



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

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



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Keesler on the Web
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Dragons deployed
296

Furry folks visit tiny tots



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Smokey the Bear and Sparky the Fire Dog greet infants from the child development center during a Fire Prevention Week visit Oct. 6. From left are Darius Craig, son of Staff Sgts. Javon and Latoya Craig, 81st Medical Group; Cassidy Carlisle, daughter of Staff Sgts. Paul Carlisle, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron, and Jackie Carlisle, 335th Training Squadron; Christy Stevenson, daughter of Staff Sgt. Soledad Stevenson, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron; Abigail Greiman, daughter of Capt. Robert and Luci Greiman, 81st Medical Operations Squadron; and McKenzie McLaurin, daughter of Krystal Malloy, Army and Air Force Exchange Service. More photos, Page 14.

Transition to contractor base support starts Nov. 1

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler leaders and Computer Sciences Corp. officials are working together to ensure a smooth transition from government to contractor responsibility for base support operations.

"From my perspective, we're ready and CSC is ready to begin picking up the workload on Nov. 1 as required by the contract," said Col. Jeffrey Jackson, 81st Mission Support Group commander. "We've been working closely with CSC for several months to make sure everything is ready and the handoff is smooth."

Roger Condit, CSC program manager at Keesler, said his company's recruiting efforts have resulted in more than 1,300 applicants to date.

"We've filled well over 90 percent of our hiring requirements and are ready for our first day of work on Nov. 1," Mr. Condit said. "We'll continue to interview and hire as we pick up additional workload throughout our transition period which runs until Jan. 31."

From the time the support contract was awarded, CSC's plan has been to hire locally, including as much of the civil service workforce as possible, according to Mr. Condit.

"With few exceptions, we've achieved this goal and are very pleased with the results," he pointed out. "This will be a great mix of employees that combines first-hand knowledge of Keesler with the successful experiences of workers from areas outside of the Air Force environment."

"We've had a steady stream of good partnering with the Air Force and are close to the point now where we'll begin the initial moves into some of the work areas to observe daily perform-

Please see **Transition**, Page 9

You're vital to base security

By Brig. Gen. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

Our 81st Security Forces Squadron does a great job protecting us and has been very innovative in implementing Integrated Base Defense. The advent of the bicycle-mounted Falcon patrols, introduction of new technologies such as infrared and ground radar monitoring and mobile all-terrain vehicles give us better and more flexible defenses.

Yet, there is one critical part of our Integrated Base Defense concept that we rely on the most: you.

It is said that the police are only as good as the citizens around them. All of us have a special responsibility as wingmen to look out for one another. Talk with our security forces or our local policemen and they will tell you that the best deterrent to crime is a strong community with neighbors who look out for one another. I agree.

Be on the lookout for those things that are out of place or don't look right and bring it to the attention of the right people.

What do you do if you see someone after duty hours carrying computer gear out of a building and putting it in the trunk of their car? What do you do if you see some kids throwing rocks at the windows of an empty house? What do you do if you see someone not affiliated with the base hanging around one of the housing areas?

If it doesn't look right, it probably isn't. When in doubt, do not hesitate to call our base defense operations center at 377-3040 to ask for help.

You can help with some simple, yet very effective techniques of your own to improve our base security.

For example, never (and I mean NEVER) leave purses and wallets or anything else valuable unattended and visi-

ble in your vehicle. Doing so makes your vehicle an attractive target for thieves.

Also, lock your doors and windows when you are not home. Statistics from around the country show a significant percentage of unlocked doors and windows contributed to home break-ins and thefts. A locked door or window is a deterrent to most criminals. Similarly, when you leave your office, make sure everything is properly secured and locked. Also, make sure you properly accomplish your end of day security checks and properly secure all classified and valuable materials.

All of us are part of the Integrated Base Defense team. Whether you are military member, a civilian employee, a contractor, or a family member, you are a valuable part of the team. Let's continue to partner together to protect our base and our Air Force family.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357



By Brig. Gen. 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).



U.S. AIR FORCE
EagleEyes
WATCH.REPORT.PROTECT.

AFSO 21 — culture of change, empowerment

By Tech. Sgt. Paul Titus

916th Air Refueling Wing

SEYMOUR JOHNSON Air Force Base, N.C. — Misconceptions about Air Force Smart Operations 21 are everywhere. Do you have them?

AFSO 21 is not the blind search for metrics without logical application, or the ceaseless quest for "great" performance-report bullets.

It's not a chance for leaders to get promoted or show their face on Air Force News.

And it's not Total Quality Management, and shouldn't bear the "scars" of the Air Force's metrics-driven, top-down, non-customer-focused implementation strategy.

But why should you care?

If you're working overtime and weekends, you should care. If you're a customer who sits in a queue frustrated, you should care.

If you finish the day and wonder, "What did I achieve? There had to be a better way," you do care and are empowered to talk to your leaders. If you're a supervisor or commander and want to make life better for your people, you can.

If you're stressed, you can make work easier and

more productive for yourself and your team. If you care about the future of our Air Force and its members, you care about AFSO 21.

AFSO 21 is the long-term journey to implement a culture of change and empowerment.

It's a delivery driver asking why the airfield entry point can't be moved 20 feet so he doesn't have to get out of his van six extra times a day.

It's a vehicle mechanic questioning why he has to walk 200 feet to dispose of oil filters, and then taking the initiative with his supervisor to move the hazardous-material container closer.

It's the operations group captain asking how checklists can be reordered to speed up the pre- and post-flight processes and get the poor crew chief out of the cold.

It's a senior master sergeant and his team changing their work layout at no cost, eliminating the expeditor process, reducing their delivery times from 19 to two hours and transparently exceeding all customer needs.

All of those changes and many more can happen at your base right now. You can make a difference.

Everyone has the power to make positive changes and to have his or her voice heard. In fact,

the key to AFSO 21 success is a culture where every Airman is thinking about improvement and is empowered to communicate with his or her supervisor, commander or change manager.

I didn't say this is a culture where you're expected to have all the answers, but it's a culture where you're empowered to ask why and where. The strength of teamwork can seek the answer.

You'd be surprised how many problems are within your organization's control to change — what we call the "just do it" projects — but first it takes an operator or customer, like yourself, to ask "why?"

I've found that even skeptics, after they participate in an AFSO 21 event, alter their mindsets, leaving convinced and enthused that change can be implemented, improvements achieved and their impact felt.

If you get the people who are impacted by a process to define the changes necessary, give them control to make change and make them responsible for its implementation, improvements will happen.

Success breeds enthusiasm and the desire to grow the culture of change and improvement, one person, one shop, one team at a time. Each of us is the "Smart" in Air Force Smart Ops 21, and every day we need to ask, "What have I improved today?"



DRAGON ON THE STREET

By **Kemberly Groue**

Keesler News photographer

What is your favorite meal and why?



"Tacos — I like the spiciness, and I can add peppers and such."

Gwen Dickey, child development center



"Ham sandwich, nachos with cheese and Oreo dessert."

Airman Megan Meyer, 334th Training Squadron student



"Barbecue, because I like smoked foods."

Capt. Tom Butler, on temporary duty at the 335th TRS from 200th RED HORSE Squadron, Camp Perry Air National Guard, Port Clinton, Ohio

Save electricity, save \$\$, at home and work

By **Marcy Whitfield**

81st Civil Engineer Squadron

Electricity is a constant in our lives. It works silently and dependably, and most people take for granted that it will always be there. It literally flows into all facets of our life. From the stoplights that keep us safe, to the computers we use at work — even the microwave we use to prepare food. It's everywhere and we rely on it every day. Many of us don't even think about how much energy we use until we get a reality check in the form of a bill. But being aware of both the electricity we use and the electricity being generated around us is important because it affects us all.

How does it affect me? Electricity costs and demand are rising and the United States alone will need 40 percent more electricity in 20 years to power homes and businesses, according to the Energy Information Agency. Consumers keep buying more goods that require electricity. Scientists are scrambling to find newer, more efficient, more earth-friendly ways to generate power to meet these needs.

Renewable energy — energy generated from natural resources such as wind and sunlight — is more than a catch phrase now; it's a reality for more and more federal installations. Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., is now the site for North America's largest solar photovoltaic power plant and generates 25 percent of its own electricity. Dyess

AFB, Texas, became the largest retail wind power purchaser in the United States when it converted entirely to wind energy. Bases across the Air Force are looking for ways to be environmental stewards while saving money when powering their facilities.

As Keesler's resource efficiency manager, an integral part of my job is both to find ways to save energy on base and to educate the base on how to save energy.

One thing that gets people very excited is that saving energy also saves you money, and that can be very helpful with the current state of the economy. I've only been at Keesler a short time, but I already see many opportunities to improve our energy efficiency.

At your home, there are plenty of opportunities for change, too. Just like I'll take a holistic approach to improving Keesler's energy efficiency, I encourage you to take a good look at your entire house from the foundation to the roof to find ways to improve your energy savings. There are even do-it-yourself energy audit tools online that walk you through the steps. I've used <http://hes.lbl.gov> to do an energy audit of my home and cut my energy bill by as much as \$100 a month.

