



June 15, 2016

BEHIND THE BADGE

OFFICIAL INFORMATION SOURCE FOR THE AIR FORCE RECRUITING PROFESSIONAL



Never forget

Staff Sgt. Curtis Creech, 339th Recruiting Squadron, had an appointment June 3 with an applicant who brought his parents and grandfather with him. Creech said he could tell the grandfather was prior military as soon as he shook his hand. The man's name was Ken Jobe, a retired Army helicopter gunner who was a prisoner of war in Vietnam for three months. The recruiter said he often looked at the POW-MIA coin he had in the coin collection on his desk, and that he didn't feel worthy to own a coin with such magnitude behind it. He reached for the coin and told Jobe why he wanted him to have it. Jobe accepted and was visibly humbled by the gesture. Later that day, his grandson reached out to Creech telling him how much that meant to his grandfather and the family. Creech, based in Macomb, Michigan, said he would remember that day the rest of his life. (Courtesy photos)



Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, stands with Yokota High School senior Christopher Rickenbach after swearing him in. (Courtesy photo/Jacob Mansberger, Yokota High School)

‘We are all better people’

By Colleen McDougall
Yokota High School News Liaison

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan – During a stop here, the commander of Air Force Recruiting Service, Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, gave the Oath of Enlistment to high school senior Christopher Rickenbach in front of his classmates, family and friends. The general told the crowd that, “We are all better people because we took this Oath of Enlistment,” and said that “We in America’s Air Force are thrilled to have Chris join.”

“I feel incredibly honored knowing that I’m taking a step toward not only a family tradition, but the start to a great adventure,” Rickenbach said.

His mom, Beatrix Wagner, said she felt “honored to have raised a child who will serve his country with his best ability. Chris decided to serve and follow in the footsteps of pretty much every family member. It was very kind of the general and his staff to take time from their busy schedules to give

Chris recognition in front of his peers and the friends he grew up with and who look up to him.”

The general’s visit included a review of the Air Force Junior ROTC cadet Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Lab, unique in the Pacific with its flight simulators, rocketry, marksmanship range and remote-controlled aircraft. JROTC cadets led the way, showing the general and his staff aspects of Yokota’s robust JROTC program, comprising more than one-quarter of the school’s students.

Harencak welcomed Rickenbach to the Profession of Arms Center of Excellence, stating: “You are joining the Air Force family where the newest Airmen are valued, embraced and empowered to succeed today and well into the future.”

The PACE Team recently spoke with 374th Airlift Wing Airmen, including the JROTC cadets. Yokota’s JROTC is the first cadet unit to incorporate PACE concepts into their curriculum. Cadets Harvey and McDougall are leading the implementation of the pilot program.

See ‘Better People’ on Page 3

'Better People' continued from Page 2

Using mentoring and experience-based training, Yokota cadets embraced the PACE concepts after attending the PACE *Enhancing Human Capital* workshop. A culture of leadership begins with the newest cadets. First year cadets are introduced to a more empowering transformation leadership style.

A collaborative team focused on bottom-up perspectives gain insight and ownership of unit operations at the lowest level. First year cadets, in-turn, are encouraged, trained and mentored to assume leadership positions with the cadet corps at a much earlier grade level. For unit mission execution, cadet leadership formed a Cadet Programs Directorate whose

primary function is two-fold: provide a strategic (long-range) direction for the Cadet Corps; and develop character, core values, commitment, and leadership from a *bottom-up* perspective.

Yokota cadets are the beta-test unit for Air Force JROTC and are working collaboratively to develop real-life applications for JROTC, ROTC, and Civil Air Patrol, similar to the Airman's Week at Basic Military Training. The Yokota High School cadets have just earned their fifth Air Force JROTC Distinguished Unit Award, recognizing them as being in the top 10 percent of 890 AFJROTC units worldwide.



Maj. Gen. Garrett Harencak, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, successfully lands at Yokota on the Air Force Junior ROTC simulator with Cadets Kaylynn Harvey and Michael McDougall. (Courtesy photo/Jacob Mansberger, Yokota High School)



The 23rd secretary of the Air Force, Deborah Lee James, pauses with CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Joe Vazquez at National Headquarters' history exhibit to share her thoughts on the value and significance of CAP's role as a part of the Air Force Total Force. The display features artifacts from the organization's 75 years of service. (Civil Air Patrol photo/Susan Schneider)

SecAF praises performance of new Total Force partner

By Steve Cox
Civil Air Patrol Public Affairs

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James made modern-day history when she toured Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, May 4. It was the first official visit by such a high-ranking civilian military leader in two decades.

