



# KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base  
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 71, No. 9  
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## Train to Fight — Train to Win

## INSIDE

### COMMENTARY

Civilians are backbone of the Air Force, **2**

### TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Firefighters train, **6**

Weather warriors, **8-9**

81st TRG dining out, **9**

### NEWS AND FEATURES

Playground upgrade, **12**

Medic chosen for Tops in Blue, **16**

Treasure Island Extravaganza, **21**

### SPORTS AND RECREATION

Volleyball tips off, **23**

### SECTIONS

Commentary.....**2-3**

Training, education.....**4-9**

News, features.....**10-22**

Sports, recreation.....**23-24**

Digest.....**25-28**

Classifieds.....**29**

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**33 weeks until  
Unit Compliance  
Inspection**



## Be prepared

Staff Sgt. Patricia Rodriguez, 332nd Training Squadron, prepares to fire an M-16 during a weapons familiarization session Feb. 25 at the Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport. Sergeant Rodriguez was one of the Keesler Airmen involved in last week's deployment exercise. **More photos, Page 4.**

Photo by Kemberly Groue

# Medical group inspection starts Monday

By Steve Pivnick

## 81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group received word Feb. 24 that the anticipated survey by The Joint Commission and Health Service Inspection by the Air Force Inspection Agency begins Monday.

According to Maj. Bradley Olsson, chief of the 81st Medical Group Performance Improvement and Regulatory Compliance Department, The Joint Commission team will consist of three surveyors — a physician, nurse and facility engineer — and an observer. The HSI team will have nine members and be lead by a colonel.

While some of the areas the two teams review overlap, Major

Olsson said The Joint Commission looks at “how we produce good quality patient care. They will observe our people doing their work and interview them to ask them about the work they do.”

The HSI concentrates more on readiness training and posture, the major explained, “things that would affect readiness, such as immunizations and medical evaluation boards.”

Major Olsson indicated The Joint Commission will provide an outbrief to the MDG executive staff when they complete their survey, possibly after three days. He expects the HSI outbrief will be conducted late in the morning of March 12.

The tandem survey by The Joint Commission and Health Service Inspection by the Air Force Inspection Agency is conducted every three years.

## Lorenz on Leadership

# Civilian employees backbone of the Air Force

By Gen. Stephen Lorenz

Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Our Air Force has more than 175,000 civilian employees spread across the globe. In fact, they make up more than 25 percent of our authorized Total Force end strength. The civilian force fills an ever-increasing role in daily mission accomplishment, especially as we've experienced personnel reductions during the past 20 years and, many would argue, no decrease in operational requirements.

In reality, we are busier than ever and our civilian workforce makes it all possible.

Through the years, I've been fortunate enough to depend on the counsel and wisdom of hundreds of civilians. Time won't permit me to reflect upon all of them, but let me highlight three senior service civilians who made a positive difference in my life.

The first one I'll tell you about is Art Sarris. I first met Mr. Sarris when I was a captain stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. A veteran of the Army Air Corps during World War II, Mr. Sarris began his civil service career in 1946 and worked his way through the logistics ranks until he became the senior civilian employee in Air Force Logistics Command in 1974.

Despite his significant responsibilities, Mr. Sarris took time to mentor me. He explained current issues and challenges, and helped me see them through his eyes. Not only did I have an immediate respect for his tenured wisdom, but understanding his senior perspective early in my career proved invaluable

throughout mine. Mr. Sarris also helped me gain a newfound appreciation for the thousands of civilians working at the Air Logistics Centers across the country. After all, their efforts directly enabled the daily combat capability of our force then, just as they continue to do today.

I met many more amazing civilians during the next 30 years, but the next I'd like to talk about is Roger Blanchard. When I met him, he was the assistant deputy chief of staff for personnel at the Pentagon. Roger started his civil service as an intern at Kelly Air Force Base in 1973 and diligently worked his way through the personnel ranks. When our paths crossed, I was the director of the Air Force budget and marveled at how many sought his counsel, including service secretaries and chiefs of staff.

You see, Roger had no personal agenda and his advice always reflected deep thought. He worked problems, not personalities. Not surprisingly, Roger was a quiet person. As a result, whenever he spoke, people turned their heads to listen. They knew they were about to hear something thoughtful, relevant and valuable.

Through him, my respect for those personnelists throughout our force increased each and every day. After all, it's their expertise (in an often thankless field) that supports our greatest resource, all of us.

The last civilian I'll highlight is Bob Stuart. Bob was my deputy director of the Air Force budget during my most recent time at the Pentagon. When I got to the job, I was in need of some help. My Air Force experience up to that point focused mainly on air-

craft operations, not the budget process. I was the fourth director Bob had worked for as a deputy. He had worked in finance at the Pentagon for more than 30 years and he provided the stability that the organization relied upon each and every day.

Bob was always thinking ahead. In fact, it was his vast knowledge that helped guide the budget office. I've often thought that Bob's influence far exceeded what it would have been had he been the boss. In the end, Bob did as the others had done. He left me with a great respect for all those financial managers and an appreciation for their daily impact on the Air Force mission.

These three civilians are examples of the thousands who make up our Air Force team today. They are invaluable experts whose hard work and good, honest feedback help us all learn and improve.

Although the advice may not always be something we want to hear, such counsel is what everyone should expect.

After all, in most cases our civilian force has probably seen the pitfalls and potential second- and third-order consequences of our "well-intentioned" decisions before. Such vision only helps all of us make better informed decisions for our organizations.

We can't be the finest Air Force in the world without our civil servants. They are the foundation that we rely on each and every day to do our jobs.

Take time to appreciate their impact and thank them for making such a positive difference for our Air Force team.

## Do your everyday actions reflect your true self?

By Master Sgt. Roderick Fernandez

334th Training Squadron

I've heard time and again you can know people by observing what they do. I'm a firm believer of this concept. Neil T. Anderson, author of the book "Victory Over the Darkness," states, "Who we are determines what we do."

What does this have to do with military service? It's simple — we are in a military profession, serving this great nation, and what we do should and must reflect who we are.

In my 17 years of military service, I've seen organizations, flights and sections that have lost their true identity, their purpose, and sense of belonging. I've been on numerous deployments with people who didn't know who they were or why they were there. Having an obscured vision of who we are is simply unacceptable in our Air Force.

So let's settle this issue once and for all and ask ourselves, "Who are we?"

We are a war-fighting force. Whether we like it or not, we ought to be Airmen first! Ask any Marine what he does and he'll tell you he's a Marine first before he tells you his job. The Airmen's Creed says, "We are warriors; we have answered our nation's call," which means we carry the great responsibility of securing our nation's ideology. Our freedom depends on our service.

We are part of the big picture. Every job in the Air Force contributes to the overall mission. Each of us has a stake and each of us ought to be proud of what we do. Trouble starts the moment we lose a keen sense of the big picture. I've seen it happen — people lose their motivation to perform, infecting everyone in their path.

Eventually, the morale of the unit goes into a downward spiral and hits the floor. The saddest part is we blame our people for it.

Our Airmen need to be reminded of the importance of their job and be recognized every time they exceed standards. We supervisors must explain to them that failure to perform as expected puts the Air Force mission at risk.

We are leaders. We are engineered to take charge, to lead, to take dominion. In the military, we assume leadership positions by the virtue of what we wear on our sleeves and shoulders.

You can immediately identify strong leaders. They are bold, competent, and carry themselves in a confident manner. They are sharp from head to toe and able to think on their feet.

Leaders invest time in perfecting their profession. Lifelong education

guarantees success and independence. When you're on top of your game, you depend less on co-workers for answers.

Leaders know how to mentor. The word "mentor" came from Greek mythology. When Odysseus left to fight in the Trojan War, he entrusted Mentor with the care of his palace and guardianship of his son, Telemachos.

Leaders are proud. Continue our rich Air Force heritage — from wearing the uniform proudly to participating in squadron and base-wide events.

These are the things that set us apart. These are the things that make us unique! Don't lose your identity. As a member of the greatest Air Force in the world, you are a war fighter, part of the big picture and a leader. I encourage you to check your everyday actions on- and off-duty to ensure you reflect who you really are.



## DRAGON ON THE STREET

By **Kemberly Groue**

Keesler News photojournalist

Have you ever wanted a material possession that you couldn't have? What was it?



"A Porsche."

**Cheryl Mignott, 81st**

**Comptroller Squadron**



"A '64 Chevy Chevelle SS."

**Airman Basic Joseph**

**Howard, 336th Training**

**Squadron student**



"When I was little, I wanted my brother's Star Wars AT-AT toy."

**Staff Sgt. Erika Reynolds,**

**338th TRS**

Exceptions to Keesler's **25 mph** speed limit:

**15 mph** in housing areas, flight line and unpaved surfaces;

**10 mph** in close proximity to marching formations and when waved through base gates;

**5 mph** in parking lots; and **35 mph** in some sections of perimeter roads.

## KEESLER NEWS

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# TRAINING AND EDUCATION



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Adam Yule, left, gets some help from Tech. Sgt. Torry Hickson as they don mission oriented protective posture gear at the Combat Readiness Training Center Feb. 25. Both are members of the 338th Training Squadron. Keesler conducted a deployment exercise last week to assess the readiness of its members for deployment.

## Exercise evaluates deployment readiness



From left, Senior Master Sgt. Scott O'Hara, 81st Training Wing; Staff Sgt. Alvin Holmes, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron; and Master Sgt. Scott Passman, 335th TRS, carry Senior Airman Andrea Idudhe on a stretcher during self aid and buddy care training at the CRTC Feb. 25. Airman Idudhe is assigned to the 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron.



Tech. Sgt. Matthew Wiese, an exercise evaluation team member from the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron, discuss self aid and buddy care with Master Sgt. Jimmy Freeman, 332nd TRS, as Airman Daniel Zopf, 332nd TRS student, portrays a victim with a chest wound Feb. 25 at the CRTC.



From left, Staff Sgt. Dustin Finamore, Tech. Sgt. Jerome Dyer and Staff Sgt. Travis Cox, 333rd TRS, and Senior Airman Jonathan Brown, 81st Security Forces Squadron, have mobility bags inspected by James Lee III, CSC, Feb. 24 at the Taylor Logistics Center.

# Firefighters complete advanced rescue school



Photo by Kemberly Groue  
Senior Airman Mark Born, a Keesler firefighter, is lowered into a manhole in front of Wolfe Hall for confined space training Feb. 25.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The Keesler Fire Department hosted the Department of Defense Fire Academy's mobile travel team from Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, for its advanced rescue school, Feb. 8-28.

J.D. Donnett, Keesler's fire chief, said the course included two DOD instructors, an Air Force technical sergeant and a Marine Corps staff sergeant, and 12 students from Keesler's fire emergency services team and other Air Force bases.

"The training curriculum is identical to the formal school at Goodfellow," Chief Donnett pointed out. "The three weeks of formal training included classroom and arduous practical evolutions in the field."

The chief said there were distinct advantages for hosting the course. Keesler received five student slots, compared to the one slot most bases get annually, saving hundreds of man hours and temporary duty funds required to send personnel away for four weeks.

For successful course completion, students must demonstrate proficiency in rope rescue; high angle rescue, including rappelling, ascending, descending, lowering victims from high angles, victim pick-off rope rescues and mechanical advantage systems; advanced auto extrication; and confined space technician rescue.

"The fire advanced rescue school is a highly-coveted course — fire chiefs only select their best for the limited slots. Graduation is required to be assigned to fire department rescue vehicles."

Graduates are nationally accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress. Once assigned to rescue vehicles, personnel continue to maintain proficiency in rescue skills for any situation by completing daily crew proficiency training on and off base with other fire emergency service flight members and area fire departments.



Senior Airman Shawn Edgecomb, left, Keesler firefighter, and Stewart Vaught, a firefighter from Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., turn on the air for the firefighters who climbed down a manhole during combined space training Feb. 25.