Here are just five tips to cut your electricity usage each month:

Add a clean, dry towel in with a load of wet clothes in the dryer. This cuts 15-20 minutes of dry time. Be sure to clean the lint filter after every load to improve air circulation.

Many appliances continue to draw power when they're switched off. In the average home, 75 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off. This can be avoided by unplugging the appliance or using a power strip switch to cut all power to the appliance.

Switch to energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs. Not only do CFLs use 65-75 percent less energy than a standard incandescent bulb, but they also last 10 times longer.

Set your thermostat comfortably low in the winter and comfortably high in the summer. Install a programmable thermostat that's compatible with your heating and cooling system. Take into account that evenings are cooler and may not need as much cooling in the summer.

Consider buying products that have the Energy Star rating. Windows, computers, refrigerators, roofing and lighting are just a few of the items in the Energy Star lineup.

Just a few changes can make a difference in the amount of electricity you use and the charge on your electrical bill at the end of the month. And it can make a difference to the environment now and in the future. Making a concerted effort to save energy is a win-win situation.

If you'd like to learn about even more ways to save energy and money at your home, stop by our energy awareness booth, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Pecan Food Court.

KEESLER NEWS

81st Training Wing commander

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

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

334th Training Squadron

Students go to SHARM school

By Staff Sgt. Carlos Rodriguez

Keesler Public Affairs

The Airman cries, "Mayday! Mayday! We have an in-flight emergency! An F-15, call sign Eagle, has lost both engines and the propellers have broken!"

"An F-15 has propellers? Does it, Airman Smith? In what world? Start over," said the instructor.

And so it goes in the newly-created squadron/host aviation resource management console lab in Cody Hall, a training simulator for aviation resource management students in the 334th Training Squadron.

Aviation resource managers are the liaisons between the pilots in the air and the commanders, aircrew and maintainers on the ground. It's an essential, high-stress job whose training, until recently, involved a lot of reading and listening and not very much hands-on practice.

"In the past, our training didn't really stress the students that much or expose them to real-life situations," said Senior Master Sgt. Phillip Kreiser, ARM superintendent and project officer for the new lab. "With the new lab and our new abilities to multitask the students under pressure, the stress levels have gone from a one to a 10.

"Our graduates will be more prepared (for actual situations) when they get to their first duty assignment than ever before," he added.

Prior to the installation of the new lab and its equipment, training for these students consisted primarily of lecture followed by control-room simulation involving just a handheld radio.

"The method and the equipment we were using were antiquated," explained Staff Sgt. Michael Hubert, one of the instructors. "We now use new, more realistic equipment such as the finger-on-glass computer-controlled simulated telephone, primary crash phone and stand-alone UHF radio systems.

"This new system allows practical application of the skills they're being lectured on,



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Betty Love observes two of her students, Airmen Basic Joseph Pope and Celia Brown, using fingers-on-glass computers to maintain flight schedules.

allowing better retention of what they've learned," he pointed out.

The lab now consists of two separate sections — a computer section and a control-room/operations center section. The new equipment, remodeling and reworking was a team effort that went beyond the 334th TRS.

"The 81st Training Support Squadron's trainer development center built and designed all of the specific equipment and the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron put in a new wall dividing the different sections and the new operations center as well as all the electrical and paint work," Sergeant Kreiser noted.

"The ability to multitask under pressure is one of the most important skills for any ARM," Sergeant Kreiser said. "This new SHARM lab directly increases the students' ability to multitask effectively while ensuring that the quality of Airmen we send out to their first assignments is always high."

Due to the success of the Air Education and Training Command-approved new lab, plans are now underway to build a second SHARM lab early next year.

Don McMillan, 81st TRSS, tests equipment in the SHARM lab after installation.



AIRMAN'S CREED

*I am an
American Airman.
I am a warrior.
I have answered
my nation's call.*

*I am an
American Airman.
My mission is to fly,
fight, and win.
I am faithful
to a proud heritage,
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.*

*I am an
American Airman,
Guardian of freedom
and justice,
My nation's
sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country
with my life.*

*I am an
American Airman:
Wingman,
leader,
warrior.
I will never leave
an Airman behind,
I will never falter,
And I will not fail.*

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

Drill down, parade

The 81st Training Group has a parade, 6 p.m. today, and the season's final drill down, 8 a.m. Nov. 14, on the drill pad behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

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

William Carey term

William Carey University is currently registering students for the winter trimester that begins Nov. 10.

WCU offer flexible degrees that allow for the transfer of many Community College of the Air Force credits. Discounted tuition rates are available for active-duty military, spouses, dependents, Department of Defense civilians and retirees.

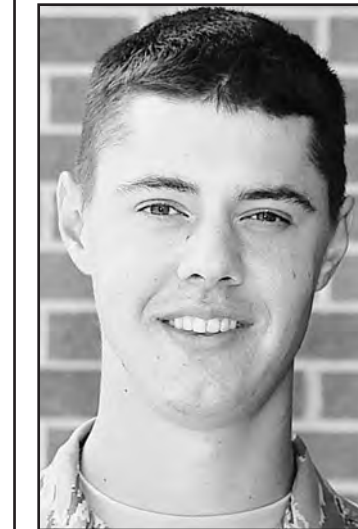
For more information, visit Room 219, Sablich Center or call 376-8480.

MGCCC winter term

Web registration for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's winter term begins Oct. 27 for active-duty military members.

A lunch hour "hybrid" intermediate algebra course (MAT 1233), noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, requires purchased computer software to complete assignments.

For appointment times or more information, visit Room



Academic ace

Airman 1st Class Jacob Conrads graduated Oct. 9 from the electronic principles course in the 332nd Training Squadron with a perfect score. Airman Conrads, from Cortez, Colo., continues his training at Sheppard Air Force, Texas, as an F-16 avionics system apprentice.

221, Sablich Center, or call 376-8477.

Parking lot closed

The parking lot on the southeast side of the Keesler NCO Academy is closed until noon Oct. 29 for drill practice and evaluations.

In case of inclement weather, hours may change or the lot will be open.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Greg Jackson, 377-2740.

Open house

The education office open house is 3-7 p.m. Oct. 30 in Room 108, Sablich Center.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, William Carey University, University of Southern

Mississippi, Community College of the Air Force and Air University's associate-to-baccalaureate conversion program representatives are on hand, along with representatives of other colleges and agencies.

Special testing dates

The education office has announced application deadlines and dates for special testing for fiscal 2008.

Time for all tests is 7 a.m. Scheduling deadlines and test dates are:

PRAXIS I and II — Dec. 15 for Jan. 12; March 16 for April 13 and June 14 for July 13.

ACT — Dec. 5 for Jan. 5; March 27 for April 27 and May 22 for June 22.

SAT — Oct. 31 for Nov. 4; Dec. 26 for Jan. 26 and April 24 for May 25.

For more information, call the education office, 376-8708.

Student health center

The student health center in the Levitow Training Support Facility is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.

The front desk phone numbers are 376-0324 or 0325.

GI Bill benefits

Montgomery GI Bill benefits may be used in conjunction with tuition assistance.

For more information, call the education office, 376-8708.



Top scorer

Senior Airman Jason Hammermeister, fire department, scored a 96 on his career development course test. Other high scores in September included Staff Sgts. Everett Mayfield, 92, and Jason Strickland, 90, and Airman 1st Class Zachary Merryman, 91, all from the 81st Medical Group, and Airman 1st Class Matthew Proctor, 94, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron.

Very Important Patriot Keesler weather instructor recognized with national award for volunteerism

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Staff Sgt. Veronica Bird, a weather instructor in the 335th Training Squadron, is one of five recipients of the National Military Family Association's Very Important Patriot Award for outstanding volunteerism.

The VIP Award recognizes exceptional military volunteers worldwide whose outstanding service contributes to improving the quality of life on their base and in neighboring communities.

The NMFA notes that due to the challenges of the current pace of military operations, volunteers are playing an increasing role in providing support and stability in their communities.

Sergeant Bird receives a \$1,000 cash prize and a trip for two to Washington to be honored at an awards dinner with senior military leaders and program sponsors.

In nominating Sergeant Bird, Capt. Barry Hunte called her a "community volunteer juggernaut (who) continuously strives to leave everything she touches better. Her sustained excellence has drastically improved the quality of life of individuals at every level and exemplifies what being a patriot is all about."

Sergeant Bird, who's been at Keesler for 2½ of her eight years in the Air Force, contributed more than 450 volunteer hours to support the base and surrounding communities in the past year.

She spent two months helping more than 300 Keesler team members as a volunteer income tax assistance representative. After attending a three-day tax preparation seminar, she pre-



Sergeant Bird

Sergeant Bird is a "community volunteer juggernaut (who) continuously strives to leave everything she touches better ... and exemplifies what being a patriot is all about."

