

GULF DEFENDER



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Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender*

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In brief



Captain selects

Five of Team Tyndall's lieutenants have been selected for the rank of captain. To see their names, see Page 5.



AADD adds hours for holiday weekend

Airmen Against Drunk Driving has extended its hours for pick-ups over the holiday weekend. They will now be available from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. today, Saturday and Sunday. This program is available to all ranks with a valid military ID. AADD stresses complete anonymity to ease the fear of retribution. To use this service call 867-2233.

To volunteer for this weekend call 867-2233 or e-mail vesta.anderson@tyndall.af.mil.

Inside

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● OG commander expresses value of teamwork ... **Page 8**

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Airman 1st Class Sarah McDowell

Liberty's colors

Airman 1st Class Rico Lane, 325th Security Forces Squadron patrolman, ensures the flag does not touch the ground as Staff Sgt. Jeff Kowalski returns it to half staff during the retreat ceremony at flag park Tuesday. Retreat ceremony is a tradition that originated from the Army soon after the Revolutionary War. This time-honored tradition serves a twofold purpose, as it signals the end of the duty day as well as serves as a ceremony for paying respect to the flag. Retreat ceremony is held 5 p.m. daily at Tyndall AFB as the flag is lowered at the end of the duty day. All personnel within the sight or sound of the ceremony should come to attention and render the proper salute, facing the sound of the music or the sight of the flag. All vehicular traffic should come to a halt.

CMSAF Murray talks deployments, force shaping issues

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
JONATHAN ORTIZ-TORRES
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AETCNS) — Combat needs, not current manpower standards, are what the Air Force is using to determine how many people are filling its ranks, according to Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. This, he said, is the first time in Air Force history.

Chief Murray discussed this and other current issues during his visit here for the 10th Annual Worldwide Command Chief Master Sergeants' conference June 19-23.

"We're engaged in a war that perhaps is not going to end any time soon, so we need to be prepared for that," Chief Murray said. "We have to focus on training, on our leadership and our efforts of preparing our Airmen mentally, physically and emotionally to deal with the rigors of deployment."

Force shaping

One hot topic is force shaping — designed to return the Air Force to its authorized uniformed population by September 2005.

"How do we bring our force structure down by 20,000 people without losing any of our combat capabilities and without forcing out good quality Airmen that want to stay with us?" asked Chief Murray.

"That's our greatest challenge," he said, "and clearly concerns our force; however, we will continue to

work toward balancing the force."

Fifteen years ago, the Air Force was 40 percent larger than it is today with about 660,000 active-duty Airmen. Today, the force is just shy of 360,000 active-duty members, yet the Air Force is deploying more than four times more than it did back in 1990 prior to operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Chief Murray said.

"While we are deploying more, for the first time in history over the last couple of years we have been identifying the requirements of our force based on our combat expeditionary needs, not off manpower standards on how many people (for example) we would have working at on Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, but truly what we would need for combat," he said.

Finding ways to reduce the number of critically manned and stressed career fields in the Air Force is also a part of the plan to balance the force. Examples are the NCO retraining program and reinstating the career job reservation program, as well as redirecting accessions in basic training.

"These measures are beginning to show a positive effect on increasing balance in our force," Chief Murray said. "And on top of that, it's also (Air Force Chief of Staff) General (John) Jumper's commitment to continue in every way we can to try to get every Airman in our Air Force to be

● SEE MURRAY PAGE 6

Secretary, CSAF send Independence Day message

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — *The following is an Independence Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper:*

Happy birthday, America! For the last 228 years our nation has been the beacon for peace, freedom and opportunity around the world. America earned that reputation through courageous acts of patriotism by our founding fathers and through bravery on battlefields from Bunker Hill to Baghdad.

On Sunday, we'll celebrate with family and friends the joys of peace and the blessings of freedom. As you celebrate, please remember those who paid the ultimate price

defending the values established by our forefathers in forging our great nation.

This Independence Day is especially meaningful as we support the rebirth of Iraqi sovereignty and defend freedom far from home. Today, Airmen are deployed all over the world, engaged on all fronts in the Global War on Terrorism, carrying freedom's torch. Please remember our deployed Airmen in your thoughts and prayers on the 4th of July.

America looks to you as their representatives of pride, strength and perseverance in times of peace and war. We're proud of you and salute your great service. We wish you and your families a safe and happy 4th of July!

Tyndall gears up for Fourth of July holiday weekend

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

As we begin the long Fourth of July weekend, it is appropriate we reflect on our nation's heritage. Two hundred and twenty-eight years ago Americans realized a dream of independence as our country became a sovereign nation. For more than two centuries, American men and women have fought to preserve that freedom through various conflicts. Today, many of our servicemen and women are fighting overseas to not only ensure American ideals remain, but to afford others the same opportunities granted each and every American. Today, let us remember the sacrifices of those who have fought so hard

● SEE LIBERTY PAGE 5

Action Line

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency.

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Larry D. New

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

Fit to Fight: ensuring a professional image

GEN. JOHN JUMPER
Air Force Chief of Staff

Our new Air Force fitness program has been in effect for nearly six months now and I am very pleased with what I see going on around our Air Force. Airmen are exercising more and fitness center usage is up. I'm glad to see so many Airmen incorporating physical fitness into their routine — an active lifestyle can provide important benefits to personal physical and mental well-being. But as I've said before, there's a zero percent chance we got the program 100 percent right the first time. I continue to receive feedback and we'll continue to make changes as needed.

In my first "Fit to Fight" Sight Picture, I spoke directly to commanders about their responsibili-

ties — including their responsibility to ensure their people pass the commander's eyeball test.

overall fitness and that of individual members. Equally important, commanders must ensure

to follow and enforcing the standards they embody. There will be some individuals who can pass our fitness standards but do not present a professional military image. In these instances, I expect commanders to provide direct feedback to those individuals and, if needed, mandate their participation in the multiple fitness educational programs offered by our Health and Wellness Centers. An upcoming change to our fitness AFI will clarify commanders' discretion in referring Airmen for training.

Additionally, I continue to receive feedback regarding the components of the fitness test and scoring methodology. This fall, the Surgeon General will convene a panel of medical ex-

● SEE FITNESS PAGE 5

“Physical fitness and a professional image — two important aspects of being an Airman.

