



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 69, No. 14
Thursday, April 10, 2008

Rebuild the base ... Renew the community ... Reload the Air Force



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Keesler on the Web
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Dragons deployed
— 264

Sablich Center back in business



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Jamie Sablich receives a vice chief of staff coin from General McNabb at the reopening of Sablich Center April 3. Sergeant Sablich, for whom the building is named, was Jamie's' uncle.

Support functions mark return 'home'

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

There's no place like home.

The people who work in Sablich Center and the customers they serve breathed a collective sigh of relief April 3 as the building reopened after major repairs in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Gen. Duncan McNabb, Air Force vice chief of staff, joined members of the Sablich family, civic leaders and Keesler military members, civilians and retirees for the ribbon-cutting ceremony on the front steps of the facility.

Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander, noted he himself had in-processed as a new second lieutenant at Sablich Center more than 24 years ago. He recalled the original opening in 1978, its years of service as the heart of Keesler's support activities and the devastation as Katrina slammed Keesler,

Aug. 29, 2005.

"Katrina's winds took its roof, and Katrina's rain soaked the inside of the building, but it didn't soak the spirit of Keesler's men and women," Colonel Touhill said.

Acknowledging the 31 months in which offices were displaced, he added, "It has taken some time to get this building back in shape. Today we renew our ties to the past. Right now, I can tell you that Sablich Center is ready to rock and roll and do the mission."

The colonel pointed out the refurbished facility, which cost nearly twice the \$3.8 million for original construction, meets the essential needs of Keesler well into the 21st century.

"Its 143,000 square feet will once again hold the agencies that were there before, but with new state-of-the-art

Please see **Sablich**, Page 9

AFSO21
Air Force Smart Ops For The 21st Century

Flexible
CWS schedule
under
consideration.
Story, Page 8.

Success of Scout Camporee due to you, Team Keesler

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

I'm so proud of our Keesler's Airmen and civilians!

This past weekend, we opened our gates and our hearts to the Boy Scouts of the Pine-Burr Council in our inaugural Merit Badge Camporee. For the first time since 1956, scouts came back to Keesler for a camporee and I'm pleased to report to you it was a HUGE success!

Despite a Friday night rain storm that rivaled the one confronting the bishop in the movie Caddyshack, both the Scouts and our people proved the Scout motto of "Be Prepared" is a trait shared by both Boy Scouting and the Air Force. We started the event with a Friday night arena show in Hangar 3. With 480-plus Scouts and their leaders being entertained by drill teams from Mississippi Gulf Coast high schools and our own 334th Training Squadron, the monsoon and lightning show began outside in earnest and that's where pre-planning paid off.

We had great support from our weather shop. Mike Tischer, the Scout program director, and I decided the weather was too dangerous to allow the boys to camp outside Friday night. Once we made the call, the planning team, led by the company grade officer council, sprang in to action and transported the campers to Blake Fitness Center for a safe and dry night.

Saturday's weather was MUCH better. The boys set out for classes in 26 different merit badges taught by Keesler Airmen and civilians (we had to cancel golf due to the rain.) I traveled around the base, personally saw most of the classes in action and can testify these were some of the best merit badge courses I've seen.

The best part was that many were merit badges that the boys probably couldn't get

any other way. Aviation, dentistry, medicine, electronics, radio, computers, fire prevention, crime prevention, architecture and engineering were among the great courses taught by you and your colleagues. The boys loved it and told me it was the best they'd ever seen ... they were "wowed"!

Meals were provided in a team effort, too. Organizations such as the CGOC, Air Force Sergeants Association, Rising 6, and Top 3 stepped up to help. We had 150 volunteers identified before the event and approximately 300 volunteers showed up to help prepare the meals, serve them and clean up afterward. When a car accident caused our pancake batter to be lost, the Magnolia Dining Facility team stepped up with a loan of pancake mix to help out. What a great team effort!

I can't thank everyone enough for their leadership and spirit in making this a great success, yet I want to extend a special thanks to a couple of key individuals who stood out for their leadership. First Lt. Michael Newson and 2nd Lts. Timothy Bourcet, Jeremy Dobbs and Phillip Hinson were the core leadership team. I'm proud of how they shaped their team, grew as leaders and executed their plan.

Sam and Michelle Foster and Master Sgt. Debra Wright provided great leadership in managing the meals and forged a volunteer alliance of the base organizations to yield great meals that included pancakes, hamburgers, hot dogs, and spaghetti and meatballs.

People from every organization on base — active duty and Reserve — rolled up their sleeves to help and showed the boys of Southern Mississippi what a great Air Force they have.

I'm so proud of the entire team...you are AWESOME! Thanks for a job very well done!

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

You're encouraged to work concerns through your chain of command or contact an appropriate helping agent. For unresolved issues, call the commander's action line for assistance.

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

Items of general interest

A-76 hotline — 376-8176
Airmen and family readiness center — 377-2179
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
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



Colonel Touhill

may appear in this column.

For your convenience, here are some key customer service phone numbers at Keesler:

Medical center information — 376-2550
Military equal opportunity — 377-2759
Military pay — 377-7272
Pass and registration — 377-3844
Pharmacy (refill call-in) — 376-1000
Satellite pharmacy — 377-9791
Public affairs — 377-2783
Red Cross — 377-0732
Sexual assault prevention and response team — 377-8635
SARC 24-hour hotline (to report sexual assaults) — 377-7278
Law enforcement desk — 377-3040
SARC 24-hour hotline — 477-7278
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

Thumbs up, gate guard!

Comment — Officer Chitra Clark, a young civilian security guard at the Pass Road Gate, is always extremely pleasant.

She's even memorized my name and greets me by it every morning.

I appreciate her cheerful disposition and am thankful for her smiles.

Response — Officer Clark is a true professional who's always reliable, dependable and courteous. She strives to accomplish her duties to the utmost of her abilities and exceeds all expectations. Your comments are appreciated.

To report sexual assaults
at Keesler, call 377-7278.

No. 1 in Air Force,
2004, 1997.

No. 1 in AETC,
2004, 1998, 1996;
No. 2, 2006, 2003,
2001, 1999, 1997,
1991, 1989, 1986;
No. 3, 2005, 2002,
1995;
honorable mention,
1992.

(The Air Force Media Contest
no longer includes
a newspaper category.)

81st Training Wing commander

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Leadership

It starts with confidence in yourself

Editor's note: The following is the first in a three-part series of commentaries on "confidence."

By Col. Richard Pierce

81st Training Wing vice commander

In my opening piece on my "Five Cs of Leadership" a few weeks back, I discussed that leadership isn't about the position, title or rank a person holds.

Those qualities may indicate a person is in a position of authority or is considered a supervisor, but they don't automatically indicate the person is a leader. The reason is this: leadership deals with your ability to develop relationships with others in such a manner that people aren't only willing to follow your lead, but want to follow your lead.

5 connected circles

Before we dive into my first "C," let me advise you each "C" isn't a stove-piped "silo of excellence." Rather than separate principles, think of the "Cs" as the five circles on the Olympic emblem. The circles are intertwined, displaying a distinct connectivity with each other. The relationship each "C" has with the other "Cs" will become apparent as we discuss these concepts further.

The first "C" stands for "confidence." And confidence is a three-way street. The initial part of confidence deals with having confidence in yourself to be able to effectively lead your team. To start with, your supervisors would never have given you the opportunity to lead if they didn't think you could succeed. No true leader would ever set up a team member to purposely fail ... leaders want their folks to succeed at every step, and help them achieve that goal (more about this subject in my fourth "C").

Initial anxiety normal

With that understanding, you can easily see if your boss has enough confidence in you to do the job, then you should have confidence in yourself that you're ready for the increased challenges of leading a team. You may have a bit of anxiety and doubt about your abilities right at first, but that's perfectly normal.

In fact, I think if you didn't have a few anxious moments, you'd be the oddity.

Now, just because your bosses think you're ready in no way means you'll be brilliant from the very beginning ... you won't be. Trust me on this issue. You'll need to prove you're a worthy leader to your people, and that doesn't happen on Day One.

Not to worry — your supervisors understand for you to grow as a leader, you'll need to experience some trials and difficulties, and how well you successfully deal with these situations will help to build your self-confidence. Keep this principle in mind as you start to groom your people to become more effective leaders (again, this will be the subject of my fourth "C," so hang in there).

Competency builds confidence

Of course, being competent in the required duties of your unit also helps build your confidence. Competence is very important, but here's an interesting fact — you don't have to be the best in your organization at whatever tasks are required to be a great leader. Most likely, you won't be the best anyway. At least some of your team may be better than you.

Here's a perfect example: the two best squadron commanders I had when I was flying F-111s were extremely competent flight leaders and bomb-droppers, but neither of them ever won our quarterly or annual Top Gun award when they were in command. Others in the squadron were better, but that fact didn't matter.

Doing your best

Leadership isn't about personally being the best at everything; it's about personally doing your best at everything. In some ways, being the best may not necessarily be to your advantage.

We've all probably known a few people who've had a destructive arrogance about them. Often, this arrogance was built on knowing they were considered "the best" at their job (at least in their

own eyes).

I'll discuss this issue further in the future (a couple of my later "Cs"), but for now, let me just say arrogance results in a profound lack of humility, closing off communication channels with the very folks you were entrusted to lead. The equation is simple: Minimal communication equals dismal leadership.

A complete lack of competence is equally damaging. You must be considered credible by your team, and credibility partly results from your competence. For example, I could never be a credible leader of a surgical unit, as I've absolutely no experience in the medical field.

Increasing responsibility

Fortunately for me (and the patients), my supervisors would never put me in charge of such a unit to start with (remember — true leaders won't set you up for failure). However, you'll find as you advance in rank or position, your overall scope of responsibilities increases dramatically. You certainly won't be completely competent in every area you're responsible for — there are certain areas where you should strive just to be adequately knowledgeable.

Consider the position of a wing commander. Despite the vast experiences all wing commanders may have, I doubt if there has ever been a commander who's an absolute expert in legal opinions, medical diagnoses, personnel processes, civil engineering requirements, budgeting complexities and airfield management. Yet all these areas — and more — fall under that commander.

Second part of 'confidence'

This sounds like a contradiction. On one hand, I say competence is required, yet I just pointed out in many cases a leader won't be an expert in every field under his sphere of influence.