— Captain Hunte

pared more than 550 error-free federal and state tax returns resulting in more than \$10,000 in refunds.

Sergeant Bird led 35 "Make a Difference Day" volunteers in seven area local landscaping improvement projects.

She spearheaded a team of 25 volunteers in more than 100 hours of service to the

Humane Society of South Mississippi. She was a team member for the "Toys for Tots" drive in her flight that collected 127 gifts for needy children. She also led 291 Airmen and 61 NCOs in a clothing drive for orphans in Manas, Kyrgyzstan.

As a member of the first term airman center's noncommissioned officer panel, Sergeant Bird mentored 17 junior Airmen and presented Air Education and Training Command's wingman briefings to 12 joint-service students about potential safety hazards during the holidays.

She taught a Red Cross babysitting class and judged 200 projects at a science fair at a Biloxi elementary school.

In her squadron, Sergeant Bird helped with the unit's Halloween party and a deployed family night at the movies, as well as organized a Thanksgiving potluck meal. She planned three fundraisers which netted more than \$1,200 for the squadron holiday party.

She coordinated a Valentine's Day dessert project that provided more than 800 sweets to 300 joint-service students. As part of the squadron booster club, she put together a squadron potluck Easter egg hunt and arranged a bowling fundraiser for 100 participants.

As an active Rising VI member, she arranged a talent show to support Red Cross humanitarian efforts and was in charge of a scholarship fundraiser. She led the group to "adopt" two underprivileged children in the community and inspired 71 members of her flight to adopt 10 other children. She also organized a project which replaced the 51 flags in the Boulevard of Flags at the main entrance to the base.

IN THE NEWS

Combined Federal Campaign

As of Oct. 9, Team Keesler has pledged \$29,980, or more than 24.5 percent of its \$122,000 goal for the 2008 Combined Federal Campaign.

Demolition of buildings begins

Contracts for the demolition of Avery Manor and old Cody Hall have been awarded.

Avery Manor — contractor begins installing security fence Monday. The site includes Falcon Street north of the building, which is closed during demolition and construction. Demolition is scheduled for completion by March 30.

Old Cody Hall — fencing begins Oct. 27. The site includes the parking area on the north and west sides of the building. The contractor is allowing for a troop walk area between Phantom Street and the security fence. Target date for completion is April 31.

Salute to the Military

Tickets for the 30th annual Salute to the Military are available through the 81st Training Wing Public Affairs office, \$40 for individuals and \$400 for a table for 10.

The event is Oct. 28 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum Convention Center in Biloxi, with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m., followed by a ceremonial program, dinner, speakers and entertainment. The preferred attire event is black tie or dress uniform, but business dress is acceptable.

Gen. Norton Schwartz, Air Force chief of staff, is the featured speaker. Special recognition is planned for Mississippi recipients of the Medal of Honor.

For more information and tickets, call 377-2783.

Voter registration opportunity

A voter registration and absentee ballot drive for military members, civilians and spouses is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today in the 81st Communications Squadron, Building 901.

For more information, call Senior Airman Matthew Jackson, 377-3868.

Special duty assignment briefing

The Air Education and Training Command special duty briefing team visits Keesler, 8:30-11 a.m. today in the Sablich Center auditorium, Room 222, to brief on all aspects of special duty opportunities, including those as recruiters and military training instructors.

Senior airmen with at least 35 months time in service through master sergeants with less than 16 years total active federal military service are eligible to apply for special duty assignments and invited to attend the briefing. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.

For a special duty application, call Master Sgt. Kelle Turner, 81st Training Wing career adviser, 377-3697.

Death notification

Airman 1st Class Sean Janicik, 365th Training Squadron, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, died recently. He was previously a student in the 81st Training Group.

Any claims for or against Airman Janicik's estate must be submitted to Maj. P. Scott Corman, summary court officer, 1-940-676-7863.

Ride 'em, cowboy



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Joshua Baker, 338th Training Squadron, carried the Air Force flag at the opening ceremonies for Fazzio's Fall Festival Rodeo and Horse Extravaganza in Gulfport Friday. Members of other services also rode and carried their flags.

Senior leaders consider key decisions

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — The nuclear enterprise, cyber organization, end strength, force shaping and command and control of Air Force operations were discussed when the Air Force's senior leaders met at CORONA, Oct. 1-3 at the Air Force Academy.

"Over the past two days we addressed several issues, making decisions on key Air Force missions necessary to move our Air Force in the right direction," Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley stated.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz said, "CORONA is a forum for decision. The teamwork manifested in this room will allow us to accomplish what our Air Force needs done."

Briefings and decisions at CORONA were dominated by discussions on the nuclear enterprise, including options to reconfigure the command structure for nuclear forces, roles and responsibilities of the Nuclear Weapons Center, the required skills and force development for personnel conducting the nuclear mission, and stand-up of the new nuclear-focused staff element organization within Air Force headquarters.

The leadership also decided to establish a nuclear-focused major command to concentrate Air Force support for the nuclear and deterrence missions.

"We'll announce decisions soon because they are crucial steps toward attaining excellence in our nuclear enterprise and revitalization of the nuclear culture across the Air Force," said Secretary Donley.

Initial planning will be integrated into the Air Force Nuclear Roadmap to be unveiled soon.

The senior leaders discussed the Air Force active duty end strength ceiling, now to be 330,000 personnel, and addressed which missions and functional specialties should obtain additional allocations based on emerging missions as well as critically-manned career fields.

Leadership also decided to establish a numbered Air Force for cyber operations within Air Force Space Command and discussed how the Air Force will continue to develop capabilities in this new domain and train personnel to execute this new mission.

Locations for the new nuclear command and cyber NAF were not addressed and require further deliberation.

Other key issues discussed include an update on the status of joint basing initiatives, the development of a common Logistics Standardization Evaluation Program, and review of the concept of integrating the networks used to repair the Air Force's weapon systems.

Transition,

from Page 1

ance," he continued. "This is part of the Air Force transition plan and provides an opportunity to overlap with the current workers."

When the transition period begins, the base community will see many familiar faces along with some new ones.

"Our transition plan is designed to be as transparent as possible," Mr. Condit explained. "If we do this right, you won't see many changes. For example, the customer service center will continue to use the same telephone number. In some instances, the only thing that will change is that on Nov. 1, the person doing the job will have exchanged a government badge for one that says CSC."

One visible change is that government vehicles used to support the contract will have a red-and-white CSC tag on the front, he added.

Other familiar faces are going to staff the government's performance management office which oversees the CSC contract. Today, the federal employees begin their initial training for their new duties.

As of Oct. 8, 12 of the 20 positions on the PMO staff had been filled with current Keesler federal employees. Two contract administrator slots are being filled by the 81st Contracting Squadron. Requests for personnel action have been submitted for four other positions and details were being ironed out on two other positions.

"Brian Drake, the infrastructure support division chief, will be responsible for monitoring the contract and making sure the government is getting its money's worth," Colonel Jackson said. Mr. Drake currently serves as the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron's deputy commander.

Nov. 1, the 90-day transition period begins, when government employees start turning over responsibilities to the CSC team.

The transition turnover timeline:

Nov. 1 — all base operation support service contracts, community services (community centers, library and community support), resource management, human resources (civilian personnel management system, civilian awards and decorations, civilian training, education services and formal training), housing maintenance, operations and maintenance (self-help, heavy repair, major work orders, locksmithing, alarms, cathodic protection, fire suppression, boiler plant operations and airfield lighting), space management, grounds and sites (airfield maintenance), engineering services, environmental management, supply services (inspection element, computer operations and CEMAS), marketing and publicity, energy and utilities (energy management and operation and maintenance of control, electrical, water and gas systems).

Nov. 15 — emergency management training.

Nov. 30 — operations and management (planning, facility maintenance, heating/ventilation/air conditioning maintenance and customer service), grounds and sites (horizontal projects and entomology), engineering services (as-built record management), energy and utilities (customer service).

Dec. 15 — emergency management (operations planning, disaster preparedness, response and recovery) and logistics.

Dec. 30 — supply services (combat element support flight, fuels management, management and systems flight), community services (fitness centers).

Jan. 15 — weather services.

Jan. 31 — human resources (military records awards and decorations, military personnel and system management).

The "big picture" of performance management is gauged by different players at different time periods.

Daily — constant interaction between customers, PMO and service provider.

Weekly — 81st MSG commander and PMO meet with the

service providers and group commanders meet with the 81st Training Wing commander.

Monthly — service provider submits performance management report to PMO; business requirements analysis group meets and performance management council consisting of the 81st TRW commander, key stakeholders, the PMO and service providers convenes.

Semi-annually — award fee board meets and performance management council approves metrics and areas of interest for next fee period.

The 90-day mobilization and transition period is the first award fee period for CSC. The award criteria is based on overall transition implementation, assumption of functional areas and acceptance of contractually-required documents.

