



FLIGHT LINES

SERVING HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

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482d Fighter Wing, Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.

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June 2006



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Guarding Angels



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Master Sgt. John Frank stands watch at the Opa Locka Airport during the 2006 Ft. Lauderdale Air and Sea Show as the Navy's Blue Angels aerial demonstration team prepares for the event. More than 25 maintainers and 15 Security Forces members of Homestead ARB helped make the event a success by providing security and support each day of the show for Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard aircraft. Turn to page five for highlights of the show.

Enjoy the summer months – safely

By Col. Randy Falcon
482nd Fighter Wing Commander

As summer quickly approaches, I hope you'll spend more time engaged in outdoor activities with family and friends.

Unfortunately, these activities usually correspond to a rise in safety mishaps involving our personnel. For this reason, the period from Memorial Day through Labor Day is known as the "101 Critical Days of Summer."

Historically, America's highways and waterways are dangerous places for military personnel, especially during the 101 Critical Days.

During last year's 101 Critical Days, the Air Force suffered 23 off-duty fatalities. 18 of these involved motor vehicle accidents, in which many of the fatally injured individuals were either speeding, not using seatbelts or helmets, or they involved alcohol. Another five deaths occurred during sports and recreational

activities.

These statistics are tragic because of the resulting loss of life, but many of them were preventable.

Here at Homestead, we did not fall victim to the 101 days of summer last year. That is a direct result of your efforts to recognize and manage the risks associated with the many fun activities in South Florida that can easily turn dangerous.

Our home is close to many fun activities, but fun can easily turn into danger if you don't minimize the hazards related to your activities.

Something as simple as a backyard barbeque or a trip to the beach can turn tragic if you don't take the proper precautionary measures.

And of course at this time of year, we South Floridians must pay special attention to the arrival of hurricane season. The Emergency Management office has put together some useful information on that; see

page eight for more on that topic.

As you embark on your summertime fun – whether it is a family vacation or simply time outdoors – use your common sense and mitigate the risks.

Let's continue to lower the number of senseless deaths on the highways, waterways and in our own backyards. Drive defensively and wear seat belts when you're on the road, use flotation devices when you're on the water and always arrange for a designated driver when your social activities involve alcohol.

Every one of you and your family members are important members of the Homestead Air Reserve Base team. The loss of any one of you would be tragic.

I'm confident that each of you will do your part to eliminate summertime incidents. Enjoy the 101 days of summer, but please make them safe for you and your family.

To Airman 1st Class

Sebastian Dillard, 482nd SVS

To Senior Airman

Sandi Thompson, 482nd MDS
Jonathan Adderly, 482nd MXS
David Guzman, 482nd SFS
Brandon Paige, 482nd SFS
Rodney Williams, 482nd SVS
Thomas Trimble, 70th APS
Jeffrey Curl, 482nd CES
Andre Jackson, 70th APS
Sergio Greco, 482nd SFS
To Staff Sgt.
Jorge Grande, 482nd SFS
David Perez, 482nd AMXS

Promotions

Michael Morris, 482nd AMXS
Thomas Wight, 70th APS
Joachim McDonald, 70th APS
John Thomas, 482nd AMXS
Paulette Edward, 482nd FW
Michael Tincher, 482nd MXS
Liana Hansen, 482nd MXS
Brian Brown, 482nd AMXS
To Tech. Sgt.
Marcy Rosario, 482nd MSS
David Glacken, 482nd SFS
Christopher Lias, 482nd SFS

Craig Campbell, 482nd SFS
Ralph Anthony, 482nd SFS
Christopher Carlsen, 482nd AMXS
Robert Clark, 482nd FW
Daniel Barrett, 482nd MXS
Heidi Knowlton, 482nd MDS
James Maloney, 482nd CES
To Master Sgt.
Trevor Stephen, 482nd CES
Angel Hidalgo, 482nd AMXS
Axel Rivera, 482nd AMXS
To Senior Master Sgt.
Cynthia Addison, 482nd SVS
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New Chief selected as CMSAF #15

*Secretary of the Air Force,
Office of Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON - Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley has named Chief Master Sgt. Rodney J. McKinley to serve as the 15th chief master sergeant of the Air Force. Chief McKinley will assume his new position on July 1, following the June 30 retirement of Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray. CMSAF Murray's retirement culminates 29 years of service to the Air Force.

