



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

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Train to Fight — Train to Win

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Dragons deployed — 234



Keesler heralds cyber training

Michael Gainey, instructor supervisor in the 332nd Training Squadron, speaks to enlisted students in the new cyber initial skills courses that began Monday in Dolan Hall. In the coming year, another 18 cyber courses will be launched at Keesler, culminating in the new officer and enlisted cyber warfare courses in October 2010. The new courses replace 13 existing communications courses. Keesler's cyber training program impacts two training wings, four training squadrons and one detachment. To date, \$6 million has been spent on the training development effort.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

Civilians to receive equal base pay increases

By Fred Baker III

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Department of Defense employees paid under the National Security Personnel System will receive the same base salary increases this year as their General Schedule counterparts, a Defense Department official said Sept. 29.

The move comes as senior DOD, Office of Personnel Management and White House officials work to determine the future of the troubled pay-for-performance system.

Most civilians under the NSPS last year actually received about the same pay increases as they would have under the general schedule, said Brad Bunn, the Defense Department's executive officer for NSPS. But a report this summer by Defense Business Board officials found the system's "pay pool" process complicated and confusing for most employees.

Employees questioned the assessment and evaluation process and didn't understand the pay pool process, Mr. Bunn said.

Last year, a portion of the money allot-

ted for base-salary increases was placed into the overall pay pool, which is then divided among those in the pool based on performance ratings. This year, no money allotted for base-salary increases will go into the pool, Mr. Bunn said.

Employees under the NSPS system who receive a satisfactory performance rating of 2 or higher will receive a salary increase equal to their GS counterparts. Those who receive an unsatisfactory rating of 1 won't receive a base salary increase.

Please see **Pay increases**, Page 9

Just a little thought can keep 'That Guy' away



Photo by Kemberly Groue
"That Guy" was last sighted in the 81st Training Wing headquarters lobby.

81st Medical Group

This may be the most unconventional advice column you've ever read.

If you've ever been carried home from a bar by your friends, read on.

If you've ever greeted the suggestion to "open a tab" as an all-you-can-drink challenge, read on.

If you've ever been the center of attention, because you passed out in the center of the dance floor, definitely read on.

Some lessons are best learned through tough and memorable consequences that we experience or witness. When it comes to the downside of excessive drinking, that's definitely the case.

Now, any man or woman in military service has undoubtedly endured countless lectures, speeches and warnings about binge drinking, drunk driving and other alcohol-induced bad behavior. However, no education I've ever experienced drives the point home like four simple words — "Don't Be That Guy."

Those, my friends, are words to live by.

We've all been out on the town and seen 'That Guy' making a jackass of himself (or herself, because girls can definitely be That Guy, too). Sometimes we laugh at him, but it ceases to be funny when That Guy wrecks your evening by acting like a meathead, or getting you kicked out of the bar, or starting a fight you have to finish, or ruining your hook-up, or getting arrested, or bleeding in your car, or smashing your TV, or puking on your shoes or ... well, you get the point.

The beauty of "Don't Be That Guy" is that it's open-ended advice — it covers a million possibilities. It's also not judgmental. It isn't saying don't drink, or don't have a few beers with your buddies or don't go out and let

loose a little. It simply means don't overdo it, don't lose control, don't be an idiot.

I've seen some That Guy behavior in the military. But I've also seen it from frat boys, businessmen, the girl next door and even my relatives. (Anyone else have a cousin who barfed in the shrimp bowl at a family wedding?) Poor judgment knows no bounds. The trick is to avoid it, and learning from others' mistakes can really help.

What are some reasons not to be That Guy? Here are a few to consider:

Because teeth look better in your mouth.

Because puking through your nose hurts.

Because STD does not stand for "So Totally Drunk."

Because insurance doesn't cover stupidity.

Because "I don't remember" is not an excuse that holds up in court.

Another **big** reason not to be That Guy is because he is often considered "fair game" for ridicule or drunk-shaming. Having a girl throw a beer in your face is a bummer, but in the world of That Guy, you may be getting off easy, especially if you pick the wrong place to pass out. Have you ever seen a dude with one eyebrow shaved off, or one duct-taped to a flagpole or show up to work in the morning with a big (censored by editor) drawn on his face with permanent marker? Try explaining those naked pictures of you on the Internet to your girlfriend, or worse, your mom.

So, if you want to keep your friends, your reputation, your money, your teeth, your dignity and other stuff you value, do yourself a favor and just don't be That Guy.

Editor's note: The author of this commentary wishes to remain anonymous, but encourages anyone who thinks he or she might be "That Guy" to call a chaplain, 377-4859; his or her primary care manager, 1-800-700-8603; the alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment clinic, 376-3452, or the mental health clinic, 376-0386.

Those reality smacks keep inflated ego in check

By Capt. Heather Wooten

366th Maintenance Operations Squadron

MOUNTAIN HOME Air Force Base, Idaho — I majored in psychology in college, so Sigmund Freud was a fixture in many of my studies. I was constantly quizzed on Freud's theories of the id, ego and superego. Freud's theory of the ego stated that the ego developed later in childhood after needs were met and the child began to experience life.

The ego was based on the reality principle, meaning our egos had to balance our needs with the reality of the situation at hand. I'm guessing this is where the term "ego check" came from.

I've had more ego checks in my career than I can count. I don't think this is a bad thing. In fact, I would say a healthy dose of reality will teach you important lessons in life, just when you think you know it all.

My first ego check happened when I was an assistant aircraft maintenance unit officer in charge at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. I had been in charge of the unit for five months, waiting on my

new boss to arrive. By the time she did, I was pretty confident — OK, cocky. I thought it was easy to lead the unit and was convinced if I left, it would fall apart. Before going on leave, I was doing an exhaustive turnover with the new captain and chief.

Mid-sentence, the chief stopped me and said, "With all due respect, LT, this unit will be just fine when you leave. In fact, this unit was generating aircraft long before you came and will long after you leave. Enjoy your time off."

Ego check: You **are** a very important asset to the Air Force, but you can be replaced at any time, and the Air Force will continue to operate as it has for the past 62 years.

My latest ego check occurred about seven months ago on my first deployment to Afghanistan. After a couple of freezing days at the transit center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, I boarded a crowded C-17 Globemaster III. Excited, I squished down into the center seats. I was going to war. My job: to generate bomb-laden aircraft to destroy our enemies.

Looking around, I was surrounded by joint tactical

air controllers, rangers and Marines. I was heading for Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. The Soldiers and Marines had no idea which forward operating base they were reporting to. They were quiet, joking nervously, many no older than 18 years old.

Ego check: I was going to war to generate bomb-laden aircraft to support the fine young men and women surrounding me on that C-17. I wasn't the "tip of the spear" — they were.

Too many times we get caught up in the day-to-day grind, focused on "my needs and requirements" to make "my job" happen now. We often lose sight of the needs and requirements of those around us, trying to make their jobs happen.

I fully believe the job you are currently in, is **your** most important job. And if you treat it that way, you will be successful. However, if you don't pause from time to time to see if your teammates have what they need to be successful, the Air Force as a whole suffers.

When was the last time you had an ego check? I highly recommend one.



DRAGON ON THE STREET

By **Kemberly Groue**

Keesler News photojournalist

What is your favorite book?



"A Time to Kill" by John Grisham.

Tech. Sgt. Melinda Fletcher,
81st Training Wing



Anything from the Will of Times series.

Airman William Brown,
334th Training Squadron



The Bible.

Maj. Yulanda Bogany,
81st Force Support Squadron

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at <http://www.keesler.af.mil>

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TRAINING AND EDUCATION



Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, 2nd Air Force commander, visits with Airman Dante Butler, 332nd Training Squadron, and Airman 1st Class Bradford West, 335th TRS, during lunch with 81st Training Group students at the Azalea Dining Facility.



From left, Senior Master Sgt. William Hawkins, 338th Training Squadron, gives Chief Master Sgt. Linus Jordan, 2nd Air Force's new command chief, and General Hertog an overview of the squadron's air expeditionary force training area in the Triangle. The new 2nd Air Force leaders were given an orientation tour of Keesler Sept. 29-30.

Keesler rolls out red carpet for 2nd Air Force leaders



Brett Long, left, housing manager for the 81st Infrastructure Division, gives General Hertog and her husband, Herm, a tour of one of the new enlisted homes in East Falcon Park. Mr. Hertog is a retired chief master sergeant.



From left, Airmen Basic Jordan Godfrey, Aaron Hudgens, Ryan Gordon and Airman Joseph Younger meet the Hertogs during their base tour. The Airmen are assigned to the 334th TRS.

Outside the wire

Reconstruction project shifts to lifesaving mission

338th Training Squadron Detachment 1
Fort Gordon, Ga.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Okeefe, a satellite, wideband and telemetry systems instructor in the 338th Training Squadron's Detachment 1 at Fort Gordon, Ga., recently returned from a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan.

Sergeant Okeefe, who's been in the Air Force for more than 5½ years, served as the chief communications officer for the Kapisa/Parwan provincial reconstruction team on Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

"Each PRT is assigned to one of the 26 provinces in Afghanistan," Sergeant Okeefe said. "The mission of each team is to make contact with the local populace and government officials to determine what reconstruction projects are needed — usually roads, schools, wells and other public buildings."

The ordinary day-to-day routine was broken by one of those projects "outside the wire" that created an unforgettable opportunity for Sergeant Okeefe and his team.

"We determined one of the local district centers in the Alasay Valley, the primary insurgent infiltration route for the region, needed to be cleaned up and refurbished," Sergeant Okeefe explained. "The plan created to do this involved most of our team traveling out to the Alasay district center and staying there for five days, paying the local villagers to clean up the district center and accomplishing the goals of cleaning up the district center and inject money into the local economy.

