ANG director, and Maj. Gen. Craig McKinley, 1st Air Force/Continental United States NORAD Region commander, met with senior air defense personnel from across the country, Jan. 7 - 9.

General James spoke to the geographically diverse crowd about the critical role the Guard plays in today's rapid response Air Force and how it fits into an evolving air defense strategy.

"With the operations tempo that we have and the missions that we are doing, both abroad and at home, the Air National Guard is no longer a force in reserve," said General James. "It's a major player and full partner in the Total Force – the United States Air Force."

In his opening remarks, General McKinley said both regular and National Guard personnel are coming to the aid of many civilian agencies.

"The Air Force has been busy assisting firefighting, emergency medical services and civilian airlift operations – all on limited funding and manpower," said General McKinley.

General James said the Air Guard is no longer a force that drills only on the weekends and two weeks a year and pointed out that today's Guard member is

not the "weekend warrior" that many folks once believed him to be.

"The average (Air Guard) pilot is involved in six to eight sorties a month, minimum – and that's just to maintain proficiency," said General James.

Another prevalent misconception, General James said, is the belief the Guard is a "stay-at-home force" and the regular Air Force deploys overseas.

"The National Guard is involved in every mission that the Air Force does," General James said.

"We are heavily vested in airlift and we are very heavily vested in air superiority."

General James said he is very comfortable with the level of leadership, motivation, training and readiness of 1st Air Force and the Air National Guard.

The ANG director also said employer support for personnel called to duty has been good. The process of giving some sort of predictability regarding deployments has been very helpful to employers with folks who have been on orders up to 120 days.

"One of the key things that the employers need to know is what length of time an employee will be gone," said General James. "If we can give them the predictability, and they can adjust appropriately, we will continue to have their support."

"The worst thing we can do is not live up to our promise," General James added.

General McKinley credited NORAD and members of the Guard for their role in the enormous challenge of keeping the country safe.

"Our mission has been accomplished," General McKinley said. "There have been no further attacks — on U.S. soil."



Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Destructive duty?

A contractor heavy-equipment operator demolishes a former 325th Medical Group command facility here Monday. The demolition work, adjacent to Tyndall's current military treatment facility, will make room for a new patient parking area, part of a larger MDG military construction project.

Need for blood donations grows

MASTER SGT. MICHAEL BRIGGS
Air Education and Training Command public affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — With a smaller pool of eligible military donors and a recently decreased stock of frozen blood, the Air Force assistant vice chief of staff is calling on servicemembers and their families to donate blood.

In a recent memo to the field, Lt. Gen. Joseph Wehrle asked Air Force members worldwide to support the January observance of National Volunteer Blood Donor Month by rolling up their sleeves and giving the gift of life.

“Blood safety and availability are inseparable requirements for ensuring optimal care of our active-duty troops, retirees, military spouses and children,” he said. “Unfortunately, current federal regulations barring donations from personnel who have served time in Europe have resulted in a 25 percent drop in eligible donors on Air Force bases.”

In addition to fewer donors, the frozen blood supply took a hit recently when the Armed Services Blood Program Office asked the military to

withdraw frozen blood supplies donated during last summer’s West Nile virus epidemic to avoid transmitting the potentially fatal disease to recipients.

Those factors, combined with a historical trend of fewer blood donations in the winter months, would make the need for blood more urgent in any year. That need is even more urgent today, taking into consideration current world events including a possible war in Iraq.

“At this time, with American forces actively fighting the war on terrorism, and with hundreds of thousands of military personnel deployed in support of expeditionary operations throughout the world, I want to personally encourage everyone who can give blood, to do so,” General Wehrle said.

Leaders of the nation’s blood banking community are seeking a nationwide donation of 1.2 million units of blood during January. Military and civilian blood collection officials said donors with Type AB blood are especially needed, because AB is the universal blood plasma type.

“To avert critical blood shortages this winter, we need citizens across

the country to schedule an appointment to donate blood,” said Jim MacPherson, chief executive officer of America’s Blood Centers. “Blood has a shelf life of only 42 days, which means it constantly needs to be replenished. Donors can give blood every 56 days, or six times a year.”

Fewer than 5 percent of healthy Americans eligible to donate blood actually donate each year, according to information from the American Association of Blood Banks. To be eligible to donate blood, a person must be in good health and usually must be at least 17 years old. Minimum weight requirements may vary among facilities, but generally, donors must weigh at least 110 pounds. Most blood banks have no upper age limit. All donors must pass the physical and health history examinations given prior to donation.

“This selfless act helps us take care of our own, the hallmark of our military tradition,” General Wehrle said.

(Army Spc. Chuck Wagner contributed to this story. He is a staff writer on the Pentagram, the newspaper of the Military District of Washington.)

Heart Link connects AF life, spouses

MELISSA HARTLE
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

The Air Force recruits individuals, but retains families. Recognizing the military spouse as an integral part of mission readiness and retention, bases throughout the Air Force have begun implementing the Air Force chief of staff-directed, new-spouse orientation program called Heart Link.

The first Heart Link session at Tyndall is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the base enlisted club.

Thirty spouses will be selected to attend the first Heart Link program, which will be offered quarterly. Spouses of permanent-party members or students of all ranks, with less than five years in the military environment, are invited to register for the free program.

“The purpose of Heart Link is to help new military spouses better understand the demands placed



●SEE HEART PAGE 6

Information theft at TriWest requires action by those affected

Recently, TriWest Healthcare Alliance experienced a break-in at one of their facilities in Phoenix which resulted in the theft of some computer equipment and files.

TriWest Healthcare Alliance is a Department of Defense contractor that administers the TRICARE Central Region.

