



FLIGHT LINES

SERVING HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

Vol. 25 No. 12

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

www.homestead.afrc.af.mil

December 2006



**Better health
care options
page 3**



**A safer base
page 4**



**Mako paint jobs
page 6**

Homestead Pride



Photo by Dan Galindo

Hundreds of Homesteaders lined the streets to cheer and thank current and past military members for their service during the Homestead Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11. The Wing Honor Guard and members of the Security Forces Squadron represented Homestead ARB, and 482nd Fighter Wing Commander Col. Randy Falcon was the Grand Marshall for this year's parade. For more photos, visit www.homestead.afrc.af.mil

We are all Wingmen in the Air Force



Air Force Reserve photo

**By Col. Randy Falcon
482nd Fighter Wing Commander**

The military is an inherently stressful profession. For us, stress is a fact of life because the Air Force has been in combat for the past 15 years and the stress of combat will continue into the foreseeable future.

To help us deal with stress, we rely on each other heavily in the Air Force through a concept known as the Wingman.

During the December Unit Training Assembly, the wing will participate in Wingman Day by focusing on ways we can all work together as a team, helping each other with the many stressors we encounter while perform-

ing our duties.

Being a good wingman means many things, and while we focus on this concept intensely just once a year, it is something that is part of our Air Force culture every day.

As a Wingman, you must make responsible choices for yourself and your fellow Airmen. This means we take care of ourselves and our fellow Airmen and we always watch each other's back. But the Wingman cannot and does not need to do this alone.

While a Wingman should always be ready and willing to help an Airmen in need, a great Wingman is one who knows about the resources available at their base, and they know when to lead that troubled friend to those resources for help.

Homestead is blessed with an abundance of resources and assistance programs available through our Family Support office, Legal office, Chapel, Safety office and Sexual Assault Response Coordinator to help with stressful issues ranging from financial management, family or relationship problems, legal issues, domestic violence, spiritual guidance, suicide prevention, substance abuse,

disciplinary problems and many others.

But these programs don't work by themselves. We must look out for each other, and know when to ask for help. I know that you all are good at what you do – fixing and flying planes, providing security for the base, etc. We all work long hours to support our mission. But if your job is fixing planes, then you are probably not the best person to provide grief counseling or to talk to a friend about alcohol abuse. So know when to help and – more importantly – know when to refer your fellow Airmen to an expert for help.

The point to remember is this: as Wingmen we must take note when a fellow Airmen needs help, and we must point them in the right direction. You may not be able to solve their problems, but there are many people on base who can.

Being an Airmen means being a Wingman, and it's something we do all the time, not just once a year. Our mission is much easier when we check each other's "six" consistently. Enjoy the rest of your holiday season and look out for each other, your family and your friends.

A holiday message from the Commander of the Air Force Reserve Command

As we look forward to this holiday season and the New Year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to each of you, your families and employers for the sacrifices you've made for our country each and every day. Our Airmen have answered the call to service during a critical time in our nation's history. Many of you are preparing to deploy overseas, perhaps for the first time in your military careers, while others are deploying for another tour. This courage and willingness to defend our freedom is a beacon for all Americans. The New Year promises

challenges and changes as we continue our mission to defend our nation and the cause of freedom around the world. Please know that our contributions as "Unrivaled Wingmen" make us valued and respected members of the Total Force. Jan and I salute you, and wish you and yours Happy Holidays and a safe and joyous New Year. We are proud of your patriotism and loyalty to our great nation.

Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley
Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

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Flight Lines newspaper is published monthly by the 482d Fighter Wing Office of Public Affairs for the commander. Copies are mailed, free of charge, to the homes of all reservists. Content is news articles and features developed for release to commercial media as a part of the Air Force Reserve's continuing public affairs program. Opinions of contributors are not necessarily those of the Air Force Reserve or the 482d Fighter Wing. This Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Military services. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. The flag on the top front page of the Flight Lines was designed by Master Sgt. Raymond Sarracino.

Health care for reservists highlights defense bill

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — In addition to a 2.2 percent across-the-board pay raise, Air Force reservists can look forward to better health care options in 2007.

Since Oct. 1, drilling reservists can enroll in the new Tricare Standard for Selected Reserve health plan. They pay 28 percent of the premiums. The federal government picks up the rest of the tab.

The plan replaces the current three-tier Tricare Reserve Select system. The first tier of the current plan starts with \$81 monthly premiums for reservists without dependents who recently participated in a contingency operation. Cost of the plan jumps to \$767 a month for non-deployed reservists and their families who are eligible to sign up for employer-provided health care.