As of Oct. 7, the reduction-in-force update showed 48 federal employees being moved to a lower grade or pay band, 39 reassigned and 41 separated. Ninety employees were eligible for Priority Placement Program registration.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Special leave accrual available

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Airmen who were recalled from or unable to take annual leave this past year for reasons such as support for contingency operations may be allowed to accumulate more than 75 days at the end of a fiscal year.

Special leave accrual applies when deployments or assignments to designated operational missions at the national level prohibit members from using leave. It applies to active duty and Reserve personnel under Title 10 of the U.S. Code, and includes Air National Guard members who performed full-time training or other full-time duties for 30 days or more.

“Special leave accrual is designed to prevent Airmen from losing accrued leave if they're unable to take normal leave due to significant and unforeseen operational requirements,” said Master Sgt. Licci Barham, superintendent of customer support operations at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Airmen can't use their major command's recovery time policy as a reason for reinstatement when accrued leave could have been taken in its place, she added.

For more information, contact local military personnel sections or call the Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775.

Health care questionnaire deadline

Air Force News Service

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The deadline for participating in the Military Health System questionnaires has been extended until Nov. 28 to help leaders better understand the needs and expectations of warriors in their care.

The questionnaires, one for wounded, ill or injured service members and one for family members, are available at <http://www.health.mil/Pages/Page.aspx?ID=18>.

The questionnaires ask for feedback about a service member's experience and satisfaction with care received since becoming wounded, ill or injured.

Responses are anonymous to encourage honest and specific answers that will lead to positive changes in care for wounded, ill or injured servicemembers.

SRB changes

The latest selective reenlistment bonus list contains 88 Air Force specialties.

It increases the maximum amount Airmen may receive per zone from \$60,000 per zone to \$90,000, enabling the Air Force to impact critical skills already receiving high multipliers in the SRB calculation.

To view the SRB list, visit <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/Reenlistments/>. For more information, call the military personnel section's career development element, 376-8739.

New PCS requirement

All members making a permanent change of station move or to any continental United States location or unaccompanied overseas tour now are required to complete an Air Force Form 4380, Air Force Special Needs Screener.

This requirement helps determine if the new location can meet the required special needs. PCS orders won't be processed prior to completion of the form, or receipt of final determination on exceptional family member program enrollment for any responses that indicate the presence of special needs. Members with PCS to accompanied overseas tours continue to process the Air Force Forms 1466 and 1466D.

For more information, call 376-8739.

Mental health team deploys with Army to Iraq

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

A three-person mental health team from Keesler recently returned from more than six months in Iraq providing mental health support to Army personnel.

The team from the 81st Medical Operations Squadron mental health flight included family advocacy officer Capt. Bob Greiman and mental health technicians Senior Airman ShaQuanda Sullivan and Airman 1st Class Thomas Sandoz.

Before deploying, the trio underwent 5½ weeks of grueling Army training at Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to “learn the Army way” of operating in combat zones.

“When we left Keesler, we became ‘soldiers,’” Captain Greiman said.

The training included convoy operations and field medical techniques. They were in a bare-base environment where they stayed in tents, had shower tents and used port-a-potties. They had two hot meals daily and ate standing in full combat gear.

The captain said the “base” was located in a parking lot of an abandoned artillery range.

“You could hear the whistling of artillery shells being fired overhead,” he recalled.

Airman Sandoz added they had to learn to read maps; they would be taken into the “bush” and then find their way back.

“I think the actual deployment was easier than the training,” Airman Sullivan observed.

“We spent a week driving around in Humvees rescuing ‘wounded’ soldiers, removing them from damaged vehicles and placing them on stretchers,” Captain Greiman said.

Airman Sandoz added, “We weren’t allowed to sleep in the Humvees; we had to look for (improvised explosive devices) and possibly-hostile ‘foreign nationals.’”

The Keesler mental health



Captain Greiman

team noted the Army had set up villages inhabited by “foreign nationals” with whom the trainees would interact after learning basic Arabic. Airman Sullivan actually “dismounted” and went into a village to converse with “locals.”

Their time at Fort Sam Houston was spent at a medical training facility learning Army-specific mental health areas. Airman Sullivan mentioned they were instructed in the Army’s way of conducting mental health programs which varied slightly from the same Air Force programs.

After arriving in Iraq, the team was attached to Army Task Force 56 at Combat Operations Base Adder, an element of the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division in southern Iraq between Baghdad and Basra. They flew into area on a Japanese Air Force C-130.

“The crew didn’t speak English so they held up cards for our safety briefing,” the captain commented.

He explained that medical operations in southern Iraq worked with the 82nd Airborne and the 7th Sustainment Brigade, with TF 56 responsible for all medical operations in the region.

The Keesler trio was part of a combat stress team comprised of 23 Air Force mental health personnel — social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists and mental health technicians. The Army imbeds



Airman Sullivan

mental health teams with the troops. When the Army encountered manning shortfalls, they asked the Air Force for assistance. Separation from families and combat stress were major factors affecting the soldiers’ mental health.

A major part of their duties included traveling to several forward operating bases, such as Kalsu, Scania, Delta and Echo, where they conducted some individual and group sessions including smoking cessation and stress and anger management. The FOBs ranged in size from Adder, with about 15,000 personnel, to Combat Outpost 9, a 60-person post about the size of Keesler Medical Center’s parking lot with blast walls around it.

Airman Sandoz said they participated in outreach efforts or “walk-abouts,” where they talked with soldiers to see how they were doing.

“They weren’t the friendliest people, but once they got used to you, these efforts became a gateway to get them into the clinic,” Airman Sandoz explained. “We usually went as a two-person team, bringing the troops things such as phone cards and cookies. We’d walk into work areas and ask them how we could help. Most soldiers came to look forward to our visits.”

Captain Greiman added the high-stress units greatly appreciated them.

Airman Sullivan said,



Airman Sandoz

“Even the ones who didn’t appreciate us still met with us, but didn’t stay as long. When we went out solo, we’d continue to do outreach to see if anyone wanted to be seen and we’d set up appointments.”

All three said they had a great relationship with the other providers and techs.

“We jelled and worked well together,” the captain said. “We had a 99 percent return-to-work rate among the soldiers we saw. We only had to medevac six people out and that’s not bad. We tried to keep as many soldiers as possible.”

One memorable patient with post-traumatic stress disorder had carved “Hate” deeply into his arm. He couldn’t function there anymore and was sent home.

All agreed the regular rocket and mortar attacks probably were the most nerve-racking element of their time in-country.

Airman Sullivan recalled the first attack they experienced — which seemed to occur almost every Wednesday night — was about 11 p.m.

“We heard a ‘boom’ and my bones were shaking,” she said.

Once she was caught in the shower during a rocket attack. Another time she was on the basketball court “when everyone stopped, looked up and hit the ground. I saw a rocket hit a new, empty (recreation) trailer. If anyone

had been in it, they certainly would have been killed.”

Their experience also included combat-related action “outside the wire.”

“We went on combat convoys,” Airman Sandoz said. “These were (in lieu of) missions where Airmen replaced or augmented the Army.”

Airman Sullivan remembers sitting in a Humvee for seven hours due to an IED.

“We had to wait for the (explosive ordnance disposal) team,” she recalled.

“When I had to go to the bathroom, some soldiers held up their ponchos to provide some privacy.”

Captain Greiman noted, “Now that I’m back, I can look back and admit I kind of enjoyed it. I was able to do what I came into the Air Force to do. I got to see patients. I was there to do a job and I did it. The living conditions left a lot to be desired — the dust, dirt and shelling and just being away from home.”

He said they recorded about 650 patient encounters during the deployment. This included around 150 new patients and some they saw once or twice while others came once or twice a week.

They agreed that one major benefit of their experience was making some great friends.

Captain Greiman said the worst part of the deployment was being away from his wife, Luci, when their daughter, Abby, was born May 28. The captain, who is from Cincinnati, has served in the Air Force and at Keesler for two years.

Airman Sullivan has been in the Air Force for almost five years, all at Keesler. The Brooklyn, N.Y., native has a 3-year-old daughter, Jayla Harris.

Airman Sandoz, from Abbeville, La., also has about two years of service, all at Keesler.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Staff Sgt. Bradley Baker

Unit — 81st Civil Engineer Squadron

Position — noncommissioned officer in charge of emergency management operations

Time in Air Force — eight years

Time at Keesler — four years

Hometown — Kingfisher, Okla.

Noteworthy — authored Keesler's comprehensive emergency management plan, including hurricane response plan; led operational readiness inspection field ability to survive and operate training that led to excellent rating

Why did you join the Air Force? to make a difference

What are your short- and long-term goals? short-term, to earn bachelor's degree in emergency management; long-term, to become an Oklahoma state senator

What's your favorite quote?

"Anyone can learn anything — success comes from the practical application of that knowledge."

What are your hobbies? avidly watching Star Wars and the Dallas TV show (1978-1991)



Photo by Kemberly Groue

DIAMOND NOTES

Only solid-color black backpacks may be worn with blue uniform combinations; solid-color black, olive drab or woodland camouflage are the only colors authorized with the battle dress uniform.