The computers that were stolen contained files of TRICARE active-duty members who received care from a civilian provider during the last three years. The following information was stored on the stolen computer: name, Social Security Number, medical procedures, dates of service, where the service was rendered and the amount of the claim.

TriWest sent letters to each military member whose records were stored at the Phoenix facility.

Members whose records were part of those stolen should have received a notification letter by Dec. 31. The TRICARE Southeast Region covers Tyndall, therefore, Tyndall members' records are not stored in Phoenix. However, members who recently relocated from the affected region may be included in the theft.

The letter from TriWest contains valuable information to protect yourself from identity theft. The first thing you should do if you received the letter is to contact the three major credit bureaus and request that a "fraud alert" be placed in your file. This will let creditors know to contact you before opening a new account.

Next, request a credit report from each credit bureau, which is free to a victim of fraud, and re-

view it closely. The credit bureaus are: TransUnion (800) 680-7289, Equifax Credit Information Services (800) 525-6285 and Experian (888) 397-3742.

If any questions arise at any point, please contact the base legal office at 283-4681. There is walk-in legal assistance from 8-9 a.m. Mondays and 2-3 p.m. Wednesdays. There, you can speak to an attorney who will be able to give you more specific and detailed information on identity theft and steps to protect yourself.

You can also contact TriWest at (888) 339-9378 or by e-mail at computertheft@triwest.com.

Remember, the legal office is here to help you. If you have any questions, please call.

(Courtesy 325th Fighter Wing legal office)

Leadership line



Courtesy photo

“Against such enemies [Al Qaeda terrorist network], America and the civilized world have only one option. Wherever terrorists operate, we must find them. Wherever they dwell, we will hunt them down. We will stop them in their plotting and their training, and we will remain vigilant at all times.”

VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD CHENEY

During a Jan. 10 speech to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

● FROM HEART PAGE 5

on military members and the huge role spouses play in mission accomplishment,” said Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

To achieve that goal, the Community Action Network, charged with the Heart Link program at Tyndall, has planned a session filled with interactive games, skits and presentations by representatives from across the base.

“Through Heart Link, participating spouses can expect to gain an increased awareness of the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocols and resources and services available to them,” said Ms. Sheri Ward, CAN Chairperson and Family Advocacy Outreach Manager at Tyndall. “This increased awareness will not only enlighten military spouses, help them adjust to military life

and know what resources are available to them, but will also allow sponsors to focus on the mission knowing their spouse has the resources to carry on in their absence.”

In addition to the variety of scheduled activities, lunch will be provided and participants will receive a special Heart Link coin and certificate. Free childcare will also be arranged for those who give advance notice.

“This will be a fast-paced, fun and invigorating day packed full of information. Each participant will take away with them the feeling that they are an integral part of the Air Force Team and Team Tyndall.”

To learn more about Heart Link or to register for the Feb. 21 or future sessions, call the family support center at 283-4204.

Base honor guard needs NCOIC

The base honor guard needs a volunteer to fill the NCO in charge position.

The minimum requirements to volunteer are: must be a technical sergeant or selectee who has completed seven level training; must possess 18 months retainability; must have experience with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel; must present a positive personal image and possess the ability to brief distinguished dignitaries; and experience with the honor guard is preferred but not necessary.

Volunteers should submit a targeted resume as formatted in the "Tongue and Quill." Re-

sumes are due Feb. 14 to Staff Sgt. Adam Sparks. He can be reached by e-mail at honorguard@tyndall.af.mil or at 774-3858 or 283-4405.

A selection board will convene and results will follow soon after. The volunteer will tentatively start training for the position March 1.

Supervisors and managers are asked to encourage their sharp troops to compete for this opportunity to make a difference not only to Tyndall, but throughout our local community.

(Submitted by the Tyndall Honor Guard)

Checkertail Salute



Lisa Carroll

Sergeant Rivers is awarded the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award by Brig. Gen. Larry New, 325th Fighter Wing commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Rivers who was instrumental to the completion of more than 200 cadet incentive physicals in one day during the annual summer Jet Orientation program. She completed this task on her day off.

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Rivers

Duty title: NCO in charge of flight medicine flight

Unit: 1st Fighter Squadron

Time on station: 16 months

Time in service: 5.5 years

Hometown: Orlando, Fla.

Hobbies: Studying, shopping and volunteering

Goals: To complete my bachelor of science in nursing by 2005.

Favorite thing about Tyndall:

The base is right on the bay.

Pet peeves: People with negative attitudes who affect group dynamics

Favorite book: "Animal Farm" by George Orwell

Favorite movie: "Gladiator"

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

● FROM ORM PAGE 2

there were multiple fatalities on Highway 98, and people have a tendency to not pay as much attention when the maximum speed limit is 45 miles per hour.

However, Bay County driving provides additional challenges such as tailgaters traveling too closely to others, dangerous intersection and cross-over accidents, distractions, and like in any town, the threat of drunk drivers. If you have young infants or toddlers, make sure you have a child-safety seat and get the seat inspected in order to minimize the risk of injury to your loved ones in the event of an accident. Did you know, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends that children who have outgrown child safety seats be properly restrained in booster seats from about age four and 40 pounds to at least age 8, unless 4-foot 9-inches?

We need to do everything we can to take care of our people and their fami-

lies. From making sure those who have been identified to deploy receive required inoculations and training to identifying and practicing safe procedures in daily living, we need to do everything we can to protect our greatest resource...our people.

Finally, Monday is set aside to honor a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

While the base-wide observance took place Friday at the base chapel, I want to give special thanks to the Tyndall Black Heritage Committee, the base chapel staff and all who helped make it happen.

While you're enjoying the long weekend, please take time to remember the struggle Dr. King championed and the ultimate sacrifice he made in working to unify our nation. Today we stand as a better country and a better military service due to his perseverance and sacrifices.