Individuals covered by the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program are not eligible for the new plan.

Another new benefit of the fiscal 2007 National Defense Authorization Act, signed into law by the president Oct. 17, helps reservists without dependents who were

mobilized for 139 or more days in support of a contingency operation. It permits a second housing allowance in lieu of per diem if reservists are ordered to serve at a location too far from home to commute.

This allowance is retroactive to Oct. 1, 2006. However, payment of this allowance is up to service secretaries and does not automatically apply to everyone who is eligible.

Reservists in the Selected Reserve who think they may be eligible for a second basic allowance for housing payment must check with their particular service for the current policy.

Another provision of the authorization bill extends the maximum number of days reservists can be called to active duty under Title 10 of the U.S. Code, Section 12304. The revised Presidential Reserve Call-up changed from a maximum of 270 days to 365 days.

For more information, read the Air Force Reserve Command News Service story at www.afrc.af.mil and search "health care" or "defense bill".

Unit Compliance Inspection yields positive results

By Jake Shaw

482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Months of preparation, hard work and attention to detail resulted in the 482nd Fighter Wing accomplishing its mission 'by the books' during the Air Force Reserve Command Unit Compliance Inspection held here Oct. 30 to Nov. 5.

The team of approximately 70 inspectors from Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, arrived Oct. 30 prepared to evaluate how well reservists, civilian employees and Reserve technicians at the wing followed the functional checklists put in place by the Air Force and Air Force Reserve.

The findings of the inspection were positive, with 54 areas in full compliance, 25 areas in compliance with comments (needing minor corrective action), and one area non-compliant (needing major corrective action).

Compliance Inspection Team Chief Col. Ian O'Connell said of the 482nd Fighter Wing, "The 482nd Fighter Wing is accomplishing its mission very well and has several very strong programs."

The inspection team identified 16 superior performers and three superior

teams during the inspection, which is indicative of the superb personnel in the 482nd, said Col. Randy Falcon, 482nd Fighter Wing Commander.

Teams that received special recognition included Emergency Management, Security Forces, Personnel and Fuels. Several inspectors commented that the Emergency Management and Fuels programs are easily the best the IG team has seen.

The inspection team also pointed

out during the out brief that wing personnel had superb attitudes and worked aggressively to implement corrective action on any items that could be worked while the team was still inspecting.

"This was a team effort and we could not have done this without the efforts of each of you in this wing," said Col. Falcon.

Turn to pg. 5 for the list of Superior Performers.

Nurses The Air Force Reserve Needs You!

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We offer great benefits for part-time service (one weekend a month)

Low cost life insurance	Travel opportunities
Opportunity to serve your country!	Continuing Medical Education credit
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Be a commissioned officer	Retirement

For more information contact Master Sgt. Michael Edwards
by Email at michael.edwards@afrc.af.mil or
Lt. Col. Bonnie Hammack at (305) 471-0429 or (305) 970-1491

County clears land for safer, secure base

By Lt. Col. Thomas Davis
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

County crews have begun clearing land north of Homestead Air Reserve Base, which will improve security on the property adjacent to the front gate of the military installation.

The property, left vacant since Hurricane Andrew, was once base housing for the old Homestead Air Force Base and is now the property of Miami-Dade County.

Completely overgrown, it poses a potential safety risk for the base and its personnel. The clearing will eliminate any possible illegal activity or surveillance of the base from the 40-acre parcel.

"Clearing that land is significant for us," said Master Sgt. John Frank, NCO in charge of the 482nd Security Forces Squadron. "We were aware of considerable dumping and drug activity. We can make better use of our manpower without having to perform security checks of that area in the future."



Photo by Dan Galindo

Tech. Sgt. Chris Loria, 482nd Security Forces Squadron, prepares to inspect a make-shift living area hidden behind the cover of tall grass and trees in the 40-acre area north of the base. Homeless were able to create shelter with illegally dumped debris.



Photo by Dan Galindo

482nd Fighter Wing Commander Col. Randy Falcon met with Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Homestead Vice Mayor Steve Losner (right) and Jim Pierce, Chairman of the Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce Nov. 28 at the site of the land clearing. The clearing is expected to improve security for the entrance of the base.

Working directly with county officials, Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen secured approval and funding for the clearing.