GEN. JOHN JUMPER
Air Force Chief of Staff



Feedback suggests this area requires more emphasis. As I've said, commanders must be out routinely exercising with their unit to evaluate their squadron's

Airmen present a professional image while in uniform. They must lead by example — demonstrating an example of a professional image for their Airmen

325th Fighter Wing public affairs: 2003 Best in Air Force - Large Wing

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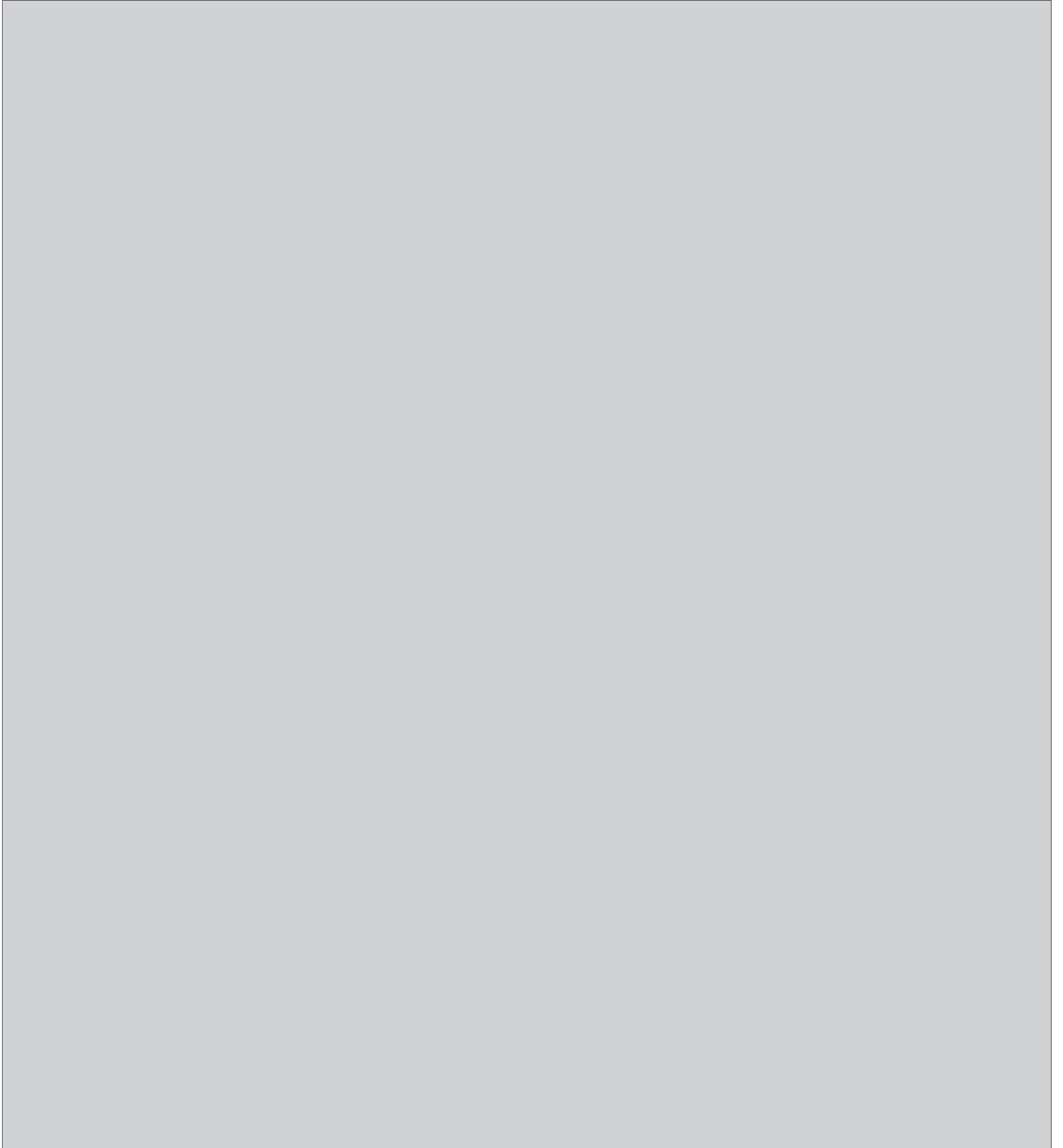
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AETC continues travel in uniform

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — Air Education and Training Command military members continue to demonstrate pride and heighten public awareness of the U.S. Air Force by wearing their uniforms when on official travel.

AETC Supplement 1 to Air Force Instruction 36-2903 released May 14, 2003, says all AETC military personnel will wear their uniform while traveling on temporary duty at government expense in the continental United States.

Airmen will wear the blue service uniform, either a

short- or long-sleeve shirt including tie or tab, and the lightweight blue or leather jacket as appropriate when

which first introduced the command's position on traveling in uniform.

The following are excep-

proved frequent-traveler benefits program. Members are reminded they may not accept on-the-spot upgrades when in uniform.

— Conditions, such as long trips with extended layovers, which would result in a less than professional appearance.

— During periods of heightened force protection condition Charlie or higher, the uniform wear will be reconsidered based on the continuing threat.

— Members supporting missions or operations where higher headquarters direct specific clothing wear.

When civilian attire is preferred:

- Conditions, such as long trips with extended layovers, which would result in a less than professional appearance
- Members supporting missions or operations where higher headquarters direct specific clothing wear

traveling on commercial flights.

The supplement supersedes a policy letter written by Gen. Don Cook, AETC commander, in April 2002

tions outlined in the supplement for when people may wear civilian attire:

— Members with a confirmed flight upgrade under the Congressionally ap-

HQ AETC mandates myPay

1ST LT. HEIDI GREGORY

325th Comptroller Squadron

Recently, Headquarters Air Education and Training command mandated myPay as the primary means of obtaining leave and earnings statements, effective Wednesday. Negotiations are in works to mandate the change for civilians.

There are three optional ways a member can sign up and receive a Personal Identification Number:

- Log on to mypay.dfas.mil, follow the instructions and sign up to receive a PIN. For many, a PIN will be delivered to your military e-mail account. Otherwise, the PIN will be mailed to the address identified in the finance system.

- E-mail the local finance office at 325cpts.fmfc@tyndall.af.mil from your mili-

tary e-mail requesting a PIN. Please include your social security number within the e-mail

- Those without computer access can visit the Tyndall Finance office located in Bldg. 662, Base Support Center second floor. Computer kiosk systems and printers are located in the lobby of Finance for customer use.

MyPay is a web based system that allows users to conduct certain pay related transactions on-line. It is available to all military and civilian personnel 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Transactions conducted on-line includes updating Thrift Savings Plan accounts, update address changes for correspondence, Direct Deposit changes, review and print Leave and Earnings Statements, print W-2 and update both State and Federal withholdings.

For further questions, contact Customer Service at 283-4117.

There's only one way to come out ahead of the pack.

QUIT

American Heart Association
WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

Congratulations to all Team Tyndall captain selects

Stephen Anderson, 372nd Training Squadron

Keith Benko, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Robert Drew Caridad, 325th Fighter Wing

Matthew McFarland, 81st Test Support Squadron

Kristen Ellis, 325th Maintenance Squadron

● **FROM FITNESS PAGE 2** ports. This overall review will perts from inside and outside the Department of Defense to analyze our first year of fitness testing results and determine if our standards are where they need to be. As these standards are reassessed, we will continue to examine how we document unit and individual fitness scores on performance re-

ports. This overall review will also include input from commanders to evaluate compliance, identify shortfalls, and recommend course corrections to ensure we are on track with providing an environment that supports fitness and appearance standards.