"I'm excited to have Chief McKinley take the helm of our enlisted force," said General Moseley. "Chief McKinley is a tremendous leader with an impressive array of expeditionary and combat experiences to help him steer our Airmen and serve as my

partner. We were blessed to have a number of exceptionally well-qualified candidates for the position. While the decision was not an easy one, I feel we have the right person to lead our enlisted force during this time of a long war on terrorism, recapitalization and transformation. I look forward to working with him."

Chief McKinley is currently the command chief master sergeant for Pacific Air Forces. He originally joined the Air Force in 1974, took a break in service in 1977, attended college, and reentered the Air Force in 1982. Chief McKinley's career includes various assignments in medical, aircraft maintenance, first sergeant and as the command chief master sergeant at the 86th Airlift Wing, Ramstein AB, Germany; 1st Fighter Wing, Langley



US Air Force photo

Air Force Base, Virginia; the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing in Southwest Asia and 11th Air Force, Elmendorf Air Force Base, AK.

Cell phone use while driving now leads to tickets, fines

*By Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine
Air Force Print News*

The Air Force has implemented a new cell phone restriction for drivers, which could lead to loss of base driving privileges for offenders.

As of Feb. 27, drivers are not allowed to talk on their cell phones while driving on Air Force installations without a hands free device. This policy is part of the Department of Defense's Joint Traffic Guidance.

This restriction also applies to all government owned vehicles, or GOVs, at all times. No GOV drivers are permitted to talk on a cell phone while driving without a hands-free device on or off base.

"This is really a cooperative effort for everyone from the base populace to the base leaders," said Master Sgt. Gloria Ornelas, the superintendent of law enforcement for Air Force Security Forces. "I think it is long overdue. The DOD recognized that, and we are now in line with what

some states and municipalities are doing to create a safer environment for drivers."

Joint Traffic Regulation, Air Force Instruction 31-218 (I), Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, will restrict the use of cell phones while driving. Only cell phones with hands-free devices will be allowed for use by drivers. The Defense Department's joint traffic document states: "Vehicle operators on a DOD Installation and operators of Government owned vehicles shall not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device.

"The wearing of any other portable headphones, earphones or other listening devices (except for hand-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited. Use of those devices impairs driving and masks or prevents recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles, and human speech. DOD

component safety guidance should note the potential for driver distractions such as eating and drinking, operating radios, CD players, global positioning equipment, etc. This should only be done when the vehicle is safely parked."

Using a cell phone while driving without a hands-free device will be considered a "primary offense." This means violators will be able to be stopped solely for this offense.

Offenders will be given three assessment points against their driving records or an appropriate fine. Drivers should be aware that if two or more violations are committed, even on a single occasion, a ticket may be given to the driver for each violation.

"It was recognized at the DOD level that we needed some changes," Ornelas said. "The winner here is the base populace. They will have more mobility while driving, a greater range of view — in short, a safer driving environment for all."

Companies commit to pro-Guard and Reserve policies

By Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

5/5/2006, FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. – As the role of the Guard and Reserve in worldwide operations continues to grow, the support of families and employers of today's Minutemen becomes even more important.

Eight employers were recognized by the Employee Support of the Guard and Reserve organization at a ceremony here May 4. Each company was presented with the ESGR Above and Beyond Award.

One of the companies, Lee Memorial Health System, Fort Myers, Fla., is the ESGR Florida Field Committee's nominee for the 2006 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

"We're trying to do the right thing," said Ms. Kimberley Gaide, staff activities military support supervisor for Lee Memorial, about the company's commitment to Guard and Reserve members, their families, and the military overall.

"We see ourselves in a [community] leadership role. We're a an organization dedicated to taking care of the health of our community and this role means that we have to set the tone [for all businesses and organizations in the community]," said Mr. Jon C. Cecil, chief human resources officer for Lee Memorial.

The keynote speaker at the event was Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. Mr. Hall lauded the employers at the reception for their dedication to the country and to their employees.