"I realize that our men and women in uniform need and deserve security in the same respect that they provide security and peace for us on a national level," said Rep. Ros-Lehtinen. "This is a small act for security on their behalf and on behalf of the Homestead and South Florida community."

Under direction of the Miami-Dade County Manager's Office, crews began the work on Nov. 13.

"Many thanks to Representative Ros-Lehtinen's office for her leadership in combining resources necessary to accomplish this critical task for us," said 482nd Fighter Wing Commander Colonel Randy Falcon. "The support from her office and the county is important to our own efforts to focus on protecting our nation's security."

Over the years, since the neighborhood's destruction from

Hurricane Andrew, the land has become overgrown with tall grass, shrubs and trees, shielding illegal activity from plain view.

"South Dade has three economic generators: tourism, agriculture and this base. I'm happy to see the City of Homestead, Miami Dade County and Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen's office support Homestead Air Reserve Base," said Jim Pierce, Chairman of the Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce.

The overgrowth has invited illegal dumping of everything from old construction materials and trash to old cars. Several homeless persons were known to have taken up residence in parcel as well.

"Miami Dade County, Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen and the City of Homestead offices stepped up and took care of something that was a potentially significant Force Protection issue for Homestead Air Reserve Base," said Col. Falcon.

Homestead recruiter singled out for efforts

By Jake Shaw
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

"I like to help people realize the opportunities available to them, and help them achieve goals they thought were impossible," said Senior Airman Alex Asencio, 482nd Fighter Wing Reserve Recruiter.

That attitude is partially responsible for an award Airman Asencio recently received from both the 10th Air Force and Air Force Reserve Command recruiting offices.

Col. Francis Mungavin, AFRC Recruiting Service Commander, presented the "Rising Star" award to Airman Asencio Oct. 30 during a ceremony in Washington D.C. The award recognizes a rookie recruiter with the potential for future success. Airman Asencio competed against approximately 30 other rookie recruiters from Air Force Reserve Command to earn the rising star distinction.

During his first six months on the

job, Asencio reached 300 percent of his recruiting goal, helping his team from Homestead reach their annual goal ahead of schedule. On top of that, he supported several high visibility outreach events and base tours in his first few months on the job.

But Airman Asencio is not satisfied with being a rising star. In fact, he has a legacy forged by his family that he is striving to live up to.

"My father is a West Point graduate, my sister was in the Air Force, and basically every man in my family has served in the military," he said.

Asencio started his military career with the Army as a combat engineer, but said his sister taught him to appreciate the Air Force. When his enlistment in the Army ended he decided to join the Air Force Reserve and become a recruiter so he could work with people and help them take advantage of the many opportunities offered by the Air Force Reserve.

"There's so much potential for Air Force reservists. From great training and education benefits and programs, to travel opportunities and flexible scheduling – you can't beat it. It's especially great here at Homestead, where the future growth gives even more opportunities to future Airmen," he said.

As a Rising Star, expectations are high for Airman Asencio, but he seems to shrug off the pressure.

"My job is rewarding. I get to help people achieve their goals and make life-changing decisions. People have great potential when you present them with an opportunity and my job is to connect the dots and help them bring out their best qualities through service in the Air Force Reserve," he said.



Photo by Ryan Ayers

Quarterly Award Winners

Congratulations to the 3rd quarter award winners. (Left to right) Airman of the Quarter: Senior Airman Gregory McMahel, 482nd Logistics Readiness Squadron; Senior NCO of the Quarter: Master Sgt. Tammy Mobley, 482nd Operations Group; Civilian of the Quarter: Mr. Juan Fernandez, 482nd Mission Support Group; Junior Officer of the Quarter: 1st Lt. Christy Shaw, 482nd Maintenance Group; and NCO of the Quarter: Tech. Sgt. (now Master Sgt.) Javier Colon, 93rd Fighter Squadron.

UCI Superior Performers

Lt. Col. Robert Delgado
SSgt. Arturo Santiago Vasquez
SSgt. Gavin Sinclair
SrA Omar Martinez Gonzalez
SrA Nicholas Stein
Mr. David Bade
Mr. Timothy Crump
Mr. Larry Furtak
Mr. Victor Gran
Mr. Americo Mendez
Mr. Timothy Norton
Mr. David Rivera
Mr. Herbert Tiedeman
Ms. Patricia Ortega
Mr. Sean Quinn
Ms. Shannon Cooper
Mr. William Bechelmayer
Mr. Rodger Boyt
Mr. James Collier
Mr. Gerald Gray
Mr. Sean Hardie
Mr. Frank Hernandez
Mr. Donald McNeal
Mr. Ronnie Miller
Mr. Richard Randall
Mr. Roderick Smith
SMSgt. Wilfredo Vargas
MSgt. Owen Duncan



Tech. Sgt. George Walker, left, and Tech. Sgt. Luis Velez, structural maintenance technicians from the 482nd Maintenance Group, prepare stencils on an F-16 prior to painting Nov. 4 here at Homestead Air Reserve Base.