“We were honored that Secretary James took time to visit her auxiliary,” said CAP’s chief operating officer, Don Rowland, who has worked at National Headquarters for nearly 30 years. “She wanted to come and was so interested in meeting with those who perform our missions.”

The 23rd secretary of the Air Force arrived with a great knowledge of the Air Force auxiliary’s missions and its importance to America.

“Civil Air Patrol has been doing a magnificent job for our country,” James said. “This is the 75th anniversary of Civil Air Patrol. And, on average, CAP has provided 100,000 flying hours per year of very vital services, to include search and rescue and counterdrug operations.”

During her tour of national headquarters, James visited the aerospace education/cadet programs area and spoke with two cadets from the Alabama Wing, Cadet Lt. Col. Ava Michl and Cadet 1st Lt. Antonio Esposito.

“She heard about the impact of CAP in their lives,” Rowland said. “She saw firsthand that CAP is a leader in STEM education.”

Visiting with James were Lt. Gen. Steven L. Kwast, commander and president of Air University at Maxwell AFB;

CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Joe Vazquez; and CAP-USAF Commander Col. Michael Tyynismaa.

During James’ tour of the cadet program/aerospace education area, she also received updates from CAP program managers.

“We take young people who have an interest in aviation and transform them into tomorrow’s aerospace leaders,” Curt LaFond, CAP’s deputy director of cadet programs, told James. “Moreover, we challenge them to abide by our core values — integrity, volunteer service, excellence and respect. Whether a CAP cadet joins the Air Force, enters the civilian aerospace industry or just grows into a responsible citizen, America wins.”

Civil Air Patrol’s promotion of aerospace education and STEM, and how its outreach to schools nationwide helps prepare youth for potential STEM careers, was the topic of Jeff Montgomery’s presentation to James. Montgomery is CAP’s deputy director of aerospace education at national headquarters. Montgomery said CAP’s STEM efforts inspire 75-80 percent of its participants to consider these career fields.

James also was briefed at the National Operations Center, where CAP routinely coordinates its Air Force-assigned missions.

Since 2002, the NOC has coordinated mission approval for CAP operations in support of federal, state and local authorities across the U.S., said John Desmarais, CAP’s director of operations. The NOC coordinates approval for



Coined

Tech. Sgt. Michael Bahr, 367th Recruiting Squadron, is coined by retired Air Force Col. Lou Brackett, vice commander of the Grand Junction, Colorado, American Legion at the Junior College Baseball World Series opener Memorial Day weekend. Bahr represented the Air Force in the flag presentation and the national anthem. Based in Grand Junction, Bahr is one of two Air Force recruiters whose area of responsibility is one-third of the state of Colorado – 31,000 square miles. (U.S. Air Force photo)

'Total Force' continued from Page 4

thousands of missions annually with 1st Air Force, 11th Air Force and Pacific Air Forces.

“CAP’s more than 55,000 ‘Airmen’ stand ready to assist the Air Force whenever we are needed,” Vazquez told James.

James left with a greater knowledge of CAP and its missions and an appreciation for the new Total Force partner.

“What a great morning at @CivilAirPatrol,” she tweeted upon her departure. “The contributions CAP makes to the Total Force are invaluable!”

The 2015 recognition of CAP as part of the Total Force reflects the organization’s growing role within the Air Force since 9/11, including flying as targets for air defense training and simulating complex unmanned aerial vehicle operations for deploying troops.

These missions, along with dozens of others, highlight CAP’s important role in support of the Air Force and other branches of the U.S. military as well as federal, state and local agencies. CAP conducts a wide range of humanitarian missions while also helping shape the nation’s youth through its cadet programs and promoting STEM in U.S. classrooms through aerospace education.

Over time, being part of the Total Force will likely mean additional missions for CAP’s volunteer civilian airmen. Also, Air Force leaders will now consider its assets and capabilities when planning how to most effectively and efficiently carry out noncombatant missions.

“Today’s Air Force is the smallest Air Force that we have been since we became a separate service in 1947,” James said. “Yet we are globally engaged, all over the country and all over the world. Everyone wants more Air Force.

“For this reason, I am so glad that we were able to change our doctrine last August and formally recognize the Civil Air Patrol as being part of our Total Force. It really has been that way for decades, but we finally have recognized it. For this reason, because we are so busy, I am certain that we are going to continue to value the Civil Air Patrol for the next 75 years and beyond.”

“Such interest, from the very top echelon of the Air Force, is greatly appreciated,” Vazquez said. “[Secretary James’ visit] lifts our spirits and further bolsters CAP’s reputation as one of the nation’s premier public service organizations.”