## 45th Airlift Squadron hosts gifted students

Capt. Ethan Diamante, 45th Airlift Squadron, gives a tour of a C-21 to a group of gifted students from Quarles Elementary School in Long Beach Feb. 26. The C-21 is a twin turboprop engine aircraft used for cargo and passenger airlift. The aircraft is the military version of the Lear Jet 35A business jet. In addition to providing cargo and passenger airlift, the aircraft is capable of transporting one litter or five ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



## Technology on display



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Arlen Fountain, left, 81st Medical Support Squadron, chats with Scott Jacobitti, national sales manager for Cable Management Solutions, during the Keesler Information Technology Expo Feb. 23 at the IP Casino Resort in Biloxi. The free event, sponsored by the 81st Training Support Squadron's training and technology flight in conjunction with the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, featured the latest in training and information support technology and an opportunity to talk with industry representatives about how their products and services could benefit Keesler's mission.

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## VA creates ad campaign to highlight educational benefits

**Air Force News Service**

WASHINGTON —Department of Veterans Affairs officials announced a two-month national advertising campaign Feb. 22 to assist student veterans and service members applying for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

“VA, student veterans and our schools have made significant progress in implementing the GI Bill this spring, but we still have more to do,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki. “We won’t rest until all student veterans have received the education benefit they earned in defense of our nation.”

Since inception of this program, VA officials have issued nearly \$1.9 billion in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit payments and opened the door to higher education to 209,490 people.

As of Feb. 12, VA registrars have received spring semester Post-9/11 GI Bill enrollments from about 180,000 student veterans and already paid nearly 90 percent of the students. All Post-9/11 GI Bill participants whose spring enrollments were received by Jan. 18 have been paid.

The GI Bill advertising campaign includes half-page ads in top college publications, online and social media, print, radio and outdoor advertising such as posters and flyers. Public service announcements are being delivered to about 150 college radio stations and 750 local stations in areas where there’s a high density of students, as well as military installations.

Student veterans on college campuses also will see a variety of posters in registrars’

offices, dormitories, cafeterias, student union buildings and other high traffic areas.

“This campaign will help us reach those student veterans, servicemembers and educational administrators who need help in understanding the GI Bill and their role in the benefits process,” said Keith Wilson, director of VA’s educational service.

Social media and online advertising will be extensively used to reach the younger generation of student veterans. VA officials will place banner ads on social media sites such as Facebook, Google, MySpace and Yahoo.

Text messaging ads also will link student veterans to VA. By texting “GIBILL,” veterans receive the basic message, “You Served. Get Benefits.” Then they’re directed to follow three steps:

**Review** benefit options online.

**Submit** your application.

**Check** with your school certifying official to confirm that VA enrollment certification has been sent to VA.

VA officials also developed a hip pocket guide and checklist with helpful tips to assist veterans and servicemembers in the application process.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill, passed by Congress last year, is the most extensive educational assistance program authorized since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944.

Information about the Post-9/11 GI Bill, as well as VA’s other educational benefit programs, is available at VA’s Web site, [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov), or by calling 1-888-442-4551.



Staff Sgt. Jorge Arellano, a combat weather student in the 335th TRS, goes through physical training with combat control students from the 334th TRS Feb. 25 in Matero Hall.

Photos by Kemberly Groue

# Weather warriors

## Airmen follow challenging road to earn gray beret

By Master Sgt. Walter Chumney  
and Staff Sgt. Trenton Seegmiller

336th Training Squadron

As you drive along Highway 90 to Keesler, have you ever wondered who those people are in formation marching with ruck sacks across the Ocean Springs Bridge or running drills in those distinctive black shorts on Biloxi's beach? These young hard-working Airmen are Keesler's own future special operations forces in training.

Keesler has trained Airmen from the special operations community for decades, particularly the combat controllers in the 335th Training Squadron, but now the newest Air Force special operations candidates have joined them — the special operations weather team trainees in the 335th TRS who fall under Air Force Specialty Code 1W0X2

As the Air Force's newest special operations specialty, these weather warriors are the Department of Defense's only meteorological asset authorized to operate in hostile or denied territory to gather and interpret weather data providing intelligence while working primarily with U.S. special operations forces.

Their meteorological data provides localized environmental intelligence to enhance mission planning, as well as accurate and mission-tailored target and route forecasts in support of global special operations. Their unique skills are employed to conduct special reconnaissance and train foreign national forces as well as members of U.S. Special Operations Command to take and



Staff Sgt. Sean Ireland, front, a combat weather student, learns about writing forecasts from his instructor, Tech. Sgt. Chris Gates.

report limited weather observations; collect upper air data; organize, establish and maintain data reporting networks; and determine host and hostile nation meteorological capabilities.

The road to becoming a member of the special operations weather career field is unique, challenging and takes nearly 2½ years.

Candidates first attend a two-week selection course at Lackland Air Force Base following either eight weeks of basic military training or retraining. During the selection course, SOWT trainees join combat control team candidates and are rigorously tested men-

tally and physically. This combined training sets a pattern for years to follow, since much of the SOWT and CCT training is conducted jointly. After successful graduation from the selection course, candidates come to Keesler to begin the seven-month special operations weather course.

From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., the 335th TRS provides academic training alongside students in the weather forecaster apprentice course. However, SOWT students begin the day long before that. Prior to classroom hours, military and

**Are you interested in special ops career? Here's how to see if you have 'right stuff'**

Air Force Special Operations Command  
Public Affairs

The Air Force Special Operations Training Center is hosting a physical ability stamina test at 7:30 a.m. March 12 at the Special Tactics Training Squadron on Hurlburt Field, Fla., for applicants interested in joining the special operations weather, pararescue or combat control career fields.

Applicants are evaluated on a 500-meter swim, 1½-mile run, pull-ups, sit-ups and push-ups.

Individuals that pass the PAST are given their certified score sheet for cross training. Those that don't pass are offered mentorship in areas in which they need improvement.

The Special Tactics Training Squadron is across from Aderholt Fitness Center.

For more information, log on to [www.afsoc.af.mil/specialtactics](http://www.afsoc.af.mil/specialtactics) or call Capt Brian Hicks, 850-884-3346.

Please see **Weather**, Page 9

# 81st Training Group plans dining-out

By Tech. Sgt. Daimie Knott

## 336th Training Squadron

The 81st Training Group holds a dining-out April 30 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum Convention Center in Biloxi.

Details such as the ticket price are still being finalized, but the social hour begins at 6 p.m. with the formal event starting at 7. Chicken or vegetarian menus will be offered.

Attire is mess dress for officers, mess dress or semiformal dress for enlisted members, mess dress or civilian formal attire for retired members and black-tie formal attire for civilians.

According to Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241, Professional Development Guide, the dining-in and dining-out represent the most formal aspects of Air Force social life. The purpose of the 81st TRG's dining-out, a relatively new version of the tradition which includes atten-

dance of members, spouses and guests, is to bring together group members in an atmosphere of camaraderie, good fellowship, and social rapport. A dining-in is a traditional formal dinner for only military members of a wing, unit or organization.

Formal military dinners are a custom in all branches of the . They are rooted in antiquity, a proud tradition honoring military victories and individual and unit achievements.

The age-old custom of dining-ins was introduced to the Air Force back in the 1930s with General Henry "Hap" Arnold's "wingdings." British soldiers brought the custom to America during the Revolutionary War where it was adopted by George Washington. However, formal military dinners can be traced back to King Arthur's knights in the sixth century.

For more information on the 81st TRG dining-out, contact your squadron representative.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Airman Taylor Riggan, a combat weather student, carries a sloshpipe to a group of students during physical training outside of Matero Hall Feb. 25.

## Weather, from Page 8

physical training includes calisthenics, ruck marches, weight training, swimming and circuit training administered by a joint cadre of field-tested and seasoned instructors from the 334th and 335th TRS.

Graduates of the SOWT course then head to airborne school at Fort Benning, Ga., and survival, evasion, resistance and escape training at Fairchild AFB, Wash., before proceeding to Pope AFB, N.C., for the SOWT apprentice course.

At Pope, trainees learn to apply their unique skills in a tactical environment, taking their

joint training beyond physical conditioning to learn their place in the world of special operations. Trainees perform multi-day full mission profiles, practicing their newfound skill sets in the controlled field environments.

At graduation, students are awarded their 3-level skill level and are authorized to wear the distinctive gray beret.

A newly-minted weather warrior may be assigned to the 10th Combat Weather Squadron Hurlburt Field, Fla., the only special operations weather squadron in the world. Other possible assignments may include special tactics squadrons at Pope, Kadena Air Base, Japan, or

Mildenhall Air Base, England. They may even find themselves assigned to detachments or operating locations at Fort Campbell, Ky., Fort Bragg, N.C., Fort Lewis, Wash., Fort Benning, Ga., or Fort Carson, Colo.

SOWT operators at Hurlburt Field and around the world are anxiously awaiting new members to fill their undermanned corps. Weather warriors are among the most deployed specialty in the Air Force, with often less than three months on home station per year. The new SOWT training pipeline will allow them to continue to support future contingency operations in the future.

## Academic excellence



Senior Airman Timothy Hardesty and 2nd Lt. Ronald Rapp have graduated from training in the 81st Training Group with perfect scores. Airman Hardesty graduated Feb. 25 from the electronic principles course in the 332nd Training Squadron and is headed to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, for avionic attack control systems apprentice training before returning to the 120th Fighter Wing, Great Falls, Mont. Lieutenant Rapp graduated Feb. 10 from the basic communications officer training course in the 333rd TRS. He's a member of the 183rd Fighter Wing, Air National Guard, Springfield Ill.

## TRAINING, EDUCATION NOTES

### ASE exams

March 24 is the deadline for active-duty and reserve to register for the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence exams to be administered on May 6, 11 and 13.

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

### OTS briefings

Officer Training School briefings are 10 a.m. Tuesdays in Room 224, Sablich Center.

### Hap Arnold grants

March 12 is the deadline to apply online for the Air Force Aid Society's Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program at <http://www.afas.org/Education/ArnoldEdGrant.cfm>.

The \$2,000 grants are given for undergraduate studies to selected sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 Active Guard/Reserve, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired reserve and deceased Air Force members;

spouses (stateside) of active duty members and Title 10 AGR/ Reservists; and surviving spouses of deceased members.

For more information, call 376-8517.

### KSC scholarships

The Keesler Spouses Club scholarship competition is open to members of the Keesler family, including dependents and spouses of active duty, active Guard and/or Reserve, retired or deceased members and Department of Defense civilians.

Scholarships are awarded to eligible high school and home-schooled seniors who plan to enter a college, university or vocational school this fall and spouses pursuing a degree or vocational studies.

For applications or more information, e-mail [JLMPatriquin@aol.com](mailto:JLMPatriquin@aol.com); log on to [www.keeslerspousesclub.com](http://www.keeslerspousesclub.com), or visit area school guidance counselors or the Keesler Thrift Shop.

Applications must be post-marked on or before April 1.





Ms. Griggs



Sergeant Marsh



Ms. Cutrer

## Keesler News wins three first-place AETC awards

### Keesler Public Affairs

The Keesler News staff earned seven awards in the 2009 Air Education and Training Command media contest.

Winners are:

**Susan Griggs**, Keesler News editor, is print journalist of the year and earned second place for a sports story about Keesler members involved in a recreational hockey league. Her other submissions included stories on civilian force development, a breast cancer awareness month feature and profiles of Maj. Gen. Al Flowers, former 2nd Air Force commander, and Col. Lynn Connett, 81st Training Group commander.

Ms. Griggs became the Keesler News editor last May after 12½ years as a contract

writer for the paper. She previously won nine AETC awards and two Air Force awards for contract writing and one AETC, one Air Force and one Defense Department Thomas Jefferson Award for contract photography.

**Tech. Sgt. Chuck Marsh** won first place for his commentary titled "He's an Airman forever."

Earlier this year, he was named AETC's outstanding public affairs noncommissioned officer of the year. Sergeant Marsh now serves on the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

Ms. Griggs and Sergeant Marsh now represent AETC in the Air Force competition.

**Angela Cutrer**, contract journalist, won first place in

the contractor/stringer article category for a feature on Keesler's amateur radio club. An employee of The Sun Herald, she joined the Keesler News staff eight months ago.

**Staff Sgt. Kimberly Moore** earned second place photojournalism honors for a feature on her personal experiences at Airman Leadership School.

**Kemberly Groue**, public affairs photographer employed by K-Mar Industries, the base's multimedia services contractor, was the third place winner for contract photography for a shot titled "Bright IDEA."

**Steve Pivnick**, the 81st Medical Group Public Affairs chief, won third place for his news photograph, "Daddy's Girl," a photo of a deploying Keesler medic holding his child.