Mak-O-ver: maintainers put showroom finish on F-16s

*Story, photos and graphic by
Master Sgt. Ray Sarracino
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

For those of us old enough to remember Earl Scheib's promise to repaint any car for \$39.95, it seemed like a small amount to put the shine back on your wheels. Although aircraft are not immune from periodic sprucing up, the work required to get a 93rd Fighter Squadron "Mako" F-16 back in showroom condition is a far cry from Scheib's approach.

For starters, aircraft require an immense amount of preparation before the first coat of paint goes on. Washing, sanding, then taping off and prepping the plane takes considerably longer on an F-16 than that it does for that old '75 Pinto.

When an F-16 arrives at the paint

shop, reservists thoroughly inspect the jet to make sure there's no damage before the process begins. Crews then wash the entire plane and sand it down to the metal to ensure new paint doesn't chip off later.

Although sanding is a long process, it takes a bit less time thanks to modern procedures that reduce the amount of potentially dangerous chemicals released into the atmosphere. Paints are made of polymers and other chemicals that must be disposed of properly, so today's technicians use sanders with powerful vacuums which collect the paint dust and store to discard appropriately later.

The process reduces the need for pressure washing the aircraft once sanding is complete, saving about a

half-day in drying time.

Next, Airmen apply the first of three coats of paint, the primer. The primer coat ensures the metal is thoroughly protected and that the other coats have a strong surface to adhere to.

After the primer coat has had a day to dry, it's time to start putting the final coats which give the planes their distinctive look.

Painters apply the first coat of medium gray to the nose, bottom of the wings and fuselage, and tail. Then, they put a coat of dark gray on the top of the wings and fuselage.

Once the final coat has dried, crews perform two days worth of meticulous work applying many stencils that appear all over the jet.

See PAINT JOB, pg. 7

Homestead ARB hosts FBI post-blast forensics training



FBI Special Agent Scott Hahn explains the way to mark evidence for collection at a bombing scene to Master Sgt. James Raulerson, 482nd EOD program manager.

Story and photos by Dan Galindo
482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Many of us may have heard the criticism of the popular television series CSI. There are no magic machines or tests to give immediate answers to crimes the way producers depict events on the show. In reality, it takes more than fancy special effects.

Recently, the 482nd Civil Engineering Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal team provided the venue for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to teach South Florida law enforcement just what it takes to search for answers for a particular kind of crime – bombings.

About 30 crime scene investigators from the Broward Sheriff's Office, Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami converged on the EOD range of Homestead Air

See CSI, pg. 8

PAINT JOB, from pg. 6

Once dry, the job is complete and the plane is returned to the pilots and crew chiefs in showroom condition.

It takes more than an artistic eye and a steady hand. It takes paperwork.

According to Tech. Sgt Luis Ayala, a structural maintenance technician, the frenzied pace in the paint booth is matched only by the pace of meticulous record-keeping to keep up with the job. Ayala said that keeping good records prevents problems from surfacing later. This is particularly important for the safety of the people in the shop, as well as people working on the aircraft later.

“Safety is our number one priority. Keeping chemicals out of the environment, and out of our bodies, is the number one part of our processes,” he said.

And a great deal of effort is directed at this push for safety. From sanding, to masking and taping, to the coats of

paint, safety is foremost in the minds of the technicians every step of the way. The equipment they use, the clothing they wear, everything is designed with safety in mind.

The spray booth also has air monitoring equipment.

“Our shop handles some of the more dangerous chemicals on the base – polyurethanes, resins, adhesives. We have to be vigilant,” Sergeant Ayala said.

The monitoring equipment ensures that nothing is leaking from the spray booth and that air quality within remains safe. As an added measure, technicians wear respirators and are covered from head to toe in safety suits.

It takes roughly six people working for six days to bring a jet back to showroom finish for its return to the sky. And, once the tools are cleaned up and put away, the paperwork finished, and mess safely disposed of, it's time to get the shop ready for the next project.