Lee Memorial's company motto, "The Heart of the Community," goes a long way in explaining how they became listed as a "National Employer of Choice" recently by the non-profit organization Employers United for a Stronger America. During the awards reception the company also signed the ESGR "5-Star Statement of Support"

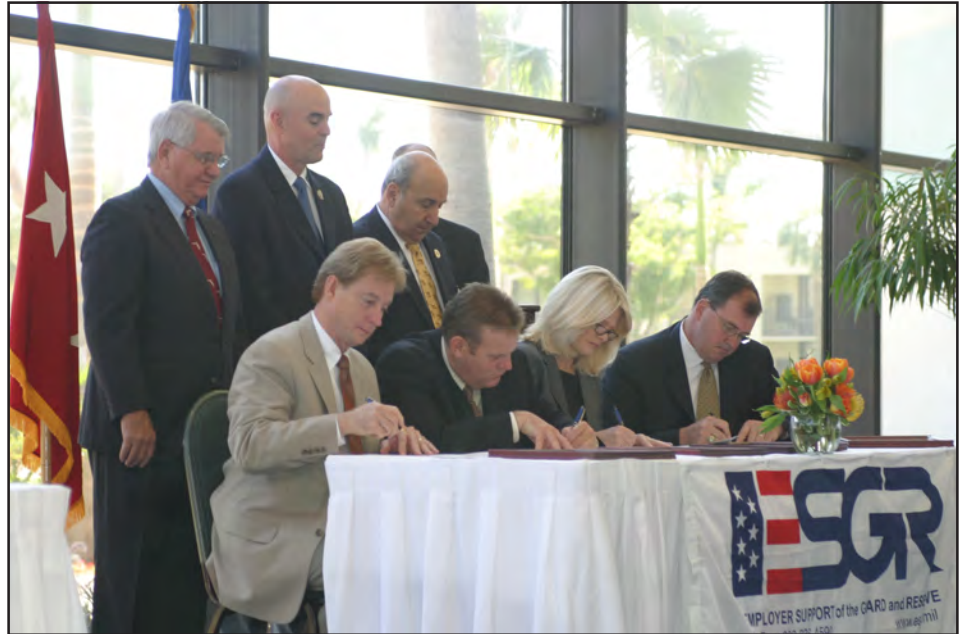


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Lee Memorial Health System, Fort Myers, Fla., was presented an Above and Beyond Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization May 4. Mr. Jon C. Cecil, chief human resources officer, seated, left, also signed the ESGR "5-Star Statement of Support" at the ceremony.

letter.

Lee Memorial Health System employs more than 6,800 people in Lee County, Fla., and has close ties to three families directly impacted by the Global War on Terror: first, one of their employees lost a son at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom; then an employee from one of their hospital emergency rooms was killed while serving in the military. A third employee lost a brother during current operations.

Mr. Cecil refers to Ms. Gaide as the "mom" of the organization. "We send out 50 to 70 care packages a month to service men and women and encourage family members of our Reservists to call me if they need anything at all," said Ms. Gaide.

By signing the 5-Star Letter of Support, Lee Memorial, and the other seven companies, agree to uphold human resources policies that ease employment concerns for their Reservists. They have each reviewed their human resources policies to

ensure compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act Law, and they promote training for managers and supervisors to effectively manage their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. The companies have adopted policies and programs that are "Above and Beyond" what is required by the USERRA Law, and they will serve as advocates for employee service in the National Guard and Reserve and help promote the mission of ESGR.

Lee Memorial provides full pay and benefits to employee Guard and Reservists for the duration of their military duty.

Mr. Cecil is taking the Lee Memorial philosophy to the Florida business community in an effort to strengthen understanding of the role of Reservists and promote human resources policies that recognize their value.

More than a half million Guard and

See ESGR, pg. 10

Air-Sea Show bigger, better than ever

482nd Fighter Wing participates in Fort Lauderdale's premiere air show

By Master Sgt. Ray Sarracino
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

May 7, 2006, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. – Deafening noises, huge crowds and bright sunshine combined to make Fort Lauderdale Beach the place to be during the 12th annual Air-Sea Show.

More than a million people turned out over the three days of the event to enjoy the show. The cast of performers read like a “who’s who” of the elite aviation community. From the Navy’s aerial demonstration team, the “Blue Angels,” to the Canadian Forces “Snowbirds,” the U.S. Army’s “Golden Knights” parachute demonstration team, to a simulated assault of the beach by members of the U.S. Marine Corps Amphibious Assault Group, the weekend rocked the beach with the deafening roar of the air and sea forces of the most powerful military in the world. Spectators were even treated to a four-ship fly-by of F-16s from Homestead’s own 93rd Fighter Squadron during the singing of the national anthem.