Physical fitness and a professional image — two important aspects of being an Airman.

● **FROM LIBERTY PAGE 2**

to protect our interests and our way of life and remember those who cannot be with their families this Independence Day holiday while they are selflessly defending freedom around the globe.

While Americans are fortunate to live as free citizens, many others are not granted this opportunity. However, progress is being made, and Monday Americans received some great news — the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq officially transferred power to the people of Iraq, essentially recognizing Iraq as a sovereign nation. This is truly a historic milestone in our support for what is now the very foundation for a brighter future of democracy in Iraq.

Celebrating the freedoms of our own democracy, this weekend Team Tyndall will support several Independence Day events throughout the community. The Tyndall AFB Honor Guard will make several appearances, as will Tyndall F-15 Eagles performing flyovers. Some events occurring include Panama City's "Salute To Freedom," Panama City Beach's "All American Fourth Celebration,"

and Port St. Joe's "Independence On the Coast." I encourage you to take part in these events as the local communities continually go above and beyond to support Tyndall and the men and women working here. It truly is a blessing to live and work in a community that appreciates and supports our military.

If you plan to participate in these or any events this weekend, remember to use good judgment. This weekend will likely be a hot and sunny one, so ensure you wear sunscreen and drink plenty of fluids. Also, if your plans this weekend include alcohol, make sure you designate a driver to get you home safely. Remember, plans made spur-of-the-moment are typically not very well thought out and

often lead to dire consequences. There are several options available, should you need a ride, such as Airmen Against Drunk Driving. These folks provide a valuable service to Team Tyndall and I commend their efforts. Let's make sure we take care of one another, so everyone can enjoy the holiday. I want everyone to make it through the weekend and come back safe next week.

Have a great, safe Independence Day weekend!



“It truly is a blessing to live and work in a community that appreciates and supports our military.”

BRIG. GEN. LARRY NEW
325th Fighter Wing commander

Checkertail Salute

Tech. Sgt. Kimberly Foster



Steve Wallace

Sergeant Foster receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Col. Brian Dickerson, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Foster who has forwarded vital drug information to 325th Medical Group Third Party Collections Department, spearheaded the pharmacy's prescription recapture initiative and has ensured prompt care of 400 ROTC cadets. Additionally, she re-established the Main Clinic Pharmacy Operations and provided impromptu medication procurement for 140 Airmen deploying, as well as volunteered at the base Youth Center.

Duty Title: 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron pharmacy craftsman

Time on Station: Three years

Time in Service: 16 years

Hometown: Quincy, Fla.

Hobbies: Reading, playing video games and basketball

Goals: To be a chief master sergeant

Favorite thing about Tyndall: Being close to my family

Pet peeves: When things are not organized

Favorite book: Family Matters

Favorite movie: The Color Purple

Proudest moment in the military: When I met Chief Airey

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 MURRAY PAGE 1** deployable. By increasing our deployment pools, again we minimize the stress on those Airmen in constant demand."

Listening to airmen

As the chief master sergeant of the Air Force, his most important job is talking with Airmen and listening to what they are saying.

"First of all, today I see great pride in our Airmen in the jobs that they are doing out there," he said. "In 27

years of the Air Force, I have not seen the Air Force any better than what it is today."

"Our Airmen are certainly letting me know that they are challenged, and they are certainly talking about the (operations) tempo and the increased deployment workload that we're under," he said. "There's a price that we are paying by having so many Airmen deployed. It's not only how hard they're working deployed, but how hard they're also working at

home stations by having teams separated."

One example of concerns being addressed is the recent pull-back of "code-C" limitations.

"Our Airmen spoke out about that," he said, "and that's part of the reason we decided to step back and conduct a thorough analysis of the processes we use to look at those individuals that are not available for deployment due to medical limitations."

There are currently more

than 7,000 Airmen that are not deployment-worldwide eligible, said Chief Murray, and about 3,600 of those are designated as permanently in that category.

"Combat readiness, deployments and deploy ability is a major concern for us," Chief Murray said. "We'll continue to work with the senior leaders of our Air Force, our Air Staff, and (major commands) to balance our force to meet that mission."

Back to basics

Q. Are Air Force members allowed to wear dress or combat boots with their blues?

A. Yes, according to AFI 36-2903, Air Force members can wear either dress or combat boots with certain variations of their blues.

1. According to table 2.3 line 9, females may wear high heels with any variation of service dress and may wear low quarters and dress boots with all except mess dress, formal dress and semi-formal dress. The combat boot may be worn the same except it also may not be worn with the maternity jumper.

2. According to table 2.1 line 6, males may wear low quarters with all variations and may wear combat or dress boots with all except mess dress, formal or semi-formal dress.

Back to basics is a column highlighting proper military customs and courtesies.

Rip tide survival guide

(Editors note: Due to Tyndall's proximity to the ocean and the number of beaches in the area, it is important to know about rip currents and how to avoid getting caught in them.)

Rip currents defined

Most waves are formed by wind on the water. Sea waves usually result from storms, often hundreds of miles from shore. Waves are not all equal in size. Sometimes a group of larger waves comes ashore one after another. This is known as a "set" of waves.

When waves break, water is pushed up the slope of the shore. Gravity pulls this water back toward the sea. If it converges in a narrow, river-like current moving away from shore, it forms what is known as a rip current.

Rip currents can be 50 feet to 50 yards or more wide. They can flow to a point just past the breaking the surfline or hundreds of yards offshore. Some 80 percent of rescues by lifeguards at America's surf beaches are due to persons being caught in rip currents.

Rip currents may pull continuously, but they can suddenly appear or intensify after a set of waves, or when there is a breach in an offshore sandbar. Longshore currents, inshore holes, and other bottom conditions contribute to the formation of rip currents.



If caught in a rip current, try to relax. Do not try to swim against the current as this is very difficult, even for an experienced swimmer. If you can do so, tread water and float. Call or wave for assistance. You can also try to swim parallel to shore until you are out of the current, then swim directly toward shore.

Rip current survival

The sea is a wonderful playground, but you must respect its power. Learn to swim and consider participating in a junior lifeguard program. When swimming, choose an area protected by lifeguards. If you are not a strong swimmer, go no further than knee deep. If you decide to swim, check the conditions first to identify any dangerous currents. Ask a lifeguard for assistance.

You can sometimes identify a rip current by its foamy and choppy surface. The water in a rip current may be dirty (from the sand being turned up by the current). The water may be colder than the surrounding water. Waves usually do not break as readily in a rip current as in adjacent water.

If caught in a rip current, try to relax. A rip current is not an "undertow" — it will not pull you under. Do not try to swim against the current as this is very difficult, even for an experienced swimmer.