Getting a jet back to showroom finish

1

Jet enters facility:
Is thoroughly washed, taped, masked and sanded



2

A primer coat is applied to ensure proper protection of exposed areas and paint adhesion



3

First of two coats of medium gray is applied to underside of wings, fuselage and all of nose



4

Final coat of dark gray is applied to top of wings and fuselage



5

Stencils are applied and finished jet is returned to squadron





FBI explosives experts and the 482nd Explosive Ordinance Disposal team provided demonstrations of everything to homemade firestarters to high explosives for South Florida crime scene investigators Nov. 8 and 9 here at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. (See more training photos on our public website at www.homestead.afrc.af.mil)

CSI, from pg. 7

Reserve Base, Fla. Nov. 8 for two-days of post-blast forensics training.

While the FBI would take the lead in bombing cases, local law enforcement teams would arrive first to contain the scene and begin collecting evidence.

“Should a blast happen, everyone will have the same training so we can work together as a team,” said Special Agent Scott Hahn of the Miami FBI Field Office. “This is proactive training we do from coast to coast.”

Many of the local CSI’s have post-blast education under their belts

already, but the FBI training will allow everyone to collaborate on future investigations.

“The team training was the most useful, in the sense that the local departments are on the same page if we all need to work together on a large scale event,” said Hector Infante, a City of Miami Police Department crime scene investigator with more than 20 years of experience.

The hands-on portion of the FBI Post-Blast Investigator Course gave students the chance to put into practice what they learned in the class-

room to contain, investigate and process a bomb scene.

“Documentation, documentation and some more documentation,” Infante said. “We learned the grid approach to collecting evidence and how to record everything the FBI way.”

It wasn’t all paperwork, though. Before students could begin putting their lessons into practice, FBI agents and explosive experts demonstrated the power of both military and home-made devices.

From the smallest blasting cap to several pounds of dynamite, students learned just how strong – and loud – the materials can be.

They also learned how destructive they are. As investigators processing a post-blast scene, it’s their job to pick up the pieces and sort it all out.

In much the same way that archaeologists sift mounds of dirt, the investigators had to find clues of what is usually left after an explosion – hundreds of thousands of tiny pieces.

Short of any magic machines to guide students to the answers, Infante explained they learned how determining clues such as velocity through some “old-fashioned” science and math can lead investigators in the right direction.



A City of Miami Police Department crime scene investigator uses a “tried and true” method to collect evidence during the FBI post-blast forensics training.

ESGR Bosslift scheduled for January

The Florida Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve has scheduled a Bosslift for Jan. 11-13, 2007. Bosslifts transport employers and supervisors to military training sites where they observe National Guard and Reserve members on duty as part of the Total Force. This provides the employer a better understanding of what their Reservists do when they are away from their civilian occupation for duty with their military units. Employers see firsthand the type and quality of military training and leadership instruction National Guard and Reserve members receive.

Bosslifts provide employers the opportunity to share their insights on the challenges and benefits of having employees that serve in the Reserve components. Bosslift

participants are asked about their concerns regarding their Reserve employees. Employers are encouraged to offer recommendations and ideas for improving the employer/employee relationship with respect to the consequences of military service. Lastly, employers are asked about their overall assessment of employer support programs and services. In addition to open discussion, their completed questionnaires are compiled in a written evaluation.

To nominate your boss for this exciting opportunity, fill out the form below. Reservists may also contact Public Affairs at (305) 224-7303 for a nomination form. All forms must be received no later than Dec. 10 for consideration.

FLORIDA ESGR BOSSLIFT TO KEY WEST, FL — JANUARY 11-13 2007

The Florida ESGR Bosslift to Key West, FL. is scheduled for 11 - 13 January 2007. The BOQ's have been reserved and the aircraft, and a backup, have been scheduled.

We are limited to 30 Employers and 5 ESGR members. It will be first come, first serve, with a backup list of 10 in case of cancellations, (there always are). Employers must have Guardsmen or Reservists in their firm or they will be rejected.

Highlights will include a tour of Homestead Air Reserve Base and Naval Air Station Key West. Reservists are encouraged to nominate their bosses.

Applications (below) should be e-mailed to Lt. Col. Thomas Davis at thomas.davis@homestead.af.mil or faxed to (305) 224-7302. We look forward to hosting you on this Bosslift, but remember to sign up early. Please complete the form below and return no later than Dec. 10, 2006.

