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Keesler News on Web: http://www.keesler.af.mil



Dragons deployed — 83 Develop America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Denise Nichols receives medication from Maj. Beth Dion, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, Aug. 31 in the inpatient multi-service unit. Mrs. Nichols is one of 30 patients admitted to the medical center since inpatient services resumed. She and her husband, retired Sailor Thomas Nichols, live in Biloxi. Major Dion, who's assigned to the 314th Medical Group at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., is providing manning assistance here until November.

Expansion of services for patients continues

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

"You've come a long way, baby" may best describe the ongoing expansion of patient services at Keesler Medical Center.

Nurses and medical technicians worked tirelessly for more than a month to prepare intensive care, post anesthesia care and ambulatory surgery on Ward 2A and multi-service on Ward 4A to accept patients by Aug. 15.

The resumption of inpatient services was officially marked by a special ceremony Aug. 29 featuring remarks and a ribbon-cutting by Lt. Gen. James Roudebush, Air Force surgeon general.

Still more services resumed this week with the opening of the family practice, pediatrics and women's health clinics.

What made the effort to restore inpatient care more significant is it wouldn't have been possible without the contributions of medics sent to Keesler to provide assistance. They came from other military medical facilities, as well as from the Air Force Reserve Individual Mobili-

Please see Services, Page 9

This week in the Triangle

Aerospace control and warning systems operator, 9:30 a.m. today, Bryan Hall. Airfield management, 10 a.m. today, Cody Hall.

Communications-computer systems planning and implementation, 10 a.m. today, Thomson Hall.

Computer networking cryptographic system, 10 a.m. today, Bryan Hall. Air traffic control radar, 9:30 Tuesday, Cody Hall. Personnel, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Wolfe Hall.

Communications-computer systems control, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Thomson Hall. Ground radio communication, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jones Hall. Air traffic control tower, 9 a.m. Wednesday, Cody Hall.

Information management, 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Thomson Hall.



Student numbers

Total students — 3,384 Non-prior service — 2,165 Temporary duty — 1,199 Combat controllers — 20

Non-prior service arrivals — 117 Guard, Reserve — 753 International — 52

Fiscal 2006 graduates — 23,819 Total since 1942 — 2,231,880

COMMENTARY

Through conflicts, disasters — American spirit never fails

By Col. Deborah Van De Ven

81st Training Group commander

What is it that made a world-famous race car champion who had no legal or moral obligation, leave the race course and join the Army Air Service in 1917, then shoot down 26 enemy aircraft to become the leading American ace of World War I?

What is it that enabled a World War II gunner to pick up a flaming magnesium flare and carry it to the copilot's open window, with the flames blinding him and searing the flesh from his hands, arms and face, and toss the flare overboard to save the aircraft and crew?

What is it that allowed our mechanics to work hour after hour in subzero temperatures in Korea to keep our fighters and bombers in the air, and our radios and radars operating on the ground?

What is it that made the pararescue man refuse to be lifted from the jungle in Vietnam to stay with an injured pilot, risking almost certain death?

What is it that kept the troops working in the debilitating heat of the Middle East during Operation Desert Storm and again during Operation Iraqi Freedom?

What is it that keeps that security policeman on patrol ready to put his life on the line for any one of us here at home?

What continues to drive our men and

women worldwide to do their jobs, to accomplish the mission, to protect their friends, even at great personal risk?

I can see this potential in every new class that comes to the 81st Training Group. Each student is full of promise and eager to get to the field to make their mark on the Air Force and the world. I see it in action from our star performers leading the classes in academics, and stepping up to provide leadership within their own squadrons.

It may be even more evident in that borderline combat controller candidate struggling with every class and barely completing his required physical training, but never giving up the pursuit of his dream of being part of the finest military in the history of the world.

Could there be any better example of it than the single mother tearfully handing her 3-year-old daughter to her grandmother and turning to walk to the deployment line, while the child pleads with her not to go.

So, what is "it?" It's the metal that has been used to forge our military since 1775 when the American Revolution began. That metal has been soaked in the blood of countless of our predecessors. It's been tested in hot wars and cold wars. It's withstood natural disasters and terrorism. It never fails.

It's courage, fortitude, professionalism, dedication to duty and determination — it's the American spirit.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

For your convenience, below is a list of key customer service phone numbers at Keesler:

Base locator — 377-2890 **Base operator** — 377-1110 **Base taxi (official use)** — 377-2430 Career assistance adviser — 377-3697 Central medical appointments - 1-800-700-8603 Child development center — 377-2211 Civil engineering — 377-5561 Civilian personnel — 377-2268 Military personnel flight — 377-2276 **Keesler Federal Credit Union** 385-5500 Emergencies — 911 Family campground — 594-0543 Airmen and family readiness center - 377-2179 **Finance** — 377-4212 81st Communications Squadron help desk — 377-0066 Housing — 377-9741 Identification cards — 377-3203 Inspector general — 377-3010

Legal assistance — 377-3510 Library — 377-2181 Lodging (reservations) - 377-9986 Medical center information -377-6550 **Military pay** — 377-7272 Pass and registration — 377-3893 Pharmacy (refill call-in) — 377-6360 Satellite pharmacy — 377-9791 Public affairs — 377-2783 **Red Cross** — 377-3030 Sexual assault prevention and response team — 377-8635 Law enforcement desk — 377-3040 Shoppette, Class Six — 432-2367 **Telephone trouble** — 377-2130 Traffic management (outbound) - 377-2446 Traffic management (inbound) -377-7813 Visitor center — 377-2595 **Youth center** — 377-4116

Vote — it's not only your right, it's your responsibility

By Capt. Rick Alford

386th Air Expeditionary Wing SOUTHWEST ASIA — Voting is one of the most important things a

member of a democratic republic can do. The United States has a long history of voting, starting on Sept. 17, 1787, when the Constitution was adopted and the founding fathers set

in place the process we now use to elect our country's presidents. The first presidential election was held in 1789 when the Electoral College unanimously elected George Washington. During the 1820s and 1830s, a number of states joined the union, each with its own constitution and most with limitations that prevented women and men of any race other than white from voting.

Women such as Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Stanton formed groups that argued for women's rights in 1840. These groups took root and grew. In 1848, the Women's Rights

Convention was held in Seneca Falls, N.Y., where the attendees agreed that women should have opportunities to go to college, become doctors and lawyers, own land and vote.

As immigrants continued to flood to America, a new political group called the Know-Nothings was formed in 1850. This group at its heart was anti-immigrant. In an effort to prevent immigrants from voting, this group pushed for literacy tests, because at the time, most immigrants and African-Americans were illiterate.

Congress passed its next big piece of legislation in 1866 known as the 14th Amendment in an attempt to protect U.S. male residents who were at least 21 years of age from voting obstacles. Susan B. Anthony, who was already in the public eye by this time, also founded the American Equal Rights Association in 1866 with Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

In 1869, Congress passed the 15th Amendment granting the right to vote to all men regardless of race, color or previous servitude. However, while advancing the right to vote for minorities, this amendment specifically prohibited women from voting. In 1872, Ms. Stanton attempted to vote in direct violation of the 15th Amendment and was arrested.

In 1878, a constitutional amendment, later known as the 19th Amendment, introduced to Congress to grant women the right to vote. It finally passed in 1920. The 24th Amendment, passed in 1964, prevented the use of poll taxes to keep minorities from voting.

In 1965, the Voting Rights Act was

signed by President Lyndon Johnson, which prohibited the use of literacy tests and complicated ballot boxes. Finally in 1971, the 26th Amendment was signed which lowered the minimum voting age from 21 to 18.

You may be asking yourself why I took the time to let you in on a little history behind your right to vote. The answer is simple. Your right to vote was procured through a long history of war, civil war and civil atrocities.

Men and women of every race, nationality and ethnic origin stood on the firm belief that every person has a right to have their voice heard. As a citizen of the United States, you not only have a right to vote, you have a responsibility to vote, to have your opinions heard, and to set this country on its next course. Your voice will only be heard if you vote. So, get out and vote.

Keesler News

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Phone numbers and Web sites for information and accountability for Keesler members: Keesler Accountability Team 1-800-673-9356 Air Force Personnel Center 1-800-435-9941

http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ndw 81st Civil Engineer Squadron readiness 377-3811 or DSN 597-3811

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

http://www.msema.org

National Weather Service

http://www.nws.noaa.gov

Keesler Public Web site http://www.keesler.af.mil



Keesler's 2006 safety goals

Make safety ... a core value, a best business practice, a competitive and asymmetric advantage. Make every employee ... feel safe at work and home.