Spectators also enjoyed seeing some of the U.S. arsenal’s most advanced military hardware performing at its most extreme. For example, many of the stunts performed by the Blue Angels’ F-18 Hornet aircraft are not often performed in actual combat situations. Many of these aircraft are sent into battle fully-laden with bombs, additional fuel and external tanks which prevent them from engaging in aerial acrobatics.

While the featured performers may have had top billing, all of the acts excelled in the clear South Florida skies. One of the highlights included a fly-by of the Navy’s soon-to-be-retired F-14 “Tomcat.” The aircraft was put through a series of thunderous passes that had many in the crowd covering their ears. The F-16 “Falcon” aerial



Photo by Technical Sgt. Paul Dean

Putting the “Sea” in Air and Sea Show: A Marine Corps hovercraft, known as the Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC), provides up-close excitement for swimmers and spectators at the 2006 Ft. Lauderdale Air and Sea Show.

demonstration plane and the F-15 “Strike Eagle” also used their afterburning thunder to get the crowd’s attention. While saying goodbye to the older technology of the F-14, the crowds were also treated to a show of might by the newest plane to enter the Air Force arsenal - The F-22 “Raptor.”

By far, a crowd pleaser as it showed off its 21st century technology to a crowd that appeared obviously pleased with this investment in our nation’s defense. Another crowd-pleaser was the brief appearance by the B-2 “Spirit” bomber as it darkened the sky in an eerily quiet pass over the



Photo by Technical Sgt. Paul Dean

Maj. Ed Hamill, an F-16 instructor pilot from Luke AFB, Ariz., wowed the crowds on the beach with his aerial acrobatics in his custom-built Air Force Reserve biplane. The nationally ranked aerobatic pilot has competed in three U.S. National Aerobatic Championships and qualified for the U.S. Advanced Aerobatic Team in 2002.

beach.

Although aerial high-tech was the order of the day, the Air Force's "Heritage Flight" demonstration team reminded spectators that U.S. Air Force roots go back, way back, to a time when stick-and-rudder, seat of the pants flying was considered high tech. Their show team includes the World War II-vintage P-51 "Mustang," the F-15 "Eagle," and the F-16 "Falcon."

Recruiters also had the chance to display their wares during the show. With Homestead's team manning two separate booths to greet arriving and departing folks on either end of the Sunrise Boulevard drawbridge. One booth also happened to be the home-on-the-road for the Air Force Reserve acrobatic pilot Ed Hamill. Flying his custom-built biplane, he was one of the featured performers in the show.

"The air show provides great awareness for the Air Force reserve. This was an opportunity to reach 'influencers' who helped spread the message to potential candidates," said Technical Sgt. Travis Newkirk, Air Force Reserve recruiter. "I had a counselor from George T. Baker Aviation High School who came over and said that he would really like more interaction between us and his

See AIR/SEA SHOW, pg. 7

Golden Baton passed to wing commander

Story and photo by Master Sgt Ray Sarracino
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Opa Locka, Fla. – Members of the U.S. Army's Golden Knights parachute demonstration team dropped by Opa Locka airport May 4 to deliver an award to the 482nd Fighter Wing Commander, Col. Randy Falcon.

The team presented the award after a demonstration jump at events coinciding with the annual Air-Sea Show in Fort Lauderdale. After the presentation ceremony, Col. Falcon accompanied team leader Sgt. 1st Class Paul Sachs in an inspection of its members.

The Golden Baton is a solid mahogany baton that is passed in mid-air between members of the team while freefalling during their jump.

The Golden Knights trace their lineage back to 1959, Fort Bragg, N.C. Gen. Joseph Stillwell formed the Strategic Army Corps Parachute Team to compete internationally, particularly head-to-head with the then-premiere teams from the Soviet bloc nations. The team performed so well that Army adopted them as their official parachute demonstration team and changed the name to the United States Army Parachute Team. One year later, the name "Golden Knights" was adopted and remains the moniker used to describe the team today.