If you can do so, tread water

and float. Call or wave for assistance. You can also try to swim parallel to shore until you are out of the current, then swim directly toward shore.

Longshore currents

The same forces which cause rip currents also cause longshore currents. These currents are most evident when waves hit the shore at an angle. This tends to cause the water to be pushed along the beach away from the direction of the oncoming waves. Usually, longshore currents are less hazardous than rip currents because they move along the shore, not away from the shore, but they can knock children and weaker adults off their feet. More importantly, the longshore current may move along the shore, then turn offshore to become a rip current.

Inshore holes

Variable wave conditions, particularly seasonal changes in wave patterns, can create unevenness in the ocean bottom. This includes sandbars and sudden deep spots, called inshore holes. They can surprise waders, who suddenly find themselves over their heads. They can also create channels in the bottom, which concentrate and greatly intensify the power of rip currents. At any beach with uneven bottom conditions or obvious sandbars, a higher level of caution should be used.

(Courtesy of U.S. Lifeguard Association.)

'It takes a team'

Commander shares views on Tyndall teamwork, group's challenges, successes

TECH. SGT. DAN NEELY

325th Fighter Wing public affairs

The commander responsible for six Checkertail Clan training squadrons says teamwork is driving the success of the wing's core mission – training the world's greatest air dominance team for the Combat Air Force.

"One thing I always consider in leadership is simply this – it takes a team," said Col. Timothy Merrell, 325th Operations Group commander. "It's what makes any organization successful. I typically tell my people that everybody is part of a bigger team, and looking for win/win situations is what we try to do."

The colonel, fast approaching the 3,000-hour milestone as an F-15 pilot, was asked if there were any unique challenges to that teamwork in leading a group that has a tried-and-true legacy system, such as the Eagle, and the state-of-the-art F/A-22 Raptor air dominance fighter.

"Rather than challenges, I think opportunities is the right word for it," the colonel said, "and I say it takes a team because our Eagle units, our air battle managers, intel and air traffic controllers here in the ops group have really been part of the team that is bringing the Raptor training to reality here at Tyndall. The maintainers have been great, and the people who support the Raptor from both the support group and medical group have been wonderful at making sure that the 43rd Fighter Squadron has the ability to do its mission," he said.

"I've enjoyed watching everybody pull together to bring this new weapon system on line. When the Raptors fly, they need adversaries, and the F-15s have been doing that. That kind of teamwork is what I think it's all about."

When asked about his greatest personal challenges as OG commander, Colonel Merrell responded, "By far, the greatest challenges I have are time management and making sure my people have the right resources to do their job. Time management is probably the most important, and yet one of the most difficult things I do, making sure I spend my time on the right issues and with the right people."

The colonel said he places a high priority on making sure his Airmen have the time to do their job the right way.

"That doesn't just include executing the mission," he emphasized. "It also includes time spent with their family and friends, to enjoy their time here and enjoy their career, because it's not a sprint, it's a marathon. If people are always sprinting, they will get burned out, and people who are burned out aren't going to be happy, they're going to leave. If we can keep people happy, then it becomes a retention tool



Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Col. Timothy Merrell, 325th Operations Group commander, says Airmen from all Checkertail Clan organizations are pulling together to support the wing's new Raptor mission.

that we can keep."

Colonel Merrell said his greatest source of pride as OG commander is seeing his people get recognized for their hard work.

"Our people, over the last 10 months I've been here, have won several Air Force-, command- and

“Obviously it still needs the whole team to make the system work, in terms of command and control, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, maintenance, and support.”

COL. TIMOTHY MERRELL

325th Operations Group commander

numbered air force-level awards. When an individual or organization wins those levels of awards, you know they've got the picture and they're doing the right thing. And when we can get people the recognition they deserve, that makes me as proud as anything else."

One of Colonel Merrell's greatest responsibilities is ensuring the F/A-22 beddown and pilot training pro-

grams remain firmly on course, all while Congressional, public and media attention combine to keep the Raptor in the national spotlight. Nonetheless, any hype over the world's most capable fighter jet is well deserved, according to the colonel. His first impression of the Raptor: "It was eye-watering," he recalled. "Since the F-15 was the only fighter I had ever flown, flying the Raptor the first time was a bit intimidating" he said. "It's an awesome airplane and we continue to learn the unique capabilities the Raptor brings to the fight"

Colonel Merrell said the Raptor's combination of stealth, supercruise, precision and integrated avionics combine to give it a unique ability to accomplish the mission of several airplanes in a single platform.

"Obviously it still needs the whole team to make the system work, in terms of command and control, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, maintenance, and support," the colonel remarked. "That applies especially in the Global Strike CONOPS (concept of operations), when you're fighting an anti-access type of threat — a very well-developed integrated air defense system. But the Raptor's ability to go in and operate in that environment, day or night, and open the door for our conventional forces, to me is the most awesome capability of the airplane."



Airmen step up to the wheel, ensure safe rides home

Catherine Jones

A Team Tyndall member passes her keys off to an Airman. Airmen Against Drunk Driving only allows E-1 through E-4s to volunteer and will take home riders of all ranks as well as dependants who are under the influence of a lcohol.

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS SARAH MCDOWELL
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

An Airman goes out to a local beach club one night and has a few alcoholic drinks. While he is walking out to his car, he realizes he hadn't planned beforehand how he was going to get home. He doesn't have a designated driver, he has no cash for a taxi and he knows that driving right now is not a safe choice or a smart career decision.

Thanks to a group of volunteering Airmen on base, military members who find themselves in this or similar situations also have another option – they can call Airmen Against Drunk Driving.

“Airmen Against Drunk Driving program’s mission is to provide military members of all ranks, who have valid military identification, with a free safe ride home within the local area,” said Senior Airman Vesta Anderson, 325th Air Control Squadron weapons technician and AADD program director.

AADD provides a list of volunteer Airmen E-1 through E-4 who are available from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. every Friday and Saturday for rides.

“The best benefit of volunteering for AADD is knowing that you are potentially saving someone’s life as well as their career,” said Airman Derek Hojohn, 325th Comptroller Squadron customer service and AADD dispatcher.

That is what Tyndall Airmen envisioned when they set up this program on Tyndall more than five years ago. The idea started

small and was originally funded by the volunteers who ran it, but now it has grown into a base program that gets help from professional organizations such as Top 3, Chiefs Group, First Sergeants and the Air Force Sergeants Association, Airman Anderson said.

The group has grown, and the military members on base are using it. “In 2003, AADD volunteers were responsible for 376

“Airmen Against Drunk Driving program’s mission is to provide military members of all ranks, who have valid military identification, with a free safe ride home within the local area.”

SENIOR AIRMAN VESTA ANDERSON
AADD program director

‘saves,’” Airman Anderson said.