ALL FIELDS MUST BE COMPLETED, PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Employer Name _____ SS# _____

Email Address (Very Important) _____

Home Address _____ City _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Company Name _____ Your Position _____

Cell Phone# (Must Have) _____ Business Phone# _____

Home Phone# _____ Fax # _____

Name and Rank of Military Member making the nomination _____

For more information, contact the 482nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Officer,
Lt. Col. Thomas B. Davis at (305) 224-7303

Health insurance open season ends Dec. 11

This open season is for the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program; the Federal Flexible Spending Account (FSAFED) program; and the new Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance (FEDVIP) program. FEHB open season enrollments or changes can be done through the Employee Benefits Information System or BEST phone system. The FSAFED program allows federal employees to set aside pre-tax money for a wide range of medical and dependent care expenses. Enrollments are made via the FSAFED website at <https://www.fsafeds.com/fsafeds/index.asp> or by calling toll-free 1-877-372-3337 or TDD 1-800-952-0450. Employees must submit a new enrollment for each year they wish to participate. FEDVIP provides supplemental dental and vision insurance coverage effective Dec. 31, 2006. FEDVIP enrollment may be conducted directly in OPM's new enrollment and payroll/billing administration system BENEFEDS at <https://www.benefeds.com/Portal/loginUser.do> or call 1-877-888-3337, TTY 1-877-889-5680. Visit the BEST website for more information on any of these programs: <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

Two ways to get care packages to Airmen

People who wish to support Airmen can send mail to www.AnyAirman.com. Volunteers, made up of Airmen at deployed locations, then distribute the letters and care packages to other Airmen. Deployed Airmen who want to volunteer as a contact can sign up on the site. People wishing to participate in the program can follow the guidelines on the site and mail a letter or package in care of the volunteer with "Attn: Any Airman" written under the volunteer's name. Operation

Homefront has also launched "eCarePackage," an online service that allows citizens to send care packages to deployed troops and their families. Servicemembers and families can register on www.ecarepackage.org, which protects their identity and location, and visitors can "adopt" them based on common interests. Then visitors select individual items to create a customized care package for their chosen servicemember or family and include a personal message. For more information, read the Air Force Print News stories at <http://www.af.mil/news> and search "web care packages" and "operation homefront".

Popular candy products are illegal for Airmen

"Chronic Candy," a new candy popular with the 21 and older crowd, contains hemp oil and is illegal for Air Force members to ingest. Another such product is called "Dave." Airmen should be aware of what they are eating and drinking. For restrictions, read AFI 44-121.

Awards and decorations processing easier

Reserve Airmen can now submit awards and decorations requests online through the virtual Personnel Center Guard and Reserve rather than visiting their servicing Military PersonnelFlights. When Airmen return from an air and space expeditionary force deployment, they can log onto the vPC-GR and attach their paid travel voucher to update their awards. With the new process, Air Force Reserve Command units can also electronically nominate and approve personnel for a variety of medals using the vPC-GR. To access the system, log on at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR>. For more information about ARPC Personnel Service Delivery transformation, visit <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/psd/default.asp>. For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil> and search "awards processing".

Apply for DECA scholarships at commissaries

The Scholarships for Military Children Program applications, sponsored by the Defense Commissary Agency, are now available for 2007. Applications for the \$1,500 scholarships are available at 264 commissaries worldwide, or can be downloaded through links at www.commissaries.com, www.militaryscholar.org or www.dodea.edu. Applications must be turned in at a commissary by close of business Feb. 21, 2007. The program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of military active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired personnel. Eligibility will be determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2007, or enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program. For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil> and search "DECA scholarships".



Diamond Tips

On successful leadership

Mentoring is a big part of our jobs as leaders. We are personally training the future of the Air Force, so get involved with your Airmen. When you are in charge of an organization, section, or even a one person shop, challenge yourself to personally take charge of the development and promotion of your top performers. Become their mentor. Give them challenging work assignments to stimulate professional growth. Reward others accordingly for their accomplishments. Encourage them to complete all necessary Professional Military Education, and make it your personal goal to see that they are on the top of the promotion list. When considering individuals for positions, remember, if you hear comments like "it's always been done this way", it's a good indication that a change is in order.

**Questions?
Ask your First Sergeant**

Civilian leave policy updated

Headquarters Air Force has implemented a change to AF Instruction 36-815, Civilian Personnel Absence/Leave Accountability. All civilian employees must now provide contact information regarding their location while on approved leave. The change pertains only to knowing the whereabouts of employees during true national security events, i.e. terrorist attacks and natural disasters. The change satisfies the requirements that all civilian employees provide contact information for the purpose of recall, and not for routine work matters.