## IN THE NEWS

### Pass Road Gate closes for testing

The Pass Road Gate is closed Friday through Sunday for testing and commissioning of the final denial barriers. The Meadows Drive Gate will be open 24 hours a day during this period and the Rodenberg Avenue Gate will be open for Bayridge residents.

### Base access changes

**Today** — Judge Sekul Avenue Gate closes to outbound traffic.

**Friday** — Meadows Drive Gate is open 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, including compressed work schedule Fridays.

For more information, call 81st Security Forces Squadron installation security office, 376-6621.

### Clinics close for warrior training

#### 81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Medical Center clinics are closed for warrior training from noon-5 p.m. the second Thursday of each month except July and November.

Family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics and general surgery clinics each have one doctor available for urgent appointments. For urgent situations, call central appointments at 1-800-700-8603 or report to the emergency room.

Although pharmacy, radiology and laboratory services are open, they'll have reduced staffing, so patients are asked to delay visits during warrior training.

For emergency situations such as shortness of breath, chest or abdominal pain or bleeding with pregnancy, go to the nearest emergency room or call 911 for an ambulance.

### Wing calendar event-planning must

The 81st Training Wing events calendar at <http://www.keesler.af.mil/events/index.asp> is designed to help organizers avoid conflicts with other events.

Once an official date is set, event planners should send details to the public affairs organizational box, 81trw.pa@keesler.af.mil. Most items are posted within one business day.

Items that must be included are the name of event, date, time, location and a point of contact.

Events should be coordinated and approved through respective chains of command and be mission-relevant to a wide audience. All inputs are subject to review and editing by the 81st Training Wing Public Affairs office.

### Phones, seatbelt, car seat rules

**Cell phones** — It's a primary offense to drive on base while using a cell phone without a hands-free device.

For military members, offenses are subject to citation for points, and for civilian employees, dependents, retirees and contractors, citations carry a fine. Driving privileges can be suspended for seven days for the first offense, 30 days for a second offense and one year for a third offense.

**Seatbelts** must be used by driver and passengers. Children at least 4-7 years old or less than 65 pounds or under 4 feet, 9 inches tall must be in a booster/child seat of vehicles in operation on the installation. For violations, driving privileges can be suspended seven days for the first offense, 30 days for the second offense, 90 days for the third offense and one year for the fourth and subsequent offenses.



### Doughnut drive starts campaign

Drive through the parking lot of the new base exchange and commissary, 5:30-7:30 a.m. Monday, and pick up a dozen doughnuts for a donation of \$7 or more in the first fund-raising event of Keesler's 2010 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign.

Keesler's AFAF drive, which runs through April 16, benefits the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Village, Air Force Village and the Gen. and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.



## Capping it off

W.G. Yates and Sons Construction Co. workers create concrete pile caps at the site of the 81st Medical Group's new inpatient tower Feb. 22. The caps are placed atop the 630 production piles bored by Berkel and Co. of Mobile over the past month. The concrete piles are set 40 to 50 feet deep throughout the site. According to Yates site superintendent James Hodges, Berkel completed the piles Feb. 24 and Yates crews are going to use about 1,400 yards of concrete to form the 82 caps, which vary in size based on the number of piles each covers. Once a cap is completed, the workers create concrete columns on them. In addition to the cap work, Yates has already begun excavating the tower's two elevator sites and a stairwell site. The tower is scheduled to be completed in September 2011.

Photo by Steve Pivnick

## DOD releases policy for responsible use of Internet capabilities

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — Department of Defense officials released a policy memorandum Friday regarding the safe and effective use of Internet-based capabilities, including social networking services and other interactive Web 2.0 applications.

The memorandum makes it policy that the DOD non-classified network be configured to provide access to Internet-based capabilities across all DOD components.

Commanders at all levels and heads of DOD components will continue to defend against malicious activity on military information networks; deny access to prohibited content sites such as gambling, pornography and hate-crime related activities; and take immediate and commensurate actions, as required, to safeguard missions such as temporarily limiting access to the Internet to preserve operations security or to address bandwidth constraints.

The directive is consistent with the increased security measures that DOD has taken to secure networks and reinforces existing rules related to ethics, operations security and privacy.

"This directive recognizes the importance of balancing appropriate security measures while maximizing the capabilities afforded by 21st century Internet tools," said Deputy Secretary of Defense William Lynn III.

Use of Internet-based capabilities, including social networking services, have become integral tools for operating and collaborating across the DOD and with the public. Establishing a DOD-wide policy ensures consistency and allows for full integration of these tools and capabilities.

The new policy memorandum is available at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives>

## SOCKS offers computer skills to military spouses

Airman and family readiness center

With Year of the Air Force funding, the airman and family readiness center purchased licenses to help spouses earn computer training certificates.

The Spouse Online Computer Knowledge and Skills program is a method to assist military spouses in developing and improving their professional skills. Through a partnership with SkillSoft Corporation, spouses have an opportunity to develop and build technological skills through virtual computerized training to enhance future career opportunities and personal readiness.

There are more than 250 courses to choose from at no cost to the military spouse. Another benefit of this program is the ability to print a certificate of completion for the individual's personal portfolio at the completion of every module.

Any military spouse from any branch of service whose sponsor is stationed at Keesler or assigned to a Keesler unit, such as the 366th Training Squadron in Gulfport, is eligible. Guard, Reserve and Department of Defense civilian spouses from Keesler are eligible.

A signed enrollment contract signed allows access to the courses until Oct. 12 to complete as many modules as desired, even if they move to another military base. Participants must begin the training within 30 days of registration.

Access to SkillSoft can be granted from any computer connected to the Internet. Participants may use computers in the airman and family readiness center resource room, McBride Library or their own homes 24/7.

For more information, visit the airman and family readiness center, Room 110, Sablich Center or call Lana Smith, 376-8727.



## Educational game

Capt. Romeatrius Moss, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, selects a category during the pediatric flight's recent Warrior Day "Jeopardy" training session. Flight members developed the "Jeopardy" concept as a means to make preparation for the upcoming Joint Commission/Health Services Inspection entertaining. The captain provided the concept to Michele Carroll at Wall Studio, the Keesler multimedia center, and Ms. Carroll created the game board. The flight has been making the game available to other units to help in their preparation for the inspection.

# Focus funds provide new playground equipment



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Summar Hughes, 8, scales the rock wall while her 9-year-old brother, Herman, climbs a net on the new youth center playground Tuesday. The children's parents are Tech. Sgt. Byron and LaToya Self, 81st Security Forces Squadron.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The youth center's school-age program has an improved school-age program playground, thanks to \$84,000 in focus funds from Air Education and Training Command.

The enhancement replaced older equipment that wasn't challenging for the older programs with a natural challenge/fitness course that includes rock climbing, balancing, and other kinds of skills and strength-building activities, according to Ann Smith, youth programs director.

"The kids and staff had input on the design and the former youth center director, Rodney Hedgecock, developed the plan," Ms. Smith said. "Base leadership really pushed for us to get those funds. CSC worked so hard to get the old equipment removed and the site prepared, and base Contracting put in extra effort to get the type of equipment we wanted.

"Planet Recess did an awesome job to get the equipment, layout and installation just how we wanted it, and base safety did the inspection so the kids could get out there and play," she continued. "It all came together into a beautiful, new play area for our school-age youth.

"As a bonus, we were also able to install a separate play area for children ages 5 and under to support play groups, family events and special programs," Ms. Smith added.

## License needed to care for children in base homes

By Earlene Smith

81st Force Support Squadron

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

Air Force Instruction 34-276, which governs day care in on-base quarters, states "any individuals caring for children more than 10 hours a week on a regular basis must get approval."

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

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

"We feel people living in base housing, who regularly care for children without being licensed, may be unaware of the regulation," said Mary Pleasant, family child care program coordinator. "We want not only to bring the information to their attention, but to educate them on the alternative — to become a licensed family childcare provider."

Licenses are granted by the

81st Mission Support Group commander, usually within 30 days upon completion of the initial FCC provider training, background screenings and home inspections.

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

"FCC providers are professionals trained to give the best possible care to the children

left in their charge," said Ms. Pleasant.

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

For more information, call 377-3189, 5934 or 5935, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.



Volunteer —  
get  
connected.

# Competitive programs open to officers for graduate degrees, special duties

## Air Force Personnel Center

This summer, development teams will consider officers to participate in the following 2011 competitive special programs for advanced academic degrees and special experience exchange duty:

**ADD master and doctoral programs**, including Air Force Institute of Technology, AFIT faculty pipeline, Air Force Academy faculty pipeline and National Reconnaissance Office sponsored programs.

**Acquisition and Intelligence Experience Exchange Tour.**

**Acquisition and Logistics Experience Exchange Tour.**

**Comptroller Operational Logistics Tour.**

**Education with Industry.**

**Information Officer Engineering Exchange.**

**Logistic Career Broadening Program.**

**Program for Acquisition Contracting Exchange.**

**Space and Missile Acquisition Exchange Program.**

**Space Lift Education and Crossover Program.**

**Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School**

**Missile Operations** and Missile Maintenance Exchange Program.

As part of the force development construct, these programs provide targeted education/crossflow assignments for officers in the eligible career field. Ample lead time is provided to accommodate Graduate Record Examination and Graduate Management Admission testing.

Application procedures are available on the academics and special utilization assignments Web page at [http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main\\_content.asp?prods1=1&prods2=14&prods3=190&prods4=821&p\\_faqid=6051](http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main_content.asp?prods1=1&prods2=14&prods3=190&prods4=821&p_faqid=6051). Scroll down to the bottom of the Web page for rules of engagement.

Unless otherwise stated, packages must arrive at the Air Force Personnel Center by April 30. Refer questions to your respective officer assignment team. Those selected for each program are notified by their chain of command. Monitor the AFPC Web site for any program updates and review the links for additional information.

## PERSONNEL NOTES

### 2010 selection boards

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

**June 7, Sept. 27** — special selection boards.

**June 21** — senior noncommissioned officer supplemental.

**July 12** — colonel LAF-judge advocate/chaplain/ biomedical services corps; lieutenant colonel and major LAF-judge advocate and chaplain.

**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 nurse corps; major LAF/nurse corps.

### Finance office hours

Finance customer service hours are:

**8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Monday-Friday.

**8 a.m. to noon** compressed work schedule Fridays.

**8 a.m. to noon** Monday-Friday, cashier hours; closed CWS Fridays.

For more information, call 376-8225.

### 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.

### Identification card requirements

To obtain identification cards, military personnel in uniform have priority in customer service, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Customer service is also open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on compressed work schedule 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 376-8339.

### Discrimination hotline

#### Air Force Personnel Center

The Air Force Discrimination Hotline, 1-888-231-4058, serves all active-duty, Guard, Reserve and civilians.

The 24/7 hotline number ensures all discrimination and sexual harassment concerns are quickly identified and addressed. It streamlines the process by which individuals can speak with an equal opportunity professional at the Air Force Personnel Center to advise and assist with their concerns and issues. Callers can remain anonymous.

Personnel are highly encouraged to use their chain of command or local EO office as a first means to address concerns, but the 24/7 hotline is available to those who don't have immediate access to their local EO office.

### Base-of-preference updates

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

For more information, call 376-8739.



Base construction sites  
are off-limits without authorization.



Don't drink  
and drive.  
Call  
Airmen Against  
Drunk Driving,  
377-SAVE,  
for a  
safe ride  
home.

# Evening of Medical Collaboration set for tonight

**By Steve Pivnick**

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## **81st Medical Group Public Affairs**

The 81st Medical Group and Humana Military Healthcare Services host the fourth annual “Evening of Medical Collaboration” for Tricare network providers at 6 p.m. today.

The invitation-only event for civilian and military providers, medical facility staffs, area hospital leadership and administrative staff, and congressional staff members. The event is intended to demonstrate how the 81st MDG provides premier health care through community collaboration.

Today’s program highlights Keesler’s graduate medical education program that trains future Air Force medical professionals.

Participants will be offered the opportunity to tour Keesler’s medical simulation laboratory and new radiation oncology center.