For Sergeant Okeefe's part in this adventure, he was responsible for assuring communications between the remote site, in a dangerous valley, and back to the home base. To accomplish this, he did two things.

"I created a transportable communications package large enough for three



Sergeant Okeefe, from the 338th TRS Detachment 1 at Fort Gordon, Ga., spent a year deployed to Afghanistan.

squads totaling 60 people, including PRC-148 land mobile radios, a PRC-117 tactical satellite setup and all the supporting equipment necessary for our trip," he recalled. "I acted as the primary radio-telephone operator for the forward location. Also, to effectively use every available person at the site, I doubled as a security emplacement driver on our security perimeter at night."

At the site, almost everything went according to plan. After arrival, the team set up its tactical operations at the district center in a building next to the district Center and set up a perimeter encompassing both the district center and our TOC. The next three days involved a massive cleanup, followed by payday for the local workers, site tear-down, and return to base.

"During the cleanup days, we were simply maintaining our position and staying vigilant to make sure nothing major happened — however, something did happen on the fourth day," Sergeant Okeefe recalled. "Late in the afternoon we saw several small explosions in the distance, then one big one. When everyone checked in, we determined the explosion was nowhere near us. Shortly after checking in, we noticed a plume of dirt rising about a mile away from where we were.

"Since it didn't appear hostile and there were no coalition forces in the area of the explosion, we asked the local Afghanistan National Police force to check it out and let us know what happened," he continued. "Thirty minutes after the big explosion, several locals carrying five

injured children showed up at the entry control point to our site."

The posture of Sergeant Okeefe's team quickly became defensive, and all battle gear was put on immediately. The two medics on the team assessed the children's injuries and determined that the only way for them to survive was to call in a medevac from Bagram AB.

"Once the medevac was approved, we started preparing for the arrival of the helicopter," Sergeant Okeefe reported. "During this time I was a runner to help coordinate the preparation and also to bring supplies from our TOC out to the medics and other people working to save the children's lives. When the medevac helicopter finally arrived, I switched to covering a position around the makeshift landing site until the helicopter took off for Bagram."

On the fifth day, Sergeant Okeefe learned the nature of the explosion.

"The children had been playing with a rocket motor they had found and they had all been standing very close, some even squatting down next to it, when it exploded, quite literally, in their faces," he remembered. "By the time they were brought to us, two of the five had lost so much blood there was nothing that could be done for them and they died before the helicopter ever arrived. However, the other three were stabilized, and two weeks after we left the district center, all three had been discharged from the hospital.

"My experience at the Alasay District Center was the most intense and memorable experience I had during my deployment," Sergeant Okeefe emphasized. "I believe that the work we did there had a real impact on the lives of those we met and their community."

Courtesy photo

tops in blue

Free performance
7 p.m. Oct. 25
Mississippi Coast Coliseum,
Biloxi

Construction begins on new facilities for basic training

By Mike Joseph

37th Training Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND Air Force Base, Texas — Construction begins this month on the first of 13 new basic military training facilities.

With a price tag of nearly \$900 million, the eight airmen training complexes and four associated dining-classroom facilities will be located on two campuses. The campuses replace existing 1,000-man recruit housing and training buildings currently scattered around the base. The housing and training buildings were built in the late 1960s and early 1970s to replace the World War II-era military open-bay barracks.

Each ATC is projected to cost \$75 million and accommodate about 1,200 basic trainees. The dining-classroom facilities are estimated to cost \$32 million each.

The renovation of existing facilities to relocate offices out of the construction area is nearly complete, said Howard Steck, 37th Civil Engineer Squadron.

"It's one monster project — it will be one of the biggest (military construction projects) we've seen on base in many years," said Camilo Morales, 37th CES project manager.

Construction of the two new campuses will be phased over a nine-year period. Building on the east campus begins first. The west campus construction is scheduled to begin in February 2013.

Each ATC will have its own running track, drill pad, a war skills area and utility infrastructure.

Only one military open bay dormitory remains on base, located in the upcoming construction zone. The History and Traditions Museum has procured the building and it will be moved behind the museum.

In addition to the campuses, a new \$20 million BMT processing and information center is on the drawing board.

Mr. Steck said the contractor will begin erecting construction fences for the east campus sometime in mid-October. Work on the ATC begins in November with a projected October or November 2011 completion date.

An adjacent dining-classroom facility will serve two ATCs; work is slated to start in February 2010 and should be completed at the same time as the first ATC.

By staggering construction, Mr. Steck said work on a new ATC building should begin every 12 months. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 18 months into the project, an estimated 500-750 construction workers will be on the east campus daily.

"It's going to be incredible, how many people we're going to have out there," Mr. Morales said.

Base shuttle schedules

are found at

<http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=15371>

Quarterly awards

The 81st Training Group quarterly awards ceremony is 3:15 p.m. today at Vandenberg Community Center.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Carrie Pogue, 377-7638, or Tech. Sgt. Jonathan McCullar, 377-5989.

Drill downs, parades

Friday's drill down was cancelled due to rain and hasn't been rescheduled yet.

The drill down and parade schedule for 2010 is:

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Feb. 19, April 16 and Oct. 15; 7 a.m. June 11 and Aug. 20.

Parades — 6 p.m. March 18, July 22 and Sept. 16.

For more information on drill downs, call Staff Sgt. Julie Hammond, 377-2737. For more information on parades, call Staff Sgt. Gregory Washington, 377-9527.

Satellite capability

The education services satellite downlink which has been out of commission since Hurricane Katrina was restored Sept. 29 and was tested with its first broadcast Oct. 1.

The new system is ready to serve the base community on any receivable training via satellite.

For more information, call CSC education services, 376-8708 or 8710.

Post-9/11 GI Bill

Post-9/11 GI Bill briefings are 11:30 a.m. Oct. 22, Nov. 10 and 23, and Dec. 17 in the Sablich Center Auditorium.

For more information, call 376-8708 or 8710.

Parking lot closed

The parking lot on the southeast side of the NCO Academy Building is closed until 2 p.m. Oct. 28 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, 377-3944.

CCAF graduation

Community College of the Air Force fall graduation is 3

Academic ace



Airman Basic Justin Johnson graduated from the electronic principles course in the 332nd Training Squadron Sept. 30 with a perfect score. Airman Johnson is from Las Vegas and continues his training in the communication/navigation/mission systems apprentice school at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

p.m. Oct 27 in Welch Auditorium.

A reception follows in Vandenberg Community Center.

For more information, call the education office, 376-8708 or 8710.

House party

A UBU house party for nonprior service students is 8 p.m. Oct. 29 at the Legends Cafe in Vandenberg Community Center.

Students make pick up a free UBU card at the event, or show their current card and become eligible for prizes and giveaways.

The party is sponsored by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Keesler Federal Credit Union.

Specialty exams

Oct. 14 is the deadline to register for the Nov. 16 Praxis examination.

Exams are administered by appointment only and must be scheduled on or before the registration date indicated.

To register or for more information, call 376-8710 or 8708.

MGCCC registration

Registration for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's Keesler Center begins Nov. 2 for winter session evening classes, Nov. 16-Feb. 19.

For more information, visit the MGCCC office in Sablich Center, call 432-7198 or e-mail alrie.poillion@mgccc.edu.

Commissioning

Commissioning briefings are 10-10:30 a.m. in Room 224, Sablich Center:

Officer Training School — second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

ROTC — first and third Tuesdays of the month.

ACSC options

Air Command and Staff College can be completed by correspondence or seminar.

Majors or major-selects of all services and civilians General Schedule-11 and above are eligible.

For more information, call 376-8472.

CCAF online

Visit the Air Force Virtual Education Center, <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>, to create MyAFVEC accounts to access online customer service tools.

People can request and track Community College of the Air Force transcripts, view degree progress reports and see if a course counts toward a CCAF degree.

CCAF program

The Community College of the Air Force's General Education Mobile is a partnership between CCAF and civilian academic institutions that offers clustered online general education courses to meet CCAF degree requirements.

For more information, call the education center, 376-8708 or 8710.

Two vie for leadership award

Keesler Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Benjamin McQuagge, 81st Security Forces Squadron, and Petty Officer 1st Class Clarence Hartenstine II, an instructor from Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit, are two of the six military nominees for the 2009 Thomas V. Fredian Community Leadership Award.

The award recognizes community leadership one outstanding enlisted honoree and was named for a former Navy member and public affairs officer at Stennis Space Center who died in 1999.

The winner is announced Tuesday during the 31st annual Salute to the Military at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum Convention Center in Biloxi.

Sergeant McQuagge is an 81st SFS military working dog handler. He performs patrolman and supervisor duties expected of all security forces noncommissioned officers as well as trains, certifies and cares for his military working dog, Ziko. A Troy, Ala., native, Sergeant McQuagge is married to Staff Sgt. Mellisa McQuagge, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, and they are expecting their first child this month.

Sergeant McQuagge has previously received the Army Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Medal with gold border, the Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Meritorious Unit Award and Outstanding Unit Award. He was named the 2009 81st Training Wing noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter and 2008 distinguished graduate of the Military Working Dog School. His contributions to the Air Force community include mentoring at-risk youth, hosting foreign soccer teams and demonstrating mili-



Sergeant McQuagge



Petty Officer Hartenstine

tary working dog capabilities and supporting the U.S. Secret Service on high-visibility missions. He is considered an expert on the employment and conduct of military working dogs and is his commander's go-to Airman when the community needs K9 support.