How can one achieve the "confidence" part of the "Five Cs?" By understanding there's a second part of "confidence" to master: confidence in your people. I'll cover that next week.

To report suspicious activity at Keesler, call 377-3040.

Communications officer selected for Olmsted Scholar Program

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Maj. Douglas Fowler, advanced systems and concepts flight commander in the 333rd Training Squadron, has been accepted for the Olmsted Scholar Program.

Each year, the competitive program offers grants for two years of graduate study in a foreign language and other educational experiences in a foreign country to about 33 career line officers from all four branches of the U.S. military.

Olmsted scholars, nominated by their military services, enroll as full-time students and usually study in a language other than English while interacting with the residents of the countries in which they are living.

They're expected to live on the economies of their host countries, travel widely and be connected to U.S. embassies or consulates only for necessary force protection and administrative purposes.

Since 1959, the George and Carol Olmsted Foundation has partnered with the Defense Department to offer the foreign study opportunities. A retired major general, Mr. Olmsted intended the program to broadly educate young U.S. career line officers who exhibit extraordinary potential for becoming future military leaders.

Lt. Col. Stacy Yike, commander of the 338th Training Squadron, was an Olmsted scholar in Portugal and one of the few Americans and English-speaking people in the area.

"I was in Portugal during the 2000 elections and its electoral college issues — some people there were convinced we didn't have a president," she recalled. "I was also there for 9/11, which was an experience I'll never forget.

"You have to develop



"My intent is to make this pay dividends for the Air Force for decades to come."

— Major Fowler

humility to be able reach out to others," she emphasized. "At first I sometimes felt uneducated and isolated because of the language barrier, but you learn quickly that just because a person can't communicate well in a particular language doesn't mean they're ignorant."

Colonel Yike pointed out that the Olmsted scholars have very different experiences than people assigned to an overseas military base.

"You might be the only American for a hundred miles," she explained. "What you learn about being part of the world and our civilization is tremendous."

Major Fowler is going to be studying in Uruguay for two years.

"I don't know yet what I'll be studying or what university I'll be attending," said Major Fowler, who's been in the Air Force nearly 10 years and at Keesler for almost two years. "I have to pursue a master's degree in the humanities — most likely it will be in economics."

The South Dakota native grew up in Arkansas and earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from Marquette University in Milwau-

kee, where he was in the ROTC program.

He studied French in high school and continued those studies in college, where he also began studying Italian. He also studied Italian through the Air Force's language and area studies immersion in Florence, Italy.

Before heading to Uruguay, he'll study Spanish at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif. The institute trains about 3,500 active-duty and reserve students from all four services in 26 languages in courses lasting from one week to 18 months.

"I'm not quite sure when I'll start class," Major Fowler explained. "Since Uruguay is in the Southern Hemisphere, summer is December through February and classes begin in March. I'll have seven months of Spanish school, so I really don't think I'll get to Uruguay until spring of 2010.

"I'm very humbled in being selected for this incredible opportunity," Major Fowler said. "I hope I can live up to General Olmsted's vision for this program. My intent is to make this pay dividends for the Air Force for decades to come."

Developmental education programs

Application deadlines near for eligible officers, civilians

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Officers and civilians considering intermediate or senior developmental education in 2009 have until April 25 and May 1, respectively, to submit their applications for consideration by the selection board.

Officers apply using a Web-based application. Civilians submit their applications through their civilian personnel flights by the internal suspense dates established by their CPFs.

Line officers, as well as chaplain and medical service officers, may apply for up to five programs using the pull-down menus on the Air Force's Web-based 3849 form. The form is available for eligible officers and senior raters on <https://wwa.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/mainmenu.asp>.

Officers must be nominated by their senior rater to compete at the functional developmental team and developmental education designation board levels. The senior rater accountability date is Feb. 1, 2008. Nominees must also ensure their airman development plan is current.

The civilian developmental education program includes both intermediate and senior developmental education opportunities for employees in Pay Bands 2 and 3 and grades General Schedule-12-15 and equivalent.

Civilians are nominated by their local leadership through their chain of command. After members of the Air Force Personnel Center's force development support division receive the applications, they forward them to the appropriate functional developmental teams so they can rank the nominees, validate the programs they should attend and identify follow-on assignments.

Both military and civilian designees from the developmental education designation board are announced this October.

Officer program information is at http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main_content.asp?prods1=1&prods2=244&prods3=246&p_faqid=6025.

Civilians information is at http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main_content.asp?prods1=1&prods2=244&prods3=246&p_faqid=7845.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Quarterly awards

The 81st Training Group's first quarter awards ceremony is 3:30 p.m. today at Welch Auditorium.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Darrell Evans, 377-0613.

KOSC scholarships

Friday is the deadline to apply for six scholarships being offered by the Keesler Spouses' Club.

High school and home-schooled seniors and spouses in Jackson, Harrison, and Hancock counties who are dependents of Keesler active-duty, Reserve, Guard, retirees,



Personnel ace

Airman 1st Class Justin Bernal graduated from the personnel apprentice course in the 335th Training Squadron March 31 with a perfect score. He's from Pembroke Pines, Fla., and is headed to Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.

deceased members and Defense Department civilian employees are eligible.

Applications are available

at high school counseling offices in the three coastal-counties, the Keesler Thrift Shop and online at <http://www.keeslerspousesclub.com>.

keeslerspousesclub.com.

ASMC scholarships

The Mississippi Sound Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers awards a \$1,000 college scholarship to two graduating high school seniors entering a financial or resource management course of study.

The deadline is April 21.

For more information, call Marcella LeBlanc, 377-7280.

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group holds drill downs and parades on the drill pad behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

The schedule:

Drill downs — 8 a.m. April 18 and Nov. 14; 6 p.m. July 17 and 7 a.m. Sept. 19.

Parades — 9 a.m. May 29; 6 p.m. Aug. 21 and Oct. 16.

For drill down information, call Tech. Sgt. Trina Girley, 377-2737. For parade information, call Staff Sgt. Donald McNair, 377-9527.

Officer records

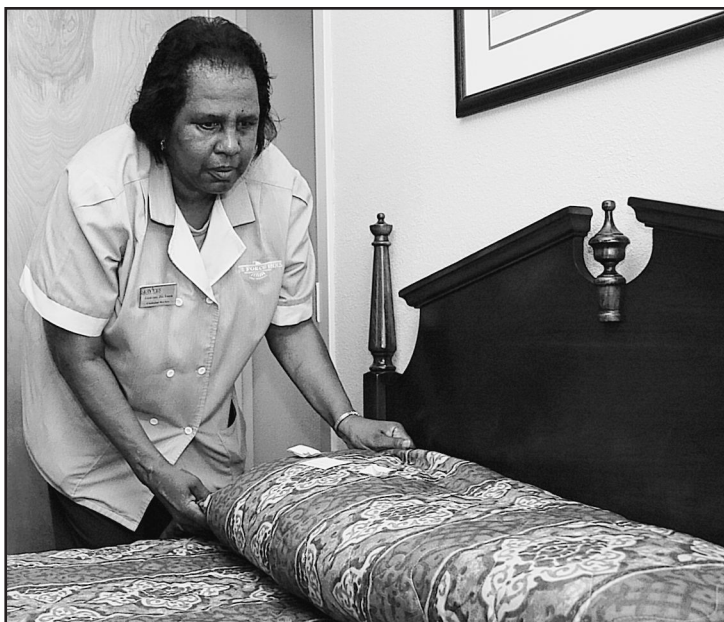
For officers to update their academic records, the Air Force Institute of Technology requires an official transcript sent to this address:

AFIT/RRE, 2950 P St., Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-7765.

Birthday wishes

Annette Jackson, who's worked in lodging at Keesler for more than 40 years, was honored with a party by her co-workers on her 70th birthday April 2. She currently works at Muse Manor.

Photo by Cindy Milford



CWS Fridays

Commander considers flextime options

By Senior Airman Carlos Rodriguez

Keesler Public Affairs

Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander, seeks to dispel rumors floating around Keesler regarding the compressed work schedule.

"There are rumors that we're going to get rid of CWS — I'm not looking to eliminate CWS," he said. "I'm committed to doing things better, to looking at a more efficient way of doing business and to better support the Air Force in this time of war."

The primary change being considered is a minimally-manned working Friday where those who have to work coordinate with their supervisors to get another day off.

"I like the concept of flextime," said Colonel Touhill. "It worked for us when I was at Randolph Air Force Base (Texas) and it's more intimate between the employee and the supervisor. It allows them to take the day off that best works for them and gives them better controls over their work schedules."

CWS was implemented at Keesler in 1993 with the intent of saving the Air Force money by drastically reducing energy consumption. However, costs have begun to exceed savings, according to Colonel Touhill.

"I launched an audit of CWS and found not only are we not saving money, we're actually paying large amounts of overtime to people who have to come in to work on CWS Fridays anyway," he said. "In the aftermath of 9/11 and with the current war being fought, people are having to come in to work to support the war effort."

CWS has also proven to be unpopular out-

side of the base. Keesler is the only base in the Air Force to have every other Friday off.

"We're getting negative feedback regarding CWS from other bases," said Colonel Touhill. "The rest of the Air Force is on a wartime footing; we need operational capabilities on Fridays to be able to keep in step and support the Air Force mission in this time of war."

"It's about delivering combat capability to our Air Force; being good stewards of the taxpayer's money," he added.

With Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century a high-profile initiative across the Air Force, this proposed change to the current CWS would fall directly under it.

"This is an AFSO21 initiative," said Colonel Touhill.

The colonel met with commanders, first sergeants and union representatives last week to discuss the proposed change.

"We want all of the facts before we make a decision," said Colonel Touhill. "We must also coordinate with Air Education and Training Command and negotiate with the contractors."

He said he expects to have an update on the process by mid-May.

"We haven't made any commitments on this," the colonel said. "I want our employees to know this is under study. Our objective is to meet our operational taskings while empowering them with more control over their own schedules."

"I think they and their supervisors are in the best positions to cover the mission and identify when they can take their earned time off. We don't always have to specify the date for them."

IN THE NEWS

Air Force Assistance Fund

Keesler's 2008 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign, scheduled to end Friday, has raised \$56,714.