Backpack may be carried in left hand, on left shoulder or both shoulders.



Master Sgt. Sherman Miller, 81st Dental Squadron first sergeant

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Oct. 4, 1983

Through the efforts of the John C. Stennis Chapter of the Air Force Association, the Boulevard of Flags was established on Larcher Boulevard.

Senior Airman Shamika McNair, a diet therapy technician deployed from Keesler, gives a banana to a guardian who watches over Afghan patients at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital on Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.



Airmen in Afghanistan heal wounded with food, smiles

By Staff Sgt. Rachel Martinez

455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BAGRAM Air Field, Afghanistan — For many people, food can be a comfort. The staff at the nutritional medicine flight at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital on Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan believes it can also be healing.

“Food brings a smile to everyone’s face,” said Capt. Jennifer Bradley, nutritional medicine flight chief. “Just bringing a smile on a person’s face can do wonders for a person’s healing.”

Doing their part to help the healing, the five Airmen in the nutritional medicine flight serve approximately 1,700 meals a week to the patients and staff at the hospital.

While the food comes from a military contractor, the staff is responsible for accommodating any dietary needs and preparing supplemental items such as gelatin and protein-packed combat shakes. They also create home recipes for patients requiring tube feeding. The focus is on patient meals, but the nutritional medicine staff also prepares meals for the rest of the hospital staff who are unable to leave the hospital.

“We’re providing a basic need,” said Master Sgt. Ken Pagano, noncommissioned officer in charge of nutritional medicine. “In a deployed environment it’s realized even more how important that is.

“That cup of coffee is that much more important in the morning,” he continued. “I’ve had surgeons thank me for the services we’re providing. If I did something that helped that surgeon, then I’m making it happen. It’s extremely rewarding.”

The reward comes in giving the staff, and particularly the patients, what they want.

“The Afghans love American junk food, bananas and apples,” Captain Bradley said. “Going through, talking to the patients and giving them the food they want to eat is rewarding.”

The job doesn’t come without its challenges, however.

“We are in a hospital, but we are food service,” said Sergeant Pagano, deployed from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. “The in-your-face reality of trauma and injuries — we’re not used to that.”

Meal service is only part of what the nutritional medicine staff does. They also offer



Photos by Staff Sgt. Rachel Martinez
Airman McNair prepares dinner trays for the hospital’s patients. She helps prepare about 1,700 meals each week for patients and staff. She’s deployed from the 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron.

outpatient services such as weight loss and tobacco cessation counseling. Unofficially, the staff aims to boost morale for both patients and staff by offering their diner as a morale room. They hold weekly movie nights and recently hosted a card game night. The staff takes the most joy in boosting the morale of the young Afghan patients, however.

“We walk the patients around outside,” said Captain Bradley, deployed from Misawa Air Base, Japan. “The other day we took the kids outside and played catch with them. They had such a good time and were all smiles.”

The medical staff provides quality care, but it’s the little things like a hot meal and a smile from the nutritional medicine staff that elevate the care to the next level.



Staff Sgt. Brian Nadler, left, and Airman 1st Class Brian pails of water for the bucket brigade competition at Swithenbank, 81st Security Forces Squadron, race with Friday's fire muster.

Events target fire prevention

At right, Senior Airman Ryan Callagy, left, 2nd Lt. Jeremy Dobbs and Staff Sgt. Jose Ramos strap a mannequin to a stretcher during the fire muster's "Rescue Randy" challenge. Airman Callagy is from the 209th Civil Engineer Squadron, Gulfport, and Lieutenant Dobbs and Sergeant Ramos are from the 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, winners of the fire muster.

Below, retiree spouse Jean Roush of Gautier and Staff Sgt. Commie Hobbs from the fire department watch James Palmer, assistant fire prevention chief, extinguish a pan fire during a demonstration in front of the base exchange, Oct. 6.



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Top, Brig. Gen. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander, scales a fire truck ladder at Saturday's open house which ended the base's Fire Prevention Week observance.

Left, Staff Sgt. Christopher Judge, left, and Capt. Jermaine Jordan, 333rd Training Squadron, compete in Friday's fire muster's fire-fighter challenge, in which they had to don bunker gear, connect the hose and hit targets with the spray.

Keesler celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Ben Hurtado, 14, helps himself to some chicken and rice at the Dio de Campo Saturday at marina park. Ben's parents are Tech. Sgt. Carlos and Veronica Hurtado, 81st Training Support Squadron.



Three-year-old Stephen Crandall takes a swat at the piñata during the Hispanic Heritage Committee's celebration. His parents are Staff Sgt. Stephen Crandall, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, and Josefana Crandall, who works at the child development center. The annual picnic, part of Keesler's observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, featured food, games and entertainment. Wednesday, the committee hosted a luncheon at El Rancho Restaurant in Biloxi, with retired Capt. Marian Moremo as guest speaker and entertainment by Mariachis El Sol Del Valle.



Deceased POWs now eligible for Purple Hearts

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Pentagon officials announced a new policy Oct. 6 that extends criteria for receiving Purple Hearts to prisoners of war who've died in captivity.

The revision maintains the integrity of the award while allowing a reasonable presumption that POWs who die in captivity did so as a result of enemy action or complicity.

Officials noted the conditions and circumstances of capture and captivity are difficult to document. But unless compelling evidence indicates otherwise, the policy assumes that the death resulted from enemy action or from wounds incurred as a result of enemy action during capture.

The new policy allows retroactive award of the Purple Heart to qualifying POWs since World War II. This covers the large number of American POWs who died in captivity during that war.

Each military department has application procedures for retroactive Purple Heart awards. For more information, families may call the services directly: Air Force, 1-800-616-3775; Army, 1-703-325-8700; Navy, 1-314-592-1150; and Marine Corps, 1-703-784-9340.

To stymie the flu, here's what to do

By Maj. Matthew West

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron

It's flu season again.

Influenza is an infection of the nose, throat and lungs caused by the influenza virus. Illness can be mild to severe and most people feel ill for about a week, then feel better. Some people — young children, pregnant women, older people, and people with chronic medical problems — can get very sick and some can die.

Every year in the United States, 5 to 20 percent of the population gets the flu, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications and about 36,000 people die from the illness.

Symptoms include fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose and muscle aches. Nausea, vomiting and diarrhea can occur but are more common in children than adults.

Flu viruses spread from person to person through coughing or sneezing and by touching something with flu



Flu shots available

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu shot each year.

Keesler Medical Center is now immunizing all eligible members. Units are being scheduled with the immunization office.

For more information, call 376-3553.

viruses on it and then touching one's mouth or nose. Most adults can spread flu to others beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to five days after becoming sick. People may be able to infect others with the flu before they know they're sick as well as while they're sick.

Most healthy people recover from the flu without complications. If you or your child gets the flu, stay home, get lots of rest, drink plenty of liquids, and avoid using alcohol and tobacco.

Adults and children over 2 years can be given over-the-counter medications to relieve

flu symptoms, but never give aspirin to children or teens who have flu-like symptoms.

If any of the following develop, seek medical care immediately:

Children

Fast breathing or trouble breathing

Skin that looks blue

Not drinking enough

Confusion, not waking up, not wanting to be held or seizures

Worsening fever and cough after symptoms got better

Medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes that get worse

Adults

Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen

Sudden dizziness

Confusion

Severe or persistent vomiting

To avoid getting the flu:

Get the flu vaccine.

Stay away from sick people.

Keep hands away from face.

To prevent spreading the infection to others:

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cover your mouth with your upper sleeve, not your hands.

Put used tissues in the wastebasket

Clean hands often, especially after coughing and sneezing.

At work, it's important to tell your supervisor if you think you have the flu. You may be asked to wear a mask, be sent for a flu test or asked to go home. At the medical center, tell the front desk you may have the flu and you'll be asked to wear a mask.

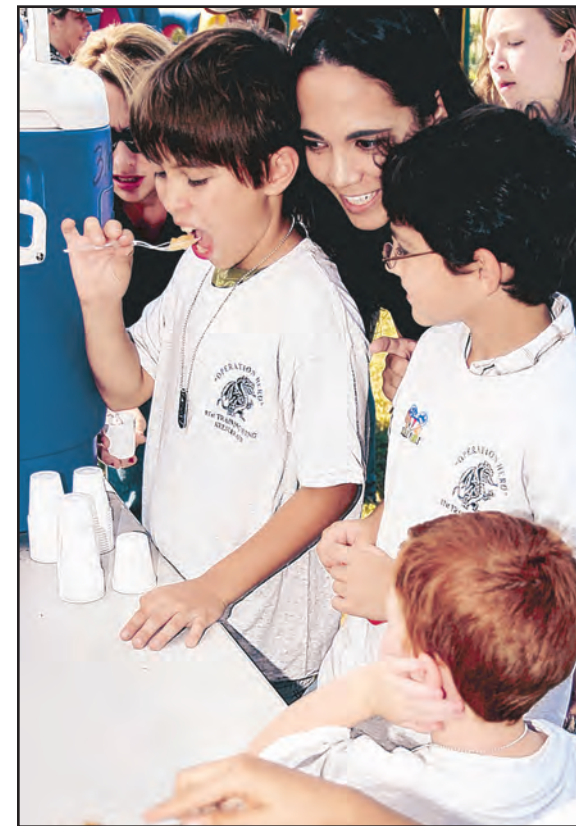


Eight-year-old John Smith receives an 81st Training Wing coin from Chief Master Sgt. Alex Perry, command chief, as Brig. Gen. Greg Touhill, wing commander, looks on. John's uncle, Chief Master Sgt. Hurtis Nall, helped his nephew make the uniform with items that once belonged to him. Chief Nall is assigned with the Mississippi Air National Guard in Gulfport.