Petty Officer Hartenstine, a San Antonio native, is an aviation electronics technician who provides technical training and administrative management support for Navy and Marine personnel attending collocated Navy schools and consolidated courses of instruction at Keesler. As the general calibration and maintenance school's leading petty officer, he is responsible for 12 joint-service

instructors and 78 joint-service and international students at the deckplate level in matters of military requirements, scholastic achievement and community service.

As his unit's community service coordinator, he routinely advises 218 military and civilian personnel on volunteer opportunities. His commitment has resulted in 52 events totaling 1,620 hours of volunteer contributions to date this year. He was selected the department Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2009.

He has contributed numerous off-duty hours in support of Nichols Elementary School, Special Olympics, American Heart Association, Boy Scouts of America, the DeSoto National Forest River Cleanup, YMCA and D'Iberville youth soccer, and is assistant drug and alcohol program adviser for his unit.

He's been awarded two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Battle "E", four Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, the NATO Kosovo Medal, the Navy Pistol Shot Ribbon and one Flag Letter of Commendation.

The Salute to the Military brings the nation's top military leaders to the Mississippi Coast to join in tribute to local neighbors-in-uniform. Admiral Gary Roughead, chief of naval operations, is the featured speaker, joining Sen. Roger Wicker and Rep. Gene Taylor.

The evening includes a cocktail reception at 6 p.m., followed by a ceremonial program at 7 p.m. and dinner at 7:30, with music by the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

IN THE NEWS

Combined Federal Campaign

Keesler's Combined Federal Campaign continues through Oct. 31.

The base's goal for this year is \$134,000.

For more information, contact your unit representative or Capt. Kelly Levens, 377-7209.

Partial gate closure begins

The outbound lanes on the north side of the Pass Road Gate are closed for about seven more weeks for construction of denial barriers.

The closure includes Ploesti Drive from Pass Road north to the walk-through gate near Jeff Davis Elementary School. Traffic exiting Bay Ridge housing via Curtis Drive, other than cars dropping children off for school, should turn left (north) at Ploesti to access the base.

Inbound and outbound travel is maintained at the Pass Road Gate by dividing the two inbound lanes. Outbound traffic is routed to the inbound lane closest to the gate house, and inbound traffic uses the right turn lane at the gate. A temporary gate house will be located in the grassy island where these two lanes separate.

Augmentees are being used during peak hours to improve traffic flow at the gate.

Rodeo Drive is closed temporarily by the City of Biloxi at Pass Road to enhance safety. Traffic on Rodeo is rerouted from St. Mary Boulevard and Lewis Avenue. Once the lanes on the north side of the gate are completed, they'll be reopened for inbound and outbound traffic and the lanes on the south side of the gate house will be closed, including Ploesti south from Pass Road to Hercules Street, for about 10 weeks.

During the project, the Rodenberg Gate is open daily, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Reduced medical services Friday

Keesler Medical Center closes for routine patient care most of the day Friday as 81st Medical Group staff and family members participate in the Fall Family Festival picnic.

The cafeteria is closed for lunch. Outpatient medical appointments will be completed by 11 a.m. Emergency services and inpatient operations are available, but all other services will be closed.

Emergencies should go to the closest emergency room or call the medical center's emergency services at 911 (if on base) or 376-2020.

Tops in Blue headed to Biloxi

Tops in Blue presents a free performance, 7 p.m. Oct. 25 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi.

Tops in Blue is an all active-duty Air Force special unit made up of talented amateur vocalists, musicians, dancers, comedians, magicians and dramatists who travel around the world as goodwill ambassadors to perform for military and community audiences.

Early deadline for Keesler News

The deadline for the Oct. 15 issue of the Keesler News is noon today because of the Columbus Day federal holiday, Monday.

VA providing emergency checks to eligible students awaiting benefits

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — Checks for up to \$3,000 will be available soon to students who have applied for Veterans Affairs educational benefits and who have not yet received their government payment.

The checks will be distributed to eligible students at VA regional benefits offices across the country starting Oct. 2, said VA Secretary Eric Shinseki.

“Students should be focusing on their studies, not worrying about financial difficulties,” Secretary Shinseki said. “Education creates life-expanding opportunities for our veterans.”

Students can go to one of VA’s 57 regional benefit offices with photo identification, a course schedule and an eligibility certificate to request advance payment of their housing and book allowance.

Because some students don’t live near one of those offices, VA officials expect to send representatives to schools with large veteran-student bodies to work with veteran service groups in helping students with transportation needs, officials said.

A list of VA regional offices is available at <http://www.vba.va.gov/VBA/benefits/offices.asp>.

“I’m asking our people to get out their road maps and determine how we can reach the largest number of college students who can’t reach us,” said Patrick Dunne, the VA’s undersecretary for benefits. “Not everyone has a car. Not everyone can walk to a VA benefits office.”

Although VA officials said they don’t know how many students will request emergency funds, about 25,000 claims are pending that may result in payments to students.

The funds VA will give to students now are advance payments of the earned benefits for housing and books, and will be deducted from future education payments. VA officials said students should know that after this special payment, they can expect to receive education payments on the normal schedule, the beginning of the month following the period for which they are reimbursed.

“This is an extraordinary action we’re taking,” Secretary Shinseki said. “But it’s necessary, because we recognize the hardships some of our veterans face.”

More than 27,500 students already have received benefits for housing or books under the new Post-9/11 GI Bill, or their schools have received their tuition payments, officials said.

Pay increases,

from Page 1

Defense officials felt this was the most “prudent course of action,” given the problems reported with the NSPS, he said.

Because most in NSPS received about the same raise as they would have otherwise, this move won’t significantly reduce the amount of funds used to reward performance, Mr. Bunn said.

“Most employees were getting (an equal pay increase), so paying it out as an across-the-board increase would not have a huge impact on our ability to still recognize and reward those high performers,” he said.

Those funds come from pots that were used for step increases, promotions between grades and cash bonuses under the general schedule. No changes are planned this year in how performance-based awards are paid.

Future changes to the NSPS need to tie an employee’s performance rating more clearly to any subsequent salary increase, Mr. Bunn said.

“It’s about making the system better, making it more credible for the employees,” he said.

About 205,000 of the 865,000 Defense Department civilians are in NSPS. The department stopped the conversion of GS employees to NSPS in March.

The amount of the base salary increase will not be known until the president signs an executive order implementing the 2010 pay adjustment.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Customer service hours

Customer service is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on “down Fridays.”

To be issued an identification card, two forms of legal identification are necessary. Dependents are required to be accompanied by their sponsor unless they have power of attorney or a Defense Department Form 1172.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Carlton Vinson, 376-8339.

Upcoming selection boards

Tuesday through Oct. 26 — chief master sergeant evaluation.

Nov. 2 — colonel and lieutenant colonel judge advocate and chaplain; major LAF, judge advocate and chaplain.

Dec. 1 — colonel LAF/ BSC/NC, lieutenant colonel and major BSC/NC.

2010

Jan. 11, June 7, Sept. 27 — special selection boards.

Feb. 1 — senior master sergeant evaluation.

March 8 — lieutenant colonel line of the Air Force and medical service corps; major MSC.

June 21 — senior NCO supplemental board.

July 12 — colonel LAF-J/chaplain/BSC; lieutenant colonel and major LAF-J/CHAP.

Aug. 16 — command screening board.

Sept. 13 — colonel MSC/medical corps/dental corps; lieutenant colonel and major MC/DC.

Oct. 18 — chief master sergeant evaluation.

Nov. 8 — colonel LAF; lieutenant colonel and major BSC.

Dec. 6 — colonel and lieutenant colonel nursing corps; major LAF/NC.

Military personnel contacts

Military personnel section phone numbers:

Customer support — 376-8738.

Career development — 376-8739.

Force management — 376-8740.

Student personnel center — 377-4111.

Testing — 376-4111.

Reenlistment bonus list

Air Force News Service

For a complete selective reenlistment bonus list, visit AFPC's “Ask” Web site and click on the “military” tab. Select “active duty enlisted,” then “reenlistments” and click on “Selective Reenlistment Bonus.”

For more information, call the re-enlistment office, 376-8378, 8385 or 8387.

Military customer guide

The 81st Force Support Squadron military personnel section has developed a customer handbook to assist members in obtaining the appropriate assistance concerning personnel programs.

The handbook includes contact information, program descriptions with points of contact and helpful Web sites with Air Force Personnel Center links, step-by-step guides and Personnel Service Delivery Memorandums.

The link is \\keefs10302\81MSS_Common\MPS_Customer_Handbook.docx

For more information, call Master Sgt. Kreig Cressione, 376-8648.

Base-of-preference updates

Members may now update base of preference online through the virtual MPF.

For more information, call 376-8739.

Take safety with you
while you're 'Cruisin' the Coast' this week.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Staff Sgt. Ian Harbaugh

Unit — 85th Engineering Installation Squadron

Position — airfield systems team chief

Time in Air Force — 13 years, four months

Time at Keesler — three years, nine months

Hometown — Clewiston, Fla.

Why did you join the Air Force? I was a military brat and wanted to continue to see the world.

Noteworthy — received Communitu College of the Air Force associate degree in 2006..

What are your goals? finish my bachelor's degree in computer and information technology and retire.

What's your favorite quote? "Sixty percent of the time, it works every time.

What are your hobbies? gym, video games and golf



Photo by Kemberly Groue

DIAMOND NOTES

Pay close attention

to the new fitness standards.

If you only meet the minimum standard in each category, you'll receive a "poor."

Don't get caught off guard!

Master Sgt. Charles Gallaher,
338th Training Squadron first sergeant



MEMORABLE MOMENTS



July 1, 1993

Headquarters

Air Education and Training Command activated 2nd Air Force at Keesler and made the numbered Air Force responsible for all technical training in the command.