So far this year, there have been 79 “saves” in the first quarter and 150 “saves” in the second, Airman Hojohn said.

For those who think they would rather risk driving home for fear of repercussion, Airman Anderson emphasizes, “AADD stresses anonymity to help ease the fear of retribution. TAAA has even gone as far as to staff the AADD program only with Airmen E-1 through E-4 to further eliminate supervisory roles.”

The program also debunks another ex-

cuse, such as not having any money for cab fare at the time.

“The program is free. Furthermore, it’s safe because it is operated by military members who care about their fellow military brothers and sisters,” said Airman Anderson.

“The service is also very easy to use,” adds Airman Hojohn, “Usually, a person calls and we get some information about them, like where they are and how many people may be with them, then we dispatch a driver out to get them. We do generally ask that people call ahead 30 minutes to give our volunteers time to pick them up.”

Also, as a safety precaution, AADD provides “ride-alongs,” for those who would like another volunteer present to ensure the safety of the passenger and volunteer, Airman Anderson added.

“If I get a call from a female who needs a ride, I either ensure she gets a female driver, or have a female ride along volunteer, and vice-versa with males,” Airman Hojohn said.

With the availability, ease and anonymity of AADD it seems that Airmen have no excuse for taking serious risks when going out on the town.

Tyndall Airmen and dependants who would like to use the services can call 867-2233. Airmen who would like to volunteer to be drivers or “ride-alongs” can call Airman Anderson at 283-3296 or e-mail vesta.anderson@tyndall.af.mil.

How alcohol impairs driving

People may say that alcohol impairs driving, but many may wonder, how?

Here are a few facts to explain how alcohol may affect driving ability, even if the driver doesn't think he or she is at risk.

For reference: a 150-pound man can have a blood alcohol content of .04 after two alcoholic beverages.

Under Florida law, DUI is one offense, proved by impairment of normal faculties or unlawful blood alcohol or breath alcohol level of .08 or above. The penalties upon conviction are the same, regardless of the manner in which the offense is proven, according to the 2002 Florida DUI and Administrative Suspension Laws.

- Alcohol starts to impair eye movement even when the blood alcohol content is low, (around .03 to .05 percent.) At this point it can interfere with voluntary eye movements, which makes it hard to track rapidly moving objects.

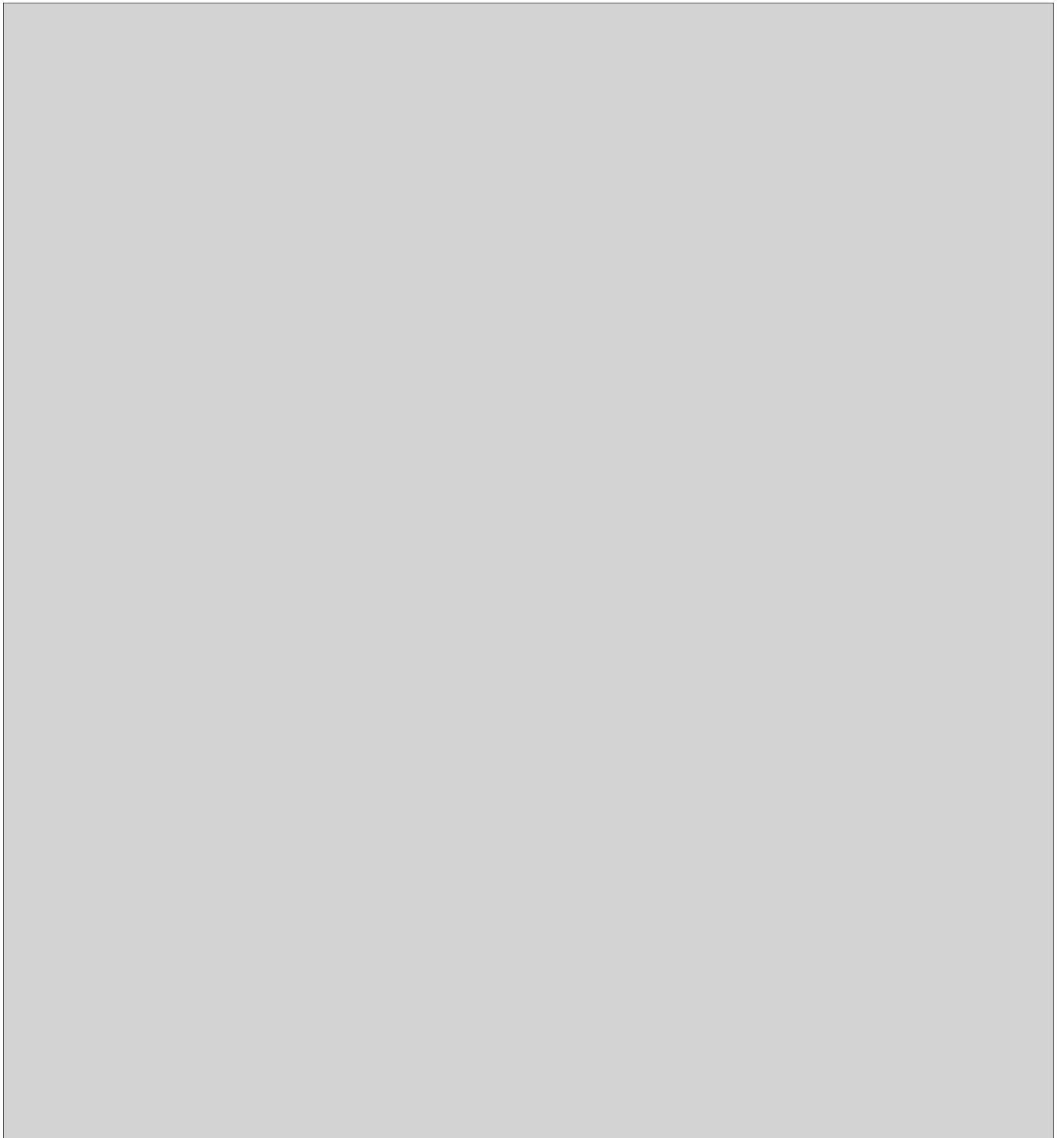
- Alcohol also affects steering the vehicle because it impairs eye to hand coordination. It can impair this ability at a moderate level of .035.

- A person with a blood alcohol content of .04 has impaired field of view and slower information processing, which also makes it hard to concentrate on street signs and lights, as well to responses to reading them.

- With all of these above tasks that are impaired, people driving under the influence are also not able to multi-task as well. Only a .02 percent BAC impairs the complete package of driving safely.

- Certain skills important for driving are impaired at 0.01 to 0.02 percent BAC, the lowest levels that can be measured reliably by commonly used devices.

(Florida Department of Law Enforcement.)



Grass getting greener for Tyndall housing residents

1st Lt. ALBERT BOSCO
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

Tyndall's Base Housing Self-Help Center is making it easier for housing residents to add a touch of home and some beauty to their yards and interiors.