If you've had too much to drink, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving, 377-7283, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Thursdays before down Fridays, working Fridays and Saturdays.

To start, stop, increase or decrease Keesler News delivery, or for display racks, facility managers call 377-4130.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Exercise eyes readiness of deploying members

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Last week's deployment exercise was the first to employ the processing line at an alternate location since Hurricane Katrina damaged the deployment processing facility.

The exercise, staged at Hangar 4, is one of four required during the annual air expeditionary force cycle.

About 115 people from Keesler Medical Center, command post and the 334th Training

Squadron were involved, according to Senior Master Sgt. Patrick Cavanaugh, superintendent of the exercise evaluation team.

"The exercise allowed us to evaluate the capabilities of the many moving pieces necessary to effectively deploy personnel on short notice taskings and to validate the readiness of deploying personnel," Sergeant Cavanaugh, said.

"Despite some minor stumbles along the way, we were able to successfully process and deploy the tasked personnel," he added.



Staff Sgt. Davidette Rogers, left, gets some help from Master Sgt. Lynn Higginbotham in donning her chemical warfare suit during a drill designed to test troops' ability to survive and operate during combat. Both are from the 81st Medical Support Squadron.



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Senior Airman Trakeila Autman, left, 81st Mission Support Squadron, checks Sergeant Higginbotham's identification eligibility during the Aug. 31 deployment exercise.

New commander on deck

Command Master Chief Mary Kleitz, left, briefs Cmdr. Dean Sadanaga, new commander of Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit. Commander Sadanaga replaces Cmdr. Ken Schwingshakl, CNATTU's commander for the past year, who's now with Maritime Civil Affairs, Norfolk, Va. Commander Sadanaga, who took command Friday, spent the past two years at Stennis Space Center in Hancock County. His first assignment was deputy assistant chief of operations for Naval Meteorological and Oceanographic Command, followed by an emergency role as the Navy's housing director following Hurricane Katrina. In January, he became the command's director of information technology.

Photo by Mike Jones



New development program targets civilians as leaders

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A new leadership development program called GS-15 LD provides a total force development vision for Air Force civilians in the GS-15 grade, preparing them for senior roles in the Department of Defense.

"We're working hard to prepare these people to successfully lead at the Senior Executive Service level," said James Neighbors, director of Air Force Senior Executive Management.

"This program is designed to help people understand and execute the evolving Air Force mission as we move forward," Mr. Neighbors said.

A learning development program geared toward GS-15s started in 2003, but was updated in 2004 to the current GS-15 LD program. The voluntary program is based on the following five foundational principles:

Integrate other senior leader deliberate development efforts.

Incorporate broader force development initiatives.

Advancement career field management initiatives.

Create broad avenues to develop a cadre of GS-15s with multiple perspectives.

Enhance career management and development services for those who are committed to this vision.

Mr. Neighbors said there are certain expectations a GS-15 needs to assume when volunteering for this program.

"One of the expectations is that you are willing to become an Air Force corporate asset, which means you will serve when and where the Air Force needs you and we will consider personal needs as much as possible," he said. "Also, you can expect your career to be managed and expect a lot of structured assistance, much like general officers, SESs and colonels."

The philosophy behind the push for serving when and where needed and becoming a corporate asset is now gaining momentum from the Office of the Secretary of Defense on down as one of the mechanisms used to create a national security enterprise, Mr. Neighbors said.

"Not only do we need to be able to move

Criteria

The positions offered under the GS-15 LD program must also meet certain criteria:

Strategically significant to the success of the Air Force mission.

Require premier leadership skills and enduring competencies from Air Force Doctrine Document 1-1.

Provide critical experience for advancement to a greater leadership responsibility, and require reassignment of a seasoned GS-15.

Positions usually have management responsibility at the second level of supervision or above.

"Positions that meet this criteria are usually the leader of a line or mission-directed organization comparable to a wing or group designated unit or a major functional or staff support activity at the headquarters, major command or numbered Air Force level," said James Neighbors, director of Air Force Senior Executive Management.

people within our service, but also move people within different services and government agencies, in order to give them the enterprisewide perspective necessary to perform effectively as executives in the national defense arena," he said.

Mr. Neighbors said last year 134 people submitted packages to take one of the GS-15 developmental positions in the program. There are currently 122 positions available and program officials are working to open up as many of the positions to the GS-15 LD Program participants as possible.

"Starting next year, these GS-15 LD positions will be three-year positions and then the person will move on to the next development experience or successfully compete for an SES position," he said.

Any Air Force civilians in positions with permanent grade of GS-15 or GS-15 equivalent are eligible to apply for the program, provided they haven't declined a GS-15 LD position within the last two years, according to Mr. Neighbors.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Parking lot closure

The parking lot southeast of the Keesler NCO Academy is closed 7:15-10:45 a.m. Sept. 13 for drill evaluations.

In the event of inclement weather, the lot is open.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Rosetta Lee, 377-2740.

Virtual assistant class

Sept. 26 is the deadline for active-duty military spouses of any service assigned to Keesler to apply for an October course to help them learn how to be "virtual assistants."

The course is Oct. 3 and 5, with an evening "spouse with a mouse" session Oct. 4 for the spouse and military member.

Self-employed virtual assistants provide offsite business support services. Assignments



are sent through e-mail, phone, fax, mail, diskette transfer, and real-time online messaging.

Lana Smith from the airman and family readiness center is the certified instructor.

Perfect student

Airman Basic Stephen Swircek earned a perfect score on all eight blocks of the 16-week communications and computer systems control course. Airman Swircek, from Omaha, Neb., is headed to the 51st Communications Squadron at Osan Air Base, Korea.

The online application is at http://www.msvas.com/appli cation_keesler.htm.

For more information, call Ms. Smith, 377-2179 or 8593.

CCAF scholarships

The Keesler Chiefs Group provides three \$150 scholarships twice a year to airmen basic through technical sergeants pursuing their first Community College of the Air Force degree.

Sept. 29 is the deadline to submit an application and an essay titled "The Value of Education to an Airman/NCO" to the education office or a chiefs group member.

For more information, call Chief Master Sgts. E.J. Williams, 377-2315, or Donald Seaton, 377-5203.

Physical therapy

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials are taking applications for the physical therapy doctoral program which begins Dec. 18, 2007, at the Health Science Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Active-duty Airmen with a bachelor's degree or who are in the final semester before receiving a degree that includes program prerequisites and are medically qualified for world-wide duty may apply.

Qualified applicants, call DSN 665-2775 or 1-210-565-2775 for applications.

AFOSI training

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations is recruiting to fill Reserve individual mobilization augmentee staff and technical sergeant special agent positions.

For more information, contact OSI Reserve Affairs, 1-240-857-0866, DSN 857-0866 or mary.mesa@ogn.af.mil.

News and Features



Photo by Kemberly Groue

From left, General Crear, accompanied by Col. Anthony Vesay, presents one of his command coins to General Capasso.

Task Force Hope Corps of Engineers acknowledges Keesler's role in Katrina recovery

Army Corps of Engineers and Keesler News staff

The day after Hurricane Katrina's one-year anniversary, the leader of the Army Corps of Engineers Task Force Hope in Mississippi paid a visit to Keesler's commander to express his appreciation for the base's support.

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, who also commands the Corps of Engineers Mississippi Valley Division headquartered in Vicksburg, presented one of his command coins to Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander.

In turn, General Capasso presented General Crear his command coin and the wing's Operation Dragon Comeback coin.

The Corps of Engineers began area recovery operations from Keesler just days after Hurricane Katrina devastated South Mississippi. Keesler provided office space, communications, lodging and dining for the engineers.

Hurricane Katrina, the worst natural disaster and costliest hurricane in U.S. history, affected 90,000 square miles across five states and displaced 400,000 people. A preliminary estimate of Katrina's total damage is roughly \$75 billion, compared to about \$42 billion in damage in Florida in 2004 from hurricanes Frances, Charley, Ivan and Jean combined.

other local, state and federal partners, including Keesler, mounted an unprecedented multifaceted effort to assist in the recovery and rebuilding of storm-ravaged areas.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency called on the corps to provide short-term support, such as transporting ice, temporary shelter and medical supplies immediately after the storm, as well as long-term support, including Operation Blue Roof, debris removal and providing temporary school classrooms and public structures to state and local governments.