The team has dominated in numerous international sport parachuting competitions and participates in events around the world. They have won more than 408 national championships, 65 world championships, and 14 national and six world team titles in formation skydiving.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

AIR/SEA SHOW, from pg. 6

students. These students are interested in all aspects of aviation and could potentially benefit greatly from a career in the Air Force Reserve.”

While spectators enjoyed the view from the beach, maintainers and security forces from the 482nd Fighter Wing played a crucial role in the show by providing security and maintenance to many of the aircraft parked at the Opa Locka Coast Guard Air Station. Due to its short distance from the beach, it was the ideal site for housing the aircraft. However, security was a high priority and Homestead’s own were tapped for the mission. 482nd Security Forces members were on-duty during the entire show, which included arrival earlier in the week, as well as media events on Thursday, May 4 that kept the ramp area extremely busy.

Maintenance was an entirely different issue as visiting high-performance aircraft required access to the finest facilities, maintainers, fuel and fuelers available. This was also provided with the aid of troops from Homestead’s 482nd Maintenance Group.

While sunscreen and hydration were necessities



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean



Photo by Master Sgt. Ray Sarracino

throughout the weekend, the sunny skies and festival atmosphere kept crowds happy while they enjoyed the astonishing displays taking place in the clear blue skies overhead.

(Clockwise from top) Homestead’s own “mako” F-16s performed a four-ship fly-by to kick-off the events in the opening ceremony of the Ft. Lauderdale Air and Sea Show on May 6. The US Navy’s Blue Angels were the marquee performers this year. Spectators could enjoy the show from just about any spot close to the beach, with a lucky few catching the action from rooftops. Also, the 482nd Fighter Wing Honor Guard was on hand to represent Homestead Air Reserve Base as they presented the colors for the show’s opening ceremony. A group of US Marines joined the honor guard in formation following a beach assault demonstration.

Are you ready? Hurricane season is here

Reservists and base employees must be prepared, accountable

By Dan Galindo
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

At this point, if you still need to prepare emergency food, water and supply kits to make it through the aftermath of a hurricane, you're already behind the curve.

However, for Homestead Air Reserve Base personnel being "storm-ready" includes more than making stockpiles of emergency living supplies.

Making sure you're safe and accountable to your units should be high on your agenda.

First, **there is no hurricane shelter on base.** No one should assume that this military installation is a safe place to go if a storm is bearing down on South Florida. Just as we live in our local communities, we must use our local storm shelters.

In the event county or state authorities issue evacuation orders, follow those directions.

Secondly, **don't attempt to return to the base following a storm.** Only people on post-storm recovery teams are authorized to return the base and if you're not one of them Security Forces will turn you away. You will also waste valuable fuel and endanger yourself on roads which will likely be filled with debris.

"It's likely that many buildings would be damaged. We

can't even turn power on to any facilities following a storm until our assessment teams verify that it's safe to do so," said Sean Quinn, chief of emergency management.

"Essential personnel who need to return already know who they are. Others should return only if directed by unit or wing leadership," he said.

Mr. Quinn also pointed out that the first priority for post-storm teams is to make the airfield operational for major recovery operations and not the office buildings where the majority of base personnel work.

Finally, **attempt to make contact with your unit.**

"Letting your unit know your plans and location prior to a storm is a good idea," said Quinn.

The 482nd Civil Engineering Emergency Management office has also set-up an 800-number with information about the status of the base and reporting procedures before and after a storm.

All military and civilian personnel who are in a national emergency or declared disaster area are required to check-in no later than 48 hours from the onset of the crisis. Be sure to include your location, contact information, and status. Military members must also provide the same information for all members of their household; civilian employees only need to report for themselves.

Hurricanes 101

Hurricane Watch: A storm is anticipated to *threaten* the area within 24 hours. This watch should trigger your family's disaster plan, and proactive measures should be initiated especially those actions that require extra time such as securing a boat, leaving a barrier island, etc.

Hurricane Warning: A storm is expected to *strike* the area within 24 Hours. Once this warning has been issued, your family should be in the process of completing proactive actions and deciding the safest location to be during the storm.

The greatest threat is along coastlines where extremely high tides created by strong ocean currents and giant, wind-driven waves (Storm Surge).

Resources

Be prepared NOW: Use the following to learn how to prepare yourself and family for a hurricane. Learn about survival kits, evacuation routes, shelters and more!