Have a safe, successful holiday weekend and upcoming work week!

Save for Your Future **U.S. SAVINGS BONDS**

Keepers of the Field

Tiny OSS unit plays massive role in Tyndall mission



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Master Sgt. Harold Treadway, 325th Operations Support Squadron airfield manager, scans his area of responsibility, more than 1.5 million square feet of runway, taxiway and parking ramp space throughout Tyndall's airfield areas.

TECH. SGT. DAN NEELY

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Excuse the simplistic analogy, but for a moment Master Sgt. Harold Treadway seems to turn the tables on a popular cartoon. Rather than coyote chasing roadrunner, the Tyndall Air Force Base airfield manager suddenly shifts to the mode of a pickup truck-driving roadrunner, looking for several real-world coyotes on this frosty Monday morning.

"They've been getting quite brave lately. They're probably lying out there right now, just watching us," he says of the flightline perpetrators, nodding toward a scrub oak thicket behind a row of QF-4 drone aircraft as if being taunted by a hidden pack of wise-guy varmints. He points out a telltale sign of their pre-dawn visit – droppings – in the middle of a taxiway junction.

'Hawk rock'

Moments later, Sergeant Treadway parks near a runway overrun, pulls out a CD and pops it in his truck's player.

Earsplitting screeches blast from the

truck's rooftop loudspeakers, hundreds of yards toward a stand of pine trees.

"That's a red-tailed hawk," he says, demonstrating a piercing sound that is nightmarish to most Florida panhandle birds. That fact is witnessed by several small birds that instantly scatter in response to the digitized cry of a mortal natural enemy.

Don't be misled, this senior NCO is not out heckling wildlife just for kicks.

These brief episodes are just two small parts of an enormous responsibility tackled daily by members of the 325th Operations Support Squadron Airfield Management Section. Their primary mission: Ensure the Tyndall airfield is safe for all flying activities. Spooking animals to prevent accidental runway collisions is but one slice of a very big pie.

The fullness of their plate is easier to grasp knowing the tiny section's 10 members are superintendents of a whopping 1.5 million square feet of concrete surface. It's quite the spacious work center considering it includes two

runways, roughly 10,000 and 8,000 feet long and 150 feet wide, respectively. It also encompasses the associated taxiways and aircraft parking areas, as well as all the flora and fauna around and in between.

Added to that is the bustling pace of Tyndall's daily F-15 training mission, along with tenant flying operations by everything from the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group to the base aero club, to all transient aircraft passing through the base.

Sergeant Treadway estimated the airfield sees more than 170,000 operations annually. Ultimately, anything that moves upon or impacts these operating surfaces in any way – wildlife and construction projects included – is this section's business.

Nerve center

The airfield management section, led by Capt. Brian Patnett, is housed inside the flightline's centrally located base operations facility, which it shares with the

325th OSS Weather Flight. Inside this nerve center of Tyndall's flying operations is the dispatch section.

Staff Sgt. Mike Chrivia, chief of the airfield management operations, supervises a team of airfield management operations airmen (shortened as AM ops) who serve as central gatekeepers for all Tyndall flying operations. He rattles off an exhaustive list of products and procedures for which they are responsible. One example is their up-to-the-minute airfield informational and hazard advisory bulletins called Notices to Airmen (pilots use the acronym NOTAMS), which they continually update on their local Internet site. Other tasks include processing and uploading flight plans from each of Tyndall's flying squadrons — transient flight plans are included — to the regional Federal Aviation Administration operations center in Jacksonville.

"Every night, we print out and enter a whole day's flight plans," Sergeant Chrivia says, "and there are often lots of immediate changes that must be finalized before takeoff. Once Jacksonville Center gives us a 'roger,' we feed that (data) into the Air Traffic Logging Automated System so that the Tyndall command post or any other agency needing that information (departure/arrival times and more) can access it."

Yet another critical product the flight produces and distributes is known as FLIPS, or flight information publications. The map-like publications of Tyndall area airspace provide a wealth of critical planning information.



Sergeant Treadway requesting permission for morning airfield inspection.



Airman 1st Class Heath, airfield management specialist, prepares to blank gun to frighten birds approaching a Tyndall runway. The gun is one method used to prevent potential bird hazards.



Chrivia contacts the Tyndall air traffic control tower, requesting permission to cross the active runway during a flight inspection.

“Using these, Sergeant Chrivia continued, “a pilot can look up information about our runways, look at a diagram of the airfield, see exactly how they need to come in, height of an approach path and more.”

If that isn't enough to fill their days, the AM ops people must also handle prior permission requests, called PPRs, for any extra-large aircraft called “heavies,” such as Air Mobility Command's massive C-5 airlifters and KC-10 tankers. Crews of the “heavies” must submit a PPR at least 24 hours prior to a Tyndall landing. And trying to arrange parking ramp space for these behemoth birds often creates daunting challenges.

Then there are the in-flight and ground emergencies, open houses and flightline driving programs (they author and administer the flightline driving training program base-wide), during which the section assumes a center-stage role.

“There really isn't a dull moment at base ops,” said Airman 1st Class Nekisha Roache, an AM ops journeyman. “Each day we are faced with many challenges. Sometimes we're trying to work a flight plan in the system and an IFE (in-flight emergency) kicks off, and we have to respond.”

Senior Airman Angela Heavrin, an-

other AM ops journeyman, agreed with Airman Roache, saying “the most challenging or difficult part is when we have a lot of things happening at once — two emergencies at once, schedule changes left and right, phone calls or inbound aircraft coming in early ... all at once.”

Despite the intense operational pace, the airmen do find a satisfying flip side to their jobs.