Approximately 200 network physicians, hospital chief executive officers and administrative personnel from the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Hattiesburg and Mobile, Ala., areas are expected to attend. Members of congressional area office staffs and other state officials have been invited, along with representatives from the Tricare Regional Office-South, Naval Hospital Pensacola, Camp Shelby, Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport and the Mobile (Ala.) Coast Guard installation.

**Volunteer —  
get  
connected.**

# Airmen's FOD walk is first line of defense

By Angela Cutrer

Keesler News staff

Notice anything odd about the group slowly ambling down the flightline on Friday? Sure, many times groups of Airmen have congregated on the flightline, but this group seemed a little ... pre-occupied. Heads down, completely centered on the activity of their feet, the group members appeared to have tunnel vision.

That was exactly the case. It was necessary because they were looking for that which is usually and understandably commonly overlooked — pebbles, rocks, paper clips, plastic beads, wooden pellets, plastic cups, forgotten pennies: fragments of something that used to be a part of something more.

It might be hard to believe that one minuscule, insignificant piece of debris could be the source of so much to-do, but nothing is irrelevant when it comes to aircraft safety. That one tiny, seemingly trivial piece of rubble — called foreign object debris — could mean a \$50,000 Air Force bill for aircraft repair, or worse, it could mean the loss of human life.

The aviation term “foreign object debris” describes any foreign item not native to the system that can damage aircraft. (“FOD” also stands for foreign object damage; it’s all in the context.) The National Association of FOD Prevention Inc. reports that annually, it costs the U.S. civil aviation industry \$16 million for FOD damage and the cost to global aviation industry runs from \$3 to \$4 billion per year, all because of a pebble. Or a paper clip. Or a shiny coin.

A 2008 study by a London-based consulting firm for [www.FODNews.com](http://www.FODNews.com) noted that data from two of the larger European airports indicates that those two civilian runways were shut down for an average 200-240 minutes per month due to FOD and wildlife strikes. The same study said that in the United States, “FOD causes airlines



**Airman 1st Class Tiffany Johnson, right, scoops up a piece of debris on the flightline during Friday's FOD walk. Watching are other members of the 81st Force Support Squadron, including Senior Airmen Kathryn Brown, center, and Iris Franklin.**

to incur direct costs as high as \$20 million per airport per year” and that indirect costs from airport or runway closures, fuel efficiency losses from bent blades, missed connections, costs of investigation and unscheduled maintenance issues push the numbers even higher.

That’s why FODs are unwanted, unwelcomed visitors to all runways, taxiways and parking areas. So, when it comes to Air Force aircraft safety, Airmen have to step in — literally — to make a clean sweep of the areas Air

Force aircraft occupy.

Promoting FOD awareness engages workforce with information, feedback and involvement. The Air Force uses creative ways to encourage FOD awareness, be it treasure hunt aspects or competition-style activities.

For example, at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the 433rd Airlift Wing’s C-5 parking ramp is the mandatory gathering place every Monday for all Airmen assigned to the 433rd Maintenance Group. And, at Kadena Air Base, Japan, more than 450 Airmen

volunteers gather annually to cover two 12,000-square-foot runways, plucking almost 50 pounds of debris the last time they assembled.

Eielson AFB, Alaska, and Misawa AB, Japan, also conduct annual “clean-up days” to take control of possible debris problems.

And at Keesler, these sprucing-up opportunities are now front and center for the entire base’s population.

Friday, the first group took its turn scanning the concrete during this Team Keesler effort.

“The 403rd Maintenance Squadron and the 45th Airlift Squadron have FOD walks around their aircraft parking areas, which include Ramp 1 and 2, but now a wing group or staff agency will be able to participate in monthly FOD walks on the first duty Friday,” said Dudley Cruse, 81st Operations Flight quality assurance chief.

“We concentrated on Alpha taxiway, which runs parallel with the runway,” Mr. Cruse said. “The base has a street sweeper that covers this area and by having the FOD walk along with the sweeper, we want to make sure not the smallest pebble is overlooked on the 6,500-foot taxiway.”

As an incentive for the participants in the walk, a small golden bolt placed on the taxi area prior to walk waited for discovery.

“Whoever found it would have received a small reward,” Mr. Cruse said. Alas, the golden bolt stayed hidden from view of these first set of walkers.

F.O.D. Control Corp. founder and general manager Gary Chaplain said he has found “that the U.S. Air Force has the most effective long-term FOD programs on the planet” due to senior grade officers responsible for oversight. Because of this accountability, management support reflects down the chain in a positive manner.

Chaplain also noted that not counting wildlife-related FOD, “the largest percentage of FOD damage has been traced to housekeeping issues.”

Col. Chris Valle, 81st Training Wing vice commander and senior airfield authority for Keesler, sees the monthly FOD walk as not only a way to ensure a safe airfield, but to build camaraderie among the participants.

“It’s just another way for Team Keesler members to be good wingmen — protecting our people and resources,” he said.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

# Keesler Airman named to Tops in Blue

By Steve Pivnick

**81st Medical Group Public Affairs**

Almost 26 years of singing have paid off for Airman 1st Class Hansil Jules, who learned Feb. 17 that he had been selected as a member of the 2010 Air Force Tops in Blue unit. He begins rehearsals Monday for the 2010 tour that starts in late May.

Airman Jules, a dental technician with the 81st Dental Squadron here, auditioned for the group Jan. 17-26 at San Antonio's Lackland AFB.

The classically-trained singer from New York City said he's been singing all his life.

"My mom said I started singing at 2 years, even before I talked," he observed.

The 28-year-old Airman trained in opera at New York's School of Performing

Arts and then studied performance arts at City College of New York. He's two semesters away from obtaining a degree, having taken courses at the University of Southern Mississippi last semester.

Airman Jules noted that a major factor motivating him to enlist in the Air Force was the opportunity to one day audition for Tops in Blue, an all-active duty Air Force special unit made up of talented amateur performers selected for their entertainment abilities.

"New York is tough for an artist," he said. "It's also very expensive to live there. I couldn't save any money.

"I decided to join the Air Force and serve with the God-given talent I have."

He's served for a little over two years now, the past 18 months at Keesler.



**Airman Jules**

The talented Airman said he doesn't limit his music only to opera. He also has sung gospel as well as rhythm and blues.

Airman Jules was pleasantly surprised to discover

that the Mississippi Gulf Coast community enjoys opera. He has been involved in a number of musical programs around the Coast, including the Gulf Coast Opera, a performance of "Oliver Twist" at the Saenger Theater and the Gulf Coast Messiah Association.

He recently sang for a Greater Mississippi Boys and Girls Club function in Moss Point and the Italian-American Association in Baton Rouge, La. He's performed the National Anthem at a number of official base functions as well.

Airman Jules will spend the next year touring the world. Preparation for the program is arduous. He had a taste of it during the 10 days of auditions in January, waking at around 5 a.m. and going to bed late at night.

However, he termed it a

wonderful experience, noting, "I met so many great people!"

Now the hard work begins. He expects rehearsals to go on practically seven days a week until the tour begins.

Cast members also act as stage hands, setting up equipment prior to each show. In addition to singing, he'll have to learn dance moves.

"I've always wanted to learn to dance but I never had the money," he said.

"Finally, I get to learn for free!"

Airman Jules mentioned he's the only member of his family with any singing ability — his mother, brother and two sisters don't share his talent.

His brother is in the Army, stationed at Fort Know, Ky. His mother and sisters reside in New York.

# Tanker solicitation seeks fair competition, best value

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The final request for proposals to solicit bids for a new aerial tanker was designed to promote fair, open competition that provides the best warfighting capability for the best value, Deputy Defense Secretary William Lynn III said Feb. 24.

Meanwhile, the process will serve as a model for the Defense Department's acquisition reform effort, Mr. Lynn said, eliminating requirements added after the contract award that drive up costs and delay delivery.

Mr. Lynn joined Air Force Secretary Michael Donley and Ashton Carter, undersecretary of Defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, in unveiling details of the solicitation for a new KC-X aerial tanker. The new tanker will replace the Air Force's aging KC-135 Stratotanker fleet that refuels other aircraft in flight to extend their reach and warfighting capability.

The highly detailed request for proposals released Feb. 24 — which includes 372 mandatory requirements and incorporates 230 mostly technical changes in response to comments on a draft document issued in September — stays true to three guiding principles, Mr. Lynn said.

"This is going to be an objective completion. It is going to be fair, it is going to be open," he said, recognizing the high stakes in the determination in terms of jobs as well as revenues and "buffeting" from both primary competitors, Boeing Co. and Northrop Grumman Corp.

"We are resisting that buffeting, and we are going to play this straight down the middle," Mr. Lynn said.

The Defense Department has rejected going for a low-bid contract in favor of a "best-value competition" that considers other factors as well, the warfighting contribution and lifecycle costs among them.

"Price is very important," Mr. Lynn emphasized, but will be weighed along

"Where we haven't changed things is in the basic requirements of the airplane. The warfighter has set out what they need. We think the 372 requirements that we've laid out will bring the Air Force the plane it needs to bring to the war fight on Day One."

— Mr. Lynn

with other variables during the selection process. "The reason you can be sure this is not a price shootout is it is actually possible to have a higher price and to win this competition."

Mr. Lynn expressed hope that the tanker selection process will serve as a flagship for the department's broad acquisition reform agenda.

It's highly detailed, with 10 times the mandatory requirements that were in the last bid proposal that was withdrawn almost immediately after being issued. Laying out all the requirements up front rather than tacking them on midstream, Mr. Lynn said, will guard against cost overruns and program delays.

The Air Force's solid understanding of its requirements, along with the maturity of the technology involved and the contractors' well-established industrial bases set the stage for what Mr. Lynn called another major acquisition reform initiative: fixed-price contracts.

"We can't do fixed-price development in every case," Mr. Lynn said, but he called the tanker solicitation the perfect opportunity to do so.

Incorporating technical changes in response to 350 comments on the draft request for proposals, the final solicitation maintains the focus on providing critical military capability, Mr. Lynn said.

"Where we haven't changed things is in the basic requirements of the airplane," he said. "The warfighter has set out what they need. We think the 372 requirements that we've laid out will bring the Air Force the plane it needs to bring to the war fight on Day One."

Ultimately, "this is about what the Air Mobility Command needs to meet the warfighting needs of the nation," Mr. Lynn said. "We think that the structure in this RFP is going to get us that, and we're going to proceed in that direction."

The contractors vying for the contract, worth an estimated \$35 billion, will have 75 days to submit their bids. The Defense Department will evaluate the proposals for 120 days, then the Air Force will award a contract in the mid-September timeframe, Mr. Lynn said.

He expressed hope for a "robust competition" that delivers "the best value for the taxpayer and the best airplane for the warfighter."

Secretary Donley echoed that sentiment, expressing hope that both Boeing and Northrop Grumman will bid on what he called "a very strong RFP."

"We believe that both offerors are in a position to win this competition," Secretary Donley said. "We think both offerors can meet the mandatory

requirements that we have laid out. And we hope and expect to have a good competition."

Regardless of which contractor wins the contract, Mr. Carter said, the "clarity and precision" used in the solicitation will leave no one wondering how the decision was made.

"The source selection strategy is crystal clear," he said. "Everybody will know, when a winner is picked, exactly why they won. And up front, both offerors know exactly what they need to do to win."

Officials are hopeful this will eliminate the challenges and acrimony that have plagued the aerial tanker process to date.

The Air Force initially awarded the contract to build up to 179 new KC-45A tankers over the next decade to a consortium of Northrop Grumman and European Aeronautic Defense and Space Co., the parent company of Airbus.

The award drew a protest from rival Boeing. General Accounting Office auditors upheld the protest, identifying irregularities in the awarding of the contract.

Air Force officials reopened the bidding process for the tanker contract in July 2008, but Secretary Gates announced two months later that he had decided to cancel it for fear it could not be awarded before he planned to leave his post along with the President George W. Bush administration.

"It has now become clear that the solicitation and award process cannot be accomplished by January (2009)," he said in testimony before the House Armed Services Committee. "Thus, I believe that rather than handing the next administration an incomplete and possibly contested process, we should cleanly defer this procurement to the next team."

Still serving as defense secretary as part of the President Barack Obama administration, Secretary Gates is leading the team that will oversee the new tanker acquisition.