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/>

<http://prepare.miamidade.gov/>

<http://www.redcross.org/>

[http://www.eoconline.org/EM Live/shelter.nsf](http://www.eoconline.org/EM_Live/shelter.nsf)

For more information regarding storm preparation, call the HARB Emergency Management office at (305) 224-7824.

County Information Line: 3-1-1
3-1-1 operators can provide shelter and evacuation information. If you cannot connect, call (305) 468-5900.

If a storm is imminent or has just passed monitor local radio/TV.

--FM Radio 87.7 / AM Radio 610

--NBC 6 WTVJ

Accountability

For the current status of the base or to report your location/status, use the following emergency call-in numbers:

Information Line

1-800-945-5328 or (305) 224-7691

Base Command Post

1-800-330-8149 Ext 7023

In the event the base loses communications, use the following resources to report accountability:

NAFCAT

1-800-828-4624 Ext 5160 or 3079

Official AFRC Web Site

<http://www.afrc.af.mil/>

*If possible, inform your unit of your plans prior to a storm's landfall and try to make contact NLT 48 Hours from crisis onset.

(Right) Lt.Col. Robert Mood helps award winner Senior Airman Randall Black of the 482nd LRS carry all his “goodies” on May 6 at the Military Affairs Committee Annual Awards Banquet. Senior Airman Black won the Airman of the Year award for the 482nd Fighter Wing. Five other members of Team Homestead were also big winners. The MAC also presented awards to members of Det.1, 125th Fighter Wing of the Florida Air National Guard, the 50th Area Support Group of the Florida Army National Guard, and the Coast Guard’s Maritime Safety and Security Team 91114. For a complete list of the winner and highlights of the banquet, check out the Homestead ARB website at www.homestead.afrc.af.mil



Photo by Lisa Macias



Photo by Senior Airman Leo Castellano

(Above) Capt. Steven Lubinski (center) briefs Air Force Reserve Vice Commander Maj.Gen. Allen Poulin (left) and Col. John Hayes (right) at the JumpStart Communications field exercise on April 27 at Homestead ARB, Fla. The AFRC Vice Commander came for a first-hand look at how Active, Guard, and Reserve Airmen are training on new communications technologies for use in deployed locations.



Courtesy photo

(Below) All of South Florida had the chance to catch the Blue Notes perform on the WTVJ-NBC 6 TV “South Florida Today” morning show on May 19. Three groups of the Air Force Reserve Band played nine venues throughout South Florida, May 18-20 as part of a community outreach project. The other two musical ensembles included a brass quartet and Southern Aire, which performed Celtic music on a variety of Irish and Scottish instruments such as bagpipes, Irish flutes, bodhrans, and much more.



Photo by Lisa Macias

(Left) A tour guide at R.F. Orchids explains the flower arrangements during a tour of military spouses and families on May 12, National Military Spouse Day. The Florida City / Homestead Military Affairs Committee sponsored the spouse appreciation day tour, which took participants to some of Homestead’s most enjoyable sites. The ArtSouth art community and “Robert is Here” fruit and vegetable stand were the other highlights of the tour. For more pictures and highlights, please check the Homestead ARB website at www.homestead.afrc.af.mil

Homestead Reservists “share the passion” of service



Tech. Sgt. Robert Meltzer explains to students what he does at the Maintenance Group's Avionics Intermediate Shop. Unlike the majority of tours requested by outside organizations, 'share the passion' is sponsored by the base's own reservists.

Story and photos by Lt Col Robert Delgado Chief, Military Equal Opportunity

Two dozen high school and college students converged on Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. on May 6 for a first hand look at how the 482nd Fighter Wing gets the job done.

Their visit was part of the “Share the Passion” program, designed to give young minds a view of the wide variety of jobs available in the Air Force Reserve.

Students from Miami and Ft. Lauderdale, and students from as close as the Job Corps center right outside the main gate to as far away as Naples made the trip for the opportunity to take part in the Human

Resource Development Council program.

“I was really impressed with all the neat career fields the Air Force Reserve performs and the educational benefits they have to offer,” said Jose Ramez, a senior at Verela High School.

Ramez and his fellow guests got to see areas not normally available to most tour groups. The survival shop, life support, small arms range and munitions shop were all on the agenda. Students also had the chance to witness the inner-workings of the medical, transportation, fuels and maintenance squadrons. To top it off, the group got to “feel” what it’s like to

see an F-16 “Mako” take to the skies.