This year's goal is \$70,000, \$20,000 more than last year.

Tax filing deadline Tuesday

The base tax office's appointments are booked solid through Tuesday, the deadline for filing taxes for 2007, but walk-ins are accepted from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays until then.

Student returns are done until 4 p.m.

The office, Room 205A, Sablich Center, remains open through May for later filers or those who need to file amendments.

For more information, call 376-8141.

Urgent care clinic opens April 21

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Medical Center's internal medicine clinic opens an urgent care clinic April 21.

"The new clinic allows us to provide a timelier and customer-friendly medication refill process and ensures same-day access for acute-care needs," said Maj. Curtis Hudson, group practice manager.

Appointments are 10 minutes long and address acute medical conditions or medication refills. An acute medical condition is an ailment that needs non-emergency, urgent care.

All beneficiaries enrolled to the internal medicine clinic are eligible for care in the urgent care clinic.

For appointments, call appointment services, 1-800-700-8603.

National Prayer Breakfast

Keesler's National Prayer Breakfast is 7 a.m. April 23 at the Vandenberg Community Center.

The guest speaker is Chaplain (Col.) Howard Stendahl, Air Education and Training Command's command chaplain.

Tickets are \$3 for pay grades E-1 to E-4 and \$5 for others.

For more information or tickets, contact your first sergeant or call Triangle Chapel, 377-2520.

Clinics closed for warrior training

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Medical Center clinics are closed 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. the second Thursday of each month for warrior training.

Cell phone restrictions for drivers

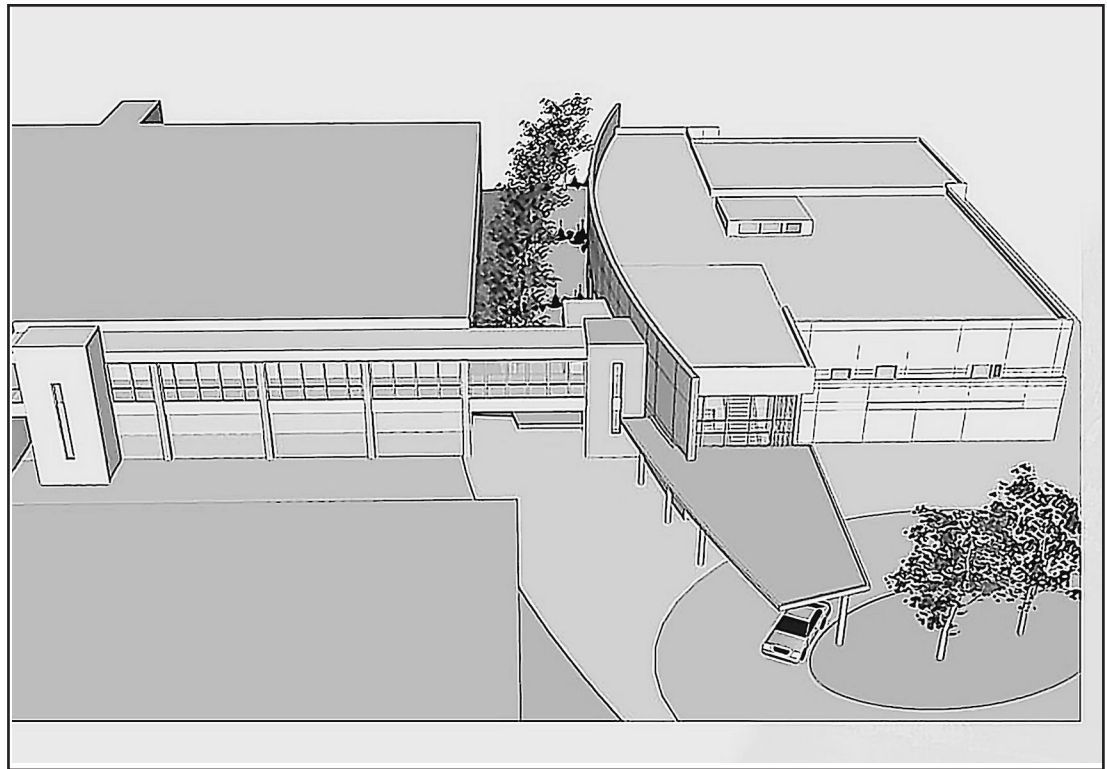
It's a primary offense to use a cell phone while driving on base without a hands-free device.

Violators can be stopped and ticketed for this offense by the 81st Security Forces Squadron.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are the Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park (except during daylight hours or official events) in Biloxi; Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway in Pascagoula and Toni's Lounge in Moss Point.

Joined at the hip



Artist's conception

Keesler Medical Center, left, and the new radiation oncology clinic, right, will be connected by an enclosed walkway. Construction of the ROC is scheduled to start with the closing of Baughman Boulevard Monday. The street remains closed until the completion of the project, which is estimated to be Sept. 25, 2009. Parking areas on the east and northeast sides of Tyler House are being fenced off for the contractor's materials storage and staging area for the duration of construction.

Sablich,

from Page 1

building systems that make it more efficient and livable," he said.

The structure boasts sparkling ceramic tile floors, restored walls and ceilings, new air conditioning and heating systems, updated communications infrastructure, modern fire suppression system and the latest voice-over-Internet protocol telephone system.

Colonel Touhill paid special tribute to Army Air Force Sgt. Julius Sablich, a native Biloxian killed in action during World War II, for whom the building is named.

"Those of you who will be working in this fine new building are the keepers of the tradition and honor personified by Julius Sablich," he said.

During a reception in the lobby after the ceremony, many people who work there expressed their relief at being "back home."

"It's a little surreal — we've been preparing for this for two years, and it's hard to believe we're really here," said Lt. Col. Paul Valenzuela, 81st Mission Support Squadron commander. "We still have a little settling in to do, but we're probably about 80 percent there."

"I'm ecstatic," declared Steve McDaniel, a community readiness consultant at the airman and family readiness cen-

ter who sang the national anthem at the ceremony. He's sure his sinus problems will ease up now that he's back in Sablich Center instead of Hangar 2, which had been slated for demolition before Katrina.

He still remembers his first visit to Sablich Center 24 years ago as an active-duty member when his family arrived at Keesler from Torrejon Air Base, Spain.

"I had never been anywhere like it during my military moves," observed Mr. McDaniel, a retired security forces member. "It was a one-stop shop where we could do all of our in-processing business."

"It's a blessing to get all of these offices back in one location again," he added.

Drinking + driving = deadly duo.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Evaluation form issues

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force Personnel Center officials shed light on issues with the new electronic evaluation form.

Supervisors are encouraged to pay close attention to the step-by-step instructions found on AFPC's "Ask" Web site.

Recent feedback revealed problems with blank lines appearing on paper copies that aren't visible on digital versions.

Individuals may also check with their commander support staff personnel or military personnel element for assistance.

Retirement annuity information

Personnel affected by A-76 can get estimates of their retirement annuities at the Air Force Personnel Center secure Web site, [https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AFPCSecureMain Menu.asp](https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AFPCSecureMainMenu.asp).

Click the link for the entitlements and benefits section. First-time users are required to register.

Personal retirement computations are also available by calling 1-800-616-3775.

For more information related to A-76, call 376-8176.

MPF customer service changes

The military personnel flight customer service office has new system requirements for a variety of services, including issuance of identification and common access cards.

For example, customers must now bring two forms of identification to be scanned before a new ID card can be issued.

For more information or specifics about particular situations, call 377-3018 or 377-3203.

Reduced manning for reenlistments

The reenlistment office is operating with reduced staff until June 1 because of a deployment.

Appointments only are accepted on work days from 8 a.m. to noon. Walk-in customers are accepted in the afternoons.

New Web application

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Active duty Air Force members — officers and enlisted — who log on to the Air Force Personnel Center's assignment management system find a new Web application that makes navigation faster and easier.

The new system is rewritten in the Microsoft Net Framework, and is menu-driven, using drop-down menus to make navigation easier and faster.

To access the AMS site, eligible users can go to <https://intraweb> and click on "Secure Apps." After clicking on "AMS," users can sign in to the AMS page.

Emergency data cards

Airmen are required to designate one immediate family member as the person authorized to direct the disposition of their remains should they become a casualty.

The designation becomes part of the member's emergency data record. Most Airmen add the information to their virtual EDR through the virtual military personnel flight.

Deployed personnel contact their personnel support for contingency operations team to update their records.

For more information, call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775.

Preventable injuries, illnesses expensive

Airman's Role Call

The Voluntary Protection Program focuses on developing and caring for the safety of Airmen, civilians and their families.

Building a culture of safety isn't just a quality-of-life issue. An Airman or worker sidelined by preventable injuries and illnesses costs the Air Force money.

In 2007, the civilian injury and illness rate was 2.78 per 100 people. That's 4,417 injuries and illnesses, 2,327 of which resulted in lost time. More than 2,200 active-duty injuries amounted to about 30,000 lost duty days.

VPP is getting everyone to actively identify and then take action to rid safety and health hazards on and off the job. By implementing VPP, the overall mishap rate drops and the health and wellness of the military and civilian workforce increases. By teaching each wingman to identify hazards in the workplace, VPP empowers them to be part of the solution.

Here are questions to consider when evaluating homes and offices for potential safety and health risks:

What potential hazards can be identified in routine jobs, tasks and processes?

What significant changes can be made to remove those hazards?

Is everyone aware of how



to report hazards through the chain of command?

How often are self-inspections at home or work conducted?

Where are first aid and emergency response kits located? Is everyone in the office or at home aware of these locations?

Does everyone know how to fill out an incident report, and where to report it?

What type of safety training is helpful for work centers and families at home?

Is all the documentation needed for the training completed or available?

For more information, visit the Department of Labor Occupations Safety and Health Administration's VPP page, <http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/index.html> or the Air Force Safety Center Web site, <http://www.afsc.af.mil/>.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Airman 1st Class Sherry Alfieri
Unit — 81st Training Support Squadron
Position — 81st Training Group deployment manager

Time in Air Force — 2 1/2 years

Time at Keesler — two years

Hometown — Mooresville, N.C.

Noteworthy — recently completed four classes toward her business degree.

Why did you join the Air Force? to get a better education and help others while doing it.