The center, which falls under the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron Base Housing Office, stocks a variety of items residents can get to make base housing units look more like traditional homes available. Items include everything from fluorescent light bulbs and interior latex paint to grass seed, top soil and pest control products.

"The store stock items residents need to maintain the appearance of their housing units and make them look nicer," said Nancy Thigpen, a member of the Housing Office's Quality Assurance Personnel Team.

According to Ms. Thigpen, residents can go to the self-help store, located near the Felix Lake Shoppette, and sign for available items they may need for the inside and outside of their homes. Also, in addition to the supplies stocked by the center, Bonita Bay Outdoor Recreation stocks a variety of tools and yard equipment for rental.

Many of the center's stocked items are available year-round, such as typical interior maintenance items and limited pest control products. Other products, like grass seed, are only available during the cooler months.

"The main reason grass seed isn't available year-round is due to the weather and temperature here," Ms. Thigpen said. "The seed isn't going to grow in the hotter summer months, so it is not issued."

Although there are no quantity limits on most items, the center tracks each item and periodically review items issued to ensure they are used properly.

The self-help program, in conjunction with the Yard of the Quarter/Year program, has gathered increased attention, according to Yvonne Brabham, Base Housing manager. In fact, the center had about 360 customers in May.

"There is a lot of interest in this," said Ms. Brabham. "Pride in ownership is a primary reason. People are starting to look at it like 'This is my home' rather than 'I'm just living here.'"

The Yard of the Quarter program also offers incentives to residents to spruce up their yard. Each quarter, yards in all of Tyndall's housing areas are evaluated by a team consisting of

a group commander, chief master sergeant, first sergeant and a housing manager. The winners of each area receive \$50 vouchers for local home improvement stores to purchase specialty items not stocked by the center, such as yard edging, pavers, special flowers and trees. At the

end of the year, one deserving resident from among the pool of previous winners receives a \$100 voucher.

"Something like this is unheard of in civilian rental communities," said Ms. Brabham, "If you rented in the community, you wouldn't able to get maintenance items free of charge. This is a great program and opportunity for our residents."

The yard of the quarter winners for the second quarter are: Staff Sgt. Alexander Mosqueramelo in Wood Manor III at 3122B Dagger; Master Sgt. John Johnson in Felix Lake at 3423B Mathies Ct and Staff Sgt. Aaron Clark in Red Fish Point at 3664 Kisling Lp.

Visit the store located on Prime Beef Rd, Bldg. 3304 or call 286-6495 for information on available items. The hours of operation are noon to 7 p.m. Monday – Friday and 7 a.m. to noon Saturday.

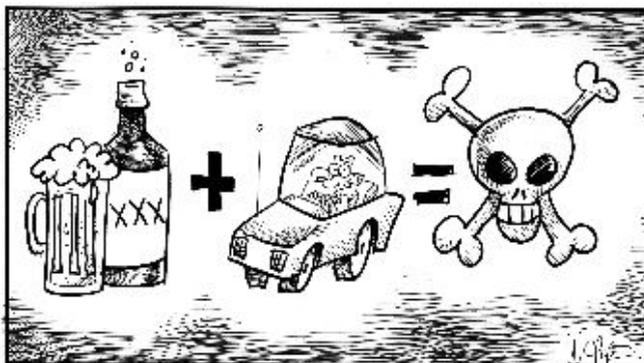
“The store stocks everything residents need to maintain the appearance of their housing units and make them look nicer.”

NANCY THIGPEN
Housing Office Quality Assurance Personnel Team



Airman 1st Class Sarah McDowell

Tom Berrier, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron base housing self help store warehouse manager, uncovers a pallet of fertilizer bags at the self help store. The Store offers a variety of things, including: grass seed, mulch, light bulbs, light switches, several types of insect repellent, paint brushes and supplies as well as many other things needed to maintain base housing units.



Events

Change of command ceremony

Lt. Col. Jerry K. Weldon II, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron commander, will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Curt Van De Walle 9 a.m. Wednesday, in the Officers' Club. All are invited to attend. For more information, call Judy Baker, 283-3283

SNCO induction ceremony dinner

Tyndall Top 3 invites Team Tyndall members to its 7th Annual Senior NCO Induction Ceremony Dinner July 30. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. and Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Menu - Prime beef and grouper: \$20 for club members and \$23 for non-club members. Chef salad - \$18 for club members and \$21 for non-club members.

Palace Chase information

The Air National Guard has part-time positions available throughout the country to military members separating or thinking about applying for Palace Chase.

Retraining is available, and members retain most of their benefits in addition to some state benefits such as 100 percent tuition assistance. For more information, contact Master Sgt. William Andujar at (850) 884-2729 or e-mail william.andujar@hurlburt.af.mil.

E-8 testing window changes

Beginning in December, all master sergeants competing for promotion to senior master sergeant will test on the USAF supervisory examination Dec. 6-17. The testing cycle will no longer be conducted in January. Testing conducted after Dec. 17 will be considered out-of-cycle. For more information, call Master Sgt. Brian Chasse at DSN 665-2265.

Classifieds

Wanted

Part-time editorial assistant needed for weekly Gulf Defender newspaper serving Tyndall AFB. Duties include proof-reading, editing, inputting copy submissions and performing mailouts of approximately 100 papers weekly. Needed for Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday and



Airman 1st Class Sarah McDowell

Live from Tyndall

Staff Sgt. William Bennet, 325th Operations Support Squadron weather technician, explains the necessity for weather prediction on military bases to Jerry Tabbott, Channel 13's chief weather forecaster, while Charlie Walker, cameraman, covers the interview for Tuesday's Live at Five news broadcast. Channel 13 did both their news segments at 5 and 6 p.m. as part of their military appreciation week.

Friday morning hours. Applicants should possess strong spelling and grammar skills. Knowledge of Associated Press style a plus. Position is hired by the Panama City News Herald. To apply, contact 1st Lt. Albert Bosco at 283-8597.

2000 Jeep Wrangler

Yellow with black wheels on 33x12.50 BFG A/T. 6-inch lift, cold air intake electric fan, flow master. Stock and bikini soft tops included. Asking \$14,000 OBO. Call 624-7647 or 215-8840.

Furniture

New sofa and loveseat set \$700. Washer and dryer set in good condition \$200. Call 850-624-7647.

Washer & Dryer

Maytag Washer - old, beige, \$50. Kenmore Dryer - 1998, white, extra large capacity, electric, \$175. Both in good condition. \$200 for both. Call Jeff or Shannon at 249-9805.

Yamaha piano

French provincial console, \$950 obo. For more information, call Joanie at (850) 230-1067.