With the majority of students graduating high school at the end of the month, the trip was just what some needed to help find the direction that’s right for them.

“This may have been the deciding factor for me to join the Air Force Reserve,” said Ramez.

“With this program being so well received, we plan on conducting the tour again in six to 12 months from now,” said Col. Rob Pumbo, 482nd Fighter Wing Vice Commander.



Students get an up-close look at the inner-workings of the state-of-the-art F-16 engine.

Homestead fuel managers win command award

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — The 482nd Fuels Management Flight at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., is representing Air Force Reserve Command in the Air Force’s American Petroleum Institute-sponsored award program.

Headquarters AFRC announced April 6 that the

Homestead flight had won the 2005 AFRC Golden Derrick Award. The award is a gold oil rig on a black cup with a mahogany base.

Base fuels management organizations that support flying missions are eligible to compete for the award. (AFRC News Service)

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Reservists have volunteered or been called to duty since Sept. 11, 2001.

The other companies recognized with an Above and Beyond Award at the ceremony included Spirit Airlines, Wackenhut Corporation, Motorola Radio Products Group, AutoNation, Harris Corporation, Florida Power and Light,

and Pratt and Whitney Rocketdyne Division.

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization was established by the Department of Defense in 1972. ESGR volunteers provide free education, consultation, and if necessary, mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve employees.

Excess property sale

On Saturday, June 3, Services will be selling excess NAF property at the Fitness Center on the Gym Floor. The sale will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Some of the items for sale include: 19" TV's, bar stools and chairs, stack chairs, artwork, a portable bar, food service equipment, large coolers, a boat, microwave ovens, writing desks, end tables/coffee tables, a small pool table, and much more. All sales are final and items must be removed when purchased. Credit cards will be accepted, but checks will be accepted from Club Members only. Come and browse, but no phone calls please.

Leadership seminar

The 482nd Fighter Wing will be holding a leadership seminar on Aug. 4 at 12:30 p.m. in building 360, room 131. This training is for NCO's that have or will have leadership positions in the future. All interested Master Sgts, Tech Sgts and Staff Sgts, including current or prospective supervisors from any squadron may participate. Contact your First Sergeant with your intent to participate and with your Commanders approval, you will be on your way to improving your leadership abilities. The class will fill up quickly with accommodations for only 24 members. This is very informative and you will receive three briefings from both senior officers and enlisted leaders in our Wing with ways to be an effective leader.

Travel with comfort

The Military Hospitality Center has opened at Miami International Airport. Any person with a military I.D. in any travel status (show an airline ticket or a cruise line ticket) is eligible to use the center located in Concourse B on the fourth floor across from the bank and Post Office. The center is open 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., seven days a week, 365 days a year. In addition to providing a relaxing atmosphere for military travelers, the center's staff

can help make arrangements for reduced-cost accommodations for those who may be delayed in route, for those visiting family members receiving care at the Miami Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and for service members returning from deployment.

New ODR office location

Outdoor Recreation is now located in the Fitness Center. For tickets, rentals and purchases, please go to the Fitness Center front lobby. Grills, camping gear, trailers, and both sports and water equipment are available. Outdoor Recreation can also provide tickets to Sea World, Busch Gardens, Universal Studios, Island Adventure, and Disney. For more information, please call (305) 224-7092.

Youth soccer registration

The American Youth Soccer Organization will hold registration for the fall season at the Keys Gate Charter School on the following dates: June 1, 10, 24 and July 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., except 6 to 8 p.m. on June 1. Parents can pre-register online at eayso.org. One must select 'Region 805 AYSO', click SUBMIT, and disable pop-up blockers to print the form. Just take the form with you on one of the registration dates. Soccer is also available for kids with disabilities. For fees, game day information and other requirements, please contact Tim Norton at (305) 224-7254 or timothy.norton@homestead.af.mil

Club membership drives

The Air Force Membership Drive was a huge success for the Falcon's Nest Club. 104 new members were brought in, making it the best in AFRC. In fact, that amount was more than twice the number signed up by any other club in the reserve command. Two local members benefited greatly by being winners in this drive. They will receive \$1,000 each in the form of a credit to their club card. The winners are: Ret.