What are your hobbies? swimming, fishing and just hanging out with friends and family.

What's your favorite quote? "Everything happens for a reason. Every action has a reaction, so always remember what is meant to be will be."



Photo by Kemberly Groue

What are your short- and long-term goals? short-term, complete my Commu-

nity College of the Air Force associate degree; long-term, to get a doctorate degree.

DIAMOND NOTES

Outdoors in civilian clothes during the national anthem, face the flag or music, stand at attention, remove headgear and place your right hand over your heart until the music ends.



Sergeant Rash

— Master Sgt. Christopher Rash, 81st Dental Squadron first sergeant



MEMORABLE MOMENTS

March 7, 1942

Keesler Field opened its first hospital. The facility admitted 92 patients during its first day of operation.

Status

Big BOS — a video teleconference Monday with Air Education and Training Command and Air Force Personnel Center officials discusses current status and firms up the reduction-in-force and contract transition timelines.

Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander, met with local union leadership April 2 to discuss A-76 status and solicit their input for the teleconference.

The 30-day public review period of the new RIF procedures ends April 18. National union leadership is currently reviewing the new procedures.

Little BOS — The decision remains in litigation in federal court.

Key phone numbers

Civilian personnel flight — 376-8722.

Competitive sourcing office — 377-4848.

For more information, go to <http://www.keesler.af.mil> via the Air Force Portal.

**Could your work
center run
more efficiently?**

**Is time being
wasted where
you work?**

**Do you have an idea
to save money or
streamline your job?**

**If so,
we want to know.**

**Call the 81st
Training Wing
Air Force
Smart Operations
for the 21st
Century Office:**

**Capt. Ted West,
377-0123.**

Air Force contends with child care challenges

By Staff Sgt.
Monique Randolph

Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The shortage of qualified child-care providers is a major concern for Air Force families, and the Air Force is working to resolve it, the chief of airman and family services at the Pentagon said.

While the Air Force offers Airmen quality, affordable child care at on-base facilities throughout the world, providing full staffing at those facilities is an issue, Eliza Nesmith said.

The Air Force has specific rules about how many children can be in a single provider's care, so when there's a staffing shortage, child care centers can't accept additional children who are on the waiting list. In the past two years, 2,400 child care spaces have been made available to Air Force families, but about 4,000 spaces are still needed.

"The impact is really critical when we don't have enough staff to care for the children," Ms. Nesmith said. "Without child care, there is significant mission impact. Airmen can't go to work. Quality child care is expensive outside the gate, if it's available.

"The Air Force looks at quality, availability and affordability — that's what we owe the workforce," she emphasized. "Their work is important and we need to be able to support that mission.

"Families overseas are particularly hard hit when child-care facilities have staffing shortages because Airmen have fewer options outside the gate," she explained. "Even if child care is available (off base), it can be very expensive, there can be language barriers and the operating hours may not support Airmen's needs."

To combat manning shortages, Air Force Personnel Center officials are working aggressively to assist bases in filling child-care positions as quickly as possible, Ms.

Base programs overcoming Katrina's impact

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

As the Air Force faces shrinking budgets, manpower cuts and contracted services, Keesler officials are working to keep high-quality child care available and affordable for base families.

"We have strong partnerships with the parents and the base," said Ann Smith, family member programs flight chief. "We love our jobs — where else can you sing, dance, play and get unconditional love?"

At Keesler, 316 children are enrolled at the child development center, 56 are involved in the school-age program at the youth center and 64 are provided for in licensed family child care homes. Employees include 88 at the CDC, seven for the school-age program with another 15 added for summer camp and 11 licensed family child care providers, with five applicants in process.

Currently there are 118 children, including unborn, on Keesler's child care waiting lists.

"Our top priority is to serve dual and single military families, Department of Defense civilians and military members with working spouses," Ms. Smith commented.

In addition to staffing shortages experienced throughout the Air Force, Keesler had a unique stumbling block — Hurricane Katrina.

"The child development center and school-age program lost a third of their staffs in the evacuation and many did not return," Ms. Smith recalled. "We had to reopen programs gradually. The opening of our new wing at the child development center was delayed a year due to funding and manpower issues.

"The school-age program came back slowly, too, because so much base housing was destroyed and area schools weren't able to provide bus service to the youth center as in the past," she continued. "We now provide our own transportation, but we're still limited in the number of schools we can serve."

Nesmith said. The Air Force chief of staff provided additional funds from the fiscal 2008 budget for child-care manpower positions as well.

This year, three child care facilities are being built at

Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., Charleston AFB, S.C., and Scott AFB, Ill., which adds about 800 spaces. In addition to building child care facilities on bases, the Air Force continues to work with national part-

ners and referral agencies to identify licensed off-base home-care providers for children on the waiting lists.

"We also provide family child care subsidy where fees are based on total family

income, so the Airman pays what they would at the on-base child development center," Ms. Nesmith said.

Please see **Child care**, Page 15



Photo by Kemberly Groue

From left, Hannah Holmes, 5, and Zaria Bush, 4, make play dough shapes with Angela Gibson, a program technician at the CDC. Hannah's parents are Staff Sgts. Stephanie Bangora, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, and Michael Bangora, 334th Training Squadron. Zaria's parents are Brenda Bush, who works at the CDC, and Senior Airman Samuel Bush, 81st Communications Squadron.

Ms. Smith thinks the shortage of family child care homes has been the biggest challenge since Katrina struck in August 2005.

"Prior to Katrina, we had 25 homes — after the storm, we started back with only five providers," she explained. "Now were up to 11 providers, with five in process. It will be difficult to grow this program back to normal levels until the new base housing is available."

Keesler's child care facilities have continued to expand in recent years. A school-age wing added at the youth center in 2004 can accommodate 96 children. The youth center was renovated in 2005 to provide older youth

with more recreational opportunities, clubs and special events in the afternoons, weekends and summer.

In June, a new wing and playgrounds were opened at the child development center to increase its capacity from 264 to 336.

Ms. Smith said Keesler is always looking for good child care employees and providers. People interested in working at the CDC or school-age program at the youth center, visit the non-appropriated human resource office in Locker House to complete an application. Individuals who'd like to be family child care home providers, visit the family child care office in Locker House or call 377-3189 or 5934.

The same provision applies to families who use family child care through a licensed home-care provider on base. Also, there are several expanded child care programs designed especially to meet Airmen's unique needs, including:

Extended-duty child care program, which enables Airmen and their families to obtain quality child care at no cost for extended duty hours or nontraditional hours. It's also available to spouses of Airmen on temporary duty or deployed who require additional child care due to the spouses' absence.

Home community care program, which provides free in-home quality child care services to Guard and Reserve members during scheduled drill weekends.

Missile care, which provides free child care 24/7 to Airmen working at missile sites.

Returning home care program, which supports Airmen returning home from deployments lasting 30 days or more and for Airmen who routinely deploy on a short-term basis (cumulative of 30 days in a six-month period) in support of contingency operations. Airmen receive 16 hours of free child care upon their return to their home station.

Child care for permanent-change-of-station program, which is intended to help relieve stress felt by families in the process of a PCS move. The Air Force Aid Society pays up to 20 hours of child care (per child) in licensed family child-care homes on base.

Give parents a break, supported by the AFAS, offers one day or night per month in a child development center to provide eligible parents with a few hours break each month from the stresses of parenting.

Mission Youth Outreach provides one-year free membership for children of active-duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen who don't live near an installation to attend any local Boys and Girls Club in their community.

Deluge doesn't dampen spirit of Boy Scouts, base volunteers



Photos by Adam Bond

Top, Scooter Freeman, 14, Troop 229, St. Martin, gets an overview of the cockpit of a Cessna 182 from Civil Air Patrol Capt. Keith Riddle. Scouts working on the avionics merit badge also explored a C-130J and a C-21.

Right, Christian Barker, Troop 3, Petal, learns how to perform proper stitching using a pig's foot to simulate human flesh from Maj. (Dr.) Peter Drewes, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron. He's working on his medicine merit badge.



Senior Airman Jeremy Brown, left, a Keesler firefighter, supervises Nathan Parker, 11, as he douses a staged fire, one of the requirements of his fire safety merit badge. Nathan is a member of Troop 5, Carriere.

Photo by Adam Bond



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Nino Lusivic, 14, Troop 229, St. Martin, slides a rod over the top of a tent to secure a tarp Friday before severe weather moved in. The storm forced about 480 South Mississippi Boy Scouts and their leaders inside Blake Fitness Center for the night. It's the first Boy Scout Camporee held at Keesler since 1956. Classes for 26 merit badges were held Saturday. The Scouts departed Sunday. Nino's mom, Pamela, works on base for Northrop Grumman.



Nick Myrick, left, Troop 38, Bay St. Louis, and Gerald Keaton III, Troop 357, Picayune, learn to assemble a circuit board to create a flashing light sequence from Staff Sgt. Jennifer Bosch, 332nd Training Squadron. The Scouts learned component names and how to solder circuits, requirements for the electronics merit badge.

Photo by Adam Bond

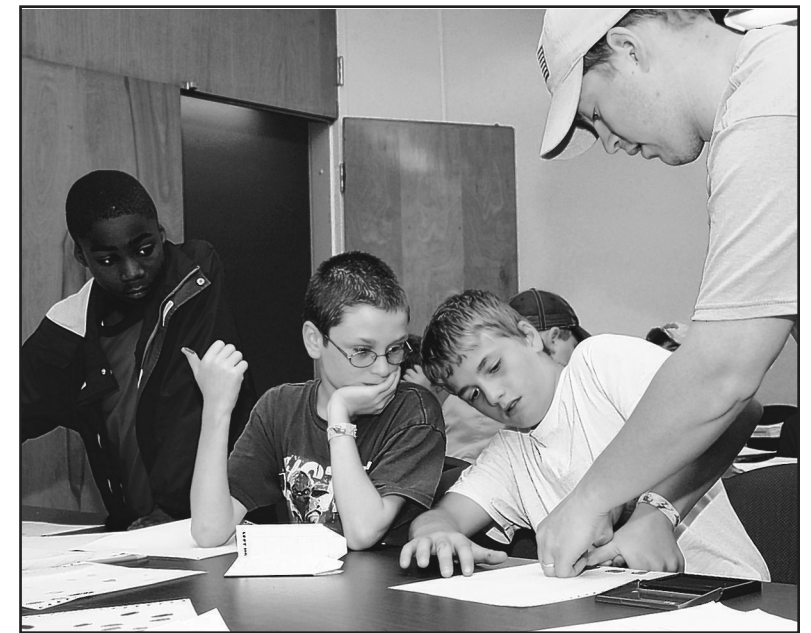


Photo by Adam Bond

From left, Malik Jackson, Troop 29, Laurel, and Cody Denman and Matthew Cerone, Troop 229, St. Martin, practice proper fingerprinting techniques with John Scoth, Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 407. The three Scouts were working on the crime prevention merit badge.