Unique partnership bolsters medical services

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Medical Center and Memorial Hospital at Gulfport have joined in a unique partnership offering several medical subspecialties to Mississippi Gulf Coast residents for the first time.

The Keesler facility and Memorial Hospital signed a training affiliation agreement in April 2009 for subspecialists in pediatrics and obstetrics and gynecology to provide care for military and civilian patients on the Coast in association with Memorial Hospital and its surrounding clinics.

The agreement expands the population base for these particular subspecialists, helping the physicians increase proficiency in the latest medical skills and techniques, as well as providing a platform for the return of pediatric and OB/GYN residencies to the Keesler facility.

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Dan Wyman, 81st Medical Group commander, said, "The Keesler Medical Center physicians will provide the only care in these particular subspecialties on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, expanding the capability and capacity for pediatric and OB/GYN medical care within our community."

The pediatric subspecialists include:

Maj. (Dr.) Jessica Cowden, pediatric infectious disease, provides inpatient and outpatient consultation for children with suspected or proven infection, chronic or recurrent infections, fever of unknown origin, exposure

to infectious diseases and travel medicine.

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Stephen Nelson, pediatric neurologist, currently provides inpatient and outpatient consultation for children with suspected or proven neurological disorders, including seizures, headaches, developmental delay and movement disorders.

Maj. (Dr.) Matt Goldman, pediatric gastroenterologist, provides inpatient and outpatient consultation for children with suspected or proven gastrointestinal diseases including inflammatory bowel disease, constipation and abdominal pain syndromes.

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Thomas Newton, pediatric hematologist/oncologist, provides an outpatient clinic with full infusion and transfusion services and inpatient care for children with cancer, sickle cell anemia and other hematologic disorders. His clinic will be part of the Children's Oncology Group through Children's Hospital of New Orleans and will offer enrollment on cooperative cancer treatment protocols.

Obstetrics and gynecology subspecialties include:

Maj. (Dr.) Keri Baacke, maternal fetal medicine, provides inpatient and outpatient consultation services to include specialized ultrasound and management of high-risk pregnancies.

Maj. (Dr.) Chad Hamilton, gynecologic oncologist, provides inpatient and outpatient consultation treatment for the full spectrum of gynecologic malignancies to include ovarian, uterine, cervical, vaginal and vulvar cancers.

General Wyman noted, "This relationship between

Keesler Medical Center and Memorial Hospital at Gulfport is a 'win for all.' Our medical center is one of about five Air Force medical facilities housing subspecialty physicians and services and serves as training platforms for multiple physician residencies."

"The win-win for the communities we serve is the expansion of children's services and the availability of maternal-fetal medicine," said Gary Marchand, Memorial Hospital president and chief executive officer. "This partnership will also increase access to Memorial's neonatal intensive care unit for premature infants. It's also important to recognize the support of Memorial's medical staff for these services,"

"This agreement with Memorial Hospital at Gulfport and the community expands our population base as well as provides us access to Memorial's facilities, including its neonatal intensive care unit, pediatric inpatient unit, hematology and oncology clinics and other inpatient services. This improves our ability to ensure the subspecialists maintain their currency and competency as we execute our health-care delivery mission," said General Wyman.

Col. Martha Stokes, director of the 81st MDG graduate medical education program added, "These pediatric and ob/gyn physicians will significantly enhance the capability to care for patients within our medical community. In addition, since patients can be cared for locally, there will be less disruption to families who previously were required to travel an hour or more for similar subspecialty care."

Special blessings for special pets



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Chaplain (1st Lt.) Ruben Covos blesses Pepe, a chihuahua, and Snow, a German shepherd, for Itsa and Rene Escobar, 338th Training Squadron, Sunday in marina park. The chapel hosted a nondenominational Blessing of the Animals on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. Chaplain (Capt.) Charles Mallory said the event was held to acknowledge the love and joy pets bring to the lives of their owners.

Retirees honored Oct. 23

By Senior Airman David Salantri

Keesler Public Affairs

Keesler hosts its annual Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. Oct. 23 at the Dragon's Lair.

"The purpose of Retiree Appreciation Day is to bring support agencies together so retirees can have one-stop shopping to see everything available to them in one place and have any questions addressed," said Master Sgt. Darold Graham, 81st Training Support Squadron, project coordinator.

Representatives of base organizations including the 81st Medical Group, legal office, personnel administration, finance, Mypay, the commissary and base exchange will be on hand to assist retirees.

At 12:30 p.m., a free fish fry and entertainment is planned, courtesy of the retiree affairs office.

For more information, call Sergeant Graham, 377-9307.





National conference spotlights Keesler's training innovations

From left, Master Sgt. Michael Estensen, Rob Cowan, Jesse Cheeseman, Staff Sgt. Rand Bundenthal, and Lt. Col. Janet Haug, commander, from the 81st Training Support Squadron, were among the Keesler representatives at the Air Force Association's 2009 national convention last month in National Harbor, Md. The 81st Training Group's display was one of more than 135 exhibits of the latest in aerospace and defense technology at the Air and Space Conference and Technology Exhibition 2009 that coincided with the AFA's annual meeting.

Photo by Rob Cowan



School zones — expect the unexpected

Safety office

A school zone can be a very dangerous place, and drivers need to be on the lookout now that school is back in session. There's increased danger at school bus stops, too, so motorists should expect the unexpected at all times.

School zones are always marked by signs, and many have flashing lights when children are present. However, just because the light isn't flashing doesn't mean there isn't danger.

In Mississippi, school zones are active at different times of the day due to differing schedules. These zones can be in unusual places, so be alert in the early morning, mid-afternoon and during inclement weather.

The zones have crossing guards that are required to wear high-visibility garments and have stop signs.

School zones normally have a maximum speed of 15 mph. If caught speeding, the penalties can be severe.

The consequences can be fatal if motorists fail to obey the signals, signs and the directions of the crossing guard.

Base construction sites
are off limits
without authorization.



Mr. Ransom and Ms. Anderson review a case of an active-duty service member.

Photo by Steve Pivnick

New recovery care coordinator considers his duties ‘an honor’

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler has a new member who plays a significant role in aiding the nation’s wounded warriors.

Daniel Ransom assumed duties in August as 81st Medical Group recovery care coordinator.

Mr. Ransom, who retired July 30 as a master sergeant in the 335th Training Squadron as a military training leader, is located in room 4A205 at Keesler Medical Center.

His duties include identifying gaps in nonmedical services, intervening as necessary to expedite outcomes and assisting with coordinating resources to develop and improve outcomes to enhance delivery of nonmedical services.

“I work closely with the personnel community and the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program to ensure delivery of assistance and to resolve conflicts,” he explained.

“I also facilitate and efficient, effective and smooth rehabilitation and transition back to active duty or civilian life as a veteran by coordinating with the appropriate per-

sonnel — military service coordinators, VA liaisons and other agencies.”

He also assists in coordinating local and state resources, including referral to appropriate governmental and non-governmental agencies as appropriate in the locale where the Airman and family will reside.

“I assist Airmen, their families and extended family members to navigate through the continuum of care,” he said. “This involves initial assessment, comprehensive assessment, linkage to family support programs and ongoing follow-up.

“In addition, I collaborate with community partners on and off the installation to form a network of helping resources and maintain current on information relating to the impact of trauma and post-traumatic stress reactions and their affect on the member, family and caregivers.”

Mr. Ransom also ensures development, implementation and oversight of the comprehensive recovery plan as well as oversees, coordinates and monitors the medical and non-medical services across the continuum of care.

Finally, he ensures “Airmen

and their families have access to all medical and nonmedical care management services including, but not limited to, medical care, rehabilitation, education, disability benefits and employment-related programs.”

Mr. Ransom works closely with Donna Anderson, a registered nurse who is the 81st MDG wounded, ill or injured (active-duty “Wounded Warrior”) case manager, to ensure all facets of a recovering service member’s care are addressed.

“My job is challenging, demanding and, most importantly, rewarding,” Mr. Ransom said.

“It is truly an honor and privilege to provide any non-clinical assistance I can to our service men and women whom have been wounded, injured or diagnosed with a severe illness.

“It is also rewarding to come to work every day and work side-by-side with a truly compassionate and dedicated individual such as Donna Anderson.”

To contact Mr. Ransom, call 376-3076 or 229-6669.

LEGAL BRIEFS

There's more than one way to own property

Editor's note: This is the first in a monthly series of articles on legal topics of general interest. For legal assistance, call 376-8601 or visit Room 227, Sablich Center.

By Maj. Jennifer Fournier

Legal office

Did you know there is more than one way to own real estate? It really does matter how you own it. You may want to check your documents and see just what you have.

“Tenants-in-common” means you own the property with someone else. You can each use the property fully, but you can only sell or give away a half interest. So, if you own it with Mary and sell your interest to Bob, now Bob and Mary own the property together. Likewise, if you die, you can give your half interest to someone other than Mary.

“Tenants-by-the-entireties” means you and your spouse own the property together. As long as you are married, you must both agree to sell the property or it can't be sold. When one of you dies, the property automatically becomes fully owned by the surviving spouse.

“Joint tenants with right of survivorship” means you own the property with someone else. When one of you dies, the other becomes the full owner. Unlike a married couple, either of the owners of a joint tenancy can break the “jointness” and become tenants-in-common instead.

If you have any questions about how you own your property and what it means, bring your deed into the legal office for assistance.

Sleepiness can have dire consequences

By Sean Bowlin

12th Flying Training Wing

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Most people understand the potential dangers of operating machinery while under the influence of any drug or alcohol, but the effects of being tired or sleepy while working or driving can have similar consequential effects.

That's because behind the wheel or on the job, lack of sleep impairs.