“What I love most about my job is each day is unpredictable,” said Airman Roache. “We are always faced with new and exciting challenges and it makes us stronger people.”

Airman Heavrin added, “the most interesting part of the job to me is the important people we get to meet in the military and civilian government officials.”

She said she has enjoyed a unique opportunity to meet a multitude of distinguished visitors, from command-level senior leaders up to the commander in chief.

“We're the focal point for getting their parking, and notifying protocol for special arrangements.”

Back to the truck

It's 8 a.m., and Sergeant Treadway is continuing his morning airfield inspection, something he or any of his fellow section members can perform, day or night. Identifying himself by his radio call sign “Ops-1,” he stays in close contact with Tyndall air traffic controllers, requesting permission to cruise a major taxiway that fronts row upon row of F-15 Eagles.

The thunder of departing fighters muffles the two-way chatter. Pausing briefly, he ticks off an extensive checklist of inspection points. Although at 6 a.m. a cursory inspection (primarily checking for obvious foreign object damage debris, or FOD) has already been conducted by another section member, this type is exponentially more detailed.



From left, Staff Sgt. Mike Chrivia, chief of airfield management operations, discusses flight plan information with AM ops specialists Airman 1st Class Heather Niebuhr and A1C Nekisha Roache while working the dispatch desk inside base operations.

“What I love most about my job is each day is unpredictable. We're always faced with new and exciting challenges and it makes us stronger people.”

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS NEKISHA ROACHE

“The most interesting part of the job to me is the important people we get to meet in the military and civilian government officials. We're the focal point for getting their parking and notifying protocol for special arrangements.”

SENIOR AIRMAN ANGELA HEAVRIN

“On this one, I'm looking at the paint, the grass (if it's too tall, birds are attracted to the airfield, creating a serious hazard to aircraft, not to mention the birds), the wind socks, the runway and taxiway lights, the condition of the signs, the pavement, things like that,” Sergeant Treadway explains.

Emphasizing the bottom line, he adds “All of this is to allow the pilot to get from his aircraft parking place to the runway so he can get airborne safely.”

If any discrepancies are found during these inspections, such as weather-cracked taxiway surfaces, the airfield management section immediately shifts into one of their most pivotal modes.

“We have to be master coordinators,” Sergeant Treadway says. By far, he says, most of the flight's coordination takes place with 325th Civil Engineer

Squadron units.

“Mostly I'm talking to the pavement guys at CE,” he says. “Especially in the winter, the pavement gets a little more stressed because of the changes in temperature, and it makes the concrete contract and expand more often, causing it to crack. If we spot something, we'll mark it using a can of orange spray paint so they can come out and fix it.”

“I also talk to the sweeper guys quite a bit,” Sergeant Treadway continues. “A lot of times they'll come out and cut grass and the mowers will blow stuff out onto the pavement, so we'll call the sweeper. He has a dedicated airfield sweeping schedule, which begins at 6 a.m., but is on standby anytime we need him for other areas that need immediate sweeping.”

AF risks losing air dominance without F/A-22

STAFF SGT. A.J. BOSKER
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Without the F/A-22 Raptor, the Air Force could face losing its lead in fighter aviation to other nations, said Maj. Gen. John Corley, director of Air Force Global Power Programs at the Pentagon.

“We need this aircraft,” General Corley said. “It’s the only new U.S. aircraft that will be able to put weapons on target this decade and be capable of defeating next-generation threats.”

The Air Force sees the F/A-22 as the key enabler for joint and coalition forces to be able to operate around the clock without fear of attack. The Raptor will also enable the service to operate its other stealth assets - the B-2 Spirit, F-117 Nighthawk and Joint Strike Fighter — during the day.

“If we begin to hobble this program and begin to reduce what is clearly the best strike aircraft that has ever been produced, then later this decade we will lose the ability to provide unchallenged air dominance over the battlefield for U.S. and allied forces,” the general explained.

For more than half a century, American ground forces have not had to worry about threats from enemy aircraft. General Corley said he worries that without the Raptor to meet and beat the challenges posed by the next generation of foreign aircraft, this could change.

“That would be a dreadful first for us,” he said.

Although there is an estimated \$880 million cost increase to extend the engineering, manufacturing and development phase of the F/A-22 program, Air



Kevin Robertson

Raptor 10, the first production representative F/A-22, makes its way to Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., with help from a KC-135 Stratotanker and crew from the 99th Air Refueling Squadron at Robins AFB, Ga. The aircraft will be used for the program’s dedicated initial operational test and evaluation phase set to begin later this year.

Force officials remain committed to funding any increase from within the program itself.

“We are confident that with the efficiencies and control measures we’ve put in place, and with better coordination with the contractor, we’ll be able to deliver on a great aircraft within the constraints of the \$43 billion procurement cap for the program,” General Corley said.

This extension of the EMD phase is not because of aircraft performance but increased time required to address avi-

onics software instability and fin buffet issues.

“The F/A-22 is a great aircraft, and its performance to date has been outstanding,” he said. “The combination of all aspects — stealth, supercruise, its revolutionary maneuverability and the integrated avionics — will give us an unfair advantage over any enemy in the foreseeable future.”

The Raptor is needed and Air Force leaders fully support and concur with a “buy-the-budget” philosophy for the F/A-22, according to the general.

“We aren’t asking for a removal or expansion of the procurement cap,” he said. “We just want the opportunity to make best use of the dollars by stabilizing this program so we can buy the greatest quantity of aircraft with the available dollars.”

In the procurement world, reducing the number of aircraft being purchased does not always save money in the long run. In fact, as fewer aircraft are purchased, the cost per aircraft usually increases. If at a later date more aircraft are required, the aircraft must be purchased at an elevated price.