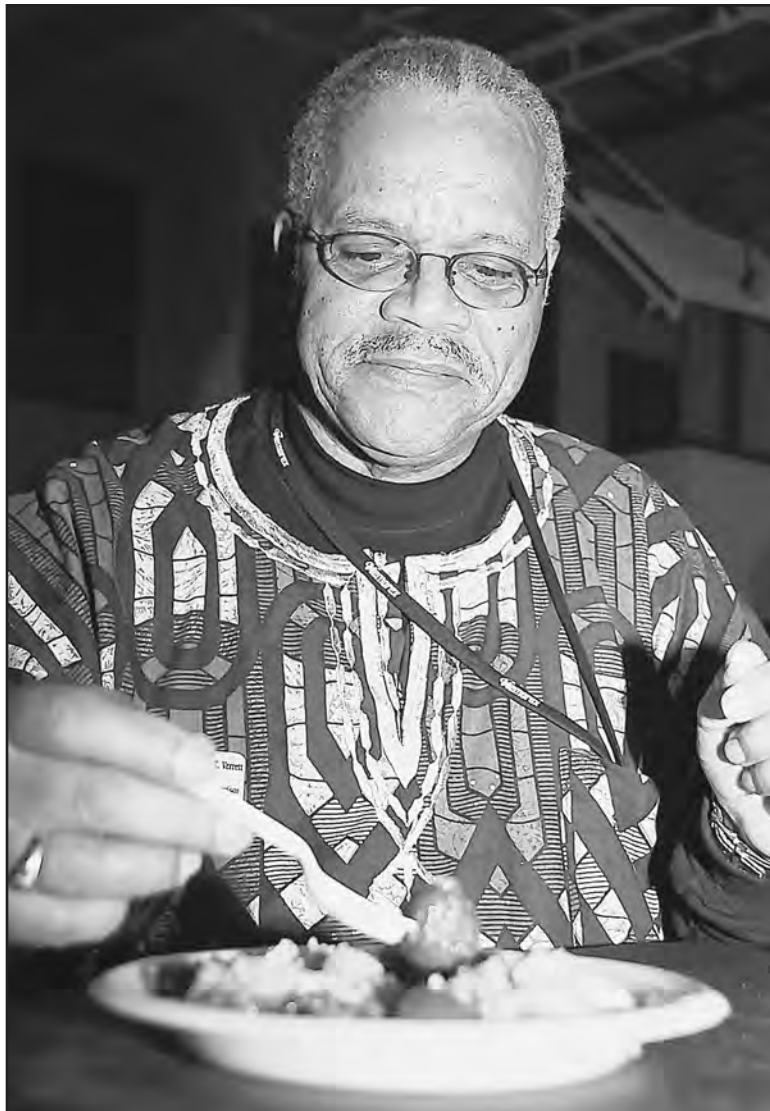


Airman Basic Devin Krisle, 336th Training Squadron student, serves blackeyed peas to Cynthia Lee, 81st Contracting Squadron, during Friday's soul food sampling at the youth center. The annual event is part of Keesler's African-American Heritage Month observance.

**Soul  
FOOD**

Alexander Verrett, 338th TRS, enjoys a plate full of soul food selections. The African-American Heritage Committee sponsored the event.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



# Military leads mental health care transformation

By Lisa Daniel

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The United States is in the middle of a “cultural transformation” in mental health treatment led by the Defense Department and the military services, the department’s top mental health expert told a congressional panel Feb. 24 here.

Mental health resilience “is fundamentally underlying everything we do,”

Army Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Loree Sutton told the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

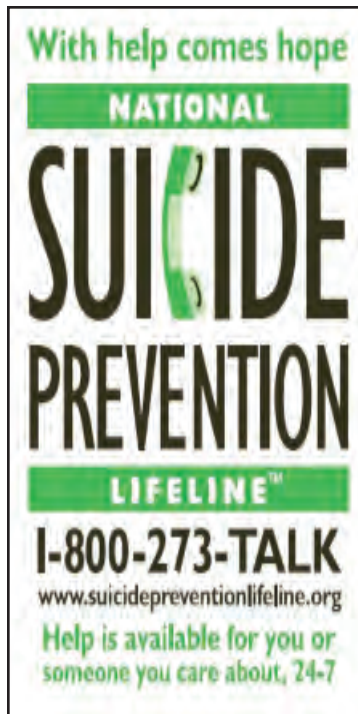
General Sutton, director of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury, testified along with Dr. Ira Katz, chief of the Veterans Affairs Department’s mental health services, during a committee hearing on suicide prevention.

In 2009, there were 312 confirmed suicides among service members, of which 26 were in the Reserve components, according to the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System, General Sutton said in

testimony submitted to the committee. The data shows those particularly at risk were white men younger than 25, with a rank at or below E-4 who were divorced and had not graduated from high school. Other common factors, as mirrored in the private sector, included substance abuse, relationships, legal or financial problems.

While the impact of deployment is under investigation, General Sutton said, only 16 percent of the suicides occurred in Iraq or Afghanistan. Still, the counterinsurgency and asymmetric warfare that service members have battled since 9/11 “continues to place a great amount of strain” on troops, she said, adding that “the invisible wounds of war can be most deadly of all.”

Defense Department data shows that 30 percent of service members who died by suicide communicated their potential self-harm, 49 percent had been in treatment within 30 days of their suicide, and 26 percent had sought mental health resources.



The department’s core message to service members and their families, General Sutton said, is:

**You are not alone;**  
**Treatment works;**  
**The earlier the intervention, the better;** and  
**Reaching out is an act of courage and strength.**

“Suicide has a multitude of causes and no simple solutions,” General Sutton said, adding that each suicide is as unique as each victim.

Because of that, it is difficult to pinpoint an outreach or treatment approach, she said. The department and the services are using a multipronged, holistic approach to tackle prevention education, research and outreach, she told the legislators.

“We are in the middle of a cultural transformation — one in which the (DOD) and the services are leading the country,” General Sutton said. “‘Suck it up and drive on’ led us for years, but that is no longer adequate” as an attitude toward mental health problems.

“A new public health model is being led by (DOD) leaders at all levels, starting with the secretary of defense,” she added.

While the medical field is undergoing a “revolution” in neuroscience, it’s a complex discipline, and “the human brain is not subject to command and control,” General Sutton said. So DOD is leading the way in partnering with

other departments and non-profit groups to better understand and prevent suicide.

For example, the Army began a partnership with the National Institute of Mental Health last fall to conduct the largest study ever of suicide and mental health among U.S. service members. Data collection is to begin in March to assess hundreds of thousands of Soldiers over five years.

Other DOD initiatives that should help in suicide prevention, General Sutton said, include the ongoing effort with VA to have interoperability of electronic medical records, a pilot program for mandatory protocol for treating concussions in the field, and partnerships with VA, the USO and the Red Cross for treatment outreach.

“We are working this at all levels,” Doctor Sutton said. “We understand we are in uncharted territory. Never in the history of our republic have we placed so much (burden of war) on so few for so long.”

**For lost and found items, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron investigations office,  
377-4500, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.**

The tax office  
is open  
in Room 229,  
Sablich Center.  
Hours are  
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Monday-Thursday  
and  
8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
working Fridays.  
For appointments  
and  
more information,  
call 376-8144.

# Military career guidance is focus of office

By Jonathan Hicks

Keesler Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Steven Mullens is the new career assistance adviser for the 81st Training Wing.

Sergeant Mullens arrived at Keesler two years ago from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. At Incirlik, Sergeant Mullens worked as a communication cable systems installer and quality assurance manager until he was selected to take over as CAA for the 39th Air Base Wing during his last 18 months in Turkey.

“After I became acquainted with the programs, I discovered that I really enjoyed the work, especially helping to develop our Airmen,” he recalled. “Eventually, I thought to myself after I leave Incirlik, I would love the opportunity to do this again.”

Sergeant Mullens was the 85th Engineering Installation Squadron’s plans and support



Photo by Kemberly Groue

**Master Sgt. Steven Mullens, 81st Force Support Squadron, discusses the retraining window with Staff Sgt. April Cullen, 81st Mission Support Group.**

flight chief before becoming Keesler’s CAA last month. He and Staff Sgt. Charmaine Carnes, First Term Airman Cen-

ter noncommissioned officer in charge, manage the various programs offered by the Professional Development Center.

“Our main responsibility is to develop, supervise and manage local retention and professional enhancement initiatives,” Sergeant Mullens explained. “The goal is to retain, develop and help our Airmen to have the best career possible.”

For nonprior service enlisted Airmen, the two-week FTAC seminar is mandatory within their first 30 days of arrival at their first duty station. The course covers standards and discipline, personal financial management, suicide prevention, total force awareness training and other topics to help new Airmen acclimate to the Air Force.

However, staff and technical sergeants can expect to receive more comprehensive career and leadership development at the quarterly NCO professional enhancement seminar. This quarter’s seminar starts Monday. Some of

the topics are personnel programs, manpower, military writing, resource management and career progression.

The professional development center also offers a monthly “informed decision briefing” for all military members and spouses to provide current information about benefits and entitlements that help them make the best decision about continuing their military career.

Sergeant Mullens and his wife, Master Sgt. Valerie Mullens, have three children. Valerie Mullens, 81st Mission Support Group staff superintendent, was recently promoted to her current rank through the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program.

For more information, call 377-3697 or log on to <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=OO-DP-AE-19>.

## Learning the ropes



Photo by Steve Pivnick

**Col. Robert Cothron, 81st Medical Group administrator, gives a tour of the 81st Medical Group’s family birthing center to daughter Jodi, 13, a seventh grader at Ocean Springs Middle School. Maj. Janice Shealey, left, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron maternal child flight commander, stands by to answer questions. Jodi, who visited the hospital Feb. 18 as part of a job-shadowing career discovery class assignment, also helped evaluate a Code Pink infant/child abduction exercise, watched a medical simulation in the training lab and received a coin from Air Education and Training Vice Commander Maj. Gen. Anthony Przybyslawski, for whom the simulation was conducted.**

# Sign up for three months of free club membership

## Air Force Services Agency

Personnel who join any Air Force club through May 30 will automatically receive three months free dues, a free cash back rewards program, and a chance to win \$5 to \$100 cash instantly upon application with a scratch-off ticket.

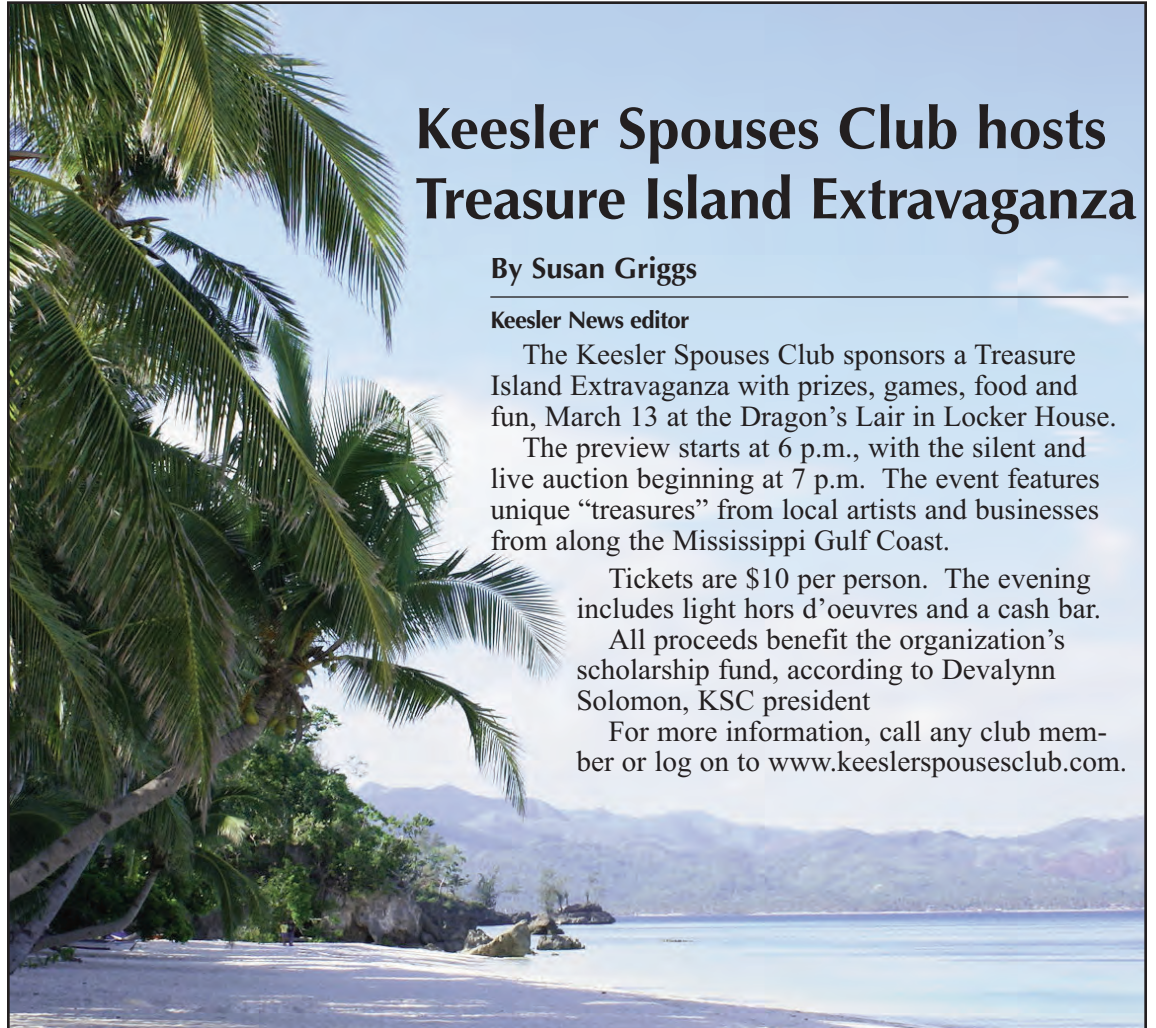
"We want all personnel to consider club membership and understand the benefits of club membership, and our 'Three for Free' club membership campaign gives them the opportunity to try their club free for the first three months," said Fred McKenney, Air Force food and beverage division chief.

