



## Two Harbor Bay residents win scholarships



Photo by Airman First Class Rylan Albright

**Ron Hanson, Interstate Realty senior vice president, along with Col. Larry Martin, 6th Air Mobility Wing commander, awards April Vannoy with the Interstate Realty Management Education Foundation Scholarship at the Davis Conference Center at MacDill Tuesday.**

**by Amanda Weeks**

Harbor Bay Privatized community manager

Two MacDill residents will be heading to college this fall with a little help from their friends at Harbor Bay Community. Janis Boutin and April Vannoy have been awarded educational scholarships by a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with Michaels Military Housing, the private company that manages the family housing at Harbor Bay Community. Col. Lawrence Martin, 6th Air Mobility Wing commander, along with Ron Hanson, Harbor Bay Housing senior vice president announced the scholarships at the base town hall meeting Tuesday night.

This is the second year Harbor Bay residents have been awarded scholarships from the property management company's educational foundation.

"We're very proud of Janis and April, they represent the hard work and intuition we respect in our servicemembers and their families," Colonel Martin told those attending the town hall meeting. "We truly appreciate the support of Michael's Housing for our families."

Mrs. Boutin and Vannoy are both spouses of servicemembers currently stationed at MacDill. Mrs. Boutin was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship

and Mrs. Vannoy was awarded \$3,500 for tuition expenses at any accredited college, university or vocational training program in the country. While they remain residents of housing managed by a Michaels Organization, they can also apply for continuing grants throughout the course of their education.

To qualify, both applicants had to meet certain criteria, including a grade point average above 2.5. They also wrote essays and offered personal references as part of the application process. According to Colonel Martin, both Janice Boutin and April Vannoy not only "met the criteria, but exceeded it."

Mrs. Boutin, 35, plans to attend Saint Leo University, where she will major in business. While Mrs. Vannoy, 24, is a nursing student at Galen College, and will enter her second year in the fall.

The Michaels Organization manages family housing at five military installations, including MacDill. It is a family of companies dedicated to excellence in affordable, mixed-finance, and military housing founded in 1973. The organization's affiliated non-profit, Interstate Realty Management Educational Foundation, has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships to more than 1,100 students who reside in communities owned or managed by Michaels.