Command chief visit

Chief Master Sgt. Charles E. Lamer Jr., Air Force Recruiting Service command chief, spent four days visiting with Airmen of the 364th Recruiting Squadron. He and Chief Master Sgt. Matt Macho, 364th superintendent, covered more than 850 miles in their travels. ABOVE: Lamer visits with members of the 364th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight and D-Flight at the Military Entrance Processing Station in San Jose, California, May 4. From left are: Staff Sgt. Justin Chatman, B-Flight; Staff Sgt. Charles Lyons, D-Flight; Staff Sgt. Matius Yasahardja, B-Flight; Tech. Sgt. Stevie Coscolluela, B-Flight; Staff Sgt. Bryan Winterstein, B-Flight; Tech. Sgt. Tracy Howard, B-Flight; Staff Sgt. Joshua Mackay, line officer recruiter; Macho and Lamer; Staff Sgt. Junita Moore, B-Flight; Staff Sgt. James Beedles, Master Sgt. Helenor Luna and Tech. Sgt. Scott Swaters, San Jose MEPS; and Master Sgt. Ismael Lopez, B-Flight chief. (U.S. Air Force photo)



More photos on Page 7

Chief Master Sgt. Charles E. Lamer Jr. and Chief Master Sgt. Matt Macho address the 364th RCS E-Flight and F-Flight at the Roseville, California, flight-centric office May 5. From left to right in the circle are Master Sgt. Greg Reyes E-Flight chief; Tech. Sgt. Angelo Mejia E-Flight; Staff Sgt. Jamel Stallings, F-Flight; Tech. Sgt. Vincent Clark, line officer recruiter; Staff Sgt. Tony Grabarczyk, E-Flight; Staff Sgt. Lindsey Gibson, Operations; Staff Sgt. Nicholas Patton, F-Flight; Staff Sgt. Zachery Loven, F-Flight; Master Sgt. Lance Bautista, F-Flight; Staff Sgt. Michael Garlit, F-Flight; Master Sgt. James McNee, F-Flight chief; Macho; and Lamer. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Members of the 364th RCS G-Flight present Chief Master Sgt. Charles E. Lamer Jr. with their flight T-shirt in Stockton, California, May 3. From left are Staff Sgt. John Medley, Staff Sgt. Ross Leon Guerrero, Lamer, Tech. Sgt. Christopher Forman (G-Flight chief), Staff Sgt. Marc Rocha, and Staff Sgt. Joshua Howard. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Chief Master Sgt. Charles E. Lamer Jr. visits with members of the 364th RCS E-Flight and F-Flight in Roseville, California, May 5. From left are Tech. Sgt. Levi Overcash, F-Flight; Master Sgt. Greg Reyes, E-Flight chief; Tech. Sgt. Vincent Clark, line officer recruiter; Staff Sgt. Jamel Stallings, F-Flight; Staff Sgt. Tony Grabarczyk, E-Flight; Tech. Sgt. Angelo Mejia, E-Flight; Master Sgt. James McNee, F-Flight chief; Lamer; Staff Sgt. Zachery Loven, F-Flight; Master Sgt. Lance Bautista, F-Flight; Staff Sgt. Nicholas Patton, F-Flight; Staff Sgt. Michael Garlit, F-Flight; Staff Sgt. Lindsey Gibson, Operations; and Jeff Adams, F-Flight. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Tech. Sgt. Colt Kelley (above left) and Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Johnson, assigned to the 332nd Recruiting Squadron, helped save a motorcyclist's life in Nashville, Tennessee, April 17. (U.S. Air Force photos)

Two 332nd RCS NCOs help save a life

Two NCOs from the 332nd Recruiting Squadron were on their way home after a marketing event April 17 when they came upon the scene of a motorcycle accident in Nashville, Tennessee.

According to Tech. Sgts. Colt Kelley and Benjamin Johnson, the rider had been traveling at a high rate of speed and couldn't negotiate a curve; he crashed into the guardrail and sustained serious injuries.

While Johnson called for emergency services and directed traffic to make way for first responders, Kelley used his belt to apply a tourniquet to the rider's shoulder.

"From my perspective everything happened so fast," Johnson said. "My security forces background taught me to

perform during high intensity situations and look for ways to take control of situations."

Johnson added that Self Aid Buddy Care and other field medical training played a role in their decision-making process.

"The 911 dispatch directed us not to put a tourniquet on the individual, but his loss of blood and other failed attempts to stop the bleeding had failed. There was no other option if he was to survive," Johnson said. "After everything settled down a police officer came up to us and said 'That tourniquet saved that man's life.' We knew the right decision was made."

A follow-up call to the hospital the next day confirmed that the individual lived.