Left, dental hygienist Amanda Scoth, 81st Dental Squadron, examines Ryan Vansitter's teeth as Hayden Tolley looks on. The parents of both Scouts, Len and Rayden Sittert of Gulfport and Jim and Denise Bissell of D'Iberville, are Air Force retirees. Ryan, Troop 201, and Hayden, Troop 712, were working on the dentistry merit badge.

Photo by Steve Pivnick

Research links alcohol to sexual assaults

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of four articles in conjunction with the observance of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Department of Defense
Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

Studies show that the weapon most often used to commit a sexual assault is not a gun or a knife. Offenders use alcohol and other incapacitating substances much more frequently to coerce and incapacitate victims in acts of sexual violence.

Most people visualize a rapist as a stranger who accosts victims in a deserted location. However, research demonstrates that offenders often travel in the same social circles as their victims. In fact, some make a point of getting to know or even date their victim before they commit a criminal offense.

Most rapists typically have social skills, have other "consensual" sexual relationships, are educated and employed, aren't mentally ill and don't use weapons to maim their victims.

About 80 percent of sexual assaults happen during some form of social interaction, usually on a date. A rape is also more likely to occur at a party or bar, rather than at the victim's home.

Most people find it hard to believe that a rapist might be someone they know or have dated. This might be because rapists commonly use a variety of techniques to lower their victims' defenses and win their confidence. Just getting to know someone is a very subtle way to make a person less suspicious of their ultimate intentions.

Another common technique is to overpower someone with alcohol or incapacitating drugs. Perpetrators seek victims who have used alcohol or other intoxicating substances because such drugs interfere with the ability to verbally and physically resist sexual advances. Some perpetrators use alcohol

AT KEESLER

Editor's note: For more information, call the sexual assault prevention and response office, 377-8635.

Today — sexual assault awareness display, Keesler Medical Center lobby.

Monday — display, commissary.

Through Wednesday — display, Triangle.

Wednesday — 6:30 a.m., 5-kilometer run/walk, Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport.

Wednesday-April 30 — display, corner of Larcher Boulevard and Meadows Drive.

April 21 — 5:30-7:30 p.m., free self-defense class, Dragon Fitness Center. To preregister, call 377-8635.

April 29 — 6-9 p.m., "Romance with Respect: An Evening Under the Stars," Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence fashion show, poolside at Imperial Palace Casino. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 377-8635.

to completely incapacitate a target, embarrass the victim and ultimately hide the crime.

Offenders may also hide behind their use of alcohol in an attempt to exonerate themselves. When intoxicated, perpetrators often ignore consequences and act impulsively. Studies confirm that the more perpetrators drink, the more likely they will commit sexually violent acts.

A study of college rapists found that 62 percent of the offenders believed they had committed rape only because of their alcohol consumption. They

Alcohol 'warning flags'

Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

Research shows at least 80 percent of college students who had unwanted sex were under the influence of alcohol.

Men are more likely than women to assume that a woman who drinks alcohol on a date is a willing sex partner. Of the men who think this way, 40 percent also believe it's acceptable to force sex on an intoxicated woman.

Alcohol consumption by perpetrators and victims tends to co-occur — that is, when one is drinking, the other one is usually drinking, too.

Alcohol use can contribute to an atmosphere where anything goes, including rape by individuals or groups.

Alcohol impairs judgment and lowers inhibitions, making some people more likely to commit rape or a sexual assault.

Alcohol slows reflexes and impairs the ability to recognize potentially dangerous situations.

Under the influence of alcohol, both men and women have a decreased ability to interpret social situations accurately. Consequently, risk of sexual assault increases for both sexes with alcohol use.

Although the media typically focuses on Rohypnol (roofies) and GHB as rape drugs, alcohol is the substance most commonly used in drug-facilitated rapes.

Alcohol intoxication can never be used as a defense for someone who commits sexual violence.

Military law recognizes that when someone is passed out, she or he is unable to give consent, and it's considered sexual assault.

didn't see themselves as "real criminals," because real criminals use weapons to assault strangers. In fact, some perpetrators may purposely get drunk when they want to act in a sexually aggressive way, having the mistaken belief that alcohol use excuses their socially inappropriate behavior.

The best defense against these kinds of perpetrators is to watch out for potentially dangerous situations:

Limit drinking to a drink an hour with no more than three drinks total. One drink equals 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine or 1 1/2 ounces of liquor.

Designate a non-drinking friend to help with safety and good decision making.

Don't leave your drink unattended and don't accept drinks you didn't order.

Avoid drinking in unfamiliar environments and around unfamiliar people.

Many risks presented by sex offenders who use alcohol and other substances as weapons can be managed by looking out for friends and coworkers. When someone is in trouble, ask if he or she needs help. Get assistance if requested, and don't be afraid to intervene or ask someone else to help.

After hours crime fighter

Medical technologist moonlights as Long Beach reserve policeman

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

He may not be a caped crusader, but William Hansen is doing his part to fight crime.

Mr. Hansen, a medical technologist with the 81st Medical Operations Squadron's pathology and clinical laboratory flight, serves as a reserve police officer with the Long Beach Police Department.

"I became a reserve police officer in 1998," he said. "We handle special events, provide prisoner transport to court and court security. We also supplement the regular patrols."

He pointed out the Long Beach police currently have 12 reserve patrolmen, three fewer than before Hurricane Katrina.

"It's difficult to get someone to commit their time," he explained.

Mr. Hansen, the assistant reserve chief, said reserve members must complete 14 weeks of

police academy training to receive certification as part-time police officers.

"After completing the academy, reservists have to complete the department's field training program, which could last from six months to a year, depending on the time they can devote to training," he said. "A regular police officer normally completes field training in about eight weeks."

Mr. Hansen, who has been with Keesler Medical Center six years, was recognized for his police work during and after Katrina. He received the Armed Forces Civilian Services Medal covering the period Aug. 29, 2005-Feb. 27, 2006.

He's also actively recruiting new reservists. Applicants don't have to be Long Beach residents, he said. However, they must be 21 or older, high school graduates and of good moral character.

For more information, call or e-mail Mr. Hansen, 596-3621, lbpd102@cablone.net.

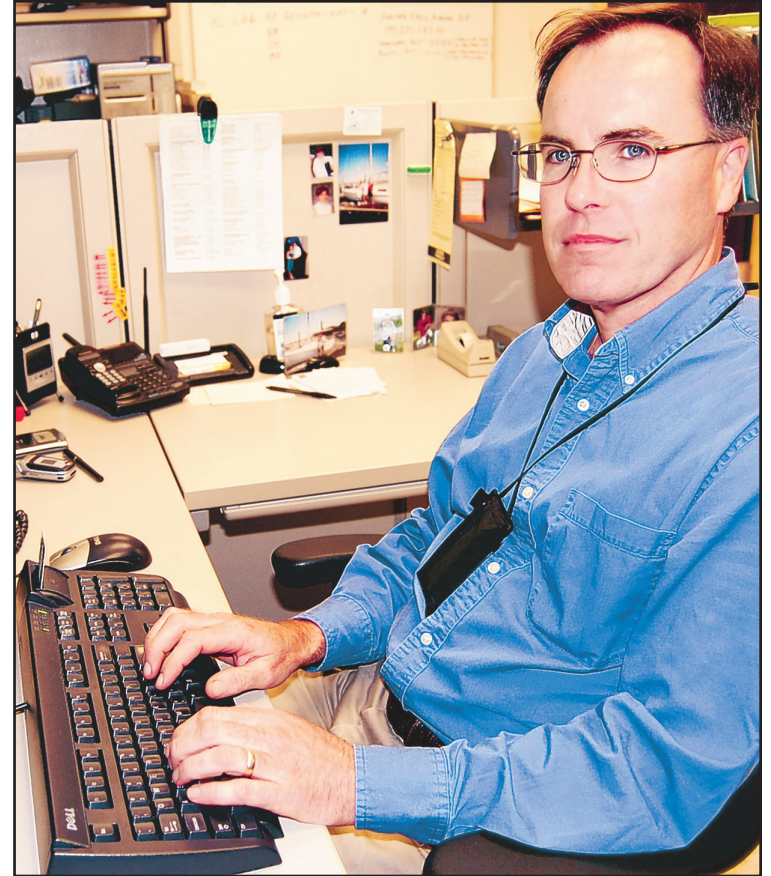


Photo by Steve Pivnick

Mr. Hansen received the Armed Forces Civilian Services Medal for his activities as a Long Beach reserve police officer during and after Hurricane Katrina.

Summer work now available across Air Force

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Students and certain other eligible persons can gain marketable skills and earn money while enjoying their summer vacations, thanks to the Air Force Summer Hire Program, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here.

“These great temporary jobs will run from May through September,” said Robbie Brown, technical advisor to the deputy director of civilian force integration at AFPC. “Bases are looking for clerical workers, lifeguards, recreation aides, computer clerks and general laborers.”

Job vacancies are posted on the USAJobs Web site and may be advertised locally by a base’s civilian personnel flight via bulletin boards, services newsletters or base newspapers.

“However, if a person was a temporary hire last year and still qualifies for the program,” said Ms. Brown, “he or she may be asked by the hiring official to volunteer for the program again.”

Also, many civilian person-

nel flights interact with local community colleges and high schools and have already identified eligible and interested students. In either case, the job request and the name of the hire is sent to AFPC and processed.

In most cases, the request for personnel action is sent to an AFPC management advisory clearinghouse inbox. There’s a specific MACH for every major command. There it goes through normal checks and balances, advertised for hire and a list of qualified names sent to the requesting official, just as any recruitment action would do.