As of Aug. 29, Katrina's one-year anniversary, slightly less than 200 Corps of Engineers personnel, local hires and contractors remain assigned to Mississippi Task Force Hope, compared to more than 3,800 personnel at its peak. Altogether, nearly 4,900 corps employees have supported the hurricane recovery effort in Mississippi over the past year.

"The Corps of Engineers is scheduled to finally depart Keesler on Nov. 1," said Lt. Col. Charles Dunn II, 81st Mission Support Squadron deputy commander. "Our relationship has been superb."

Maria Or, Army Corps of Engineers, and Susan The Corps of Engineers, in conjunction with Griggs, Keesler News staff, contributed to this report.

IN THE NEWS

Gas available on base again

Gas is available at the base service station again. Four new pumping stations with a total of eight hoses opened Sunday, while construction of the new Army and Air Force Exchange Service complex continues.

Voting assistance booth

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today, a voting registration booth in the pit area of Muse Manor offers absentee voting assistance, as well as Mississippi registration materials.

"Nov. 7, general elections are held for 33 senators, all 435 representatives and 37 governors," said Maj. Aaron Albers, installation voting assistance officer. "Unit voting representatives can help interested people take advantage of their right to register and request absentee ballots."

Airman dies in Iraq

Air Force Print News

Master Sgt. Brad Clemmons, 37, from Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, died Aug. 21 when his convoy vehicle struck an improvised explosive device en route to Taji, Iraq.

AETC commander visits Biloxi

Gen. William Looney III, commander of Air Education and Training Command, speaks about the global war on terrorism at a Sept. 21 luncheon in the Magnolia Room at Beau Rivage Resort and Casino.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for the noon event hosted by the Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce. Uniform is short sleeve blue shirt with open color.

The menu includes petite filet mignon and lump crab cakes, garden salad, vegetable medley and dessert.

The cost is \$25, or \$300 to reserve a table for 10. Monday is the deadline to reserve a spot and pay for tickets and tables with cash or checks payable to the Biloxi Bay Chamber.

For reservations, e-mail jerry.taranto@keesler.af.mil or call public affairs, 377-7329.

Commissary shopping privileges

Because of the impact of Hurricane Katrina, Keesler's Department of Defense civilians and nonappropriated fund and Army and Air Force Exchange Service employees may continue to shop at the commissary until Sept. 30.

Shopping privileges don't include employees working with private contractors on base.

Salute to Military Oct. 17

Plans are being finalized for the 28th annual Salute to the Military, 6 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi.

The guest speaker is Adm. Edmund Giambastiani Jr., vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are: **Biloxi** — Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park. The park is off-limits except during daylight hours or official events.

Pascagoula — Carver Village, Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway.

Moss Point — Toni's Lounge.

Services,

from Page 1

zation Augmentee Program. While the wards on the medical center's second and fourth floors, respectively, weren't directly affected by Hurricane Katrina's storm surge Aug. 29, 2005, the heat and humidity resulting from the facility's loss of electricity took their toll on medical equipment and supplies. The upper floors were uninhabited for months until reliable power and fire protection equipment became available again.

The reconstitution began right after the Fourth of July holiday.

"Any supplies that were here — sterile needles, dressings, etc. — had to be disposed of," explained Maj. William Gress, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, who led the team that readied the ICU. "All shelving and sinks had to be wiped down with bleach as well. Then we had to reorder and restock supplies and equipment."

Lt. Col. Lidia Webb, 81st Medical Operations Squadron multi-service unit element leader who directed the rejuvenation of the unit, observed, "It was interesting coming in here since the storm. The effect was profound: greeting cards from patients and their families thanking the staff for their care were still hanging. It was like a ghost town."

Colonel Webb just returned to the medical center. She was reassigned to Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., in 2002.

"We developed a clinical refresher orientation because the staff that was here hadn't done clinical work in almost a year," she said. "A lot of the staff that came for manning assistance also hadn't done inpatient work in some time."

Colonel Webb added they developed a four-day training course for incoming nurses to include didactic and hands-on training.

As of Aug. 24, Ward 4A had three permanent-party nurses and nine medical technicians. They were supported by seven nurses here on fourmonth manning assistance tours, two of them IMAs. The



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Staff Sgt. Damien Williams and Airman Angela Berrent, 81st MDOS, stock new exam room cabinets in a corridor of the newly-renovated family practice clinic Aug. 31. The family practice, pediatric and women's health services clinics resumed patient care this week.

Ward 2A staff consisted of seven nurses and seven medical technicians, all permanent party.

Tech. Sgt. Lavada Singleton, 81st MSGS, added, "A lot of us had to learn to multitask. Because so many people had PCSed, we had to fill in for them. We had to rebuild the unit — equipment, supplies, everything."

Maj. Gustavo Flores, 81st MSGS, found himself in somewhat unfamiliar territory.

"I normally work in an operating room setting. It's different caring for ambulatory patients," he said. Colonel Webb said of the

Colonel Webb said of the Ward 4A staff, "What really helped was the breadth and depth of experience the staff has. We have a number of NCOs and field grade officers who brought a lot of experience and diversity with them which they eagerly share. They are enthusiastic and independent thinkers."

Nita Mullins, 81st MSGS PACU clinical nurse, praised the assistance the pharmacy provided the unit, saying "We couldn't have opened the PACU without them." The Ward 3A staff had to prepare for the resumption of surgery.

Their circumstances were more fortunate than their compatriots on Wards 2A and 4A. The surgical unit moved into the recently-renovated labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum unit.

The staff is using the unit's two operating rooms while the medical center's main operating rooms on the second floor undergo renovation. That project is scheduled for completion this fall.

"We had to ensure everything met the standards for an operating room," said Lt. Col. Barbara Coppedge, 81st MSGS operating room element chief. "We focused on how sterilized equipment would be taken to and from the area. Infection control was paramount."

As Brig. Gen. (Dr.) James Dougherty, 81st Medical Group commander, said in a message announcing the return of inpatient care to the medical center, "The men and women of the 81st MDG are very happy to be the Air Force's newest hospital."

Personnel Notes

Editor's note: This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

Assignment preferences online

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Enlisted Airmen can now change their assignment preferences online through the virtual military personnel flight, as the Air Force continues personnel services delivery transformation.

As of Tuesday, enlisted Airmen are responsible for updating their own assignment preferences online through vMPF.

Airmen wanting to make updates to the assignment preferences are directed to instructions found in the self service actions section of the vMPF.

For more information on this initiative, call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775 (Option 1,1,2), 1-210-565-5000, or DSN 665-5000.

Korean medal process automated

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Officials from the Air Force Personnel Center have recently added the Korean Defense Service Medal to its list of personnel processes automatically updated in the Military Personnel Data System.

The new process automatically updates an Airman's record in the data system for those who served in Korea on permanentchange-of-station status for 30 or more consecutive days.

Commanders' support staffs update records for Airmen who serve in Korea for 30 consecutive days on temporary duty. CSS members also update all Airmen who serve in Korea for less than 30 consecutive days, but who qualify for the KDSM by serving more than 60 nonconsecutive days temporary duty.

Airmen should review their medals and ribbons on the awards and decorations page available through the virtual military personnel flight on the AFPC Web site at http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/ to ensure they're updated with the appropriate medal. The KDSM should appear 30 days after an Airman's qualification date.

All eligible Airmen receive one KDSM, with no devices for consecutive tours or TDYs. Upon review, if the KDSM is missing, Airmen should contact their CSS to update their records.

For more information. call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775 (Option 1,1,2), 1-210-565-5000 or DSN 665-5000.

Verifying deployment credit

For information on verifying deployment credit, call the Air Force Personnel Center's field activities office, DSN 665-2671 or commercial 1-210-565-2671.

Update duty history online

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Airmen are responsible for reviewing their duty history and requesting changes, additions or deletions online through the virtual military personnel flight.

Airmen can enter the vMPF by logging onto the Air Force Personnel Center's secure Web site where they can access their duty history under "Most Popular Applications" or "Self-Service Actions/Personal Data."

Members requesting an action related to duty history can log on to the Personal Services Delivery Transformation Web site and click on "duty history" at http://ask.afpc.randolph.af. mil/psd. Check the related link for a tutorial on updating your duty history online.