Operation Hero shares deployment with children



Tech. Sgt. Elvin Muniz, 81st Dental Squadron, paints Hannah Cole's face during Saturday's Operation Hero program which introduces children to the deployment process. Hannah, 7, is the daughter of Maj. Rich and Cheryl Cole, 81st Force Support Squadron commander.



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Ten-year-old Justin Clevenger samples meals-ready-to-eat at Operation Hero with his mom, Maj. Margaret Clevenger, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, and brother Noah, 8.

KEESLER NOTES

Physical therapy expo

An expo in observance of October as Physical Therapy Month is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday at the top of the escalators by the outpatient clinic entrance.

Demonstrations, free educational information, cake, punch and giveaways are planned.

Spouse tour

A military spouse tour is 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Friday.

To register or for more information, call 376-8728.

Thanks to retirees

Keesler's annual Retiree Appreciation Day is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 24 in the Locker House Activity Center.

Various booths and handouts are available from a wide variety of base agencies, including Keesler Medical Center, legal office, finance office, force support activities and others.

For more information, visit the retiree activities office on the first floor of Sablich Center or call 376-8111 or 8112.

Adoption options

An adoption options seminar is 5:15-7 p.m. Oct. 23 at the Mississippi State University Coastal Research Center on Popp's Ferry Road in Biloxi.

Topics for the event, sponsored by the airman and family readiness center, includes information on adoption procedures, legal issues, home studies and reimbursement.

For more information or to sign up, call 376-8728 or e-mail sandra.brzovic@keesler.af.mil.

Harvest festival

The chapel hosts a harvest festival, 5-7 p.m. Oct. 31 in the Triangle Chapel Annex with crafts, food, games, an air bouncer and prizes.

Children and adults are encouraged to dress up as a biblical hero or heroine.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0834.

Heart Link

Heart Link, an orientation program specifically for spouses with less than five years of Air Force affiliation, is Nov. 13.

The free event is intended to familiarize spouses with Air Force mission, customs, traditions and base and community resources and services.

Lunch is served, prizes are given and assistance with child care is offered.

To register, call 376-8728.

Thanksgiving guests

For the 12th year, the base chapel is sponsoring the Home Away from Home Thanksgiving dinner program for nonprior service Airmen.

Host families volunteer to provide a "home away from home" and holiday meal for two or more students. Active-duty, civil service and retirees are invited to participate.

Host sign-up forms must be turned by Nov. 24 at the

Triangle Chapel or the Fishbowl Student Center in the Levitow Training Support Facility, by e-mail to charles.mallory@keesler.af.mil, or by calling 377-8256 or 2331.

Student sign-up forms are available only at the Fishbowl.

Housing office hours

The military family housing office, Room 118, Sablich Center, is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

For more information, call 376-8611.

Thrift shop

The Keesler Thrift Shop, in the former chapel building adjacent to Sablich Center, is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Consignments are accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. Donations are accepted during regular hours.

For more information, call 377-3217.



Chapel reopens permanent party gathering place

The Haven chapel ministry center reopens 11:30 a.m. Oct. 23 in Building 4908, one of the permanent party dorms.

The Haven provides a place for permanent party members to relax and socialize.

Following an opening ceremony, lunch is served.

All permanent party members are invited to attend.

For more information, call Airman 1st Class Jounel Caceres, 377-2520.

Don't drink and drive —
call 377-SAVE.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Lady Dragons host preseason hoops



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Keesler's Sonderia Brown powers down the court with Edna Padilla of Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., in hot pursuit during the Southeastern Military Athletic Conference's women's preseason tournament, Saturday at Blake Fitness Center. The Lady Dragons won this game in the second round, 87-50, after posting a 75-44 victory against Fort Benning, Ga., in the first round. Keesler was trounced in the third round by Tyndall AFB, Fla., 87-57, and lost to Eglin AFB, Fla., 77-70, in the Lady Dragons' final game. Tyndall won the tournament, followed by Eglin in second place and Keesler in third.

An American is sexually assaulted
every 2 1/2 minutes.

One in five American women has been
the victim of an attempted or completed rape.

One in 10 sexual assault victims are men.

At least 2/3 of sexual assaults are
committed by someone the victim knows.

44 percent of rape victims are under age 18,
and 80 percent are under age 30.



SCORES AND MORE

Basketball

Varsity teams — organizing for the 2008-09 season.

For men's team, call Jesse Harris, 376-5723. For women's team, call Richard Vincent, 343-9951.

For more information, call Laurence Wilson, 377-2444

Bowling

Youth bowling — registration is 10 a.m. Saturday and Oct. 25 at Gaudé Lanes.

The league meets at 9:30 a.m. Saturdays. Instruction is available. Any child old enough to throw the bowling ball down the alley is eligible.

For more information, including fees, call Darian Miller, 264-9854.

Glow bowling — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, \$1 per game and \$1 for shoes; 9 p.m. Fridays, 7 p.m. Saturdays, \$5.50 adults, \$3.50 ages 17 and younger, including shoes.

Lunch and bowl special — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Bowl for \$1 a game plus \$1 for shoes.

Team building special — 1-5 p.m. weekdays. Bring your employees bowling for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. Call 377-2817 for reservations.

Open bowling — limited on league days; first come, first served. Reservations accepted with groups of 20 or more. Discounts available with groups of 25 or more.

Club member special — show current club card Thursdays and bowl for \$1.50 per game; free shoe rental.

Birthdays party package — 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m. Saturdays. 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.

Fitness centers

Slugfest VI registration and tryouts — Nov. 1. For more information, call 377-7858.

Monster circuit challenge — Oct. 30, Dragon Fitness Center. Sessions: 6:30-8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. to noon and 5:15-6:15 p.m. Choose time and at which level to do each station. First 50 to show up participate.

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

Wall of Fame — powerlifting event, 1-4 p.m. first compressed work schedule Friday each 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 record for most pounds lifted or break an existing record and get your picture on the wall. Open to all Defense Department personnel 18 years of age and older.

For more information, call 377-3056.

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.

Computerized fitness assessments, counseling — available by appointment at Dragon Fitness Center. To schedule, call 377-2907.

Triangle Fitness Center — open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. For more information, call 377-3056.

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Dragon Fitness Center — 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Parent-child fitness room has workout equipment and play area for ages 6 months to 7 years.

Golf

Fall classic tournament — shotgun start 7:30 a.m. Oct. 25. Sign up by Wednesday. Individual stroke play using 70 percent of verifiable handicap. Annual members \$15, inclusive members \$10, non members \$30, including greens fee, cart, food and beverage, prizes.

Membership drive — through Nov. 15. Giveaways and special prizes or new members. Current members in good standing who enlist new member eligible for special prizes.

Twilight golf special — 2 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. Pay nine-hole fee and golf until course closes.

Dragon fun league — Thursdays. Meet at 4 p.m., shotgun start 4:30 p.m. Four-person teams; two-person blind draw. Sign up as twosome or single. \$20 per person including greens fee, cart, food, beverages and prizes. Format decided by draw each week. Limit 44 golfers.

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.

Outdoor recreation

Back Bay fishing trip — 7 a.m. to noon Oct. 25. \$20 per person. Bring food and drinks. Mississippi license required. Minimum four, maximum seven people.

Discount on skiff rental — bring a friend, get 10 percent discount.

Overnight trip to Chandeleur Islands — Tuesday-Wednesday. Bring food, drink and lures. Reserve early. Call for current prices.

Fish of the month — weigh in largest speckled trout for the month and win \$100 savings bond.

One-day fishing trips — to Horn, Ship or Cat Islands; pick the date. Charter trip in Delacroix and Reggio, La. with professional fishing guide. For more information, call 377-3160.

Camping packages — for rent include sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents. For more information, call 377-3160.

RV, boat and trailer storage — \$20 per month.

Delacroix, La. fishing site — two

self-contained trailers for rent, \$50 per night. Maximum four per trailer. Bring linens and cooking utensils. Louisiana fishing license required.

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

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.

Deep sea fishing trips — compressed work schedule Fridays and Sundays on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 15, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$850 for first six people, \$60 each additional person. \$350 deposit required.

