



In Brief

Commissary

The base commissary will be open 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Nov. 19 and will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22. The commissary will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 23.

Tree sales

A Christmas Tree sale is held from Nov. 24 to Dec. 16 at the visitors center.

HAWC

The Health and Wellness Center is offering a free pedometer-based program, "Stepping through the Holidays," which will run through Jan. 5. For more information, call the HAWC at 283-3826.

Cookie Drive

A cookie drive collection is scheduled from 7-9 a.m. Dec 10 at the docking bay behind the commissary. Approximately 500 dozen homemade cookies for Tyndall's dormitory Airmen are needed for the event. Send an email to tyndallcookiedrive@tyndall.com for more information.

Tyndall Top 3

The Tyndall Top 3 will meet at 3 p.m. Nov. 28 at the Community Activity Center Pizza Pub. Individuals are encouraged to bring a new member to the meeting.



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

The 325th Civil Engineer Squadron Ordnance Disposal Flight took the lead with the Boy Scouts in the annual Salute to our Veterans parade, hosted by Kate M. Smith Elementary School Nov 9. in Chipley, Fla.

A salute to honor the Veterans

STAFF SGT. VESTA ANDERSON
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The warm air, carrying a faint and familiar song from the football field, pushed through the school's labyrinth of corridors. As the sun escaped beyond the trees' grasp, the rays found their place highlighting the red, white and blue of the American flags that decorated the school-grounds.

"I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free..." a schoolgirl from Kate M. Smith Elementary School of Chipley, Fla. rehearsed the song, hitting each note with ease.

The song's emotion hung in the air, as if testifying to the significance of this day to bystanders – it was Veteran's Day and KMS Elementary was hosting

their annual Salute to our Veterans parade.

In this particular tribute, celebrating the men and women who have served their country at home and abroad, the school staff invited three Airmen from the Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight of the 325th Civil Engineer Squadron here to take the lead in the parade.

"It means a lot to the kids and to the veterans in this area that EOD came out today," said Ms. Gina Page, KMS Elementary character education and environmental enrichment teacher, and event organizer.

Tech. Sgts. Peter McNally and Jeff Findley and Staff Sgt. Harold Horton finished setting up their equipment on the dusty track as

the children and teachers walked towards the field, classroom chairs in-tow.

Students' hands leaped into the air for brief seconds to eagerly wave at the Air Force Airmen saying hello and thank you for "fighting the bad guys."

They carried personally made banners, flags and hats. Their faces were decorated with red, white and blue paw prints representing their school's mascot, the tiger. Once the children found their designated locations, they sat down near the track to watch the parade.

The parade was marched for two laps around the school's football

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track. Afterwards, EOD spoke about their role in the Air Force, especially during deployments and highlighted the equipment they use.

EOD brought the newest addition to their flight, a high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle, to lead the way and trailing behind it was an HD-1, the hazardous duty robot.

“The HMMWV is a M1116 model, and it has been out for several years,” said Sergeant Horton. “It’s just like the Army M1114, but with a bigger storage area and more armor.”

Even the impressive HMMWV couldn’t steal all the attention.

“The robot is used for reconnaissance and remote neutralization of improvised explosive devices and unexploded ordnance,” said Sergeant Horton.

Once the ceremony began, the three Airmen stood at ease while the children sang songs from America’s heritage – and finally the National Anthem.

With their right hand pressed against their hearts, the children’s watchful eyes glanced over the flag, the veterans in the stands, and finally to the active duty servicemembers from Tyndall. Noticing that both the veterans and active duty were saluting the flag - some children emulated the action.

“They know the sacrifice our countrymen have made for our freedom,” said Sergeant McNally. “It was nice to see they are proud to stand right next to us and honor us as their heroes.”

During the parade, Sergeant Horton wore EOD’s protective bomb suit made with Kevlar and rode in a trailer behind the HMMWV. Sergeant McNally, who controlled the robot, trailed closely.

As the team passed by, the students stood waving their flags, striving to get the better view than the student next to him or her.