Outdoor Rec grand opening

Services is holding a Grand Opening of the new Outdoor Recreation site, Bldg. 164, on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 19 and 20 from 1 to 5 p.m. on both days. Come out for the raffle, door prizes, free hot dogs and sodas and see displays of what ODR has available. Also, check out the displays of the bounce house, spider web, 16 and 19 ft. campers, 10 x 10 tents, pressure washers, kayaks, canoes, closed and open trailers, golf clubs, camping tents, and more. Staff will be available to answer any questions. The office will be open normal hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturday, and discounts on rental items will be avail-

able for those who attend the Grand Opening. Club members will always receive a 10-percent discount on rentals.

Dental program rates to rise

The Tricare Dental Program premium rate will increase with the January 2007 payroll deduction cycle for coverage effective Feb 1. The single premium rate will increase from \$10.51 to \$11.05, and the family premium rate will increase from \$26.27 to 27.63. The rate increase is effective for the new TPD contract Option Period 2, Feb. 2007 to Jan. 2008. For more details on the TDP contract, read the Air Force Link story at www.af.mil and search "Tricare dental". Beneficiaries may also access the Tricare Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil.

New Year's Party at the Club

Don't miss the New Year's Eve Party at the Falcon's Nest Club. Enjoy all the festivities from 6 p.m. until 2 a.m. There will be live entertainment. The cost is \$30 per person for Club Members and \$35 for Non-Members. Dinner will be served from 6 to 8 p.m. Breakfast is served from 12:30 to 1:30 a.m. Party favors and a champagne toast are included. Please RSVP. Call Sheree or Tarin to make reservations at (305) 224-7167 or 6784. Lodging is available. Call

(305) 224-7198 for room reservations.

Outlook Web Access change

Reservists and base employees wishing to access government e-mail accounts from home computers will need to contact their unit Workgroup Manager. Soon, access to accounts will only be possible using your Common Access Card. Workgroup Managers will provide CAC readers and the software needed for your home PC. The Helpdesk will be available at (305) 224-7682 to provide technical assistance, but will not provide CAC readers.

Night aerobics discontinued

Due to lack of participation and funding, the Fitness Center will no longer provide the night aerobics class. The daytime aerobics class will continue as normal. For more information call the Fitness Center at (305) 224-7091.

Mako pilot to retire on UTA

The 482nd FW and the "Makos" will bid farewell to Lt. Col. Ragan Nicholl in a formal retirement ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 4:30 p.m. at the 93rd Fighter Squadron, Bldg. 191. All base personnel are welcome to attend. Come out to wish him well or even to meet for the first time.

Promotions

Airman First Class

Shehara Arseno, 482nd MXS
Elisha Bryant, 482nd MDS
Tijuana Hamilton, 482nd MDS

Senior Airman

Tonya Bass, 482nd MXS
Danielle Cummings, 70th APS
Luis Diaz, 482nd MDS
Anthony Dumond, 70th APS
Joseph Fernandez, 482nd AMXS
Kinzie Horton, 93rd FS
Nicholas Stein, 482nd MSS
Genesis Troutman, 70th APS
Tadisha Woods, 482nd MDS

Staff Sergeant

Melissa Collazo, 93rd FS
Edward Coyle, 482nd AMXS
Dionne Dukes, 482nd MSG

Kenroy McFarlane, 482nd MDS
Julie Tinsley, 482nd MXS

Technical Sergeant

Patricia Anderson, 482nd AMXS
Luis Bermudezalicea, 482nd SVS
Randall Boonstra, 70th APS
Rick Cancel, 482nd SFS
Jay Dimeola, 482nd SFS
Fermin Forero, 482nd AMXS
Mary Harris, 93rd FS
Lesa Johnson, 482nd MDS
William Kilvington, 482nd SFS
Jose Maldonado, 482nd SFS
Tracy McGill, 70th APS
Robert Medlock Jr., 70th APS
Renato Oliva, 482nd MDS
Anthony Ricks, 482nd CES
Michael Robison, 482nd MDS
Eugene Smith Jr., 482nd SFS

Edgar Valpais, 482nd SFS
Latrice Webb, 482nd SFS

Master Sergeant

Rubal Butler, 482nd SVS
Javier Colon, 93rd FS (PEP)
Kenneth Gallion, 482nd SFS
Carlos Garcia, 482nd CES
Marion Gill, 482nd MSS
Christopher Heinbaugh, 482nd AMXS
Stephen Hodges, 482nd SFS
Luis Lozano, 482nd MDS
Edward Sileo, 482nd SFS
Bryan Strong, 70th APS
Stacy Thomas, 482nd SVS

Senior Master Sergeant

Tony Rodriguez, 70th APS
Maria Houle, 482nd MXG

Air Force Reserve seeks applicants for dual-status jobs

By 1st Lt. Torri White
AFRC Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — In the next three years, the Air Force plans to eliminate thousands of military and civilian positions.