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

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

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

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

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

GRADUATIONS

First Term Airman Center Class 08-14

81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron — Airman 1st Class Jacoby Greene.

81st Inpatient Operations Squadron — Airman Basic Brianna Vollandine.

81st Logistics Readiness Squadron — Airman 1st Class Eric Foster;

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Airmen Basic Stephanie Bush and Patrick Mahoney; Airmen 1st Class Courtney Brooks, Jessica Capozzi, John Doiron, Brooke Gaunsk, Antoine Hastie.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Airmen Basic Brandon Brown and Jordan Mann.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Airmen 1st Class Amanda Green and Austin Sluter.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Airman 1st Class Robert Toth.

81st Training Group — Airman Francis Rhodd.

81st Training Wing — Airman 1st Class Heather Kelly.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Buddy Alfrey, Nathan Andrews, Manuel Aragon, Joshua Atencio, Joseph Bain, David Bruenning, Christopher Busch, Michael Clary, Sean Eaton, Michael Evans, Curtis Filkins, Donald Frye, Lucas Gamache, Robert Gasca, Jeremy Hoagland, Emily Johnson, Hamzah Khan, John Koenig, Dana Knight, Donald Leavell, Christopher Lee, Adam Lessel, Michael Lew, Jlene Lieberg, Andrea Lloyd, Reese Massey, Adam Maynard, Brian McKinnon, Corey McLaughlin, Michael Meisenhelder, Eric Molinaro, Derek Moran, Michael Nelson, Mark Pomory, Robert Robertson, Mark Robideau, Michael Rosenberger, Nathaniel Rosenthal, Michael Rowe, Dominick Santopietro, Bryan Senger, Cody Shreve, Robert Smoot, Klayton Stout, Robert Tebeau and Henry Thomas; Airmen Zachariah Blocher, Orville Bongat, Christopher Czekaj, Justin Hemsworth, Anthony Krieg, Christopher Leddy, Patrick Shiver, Kyle St. John and Scott Thompson; Airmen 1st Class Michael Allday, Gabriel Aponte-Castro, Steven Archibald, Timothy Beasley, Jordan Beck, Evan Bonk, Jeffrey Briggs, Jason Britten, William Cashman, Joshua Cato, Alexander Fawcett, Mitchell Holthouse, Nathan Hutsky, Larry Johnson, Patrick Lukaszewski, Ryan Marcum, Nicholas Morris, Robert Morrison, Taiki Murakami, Steven Pagano, Harlon Patton, David Reynolds, William Schmidt, Amandeep Singh, Elio Tapper, John Tichnell, Ross Turner, Brandon Webster, Bryce Wenger and Matthew Wyant; Senior Airmen Russell Fry, Christopher Lovato and Kelly Pauley; Staff Sgts. Devin Card, Joshua Gonser, Lawrence Santos and Fenton Whetstone; Senior Master Sgt. James Hunter; Chief Master Sgt Mohammed Bakr Rasheedii.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems — Airmen Basic Christopher Doty, Kaytlin Jones and Eric Parker; Airmen 1st Class Emily Niles; Master Sgt. John Dibattista.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Cody Baird, Anthony Bojohoe, David Capela, Joseph Chesteen, Branden Germer, Justin Hawkins, Joshua Kovacs, Crystal Lindsay, Robert Lugo and Lucas Wells; Airmen Joshua Cassels and Stacey Cross; Airmen 1st Class Rose Blackman, Ty Boyd, Jason Brown, Hugh Cross, Albert Griffeth, Matthew Kurtz, Matthew Miller, Matthew Nabors, Whitney Parker, Derrick Revilla, Leon Thompson, Nicole Walker, James Ward and Thomas Wojnarowski; Senior Airman Creg Kinkead; Staff Sgt. Bradley Grissom; Tech. Sgt. John Barr; Mary Takanunu.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic John Haynes and Whitfield Williams; Airmen 1st Class Kathryn Black, Rachel Dunham, Nathan Lary and Jacob Soldat; Senior Airmen Corey Andler and Chad Bailey; Staff Sgts. Erica Huls, Randy Jeffrey, Matthew Tirrell and Nicholas Todd; Tech. Sgt. Jason Arnold.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Alicia Allmer, Daniel Bodine, Warren Bush, Katherine Castano, Aaron DeGraw, Kyle Fletcher, Casey Kemp, Lauren Nickerson, Constance Noah, Eric Ross, Kirstin Singleton, William Tibbetts and Joshua Thomas; Airmen Justin Limos, Veronica Padilla and Amanda Wilson; Airmen 1st Class Terence Bow, Crystal Brown, Cheri Douglas, Keith Holley, Shaun Houser, Crystal Housman, Aslin Leger, Duane Robinson, Randall Rosales, Moses Tum and Gregory Uhl; Senior Airmen Jennifer Anderson and Brittany Willey; Staff Sgts. Scott Brock, Jon Farley, Philip Maher, Joseph Pierce, David Roque and Maylin White; Tech. Sgts. Lynett Dubia, Minnie Gordon, Cassandra Richardson and Cecilia Speigner.

Weather training flight — Airman Basic Evelyn Bainbridge, Adam Chmielowski, Gregory Evenson, Michael Geoghegan, Douglas Johnson, Franklyn Kapuchuck, Irene Mandolag, Sarah Myers, Lilly Samaniego and Matthew Trimmings; Navy Airman George Barsby; Airman Steve Schoening and Katie Shaffer; Pfc. Jonathan Oliver; Airman 1st Class Samuel Carter, Deshona Crowder, Adrian Guest, David Harrell, Joshua Jarrett, Michael Naughton and Nicole Nieddu; Lance Cpl. Nicholas Embleton and Amy Jenkins; Senior Airman Kenneth Beavers, Gregory Goodnight, John Richmond and Steven Timlin; Staff Sgts. Thao Hill and Rose Selko; Marine Sgt. Antwon Eason.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Charles Beaver, Mark Howard and Jason Marshall; Airman James Frazier; Airmen 1st Class Jacob Corrigan, Justin Lail, Marc Rhodes, Robert Robinson and David Vennen; Senior Airman Joseph Sparks; Staff Sgt. Christopher Back; Senior Master Sgt. Stanley Walker.

Communications and information management flight — Airmen Basic Christopher Barrow, Zachary Boles, Gregory Bowman, Steven Campbell, Daniel Chaffee, Jeniffer Correa, Darren Diones, Lashanay Dubose, Ian Fischer, Jessica Hurley, Barbara Maloney, Bryan Napier, Alexis Rivera, Francisco Serrano, Brandon Smith, Cody Trenda, William Twomey and Daniel Yockey; Airmen Eric Byrne, Eric Leyva, Mark Quinlan and Jelaina Walker; Airmen 1st Class Austin Carroll, John Delarma, Benjamin Harmon, Chelsea Kline, Jonathan Martin, Kevaughn Murray, Ryan Poster, Ashley Tison, Patrick Weller

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30
Triangle Chapel contemporary worship.....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 Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235 or 273-2226.

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 801-787-1990.

and David Whittaker; Senior Airmen Jose Alvarez-Vargas, Christopher Enright, Hyun Lee and Tracie Oster; Staff Sgts. Pedro Cancel and Jayson Maxwell; Technical Sgts. Jay Goodman, Sarah Soliz, Herry Stallings and Miguel Valdivia; Master Sgts. Timothy Norton and Daniel Whalen.

338th TRS

Ground radar — Airmen 1st Class Andrew Andersen, Zachary Hughes, Drew Manoram, Joshua Thomas and Michael Williams; Senior Airman Nathan Smith; Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Finchum.

Ground radio — Airmen Basic Luke Anfinson, David Caudle, Tyler Coleman, Michael Craven, Jonathon Hunziker and Adam Razani; Airmen Isaac Granados, Klein Luangrath, Wesley Nelson and Matthew Spagnola; Airmen 1st Class Joseph Harkins, William O'Brien, Michal Szczepanik and Michael Twarozynski; Senior Airmen Michael Bialecki, Gary Ervin and Christopher Johnson; Staff Sgt. Samuel Turman; Tech. Sgts. Darin Gaymon, Daniel Howard and Jeremy Roering; Master Sgt. Brian Bunce.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 08-7 — graduates Oct. 28.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 08-7 — graduates Oct. 30.

Arts and crafts center

Multicraft shop

Fall festival and craft fair — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 15. Booth reservations accepted beginning Oct. 15. Costume contest, fall and holiday crafts for sale, turkey bingo, door prizes, fun and food.

Teen time crafts — 3:30-5:30 p.m., Thursdays. Bring a friend and make a project for the holidays. Projects and costs on display, or make your own creation.

New wire wrap jewelry making — 6-7 p.m. today or 1-2 p.m. Saturday. \$25 includes materials.

Bob Ross painting workshop — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Wet on wet technique on 16x20-inch canvas. \$65 includes materials, professional instruction and light lunch.

Fall and holiday crafting — 5-7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Get ready for the November craft fair. Make project, share a project for holiday gift-giving.