“Sleepiness can reduce alertness, which can increase the chances for occupational mishaps,” said Maj. (Dr.) Catherine Shoff, a pulmonary, critical care and sleep physician at Wilford Hall Medical Center.

She explained that sleepiness occurs with acute sleep

loss — like when you're on call for 30 straight hours, sleeping less than what's needed, engaging in steady night shift work, suffering from jet lag, sleep apnea, or when you're taking medications. Sleepiness also comes from fragmented sleep, taking sedatives and some systemic medical conditions.

But, sleepiness most commonly results from insufficient sleep — like when you didn't get enough sleep on a particular night — versus being chronically sleep deprived. Poor sleep habits, like going to bed and waking at inconsistent times, sleeping with the television on, or ingesting alcohol, nicotine or caffeine close to bedtime also causes excessive sleepiness.

“Excessive sleepiness also

can be seen with a variety of sleep disorders, including sleep disordered breathing, insomnia, restless leg syndrome, periodic limb movement disorder, narcolepsy, sleep walking, nightmares and excessive environmental noise,” the major added.

Airmen most at risk to suffer sleepiness usually work in shift jobs at night.

“The biggest offenders are jobs like security forces, pilots, drivers, truckers and medical personnel,” she remarked. “Additionally, anyone who's traveled across multiple time zones may have experienced sleep difficulties and sleepiness associated with jet lag.”

There are ways to counter sleepiness, she added.

If you're sleepy, walk

around, stand up, stretch or exercise. Exposure to bright light and caffeine helps in efforts to remain alert.

Don't drive if you're sleepy, don't drive. Pull off the road at a safe place and take a short nap. Call a friend, a family member, a taxi for a ride home, or use public transportation.

Get seven to nine hours of sleep especially before a long, on-call shift or night shift; avoid starting out with a sleep deficit .

Avoid alcohol within two to three hours of bedtime.

Avoid caffeine five to six hours before bedtime

Napping before working a night shift can increase alertness and performance. Consider splitting sleep into two four-hour periods.

**Volunteer
— get
connected.**

Hispanic Heritage Month honors growing ethnic group

Forty one years ago, Congress authorized the president to issue an annual proclamation designating the week including Sept. 15-16 as “National Hispanic Heritage Week” as a response to the growing demands for recognition by many Hispanic organizations. The proclamation also called upon the American people, especially the educational community, “to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.”

The time period was selected to tie in with the celebrations of Mexican Independence Day and other Latin American Independence Day celebrations commemorated in the United States. Unfortunately, asking the educational community to recognize Hispanic heritage in the middle of September when most schools are beginning a new school year resulted in very limited promotion because teachers already had duties counting heads and distributing books.

In 1974, President Gerald Ford’s proclamation expanded the call encouraging those organizations concerned with the protection of human rights to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

“Our country’s Hispanic heritage reaches back more than four centuries,” he said. “When the Pilgrim Fathers landed at Plymouth Rock, Hispanic civilization was already thriving in what is now Florida and New Mexico. Since then the Hispanic contribution to America has been a consistent and vital influence in our country’s cultural growth.”

In 1988, 20 years after the



first resolution Public Law 90-498 passed, Public Law 100-402 was passed expanding Hispanic Heritage Week to Hispanic Heritage Month.

Hispanic Americans are an ethnic group, and its members may be of any race — American Indian, mixed race, white, black and Asian. Also, a Hispanic person’s status is independent from whether one speaks the Spanish language, as not all Hispanic Americans do.

As of July 1, 2006, Hispanics in the United States accounted for 14.8 percent of the population, around 44.3 million people. The Hispanic

growth rate from 2000 to 2006 period was 24.3 percent higher than any other ethnic group in the U.S. and more than three times the rate of the nation’s total population growth of 6.1 percent.

The projected Hispanic population of the U.S. in 2050 is 102.6 million people. According to this projection, Hispanics will constitute nearly one-fourth of the nation’s total population by then.

Master Sgt. Michael Rieger, 81st Training Wing Equal Opportunity Office; USCensus.gov and the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute contributed to this report.

Identity theft is a personal nightmare and security risk. Shred your any documents that contain your full name, Social Security number, duty title and job information, account numbers and names of family members.

If you see documents being removed from trash cans, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron law enforcement desk, 377-3040.

AAFES buddies get chance to win \$1,000

AAFES Public Affairs

DALLAS – Facebook, Twitter and now even your inbox — the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is making it easier than ever before to find the values at exchanges via the Internet.

AAFES' "Buddy List" is delivering weekly e-mails focused on worldwide and local promotions to about 30,000 authorized exchange shoppers.

"AAFES realizes that to be our customers first choice, we need to use innovative communication techniques to spread the word about the exchange benefit to a new generation of shoppers," said Mat Dromey, AAFES' chief marketing officer. "In fact, we're not just reaching out to these shoppers online, we're also highlighting these tools in-store to ensure we are properly positioned to develop a lifelong, emotional connection with our customers."

Buddy List subscribers will have an opportunity to complete a quick online survey to be automatically entered for a chance to win a \$1,000 shopping spree through Oct. 31.

In addition to entries received at sign-up events in October, shoppers who signed up to become AAFES buddies in August and September are also in the running to take the shopping spree home.

Shoppers can subscribe to their exchange's "Buddy List" and register to win the "Sign-up Sweepstakes," by logging on to <http://www.aafes.com> and clicking on the "local BX/PX buddy list" link.

**To report
sexual assaults,
call Keesler's
sexual assault
response coordinator
hotline,
377-7278.**

Finance closure

The 81st Comptroller Squadron offices are being renovated Oct. 15-19.

Both customer service and financial management budget and accounting offices in Sablich Center will be inaccessible at regular offices and phone numbers.

Customer service will have a temporary office with limited service in Room 108B, Sablich Center.

For emergencies, call 376-8245 or 8246, or 229-5348.

Operation Hero

Operation HERO, a semi-annual introduction to deployment for children, is Saturday.

The event is held in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week activities.

To sign up or for more information, call Master Sgt. Jessica Woodruff, 376-8508.

Coastal cleanup signup

Keesler cleans Hiller Park during Mississippi Coastal Cleanup, 8-11 a.m. Oct. 17.

Today's the registration deadline. Keesler members who want to participate register online at <http://www.mscoastalcleanup.org>. Military members, family members, civilian employees and contractors may participate. Children under 18 must bring the permission/registration slip and turn it in to the zone captain at the site.

For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Chad Robbins, 376-3770, chad.robbins@keesler.af.mil, or Senior Airman Tammy Sherer, 376-5577, tammy.sherer@keesler.af.mil.

Heartlink

Heartlink, a free orientation and information program for both male and female spouses who are new to the Air Force, is 8 a.m. Oct 29 in Room 108B, Sablich Center.

The program, sponsored by the Air Force Aid Society, introduces spouses to policies, protocols and helping agencies to support them. Breakfast, lunch and snacks are furnished.

To sign up, call 376-8728.

Spouses club plans luncheon

Friday is the deadline to sign up for the Keesler Spouses Club October luncheon, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Dragon's Lair.

The luncheon is \$10.50.

Holiday gift wrapping, bow making and gift basket ideas are presented by Gayle Jones from Poppy's on Porter in Ocean Springs.

To sign up, call 618-616-2553 or e-mail skipadams@hotmail.com.

Root canal treatment

The Keesler Dental Clinic is seeking patients that require root canal treatment.

All authorized beneficiaries including military retirees and dependents of active duty and retired are eligible for care.

Patients accepted for treatment are treated by either the endodontic specialty program residents or the residents in the general dentistry program.

Referral from a dentist for root canal treatment is required.

For more information, call the endodontics department, 376-5227.

Visitor center hours

The Keesler Visitor Center and pass and identification office are open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and closed on Saturday and Sunday.

Supply issues

For supply issues or concerns, contact the CSC supply customer service element, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002; call Michael Cashion, 377-5206, or e-mail michael.cashion.ctr@keesler.af.mil.

Thrift shop hours

The Keesler Thrift Shop is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

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



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Two-year-old Logan Greenstreet, son of Mark and Hortencia Greenstreet, meets Sparky the Fire Dog at the pediatric medical center Monday. Mr. Greenstreet, a retired master sergeant, is a civilian in the 81st Medical Operations Squadron.

Fire prevention activities continue

Remaining Fire Prevention Week activities:

Today

9 a.m. — Smokey and Sparky visit various base facilities.

1 p.m. — Smokey and Sparky visit commissary; fire drill and fire extinguisher demonstrations.

3 p.m. — Smokey and Sparky visit Garfield Avenue and Givens Drive in East Falcon Park; stove and fire extinguisher demonstration and fire truck display.

Friday

10 a.m. — fire muster in marina park with fire truck static display. For muster registration and rules, call 377-2627 or 8440.

Saturday

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — fire department open house, Building 4216; Smokey and Sparky greet visitors, fire truck rescue, structural fire demonstrations, fire truck rides, fire truck static displays (structural and crash), fire “safe house” tour, fire prevention literature, fire hats, games, door prizes, giveaways, free hot dogs, popcorn and soft drinks.

SPORTS AND RECREATION



Force supporters take intramural golf crown

Tom Golden, 81st Force Support Squadron, follows through on a shot during the final round of the intramural postseason golf tournament Sept. 30. The winning 81st FSS team also included Tama Manu, Gary Schafer, Chris Denz, Mike Fix and Ed Ashley. During the regular season, the 334th Training Squadron's A-team topped the leaderboard with 80 points, followed by the 81st FSS with 72 points.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Kenny Williams watches as his 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron teammate Hank Watson lines up a putt on Hole 5 during the championship round. The 81st LRS team beat the previously undefeated 81st FSS team Sept. 23, forcing additional play in the double-elimination tournament. During the regular season, the 81st LRS tied with the Keesler Marine Corps Detachment's A-team with 53 points for seventh place in the 12-team league.