The Air Force experienced this with the C-17 Globemaster III program when it had to reduce the number of C-17s that it wanted to purchase because of similar program instability, General Corley said.

However, when the plane finally entered service, the nation saw that there was still a need for more of them, he said.

Even though the Air Force has purchased more aircraft, it has not been able to get back to the original cost and must pay a premium price per aircraft.

“Let’s not repeat the same mistakes,” General Corley said. “Let’s not keep chipping away at the F/A-22 program. Let’s not cause the taxpayer to spend more money to subsequently buy back critical capability. There is an essential need for the F/A-22 in sufficient numbers, just as there was, and is, for the C-17.”

“Let’s take the F/A-22 successfully through testing, stabilize the program and quickly ramp to production rates that field capability critical to our nation’s defense,” he said.

Your link
to what's going on

Gulf Guide

in the
Tyndall community

JANUARY

FRI
17

Top 3 meeting

A Tyndall Top 3 meeting is 3 p.m. today in the Pelican Reef Enlisted Club's "Zone." Members are reminded to bring their dues.

ESC meeting and social

The Tyndall Enlisted Spouses' Club's general membership meeting and white elephant bonko event is 6:30 p.m. today in the officers' club. All those interested are welcome to attend. The cost for the social is \$8 per person. Attendees are asked to bring something from their home that is no longer wanted or needed as a white elephant gift. For more information, call Ms. Shantelle Dedicke, 283-8928, or Ms. Melissa Maher, 286-9711.

SUN
19

Chapel religious education

The Tyndall Chapel offers religious education 9:30-10:30 a.m. Sundays for Protestants and 11 a.m.-noon Sundays for Catholics. Both sessions will be held at the spiritual fitness building. For more information, call 283-2925.

MON
20

Commissary holiday hours

The commissary will be closed Monday and Tuesday in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. The facility will re-open Wednesday.

AAFES holiday hours

The following Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities will be open at the following times Monday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Main exchange, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Class Six, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Felix Lake Shoppette, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; service station, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; barber shop, beauty shop and cleaners, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Burger King, the base theater and the flightline barbershop will be closed.

Lifeguard training

The Central Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross will offer the first of six lifeguard training sessions Monday-Jan. 25. For more information, call the Red Cross, 763-6587.

TUE
21

Focus 56 meeting

A Focus 56 meeting for all staff sergeant selects through technical

sergeants will be 3 p.m. Tuesday in the NCO Academy auditorium. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Charles Hargett, 283-8617, or visit the Web site, www.tyndall.af.mil/FOCUS56/default.htm

Parenthood preparation class

The four-session preparation for parenthood course will continue 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28 and Feb. 4 in the life skills support center, Building 1305. The course covers basic infant care, feeding options, stress management, medical care of the newborn and the development of the older infant. For more information or to sign up, call family advocacy, 283-7272.

Boating skills course

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 16 boating skills and seamanship course will continue 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday evenings in Gulf Coast Community College's Student Union East building, Gibson lecture hall, Room 231. The core portion of the course ends Feb. 11, and the entire course ends March 4. The cost is \$40 for the new text and workbook. The course completion certificate reduces boating insurance rates with most insurance companies and meets Florida requirements for those born after Sept. 30, 1986 to operate a vessel with 10 or more horsepower, including personal watercraft. For more information, call John Clark, 271-3828, or visit the Flotilla Web site at: <http://klik.to/USCGAUXFlotilla16>.

WED
22

Claims briefings

The Legal Office Household Goods Claims Briefings will now be held 10 a.m. every Wednesday in the claims office instead of on Thursdays.

'Moms, Pops & Tots'

The "Powerful Parenting for Moms & Pops of Tots" group will meet from 9-10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays at the community activities center, Building 1027. Parents are asked to bring a snack for their child and a toy that he or she can share with another child. For more information and cost, call Ms. Bonnie Fuller, 283-5812, or Ms. Karen Blood, 874-0292.

THU
23

Siblings' preparation class

A siblings' preparation class designed to help children prepare for the birth of a new sister or brother will be 4-5 p.m. Thursday in the family advocacy center classroom. For more information or to sign up, call family advocacy, 283-7272.

NOTES

Project officer needed

A project officer is needed for planning a Women's History Month celebration or event to be held in March. The military or civilian employee who volunteers will be appointed by the 325th Military Equal Opportunity office by Feb. 1. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Darryll Woodson, 283-2739, or Staff Sgt. Tonisha Layne, 283-2751.

RETIREE NEWS

TFL ID-card information

Sponsors age 65 or over who are eligible for Medicare Parts A and B and have purchased Part B do not need to update identification cards to receive health care under TRICARE For Life – even if the medical eligibility status printed on the back of the card indicates "Civilian No." Medicare Part B is required for TFL eligibility. If you have used TFL and have received a TRICARE explanation of benefits statement that TFL has paid your claims, you do not need to notify DEERS that you have Medicare Part B. Your Medicare Part B information has been picked up in a data match with Medicare. You do not need to update anything in DEERS other than changes in your residence, mailing address or family member status.

If you haven't used TFL yet, or don't think that your Medicare Part B information is being picked up during TFL claims processing, you may call your regional managed care support contractor or visit your nearest military personnel office's ID-card facility and register your Medicare Part B enrollment status in DEERS. At Tyndall, the military personnel flight customer service in Building 662 can provide this service. Call them at 283-2276 before making the trip to make sure the computers are on line, and take your Medicare card with you. You do not need to obtain a new ID card when you add your enrollment in Medicare Part B.