Finance students come to aid of school hit hard by Katrina

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

A comment overheard by a Keesler student at the movies turned into a windfall for students at St. Martin High School, which was hit hard by Hurricane Katrina.

"I overheard two teachers discussing the kids that were coming to the new school year unprepared," explained Amy Galeazzo from the Air Force Audit Agency, Robins Air Force Base, Ga. "I told them that our class wanted to do some community service projects for the area while we were here. The teachers told me that last year they had numerous donations of school supplies, but as of mid-August, there were none for high school students."

Ms. Galeazzo, a civilian student in the basic financial management officer course in the 335th Training Squadron, called Tammy Hill, a counselor at the school for a list of "must have" items. Ms. Hill said the school had received many calls from parents who were unable to afford the needed supplies.

Classes 060801 and 060601 collected more than \$400 to buy supplies. Additionally, Ms. Galeazzo contacted Wesley



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Brian Rinehart, left, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii; Capt. Yassine Goutali, an officer from Tunisia; Vanessa Millett, Peterson AFB, Colo., and 2nd Lt. Ryan Boivin, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, unload the donated school supplies. They're students in the basic financial management officer course in the 335th TRS.

Walker, a friend back home in Warner Robins, Ga., who teaches and sponsors the Beta Club at Northside High School. Mr. Walker got students involved, put out drop boxes and contacted a friend at nearby Hawkinsville High School who got more students involved.

"I drove to Georgia Aug. 25 expecting to pick up a few boxes of supplies from the schools," Ms. Galeazzo said. "There were enough boxes to fill my car from front seat to trunk."

The supplies delivered to the school Aug. 28 included 50 binders, 130 packs of loose-leaf paper, 1,500 pencils, 1,000 pens, 100 notebooks, 300 folders, 15 book bags and a variety of colored pencils, markers, glue, book covers and scissors.

Tunnel of fun

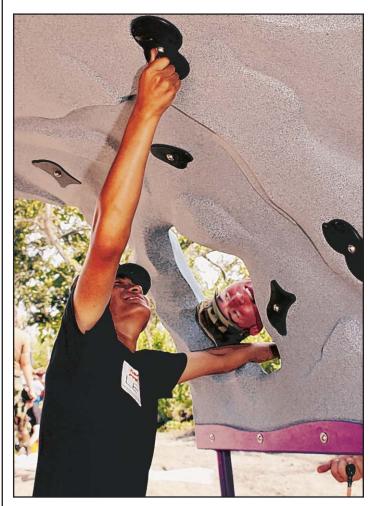


Photo by Kemberly Groue Airman Basic Vang Le, left, and Airman 1st Class Jesse Parisot, students in the 332nd Training Squadron, help assemble a climbing tunnel for the new playground in Henry Beck Park in Biloxi. The project was part of the city's observance of the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Aug. 29.

Lunch is served

Staff Sgt. Timmie Odom, 81st Medical Support Squadron nutritional medicine flight, prepares lunch for a Keesler Medical Center patient Aug. 21. Inpatient services resumed at the medical center on Aug. 15. As of Aug. 23, nine patients have been admitted to the facility. Meals are being provided through an agreement with the Veterans Administration Gulf Coast Health Care System, Biloxi. Plans call for the Keesler dining facility kitchen to reopen in October to provide meals to patients. The facility's dining area is tentatively scheduled to open in November for staff and visitors.



Utility disruption common during demolition work

81st Civil Engineer Squadron

Utility outages are common occurrences during the housing demolition process, according to officials with the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron.

"The housing office makes every effort to notify residents of projected disruptions to gas, electricity, cable and water service, and we make every effort to keep outages to a minimum," said Michael Reese, housing flight chief. "Unfortunately, there may be some unplanned outages, also."

The maintenance staff can relight water heater pilot lights in homes.

For assistance, call housing maintenance, 374-0003.

Photo by Steve Pivnick

Katrina response benchmark for Air Force rescue

By Airman 1st Class Eric Schloeffel

347th Rescue Wing Public Affairs

MOODY Air Force Base, Ga. — On Aug. 29, 2005, the third-strongest hurricane ever to hit U.S soil made landfall on the Louisiana and Mississippi border.

Soon after, rescue crews from here were called on to perform search and rescue on a scale previously unseen.

"The Katrina relief effort was a benchmark for Air Force rescue," said Col. Joseph Callahan, 347th Rescue Wing commander. "Never before had we placed so many assets together to execute a rescue mission.

5 aircraft usually tasked

"Air Force rescue has a long history of preparing to assist civilian authorities following a natural disaster," the colonel said. "Placing aircraft and crews on alerts whenever a hurricane approaches is something we've been involved with since the day I joined the Air Force. But historically, the number of aircraft actually tasked for a hurricane was normally less than five."

Hurricane Katrina couldn't be described as a "normal" storm. It passed through southern Florida as a tropical storm before strengthening for several days in the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico, where it reached Category 5 hurricane status with maximum sustained winds of 175 mph.

When the storm reached the coastline at 6:10 a.m. Aug. 29, with sustained winds of 125 mph, the 347th RQW took on substantially more than the standard hurricane tasking.

"When the eventual number of Air Force HH-60Gs (Pave Hawks) tasked for the mission grew to 23, along with a force of five HC-130Ps and three C-130Es, it was a bit more than I expected," Colonel Callahan said. "However, considering the size of the disaster, all of that force was certainly needed."

Path of death and destruction

The hurricane battered the coastal regions of Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama, leaving a path of death and destruction. Though missing the brunt of the storm, heavy rain breached several levees in New Orleans, flooding 80 percent of the city, with some areas under more than 20 feet of water.

Thousands of people who ignored evacuation orders or were unable to flee the area were stranded on the upper levels of buildings or on rooftops. Without clean water, food and medical supplies, many were in danger of illness or death.

To bring relief to stricken areas, the 347th RQW had to plan how to utilize all assets for such a large undertaking.

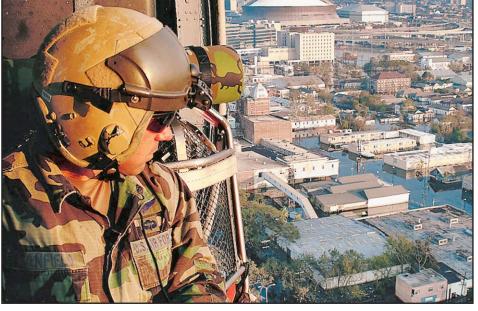


Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Huntington

With a force of 26 helicopters and about 400 people, pararescue teams composed of reservists and active-duty Airmen rescued more than 4,300 people in the New Orleans area after Hurricane Katrina breached several levees. The teams located and retrieved residents, dropped them off at a collection point and then circled around again looking for more.

"Katrina went a long way in proving Air Force rescue is America's first responder, and our force is ready, capable and willing to assist anyone at anytime to ensure others may live."

- Colonel Callahan

The first Moody aircraft to arrive on scene was from the 41st Rescue Squadron, which landed in Mississippi the day after the hurricane hit. The 71st Rescue Squadron was also in the air providing refueling and cargo support.

From there, Moody crews joined other rescue components such as the geographically separated 563rd Rescue Group from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., and Nellis AFB, Nev.; 16th Special Operations Wing from Hurlburt Field, Fla.; 106th Rescue Wing Air National Guard unit from New York; 920th Rescue Wing from Patrick AFB, Fla., and assets from Air Force Space Command and Air Mobility Command.

All rescue components worked as one team to meet steep mission demands.

"The total force rescue team was launching flights of HH-60s over New Orleans and Mississippi every two hours around the clock for eight- to 12hour missions," Colonel Callahan said. "No matter what time of the day, flight line maintainers were preparing or fixing aircraft, crews were planning search areas, C-130s were arriving to drop off more personnel and equipment, and flights of helicopters were taking off.

"Part of the reason we were able to quickly combine forces and work as a single team was because most of us knew each other from past exercises and operations," he added. "It was this constant total force approach to Air Force exercises that helped ensure the Air Force, regardless of component, could operate as one team when needed."

In addition to the cohesion of separate components, high morale in the rescue community contributed to the eventual success of the mission, Colonel Callahan said.