Commissioning ceremony

Staff Sgt. Brian Boes, 318th Recruiting Squadron, attended the Health Professions Scholarship Program tri-branch graduation/commissioning ceremony for Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis at the JW Marriott in Indianapolis, May 6. LEFT: Boes renders the first salute to Capt. Matthew Parrish. Three officers were commissioned as captains upon their graduation from IUPUI School of Dentistry. (U.S. Air Force photo)



From left are Capt. Immanuel Jacquez, HPSP recipient in general dentistry, who has an assignment to the University of Washington; Staff Sgt. David Saurez, Air National Guard recruiter; Capt. Jessica Barton, HPSP recipient in general dentistry, with orders to Scott Air Force Base, Illinois; Staff Sgt. Brian Boes, 318th RCS; and Capt. Matthew Parrish, HPSP recipient in general dentistry, with orders to Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. (U.S. Air Force photo)



At the ballpark

The 349th Recruiting Squadron participated in the Oklahoma City Dodgers Military Celebration Night at Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark in Oklahoma City, May 14. Recruiters from all branches were present, and the Air Force held a Delayed Entry Program swear-in before the first inning. ABOVE: Recruiters from E-Flight include, from left in the front row, Staff Sgt. Herschell Miller, Master Sgt. Stephen Hudson, Tech. Sgt. Terense Johnson and Master Sgt. Eduardo Torres; and in the back row, Staff Sgt. Michael Lawhorn, Tech. Sgt. Homero Morales, Staff Sgt. Jonathan St. Sauver and Staff Sgt. Mark Pough. BELOW: Staff Sgt. Mark Pough speaks with DEP members before they swear in. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Ring the bell

LEFT: Tech. Sgt. Brian Lee and Tech. Sgt. Cherie Jackson, 369th Recruiting Group Operations, ring the bell signifying a successful month of making goal in May. BELOW: Col. Patricia Sergey, 369th RCG commander, addresses the headquarters team, highlighting the 969 job reservations made by nine squadrons, surpassing the highest group goal in the command this fiscal year (944). "These kinds of numbers have not been seen in the 13-plus years," Sergey said. "Just an incredible job by everyone!" (U.S. Air Force photos)





Flight-centric office in Arizona

The 362nd Recruiting Squadron D-Flight marked the grand opening of its new flight-centric office in the Westgate Entertainment District in Glendale, Arizona, May 18. Members of the local community had the opportunity to meet the recruiters who will inspire, engage and recruit future Airmen to deliver air power for America. From left in the front row are Senior Master Sgt. Mark Pennock, 362nd RCS production superintendent; Sam Chavira, Yucca District Councilman; Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers; Col Dennis Tucker, 372nd Recruiting Group commander; Maria Mcalister, 362nd RCS D-Flight administrator; Tech. Sgt. Cody Boyce, 362nd RCS line officer recruiter; Lt. Col. Erin Meinders, 362nd RCS commander; Master Sgt. Timothy Bernau, 348th RCS Health Professions flight chief; and Master Sgt. Mark O'Brien, 362nd RCS first sergeant. D-Flight Delayed Entry Program members are in the back row. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. David Valencia)



Flight-centric office opens in New Jersey

The 314th Recruiting Squadron G-Flight celebrated the opening of its new flight-centric office with a grand opening ceremony in Union, New Jersey, May 17. In addition to the ribbon-cutting, the 314th RCS welcomed a new honorary commander – Maryanne Cantu of Greater Media New Jersey. Bob Pallo of the Pocono Raceway entered alumni status. From left are Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Rivas; Pallo; Lt. Col. George Peasant, 314th RCS commander; Maj. Gen. Garrett Harenca, Air Force Recruiting Service commander; Cantu; Col. Eric Espino, 360th Recruiting Group commander; and Senior Airman Darren Turner. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Jason Rodriguez)



Off to Alaska

The second flight-centric office in the 361st Recruiting Squadron opened in Anchorage, Alaska, May 10. From left are Senior Master Sgt. Jack Wolcott Jr., 361st RCS production superintendent; Lt. Col. Jason Scott, 361st RCS commander; Forrest Dunbar, local community leader; Col. Dennis Tucker, 372nd Recruiting Group commander; Chief Master Sgt. Paul Gallagher, 372nd RCG superintendent; Chief Master Sgt. Matthew Jackson, 361st RCS superintendent; Master Sgt. Patrick Bergeron, flight chief, Alaskan operations. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Recruiting Salutes

Capt. Deanna Franzen, 344th Recruiting Squadron Operations Flight Commander, presents an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to Kim Eckstrom in front of the senior class at Paris High School in Paris, Texas, May 20. Eckstrom was instrumental in engaging the entire school in the X-1 Supercar visit by encouraging teachers to integrate the car into their lessons plans throughout the week, culminating in the largest number of leads gathered at a single event by that asset. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. James Gilliland)