The Military Free Cash rewards program is one of the most popular membership benefits. Members can receive 2 percent cash back on every eligible dollar they spend on purchases made with their club card at the base exchange, commissary and in Air Force activities including the club, bowling center and golf course.

Members also earn 1 percent cash back on every eligible dollar spent off base when purchasing with the membership card. Points may also be redeemed for travel to include airline tickets, hotel and car rental.

Air Force Clubs offers members numerous free and inexpensive activities including discounts on every meal to include special functions, an annual \$25,000 scholarship program, the opportunity to participate in the Air Force Hoops promotion, and other members-only programs.

Applications are available at the Katrina Kantina in marina park, 11 am. to 1 p.m. Mondays and 3:30 p.m. until closing Tuesdays through work Fridays.



## Keesler Spouses Club hosts Treasure Island Extravaganza

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The Keesler Spouses Club sponsors a Treasure Island Extravaganza with prizes, games, food and fun, March 13 at the Dragon's Lair in Locker House.

The preview starts at 6 p.m., with the silent and live auction beginning at 7 p.m. The event features unique "treasures" from local artists and businesses from along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Tickets are \$10 per person. The evening includes light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

All proceeds benefit the organization's scholarship fund, according to Devalynn Solomon, KSC president

For more information, call any club member or log on to [www.keeslerspousesclub.com](http://www.keeslerspousesclub.com).

## Year of the Air Force Family



## Program offers computer skills to military spouses

### Airman and family readiness center

With Year of the Air Force funding, the airman and family readiness center purchased licenses to help spouses earn computer training certificates.

The Spouse Online Computer Knowledge and Skills program is a method to assist military spouses in developing and improving their professional skills. Through a partnership with SkillSoft Corporation, spouses have an opportunity to develop and build technological skills through virtual computerized training to enhance future career opportunities and personal readiness.

There are more than 250 courses to choose from at no cost to the military spouse. Another benefit of this program is the ability to print a certificate of completion for the individual's personal portfolio at the completion of every module.

Military spouses from any branch of service

whose sponsor is stationed at Keesler or assigned to a Keesler unit, such as the 366th Training Squadron in Gulfport, are eligible. Guard, Reserve and Department of Defense civilian spouses from Keesler are eligible.

A signed enrollment contract signed allows access to the courses until Oct. 12 to complete as many modules as desired, even if they move to another military base. Participants must begin the training within 30 days of registration.

Access to SkillSoft can be granted from any computer connected to the Internet. Participants may use computers in the airman and family readiness center resource room, McBride Library or their own homes 24/7.

For more information, visit the airman and family readiness center, Room 110, Sablich Center or call Lana Smith, 376-8727.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

## Core Values



**Integrity First**

**Service Before Self**

**Excellence in all We Do**

Produced by Air Force News Service

Photo by Master Sgt Mike Haggerty

# KEESLER NOTES

## AFSA awards luncheon

The Air Force Sergeants Association's awards luncheon is 11 a.m. March 11 at the Katrina Kantina.

The luncheon is \$12.

To sign up, call Tech. Sgt. Shanita Rankin, 377-0048, no later than Monday.

## Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross takes place 5 p.m. Fridays during Lent at Triangle Chapel.

## Lodging reservations

Space-available lodging reservations can be made one to three days in advance, depending on availability:

**Visiting airmen's quarters**, \$34.75 (one queen size bed, refrigerator, microwave and a shared bathroom with an adjoining guest room).

**Visiting quarters**, \$39 (one queen size bed, refrigerator, microwave and private bathroom).

**Temporary lodging facility**, \$41.50 (one and two bedroom family units with full kitchen).

**Pet TLFs** are available for an additional charge of \$10 per night. No pets are allowed in any other rooms.

All rooms are nonsmoking.

For reservations, call 374-0088 or DSN 597-4900.

## 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.

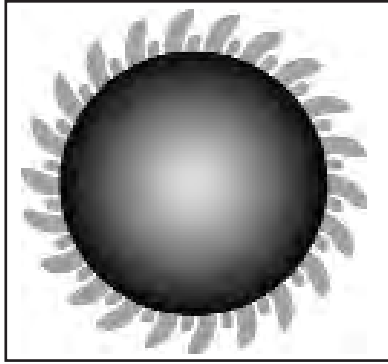
For more information, call 377-3217.

## Visitor center hours

The Keesler Visitor Center is open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and closed on weekends.

## Missing pets

For missing pets, contact the pest management unit in Building 3907, the civil engineering compound, or call 377-3317 or 348-6370, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays.



## As weather heats up, so does summer job search

The weather is warming up and the search for summer employment is heating up for many high school and college students.

This summer, Keesler needs office clerks, laborers, lifeguards, recreational aides and education clerks from May through September, or whenever the fall school term begins.

Lifeguard and educational aides applications are filed when vacancies are announced at [www.usajobs](http://www.usajobs).

Clerks, laborers and others apply directly to the civilian personnel office, Room 214, Sablich Center. Applications are accepted until June 30.

For more information, call 376-8644.

# SPORTS AND RECREATION

## 16 teams face off in intramural volleyball league



Photos by Kemberly Groue  
Kelly Just, 81st TRSS, returns a shot Monday against the 338th TRS-A in the first intramural volleyball game of the season. His teammate, Kasie Simmons, is in the background serving as a referee for the match.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Sixteen teams are competing in two divisions in this season's intramural volleyball league, according to Sam Miller, intramural sports director.

All games take place at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at Blake Fitness Center.

The 334th Training Squadron, winner of last year's championship, competes in the East Division along with the 332nd TRS-B, 333rd TRS, 336th TRS-A, 338th TRS-A, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron, 81st Training Support Squadron and 81st Dental Squadron. The division plays on Monday and Wednesday nights.

The West Division teams play on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Those squads are the 332nd TRS-B, 335th TRS, 336th TRS-B, 338th TRS-B, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 81st Security Forces Squadron and the combined 81st Force Support and Comptroller Squadron team.

For schedules, see Page 24. For more information, call Miller, 377-2444.



Jeremy Moore, left, moves in as his 338th TRS-A teammate Melanie Wooten gets into position to return a shot in Monday's game against the 81st TRSS at Blake Fitness Center. The 81st TRSS won by taking two of the three sets in the match.

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

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

About 10 percent of sexual assault victims are men.

At least two-thirds of sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows.

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

## Bowling

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

**Bowling fundraisers** — for more information, call 377-2817.

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

**Glow 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-Fridays. Bring employees bowling for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. For reservations, 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.

## Fitness centers

**African-American Heritage Committee sickle cell 5-kilometer run/walk** — April 23; 6:45 a.m. registration; 7:30 a.m. start, Blake Fitness Center, \$10-\$15. For more information, call Yolanda Jerry, 377-4632.

**Biggest loser contest** — final weigh in on or before weekend of March 19. The top two male and female contestants losing the most weight during the competition will receive a T-shirt and Subway gift card.

**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.

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

**Dragon Fitness Center** — Due to the basketball court's water damage, center hours extended for full-court basketball play 6 a.m.-11 p.m. Mondays-working Friday; 8 a.m.-1 p.m. nonworking Friday and Saturdays. Parent-child fitness room has workout equipment and play area for ages 6 months to 7 years. For more information, call 377-4385.

**Free blood pressure machines** — available at all fitness centers.

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

**Free fitness testing, exercise prescription and personal training** — at Blake, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers. For more information, call for appointment.

**Fit to fight incentive program** — Dragon slayers, dragon readers, dragon gliders and dragon riders available free at Blake, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers. Awards presented. For more information, contact the fitness center of your choice.

## March 11 fun-run benefits Haiti

The 81st Training Wing 5-kilometer fun run/walk March 11 will benefit humanitarian efforts in Haiti. The 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. event starts and ends at the Katrina Kantina.

There is no entry fee and all donations go to the American Red Cross. If contributing by check, pay to the order of the American Red Cross and annotate "for Haiti relief" in the left-hand corner.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Darold Graham, 377-9307, or Master Sgt. Steven Dickinson, 377-1780.

**Massage appointments** — at Triangle Fitness Center. For more information, call 348-6698.

**Muscle Mania powerlifting meet** — Free. Triangle Fitness Center, March 19; weigh-in at noon, compete at 1:30 p.m. Squat, bench press and deadlift. Registration deadline March 15. For more information, call 377-3056.

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

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

**St. Patrick's Day run/walk** — Free. 7 a.m. March 17; 6:30 a.m. registration in front of Blake Fitness Center. First 30 to register get T-shirts; first 75 get custom shamrock bead necklace. First place male and female finishers, \$15 Subway gift card; second place, set of terrycloth shamrock wrist bands; third place, shamrock bandana.

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

## Golf

**African-American Heritage Committee Golf Tournament** — Bay Breeze Golf Course. Sixth annual event; noon, March 11, \$40. Benefits AAHC scholarship program. For more information, call Kurt Higgins, 377-5250.

**Early spring two-person scramble tournament** — Bay Breeze Golf Course 1 p.m., March 20. Players must have golf handicap index number or verifiable handicap card. Fees: \$20 inclusive members; \$25 annual members; \$35 nonmembers. Fees include green fees, cart, refreshments, prizes and giveaways. Entry deadline March 16. Sign up in person or call 377-3832 or 435-5297.

**Golf two-day free clinic** — Bay Breeze Golf Course. 4:30 p.m. March 17-18, for beginners; 1 p.m. March 26-27 for nonprior service students only. Limit 10 students per class..

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

**Twilight special** — 1 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays; play unlimited golf until closing. Fees: E1-E4, \$12; E5-O3, \$20; O4-up, \$22, guests \$22.

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

## Outdoor recreation

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

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

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

**Canoes, kayaks** — for rent.

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

**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. For more information and to reserve, 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 a week (seven days noon to noon). Bring food, beverages, cooking utensils and bedding. Louisiana license needed to fish. For more information, call 377-3160.

**Keesler and Thrower Park RV storage facilities** — combinations changed every month until further notice. For new combination info, call 377-3160, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. the first duty day of the month.

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

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

**One-day fishing trips** — to Horn, Ship or Cat islands; pick date for charter trip to Delacroix and Reggio, La., with professional guide. For more information, call 377-3160.

**Paddle boats for rent** — two-person or four-person for \$5 per hour for minimum of two hours. For more information, call 377-3160.

**Pontoon boat training** — test to

become certified to rent a pontoon. 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.