"Everyone was pumped about doing this mission," the colonel said. "We



Photo by Staff Sgt. Manuel Martinez Tech. Sgt. Lem Torres and a young boy are lifted to safety from the roof of the child's flooded home. The pararescueman from 38th Rescue Squadron at Moody was deployed to New Orleans for Hurricane Katrina search-and-rescue operations.

even had crews who just returned home to their families the previous day after being deployed to Iraq for three months calling and begging for permission to deploy to Mississippi and join the effort. I have never seen a better, more professional performance by any group of Airmen in my life."

These performances resulted in the rescues of more than 4,300 people, propelling the Air Force into a new level of importance in the arena of domestic disaster response.

"No one had ever seen a rescue of this scope in our lives," Colonel Callahan said. "Throughout the course of the operation, and even well after it was completed, I had Airmen approach me to express their extremely high sense of satisfaction on being able to use their skills to help others.

"(Despite the fact) our wing is made up of multiple squadrons from multiple bases, the efforts we previously made to standardize our procedures proved we could quickly rainbow together a large rescue force to respond to the nation's needs," the colonel said. "Katrina went a long way in proving Air Force rescue is America's first responder, and our force is ready, capable and willing to assist anyone at anytime to ensure others may live."

Service launches Hispanic observance

A service, 1 p.m. Sept. 17 in the Larcher Chapel, kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month at Keesler.

Other events include: **Food tasting** — a free Hispanic food tasting is hosted by the committee, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 21 at the youth center. The committee members provide several homemade Hispanic dishes and walk-ins are also welcome. Entertainment includes dancing, and a performance by the band Mariachi Sol Del Valle of Mobile. For more information, call Maria Ochoa, 377-2211.

Luncheon — noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 12 at El Rancho Restaurant, Pass Road, Biloxi. Cost: \$10. The menu is chicken or steak fajitas or salad selected at time of reservation. Yolanda Johnson of Biloxi is the guest speaker. Music is provided by Mariachi Sol Del Valle. For reservations and to make menu choices, call Ms. Ochoa, 377-2211, by Oct. 5.

Safety – a good friend to take home.

Child care requires licensing

By Earlene Smith

81st Services Division

People living in base housing who care for children in their homes could be breaking the rules.

Air Force Instruction 34.276, which governs day care in onbase quarters, states "any individuals caring for children more than 10 hours a week on a regular basis must get approval."

It states that the "installation commander may revoke the housing privileges of individuals who provide child care but refuse to become licensed or who continue to provide care after their license has been suspended or revoked."

The rule applies whether or not caregivers are compensated for their services.

"People living in base housing who regularly care for children without being licensed may be unaware of the regulation," said Mary Allgood, family child care program coordinator.

Licenses are granted by the 81st Mission Support Group commander, usually within 30 days of completion of initial family child care provider training, background screenings and home inspections.

Training includes child guidance, play environments, nutrition, ages and stages of development, child abuse and neglect, recordkeeping, business management, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid.

"Family child care providers are professionals trained to give the best possible care to the children left in their charge," said Ms. Allgood.

Once licensed, providers may care for children from 2 weeks through 12 years old. They're assisted by the FCC staff in setting up their home and have access to an extensive library for toys, equipment and materials to keep costs down. They set up their own hours of operation and fee structure.

For more information, call 377-3189, 5934 or 5935, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Keesler Notes

Club giveaway

Two H3 Hummers are given away as part of the annual Air Force Club membership drive through Nov. 30.

One winner comes from new members who sign up, and one is from those who were members as of Aug. 31.

Members receive 2 percent cash back on every eligible dollar they spend on purchases made with their club card at the base exchange (except gas, 1 percent), commissary and in Air Force Services activities and 1 percent back on every eligible dollar spent off base when purchasing with the membership card.

Points are redeemed by calling 1-800-759-0294.

People who sign up for membership during the drive are eligible to receive 0 percent interest rates for 12 months on purchases and balance transfers, with a "go to" rate of Prime plus 4.99 percent.

To sign up, visit the Katrina Kantina in the marina park, or call 1-888-871-5608 and mention card code 5TH7.

Air conditioner upkeep Hurricane guides

Air conditioning units have condensate drain lines that can become blocked and overflow into homes.

Proper maintenance includes a mixture of 1/2 cup bleach and 1/2 cup water poured into the drain line each month.

For help in locating the drain or for more information, call housing maintenance, 374-0003.

Comptroller closing

The 81st Comptroller Squadron closes at 1 p.m. Sept. 14 for an official function.

Patients sought

The pediatric dentistry clinic is looking for patients for the advanced education in general dentistry residency.

Patients should be between 4-10-year-old dependents of active duty or military retirees and not enrolled in the dental insurance plan. They're required to be available for treatment on Thursday mornings.

For more information or to make a screening appointment, call 376-5164. Copies of the Keesler News' 2006 hurricane guide are available in the base newspaper office.

To reserve copies, call 377-4130, 3837, 3163, 7340 or 9966. Pick copies up 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. work days in Room 113, Taylor Logistics Center, L Street.

Victim advocates

The sexual assault prevention and response office is seeking applications for victim advocates.

This voluntary additional duty is open to active-duty or Department of Defense civilians of any grade, rank, age, race or gender.

Selection is based on the application, commander's statement of understanding, background check, personal interview and training.

Training is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 4, 5, 11 and 12.

Submit completed applications to the office by Sept. 7.

For more information, call 377-8635 or 7278.

SARC program

The sexual assault prevention and response office presents Relationship Safety and Your Teen, 6-7 p.m. Sept.19 at the youth activities center.

The course is designed to assist parents whose teens are dating or who have pre-teens talking about relationships with the opposite sex.

For more information or to sign up, call 377-8635.

Tax office

The tax office, Room 234, old Cody Hall, remains open through Sept. 15 due to filing deadline extensions resulting from Hurricane Katrina.

Extensions apply to federal and state tax returns.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. work days. For more information, call 377-4454.

For Katrina-related questions, call the Internal Revenue Service, 1-866-562-5227.

Couples program

A free educational program for couples is 4:30-9 p.m. Sept. 16 at the Larcher Chapel. The program is sponsored by the family advocacy office.

Couples are required to register. Some couples may be eligible for free child care.

For more information, call Paula Tracy, 376-3456.

PT uniform wear

In organized physical training, any combination of the PT gear is worn as a set and not mixed with civilian clothes.

At other times any combination can be worn with civilian clothes.

Commanders or equivalents determine which PT events are "organized."

For more information, call Master Sgt. Jay McKenzie, 377-1091.

Pedestrian gate

The pedestrian gate to Jeff Davis Elementary School operates only to allow base children to walk to the school.

A patrol is in place from 3:15 p.m. until the school's crossing guard departs.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Andrew Inczauskis, 377-3762.

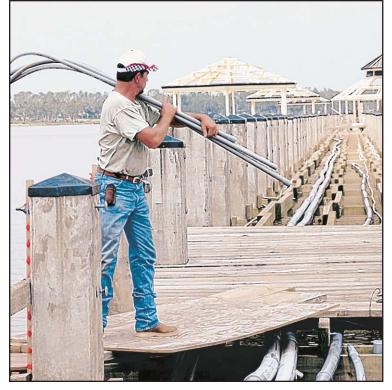
SPORTS AND RECREATION



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Progress on rebuilding the pier at the marina is evident in this view from the shore. On the left are materials for completing the project.

\$5 million project Hurricane repairs at marina moving forward



Contractor Tommy Hendrix prepares to carry a load of electrical conduit down the pier for installation.

By Senior Airman Jake Gard

Keesler News staff

Hurricane Katrina repairs continue at the base marina on the Back Bay of Biloxi.

When Katrina's storm surge hit, flooding from Back Bay heavily damaged the marina facilities.

"The main damage came from the water surge, which caused the water to rise anywhere from 16 to 22 feet," said John Rettig, director of outdoor recreation. "The damage included a loss of 70 to 75 percent of the decking and the entire boardwalk area. The breakwater was heavily damaged and the entire electrical and plumbing utilities were destroyed. Every floating dock disappeared."

Currently, the decking and utilities are being worked on by contractors from Texas.

"Construction has started and the tentative date for completion is March 2007," Rettig said. "It is approximately a \$5 million project.

"We are currently attempting to bring on a temporary operation of floating docks and a fueling system, so people can go boating and fuel up their boats to use the Back Bay."