1Sgt George Bullard and Command Sgt. Maj. Harold Deaver. Congratulations to both of them, and the Falcon's Nest Club thanks all members. HQ AFRC is also sponsoring a membership drive from June 1 to July 31. The club will have special events, door prize drawings nightly at 6:30 p.m. and a "Luau" theme membership event on Aug. 3 to close the drive. As a club member, you can receive a free lunch for every new member you sign up. See the Services flyer for more details.

4th of July celebration

Come out to Coast Guard Base Miami Beach with your family and guests to celebrate Independence Day at South Florida's Eighth Annual July 4th Picnic, BBQ, and Fireworks display. The event runs from 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and is *free* for all military members, DoD civilian employees and everyone's guests. There will be free hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks. Bring your favorite salad, vegetable, entrée or dessert to share! Enjoy swimming, games and fireworks in the evening. The base is located off of MacArthur Causeway at Causeway Island. For security reasons and to help organizers provide enough food/refreshments for everyone, RSVP for yourself and your guests. Volunteers are also needed. Call (305) 274-5619 or (305) 856-0528.

VFW welcomes all Vets

All veterans who want to help other vets, support the local community or who want to simply meet new people are welcome join Homestead's VFW Post 4127. The post has events throughout the week. Hours: Mon-Fri, 7 a.m. till (you decide); Sat & Sun, opens at 8 a.m. Events include, Thursday Steak Night, Friday Pub-Grub, Saturday 'functions' night, and Sunday Breakfast. For details, call (305) 245-4535 or contact CJ Heinbaugh by e-mail at christopher.heinbaugh@homestead.af.mil

Airmen thank veterans on Armed Forces Day

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The room quickly flushed with residents as patriotic music drew them from other parts of the Miami Florida Veterans Administration Retirement Facility May 20.

The Air Force Reserve Band Brass Quintet—touring the South Florida area as part of Military Appreciation Month, and hosted by the 482nd Fighter Wing here—soon had a couple of dozen happy veterans bobbing heads and tapping toes. The inspiration behind the concert was to honor those who sacrificed so that others may enjoy freedom.

“We are here to honor you, because it is because of your sacrifice that each of us has the opportunity to serve,” Senior Airman Tom Salyers, one of the band members, said to the audience.

Mr. Abe Hamber, an Army veteran, said the concert reminded him that he’s part of something bigger.

“I feel so good now. I feel good because we are all one big family here; we were all in the military,” Mr. Hamber said.

The patriotic music and military marches brought back memories of days gone by for some in the audience. For former Army Private Jonnie Postell it reminded him of the day he landed on American soil, having returned from the Korean War.

“This made me remember the day I got off the ship. I remember the feeling of the bag across my shoulder and then kissing the ground, happy and thankful that I was home,” Mr. Postnell said.

It’s this kind of outcome that the band hopes for when it plays to audiences of veterans.

Staff Sgt. Mike Andrew, noncommissioned officer in charge of the band for this trip, looks forward to playing for veterans and said that every member of the band has the same viewpoint.

“We always know that it’ll be a good crowd. The veterans are a very appreciative audience and thank us for what we do. You can’t ask for much more than that in this job,” said Sergeant Andrew.

Ms. Regina Wexler, a retired Army SP-7, was fired up at the end of the performance.

“Nothing can stop the Army and Air Force,” she said excitedly. “I’ve never really experienced a [brass ensemble] before, but I can tell you it was my pleasure listening to these men,” she added.

“This is definitely the best type of gig we do,” said Airman Salyers. “You can look into the audience and maybe notice somebody who’s kind of relaxed. Then we play that person’s service song and all of a sudden the person is standing tall, saluting. It’s a great audience,” he added.

Three ensembles of the Air Force Reserve Band played nine concerts in the area May 18 - 20. Audiences included families at the Miami Children’s Museum, Shoppers at the Prime Outlet and festival goers at the Homestead Armed Forces Day. Each of the concerts was free and designed to complement other Military Appreciation Month activities nationwide



Residents of the Miami, Fla Veterans Administration Retirement Facility spent part of Armed Forces Day afternoon enjoying patriotic music played by the Air Force Reserve Band’s Brass Quintet ensemble. Some of the residents took time to have a photo taken with the band, which performed nine times in South Florida.