Acknowledging support

Lt. Col. Travis Brabec, 347th Recruiting Squadron commander, presents an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to Jack Pelton, CEO/Chairman of the Experimental Aircraft Association, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, May 25. EAA has regularly hosted Air Force aircraft and recruiting swearing-in ceremonies at its annual EAA AirVenture fly-in at Oshkosh, the world's largest aviation fly-in event. Brabec also has a long EAA connection, as he was a 1991 graduate of the EAA Air Academy, the annual youth residence aviation summer camp held at Oshkosh each year for youths ages 12-18. (Courtesy photo/Dick Knapinski, EAA)



Honoring veterans

Melrose Veterans Memorial Middle School in Melrose, Massachusetts, hosts an annual Memorial Day assembly to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. This year they paid special tribute to female veterans, and the 319th Recruiting Squadron took the opportunity to present an Air Force Recruiting Salutes plaque to Lisa Lord, a Melrose history teacher who started the Melrose Veterans Program Project in 2007. LEFT: Lt. Col. Amy Goff, 319th RCS commander, presents the plaque to Lord on stage at the event. (U.S. Air Force photo)



ABOVE: 8th grade students from Operation Remember at Melrose Middle School surround Lt. Col. Karen E.M. Dillard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology ROTC commander; Lt. Col. Amy Goff, 319th RCS commander; Lisa Lord, recipient of the Air Force Recruiting Salutes award; Tech. Sgt. Christina McGuire, 319th RCS training and marketing; and Staff Sgt. Lizzette Perez, 319th RCS recruiter in Danvers, Massachusetts. LEFT: From left are McGuire, Perez, Massachusetts Congresswoman Katherine Clark, Dillard and Goff. (U.S. Air Force photos)





A proud tradition

Tech. Sgt. Arthur Jackson, 318th Recruiting Squadron, presents a commissioning certificate to 2nd Lt. Tyler Goodwin in Raleigh, North Carolina, June 2. The lieutenant was commissioned by his grandfather, retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Roy Goodwin, for the Medical Corps Health Professions Scholarship Program. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Commissioned

Second Lt. Emiko Perkins, center, was commissioned as a clinical nurse at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, May 18. She's shown with her husband, Tech. Sgt. Jerry Perkins, 344th Recruiting Squadron, her son, and Lt. Col. Kathy Sevell, 2nd Medical Group chief nurse, who commissioned her. Perkins worked with Tech. Sgt. Kelvin Ignacio, 342nd RCS health professions recruiter, to obtain her commission. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Kelvin Ignacio)



Parade of honor

Staff Sgt. Gary Oxley, 338th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight, sits in the squadron Raptor surrounded by members of the Huntington, West Virginia, fire department. The group was part of a parade May 12 honoring artifacts from the World Trade Center as they traveled through Huntington. Oxley is based in Barbourville, West Virginia. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Mock crash site

Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Nye, 311th Recruiting Squadron Marketing and Logistics NCO, participated in a mock drunk driving crash response at Peters Township High School in McMurray, Pennsylvania, May 27. The exercise was a joint venture with local law enforcement, the fire department where Nye volunteers, EMS, coroner, life flight, and a local funeral home to give students a look at the effects and aftermath of combining alcohol and vehicles. The scenario played out in front of nearly 1,500 students, and involved vehicle extrication, arrests, establishing a landing zone, and other aspects. Nye is the firefighter applying wheel chock to the white SUV in the photo. (Courtesy photo)



Taking the oath
 Three future Airmen had the opportunity to state their Oath of Enlistment in an all-service ceremony before a Los Angeles Dodgers game May 24. The three are shown at left: Malik Ball, Ronald Garcia and Tariq Budd. Their recruiter is Staff Sgt. Alan Crawford, 369th Recruiting Squadron, based in Los Angeles. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Special recognition
 Staff Sgt. Aaron Cain, 362nd Recruiting Squadron, stands with retired Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer Robert O'Neil at the Men and Women in Uniform Award Ceremony at the Red Hill Country Club in Rancho Cucamonga, California, May 21. The event recognizes active duty service members and local public safety individuals. Cain received certificates of recognition from California Senators Mike Morrell, 23rd District, and George Runner, 1st District; the city of Rancho Cucamonga and its mayor, Dennis Michael; and a certificate of special congressional recognition from Pete R. Aguilar, 31st Congressional District. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Remembering those who gave all

Members of the 368th Recruiting Squadron, led by Lt. Col. William Parker, commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Carmelo Vega-Martinez, superintendent, placed flags at each gravesite at the Utah Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Riverton, Utah, May 28, to honor the sacrifices of members from all military branches. Family members and future Airmen in the Delayed Entry Program also participated. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Welcome to the DEP