Afterwards, the static display of their equipment was set up.

Approximately 500 students rotated through the four displays: the robot, where a student’s movement was mimicked by the HD-1; the bomb suit, where students nominated

their class teacher to wear the suit; the IED and UXO mockups, where children learned about bomb threats and tested their strength throwing a dummy hand-grenade; and the HMMWV, where the students heard about the duty positions of each individual in a convoy and were able to crawl through the massive vehicle.

EOD troops from all services are one of the most highly deployed and highly utilized career fields in the Global War on Terror, explained Sergeant Findley.

From Tyndall’s EOD flight, four Airmen are currently deployed. EOD deployments last six months to a year, said Sergeant McNally.

Currently, there are two additional Airmen set to leave for the desert in the near future.

The opportunity to see and participate in an event where their service is honored is a welcomed change from their normal environment.

“The kids really made me feel proud to serve,” said Sergeant McNally. “The fact that people in the world care about what their military does made this day a great experience.”



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

Staff Sgt. Harold Horton (bomb suit) speaks with fellow Army veteran from Chipley about EOD’s equipment.



Staff Sgt. Vesta Anderson

Demonstrating the versatility of the HD-1 robot, Tech. Sgt. Peter McNally maneuvers the robot and presents the American flag to KMS Elementary students.

Tigers beat Hurricanes with half court buzzer

(COURTESY OF THE TYNDALL TIGERS)

The Tyndall Air Force Base Tigers men's varsity basketball team improved their season record to 4-1 with a 75-74 win over the Naval Station Mayport Hurricanes Saturday.

They remain tied with Eglin AFB for first place in the Southeastern Military Athletic Conference, thanks to a half-court buzzer beater by Tigers guard Rasheem Ramsey.

Both teams struggled offensively throughout the first half, until the Tigers went on a late run to close out scoring with a 31-28 lead.

In the second half, the Tigers steadily increased their lead by 14 as they appeared to put the game away, 57-43, with 5:22 remaining. The Hurricanes switched to a full-court trapping press to battle all the way back and took the lead, 70-68, with 28.2 seconds remaining in the contest.

With 3.9 seconds remaining, Mayport's Kerega McCollum went to

the free throw line. He connected on the first free throw, putting Mayport up by two points 74-72, but misfired on his second attempt. Anthony Showers rebounded the missed free throw and fired a perfect outlet pass to Ramsey at half court—Ramsey banked in the game winning three-pointer, silencing the boisterous Mayport crowd, before being tackled by his teammates.

Anthony Showers led the Tigers in scoring with 24 points, followed by Marqus Armour with 15 and the trio of Melvin Smith, Frank Vega and Chris Walker all had 10 points. Armour and Showers led in rebounding with 14 and 11. Showers also led in assists with five. Kerega McCollum led the Hurricanes in scoring with a game high of 25 points.

The Tigers are on their bye week this weekend and will return to the hardwood to host the defending SEMAC champions, the Hurlbutt Field Commandos, on Dec. 1.



Chrissy Cuttita

A day to honor

Tyndall's Honor Guard, followed by the grand marshal and base Airmen in formation, participate in the annual Panama City Veteran's Day parade downtown Nov. 12.



Identify this ...

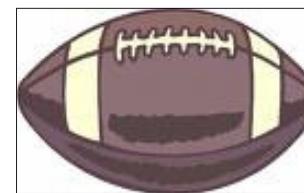
Can you identify this object?

If so, send an e-mail to editor@tyndall.af.mil with "Identify this" in the subject line.

Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to determine the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office.

Tech. Sgt. James Leonard, 325th Fighter Wing, correctly guessed the Nov. 12 "Identify This" as 325th Fighter Wing patch. Congratulations Sergeant Leonard.

2007 Standings Flag Football



(as of Nov. 19)

Team	Win	Loss
AMXS	14	1
SFS	14	1
SVS	12	3
COMM	12	3
MDG	11	4
OSS	10	5
ACS	9	6
MXS	8	7
CES	7	8
MOS	6	9
MSS/FW	5	10
601st	5	10
CONS	2	13
53rd	2	13
823rd	2	13
AFRL	1	14

New program helps get Airmens story to the people

STAFF SGT. TIMOTHY CAPLING
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The public affairs office here is on the search for Tyndall Air Force Base members with deployment experience who have a tremendous experience to share.