Applicants must be able to show proof of their eligibility, either school enrollment paperwork, proof of citizenship or other proof before being hired.

“This is a great program for young people looking to enjoy their summer break and still earn some money during the summer,” said Ms. Brown. “And it gives our Air Force bases a highly qualified and enthusiastic group of temporary workers to fill important seasonal positions.”

Road closure

Chappie James Avenue from the circle drive exit of Locker House to Z Street is closed for approximately two weeks for water line replacement.

A recommended detour is a parallel road by the recycling center and housing maintenance.

For more information, call 377-5857.

Earth-Arbor Day

Through Friday — squadron recycling competition. Drop off items at recycling center 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. today and 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Friday.

April 17 — tree planting, 9 a.m., field west of child development center. Household hazardous waste turn-in, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., recycling center

Also planned is energy conservation awareness training.

For more information, call Angel Hays, 377-1262.

Mystery dinner theater

An interactive mystery dinner theater is Saturday at Blake Fitness Center.

A social hour begins at 6 p.m., followed by the show at 7.

Tickets, \$20 per person, are on sale at Vandenberg Community Center and Gaude

Lanes. Tickets include dinner and dessert. A full-service cash bar is available.

Dress is business casual.

To preregister for child care, call 377-2211 for ages 6 weeks to 5 years, or 377-4116 for 6 and older.

For more information, call 377-2503.

Operation Hero

Operation Hero is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19 at the deployment facility.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Jessica Woodruff, 377-2593.

Child Pride Day

Child Pride Day is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 26 in marina park.

Registration is 8 a.m. for the 1- and 2-mile run-walk that starts at 9 for ages 18 and younger on the track adjacent to the park.

In case of rain, activities move to the youth center.

For more information, call 377-5935.

Auditions

Wall Studio is conducting auditions for people to go on camera for a series of video projects in support of the 81st Training Group.

Positions are open to military members and civilians.

For more information and to schedule an audition, call Bruce Norton, 377-2793.

Patients sought

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

Eligible are children ages 4-12. Patients must be available Thursday mornings.

For more information, call 376-5144.

Data disposal

To make appointments to shred personal data, call the records management office, 377-2571.

Clinic closure

The internal medicine clinic is closed compressed work schedule Fridays.

Running for cause



Photo by Kemberly Groue

From left, Audrey Hill, 81st Training Wing; Christine McGill and Sherry Alfieri, 81st Training Support Squadron; and Jennifer Quinata, 81st Training Group, carry a Sexual Assault Awareness Month banner during the 2.5-mile run to kick off the observance April 2. For other activities scheduled during the month, see Page 18.

Keesler civil engineer helps Air Force to basketball title

By Perry Jenifer

Keesler News editor

A Keesler civil engineer helped the Air Force to the Armed Forces Men's Basketball Championships at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa., March 22-27.

Danny Nwaelele, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, scored 93 points as the Air Force posted a 5-1 record. The Navy was second at 3-3, and the Marine Corps and Army both finished 2-4.

The Air Force women, 4-2, placed second behind the Navy, 5-1, and ahead of the Army, 3-3, and Marine Corps, 0-6.

Nwaelele's 15.5-point scoring average and consistency throughout the event earned him a spot on the all-tournament team, and then the Armed Forces team that represents the U.S. in international competition.

After scoring 13 points in the Air Force's 109-83 rout of Navy in the first round,

Nwaelele led his teammates with 21 points in a 92-77 victory over Army.

He scored 12 and 16 points, respectively, as the bluesuiters ran their tournament winning streak to four games, 82-74 over the Marines and 102-90 over the Sailors.

Army slowed the Air Force's drive to the championship temporarily, 95-93 in overtime. Nwaelele scored 17 points in the loss.

An 87-82 victory over the Marine Corps wrapped up the title for the Air Force. Nwaelele contributed 15 points.

Nwaelele was joined on the all-tournament and Armed Forces teams by fellow bluesuiter Bernard James, Beale Air Force Base, Calif.

Other Air Force players selected to the Armed Forces team are Ollie Bradley, Maxwell AFB, Ala., and Jamar Mahor, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

From left, William Mays, 338th TRS, and Ray Johnson, 2nd Air Force, keep their eyes on the ball as Leo Lawson, 2nd Air Force, tries to block a shot by Ed Simpson, 338th TRS. The Dark Knights won the game April 3, 82-56, knocking 2nd Air Force out of the playoffs.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Civil engineers, Dark Knights vie for Over-30 hoops crown

Then there were two.

As of Tuesday, only regular-season champion 338th Training Squadron and the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron were still standing in the Over-30 basketball playoffs.

Momentum seemed to be on the side of the civil engineers going into Tuesday's title game at Dragon Fitness Center. Last week, they handed the Dark Knights their first loss since the season began, 50-49.

Until that game, the 338th TRS was 14-0, 12-0 in the regular season and 2-0 in the double-elimination playoffs. The 81st CES was

8-4 and second in the regular-season standings.

If the civil engineers, unbeaten in the playoffs, won Tuesday, it was over and they're No. 1. A victory by the 338th TRS would force a second game to decide the champion.

Sidelined with their second losses last week were the 81st Training Support Squadron, 46-37 by 2nd Air Force, and 2nd Air Force, 82-56 by the Dark Knights.

The 85th Engineering Installation Squadron was the first casualty, departing after back-to-back losses earlier in the playoffs.

For more information, call Laurence Wilson, 377-2444.

SCORES AND MORE

Basketball

Intramural

Games at Blake Fitness Center.

Today — 6 p.m., 338th TRS vs. 81st MDSS; 7 p.m., 81st SUPS-TRANS vs. 81st DS; 8 p.m., 335th TRS vs. 81st SFS.

Monday — 6 p.m., 336th TRS vs. 81st CS; 7 p.m., 81st CES vs. 81st MDG; 8 p.m., 81st MSS vs. 332nd TRS.

Tuesday — 6 p.m., 338th TRS vs. 81st DS; 7 p.m., 81st MDSS vs. 81st SFS; 8 p.m., 81st SFS vs. 81st SUPS-TRANS.

Wednesday — 6 p.m., 336th TRS vs. 81st MDG; 7 p.m., 81st CS vs. 332nd TRS; 8 p.m., 81st CES vs. 81st MSS.

Bowling

League standings

No updates.

Other

League registrations — for Monday trio, Tuesday family, Thursday intramural and Thursday morning seniors; call 377-2817.

Penny a pin — Tuesdays. Your score is what you pay rounded out to the nearest nickel. Bowl 225 or over and game is free.

Open bowling — for days and times, call 377-2817.

Birthday party package — Saturdays 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m., and Sundays 2:30-4 p.m. Basic party with bowling and food \$8.95 per child. Mid party, including table supply and T-shirt, \$11.95 per child. Premium party with games and a pin, \$15.95 per child. Reservations required.

Nonprior service students special — 5-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, all nonprior service students bowl for \$1.50 game including shoe rental.

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Intramural basketball is back

Keesler's first intramural basketball season since Hurricane Katrina tipped off this week at Blake Fitness Center for 12 teams in two divisions.

The West got things started Monday with games between the 336th Training Squadron and 81st Mission Support Squadron, 332nd TRS and 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, and 81st Medical Group and 81st Communications Squadron.

Tuesday, it was the East's turn: 338th TRS vs. 81st Supply-Transportation Squadron, 335th TRS vs. 81st Medical Support Squadron and 81st Security Forces Squadron vs. 81st Dental Squadron.

The regular season, including crossover games between the two divisions, continues through April 30.

For more information, call Laurence Wilson, 377-2444.

Hurricane alley, fundraisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Fitness centers

Slugfest V — May 9; registration 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Vandenberg Community Center, and Wednesday, Blake Fitness Center. Tryouts 6 p.m. April 10, Blake Fitness Center. Light, middle and heavy-weight divisions for men; women's divisions to be announced.

Free fitness classes — yoga, step aerobics, turbo-core, spin/cycle, slobotics, boxing workout and fencing at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Massage appointments — at Triangle Fitness Center, call 263-5515.

Wall of Fame — powerlifting event, 1-4 p.m. first compressed work schedule Friday of every month, Triangle Fitness Center. Squat, bench press and dead lift; one attempt in any or all three events; 12 weight classes for men, 10 for women. Set a record for most pounds lifted or break an

existing record and get your picture on the wall of fame. Open to all Department of Defense personnel 18 years of age and older.

For more information, call 377-3056.

Golf

Keesler vs. Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce annual tournament — 12:30 p.m. shotgun start May 23, Bay Breeze Golf Course. Registration deadline May 16. Twenty Keesler teams available; first-come, first-serve, must sign up as twosomes. \$50 per player in advance includes green fees, carts, prizes, food and beverages, giveaways and two mulligans.

To register, e-mail tama.manu@keesler.af.mil or billy.bell2@keesler.af.mil. For more information, call 424-0479.

Free beginners lessons — 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Friday and April 19 for nonprior service students; 4 p.m. Tuesday for company grade officers; 4 p.m. April 15 for pay grades E5-9;

and 1 p.m. April 26 for E1-4.

Golf lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes. For appointment, call 424-0479.

Driving range — 40 balls, \$2.

Course and pro shop — 7 a.m. to dusk daily. For tee times, call 377-3832.

Martial arts

Editor's note: Classes at Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call 377-3308.

Shaolin pentjak silat — 7-8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, all ages. \$65 month. Striking, kicking, grappling, weapons and internal energy; sash ranking system.

Pukulan pencak silat tempur — 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$65 month. Closequarters combat class; used for personal protection.

Mixed martial arts — 8-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. \$65 month; muay thai, western boxing, kung fu, wrestling, judo and jujitsu.

Women's self defense — 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays. \$25 month. Mental, physical and tactical training.

Outdoor recreation

Camping special — 10 percent discount on No. 1 camping package this month.

Preregistration for swimming lessons — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through April 17, outdoor recreation building. Lessons begin in June.

Delacroix, La., fishing site — two self-contained trailers for rent for \$50 per night; maximum four per trailer. Bring linens and cooking utensils. Louisiana fishing license required.

April fish of the month — weigh in largest white trout and win \$100 savings bond.

Bicycles for rent — 3500 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$3 day, \$15 week.