On the boating front, another sign of progress was the arrival last week of three more new pontoon boats. When they're ready to go in the water, the marina's post-Katrina pontoon boat fleet will be up to seven craft.

The indoor pavilion in marina park suffered severe damage to its plumbing and electrical facilities from the same storm surge that devastated facilities on the shoreline.

Rettig said the bottom half of the building received "heavy water damage. We have corrected that.

"We are back up to 100 percent. The top of the building didn't get a drop of water in it because of the way we designed it," he added.

In the days prior to Katrina, the marina staff took measures to minimize the damage the facility would sustain.

"Before Hurricane Katrina struck, we moved all of our major equipment up on base, but due to the severity of the storm, that did not help," said Rettig. "Where we normally put our pontoon boats, under cover at the hobby shop, the wind was so intense that it blew some of the boats a block from their location."

Since the storm, measures have been made to strengthen marina facilities.

"All of the marina's facilities will be provided with additional hurricane straps and equipment to prevent the damage that occurred from Katrina," said Rettig.

Fitness center fit for workouts

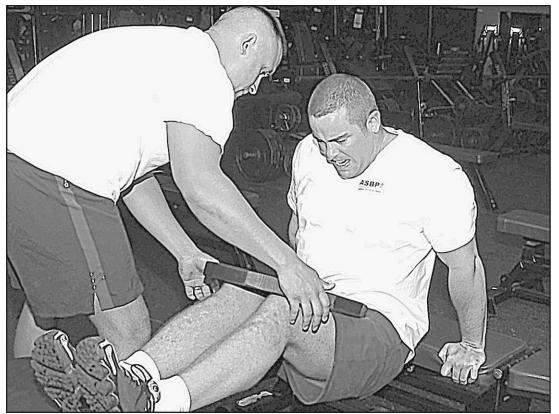


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Chad Hellman left, spots for Jason Wilson during a tricep dips workout at Triangle Fitness Center on Falcon Street. The men are from the 332nd Training Squadron. The facility reopened Aug. 28 following the completion of Hurricane Katrina repairs. Some new equipment is on order. The hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays and noon to 6 p.m. down Fridays and weekends.

SCORES AND **M**ORE

Bowling

Gaude Lanes — closed through Sept. 30 for Hurricane Katrina restoration.

Fitness centers

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. non-working Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Dragon Fitness Center — open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. workdays. Basketball court is open. Free classes in aerobics, kickboxing, yoga and spin cycling. Parent/child fitness room open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Parental supervision required.

For more information, call 377-2907.

Triangle Fitness Center — open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. For more information, call 377-3056.

Towel service — at Blake and Dragon fitness centers is discontinued. Customers furnish their own towels.

For more information, call 377-8380 or 7858. **Golf**

Bay Breeze Golf Course and driving range — open 7 a.m. to dusk daily. No greens fees. Electric carts \$10 for 18 holes, \$5 for nine holes. Pull carts, \$2. Club rental: \$5 for 18 holes, \$3 for nine holes. Driving range

opens 7 a.m. daily. Bucket of 30 balls costs \$2. Local course support — St. Andrews, Gulf Hills and Great Southern Club courses offer reciprocal playing privileges to current members of Bay Breeze.

Bay Breeze members are required to show identification to verify their names are on the membership roster. Once their membership is verified, members pay only the golf cart fee for a round of golf. For more information, call 348-7569.

Outdoor recreation

Back Bay of Biloxi fishing trips — 7 a.m. to noon Saturday. Cost: \$15 per person. Minimum of six people, maximum of eight. Mississippi fishing license required.

Deep sea fishing — reserve boat for up to six people for \$600, including the captain and tackle. Bring your own refreshments. Fishing license isn't required.

- **August fishing tournament** weigh in the heaviest red drum for the month and win \$100 savings bond.
- **Disk golf** fairway, multi-purpose, putt and approach disks for rent or sale.
- **Camping package available** includes sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stove and tent.
- **Pontoon boat training** required before rental. For more information, call 377-3160.

Marina park pavilions — to reserve, call 377-3160.

Pools

Main pool — closed. Triangle pool — open daily except Mondays; 11 a.m. to noon, lap swimming; noon to 7 p.m., recreational swimming.

Youth center

Classes — taekwondo, 6-7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesday for ages 6 and older. For members, \$35 per month; for non-members, \$40. Register for gymnastics, karate.

For more information, call 377-4116.

DIGEST

Honors

Student honor roll

334th Training Squadron

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Anthony Atkinson and Joshua Batman; Airman Joshua Strandberg; Airmen 1st Class Justin Bowers, Skyler Burns, Jonathan Ford, Gaylord Marcus, Stephan Price and Brian Staff Sgts. Jonathan Herman and Dexter Howell; Tech. Sgt. Charles Perry; Capt. Cornel Lazar.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Lani Burkhardt, Christopher Cravotta, Kristin Cunningham, Eddy Diaz, Karla Kincaid DePena, Melina Levesque, Raymond Wolowicz and Abigail Wright; Airmen Sean Campbell, Cassandra Nutter and Ryan Schlabach; Airmen 1st Class Brandon Bednarski, Jessica Chiles, Julie Flowers and Mark Simpson; Senior Airmen Charlotte Baker, Terrence Pride, Terence Robbins, Sharon Salvador, David Tallman and Latesha Taylor; Staff Sgts. Cindy Anderson-Hollins, John Cody, Michael George, Cheryl Johnson, Bethany Lanski, Raul Ramos-Zayas, Jennifer Restey, William Simmons, Michael Tucker and Dennis White; Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Little; Master Sgt. Matthew Massengale.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Vincent Hlas and William Talafuse; Airman David Gutknecht; Marine Pfc. Andrew Stevenson; Airmen 1st Class Timothy Heineken, Brian Morris, Lindsey Pleasant and Matthew Semder; Navy Seaman Christopher McKenna; Senior Airman Angel Franco; Tech. Sgts. Mathew Jones, Beverly Laidlow and Timothy Mecalis; Master Sgts. Shannon Defeo and Aaron Smith.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems training flight -Airmen Basic Jeffrey Morgan and Matthew Theerman; Airmen James Harris and Jason Smith; Airmen 1st Class Bernard Baum, Jack Dervin and Richard Pilcher; Senior Airmen David Nunes and Todd York; Staff Sgts. Robert Baker, Jesse Beinhower, Patrick Goupil, Eric LaFrance, Viet Nguyen, Jason Oliver, Andrew Porden and Charles Trimer; Master Sgt. Ralph Lucas; Airman Leadership School Maj. Sameer Al Thodan.

Communications and information training flight -Airmen Basic Austin Bragg and Mercedes Swenson; Airmen 1st Class Gregory Benson, Jose Encarnacion and Benjamin Springsteen; Staff Sgts. Frederick Dacanay, Pedro Forero, Eugenie Hinso, Jefferey Morter, Isaac Smith and Han Wang; Tech. Sgts. Bruce Collins, David Hogue, Bertley Hunt and Jeffrey Westerholm.

Chapel Services

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2520. Domon Catholia

Koman Catholic
Sunday Mass
Triangle Chapel9 a.m.
Daily Mass
Triangle Chapel11:15 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday worship Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m. Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday. For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-661-747-4738.

338th TRS

Computer, network, cryptographic systems course -Airmen Basic Albert Cabello, Kevin Creamer, Julius Dennard, John Filleau, Michael Hinkle, Andrew Pratt and Tyler Reddick; Airmen Stephanie Jordan, Larry Noonan and Corey Wagner; Airmen 1st Class Erik Bowcock, Timothy Munoz, Kevin Porter and Jeremy Woods; Staff Sgts. John Lewis, Shonda Robinson and Timothy Smith; Tech. Sgts. Kenneth Carter and Jesus Torres.