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

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

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

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

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

## Volleyball

### Intramural league

#### East

Team	Won	Lost
338th TRS-A	0	0
81st IPTS	0	0
81st TRSS	0	0
332nd TRS	0	0
81st DS	0	0
334th TRS	0	0
333rd TRS	0	0
336th TRS-A	0	0

#### West

Team	Won	Lost
338th TRS-B	0	0
81st MDTS	0	0
335th TRS	0	0
81st LRS	0	0
332nd TRS-B	0	0
81st SFS	0	0
336th TRS-B	0	0
81st FSS-CPTS	0	0

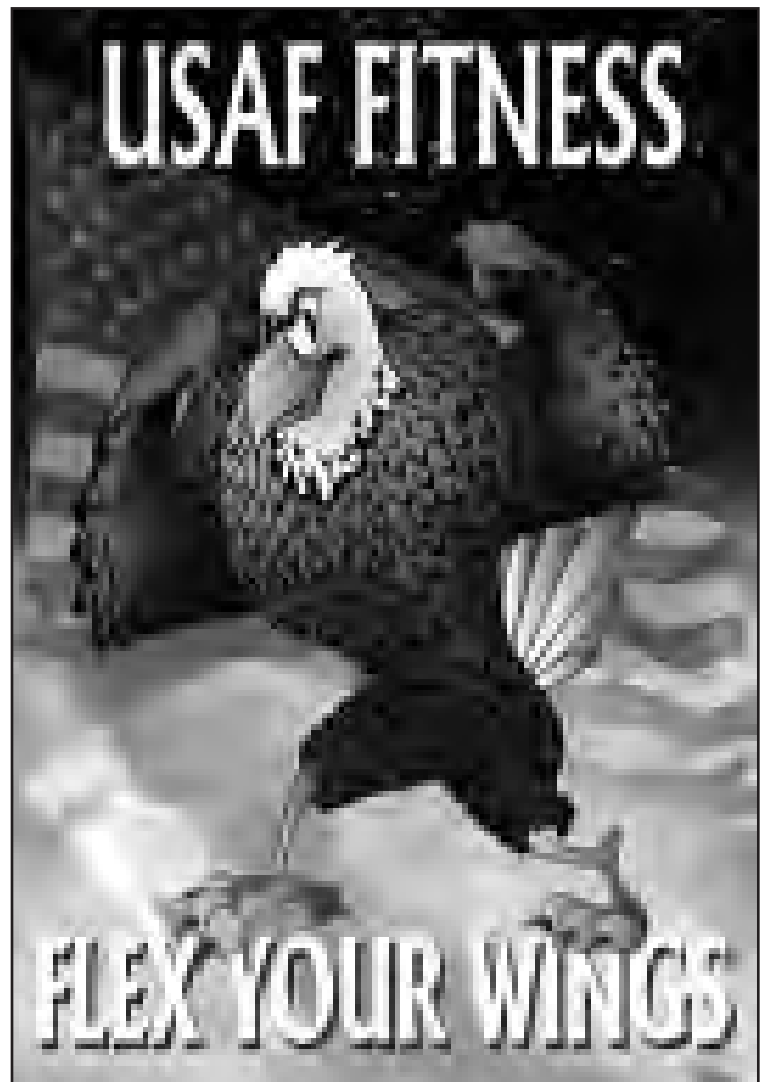
### Upcoming games

**Today** — 6 p.m. 335th TRS vs. 336th TRS-B; 7 p.m. 81st LRS vs. 332nd TRS-A; 8 p.m. 81st SFS vs. 81st MDTS.

**Monday** — 6 p.m. 334th TRS vs. 338th TRS-A; 7 p.m. 333rd TRS vs. 81st IPTS; 8 p.m. 81st TRSS vs. 332nd TRS-B.

**Tuesday** — 6 p.m. 81st SFS vs. 332nd TRS-A; 7 p.m. 338th TRS-B vs. 81st LRS; 8 p.m. 335rd TRS vs. 81FSS-CPTS.

**Wednesday** — 6 p.m. 334th TRS vs. 332nd TRS-B; 7 p.m. 336th TRS-A vs. 338th TRS-A; 8 p.m. 81st DS vs. 81st IPTS.



## HONORS

### Student honor roll

#### 332nd Training Squadron

**Electronic principles** — Airmen Basic Krystine Absher, Tyler Acton, Brianna Augustine, Kibwe Ballah, James Bellard, Richard Bordner, Jawuane Brown, Thomas Browning, Cody Cagle, Everett Xavier Campbell, Alex Casimiro, Carlos Chapa, David Costello, Aaron Covey, Benjamin Crawley, Asher Cresap, Raymond Crites, Ryan Dassow, Joshua Davisson, Craig Daw, Christopher Dewitt, Mariah Dice, Giani Dicesare, Joshua Edwards, Theodore Ehlers, Jesse Ellis, Steven Ervin, Nicholas Ferro, Timothy Freeman, Nations Gallegos, Joseph Harris, Jing Bin He, Tyler Hodge, Andrew Hoffman, Nancy Hohman, Robert Holloway, Mark Hughes, Derek Jones, Richard Kalinowski, Eric Kinsy, Bryce Koepke, Cliffeton Lawrence, Dallas Malone, Christopher McCoy, Vincent Mcquillen, Corey Meyer, Jonathon Michalek, Dustin Monahan, Scott Morris, Matthew Nixon, Lester Noa, John Norton, Kenneth Oliver, Anthony Owens, Josiah Perrin, Connor Rodriguez, Fabian Rosario, Stepahnie Rosier, Ryan Robbins, Jaymes Robinson, Corey Schacht, Theodore Schoper, Paul Senkbeil, Johns Sizemore, Devin Smith, Robert Smith, Robert Southwell, Joshua Talbert, Evan Uber, Benjamin Vanderhorst, Nicholas Vargas, Roy Vreeland, Kyle Wall, Jacob Williams and David Wilson; Airmen Ciara Arriaga, Brain Blair, Patrick Brown, Jeffrey Echevarrias, Rodney Estrella, Patrick Forbes, Isak Hobbie, Cara Hunsinger, Christopher Janousek, Jojo Jumanan, Patrick Lundquist, Blake Mcracken, Stephen Mehr, Brandon Payne, Thomas Riches, Adam Sanchez and Joshua Whiting; Airmen 1st Class Steven Argandona, Seren Aydemir, Romnick Barnes, Matthew Bekker, Daniel Berger, Justin Boiling, Kevin Brennan, Andrew Brown, Ruth Bryce, Amanda Burnell, Nicholas Burr, Julius Caluya, Corey Carte, Robert Cecil, Qiaofen Chen, Kevin Collect, Zachary Cox, Joshua Crum, Bryan Dauphinas, Bret Edie, David Evers, Alexander Farmer, Joseph Ferguson, Christopher Follante, Kenneth Gellins, Bryant Genuino, Joshua Goss, Robert Graham, Brian Hadfield, Dionte Hall, Brian Hautea; Anson Haynes, Cody Hill, Davin Hill, Jeremy Johnson, Anthony Lizada, Sergio Lopez, Rachel Lucas, Anthonie Marrone, Vesper Matthews, Ren Mckelvey, Emily Messano, Andrew Moriarity, Rebecca Nelson, Karen Oneal, Michael Osullivan, Eric Overbee, Justin Owens, Christopher Paulus, Gregory Perusse, Benjamin Plumley, Lisa Price, Cori Ream, Ryan Reynolds, Matthew Roadfeldt, Daisy Rodriguez, Omar Roque, William Sauers, Alexander Shelton, Matthew Spurgeon, James Squires, Jackson Stacey, Matthew Sughrue, Christine Tedesco, Jeremy Tharp, Matthew Thompson, Rex Thompson, Jeremy Tucker, Luke Underwood, Jeremy Untalan, William Weinmann, Daniel Whitehouse, Daniel Wiggers, Katie Williams, Setara Williams, Guy Winn, Adam Wray, Kyle Young, Tommy Young and Michael Zarbo; Senior Airmen Steven Buccat, Daniel Coffee, Andrew Cross, David Diamadi, Brandon Flynn, Eric Kamleh, Brandon Mccowan, Aaron Mckenzie, Brian Mendoza, Harold Partin, Terry Prewitt and Kathleen Welsch; Staff Sgts. Steven Carroll, Aleece Faivre, Aaron Flanigan, Cory Fonger, Hansryan Hiltl, Bruce Inthavong, Walter Kulak, Richard Lafley, Romy Mauricio, Anthony McClellan, Freida Oluwadare, Juan Oyervidez, Jose Rosasuliveres, Carlton Stokes, Alexander Tressler, Alanmichael Warner and Robert Whitfield; Tech. Sgts. Jimmy Hoe, Michael Mcgee and Jon Schmitz; Master Sgts. James Nance and Jay Watts; Chief Master Sgts. Hassan Alghurabi, Ali Al Sheri, Essa Atawi and Nasser Talea.

**Metrology basic course** — Airmen Basic Michael Alarcon and Nicholas Eddy; Airman Randall Margritz; Airmen 1st Class Jared Burrows and Timothy Matteson.

#### 334th TRS

**Aerospace control and warning systems** — Airmen Basic Donnie Klingler; Airmen Kelsey Thoms; Airmen 1st Class Robert Hansen and Nima Poitzsch; Staff Sgts. Jullie Patterson, Michael Stephens and James Vaughn.

**Airfield management** — Airmen Basic Mario Carfang, Michael Ross and Jasmine Steward; Airman Mariah Worrell; Airman 1st Class Alessandra Aceves; Senior Airman Scott Lopez; Staff Sgts. Carlo Altadonna and Jamie Caves.

**Air traffic control operations training flight** — Airmen Basic Andrew Alotis, Sam Bushery, Dustin Hoitin, Joshua Hoover, Joseph Johnson, Sarah Karam, Lyza Lacsina, Daniel Lamers, Justin Lewis, Luke Lewis, Kevin Lietz, David Maas,

Joseph McClure, Brennan Negrete, Ethan Palmer, Kyle Petkus, Nickloas Sanquist, Craig Schauble, Joshua Stainbrook, Raul Valdez and Katie Weyer; Airmen Ashley McGill, Brent Nelson and Heather Starling; Airmen 1st Class Ulysses Arango, Irene Charbonneau, Andrew Clesen, Bryan Coppens, Cass Dedaviess, Jacob Dounda, Philip Dutrisac, Philip Elisara, Matthew Greiner, Kevin Hill, Nicholas Holmes, William James, Preston Knight, Joshua McIntosh, Thomas Monroe, Kelsey Oxford, Derrick Risner, Mitchell Spees, Kathryn Tarlton, Phillip Threlkeld, Kevin Tyndall, Kimberly Westenhofer and Calvin Winfield; Staff Sgts. Michael Henderson, Matthew Morris, Tracy Smith, Joel Stover and William Torgerson.

**Aviation resource management apprentice** — Airmen Basic Chelsea Cartwright, Anthony Davis, Charles Frey, Keondra Thomas, Jonathon Vanek, David Duffus, Maranda Franklin, Adam Livingston, Carolyn Lyons, Chiquita McKenzie, Christopher Slayton, Kelly Mockerman, Chantless Lawson, Austyn Mason, Marcus Strickland, Jamie Walden and Megan Weitzel; Airmen Leroy Mallard, Kristen Phillips and Brent Harris; Airmen 1st Class Sean Smith, Breanne Spessard, Ryan King and Jessica Sandoval; Staff Sgts. Lance Hood, Andrea Conroy, Wayne Marquis and Adam Raley; Tech. Sgt. Andrew Lathrop; Master Sgt. Peter Weigman; Nathan Olson.

**Command post apprentice course** — Airmen Ronnequa Pinkney and David Sullivan; Airmen 1st Class Victoria Acuay and Matthew Doughty; Senior Airmen Jaclyn Forbes and Jessica James; Staff Sgts. Matthew Carrier, Timothy Finch, Douglas Hayes, Ryan Maline, Joshua Myers, Debra Sherwood, Zackery Smith, Robert Starkey and Sheena Wingo; Tech. Sgts. Jonathan Allen-Rivera, Shalanda Hill, Steven Martinez, Marc Tucker and Timothy Vest.