Ceramic turkey centerpiece — 5-7:30 p.m. Oct. 23. \$28 including bisque, paint and firing.

Beginners pottery — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Clay work and sculpting. \$60 including four pounds of clay and first firing.

Wood shop

Beginning intarsia — 10 a.m. Saturday. \$20. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood in a decorative pattern.

Advanced intarsia — 10 a.m. Oct. 25. \$20 including all materials and tool use. New project each month.

Frame shop

Picture framing and matting — noon to 4 p.m. Friday. Pre-registration required. Class size limited. \$30 including materials. Learn equipment use and basic techniques of matting and frame assembly. Qualify for operator's card for self-help shop use.

Customized picture framing and military flag and show box design — self-help framing area is available for certified hobbyists, or pick matting and molding and shop will do the work.

Engraving shop

Perfect gifts — personalized mugs and coasters, laser-engraved pen and desk sets and prints by local artists.

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Auto hobby shop

Free auto care briefing — 4:30-6:30 p.m. today. Learn practical skills that save you money.

Vehicle storage lot — for a secure place to store your vehicle, call 377-3872.

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

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; \$10 per month per vehicle per stall. Registration, license and proof of insurance required. To place a car on the lot, call 377-2821.

Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex. 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.

Keesler Medical Center

Pediatric subspecialty clinic

Baby Boot Camp — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. second Thursday of the month in conference room BF 400, located off the outpatient clinic entrance. Classes cover infants from birth to 6 months of age. Classes address common concerns of new parents such as booking appointments, colic, immunizations, safety, feeding issues, developmental milestones, dental care and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Gifts, prizes and refreshments are included. Classes open to members of all branches of the military and their dependents. To sign up, call Capt. Romeatrus Moss, 376-5375. For more information, call Capt. Moss, Maj. Muriel Gatlin, 376-5387, or Staff Sgt. Jihan Brown, 376-5579.

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.

McBride Library

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

Halloween special — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct 31 showing of Godzilla, 6-7 p.m. trick or treat.

Fax special — 50 cents a page this month.

Orientations for commanders, instructors and first sergeants — 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

Available for use — children's library and meeting, audio and typing rooms.

Free wireless Internet — check at circulation desk.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2181.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

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

Football frenzy — 7 p.m. Mondays. Club members are eligible for prizes.

Pumpkin carving contest — Base-wide squadron competition. Reserve pumpkin by Oct. 23. Pick up Oct. 27 and return by 4 p.m. Oct. 31. Prizes for first and second place.

Tops in Blue — 7 p.m. Oct. 30, Mississippi Coast Coliseum.

Halloween party — 7 p.m. Oct. 31, nonprior service students only. Costume contest; prizes in each category.

Free shuttle service — 6-9:30 p.m. Thursdays before nonworking Fridays; 1-11 p.m. nonworking Fridays and Saturdays and 6-11 p.m. working Fridays. Also stops at Muse Manor, McBride Library, arts and crafts center, Tyler House, bowling center, outdoor recreation, Katrina Kantina and Bay Breeze Golf Course.

Legends Café — open 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 5-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 5-11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

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

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

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

Tuesday special — red beans and rice, \$1 bowl.

Martini and jazz night — 5 p.m. Thursdays before nonworking Fridays.

Halloween party — 5-7 p.m. Oct. 30. Scary snacks, drink specials, door prizes.

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

Youth center

Costume party, dance and games — 5-10 p.m. Oct. 25, ages 6 and older. Admission \$5.

Teen career expo — 6-8 p.m. Oct. 27. Representatives from local businesses and base units talk about careers and career opportunities. Door prizes, snacks, music, displays and giveaways.

Free open recreation — 4-7:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays for ages 9 and older. Activities include basic sewing, cooking, FitFactor, art and life skills events.

Instructors needed — for Saturday karate, dance and gymnastics classes; call 377-4116.

Coaches, referees needed — for basketball. Call for more information.

Classes — register for dance, gymnastics, piano, tennis and assorted sports clinics.

Youth employment service — earn money for college tuition; call for more information.

Congressional Award program — ages 14-21; self-directed merit program promoting personal development, physical fitness and community involvement.

Volunteers needed — for sports, open recreation, crafts, cooking, computers, arts, reading, sewing and general cleaning and decorations. Must be 18 or older. For more information, call 377-4116.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Trips to New Orleans Saints games at Superdome — Oct. 26, San Diego Chargers. \$60 per person including admission. Sign up at the Vandenberg Community Center customer service desk. Limit 20 passengers, first come, first served.

Tours to additional Saints games — one in November and two in December. Call 377-5576 for schedule.

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World in Florida. For price list, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

Information on area and out-of-state attractions — free brochures for Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Executive transition assistance program — Oct. 27-30 at Keesler, for senior master sergeants, chief master sergeants, lieutenant colonels and colonels considering retirement within the next two years and interested in transitioning to corporate opportunities. For more information or to register, call Bob Bertels, DSN 487-2669, or e-mail robert.bertels@randolph.af.mil.

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 Thursdays in

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DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — pork chops with mushroom gravy, braised liver with onions, fried fish, hush puppies, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, corn, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken chili, cheeseburger soup, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

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

Friday

Lunch — shrimp scampi, beef stew, turkey, egg noodles, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, cauliflower, collard greens, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — chili macaroni, barbecue chicken, fried catfish, potato wedges, Spanish rice, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, broccoli, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

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

Dinner — baked fish, knockwurst, Chinese five-spice chicken, potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, spinach, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, chili and chicken nuggets.

Sunday

Lunch — oven fried fish, spareribs, chicken breast parmesan, macaroni and cheese, O'Brien potatoes, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, pork chop suey, sauteed mushrooms and onions, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

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

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, loin strip steak, turkey, baked potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, squash, carrots, broccoli, sauteed mushrooms and onions, macaroni salad, cucumber/onion salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Tuesday

Lunch — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, baked fish, rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, steamed carrots, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Dinner — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, tempura vegetables, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Wednesday

Lunch — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, garlic toast, noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, simmered squash, coleslaw, cottage cheese salad, chicken noodle soup, potato soup, chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — lemon-herb chicken, sweet and sour pork, jambalaya, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, Mexican corn, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken noodle soup, cream of potato soup, chili, cheese fishwich and pizza.

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Room 111, Sablich Center, 1 p.m. for those who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. Those 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, call 376-8728 for individual counseling appointment. To register, call 376-8728. For more information, call Jackie Pope, 376-8505.

Transition assistance program — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Oct. 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 — 8-10:30 a.m. 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 in Room 108B, Sablich Center. For an appointment, call Ron Bublik, 376-8502 or 376-8728, or e-mail ronald.bublik@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.

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Neil Sherman, 377-7116; e-mail anthony.sherman@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 130, Sablich Center.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, visit Room 216, Sablich Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Neil Sherman, 377-7116; e-mail anthony.sherman@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 130, Sablich Center.

Junior ROTC — immediate employment opportunities for retired or retiring Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers. Those who retired within the past 10 years or are six months from retirement may qualify to be an instructor. To apply or for more information, go to <http://www.afoats.af.mil> and select "AFJROTC" or call Jo Alice Talley, toll free 1-866-235-7682, extension 7742; DSN 493-7742, or commercial (334) 953-7742.

Web sites

Defense Manpower Data Center — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — <http://www.bluetogray.com>.

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

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

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

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton,

703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

Military Connection — online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at <http://www.militaryconnection.com>.

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

MEETINGS

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 — 4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Rich Striggow, 377-4800, 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 — For more information, call Staff Sgt. Aaron Eden, 377-1907; Staff Sgt. Brad Mills, 377-1714, or call 377-SAVE.

Asian Pacific-American Heritage Committee — 11:30 a.m. first Wednesday of month, Room 111, Sablich Center. For more information, call Lucy Belles, 376-8500, or Master Sgt. Ernesto Alvendia, 376-8501.

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; Arleen Stewart, 377-2440, 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.

Civil Air Patrol Col. Berta A. Edge Composite Squadron — 7 p.m. Tuesdays upstairs in Hangar 3 for youth and adults. For more information, call 1-601-528-4337, e-mail Camoprincess92@gmail.com or visit <http://www.keeslercap.org>.

Company grade officers council — meets first Wednesday of the month. For time and location, call Capt. Ted West, 377-7343.

Keesler 5.6 — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Toyshaline Young or Tech. Sgt. Jodi Evans, 377-4885.

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 Leanne Ramsay, 377-3217, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

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.

Top III — 3 p.m. third Thursday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Krejci, 377-4451.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 adults and \$1.50 children for regular features, and \$2.50 adults and \$1 children for matinees.

Friday — 6:30 p.m., Hancock Dangerous (R, 99 minutes).

Saturday — 2 p.m., The House Bunny (PG-13, 98 minutes); 6:30 p.m., Babylon (R, 110 minutes).

Sunday — 1 p.m., Disaster Movie (PG-13, 90 minutes).