Wet slip fees — monthly, boats more than 32 feet, \$3.75 per foot; less than 32 feet, \$2.50 per foot.

Overnight, \$5 per boat.

Back bay fishing trips — April 12 and 19. \$15 per person. Maximum eight people; call for time.

Deep sea fishing trips — compressed work schedule Fridays and Sundays aboard the Keesler Dolphin II. \$60 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$700 for first six people, \$35 each additional person Mondays-Thursdays, \$40 weekends and holidays. \$350 deposit required.

Back Bay cruiser — 17-foot vessel for rent. Mississippi boater registration card required. For prices, call 377-3160.

Recreational vehicle, boat and trailer storage — \$15 per month. For more information, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — to rent a pontoon you must take a test and be certified. Call for information.

Disk golf — distance, fairway, multi-purpose, putt and approach disks for sale or rent.

Canoe trips — for more information, call 377-3160.

Resale area — snacks, beverages, fishing and rental equipment, Mississippi hunting and fishing licenses.

Paintball

Paintball course — open by reservation only; for reservations or more information, call 377-3160.

Special Olympics

Keesler hosts the Mississippi Special Olympics, May 16-18.

Project officer is Capt. Millie Ziebell, 377-9522.

Squadrons interested in sponsoring food booths, call Rick Harmon, 377-7351.

GRADUATIONS

Keesler NCO Academy Class 08-3

2nd Air Force — Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Browning.
81st Civil Engineer Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Michael Johnson.
81st Communications Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Wrenroy Lamey.
81st Medical Operations Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Asa Coston and Joshua Hernandez.
81st Operations Support Flight — Tech. Sgt. John Platt.
81st Training Wing — Tech. Sgt. Tonisha Layne.
85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Janet Holmes.
333rd Training Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Shane Perez.
336th TRS — Tech. Sgts. Josef Albert and Robert Cowan.
403rd Wing — Tech. Sgts. Kenneth Boudoin and Matthew McCombs.
Office of Special Investigations Detachment 407 — Tech. Sgt. Lucas Applewhite.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Christopher Brand, Luwed Cifuentes, Nathan Cortes, James Cotter, Jeffery Cottingham, Eric Crider, Benjamin Cristofich, Robert Crosier, Bernard Dona, Christopher Crumbine, Stephen Fain, Charles Foster, Daniel Jacobson, Christopher Johnson, Joshua Johnson, Bryant Jopplin, Benjamin Kanoff, Kory Kendall, Adam Kramer, Joshua Lehne, Aldo Lotito, Joshua McLucas, Joshua Miller, Brandon Mitchell, Jeremy Pacheco, Dimitrios Pappas, Jeremy Paradise, Masai Peters, Eric Peterson, Aaron Pickern, Octavius Sails, Darryl Sampson, Jamel Seales, Matthew Simpson, Gregory Stanley, Dustin Thiers, Brandon Tryon, Laniel Vazquez, Michael Velez, Benjamin Wagner, Jeffrey Williams and Aerial Woods; Airmen William Bryant, James Godfrey, Devin Martin, Justin Smith, Jonathan Snell, William Tovar and Christofer Wheatley; Airmen 1st Class Paul Addison, Andrew Allen, Odeb Allen, Aaron Baker, Jonathan Becker, Charles Bennett, Nathaniel Bridgman, Brandon Briggs, Robert Bukowski, Oscar Calhoun, Jason Carlson, Zhile Cao, Levi Chism, Robert Crow, Richard Derby, Steven Gershowitz, Richard Goheen, Geoffrey Groce, David Harrison, Zachary Hughes, Kevin Jackson, Philip

Lawson, Darryl Martin, Joseph Matthews, Christopher Medeiros, James Miller, Kevin O'Brien, Joseph Pecora, Sarah Perry, Michael Ramsey, Ira Richardson, Casey Rickles, John Schofield, Steven Sihrer, Charles Silva, Nicholas Stewart and James Twidt; Senior Airmen Tony Bloyd, Stephen Ely, Nathan Nelson, Michael Parodi, Matthew Myers, Dillin Nickson, Forrest Searle and Jonathan Voyles; Cpl. Brett Jordan; Staff Sgts. Stephen Capone, Daniel Gagnon, Adam Mundy, James Riley, Joel Toroestrella, Jeremiah Walker, Richard Williams and Jeromy Wolf; Tech. Sgts. Mohammad Ali, Craig Bailey, Scott England and Vance Rizzo; Capt. Mansour Abu-Hazeem.

Metrology course — Airmen Lucy Decker and Jordan Fieblekorn; Airmen 1st Class Kyle Carnegie and Jacob Miller.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems course — Airmen Basic Adah Fernandez and Nicholas Hazzis; Airmen 1st Class Randolph Badger, Chelsie Boozer, Kayla Lash, Jonathan Norman, Robert Price and Joshua Vargha.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Richard Borgen, Kinsel Brazoban, Brandon Caulkins, Jacob Colley, Katie Demetzsky, Victor Gugler, Justin Ohm, Marcel Rivera, Quentin Terry, Jacob Williams and Leah Wood; Airmen Daniel Cutrell, Brian Fox, James Fox, Sean Greenwell, Patrick Smith and Adam Szeltner; Airmen 1st Class Garret Boyer, John Hansard, Daniel Hesson, Justin Kimble, Timothy Linden, Myke McAfoose, John Petersen, Jessica Seeber, Ashley Strauch, Nelson Vargas, Brinton Whalen, Jeremy Williams and Michael White; Senior Airman Matthew Warner; Sgt. Vija Kruma.

Aviation resource management apprentice course — Airmen Basic Chelsea Eldridge, Jasmine Kennedy, Kasey Leatherbury, and Sang Nguyen; Airmen Della Sciascia and Sofia Sanchez-Silva; Airmen 1st Class Cessene Byers, Devin Hofner, and Alicia Perry; Staff Sgt. Michael Cross; John Hebert.

Command post apprentice course — Airman Basic Steven Bock; Airmen 1st Class Benjamin Ekblad, Kristin Garland, Scott Roy and Holly Turner; Senior Airmen Melissa Kitchens and Stuart Madison; Staff Sgt. Thomas Hansen; Tech. Sgts. Charles Bartosh, Brian Benson, Kevin Edwards, Wendy Hood, Glenn Petersen and Morgan Young.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Mark Atkinson, Erik Coffell, Amanda Compton, Kendra Curtis, Tiffany Holmes, Johnathan McEachin, Emily Stormfeltz; Airman Willie Hogan, Heather Lipper and Nathan Sharpless; Airmen 1st Class Marcus Ayala, Christina Bako-McKinney, Nicholas Gidaly, Jeremy McCray, Corrine Miller, Tobey Newby, Clinton Pettey, Mark Rosone, Jaclyn Scott, Ryan Simbro and Daniel Wisniewski; Senior Airmen Mildred Cassidy, Ceasal Clyburn, David Warner and Crystal White; Staff Sgts. Jeffrey Brooks, Jameal Hollis, Samantha Hren and Stephen Swanson; Tech. Sgt. Kevin Dreibelbis.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Magnus Creed, Amber Foster, Brandon Howe, Jeremy Smith and Amy Welsh; Navy Airmen Recruit Jason Fisher, Jason Majerus and Kayla Sharrow; Pfc. Shawn Bray, Francisco Agosto-Lopez, Luke Peterson, Deolu Sopade and Samuel Spillers; Airmen Phillip Bramley, Jesse Fenwick and Rocco-Antounio O'Farrell; Navy Aerographer Apprentices Tanner Anderson, Vince Berry and Leonardo Ruiz; Airmen 1st Class Tracy Bennett, Shawn Garmon, Cassandra Guzman, Russell Hathaway, Kyle Haynes, Aaron Hero, Kaitlin Karaszewski, Jennifer Minder, Jared McClain, Amanda Stephens, Julio Torres, Tyson Unrau and Tracy Winget; Marine Lance Cpl. Kenneth Sheridan; Senior Airman Christine Stamper; Staff Sgt. David Candelaria; Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Nathan Hatfield.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Charles Handley and Nicholas McVay; Airman 1st Class Steven Jensen; Staff Sgts. Reuben Dea, Eric Gishl and Tiffany Moore; Tech. Sgts. Kevin Cramp and Jodi Habbinger; Master Sgts. Brian Haase, Kevin Monahan and Michael Nickerson.

Communications and information flight — Airmen Basic Ana Acavedo, Brittany Clack, Joshua Gonzales, Ernest Leon, Lakendrick Moore, Alexandria Yeddo and Marie York; Airmen Samuel Cox, Jake Lampe and Amy Teague; Airmen 1st Class Nicholas Campbell, Eugene Evans, Adam Falcsik, Matthew

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	Building 5025
:12	Building 5022
:14	Shaw House
:16	Muse Manor
:18	Tyer House
:20	TLQ east side 2000 block
:21	TLQ east side of Locker House
:25	332nd TRS
:28	Welch Auditorium
:33	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:34	McClellan Hall
:36	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:37	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off base

Call vehicle operations, 377-2432, to coordinate taxi service to and from the base.

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.

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.
 Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m.
 Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.
Weekday Mass
 Medical Center chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Jewish

For worship opportunities, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235.

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 1-801-694-8900.

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Martinez, Joshua Russell, Kareem Spearman, Steven Su, Bryna Tennent and Justin Warner; Senior Airmen Joshua Bartholomew, Jared Cooke, Aaron Gentry, Richard McDonald, Caleb Sears, William Stevenson, Nathan Svenkerud and Dylan Wolfe; Staff Sgts. Donald Abell, Shawn Dillard, Mark Jackson, Dylan Turner and Daniel West; Tech. Sgts. Tera Johnson and Jeffrey March; Matthew Lewis.

338th TRS

Ground radar — Airmen Basic Matthew Anzures and Jonathan Johnson; Airman Kelly Darr; Airman 1st Class Patrick Timmerman; Staff Sgt. Jackson Parnell.

Ground radio — Airman Basic Richard Handley; Airmen Evan Beck, Charles Cox, Alexander Hennen and Melissa Knox; Airmen 1st Class Damon Daniels, Sara Dowless, Nicholas Edwards, Devin Fields, Sara Lynn Koch, Nathaniel Locke, Aaron Loudenburg, Sean McVeigh, William Murray, Erin Miller, Joshua Popp and Christopher Web; Staff Sgts. Donald Adkins and Michael Forte; Tech. Sgt. Anthony Tribelli.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 08-4 — Monday-May 21.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 08-4 — Tuesday-May 22.