Staff Sgt. Alfred Trinidad, 368th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight, stands with his two newest Delayed Entry Program members, Carain Dadvias and Bianka Thompson, in his office in Las Vegas, May 19. He presented them both with certificates of enlistment during the DEP commanders call. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Signing day

Staff Sgt. John Burns and Staff Sgt. Javone White, 339th Recruiting Squadron, attended a ceremony at Airport High School in Carleton, Michigan, May 12, which was geared toward seniors and their career aspirations after their graduation. The Community College of the Air Force was on full display, making it look as if the Air Force had sponsored the entire ceremony. Similar to National Signing Day for college sports, the recruiters set up an event that paid special tribute to two seniors who are joining the Air Force: Alex Eby, going into the mechanical aptitude area, and Jacob Fahnestock, who will be a Tactical Air Control Party Airman. They put out signs for the three major universities in the area, along with the Air Force, and the two future Airmen selected their choice (see photo on left). This was White's first day on the job; he succeeded in getting his name out in the school and in the media who covered the event. From left (above) are Burns, Eby, Fahnestock and White. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Recruit of the year

A Memorial Day event in Livonia, Michigan, included a ceremony honoring the area's Recruit of the Year, May 28. LEFT: From left are retired Air Force Master Sgt. Frank Howard, Junior ROTC instructor; James Trotta and his grandson Chris, the Recruit of the Year; and Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Baumgartner, 339th Recruiting Squadron. RIGHT: Trotta salutes the mayor of Livonia after receiving his award. (U.S. Air Force photos)



On the air

Staff Sgt. Jefferson Aguiar is interviewed by Tyler Walje during "The Fast Lane" at 1310 KFKA in Greeley, Colorado, May 19. Aguiar, from the 367th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight, spoke about the process to join the Air Force, benefits and his own personal testimony. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Distinguished educator

Rosie Bingham, Savannah-Chatham Public School District in Savannah, Georgia, was one of 23 educators who attended the Air Force Recruiting Service Distinguished Educator Tour in San Antonio, April 26-29. With 12 high schools, her district is the largest in the 336th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight zone. On average, more than 400 students cross her path in the Office of College and Career Readiness each school year in preparation for the future. Bingham has the greatest impact by being able to reach all levels in the local school system. With this tour, Bingham had an inside look at what the Air Force has to offer future Airman, and returned with a new vision on just how the Air Force can change and better lives. "I was under the impression everyone in the Air Force flew planes," Bingham said. "I was able to get a real feel for the Air Force mission. We were briefed on all of the wonderful educational benefits that the Air Force provides such as the CCAF and how they promote higher learning for all Airmen. It was just a wonderful experience and being coined by the general helped cap the event." ABOVE: Bingham, in black and white, gets a close-up look at an aircraft at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. LEFT: Master Sgt. Roy McGuire, 336th RCS recruiter, presents a certificate of appreciation to Bingham May 11. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Painting a Navy town Air Force blue

Since November, Tech. Sgt. William Magill, 331st Recruiting Squadron, has been working with the 12th Flying Training Wing command chief and members of the 479th Flying Training Group on creating a bigger Air Force presence in Pensacola, Florida, home of the Navy's Blue Angels. The team scored big with their latest event at Blue Wahoos Stadium, May 7. In addition to a Delayed Entry Program swear-in, Airmen were involved with the national anthem, posting of the colors and the first pitch of the game. ABOVE: Lt. Col. Ramon Dejesus, 479th FTG, conducts swears in members of the Pensacola area DEP. The crowd included more than 300 members and families of the 479th FTG, 70-plus DEP members' families, and a sell-out crowd. (U.S. Air Force photo)



ABOVE: Col. John Edwards, 479th FTG commander, and DEP member Dylan Siu talk about throwing the first pitch of the Pensacola Blue Wahoos game. RIGHT: Siu stands with Bubba Watson, PGA pro golfer, a Pensacola native and part owner of the baseball team. (U.S. Air Force photos)





Tour at Joint Base Charleston

Staff Sgt. Jamathan George, 336th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight, set up and coordinated a multi-career day and base tour at Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, May 4. More than 80 Air Force and Navy Delayed Entry Program members attended the behind-the-scenes tour which included a look at avionics, mechanical and the security forces career fields. ABOVE: From left are George, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Malandrus Bryant, and Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Woods, 336th RCS A-Flight. LEFT: George, Woods and Staff Sgt. Thomas Trivett, also of A-Flight, take a photo with DEP members. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Tour at Moody AFB