Family members, survivors or TRICARE-eligible former spouses age 65 or over who are eligible for Medicare Parts A and B and who have purchased Part B should visit the nearest military personnel office if their cards have expired. Individuals not able to travel can contact the personnel office for instructions on renewing ID cards by mail. ID cards are current for four years unless you turn 65 during the four-year period. Turning 65 is another reason your ID card's medical eligibility status will expire. If you are age 65 or over and have recently updated your ID card, your medical eligibility status printed on the back of your ID card might show "Civilian Yes." This means you are eligible for TFL.

If you have had no reason to update your ID card, your medical eligibility status printed on the back of your ID card might show as "Civilian No." You are not required to update your current ID card to receive health care under TFL. The next time you update your ID card, the medical eligibility status will be changed.

YARD SALES

The following yard sales are scheduled for Saturday: 3425-B Mathies Court and 3427-B Mathies Court. All yard sales are held between 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Healthy Weight Week 2003 wants you

Now that the new year is well on its way ... there have been many resolutions made and broken already. If you're serious about wanting 2003 to be "your year" to make those nutrition and exercise improvements a habit, the Tyndall Health and Wellness Center has a challenge for you!

The week of Sunday through Jan. 25 is "Healthy Weight Week," and to kick off the week, we'll be challenging everyone to a three-month body-fat-loss competition.

Participants in the program need to:

1. Find a team of three people and develop a team name.
2. Call the wellness center at 283-3826 between Wednesday and Jan. 31 to make body fat measurement appointments and weigh-ins for all team members. Appointments are available from 8-9 a.m. or 2:30-3:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
3. Begin your nutrition and exercise program ... you can enroll in a class at the wellness center to help get you started. We offer "The Sensible Weigh" program as well as monthly cooking demos.
4. During the three months, you may complete weekly self-assessments to be eligible for additional prizes.
5. In April, all three members must have body fat measurements re-accomplished at the wellness center. Don't forget to make those follow-up appointments.
6. Winning teams will win prizes, and other participants who completed weekly self-assessments may also have their names drawn for prizes.

(Courtesy Health and Wellness Center staff)

Free clinic offered to baseball players

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron marketing

Forget birds flying north or college students flying south. Forget the vernal equinox, or even what the calendar says. When little leaguers hear that umpire's shout, they know spring is here, and that means baseball season.

And this year, thanks to one area coach, the young ballplayers of Tyndall will be a little more prepared for the season's penant race after attending a free clinic.

Darren Mazeroski is beginning his 11th season as head coach of the Gulf Coast Community College baseball team. His first college game was back in 1980. And any kid on base age 9 and up can benefit from all that experience when Coach Mazeroski gives a free baseball clinic here Jan. 25.

This is the second year Coach Mazeroski has given the clinic here. According to Lt. Col. Sean Aland, assigned to 1st Air Force, last year's clinic was inspired by patriotism.

"Darren and I knew each other," Colonel Aland recalled. "After 9-11 he called me up and we talked about him coming

out here.

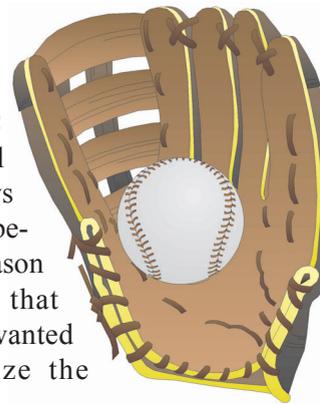
He said they (GCCCB staff) always do a clinic before the season starts, and that year they wanted to recognize the military."

Colonel Aland, who at the time was serving as commissioner of baseball for the Tyndall Youth Center, contacted Bruce Mason, youth activities sports director, to see if Mr. Mason thought having a clinic for the kids would be a good idea.

He did, and it was.

"We got a lot of raves about it," Mr. Mason said. "Coach Mazeroski came out with three members of his coaching staff and about seven players. The players and coaches individually took a group of kids and showed them running, batting, fielding, and they talked up the technical and philosophical sides of the game too."

Although it took some effort to gather



up the coaching staff and several players to make a trip across town to meet the kids on base, Coach Mazeroski said he and the others didn't mind doing it.

"It's mainly about coming out there and teaching the fundamentals to the kids - both physical and academic," Coach Mazeroski said, adding that part of his message is the importance of staying in school. "It's just something we wanted to do to help the command."

And since last year's event was such a success, Coach Mazeroski said it was only natural that he and his staff would be here again.

"It all went so well last year, we planned on doing it again this year," he explained.

According to Mr. Mason, the event is good for the command, the players and coaches, but most of all for the kids.

"Any time you go to a clinic, it's good for you," he said. "You always pick things up - even the philosophy of the game or game strategy."

Sign ups are going on now at the youth center for this year's clinic, which is scheduled for 1-3 p.m. Jan. 25. For more information, call 283-4366.

Tigers sweep Dragons in varsity action

The Tyndall Tigers men's varsity basketball team swept the host Keesler Dragons for the second time this past weekend in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference action. The Tigers improved their league-leading conference record to 17-3 (.850) and 20-3 overall (.870).

Tyndall-83, Keesler-75

In the first game, the Tigers and Dragons played evenly throughout the first half. The Tigers used balanced scoring to take a 39-38 advantage at the intermission. In the second half, the two squads again played nip-and-tuck basketball until the Tigers seized control of the contest to take a double-digit lead. The Tigers held on down the stretch with superior free-throw shooting (16-16 for the contest) to take the hard fought victory.

Marcus Baucom and Omar Johnson paced the Tigers in scoring with 16 and 15 points, respectively. They were followed by Tarrance Garner with 12 and the trio of Scott Moore, Chris Jackson and Keith Castille each scored 10 points. Moore and Jackson tied for team rebounding honors with 10 each. Johnson led in assists and steals with six and four,



Courtesy photo

Tyndall Tiger Tarrance Garner shoots a basket from the free-throw line after a penalty was called on the Dragons.

respectively. Garner had three blocked shots.