Basketball

Varsity men's and women's teams — tryouts to be announced. Teams play in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference. Season starts in November. Coaches needed. Call 377-2444 or 3056 for information.

Bowling

Fall leagues — registrations being accepted now for the Saturday morning youth league, Monday night league, Tuesday night (hospital and VA), Wednesday and Friday mixed leagues, Thursday intramurals and senior league. Sign up at the counter or call 377-2817.

Bowling fund raisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Youth bowling — for any child old enough to throw the bowling ball down the alley. League meets 9:30 a.m. Saturdays; instruction available. For more information, call 377-2817.

Slow bowling — 9 p.m. Fridays and 7 p.m. Saturdays.

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 — 1-3 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. Bring your employees bowling for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. For reservations, call 377-2817.

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

Birthday 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

Intramural basketball registration — Regular division and 30 & over division. Letters of intent due Nov. 5. Coaches meeting 3:30 p.m., Nov. 11, at Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call 377-2444.

Monster circuit challenge — tomorrow at Dragon Fitness Center. Three sessions: 6:30-8 a.m., 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. A group may start together or each person may start and end at their own time. Complete 50 stations. For more information, call 377-2907.

Sports advisory council meeting — 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Vandenberg Community Center.

Free 5K costume fun run — noon Oct. 28 starting at the Crotwell Track. Register Monday-Oct. 23 at any fitness center. Participants must wear costumes, and costumes must be in safe and tasteful.

Free fitness classes — boot camp, self-defense, cycling, yoga, step aerobics, Tae Kwon-do, core fitness, kick boxing and pilates at Dragon Fitness Center. Call 377-2907.

Free fitness testing, exercise prescription and personal training — at Blake, Dragon and Triangle Fitness Centers. Call for appointment.

Free blood pressure machines — available for use at all fitness centers.

Boxing room — Triangle Fitness Center. Six heavy bags, three speed bags and one double-end bag. Boxing gloves available.

Fit to fight incentive program — Dragon slayers, dragon readers, dragon gliders and dragon riders available at no cost at Blake, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers. Awards presented. For more information, contact the fitness center of your choice.

Parent/child fitness room — at Dragon Fitness Center. Workout equipment; play area for ages 6 months to 7 years.

Massage appointments — at Triangle Fitness Center. Call 348-6698.

No smoking — on Crotwell Track across from Blake Fitness Center.

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. 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.

Flag football

Editor's note: The intramural flag football season is scheduled to conclude Wednesday and the playoffs begin Oct. 19. A postseason

coaches' meeting at 3:30 p.m., Oct. 15, Vandenberg Community Center, will be held to discuss playoff format, seeding, player eligibility and division tiebreakers. Due to isolated and scattered thunderstorms forecasted, games will continued to be played at Triangle Field 4. For more information, call 377-2444.

National Conference

(as of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost
81st SFS	8	1
85th EIS/334thTRS	8	1
MARDET	7	1
81st MDG	5	4
81st CS	4	5
336th TRS	2	8
81st FSS	1	7
338th TRS-A	0	8

Sept. 24 — 85th EIS/334thTRS 24, 81st SFS 13; 81st CS 56, 336th TRS 12; 81st FSS vs. 338th TRS-A, disqualified.

Sept. 29 — 85th EIS/334thTRS 28, 81st CS 12; 338th TRS-A 0, 81st MDG 7; 336th TRS 7, 81st FSS 0.

Oct. 1 — 81st SFS 42, 336th TRS 6; 81st MDG 20, 81st CS 12; 85th EIS/334thTRS 7; 338th TRS-A 0.

American Conference

(as of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost
81st MDSS	7	0
332nd TRS	6	2
81st LRS	5	3
338th TRS-B	4	1
335th TRS	3	3
81st DS	1	5
81st MDTS	1	6
81st MDOS	0	7

Sept. 28 — 81st LRS 12, 332nd TRS 6; 335th TRS 35, 81st DS 19; 338th TRS-B 32, 81st MDTS 12.

Sept. 30 — 81st LRS 26, 81st MDTS 12; 332nd TRS 7, 81st MDOS 0; 81st MDSS 34, 81st DS 20.

Makeup games:

Today — 6 p.m., 81st MDOS vs. 338th TRS-B; 7 p.m., 81st MDTS vs. 335th TRS.

Oct. 14 — 7 p.m., 81st MDTS vs. 81st DS; 8 p.m., 338th TRS-B vs. 81st MDOS.

Golf

Top III Golf Tournament — Friday. Play, cart, lunch and beverages included in \$45 price per person. \$10,000 hole-in-one prize, as well as putt-off and long drive competitions. All proceeds shared with Combined Federal Campaign. Call Master Sgts.

Laura Leos, 376-5138; Crystal Davis 376-4709; or Temekia Clinkscales, 376-5782.

Bay Breeze Golf Course — Club championship Oct. 24-25. Individual stroke play and tee times by flight. \$55 for members, \$80 for non-members, \$40 for inclusive members. Participants must have a handicap. Cookout, refreshments and beverages each day. Sign up by Oct. 21. To register and inquire about hole-in-one prizes, call 377-3832.

9-hole Dragon fun golf — Shotgun start 4:30 p.m. Thursdays. \$20 per person includes greens fee, cart, food, beverages and prizes. Four-person team, two-person blind draw. Sign up as twosome or single. Format decided by draw each week; limited to first 36 golfers.

Twilight special — 3 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. Pay one price and golf until closing; E1-E4 \$12, E5-O3 \$20, O4-up \$22, guests \$22.

Nonprior service student special — show phase card or UBU card. Greens fee and cart, \$15 for 18 holes, \$10 for nine holes; add \$5 for rental clubs.

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

Outdoor recreation

Air Force Blue Streak bicycle streak program — knowledgeable volunteer needed to assist in planning, organization and implementation of noncompetitive bicycle rides for all ages and abilities. Call Dave Bowers, 377-0002.

Catamaran sailboat for rent — \$10 per hour, minimum 2 hours, or \$75 per day. Trailer and take-off site \$100 per day or \$175 for a weekend. Must be sailboat certified.

Water skiing — on front beach or Biloxi Back Bay. \$50 per hour; up to six skiers, including boat, driver, skis. Two-hour minimum. Call 377-3160.

Camping packages — available, including sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents.

Canoes, kayaks — for rent.

Trip to Horn Island aboard the Keesler Dolphin — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays following nonworking Fridays, weather permitting. \$30 including barbecue grill, charcoal and ice. Bring food, drinks, sunscreen, fishing equipment; 15 passengers minimum. Group rates available. For more information, call 377-3160.

Rental campers — \$50 day. Two

available; one sleeps six, one sleeps eight. For more information and towing requirements, call 377-3160.

Back Bay fishing trip — \$20 per person. State fishing license required; minimum four, maximum six people. For date and time, call 377-3160.

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.

Delacroix, La. fishing site — Outdoor fishing/hunting camp in Delacroix, La. Rent a self-contained camper, sleeps four, \$50/night, \$125/weekend (Friday noon to Monday noon) or \$300/week (seven days noon to noon). Bring food, beverages, cooking utensils, and sleeping bag or bedding. Louisiana license is needed for fishing. For more information, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — test to become certified to rent a pontoon. Call 377-3160.

Nonprior service student special — 35000 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$5 day on nonworking Friday, Saturday and Sunday, or Saturday/Sunday.

Wet slip fees — monthly, 32 feet plus, \$3.75 per foot; under 32 feet, \$2.50 per foot. Overnight, \$5 per boat.

Deep sea fishing trips — Nonworking Fridays and Sundays on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. To reserve, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$750 for first 10 people, \$50 each additional person. No license needed. \$100 deposit.

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

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

Rent a bicycle — 3500 Trek, seven speed, \$3 day, \$15 week, \$35 month.