As a result, some displaced people might consider a dual-status job as an air reserve technician in an Air Force Reserve Command unit. ARTs are full-time civilian employees and part-time reservists in the same job.

“ARTs are essential for the operational readiness of their Air Force Reserve units,” said Pat Nichols, manager of the AFRC Special Examining Unit at Robins AFB. “They perform the mission and maintain the day-to-day operations of their units while traditional reservists go to work in their civilian job, pursue an education or stay at home.

“In the Special Examining Unit, we are actively recruiting for the ART

program,” Ms. Nichols said. “ART positions open daily, and we are working to fill them immediately.”

The Air Force Reserve has about 10,000 people in the ART program.

Their duties as a civilian employee are similar to those in their reserve assignment. During the normal work week, ARTs serve as civilians in a wide range of jobs in direct support of their unit, including pilots, navigators, maintenance personnel and mission support occupations.

On the military side, they serve as reservists in the Selected Reserve and train with their units at least one weekend a month and during two weeks of annual tour duty. They must maintain continuous active membership in their Air Force Reserve unit of assignment.

In addition to unit stability, the ART program has offered career progression with competitive pay and

retirement benefits since 1958.

Over the years, program benefits have grown. Civilian benefits include a contributory retirement, health benefits, life insurance, specialized training, education, and recognition through cash or honorary awards. Air Force Reserve benefits include military pay for one weekend of training each month, two weeks annual tour training and any additional training or service. While they serve, they build credit toward reserve retirement pay.

Applicants must be willing and eligible to become an active member of the Selected Reserve or already be a member of the Selected Reserve.

For complete details on where to find information on qualification requirements, applications and available positions, read the Air Force Reserve Command News Service story at www.afrc.af.mil and search for “dual-status jobs”.

Air Force Reserve offers a chance to serve

By Master Sgt. Gary Johnson
AFRC Recruiting Service

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — In the next three years, the Air Force will cut some 40,000 active-duty positions. Some of those Airmen will retire, while others will separate and seek civilian jobs.

Still others will join the Air Force Reserve, an integral part of the total force, which allows them to continue the skills they learned while on active duty. The Air Force Reserve’s Vision is to provide the world’s best mutual support to the Air Force and its service joint partners - flying and fighting as an “unrivaled wingman.”

“The process for becoming an Air Force reservist is relatively easy,” said Col. Francis Mungavin, AFRC Recruiting Service commander. “The first step is to seek out an Air Force Reserve recruiter or visit our recruiting Web site at www.afreserve.com.”

Most active-duty installations have a recruiter in the military personnel flight, according to Colonel Mungavin.

The next step is to set up an interview to determine what the applicant wants and what the Air Force Reserve needs. Once it is determined that the Air Force Reserve is a viable option for the person, the process will continue.

Applicants who do not have prior-service experience take an Armed Services Vocational and Aptitude Battery test and a physical examination. These two requirements indicate what positions the person qualifies for. The next step is finding a job that fits both the applicant’s capabilities and meets the needs of the Air Force Reserve.

Administering the oath of enlistment is the final step in the recruiting process. That process varies slightly for prior-service and officer applicants.

The military service obligation for the Air Force Reserve is a total of eight years - six in the Ready Reserve and two in the Inactive Ready Reserve. Enlistment terms for prior-service enlistees vary due to previous time in service.

“People join the Air Force Reserve for variety of reasons,” said Col. Mungavin. “Some sign up out of loyalty to their country. Others want the benefits that come with being a reservist.”

“We know for a fact that some prior-service people join the Air Force Reserve because they miss the camaraderie of belonging to a military unit,” said the colonel. “Sure, people are interested in the benefits, but many of them sign up again and again to be with their friends in uniform.”

Read the complete story at www.afrc.af.mil and search for “chance to serve”.