



July 13, 2016

BEHIND THE BADGE

OFFICIAL INFORMATION SOURCE FOR THE AIR FORCE RECRUITING PROFESSIONAL



Coke Zero 400

ABOVE: From left, Aric Almirola, No. 43 driver; Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service commander; Master Sgt. Chad Goff, military assistant to the Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force; U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet 1st Class William Farrar; Capt. Megan Harencak, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas; and Lt. Col. David Lederer, 336th Recruiting Squadron commander; pose for photos at the Coke Zero 400 at Daytona International Speedway, Florida, July 2. More than 90,000 people attended the race. LEFT: Members of the 336th RCS Delayed Entry Program are shown on the giant screen as they carry out the American flag. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Battle Creek Airshow

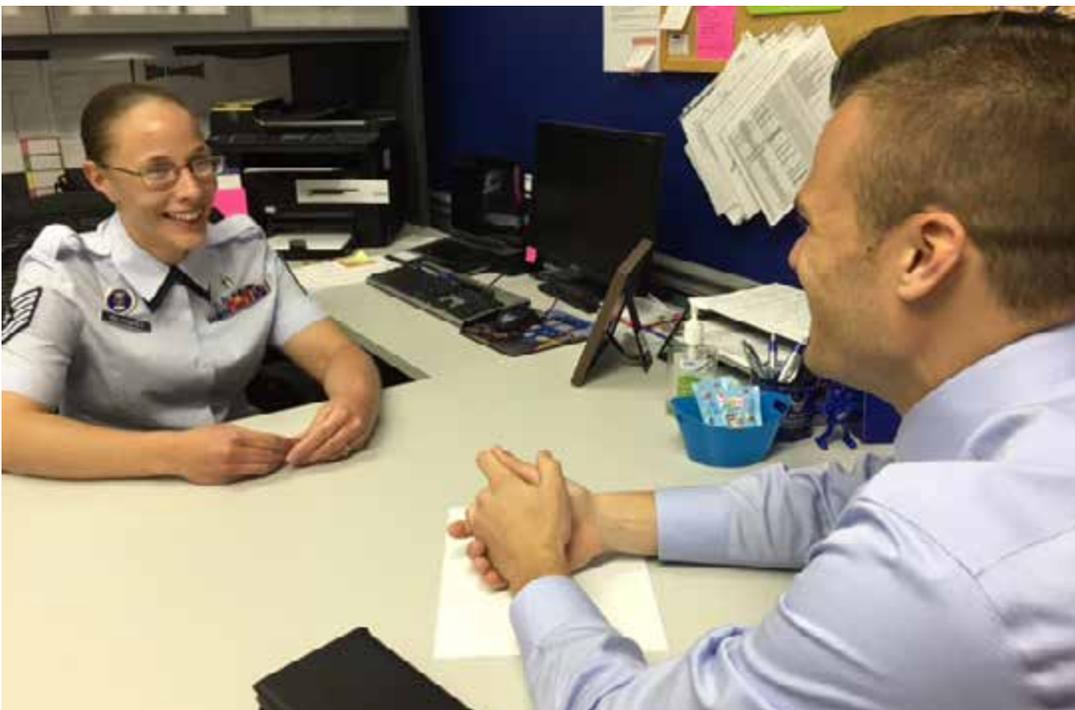
ABOVE: Members of the 339th Recruiting Squadron attend the Battle Creek Airshow at Battle Creek, Michigan, July 2. From left are Staff Sgt. Randee White, Tech Sgt. Gilbert Martinez, Staff Sgt. Nathan Brady and Staff Sgt. Michal Medendorp. White and Medendorp are recruiters in Kalamazoo, while Martinez and Brady recruit in Jackson. CENTER: Members of the 339th RCS A-Flight Delayed Entry Program take the Oath of Enlistment as U.S. Air Force Thunderbird team members stand beside them at the air show July 2. BOTTOM: An F-16 Thunderbird is on display alongside the Air Force Performance Lab at the Battle Creek Airshow. (U.S. Air Force photos/ Staff Sgt. Christian Manuel)