Garage Sales

2783 B Delta Avenue
2765 B Thunderchief Drive
Garage sales are held Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Retiree News

Senate passes defense bill

The Senate passed the National Defense Authorization Act (S2400) June 23. After debating close to 400 amendments, the final vote was 97 to 0. The Senate's version includes an amendment introduced by Senator Harry Reid (D-Nev.) that will allow 100 percent service connected longevity retirees to collect their full retired pay

starting Jan. 1, 2005. It abolishes the present 10 years of steps needed to get full retired pay.

The House's NDAA has no such provision. No joint House-Senate version is expected until well after the July 4 recess.

(Courtesy of Air Force Retiree News Service)

Chapel Schedule

Catholic services held at Chapel 2:

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday
Reconciliation (before Saturday Mass or by appointment)
Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.
Religious Education, 11 a.m. Sunday.

Protestant services at Chapel 1:

Communion service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 1
Religious Education classes, 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Bldg. 1476
General Protestant service, 11 a.m., Chapel 2.

Four Airmen place high in AETC weightlifting championships



Steve Riddle

Dan Brownell deadlifts 640 pounds June 5 at the Tyndall Fitness Center's annual Muscle Beach Powerlifting Competition. He won that event, which qualified him to compete in this year's AAU Military National Championship.

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron publicist

Out of the four weightlifters from here who traveled to Little Rock AFB, Ark., last weekend to compete in the 2004 Amateur Athletic Union Military National Championship, one set a record and all placed highly in the final standings.

The contest featured the best powerlifters in Air Education Training Command as well as other branches of the military. The AAU event was actually two contests in one. Competitors from AETC bases were scored twice for their lifts – once for the AETC event and once for the AAU / Military contest.

Dan Brownell, a student in the 325th Air Control Squadron's Air Battle Manager Training Class 04015, took first place in the AETC men's 220 – 242 division with a bench press of 347 pounds, a squat of 551 pounds, and a deadlift of 650.75 pounds for a total of 1,548 pounds.

The effort also earned him a second place in the AAU/Military Sub-Masters division (35 – 39 years old). He was also the overall third-best lifter in his weight class, and actually set a national

record in his division and weight class with his deadlift.

Brian Crouse, an electronic warfare systems technician with the 16th Electronic Warfare Squadron/Operation Location – Alpha, took second in both the AETC and AAU events' 199 – 220 pound division. He bench-pressed 308 pounds, squatted 460 pounds, and deadlifted 530 pounds.

Joseph Reyes, a jet engine mechanic with the 325th Maintenance Squadron, earned a fourth place finish in the highly competitive 182 – 198 pound men's division in both the AETC and AAU / Military events. He bench-pressed 278 pounds, squatted 451 pounds, and deadlifted 501 pounds.

Trang Le, the 325th Services Squadron food service officer, took third place in the women's 123 – 165 pound division of both events with a bench press of 85 pounds, a squat of 175 pounds and a deadlift of 225 pounds. Le had only been powerlifting for about three weeks before the event, but her unexpected success has motivated her to continue lifting.

"I plan to keep on training and see how well I can do at next year's event," she said.

50 Tyndall youth center members put on 'Snow White' production

STEVE RIDDLE

325th Services Squadron publicist

For the fourth year in a row, the Missoula Children's Theater has come here to teach the children of the Tyndall Youth Center how to give a first class stage performance.

More than 50 children will take the stage tonight to present "Snow White" at 7 p.m. in the Youth Center gymnasium.

Jennifer Lusin and Shirnest Tolbert, tour actor / directors for the theater group, arrived here Monday as part of a 10-week tour to teach acting and stage presentation. They arrived with lighting, makeup, costumes and a script that requires many children to play a variety of parts.

Ms. Lusin and Ms. Tolbert held a two-hour audition Monday morning, cast the play, then went right to work rehearsing. They worked with the children about four hours each day so that everyone would know their parts by heart come show time.

"We do a lot of rehearsals, but it pays off in the end," explained Ms. Lusin. "We try to rehearse about 20 hours to get them ready for the show."

But the program is designed to do more than just give the kids a chance to put on a play. Both ladies said the theater group could help children develop both on stage and off.

"A lot of children don't get the opportunity to do something like this in school," Ms. Lusin said. "This gives them a chance to appreciate theater and makes them more well-rounded children."

"It helps to develop their creativity," Ms. Tolbert added. "It makes them more creative to have a character that they have to act like, and not just be themselves on stage."

The Missoula Children's Theater has tour groups that cover the United States as well as Europe and parts of Asia. Ms. Lusin and Ms. Tolbert will have traveled to North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Tennessee and Florida by the time their 10-week tour is finished. Other groups will be at U.S. military bases in England, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Turkey, Japan and Guam.

Although it's hard work being on the road, both women said they love their jobs, and both plan on doing more tours in the future.

"I do this just for the love of theater and the enjoyment of working with the kids," Ms. Tolbert stated. "It never ceases to amaze me how much they grow in just one week."

For more information, contact the Tyndall Youth Center at 283-4366.



Steve Riddle

From left: Michael Baden, who plays Fernando the Frog in the production, and Laura Gilman, who plays Snow White, practice their parts while Shirnest Tolbert, who is the director of the play, directs them during a rehearsal.



Funshine NEWS

July 2, 2004

www.325thservices.com

STRIVE Demonstration

Come out and see Bill Kazmaier, ESPN World's Strongest Man demonstrate this equipment on the 14th at 10 a.m. Strength Competitions: 3-7 p.m. July 14 at the Fitness Center Patrons will be able to try out the equipment from July 15 until August 13.

283-2631

New Computer Gaming Room

SECTOR-SIX

at the Community Center

July 6, 1 p.m.

Games include Battlefield Vietnam & Unreal Tournament

Awards for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.

This program is free to patrons 18 & older. **Details at: 283-2495**

Grand Opening!

Services Holiday Hours

Fitness Center: July 2, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Bowling Center: July 5, closed
Skills Dev. Ctr.: July 3 & 4, closed
Community Ctr.: July 3, closed
Graphic Impressions: July 2 & 5, closed
ITT Leisure Travel: July 5, closed
Base Library: July 2-5, closed
E' Club, O' Club, Snackbar, & Pizza Pub: Closed July 2-5 but open for NASCAR on Saturday night

NASCAR Pilot Program

Now until July 25

Races may be viewed at the Pizza Pub in the Community Center July 3, 11 & 25

Weekly Prizes valued at \$150 & \$100

Prizes for participation will be given at each event. Must be a current AETC Club Member to win.

Grand Prizes: First place prize is a trip for two to attend the Ford 400 race on Nov. 21, 2004 at Homestead-Miami Speedway. It includes airfare, hotel accommodations, rental car and tickets to the race. 2nd place is \$500 and 3rd place is \$250 to purchase from the NASCAR website.

283-4357

Air Force Club Scholarship Program



Entry deadline is July 15.

First place is \$6,000

Six scholarships will be awarded to AF Club members or their eligible family members.