In the spirit of Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. T. Michael Moseley's "Portraits in courage" book series—that highlights extraordinary Airmen and their courageous battle stories—public affairs office staff members have created a localized version for the base Web site.

The program, which started Nov. 6, tells three individual's stories—a Tyndall AFB security forces patrolman, explosive ordnance disposal troop and medical group Airman.

"Tyndall Airmen who are trained to serve in an Air Force capacity are now filling Army in-lieu-of positions. They are commonly put in situations where their expertise and training potentially saves lives," said 1st Lt. Amanda Ferrell, 325th Fighter Wing public affairs deputy and program

creator. "Those Airmen are heroes. They're heroes for stepping up to challenging deployment duties, and for excelling while deployed."

Each story will be posted under the features tab on the base Web site.

"We're working to highlight these hometown heroes by documenting the amazing actions of our Airmen in a feature format for fellow Airmen, families and the community to read, enjoy and learn from," Lieutenant Ferrell said.

Public affairs staffs are looking for these individuals from any sources possible.

"We would like anyone with this kind of experience or knows somebody who does to contact us so we can get their story out there," the lieutenant said.

Anyone wanting to share their story or the experience of another call the public affairs office at 283-4500 or e-mail at editor@tyndall.af.mil.



Gobble, gobble

Photos by Lisa Norman

Above: Tyndall Air Force Base servicemembers participated in the 14th Annual Turkey Trot 5k walk/run behind the fitness center Thursday afternoon.

Middle: Airman 1st Class Benjamin Judd, 325th Maintenance Squadron, receive a turkey from Lou South, Fitness Center director, for finishing the race in first place.

Right: 2nd Lt. Heidi Little, 325th Air Control Squadron, was the first female runner to cross the finish line.



Playing The “Away Game”: AEF Readiness

LT. COL. TED DAVIS
325TH AIR CONTROL SQUADRON
COMMANDER

A few years ago, the famous football coach Lou Holtz was featured in an advertisement giving a pep talk to a traveling salesman to motivate him about playing a game on the road, or put another way, the “away game.” In the ad, Coach Holtz talks about the excitement of the opposing fans, the buzz in the locker room, and the added challenge of playing on the other teams’ field, getting the salesman ready for what he would face. The same goes for Airmen in today’s Air Force. As Airmen, we need to be ready for the “away game” by fulfilling our Air Expeditionary Force readiness responsibilities.

The 2006 National Security Strategy of the United States says, “We fight our enemies abroad instead of waiting for them to arrive in our country.” Essentially, it says we prefer the “away game” when it comes to defending our national interests. It declares in simple terms that our national strategy for keeping our security intact rests with us being an expeditionary Air Force, ready to go somewhere else to defend the nation.

Back to the advertisement with Coach Holtz, what he was talking about is very similar to what we face as expeditionary Airmen. The reasons are different, the field is different, the stakes are much higher, but the mindset stems from the same basic principle that we must be prepared to go to a not-so-friendly location to carry out our mission of defending something meaningful to us. We have to be ready by having our affairs in order back at home station so that we can focus on the task at hand at the deployed location.

We must ensure we take what we need where we need it, understanding that the distance back home is often too far to rely on being able to reach back. We must prepare to play the “away game” without the need for dealing with any loose ends.

The idea of being expeditionary isn’t new to our Air Force. The expeditionary Air Force is a concept that has been around for several years now, but the idea of going off to defend freedom and democracy is a part of our military

culture that goes back to the earliest days of our nation. For Airmen in particular, this concept goes back to the Army Air Corps in the First World War when U.S. air power was first used in combat. From World War I until now, that basic principal has not changed.