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

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

THE THIRTY FIRST ANNUAL

SALUTE TO THE MILITARY



OCTOBER 13, 2009 | MISSISSIPPI COAST COLISEUM CONVENTION CENTER | BILOXI

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Shaun Anastasio, Seth Brandon, Gabriel Brooks, Blakendrew Campbell, Stephannie Carpenter, Brandon Casey Turner, Trenton Castillo, Alex Castro, Trey Christensen, Mikel Columbus, Christopher Cortez, Sebastian Davis, Alexander Deren, Joshua Domke, John Dugger, Edward Duke, Randy Duncan, Zachary Dunphy, Cody Edwards, Alexander Eveans, Sebrina Fratto, Michael Freese, Justin Gabrielson, Justin Geertsema, Johnathon Gilbert, Pablo Gutierrez, William Harris, Christopher Holloman, James Hostert, Joshua Hutcherson, Nathan Jones, Nicholas Kamansky, Tristan Keltner, Andrew Kerber, Arin Kudlacek, Jeffery Langerhans, Devon Lavoy, Sophia Lopez, Matthew Lord, Peter LoydVuolo, Nicholas Marple, Matthew Marvin, Matthew McGuire, Brock Mendez, Herschell Miller, Cornelius Mixon, Andrew Moates, Martin Mohr, Thomas Nguyen, Joshua O'Donnell, Jacob Olson, Lee Owens, Renee Palermo, Adam Povey, Nicholas Puckett, Ryan Ramsauer, Jennifer Reinhardt, David Richter, Anthony Roberson, Justen Schulz, Tyler Schutt, Jae Shin, Andreas Shiver, Raymond Sickles, Joseph Simmons, Shawn Smith, Kevin Stuart, James Tune, Joseph VanDoren, Lito Villanueva, Curtis Wall, Justin Williford, Jered Willoughby, and Brandon Wilson; Airmen William Bowles, David Brambley, Alexander Grilho, Cody Guillory, Dean Howell, Dylan Jenkins, Christopher Johnson, Asia McCain, Michael Orvieto, Audrey Paez, William Roe, Kristopher Sewell, Thomas Stoiber, Kameron Stroyk and Chad Vanrachack; Airmen 1st Class Jon Ackerman, Daniel Atchley, Sam Bessinger, Jesse Bowman, Zachary Bradley, Caleb Brown, James Buraczynski, Jared Burrows, Spencer Campbell, Jacob Christensen, Troy Conkle, Sean Cooney, Nathaniel Cragun, Benjamin Cunningham, Geoffry Dean, Michael Dewitt, Kevin Ellis, Sean Filer, Aaron Froehlick, Katherin Haigh, Christopher Hall, Justin Harwell, Navaez Hoogluiter, Joshua Kehr, Adam Kornmeyer, Bryan Knapp, Charles McCall, Craig McDermott, James McKell, Ed Melendez, Shawn Meyer, Jeffery Mitchell, Joseph Monast, Crystal Mullen, Donovan Murphy, Aaron Nuesca, Otis Osborn, Daniel Polenik, Cody Guillory, Jedjarvin Ragay, Dezire Renfro, Gregory Rivas, Edwin RodriguezRoche, Getzemani Santibanez, Daniel Schott, Andrew Thatcher, Joseph Trimpey, Matthew Vanarsdale, Danly Whittington and Jennafer Williams; Senior Airmen Yahya Mohammed AlBakri, James Bisson, Gary Martin, Manuel Navarro, Adrian Purdy and Robert Sargent; Staff Sgts. Edwin Hunter, Kevin Klenz, Michael Orso, Christopher Pena, Michael Santos and Johnathan Werner; Tech. Sgts. Saif Salim AlShibli and Fredric Johnson; Master Sgt. Michael Shipman.

Metrology basic course — Airman Jason Warren; Airmen 1st Class Kyle Black and John Irons.

334th TRS

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Paula Clark, Michael Harden, Aaron Hasben, Justin Lewis, Nathaniel Scheer and Zane Womack; Airmen John Filosa, Zachary Horr and Tristan Ritter; Airmen 1st Class Francis Calvo, Kari Cox, John Fiorentino, Jay Judy, Andrew Scarbrock, Stephen Snyder, Peter Vassil and Charles Victorino; Senior Airmen Juan Torres Arroyo and Bethany Lanier; Staff Sgts. Jeremy Box and Daniel Bulatao; Maj. Ali Hussien Al Zyout.

Command post apprentice course — Airman Basic Aaron Archer; Airmen 1st Class Janeka Perry; Senior Airmen Norris Brown, Jacqueline Holmes and Brittainy Watts; Staff Sgts. Clinton Brown, James Degeus, Eric Martin, Magdalena Sousa and Justin Stuart; Tech. Sgts. Craig Harris and Charles Anderson; Master Sgt. Michael O'Donnell; Senior Master Sgt. Donna Hutto.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Justin Althoff, Michael Bae, Steven Clapper, Jasmine Dessauere, Matthew Flores, Terrique Handy, Andrew Kelly, Jose Luna and KC Ratekin; Airman Raymond Barkley, Ryan Hendricks, Peter

Norlund and Judy Villarcayabyab; Airmen 1st Class Agapito Barriga-Perales, Savannah Clevinger, Cristian Cseh, David De Milt, Mikel Fair, Yolanda Gabriel, Marvell Granville, Jeffrey Gilmour, Haley Hall, Alexander Johnson, Garrett Lethco, Deaven Randolph Alayna Reese, Carolina Ruiz, Steven Williams and Amy Wyatt; Senior Airman Douglas Miner; Staff Sgts. Mary Ballesteros, Ana Bojorquez, William Gusoski, Alyshia Leisure, Ebony McInnis and Tamika Spigner; Tech. Sgts. Amy Baker, Catrina Odenweller Haas and Katherine Jones; Master Sgt. Urbano Ayala Oliveras; Capt. Sotirios Daniil.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Casey Gillis, Lawrence King, Christopher Muse, Michael Neahr, Cody Newcomer and Bryce Pittenger; Navy Airmen Recruit David Hamble, Peter McGee and Alfred Zavala; Navy Airmen Apprentice Amanda Fehring; Airmen Anthony Chavis and Mattieu Stephens; Airmen 1st Class Christina Capehart, Shane Cunningham, Friedrich Martin, Joshua Riggleman, Jeffrey Sadler, Jeremy Trowbridge, Derek Whatley and Robert Zwebber; Marine Cpl. Justin Grantham; Senior Airman Rolando Saenz; Marine Sgt. Joseph Thompson; Staff Sgts. Matthew Hui, Chad McIlheran, David Perry and Eric Sanford; Lt. Col. Nguyen Bang.

336th TRS

Communications and information management flight — Airmen Basic Alexander Barr, Joseph Brock, Justin Cornell, Ryan Davies, Shannon Finley, Jeffrey Gannon, Michael Gray, Caleb Johnson, Samuel Johnson, Christopher Kuhn, Michael Lallerstedt, Trevor Port, Sean Queen, Trenton Richards, Joseph Ritter, Alexander Roberts, Damon Schmidt, Kyle Stone and Brian Warman; Airmen David Chilson, Riley Curtis, Satoia McClelland, Robert Peters and James Yost; Airmen 1st Class Bradley Anson, Matthew Devine, Robert Greynolds, Adam Hillyer, Lennard Huslik, Erin Kuykendall, Tran Le, Aaron Ray, Jacob Schettler, Mark Spadea, Aaron Stanley, Alex Szafranski, Andrew Valdez, Sean Walters, Seth Wells, Derrick White and Macon Wright; Senior Airmen Nathan Adkison, John Cessna, Jeremy Joe and Joseph Metelko; Staff Sgts. Michael Anderson, Jeremy Duncan, Eduardo Rivas, Alan Schultz, Nicholas Shatek,

Jason Sizemore, Adam Sneed and Michael Zimmerman; Tech. Sgts. Tyler Harding and Junar Mabunay; Master Sgt. Dennis Reinhard.

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Kevin Aquero, Rey Phillip Ballucanag, Lawrence Doresey, David Edwards, Joseph Harr, Juan Mora, Colin Murphy, Andrew Nelson, Parker Nicks, Evan Pickard, Jeffrey Poore, Kyle Spencer and Eric Stevens; Airmen Christopher Clark, Anthony Cruz, Curtis Housley, Scott Ranostay, Scott Schmidt and Richard Westbrook; Airmen 1st Class Keith Apperson, James Bradley, Patrick Broydrick, Brandon Chapman, Ottis Dirickson, Jason Flowers, Shaun Lewis, Michael Lockette, Radames Lopez-Fernandez, Sophia Joanis, Adam Latang, Wesley Maher, Nicholas Reinhardt, Benjamin Sanchez, Bryan Sledge, Charles Smith, John Stanley, Lindsay Stephenson, Jered Vest, Justin Walls, Michael Wanek, David Wiant, Irvin Williams and Tanner Williams; Senior Airmen Heath Dean and Matthew Yore; Staff Sgts. Lydia Depano, Jerome Dunn, Steve Heidt, Tina Kalar, Ray Perkins, Ryan Rathbun and Christopher Ward; Tech. Sgt. Joseph Alonso; Master Sgt. Travis Snyder; Senior Master Sgt. Shawn Willard; Jason Houy.

338th TRS

Airfield systems — Airman Christopher DeJesus; Airman 1st Class Patrick Kelley; Staff Sgts. Ian Harris and Clyde Hunt.

Ground radar — Airmen Basic Justin Burnett and Matthew Tobey; Airmen Lorenzo Gaskins, Benjamin Nason and Justin Straughan; Airmen 1st Class Joseph Alexander, Robert Brown, Christopher Halubka, Bryant Horton, Mark Lambert, Michael Taunton and Brady Techen; Staff Sgts. Andrew Ksionsk, Louis Martinez and Eliud Martinez-Franco; Tech. Sgt. John Adams.

Ground radio — Airmen Basic Hughie Cole, Joshua Donahue, Dennis Fernandez, Kristine Ordillas, Glenarven Robbins, Ivan Seppala, Mario Soto, Desire Thomas and Tyler Werhung; Airmen Robert Miller and Jennifer Reichert; Airmen 1st Class Robert Patterson, Black Schneider and Michael Spitler; Senior Airmen Daniel Boger and Adam Peyrouse; Staff Sgts. Nicholas Bunting and Joseph Cutcher.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Editor's note: Hours reflect changes in observance of Columbus Day, Monday.

Open

Inns of Keesler — open 24 hours.

Fam camp — open 24 hours.

Mini mart — Open 24 hours.

Magnolia Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30-1:30 p.m., 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Live Oak Dining Facility — 7:30-9a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Blake Fitness Center — 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation — 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Vandenberg Community Center — noon-7 p.m.

Golf course, driving range and pro shop — 7 a.m.-dusk.

Closed

Arts and craft center — multi-craft/frame/engraving shops (closed Tuesday)

Auto hobby/wood shops (closed Sunday)

Azalea Dining Facility

Katrina Kantina

McBride Library

Dragon Fitness Center

Triangle Fitness Center

Information, ticket and tours office

Legends Café

Youth center

Child development center

Family child care

Gaude Lanes

11th Frame Café

Veterinary services

Please see **Digest**, Page 26

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional with children's ministry.....8:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel contemporary service.....10:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass, Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.