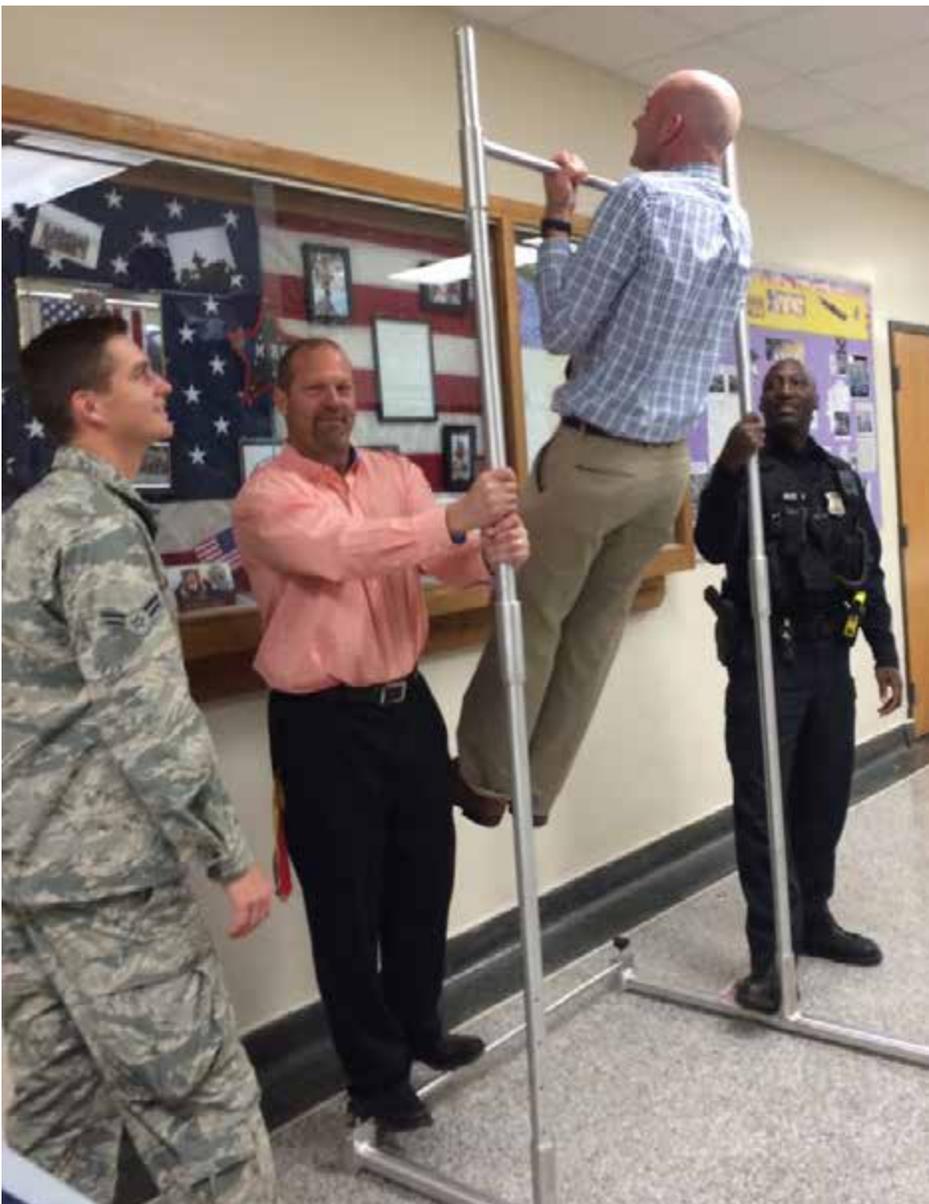
Staff Sgt. Joshua Ortiz-Medonza, 336th Recruiting Squadron B-Flight, arranged a tour at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, for Naval Junior ROTC cadets from Brunswick County High School in Valdosta, Georgia, May 13. Cadets not only learned about the A-10 Thunderbolt II mission, they spoke with Airmen in 23 career fields. ABOVE: Ortiz-Mendoza, based in Brunswick, stands by an A-10 with two Naval JROTC cadets. LEFT: The recruiter and cadets pose for a group photo in front of an A-10. (U.S. Air Force photos)



A visit to Hill AFB

ABOVE: Tech. Sgt. Jordan Lloyd, left, and Tech. Sgt. Ronnie Iglesias, right, stand next to an MK84 bomb with Delayed Entry Program members and prospective applicants from the 368th Recruiting Squadron E-Flight during a tour of Hill Air Force Base, Utah, May 18. The group visited the dining facility, dormitories, BX, commissary and several operational units. Lloyd is based in West Valley and Iglesias in Salt Lake City. (U.S. Air Force photos)