In sports, the home team is often thought to have the advantage due to familiarity with the environment and field, friendly fans and being collocated with all of their support structure. In the case of being an expeditionary Air Force the enemy entity naturally has similar advantages, such as familiarity with the battlespace, a supportive or sympathetic local populace base and the proximity of logistical support.

AEF readiness is far more serious than a game or sport, so as Airmen we must be as prepared as we can possibly be, on every level of responsibility, to remove whatever advantage our foe may have that comes with fighting at home. These levels range from family and personal affairs to mission readiness and professional proficiency.

The Global War on Terrorism is going on in nearly every theater around the globe in one way or another, demanding us to pay attention to the details because every detail counts. But, the details span a spectrum of readiness areas.

Family readiness is the first and foremost area that an Airman must focus on for AEF readiness. Knowing that our families are set up for success in our absence allows us to focus on our mission and avoid the otherwise preventable distractions. Such distractions include financial problems, cars that won’t run, and children and spouses that weren’t ready for our prolonged absence. We must prepare our families for the long and often unpredictable separation by setting them up emotionally, financially, and with reliable support and resources to carry them through the duration of our time apart.

Children and loved ones should understand as early as possible that we will be gone for a while. Finances should be in order, giving the family reliable access to the funds necessary to keep the household running.

The home and transportation should be as mechanically sound as possible to avoid that annoying major appliance

breakdown or an automobile repair that stresses time available and money. And as simple as it sounds, the often overlooked support of squadron and spouses groups must be understood to ensure the family knows that support is always just a phone call away and that a commander and first sergeant want to help.

Regardless of whether it’s a game or an AEF deployment, we should ensure our personal readiness physically, spiritually and mentally. Physical readiness comes from a fitness-training routine at least three times per week, either individually, in groups or as part of our squadron or unit fitness training.

Spiritual and mental readiness starts with us as individuals, supported by family and our faith.

In the 325th Fighter Wing, our efforts are keenly focused on AEF readiness, as witnessed by our last few exercises. Today, the Air Force AEF library contains more than 85 percent of all Air Force active-duty personnel, according to John A. Tirpak in Air Force Magazine Online, so the chances that we will be called upon is very high. When the call comes, we must be prepared to focus on the mission 24/7, know what the mission is, what our role is in that mission, and be as proficient and as mission ready as we can possibly be.

Catholic Pianist/organist needed

Specifications: Provide musical accompaniment for performances and rehearsals; recruit and train any necessary staff. Assist the Catholic Choir Director and the Catholic chaplain in scheduling and organizing special Catholic religious events that require musical support.

Qualifications: Demonstrate competency and proficiency on the electric piano, piano and organ sufficient to accompany a choir or song leader. Follow the direction of the Catholic Choir Director and Catholic chaplain, as well as, work with a variety of instrumentalist. Demonstrate the ability to work in a pluralist environment. Have at least two years of recent experience in liturgical music as pianist/organist or music teacher. Normal hours of performance are four hours per week.

Applicants shall participate in qualifying interview and demonstration audition, furnish a resume, including academic and work-related references, and submit a bit. Selection will be based on “best value” as outlined in the Statement of Work. The deadline for submissions and demonstration audition is Dec. 3 at noon.

A SOW can be picked up from the Tyndall Air Force Base Chapel 2, building 1470, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call Staff Sgt. William Anderson at 283-2925.

Catholic Parish Coordinator needed

Specifications: Oversee the flow of information to parishioners by way of a weekly bulletin, special mailings, ministry schedules, bulletin boards and all other applicable publicity. Contractor will provide an average of 10 hours per week.

Qualifications: Have at least two-years of experience in Catholic Parish work, which can include religious educations, pastoral, social or spiritual work.

Applicants shall participate in a qualifying interview, furnish a resume, including academic and work-related references, and submit a bid. Selection will be based on “best value” as outline in the Statement of Work. The deadline for application submission is at noon Dec. 3.

A SOW can be picked up from the Tyndall Air Force Base Chapel 2, building 1470, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call Staff Sgt. William Anderson at 283-2925 or e-mail at william.anderson@tyndall.af.mil