Applicants must be accepted by, or enrolled in, an accredited college or university graduate or undergraduate program by fall of 2004. Information packages with complete instructions and requirements are available from the business office Tyndall Officers' Club.

283-4357

for more information

Sponsored in part by:

Bank One, Coca Cola and Master Card. No federal endorsement of sponsors intended.

Ship Fed Ex with Us!

Fed Ex Express Services

Which include:

Priority Overnight Economy 2 Day
Standard Overnight Express Saver 3 Day

Our rates beat the others!

Packages must be at the Community Center by 1:30 p.m. for Overnight. Exclusions exist. Limit 10 lbs.

Call the CAC for details: 283-2495

Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest

July 10, 8 a.m.

at the Community Center

Theme: United We Stand

Cost is \$3 per contestant

Open to all ages call for details

283-2495

Tyndall Enlisted Club

Deep Concentration

Saturday, July 3, 2004

One Blissful Night of Neo-Soul,
Old Skool Hip-Hop & Funky Club Grooves

283-4357

No Cover Charge
Specials All Night Long

Chillout Session starts at 6 p.m.
Dance Party Kicks off at 8 p.m.

Skills Development Ctr.

© 283-4511

Youth Arts & Crafts Camp

July 15-17: Fee is \$10 for three days (Tues.-Thur.) 1-3 p.m. Fee includes t-shirt and supplies to make daily projects. June 15, Orientation and embroidery machine demonstration. Students will design their own t-shirt. June 16, bookend construction in the wood shop. June 17, print design and framing in the frame shop. The camp is open to children 8 yrs. and older. Max. of 8 per session. Must register by July 8. If you cannot attend all three days, you may register for one of the days. Cost is \$5 per day.

Family Fun Day At The Pool

July 31, 2 p.m. until.
All admissions are FREE
Pool games & activities for all ages; adult participation a MUST!
Prizes, fun for all.

Call 283-3199



Firework Cruise

July 4

Bring Food and Drink.
No facilities on board.
Swimming will be allowed.

FREE - Limited Space

Reservations Required

Call Bonita Bay at 283-3199 for more information.

Start getting ready now

2004 Air Force Marathon

September 18, 2004

Call the Fitness Center for details.

Or visit the official website at:

<http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil/registration.htm>

283-2631

Start Smart

Help your kids get ready for sports.

Baseball: July 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$30. Open to youth 3-5 yr. olds.

Golf: July 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$30. Open to youth 4-7 yr. olds.

Soccer: July 9, 16, 23, 30, at 9 a.m.

Cost is \$30. Open to youth 3-5 yr. olds.

283-4366

Base Pool Swim Meet • July 9

Open to all Tyndall active duty and reservists personnel, DoD employees, their spouses and family members 18 years or older. Check in is at 11 a.m. First event starts at noon. Based upon your critique during our first swim meet in April, we have revised the meet to support your requests: The following events will be offered in a men's, women's and senior division, pending adequate participation. Freestyle: 50, 100, 200 and 500 yard. Backstroke: 50, 100, 200 and 500 yard. Breaststroke: 50, 100, 200 and 500 yard. Butterfly: 50 yard. Individual medley: 200 yards (50 yards per stroke) Male/Female Freestyle Relay: 200 yards. Senior Division (if enough register) 35 years and older. This is not a squadron challenge (intramural event)...participants on teams may be comprised of members from different squadrons. Deadline to register is July 2 at the base pool. If you have any questions please see Daniel Mix, Headguard at the pool.

Call 283-3199 for details.

Robotic warriors display capabilities

TAMMIE ERAZO

Air Armament Center Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFP) — Pentagon officials and guests were treated to a demonstration of the remote detection challenge and response, or REDCAR, initiative June 23.

REDCAR uses unmanned robotic platforms to provide perimeter defense of Air Force bases and forward-deployed units.

“With REDCAR we can integrate a family of robots to secure an airfield and take the warfighter out of the initial line of attack,” said Capt. Adolfo Meana, chief of the Force Protection Battlelab’s concepts division at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. “The forces are kept in reserve to tactically move against the enemy. We put the robots in danger first and save troops’ lives.”

Operators control the robots from a safe location, such as an armored vehicle, using a laptop computer. They are

able to manage many robots at the same time and can even pass control between operators.

Battlelab and Air Force Research Laboratory workers developed the REDCAR family of robotic vehicles.

The proof of concept demonstration included three robotic vehicles. The first was Scout, a rough-terrain vehicle that travels at up to 20 mph using preprogrammed navigation and obstacle avoidance. The Scout controller can issue voice commands to people it encounters through its Phraselator.

“Scout has up to 57 pre-programmed languages and can issue such police phrases as ‘halt, drop your weapon,’” Captain Meana said. “However, we hope controllers will be able to speak

directly through the Phraselator in the future.”

The Mobile Detection and Response System is another robot. It provides area surveillance and detects threats, with Scout acting as an interceptor.

The third robotic vehicle, called Matilda, is a small-scale, tracked vehicle that can be carried on MDARS.

Matilda provides reconnaissance in limited-access areas, including under vehicles, aircraft, and inside buildings.

“The challenge is getting all the robots to work together,” said Walt Waltz, the laboratory’s chief of robotics research at Tyndall AFB. “Communication between the robots is key.”

During the demonstrations here, all three robots demonstrated scenarios. In

one scenario, Scout detected and confronted an intruder trying to gain unauthorized access to the flightline.

After the intruder refused to obey commands issued by the controller, he was disabled with a pepper spray system mounted on Scout. Another scenario featured Scout and MDARS detecting and defending against a guerrilla force trying to attack the base.

During the attack, Scout used a precision-targeted M-16A2 rifle controlled from a remote location. Toward the end of the attack, Matilda was released from MDARS to search for attackers hiding in culverts.

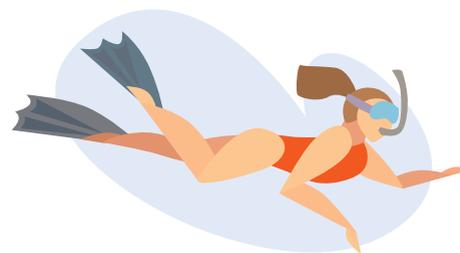
Staff Sgt. Miguel Jimenez, assigned to the 325th Security Forces Squadron at nearby Hurlburt Field, is excited about the new technology.

“It will help out a lot having the robotic platforms alerting us to possible hostilities. It will provide an immediate visual assessment before we get there and we can use the weapon if necessary,” Sergeant Jimenez said.

“With REDCAR we can integrate a family of robots to secure an airfield and take the warfighter out of the initial line of attack.”

CAPT. ADOLFO MEANA

Chief of the Force Protection Battlelab's concepts



Every member of Team Tyndall is valuable. Play it safe, don't become a statistic.

**DON'T
DRINK AND DRIVE**