#### 335th TRS

**Comptroller training flight** — Airmen Basic Lakindra Favors, Diana Schar, Nikkolas Tessier and Nicholas Fisher; Airmen Kierra Hooker, Erinn Harper and Victor Olubiyi; Airmen 1st Class Thomas Archer, Valentina Basile, James Davis, Gerald Marshall, William Reid, Vanessa Austin, Lawrence Gilchrist, Monica West, Tyler Anderson, Brandon Couch, Sharae Echols, Khayriyyah Simmons and Antawn Knight; Senior Airmen Alexis

Fraze and Craig Eid; Staff Sgts. Jessica Gordon, Crystal Mims, Roel Mora, Douglas Carlson, Jennifer Evans and Phillip Smith; Tech. Sgts. Kevin Auth, Janice Bridget and Samantha Murphy; Master Sgt. James Ekren.

**Weather training flight** — Airmen Recruit David Cahoon and Michael McCown; Airmen Basic Joshua Hill and Linda Van Scooter; Pvts. Robert Collins and Zachary Mote; Airman Apprentice Annabell Uhrich; Airmen Richard Schultz, Brettany Smith and Lenora Wyatt; Psfc. Corey Chidester, David Colarusso, Sean Cooper, Jared Countess and Oscar Saldivar; Navy Airman Alex Boston; Airmen 1st Class Brandon Alvarez, Andrew Casper, Jessica Gamble, Spencer Hancock, Erica Hollier, Brett Hunnicutt, Ryan Hunt, Brendan McDermott, Bradley Murdock, Justin Payne, Garrett Poulson, Heather Rieck, Ebony Simmons and Erick Smith; Lance Cpl. Tyler Feuerhake; Cpl. Rene Duran; Senior Airmen Michael Bialecki and James Samons; Staff Sgts. Mark Gomez, Joshua Music, Michael Norris, Justin Poston and Eric Sanford.

#### 338th TRS

**Communications-computer flight** — Airmen Basic Stephen Baran, Nathan Martinez, Bryson Silao, Manuel Sisneros, Tyler Wolfe and Miguel Rivera-Zamudio; Airmen Ronald Bauer, Tyler Mitchell, Patrick Nance, Steven Rieff, Vernon Rogers and Scott Weiss; Airmen 1st Class Steve Djie, Jonathan Holliday, Chelsea Nordquist, Darrin Parkhurst and Alric Schmidt; Senior Airman Gary Isbell; Staff Sgts. Jesse Chattin and Patrick McElveen; Tech. Sgt. Joseph Aviles; Senior Master Sgt. Sarah Weaver.

**Cyber transport systems** — Airmen 1st Class Joshua Domke and Sean Filer; Senior Airman Manuel Navarro.

**Ground radar systems** — Airman Basic Jacob Eng; Airman 1st Class Christopher Brown; Senior Airmen James Bisson and Gary Martin.

## CLASSES

### Airman Leadership School

Class 10-3 — Graduation March 30.

### Mathies NCO Academy

Class 10-3 — Graduation April 10.

### Airman and family readiness center

**Home-buying information seminar** — 1-3 p.m. March 17, Sablich Center, Room 121A. Class size limited to 20. For more information and to sign up, call 376-8728.

### Arts and crafts center

**Advanced intarsia woodworking** — 10 a.m. to noon March 13 and March 27; \$20 including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood in a decorative pattern.

**Beginning intarsia woodworking** — 10 a.m. to noon Saturday and March 20; \$15, including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood in a decorative pattern.

**Beginning woodworking** — 5-7 p.m. Wednesdays; \$25, including materials to make a cutting board. This class will certify you to use the equipment in the future.

**Card making** — 10:30 a.m. to noon March 20; \$7 per person.

**Engraving shop** — squadron, office and individual orders.

**Glass painting** — 10:30 a.m. to noon March 20 and 27; \$25, including a completed painted project.

**Jewelry making** — 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday and 5-7 p.m. March 25; \$30, including materials. Learn wire wrapping and tooling.

**Pottery** — 10:30 a.m. to noon, March 13 and 27. \$40.

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

**Open house** — 5-7 p.m. March 11 and 25. Demos, food and door prizes.

**Scrapbooking** — 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday and 5-7 p.m. March 11; \$20 including materials.

**St. Patrick's Day special** — guess the number of jelly beans in our pot-of-gold until March 16 and win a prize.

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 Live Oak dining facility. Call 377-2520 or 0327.

### Latter-Day Saints

Sacrament, 2 p.m. Sundays; scripture and prayer, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, family home evening, 7 p.m. Fridays; all at Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 1-919-580-8679.

### 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,

from Page 25

**Wood shop** — stocked retail lumber and large assembly area adjacent to machine room available. Call for class information.

## Chapel

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

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

**Protestant Sunday School** — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for preschool, elementary, teens and adults.

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

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

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

**Grief Share support group** — meets 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Triangle Chapel Annex. One-on-one and group support available for people experiencing difficult relationships or work situations, loss of a loved one or job, divorce, health issues and grief. For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Garrell Calton, 376-3095 or Glenda Woodard or Delphine McIntyre, 377-2531.

## 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

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

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

**Fairy tale scavenger hunt** — 5:30-6 p.m. March 22, ages 5-12.

**Free computer classes** — March 17, 24, 31 and April 7. Ultra beginners 9-11 a.m.; not-so-ultra beginners 1-3 p.m.; basic Microsoft Word 3:30-4:45 p.m. Preregistration required. For information, call 377-2181.

**Free wireless Internet** — check at circulation desk.

**Paperback book swap** — swap for one of same genre.

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

**Online catalog** — to search inventory, log on to <http://www.keesler-services.us>, click McBride Library, then online catalog.

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

**Research databases** — comprehensive research capabilities. Many specialty areas.

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

**St. Patrick's Day story time** — 10 a.m. March 17. Stories read aloud and told in sign language. Pick a surprise out of the pot-of-goodies.

**Story time** — 10 a.m. Tuesdays for ages 3-5. Stories will be read aloud and told in sign language.

**Tours/orientations** — for more information, call 377-2604.

**Volunteers needed** — to shelve books, assist with children's story time and create displays. For more information, call 377-2181.

## CLUBS AND CENTERS

### Vandenberg Community Center

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

**Dances** — 7:30 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays, and Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

**Legends Café** — buffet specials 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

## 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.

**Chili special** — 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays; \$1 a bowl for members, \$1.50 for nonmembers.

**Lunch** — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays; \$6 for club members, \$8 for nonmembers.

**St. Patrick's Day special** — 5-7 p.m. March 17. Wings and things, \$1 green beer and door prizes. Keesler club members get in free; nonmembers pay \$3 at the door.

**Wings and things** — 5-7 p.m. March 31. Free for Keesler club members; nonmembers pay \$3 at the door. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and \$1 domestic draft beer.

## Youth center

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

**Classes** — Guitar, piano and gymnastic classes available. For more information, call 377-4116.

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

**Friday night fun** — 6:30-9:30 p.m. for ages 6-12. Skating, music, games and more; \$5 admission.

**Imagine makers photo contest** — through March. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Open recreation** — 3-5:45 p.m. Mondays-Fridays for ages 9-12; teens 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 3-6 p.m. Fridays. Computer media center, homework assistance "Power Hour" program and triple-play sports and recreation activities. Students sign themselves in at front desk.

**Soccer registration** — March 1-April 16 for ages 4-14; \$50 first child, \$25 each additional child, including uniform and participation award. Scrimmage games April 17; first official game April 24. Season runs through June 5. Coming June 7-11, British soccer challenger sports camp. For more information, call 377-4116.

**Spring camps** — March 29-April 2. School age camp for ages 6-12; tween/teen camp for youth in middle, junior high and high school.

**Tae Kwon Do class** — 5:30-6:15 p.m. Wednesdays and 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 377-4116.

**TRAIL** — 6-8 p.m. Mondays.

**Youth employment service** — earn money for college tuition. For more information, call 377-4116.

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

## TICKETS AND TRIPS

**Discounted tickets** — for more 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.

**Tour bus** — available for group rental, seats 23.

## TRANSITIONS

### Workshops, briefings

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

**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 1 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 111, Sablich Center, for those separating and 2:30 p.m. for those retiring. If separating or retiring under special circumstances, call 376-8728 for appointment.

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

Please see **Digest**, Page 27

## DINING HALL MENUS

### Today

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

**Dinner** — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, vegetables, okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, chili, broccoli soup, bean and ham soup, buffalo wings and roast beef sub.

### Friday

**Lunch** — shrimp scampi, beef stew, roast turkey, egg noodles, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, cauliflower, collard greens, three-bean salad, pasta soup, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle soup, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

**Dinner** — chili macaroni, barbecue chicken, fried catfish, potato wedges, Spanish rice, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, broccoli, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle soup, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

### Saturday

**Lunch** — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, corn, asparagus, squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and chicken nuggets.

**Dinner** — baked fish, knockwurst, Chinese five-spice chicken, potatoes, rice, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, creamed corn, spinach, fruit salad, bean salad, chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and chicken nuggets.

### Sunday

**Lunch** — oven fried fish, spareribs, chicken parmesan, macaroni and cheese, O'Brien potatoes, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

**Dinner** — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, orange- and honey-glazed ham, sauteed mushrooms and onions, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

### Monday

**Lunch** — beef pot roast, baked stuffed fish, roast pork loin, potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans with mushrooms, cucumber onion salad, macaroni salad, chili con queso, Tuscan vegetable, cheeseburger chowder, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

**Dinner** — spaghetti with meat sauce, loin strip steak, turkey, baked potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, squash, carrots, broccoli, sauteed mushrooms and onions, cucumber onion salad, macaroni salad, chili con queso, Tuscan vegetable, cheeseburger chowder, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

### Tuesday

**Lunch** — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, baked fish, rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, cabbage, succotash, carrots, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, timberline chili, minestrone, baja chicken enchilada, barbecue beef, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

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

### Wednesday

**Lunch** — fried chicken, cajun baked fish, jalapeno cornbread, barbecue ribs, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, okra tomato gumbo, fried cabbage, cole slaw, frijole salad, chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

**Dinner** — lemon-herb chicken, pork chalupa, jambalaya, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, califlower combo, Mexican corn, broccoli, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and pizza.

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

## The Airman's Creed

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

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

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

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

## Digest,

from Page 26

**Transition assistance program** — The Department of Labor's program is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. the first three days; the fourth day is the Veterans Affairs benefits brief from 8-11 a.m. and the retirement benefits briefs from 1-4 p.m. The schedule is March 8-11; April 12-15; May 10-13; June 14-17; July 19-20; Aug. 9-12; Sept. 13-16; Oct. 18-21; Nov. 15-18; Dec. 13-16. To register, call 376-8728.

## MEETINGS

**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** — 7 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Live Oak Dining Facility. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Rich Striggow, 377-4800, or visit <http://chapter.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](mailto:auxiliary.president@afsa652.org).

**Airman's Council** — meets every first and third Tuesday at 4 p.m., Sablich Auditorium. For more information, call Senior Airman Alonda West, 377-2994.

**Airmen Against Drunk Driving** — For more information, call Airman 1st Class Mackenzie Jackson, 377-5511; Senior Airman Rose Mabe, 377-2331, 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](mailto: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 or visit <http://www.keeslercap.org>.

**Company grade officers council** — 4:30 p.m. every second Wednesday at the Katrina Kantina at the marina. For more information, call Capt. Jermaine Jordan, 377-1704.

**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 Mondays at Locker House. Enter courtyard near Second Street. Enter door marked "T flight" and go straight ahead to sign saying "K5TYP."

**Keesler Spouses Club** — second Tuesdays. For more information, e-mail Devalynn Solomon, [deesolomon@cableone.net](mailto:deesolomon@cableone.net), or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

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

**Top III** — second Tuesday of the month. Meetings are 7 a.m. at Live Oak Dining Facility in January, March, May, July, September and November; 3:30 p.m. remaining months at Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tammy McElroy, 376-3164.

**Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter** — 5 p.m. first Thursdays, McBride Library. For more information, call Glenda Mosby, 243-1992, [gmosby1@bellsouth.net](mailto:gmosby1@bellsouth.net), or Charles Bowers, 860-3665.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Movies

**Editor's note:** Movies shown in Welch Auditorium; \$3 adults, \$1.50 children for regular features; \$2.50 adults and \$1 children for matinees. For upcoming features, call 377-6627.