School visit

Tech. Sgt. Jessica Welch, 339th Recruiting Squadron, visited Bay City Western High School in Auburn, Michigan, May 5, and conducted a push-up/pull-up challenge with students, faculty and law enforcement. Welch, based in Caro, was invited to have members of her Delayed Entry Program work out with the wrestling team during the summer and she secured a special operations center of influence event. ABOVE: Faculty members do push-ups. LEFT: Airman 1st Class Jared Banning, Recruiter Assistance Program, watches as a faculty member does pull-ups. (U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. Jessica Welch)



Raising their right hand

ABOVE: Fifty Delayed Entry Program members from the 361st Recruiting Squadron are sworn in at a joint ceremony at the 6th Annual Operation Recruit Enlistment Dinner at Saint's Martin's University in Lacey, Washington, May 4. This event honors those who have joined the armed forces. LEFT: At the event from left are Tech. Sgt. Michael Williams, H-Flight chief; Staff Sgt. Michael O'Brien, C-Flight; Staff Sgt. Crystal Plourde, line officer recruiter; Tech. Sgt. Matthew Detzel, H-Flight; Miss Thurston County Kuinn Karaffa; Staff Sgt. Shawn Blair, H-Flight; Staff Sgt. Eric Ross, H-Flight; Staff Sgt. Lindsey Kutty, C-Flight; and Staff Sgt. Breann Hill, C-Flight. (U.S. Air Force photos)



Helping the community

Staff Sgt. Adriana Arscott and Staff Sgt. John Ramsey, 369th Recruiting Squadron, joined forces with three Airmen participating in the Recruiter Assistance Program to collect shoes and clothing for Goodwill in Huntington Beach, California, May 13. The group, shown with Vanessa Bañuelos from Goodwill, collected 44 bags and boxes, amounting to about 645 pounds. The Airmen on RAP duty were Airmen Alexander Osborn, Luis Sandoval and Joseph Wase. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Spartan racers

The 368th Recruiting Squadron C-Flight competed in the Montana Spartan Race in Bigfork, Montana, May 7-8. Master Sgt. Carl Marquardt (center), C-Flight chief, along with his son, Caden (left), and Tech. Sgt. Andrew Brower, based in Billings, ran the 13.4-mile course with 30 obstacles. The entire flight attended the marketing event, and ran the Sprint 4.4 mile course with 20-plus obstacles. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Regional competition

Members of the 313th Recruiting Squadron were on hand at the CrossFit Games East Regional Competition at Times Union Center in Albany, New York, May 27-29. The Air Force was the only military service represented at the event. The special operations recruiting booth was a big hit, thanks to the efforts of two combat controllers who gave personal testimony to booth visitors. ABOVE: From left are Tech. Sgt. Ledra Thomas, Staff Sgt. Jordan Chaplin, Airman Basic Shane Alber, Tech. Sgt. Adolfo Ramos, Lt. Col. Ray Fernandez, Airman Basic Cory Schermerhorn, Senior Airman Michael Delano, Tech. Sgt. Nina Butler, Senior Airman Matthew Mehallick and Tech. Sgt. Marie Garcia. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Lt. Col. Ray Fernandez, 313th RCS commander, swears in a group of Delayed Entry Program members at Times Union Center in Albany, New York, May 28. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Brazilian Jiu Jitsu champ

Tech. Sgt. James Mikus, a health professions recruiter assigned to the 348th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight in Aurora, Colorado, displays his awards from the 2016 Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Colorado State Championships in Denver, May 14. Mikus became the new 2016 BJJ Colorado State Champion in both Gi and No Gi. He is now preparing for the Pan Am Championships and World BJJ Championships. (U.S. Air Force photo)



CrossFit Regionals

Tech. Sgt. Andrea McGuire sits at the Air Force booth, complete with pull-up bar, just before doors open to the CrossFit South Regional Championships at the Dallas Convention Center, May 13-14. McGuire is with the 344th Recruiting Squadron A-Flight. The event featured competitors from the southern U.S. competing for a spot at the national championships in California. The Air Force booth was part of a comped partnership. The honor guard from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, presented the colors at the opening ceremony. Ten Delayed Entry Program members were sworn in by Capt. Deanna Franzen, 344th RCS Operations Flight commander, and the ceremony was streamed on the crossfit.com website. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Atlantic Regionals

From left, Staff Sgts. Shonda Hooper, Scott Andrew and Sydney Wilson are shown at the 2016 Reebok CrossFit Atlantic Regional in Atlanta, May 20-22. Hooper and Wilson are 336th Recruiting Squadron F-Flight recruiters based in Conyers. Andrew is a Tactical Air Control Party Airman assigned to Fort Stewart in Savannah. (U.S. Air Force photo)