Past and present come together

Air Force Recruiting Service vice commanders of the past seven years gather for a photo at the retirement of Col. Marcus Johnson (second from right) at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, July 1. From left are retired Colonels Michael Brice, Kimberly Toney, Michael Vlk, Michael Romero, Johnson, and the new vice commander, Col. Robert Trayers. Trayers was previously chief of the AFRS Operations Division. (U.S. Air Force photo/Steve McCray)



Radio interview

Tech. Sgt. Charlotte Velasquez, 338th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight, speaks with Ross Caruso of WHIZ News in Newark, Ohio, June 14. Velasquez spoke about Air Force benefits and her experiences during her nine years of service. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Family Day change

Since the designated Air Education Training Command Family Day of Dec. 27 conflicts with a Basic Military Training ship day, Air Force Recruiting Service will observe Family Day, Dec. 23. That date is also a down day for Army Recruiting Command and will allow the U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command to observe that date as a family day as well.



Independence Day celebration

Members of the 314th Recruiting Squadron A- Flight and their Delayed Entry Program attend the Lower Southampton 4th of July Parade at Southampton, Pennsylvania, July 4. From left are Staff Sgt. Russell Caesar, Staff Sgt. An Ki Hong, Tech Sgt. Ryan Cross, and Staff Sgt. Ralph Hall Gonzalez. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Base tour at Dover

Staff Sgt. Nelson Vasquez, 314th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight, takes Delayed Entry Program members and their families on a tour of the Aircrew Flight Equipment shop at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, June 23. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Hill AFB tour

Capt. Kyle Jensen, 372nd Recruiting Group support flight commander, points out details on the SR-71 Blackbird as he leads members of the 372nd RCG and families on a tour of the Aerospace Museum at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, June 28. Jensen, who volunteers weekly at the museum, spoke about evolution of military air power from World War I to present. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Raptor display

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Allen, 338th Recruiting Squadron; Airman 1st Class David Gates, Recruiter Assistance Program; and Depper Kees Van Dijk, Delayed Entry Program, set up the Raptor at the Ohio Police and Fire Games in Lancaster, Ohio, June 12. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Jeffrey Kelloway)



Staff Sgt. Kelsey Blair, 313th Recruiting Squadron D-Flight, poses with members of the Delayed Entry Program in Westchester Square, New York. All the DEP members in the front row departed for Basic Military Training in June. (U.S. Air Force photo)

313th RCS recruiters featured on PBS special

Recruiters from the 313th Recruiting Squadron D-Flight were filmed and interviewed June 1 for the PBS project, “Veterans Coming Home,” in a segment called “A Call to Service.”

The PBS crew followed Tech. Sgt. Olen Gillespie III, Tech. Sgt. Thomas Chiusano, Staff Sgt. Kelsey Blair and Staff Sgt. Lamar Valentina throughout the New York City area, along with members of the Delayed Entry Program.

“Everything went very well,” Gillespie said. “In fact the PBS team was so fascinated with our mission, personal stories, and what we go through on a daily basis that they didn’t stop their cameras till about 1830.”

Filming began at Penn Station as they followed Gillespie arrive at the station and walking to the Times Square recruiting office. While at the office, they captured Gillespie briefing DEP responsibilities for Trainee Fernando Lopez-Sanchez, and prequalifying four walk-in applicants. From there the group headed to Queens.

“There the crew filmed Staff Sgt. Valentina out and about in his zone at Phil & Sons Pizzeria talking to a potential applicant Nathan Francisco while grabbing a quick slice of pizza. Valentina’s IMPACT skills would eventually turn that conversation into an initial appointment at his office,” Gillespie said.

After leaving the Queens recruiting office, the crew covered a DEP commander’s call at the Westchester Square office. The crew filmed/photographed recruiters recording height/weight checks, interacting with DEP members, a physical training workout (strength training), followed by a motivational run. The commander’s call ended with the DEP reciting the Airman’s Creed in the town center of Westchester Square.

Several one-on-one interviews were also conducted throughout the day with both recruiters and trainees. The video can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/vetscominghome/videos/982405755208694/>.