Airman and family readiness center

Adoption options workshop — 5:15-7 p.m. today, Triangle Chapel annex. The Mississippi State Adoption Agency, Catholic Social Services, legal Assistance, customer service and adoption agency representatives talk with military and civilian personnel about the adoption process, including the military adoption reimbursement program, legal issues, home studies and international adoptions. Free refreshments provided. To sign up, call the airman and family readiness center 377-2179, or email sandra.brzovic@keesler.af.mil

Arts and crafts center

Multi-craft shop

Ceramics technique — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Learn to paint with a certified Duncan instructor. Project is ceramic eagle with fish, \$37.50. No prior ceramic experience needed.

Pottery-clay handbuilding — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19; \$40 includes five pounds of clay and project firing. Bring bag lunch; must preregister.

One-stroke painting with acrylics — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 19; \$32 including project and paint. Decorative painting technique doesn't require previous experience.

Auto hobby shop

Editor's note: open shop use, preregister for classes.

Auto cruise-in show — May 10, base cruise and youth obstacle course; registrations being accepted from auto and motorcycle hobbyists and youth bikers.

Free auto care briefing — 4:30-6 p.m. April 17.

Vehicle resale lot — one block west of Larcher Boulevard on Tingle Street north of the 81st Security Forces Squadron building. Register at multi-craft shop. Registration, license and proof of insurance required. To place a car on the lot, call 377-2821.

Wood shop

Beginning intarsia — 10 a.m. Saturday or April 19; \$15 includes project and tool use. Intarsia is the art of cutting and shaping wood pieces in decorative patterns for wall hangings.

Advanced intarsia — 10 a.m. Saturday or April 26; \$20 including materials and tool use. New project each month.

Frame shop

Framing and matting — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Matting, frame building and glass cutting. \$60 including materials, shop use and completed framing.

Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex through May. For more information, call 377-2520.

Catholic religious education — after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.
Protestant Sunday School — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for preschool, elementary, teens and adults.

Men's prayer breakfast — 9 a.m. to noon second Saturday of the month.

Women's prayer breakfast — 10 a.m. to noon first Saturday of the month.

Tuesday Bible study — 6-7:30 p.m. at the Haven.

Dinner and the Bible — 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Triangle Chapel Annex.

McBride Library

Open house — 2-4 p.m. April 24; refreshments served.

Free wireless Internet available — check at circulation desk.

Online research data bases orientations — 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Gale data base reference orientations — 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

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

April fax special — 50 cents a page.

Easier access to fiction books — now filed together.

Mental health clinic

Post-traumatic stress disorder — 1:30 p.m. Mondays.

Healthy thinking — 2 p.m. Tuesdays.

Stress management techniques — 10 a.m. Wednesdays.

Relaxation techniques — 9 a.m. Mondays.

To register, call 376-0385.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor's note: All events, except dances, are open to all Keesler personnel.

Guitar hero contests — 6 p.m. Thursdays before working Fridays.

Pool tournaments — 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays.

Movie night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. New releases, popcorn.

Dances — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays, and Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Katrina Kantina

Editor's note: In the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay.

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music.

Luncheon specials — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. New menu each week. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. For more information, call 377-2219.

Thirsty Thursday — 5 p.m. April 24. Cook your own steak or chicken. Members price \$6 for steak and \$5 for chicken; nonmembers add \$2.

Crawfish boil — 5 p.m. today. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers.

Karaoke night — 5 p.m. Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays.

Taco Tuesdays — members get two tacos for \$1, nonmembers pay \$2.

Catering — experts can assist with planning weddings, holidays, birthdays, official functions and other special occasions.

Youth center

Annual membership — \$25, ages 9 and older. Discounts on programs, classes and sports.

Give parents a break/parents night out — 4-10 p.m. Saturday, youth in kindergarten-grade 6. Certificates must be coordinated through the airmen and family readiness center. Parents night out is \$3.50 per hour. Participants must have current shot records on file.

Free pitch, hit and run competition — 5 p.m. Friday at youth ball fields, ages 6-12. Preregistration required.

Teen hot-shot competition and 3-on-3 basketball tournament — 7-11 p.m. April 18. \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers. Refreshments and prizes.

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — herbed baked chicken, beef and noodles, fried catfish, blackeyed peas with rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, cheeseburger soup, frontier chicken chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Dinner — roast pork loin, jaegerschnitzel veal, chicken cordon bleu, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, beans, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken with wild rice soup, onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, rice, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken with wild rice soup, onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked chicken, beef yakisoba, canned ham, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, broccoli, peas, carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, raisin sauce, clam chowder, tomato florentine soup and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almondiene, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, tomato florentine soup, chicken frontier chili and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Lunch — baked fish, sauerbraten, chicken breast parmesan, au gratin potatoes, egg noodles, gravy, cauliflower combo, mixed vegetables, fried cabbage, tomato salad, German coleslaw, cheesy chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, beef manicotti, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, black-eyed peas, collard greens, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, cheesy chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — Swiss steak, baked chicken, sausage, peppers and onions, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, carrots, cucumber and onion salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumplings soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — turkey, ribeye steak, tempura fish, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — lemon garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, squash, spinach salad, waldorf salad, frontier chicken chili, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Dinner — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, frontier chicken chili, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, simmered squash, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, Swiss steak, fried chicken, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, simmered cabbage, coleslaw, country style tomatoes, chicken noodle soup, potato soup, chili with beans, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

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Saturday night shots — 6-10 p.m. Hot-shot competition and 3-on-3 basketball tournament, ages 6-12. \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers. Refreshments and prizes.

Free job ready class — 6 p.m. April 28, ages 13 and older. Introduction to the youth employment service program and information on what to expect in the workplace.

Baseball registration — throughout April, ages 6-12. \$25 for members, \$35 for nonmembers. Volunteer coaches needed; call 377-4116 or 2826.

Art, FitFactor, sewing clubs — 4-7 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, ages 9 and older. Free for members; pr-registration required.

Cooking club — Tuesday, ages 9 and older. Call for times. Free for members; space limited. Preregistration required.

Open recreation — 4-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9 and older.

Super Saturdays — 1-5 p.m. Saturday, ages 6-12.

Classes — 9 a.m. Saturdays. Dance and gymnastics, \$50 for members, \$55 nonmembers, ages 3 and older. Piano \$70 for members, \$75 nonmembers, ages 6 and older. Karate for ages 6 and older meets one week on Mondays and Tuesdays, following week Wednesdays and Thursdays; \$70 for members, \$75 for nonmembers; call for times.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who'll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings are Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 110, Sablich Center, 1 p.m. for personnel who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. Individuals with less than honorable discharges, receiving extra benefits such as second enrollment opportunity in Montgomery GI Bill, Reserve or Guard personnel coming off 180-day deployments or entering the disability system must call 377-2179 for individual counseling appointment. To register, call 376-8728.

Transition assistance program — planned dates are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-April 17, May 19-22, June 16-19, July 14-17, Aug. 11-14, Sept. 15-18, Oct. 20-23, Nov. 17-20 and Dec. 8-11, Room 108A, Sablich Center. For military personnel who are 12 months or less from separation or 24 months or less from retirement, and Department of Defense civilians; spouses welcome. Military members should complete congressionally-mandated pre-separation counseling in advance. Attire is business casual — no uniforms, jeans, shorts or T-shirts. To sign up, call 376-8728.

Military retirement benefit seminars — planned dates, subject to change, are 8-10:30 a.m. May 1, June 5, July 10, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Tricare, Survivor Benefit Plan, movement and storage of household goods, military and retired pay issues and other topics covered. Spouses encouraged to attend. To sign up, call 376-8728.

Employment opportunities

Career focus program for spouses — information on area employment opportunities, job Web sites, human resources contacts, temporary jobs, on-base listings and free training programs. Computer lab available for resume preparation or job search; located in Room 121, Hangar 2 (old Cody Hall). For an appointment, call Ron Bublik at the airman and family readiness center, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Neil Sherman, 377-7116; visit Room 229, Hangar 2 or e-mail anthony.sherman@keesler.af.mil.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, call Master Sgt. Neil Sherman, 377-7116; visit Room 229, Hangar 2 or e-mail anthony.sherman@keesler.af.mil.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations — senior airmen with less than six years time in service, and staff

and technical sergeants with less than 12 years time in service are eligible. Foreign language, computer or technical skills are desired, but not required. Those accepted attend the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Ga. for training in instruction in law, report writing, forensics, interview techniques, firearms and defensive tactics and other subjects related to the challenges of investigative duty. For more information on applying, contact AFOSI Detachment 407, 377-3420.

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 Chapter 652 — 7 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Live Oak Dining Hall. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kat Hataway, 377-1389, or visit the group's Web site, <http://www.afsa652.org>.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Tuesday of the month. For more information, call Michelle Foster, 273-4591 or e-mail auxiliary.president@afsa652.org.

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. Brian Yelton, 377-0167, or e-mail keesler.aaddofficers@keesler.af.mil.

Asian Pacific-American Heritage Committee — 11:30 a.m. first Wednesday of month, Room 111, Sablich Center. For more information, call Lucy Belles, 377-2179, or Larry McKean, 377-3252.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Dewi Clark, 377-2714 or e-mail dewi.clark2@keesler.af.mil; Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Blacks in Government — 5:15 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Taylor Logistics Building conference room. For more information call Florence Clay, 377-8681, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270.

Company grade officers council — meets first Wednesday of the month. For time and location, call 1st Lt. Michael Newson, 377-7626, michael.newson@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. 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 — 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Heather Melancon, 831-8895.

Keesler Spouses Club — second Tuesday of the month. For time and place, call Gretchen Gorline, 374-8024, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.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, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Toyshaline Young, 377-0591, or Tech. Sgt. Jodi Evans, 377-2835.

Top III — 3:30 p.m. third Thursday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Krejci 376-6346.

Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter — 5 p.m. first Thursday of the month, McBride Library. For more information, call Glenda Mosby, 243-1992, gmosby1@bellsouth.net, or Charles Bowers, 860-3665.