Weekday Mass, Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Jewish

Jewish services are held Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Israel, 12277 Three Rivers Rd., Gulfport. Call Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235 or 207-2196.

Islamic

Prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday. Building 2003, across from the Magnolia dining facility. 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. Call 396-5274 or (801) 787-1990.

Orthodox

Divine Liturgy 10 a.m. Sunday at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 255 Beauvoir Rd, Biloxi. Call 388-6138 or Father Stephen Clos, 377-4105.

Digest,

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CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 09-7 — graduation Nov. 3

Mathies NCO Academy

Class 09-7 — graduation Oct. 29

Arts and crafts center

Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. Saturday and Oct. 24. \$20 including materials and tool use.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. Oct. 17. \$15 including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood together in a decorative pattern.

Beginning framing — 12:30-4 p.m. Oct. 16 or 30. \$30 including materials. Bring photo or artwork no larger than 11x14 inches.

Beginning woodworking — 5-7 p.m. Wednesdays. \$25 includes shop use and materials. For time, call 377-2821. Class certifies you to use the equipment in the future.

Card making — 5:30-7 p.m. Oct. 15. \$7 including materials.

Engraving shop — squadron, office and individual orders.

Jewelry making — 10:30 a.m. to noon Oct. 24. \$30 including materials. Learn wire wrapping and tooling.

Multi-crafts center — potter's wheels, ceramic molds, air brushing and tools are available for use in the shop. Craft classes for beginners, intermediate and advance levels. Craft supplies for sale.

Pottery — Oct. 17. \$40 including supplies. Call for time.

Pumpkin decorating contest — 5:30-7 p.m. Oct. 29. Pick up pumpkins Oct. 23 or 24 and return by 5 p.m. Oct. 27 to be eligible for the contest. Winners announced at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 29.

Wood shop — stocked retail lumber and a large assembly area adjacent to the machine room are available. Call for information on beginner and advanced woodworking classes.

Chapel

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

Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible study series — "It's Tough Being A Woman," 10-week study on Esther. Continues weekly through Nov. 12, 9-11 a.m., Triangle Annex, upstairs. For more information, call Mary Just, 806-4562, or send an e-mail to maryejust@yahoo.com.

Catholic religious education — after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Protestant Sunday School — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for pre-school, 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.

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

Keesler Medical Center

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

Research databases — comprehensive research capabilities. Many specialty areas. Orientations 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. To sign up, call 377-2181.

Playaway — first self-playing digital audio books now available. Audio content preloaded; select from large assortment of titles. Pop in a battery, plug in almost any type of headset and enjoy.

Overdrive audio online book program — individual or family accounts allow download/playing of full length audio books on a personal computer. Check with library staff for details.

Rosetta Stone online language learning center — 30 foreign languages including Spanish. For more information, check with the library staff.

Chief of Staff professional military reading list — titles available for checkout from the special book collection.

Online catalog — to search the inventory of books, DVDs, CDs, videotapes, magazines, periodicals and more, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>, click on the link for McBride Library, then the link for the online catalog.

Available — two large meeting rooms, audio room, typing room and children's library.

Free wireless Internet — check at circulation desk.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2604.

Paperback book swap — swap one for one. Must be in good condition and of same genre.

Volunteers needed — to shelve books, assist with children's story time and create displays. Call 377-2181.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

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

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

Halloween party — 6 p.m. to midnight Oct. 29. NPS students only. \$3 admission. Entertainment, food, live band, DJ, dancing, pumpkin carving and decorating, costume contests, prizes and giveaways.

Legends Café — Buffet specials 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Italian Wednesday, barbecue ribs Friday, cajun creole chicken Oct. 21, beef brisket Oct. 28, \$6.95 each. Catfish buffet Friday and Oct. 23, \$8.95.

Pool tournaments — 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Vandy's twilight terrorfest Halloween party — 6 p.m. to midnight, Oct. 29. NPS students only. Live band, DJ, dancing, pumpkin carving and decorating, costume contests, games, entertainment, food and prizes. \$3 admission.

Katrina Kantina

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music; \$5.25, chips and salsa, DJ Wayne and his karaoke machine.

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

Lunch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. Pot roast Monday, lasagna Oct. 19 and meatloaf Oct. 26. \$6 for club members, \$8 for nonmembers.

Margarita night — 5 p.m. Oct. 15. Margaritas, chips and salsa. Karaoke.

Pre-Halloween party — 5-7 p.m. Oct. 28. Wings and things, snacks and drink specials. Free for club members, \$3 for non members.

Tuesday special — 5-7 p.m., tacos two for \$1 for members, \$1.50 each for nonmembers.

Youth center

Editor's note: All children registered in a youth center program receive free membership.

Dance classes — Tap, ballet and aerobic classes available. Mondays 5:30-6:30 p.m. ages 6-8, 6:30-7:30 p.m. ages 9 and older; Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 p.m. for ages 3-5. \$50 per month.

TRAIL — 6-8 p.m. Mondays.

Friday night fun — 6:30-9:30 p.m., ages 6-12. Skating, music, games and more.

Classes — Guitar, piano and gymnastic classes available. To register, call 377-4116.

Lights on after school program — Oct. 22.

Make a difference day — Oct. 24.

Open recreation — 3-5:45 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 3-6 p.m. Fridays and 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, ages 9 and older. Boys and Girls Club programs including computer media center, homework assistance "Power Hour" program and triple-play sports and recreation activities. Students sign themselves in at front desk.

Red ribbon week activities — Oct. 17-25.

Youth basketball registration — begins Oct. 15.

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.

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DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — herbed baked chicken, beef and noodles, fried catfish, blackeyed peas, rice, cornbread, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, chili, broccoli soup, bean and ham soup, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

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

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, baked macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, rice, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower parmesan, Italian style beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle soup, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — crispy baked chicken, beef yakisba, baked ham, baked potatoes, spicy brown rice pilaf, gravy, broccoli, french-style peas, glazed carrots, fruit medley salad, kidney bean salad, raisin sauce, white bean chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almondine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, white chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Sunday

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

Dinner — barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, seafood cocktail sauce, beef manicotti/cannelloni, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, blackeyed peas, collard greens, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — spaghetti with meatballs, veal parmesan, pasta with clam sauce, pasta primavera, marinara sauce, oven-baked potatoes, Spanish rice, Italian-style baked beans, steamed squash, mushrooms/peppers and onions, cucumber/onion salad, pasta salad, garlic bread, Italian-style pasta, chili con queso, Tuscan vegetables and cheeseburger chowder.

Dinner — roast turkey, ribeye steak, tempura fried fish, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, chicken and turkey gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, herbed green beans, cucumber and onion salad, macaroni salad, chili con queso, Tuscan vegetables, cheeseburger chowder, cannonball sandwich and fried chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — lemon and garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, mushroom gravy, simmered pinto beans, spinach, summer squash, spinach salad, Waldorf salad, timberline chili, minestrone, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese sub and tacos.

Dinner — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, O'Brien potatoes, rice, brown gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, Waldorf salad, spinach salad, timberline chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada, steak/cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken and pork chops, beef fajitas, Mexican rice, refried beans with cheese, Mexican corn, gravy, Spanish-style pinto beans, Mexican coleslaw, peas and carrots, cole slaw, tomato salad, white bean chicken soup, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and pizza.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, Swiss steak, garlic toast, fried chicken, brown rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, simmered cabbage, coleslaw, tomato salad, white bean chicken soup, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and pizza.

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

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Discounted tickets — for information, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the ITT link.

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

Disney special continues — Salute to Military program continues. For more information, call 377-3818.

Tour bus — available for group rental, seats 23.

Tours to New Orleans Saints home football games — Tours to New Orleans Saints home football games - \$60 per person including admission and transportation. Tickets limited to two per family, per game. For more information, call 377-3818 or view the 2009 schedule at <http://www.neworleanssaints.com/Game%20Day/Seasons/2009%20Schedule.aspx>.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who'll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings are Tuesdays in Room 111, Sablich Center, 1 p.m. for those who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. If separating/retiring under special circumstances, call 376-8728 for appointment.

Transition assistance program — briefings are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 19-22, Nov. 16-19 and Dec. 14-17, 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.

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Charlene Morse, 377-7116; e-mail charlene.morse@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Charlene Morse, 377-7116; e-mail charlene.morse@keesler.af.mil or visit Room 130, Sablich Center.

MEETINGS

Upcoming

Air Force Association John C. Stennis Chapter — membership meeting and free lunch, 11 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. today, Room 108, Sablich Center. Current and potential members invited. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Lyanna Penalewis, 377-1928, lyanna.penalewis@keesler.af.mil.

Recurring

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Jerry, 377-2157, or Kurt Higgins, 377-5250.

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 652 — 4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Staff 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 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 (601) 528-4337, e-mail Camo-princess92@gmail.com or visit <http://www.keeslercap.org>.

Company grade officers council — 4:30 p.m. every second Wednesday at the Keesler Marina inside of the Kantina. Call Capt. Naomi Henigin, 377-0779, for more information.

Keesler 5.6 — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kimberly Sturdivant, 377-1813.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — Net with news-line and echo-link is held Wednesdays on 146.79, minus offset, no PL tone. Monthly meeting is 7 p.m. second Monday of the month at Locker House facility. Enter courtyard on left side of building as you face the front of it. Enter the door marked "T flight" and proceed straight ahead until you see a sign saying "K5TYP."

Keesler Spouses Club — second Tuesday of the month. E-mail Devalynn Solomon, deesolomon@cableone.net, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 5:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Sablich Center, Room 108-B. For more information, call Charles Partin, 313-3267.

Top III — 3:30 p.m. third Thursday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tammy McElroy, 376-3164.

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. For recording about current features, call 377-6627.