Robin Sikes led Keesler in scoring with a game-high 21 points.

Tyndall-93, Keesler-71

In the second contest, the Tigers jumped out to an early lead and never looked back. They raced to a 47-28 lead at the half behind Tarrance Garner and Tommy Nixon who poured in 11 and 10 points,

respectively. Keesler made several runs in the second half only to see the Tigers regroup on each occasion to build a comfortable lead as they cruised to the victory.

Garner led the Tigers in scoring with a game- and season-high 27 points. He was followed by Baucom with 15, Nixon with 13, Jackson with 11 and Johnson with 10 points. Garner posted 10 rebounds, Johnson led in assists with eight; and steals with four. Sikes again led the Dragons in scoring with 16 points.

The Tigers travel to Eglin Air Force Base to compete in the Martin Luther King Jr. SEMAC Men's Basketball Tournament this weekend.

Teams scheduled to participate in the 10-team double elimination tournament include: Tyndall, Eglin, Keesler, Hurlburt Field, Federal Prison Camp, Barksdale, Patrick, MacDill, Robins and a local team from Ft. Walton Beach.

The tourney begins today with the championship game scheduled for noon Monday.

Tyndall is scheduled to tip-off their first game at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Funshine NEWS

January 17, 2003

This page is produced by the 325th Services Marketing office, 283-4565.



325th Service Squadron
Let Us Know How
We Are Doing
283-4506

Bonita Bay

☎ 283-3199

Swim with the Manatees

Feb. 9-12, Cost per person is \$185 and includes 3 nights accommodations, transportation, 2 half day boat rentals, wet suit, dry bag, mask, fins, snorkel, admission to Homosassa State Wildlife Park and Tampa State Fair. \$25 non-refundable deposit now reserves your seat.

**Have a
Birthday
Party
at Raptor
Lanes**



Economy Party - \$22 ■ Custom Party - \$39
Deluxe Party - \$59
Birthday child must be 16 years old or younger. Your child will love the "Bowland" 3-D Animated Graphics. They're awesome!

283-2380**Passport to Adventure**

Validate Your Passport NOW
for a Chance to Win These Great Prizes:

A Cruise for 2 on the Riviera
A Cruise for 2 on the New England Coast
To get your passport and information on how to play stop by Information, Tickets and Travel or call:

283-2499**Youth Center**

☎ 283-4366

Baseball/Softball Registration

Open to all youth ages 5-14 yrs. Deadline for sign up is Feb. 8. Early sign up is advised. Call for more information.

Free Baseball Clinic - Jan. 25

1-3 p.m. Open to all youth 9 yrs. and older. Coach Darren Mazerowski and his staff from GCCC will give a one-day baseball clinic. Call for details.

Operation Nite Hoops

For teens only! Nite Hoops basketball league forming. Game days and times will be determined as soon as teams are chosen. If interested please contact Bruce Mason at 283-4366.

On Base Food Delivery

■ **Lunch Menu:** Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

■ **Evening Menu:** Fri. & Sat. 5:30-9 p.m.

Limited to office deliveries (i.e. squadron addresses)

Subs & Pizzas**286-2900****All Ranks Lunch at the O' Club**

Unlimited access to the daily buffet, salad bar, fountain soda, tea & coffee! 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Includes:
Fresh Hot
Carved Meat
Sandwiches
on Kaiser Roll

Featuring:
A creative blend
of individualized
buffets rotated
each day
Soup of the Day
Dessert Bar



Mon.-Thurs.: \$6.95
Friday: \$7.95

Mondays Chef's Choice

Tuesdays Italian

Wednesdays Oriental

Thursdays All American

Fridays Seafood

*Members, show your club card to receive a \$1 discount!

283-4357**SUPER BOWL TAILGATE PARTY**

@ the CAC Pizza Pub
January 26



Tailgate Party Starts @ 3 p.m.
Game Starts @ 5 p.m.

**Come early and
get a good seat or
see you at the kick-off!**

Sponsored in part by:
American Amicable & AAFES
No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Marina Club Annual Fishing Tournament Dinner & Awards Ceremony

Sat., Jan. 18 at 6 p.m. Members: \$4.00 • Non-members: \$5.00

Sponsored in part by: Half Hitch Tackle
No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Sand Dollar Inn

Lodging rates for international students (IMET students only) have changed.

The new rates are:	VOQ/VOQ: \$24.50
Lodging	VAQ: \$21.00
Customer	TLF: \$35.00
Service:	DVOQ: \$37.50
	DVAQ: \$31.50
	LDVOQ: \$41.00

283-4211

Raptor Lanes
Base Championship
**Bowling
Tournament**
January 18 at 10 a.m.

Open to all eligible Raptor Lanes bowlers.
Sponsored in part by: Anheuser Busch, Columbia 300
No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

283-2380**Teen Center**

☎ 283-0295

Lock-In

Jan. 18, 7 p.m.-7 a.m.
Food, door prizes, music, pool and basketball tournaments. Call for details.

Base Library

☎ 283-4287

\$2 Bag Book Sale

Feb. 6-9
Stop by and fill a bag for \$2. Call for more information.

Marina Club

☎ 283-3059

All-You-Can-Eat Pancakes

All-you-can-eat pancake breakfast every Sunday 7:30-10:30 a.m. Cost is \$2.50 for member and \$3.50 for nonmembers.

Look what's new...

**★ Gourmet Coffee Cart ★****Tues. - Fri.: 7-10 a.m.**

- **Conference Coffee Service** is available for meetings held at the CAC
- **4 Different Flavors** rotated daily from our inventory of Gourmet Coffees
- **Tazo Teas** also available

Call 283-2495
for more information.