Ground radio apprentice course - Airmen Basic Alexander Bartholomew, Dustin Brookens, Joseph Collins, Redman; Senior Airmen Joseph Kliebert and Zachary Blades; Nicholas Comtois, Jacob Cormier, Michael Cousino, Jesse Crawford, Benjamin Holmes, James Kaufmann, Isaiah Kidd, Neili Kozak, Jacob Krekelberg, Richard Lewis, Steven Mason, Kenneth Matthews, Cameron Mcarthur, Victor Moore, Anton Pero, Cody Pridgen, Tenita Ross, Devon Suits, Lance Swinney, Sean Triglia and Timothy Woods; Airmen Brendan Bitney, Patrick Dermady, John Gibson, Edmon Lyons Jr., Jeremy Palmberg, Matthew Pummill, Fletcher Ross, Terry Wilson and Nathaniel Weber; Airmen 1st Class John Abad, Corey Burton, Nicholas Bartek, Wendell Carpenter, Mark Chinander, Angus Coy, Michael Downs, Lance Egan, Josue Figueroa, Tristan Fioretti, Luke Goodnight, Deena Gough, Justin Guyor, Justin Harrison, Thomas Henderson, Jeremy Holder, Robert Anthony Holland, Paul Hunter, Stephen Jez, Laura Magee, Frederick Mayhew Jr., Mitchell Mead, Aulii Nickens, Michael Oliver, Rebecca Patterson, Dallas Pauls, Jesse Rheault, Clinton Rowland, Shahoni Ryan, Jarrick Rudolph, Jonathan Short, Michael Simmons, Steven Sisum, Parker Stenberg, Lonnie Stover, Christopher St. John, Justin Trumble, Brandon Trumble, Jesse Wagner, Sharad White, Taylor Williams, Roger Williams II and Stephan Zurko; Senior Airmen Michael Carpenter, Paul Dykstr, Adam Fry, Eric Guenther, Travis Oder, Brian Picardo, Manuel Rivera Toro, Marko Salopek and Adam Shifrin; Staff Sgts. Michael Blanner, Michael Cassidy, Douglas Darby, Andy Guerra, Brian Hadfield, Jason Morris, Matthew Powers, Ronald Stewart, Thomas Thompson, Joshua Ward and Jonathan Willis; Tech. Sgts. Frank Dardar, John Rabaz, Joel Steinbrunner and Michael Stofko; Master Sgt. Willie Kinsey.

CLASSES

Class 06-E — graduation today. Class 06-F — Sept. 19-Oct. 27. Class 07-1 — Nov. 2-Dec. 14.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 06-6 — graduation Sept. 14. Class 06-7 — Sept. 18-Oct. 26. Class 07-1 — Nov. 2-Dec. 14.

Arts and crafts center

Weekend toast to Italy — 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 15 and 29; Italian snack, Italian art, view demonstrations and check out facility. Artist/craftsman contest - entry deadline Sept. 21, judging

Sept. 23. For more information, call 377-2821. Scrapbook club meeting — 6-8 p.m. today. Bring photos.

Scrapbooking class — 11 a.m. Friday, \$10.

Photography contest — entry deadline Sept. 28, judging Sept. 30. For more information, call 377-2821.

Multi-craft shop — now open until 8 p.m. Thursdays. Beginning pottery — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 16; \$40 includ-

ing five pounds of clay and firing for three pieces. Advanced pottery — take the next step on the potter's wheel.

Call for details.

Ceramic painting class — 10 a.m. Sept. 30, salute to Italy; make bread plate or pasta bowl. For more information, call 377-2821.

Sewing 101 — 6 p.m. Sept. 21. \$10. Bring your own machine or try one of ours. Bring one yard of material and matching thread for a pillow; stuffing provided.

Mold pouring — 10 a.m. Saturday. \$25 including first firing; ages 13 and older welcome. Learn to pour your own ceramics.

Please see Digest, Page 20

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour		Bus stop
:00	:30	332nd TRS, Building 6957
:01	:31	338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32	Welch Auditorium
:04	:34	AAFES Furniture Store
:06	:36	Jones/Bryan/Hewes Hall at gazebo
:08	:38	Thomson Hall
:09	:39	New Cody Hall
:11	:41	Supply, civil engineering
:12	:42	Rental store
:13	:43	Shaw House
:14	:44	Old base exchange
:15	:45	McBride Library
:16	:46	Credit union, Blake Fitness Center
:17	:47	Medical center, Tyer House
:18	:48	Sablich Center
:19	:49	Dental clinic
:20	:50	Allee and Wolfe Halls
:21	:51	Base operations
:22	:52	Hangar 4

Technical training route 5:10-5:37 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour Bus stop :10

:12

:14

:16

:18

:20

:21

:25

:28

:33

:34

:36

:37

ter nour	Dus stop
	Building 5025
	Building 5022
	Shaw House
	Muse Manor
	Tyer House
	TLQ east side 2000 block
	TLQ east side of Locker House
	332nd TRS
	Welch Auditorium
	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
	McClellan Hall
	Allee/Wolfe Halls
	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off-base

Call 377-2432 for transportation needs. Traffic in the local area impacts base taxi times.

Editor's note: Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged, have excess baggage, medical appointments at off-base hospitals or clinics or unable to ride the base shuttle, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430. Until further notice, weekend shuttle service isn't available. Taxi service is available on an "as needed" basis.

COAST AREA TRANSIT

Keesler Express - runs between the Triangle and Edgewater Mall. Bus service begins from the base, 5:50-8:30 p.m. work days, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. down Fridays and Saturdays, and 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The route is limited to specific pickup and dropoff points:

Minutes after hour, bus stop

- :30 Hercules Street bus stop
- :32 Welch Auditorium
- :45 Pass Road Wal-Mart
- :54 Arrive Edgewater Mall
- :00 Depart Edgewater Mall
- :09 Pass Road Wal-Mart
- :22 Welch Auditorium
- Hercules Street bus stop :24

The regular adult fare is \$1. An unlimited one-day pass is \$5 and one-month pass is \$45.

For more information, call 896-8080.

Digest,

from Page 19

Kids crafting class — 11 a.m. Sept. 23. \$10. Complete a pottery project; parents must accompany children 7 and younger. Wood shop — open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Made in the wood shop contest — make a project in the wood shop through November and be eligible to win a prize; no entry fee. Four age categories; ages 16 and older.

Beginners woodworking — 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday. \$25. Earn your safety certification and get your operator's card for future shop use.

Beginning intarsia — 10 a.m. Saturday or Sept 23. \$15. Intarsia is the art form of inlaying pieces of wood in decorative pattern.

Advanced intarsia — 10 a.m. Sept. 30. \$20. New project each month.

Framing — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays. \$60. Sign up in the multi-craft shop.

Advanced matting — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 22. \$25. Engraving shop — custom items for going away and holiday

gifts, special mementos and squadron awards. Grandparents Day — Sunday. Use those new school pictures on a one-of-a-kind mug from the engraving shop. .

Auto skills center

Open Sundays — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Beginners auto care — \$5 per class. Change oil, brakes, tune-ups, tire changing and more. For dates and times, call 377-3872.

Auto air conditioners — serviced at a reasonable price.

24-hour coin-operated car wash — features foamy brush wash, high pressure rinse, wax system, towelettes and Armorall and vacuum station.

Vehicle resale lot — behind the Keesler Club on Larcher Boulevard. To register vehicles, recreational vehicles and boats, bring your registration, license and proof of insurance to the multi-craft shop in the arts and crafts center. Cost is \$5 for two weeks, \$10 for a month. For more information, call 377-2821.

McBride Library

Library card signup — sign up for a free library card and receive a mouse pad and bookmarks.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day - Sept. 15. Special display.

Tours — For information, call 377-2827.

Orientations - 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays for commanders, first sergeants and instructors.

Tours — for more information, call 377-2181.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Veterans benefits briefing — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 14, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14, Room 122, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592 or e-mail ronald.bublik @keesler.af.mil.

p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Oct. 16-18, Nov. 13-15 and Dec. 11- p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. 13, Room 122, old Cody Hall. To pre-register, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Palace Chase briefings — 10 a.m. first two working Fridays of the month, Room 203, Garrard Hall. For more information, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, 377-2116.

Computer use

Government computers - commanders may authorize their tions and other special occasions to celebrate. use for preparation of personal resumes by people separating or retiring from the service on an "as available" basis as long as use doesn't adversely affect the mission.

Transition employment opportunities public folder — go to e-mail "public folders" and click on "transition employment opportunities" for job opportunities for active duty and family members. For more information, call 377-8592 or 8593.

Employment opportunities and Web sites

Reserve opportunities — for members separating from active duty interested in the Air Force Reserve or the Palace

Chase programs, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, 377-7116, for an appointment. The in-service recruiting office is in Room 229, old Cody Hall

Junior ROTC — immediate employment opportunities for retired or retiring Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers. Those who retired within the past 10 years or are six months from retirement may qualify to be an instructor. The program currently has 13 officer and NCO vacancies in Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma and a total of 85 vacancies worldwide.