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Tech. Sgt. Olen Gillespie III, 313th Recruiting Squadron, talks to a potential applicant at the Times Square recruiting office (above) and in Queens (below). (U.S. Air Force photos)





Congratulations

Senior Master Sgt. David Jackson, 338th Recruiting Squadron production superintendent, congratulates Tech. Sgt. Jason Harrick, C-Flight, on achieving his recruiter certification in Cincinnati, June 30. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Recruiter certification

Senior Master Sgt. Heather Poff, 318th Recruiting Squadron superintendent, presents Staff Sgt. Raymond Fernandez, 318th RCS, his recruiter certification at the King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, office June 15. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Reenlistment

Col. Eric Espino, 360th Recruiting Group commander, administers the Oath of Enlistment to Tech. Sgt. Ashley Warden, 318th Recruiting Squadron, during her reenlistment ceremony at the Valley Forge National Park, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, June 15. (U.S. Air Force photo)



At the MEPS

Capt. Christina Hayhurst, 341st Recruiting Squadron operations flight commander, swears in Delayed Entry Program members at the Military Entrance Processing Station at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, June 14. (U.S. Air Force photo)

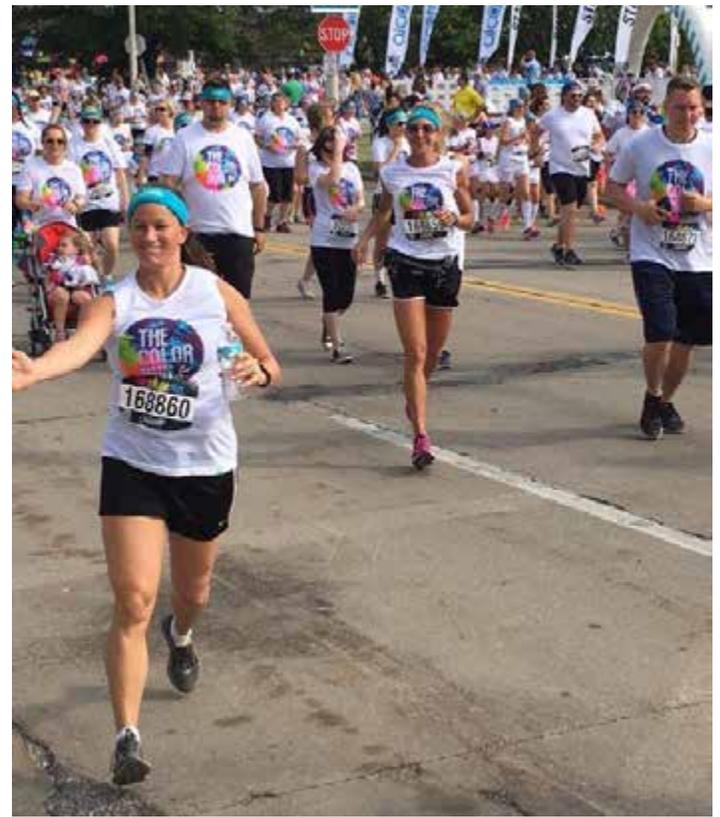


Scholarship winner
Master Sgt. Lorna Allen, left, and Staff Sgt. Jessica Rios, 314th Recruiting Squadron C-Flight, stand with Bradly Durnan at Daniel Boone Area High School in Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, June 2, at his Junior ROTC scholarship ceremony. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Celebration

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Powers and Tech. Sgt. Michele Corning, 348th Recruiting Squadron G-Flight, welcomed 2nd Lt. Jameson Reich to the Air Force family in Clearfield, Utah, June 27. Reich, who was just commissioned, was selected for the Health Professions Scholarship Program. He is the first person in his family to serve in the Air Force. He received the commissioning oath from Lt. Col. Joseph Egresits, 372nd Recruiting Group vice commander, with nearly 20 family members and friends present. Reich and his wife and son are in the center of the photo. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Cleveland rocks

From left, Staff Sgt. Andrew Charvat, 311th Recruiting Squadron line officer recruiter; Master Sgt. Cori Branstetter, 311th RCS G-Flight chief; and Dorothy Petrow, Medina, Ohio, community influencer/personal trainer, pose before the Cleveland Color Run, June 11. (U.S. Air Force photos)