Try
our flavor of
the day!

Want to keep up with
"What's Happening" at Tyndall?
Send us your email and we will
add you to our weekly mailing.
whats.happening@tyndall.af.mil
or call us at 283-4565
Check us out
on the world wide web:
www.325thservices.com

Base Honor Guard

☎ 283-4405

NCOIC Needed

NCOIC needed for highly visible Base Honor Guard program. Minimum requirements:

- Must be a (T)Sgt or above and have completed 7-level upgrade training.
- Must possess 18 months retainability
- Must have experience with Microsoft Word, Power Point, and Excel.
- Must present a positive personal image and possess the ability to brief upper echelons of military and civic leaders alike.
- Experience in Honor guard preferred, but not required. Utilize the targeted resume format from the Tongue and Quill and turn into the NCOIC, SSgt Sparks, NLT Feb. 14.

A selection board will be held after all applications are submitted and results will follow soon after. Training/Start date for the position is tentative for 1 Mar 03.

Vet Clinic

☎ 283-2434

Holiday Hours

The clinic will be open on Friday, Jan. 17, 8 a.m.- noon and closed on Mon. Jan. 20.

Kids' art contest deadline scheduled for Jan. 27

ANDREE SWANSON

Special to the American Forces Press Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Elementary school artists of military families have until Jan. 27 to enter the 2003 Armed Services YMCA Art Contest and earn a chance to win a \$500 Savings Bond.

The annual talent hunt is open to kindergartners through sixth graders of active and Reserve component military families in all the services, including the Coast Guard. Winners are picked from each service and awarded a \$500 bond. Runners-up receive a \$100 bond.

Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilians' children may enter in an honorary category for a \$100 bond.

The artwork is judged primarily on

the theme of "My Military Family." The winners are featured on the Military Family Month 2003 poster, traditionally distributed around Thanksgiving.

Children should draw their military family in color on 8.5- by-11-inch paper. Include the following on the back of each entry: student's name, grade and age; address; phone number or a parent's e-mail address; parents' names; service affiliation; rank of military member; military installation; and school's name if the child attends a Defense Department school.

Mail entries to Armed Services YMCA, Attn: Art Contest, 6359 Walker Lane, Suite 200, Alexandria, Va. 22310.

Entries should be postmarked no later than Jan. 27.

● FROM SMALLPOX PAGE 1

pox vaccine is a "live virus" vaccine that uses vaccinia virus. People cannot contract smallpox from the vaccine.

"Smallpox vaccine has some well-recognized side effects," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) Kelly Woodward, chief of preventive medicine at the Air Force Medical Operations Agency. "Many people can expect to have minor side effects, such as feeling achy, low-grade fever, headache and itching at the injection site.

"Those are minor reactions and resolve on their own."

In rare cases, Colonel Woodward said, the virus may erupt widely over the body instead of remaining confined to the vaccination site.

Public education is one of the plan's major components. Recipients must be informed about the vaccine and its contraindications before inoculation.

People getting the vaccine will receive a briefing

on expected reactions, adverse events and how to access health care for medical concerns.

"Education of commanders, individuals and families is imperative to ensure the success of this program," General Jumper wrote in the memo.

As a minimum, people will receive a copy of the smallpox vaccine handout (available under the "Educational Products" icon at the Department of Defense smallpox Web site, www.vaccines.army.mil). People may get information at mass briefings or commanders' calls. Local health-care professionals can also provide smallpox information.

According to the plan, recipients will be screened before inoculation. The screening form is available under the

"Forms" icon at the DOD smallpox Web site. Anyone who answers "yes" or "unsure" to a question on the form will not receive the vaccine until they have received further medical evaluation.

The Air Force is taking the extra screening precautions because the smallpox vaccine has unique contraindications, or reasons to avoid it, Colonel Woodward said.

"Contraindications in either the individual receiving the vaccine or the person's household contacts will preclude a non-emergency vaccination," he said. "It's important that people receiving the vaccine take the time to consider the medical condition of others in their household as they go through the screening process."

Certain dermatological conditions, such as eczema and atopic dermatitis, increase the risk of complications from the smallpox vaccine. Those with a

history of dermatological conditions should make sure to point them out during the screening process, Colonel Woodward said.

Other medical criteria that preclude vaccination include pregnancy, nursing mothers and HIV infection.

While the plan calls for people to be vaccinated before deploying to high-threat areas, nonvaccination does not necessarily preclude mobilization, General Smolen said, since the vaccine may be successfully administered up to four days after exposure.

Smallpox vaccinations are given in a single dose, usually in the nondominant deltoid muscle (left upper arm for right-handed people, and vice versa). Revaccination is recommended every 10 years.

Three key points to know about smallpox

❑ Don't touch the vaccination site.

❑ If you touch it by accident, wash hands immediately.

❑ Don't let others touch your vaccination site or materials that touched it.

☛ Vaccine virus is present at the vaccination site for about 14-21 days, until the scab falls off. This means other people can get infected if they come in contact with the virus from your arm. You can spread the virus if you touch your blister and then touch someone else.

☛ Most vaccination sites can be left unbandaged, especially when not in close contact with other people. If in close contact, wear sleeves covering the site and/or use an absorbent bandage. Dispose of bandages in sealed, double plastic bags with a little bleach, if desired, to kill the virus.

☛ Keep the site dry. Airing will speed healing.

☛ Normal bathing can continue. Dry the vaccination site last, so the towel doesn't rub or spread the virus elsewhere. Don't allow others to use that towel until laundered.

(Courtesy www.vaccines.army.mil)