To apply or for more information, go to http://www. afoats.af.mil and select "AFJROTC" or call Jo Alice Talley, toll free 1-866-235-7682, extension 7742; DSN 493-7742, or commercial (334) 953-7742.

Defense Manpower Data Center - http://www. dmdc.osd.mil/dors or http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray - http://www.blue togray.com.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information - http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans - http://www.dol.gov/ dol/vets

Department of Veterans Affairs - http://www.vba.va. gov/efif/index.htm; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/iobfair.

New military spouse career center — http://www.military. com/spouse. Extensive job board including jobs from public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

Military Connection - online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at http://www. military connection.com

America's Job Bank — http://www.ajb.dni.us.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Comedy show and dance — 9 p.m. today, \$3. Back to '50s party - 8 p.m. Sept. 21; '50s movies, costume contest, snack specials.

Tops In Blue auditions — noon to 6 p.m. Sept. 21. To schedule an appointment, call 377-3308 no later than Sept. 15.

Eight-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays. Nine-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

Free dance revolution pad — 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

Game night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. Board games, ping pong tournament and more.

Karaoke — 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Late night dance and DJ — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before nonworking Fridays, Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Half Time Café - open for lunch and dinner. Buffet specials 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Wednesdays, Italian, \$5.95; working Fridays, catfish, \$6.50.

Katrina Kantina

All ranks invited — snacks, beverages and music. Located in Transition assistance program workshop — 8 a.m. to 4 the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay. Open 3:30

Free comedy show — 7 p.m. today.

Football Frenzy kick-off - noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Watch your favorite team on Direct TV.

Taco Tuesdays - two tacos for \$1.

Thirsty Thursday — 5 p.m. Sept. 28. Cook your own steak or chicken.

Catering - for weddings, holidays, birthdays, official func-

Youth center

Annual membership — \$25 for ages 6 and older. Receive discounted prices for programs, classes and sports.

Before- and after-school care program — register 5:30-8 a.m. or 3:30-6:15 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.

Job ready — 5:30 p.m. today and Sept. 21. Smart moves — 4:30 p.m. Monday and Sept. 25.

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DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — orange-spiced pork chops, braised liver with onions, fried fish, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, wax beans, fruit salad, potato salad, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and cream of broccoli soup.

Dinner — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fried okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Friday

Lunch — seafood newburg, bean and corn pie, roast turkey, combread, franconia potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, corn on the cob, stewed tomatoes, mustard greens, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork and burritos.

Dinner — corned beef, cornbread, pineapple chicken, Yankee pot roast, potato wedges, simmered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, blackeyed peas, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, baked potatoes, rice, gravy, creamed corn, asparagus, steamed squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — baked fish, Hungarian goulash, barbecue chicken, potatoes, rice, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, creamed corn, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and chicken nuggets.

Sunday

Lunch — oven fried fish, spareribs, grilled mustard chicken breast, macaroni and cheese, egg noodles, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, jellied spring salad, tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, loin strip steak, mushroom and onion sauce, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, jellied spring salad, tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — beef pot roast, baked stuffed fish, combread, pork loin, potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone soup, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Dinner — chili macaroni, cornbread, beef canelloni, fried chicken, cottage fries, mashed potatoes, gravy, steamed squash, glazed carrots, peas, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone soup, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Tuesdav

Lunch — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, salmon cakes, garlic toast, filipino rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbecue beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs

Dinner — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, garlic toast, harvard beets, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbeque beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Wednesday

Lunch — Chinese five-spice chicken, beef and broccoli stir fry, Cantonese spareribs, vegetable egg rolls, shrimp fried rice, stir fry vegetables, chow mein noodles, fried cabbage, chicken gravy, lemon sesame green beans, Mexican coleslaw, pasta fagioli soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.

Dinner — lemon-herb chicken, jalapeno corn bread, spareribs, stuffed pork chops, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, Mexican corn, tempura vegetables, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.

Digest,

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Goals for growth — 4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Sept. 26. Creative corner — 5:30 p.m. Wednesday and Sept.

27. Creative art projects.

Act smart — 4:30 p.m. Sept. 14 and 28.

Congressional Award Program — 6 p.m. Sept. 18, ages 14-21. Set and achieve personal goals in four areas to become eligible for the Congressional Award Medal.

Kids in control — 4:30 p.m. Sept. 20.

Free home alone safety workshop — 6 p.m. Sept. 20, ages 10 and older. Register by Sept. 19. Child must be accompanied by a parent.

Power hour — 4:30-5:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9-16.

Movies and snacks — 5 p.m. Mondays, ages 9 and older Self-directed activities — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays for ages 9-18. Free for members, 50 cents daily guest fee.

Movies and snacks — 5 p.m. Mondays in the new multimedia room, for ages 9 and older.

TRAIL Keystone Club meeting — 6 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 13-17. Focus is on outdoor adventures and community service.

Smart girls — 5 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 9-16. Topics for girls only.

Wacky Wednesday tournaments — 5-6 p.m. Tournaments in various board and table games.

Torch Club — 4 p.m. Thursdays for ages 9-12. Leadership programs, activities, community service.

Friday night dances — 6-10 p.m., ages 9-17. \$2 for members, \$4 non members.

Teen time — 6-10 p.m., ages 13-17. Free for members, \$5 for non members.

Super Saturdays — 2-5 p.m. for ages 6-12. Free for members, \$5 for non members.

Gymnastics — Tuesdays. 5 p.m. ages 3-5, 6 p.m.

ages 6 and older. Call for fees. **Taekwondo** — Mondays and Wednesdays. 5-5:45

p.m. ages 3-5, \$40 per month. 6-7 p.m. ages 6 and older, \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers.

Dance — Tuesdays. 4 p.m. ages 3-5, 5 p.m. ages 6 and older. Call for fees.

Guitar — half-hour lessons for ages 6 and older. Call for times and fee.

Instructors needed — for programs for ages 3-5 and special classes. For more information, call 377-4116.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Editor's note: Located inside Vandenberg Community Center.

Tours to New Orleans Saints games in the Superdome — beginning Sept. 25, \$60 including ticket. Call for schedule.

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Gulf Islands Water Park in Gulfport, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays. For more information, call 377-3818.

Free brochures — information on area and out-of-state attractions.

Keesler Thrift Shop is in the former Chapel One adjacent to Sablich Center. Open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Consignments accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. Donations accepted during regular hours. For more information, call 377-3217.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

Recurring

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Sergeants Association — 11:30 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-2337.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Thursday of the month, youth center, J Street. For more information, call Desarae Chereskin, 341-0988.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — 3:15 p.m. first Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center second floor conference room. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Mark Harrell, president, 377-2293, or e-mail keesler.aaddofficers@keesler.af.mil.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Don Seaton, 377-5958, or Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit http://www.toastmasters.org.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. Check out the club repeater on 146.79 negative offset. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Justin Meyer, 377-4149 or 324-5806, or e-mail justin.meyer2@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association meets 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Michelle Durkin, 872-9393, or e-mail chelle1rn@ yahoo.com.

Keesler Spouses Club — meets the second Tuesday of the month. For time and location, call Tammie Searfass, president, 273-4324, or visit http://www.Keesler SpousesClub.com.

Native American Heritage Committee — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Taillon, 377-6242.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, president, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3 p.m. third Wednesday of the month, Keesler NCO Academy auditorium. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Shanda Yarborough, 377-3653, or Tech. Sgt. Kevin Benjaman, 377-7924.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recorded message about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 7 p.m., Lady in the Water (PG-13, 110 minutes).

Saturday — 2 p.m., Ant Bully (PG, 88 minutes); 6:30 p.m., Miami Vice (R, 135 minutes).

Sunday — 2 p.m., John Tucker Must Die (PG-13, 87 minutes).

Health services management week

The Air Force Medical Service celebrates the inaugural annual Medical Service Corps 4A0X1 Health Services Management Appreciation Week, Oct. 16-20.

Senior enlisted members are seeking former 90010, medical helper; 906X0 medical administrative specialist; and/4A0X1, health services management personnel for information, pictures or stories the career field was like for enlisted members since the AFMS started in 1949.

To contribute, e-mail Master Sgt. Denise Heady, healthservicesmanagement@yahoo.com