

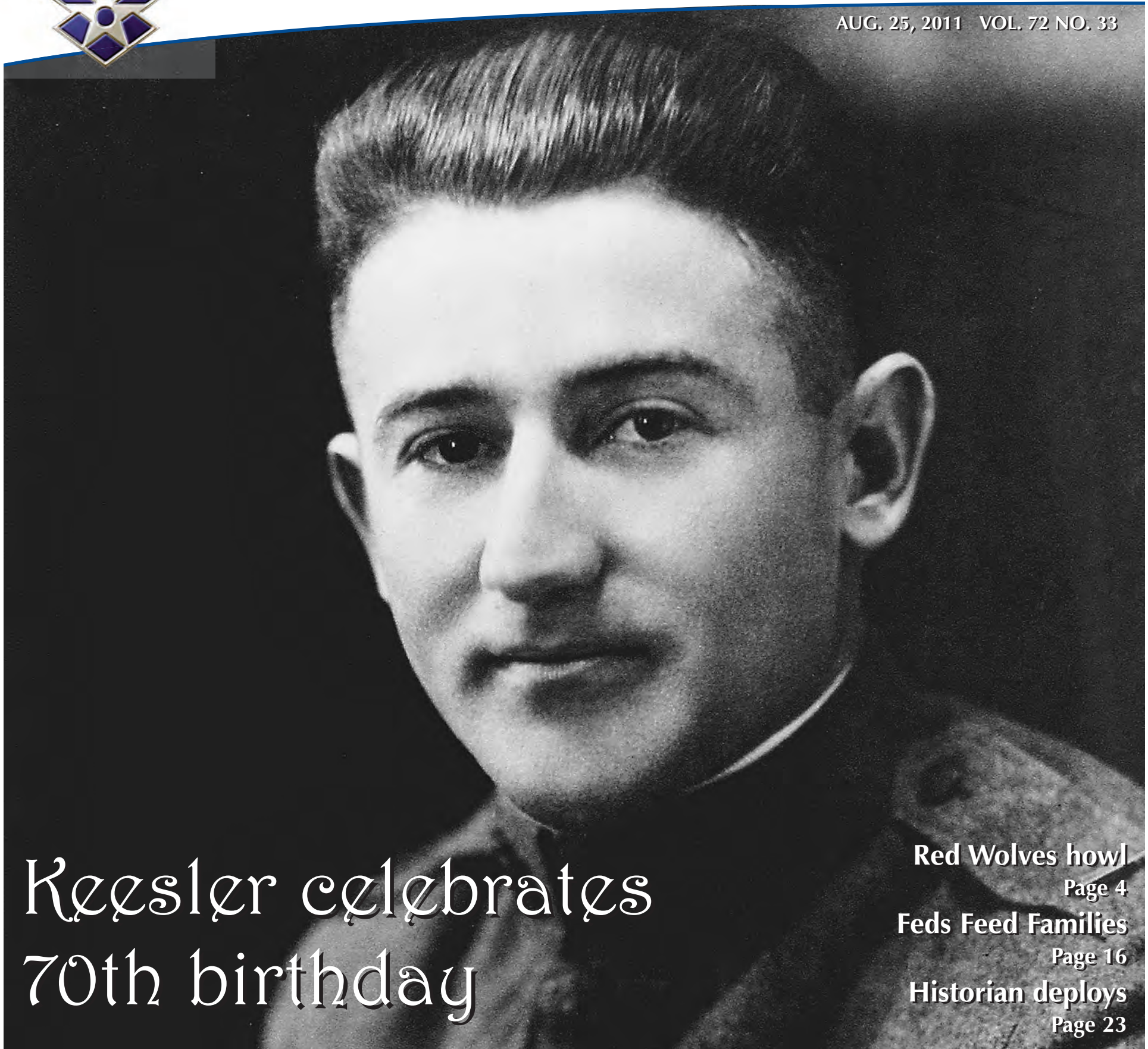


KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

AUG. 25, 2011 VOL. 72 NO. 33



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www.keesler.af.mil

Keesler celebrates 70 years of service to America

By Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller

81st Training Wing commander

Seventy years ago today, Army Air Corps Field No. 8 was officially designated Keesler Army Airfield in honor of 2nd Lt. Samuel Reeves Keesler, a native of Greenwood, Miss. Keesler was an Army air observer who perished during World War I during a combat mission over Verdun, France.

Originally activated as a technical training base for aviation and engine mechanics, by 1949 the base was widely known as the electronic technical training center of the Air Force, hosting training courses in specialized electronics such as radar and shortwave radios, as well as other skill sets including metrology and air traffic control.

Seventy years later, Team Keesler is still recognized for its excellence in carrying out its technical training mission. How we do our mission today and the facilities we have to support this mission is a product of our 70 years of heritage. Within this heritage, there are several enduring themes which still resonate today.

Training

Without a doubt, training is the foundation of our heritage. Since 1941, more than 2 million students have graduated from technical training courses

taught at Keesler, earning initial qualifications in a variety of skill sets. Be certain — providing relevant technical training is as important to the Air Force mission today as it was when the 301st, 303rd and 304th Technical Training Squadrons were activated in September 1941. The standards we set and the examples we provide right here have served as enduring examples for every Airman who has walked through the gates.

Caring

Since 1939, when the citizens of Biloxi donated the land to build a technical training school on the Gulf Coast, taking care of our Airmen has been a dominant theme in our base heritage and our community partnership with the City of Biloxi. As early as 1949, the Air Force invested almost \$7 million to build more than 800 homes for the families stationed at Keesler. In 1957, a 352-bed hospital was opened to provide world-class medical care for Airmen and their families. The 81st Medical Group still operates this facility today, providing the most modern medical care in specialized areas such as radiology and oncology, interventional cardiology and advanced dentistry. In 2010, the Keesler Airman and Family Readiness Center is recognized as one of the best in the Air Force, carrying on our rich heritage of caring for airmen

Innovating

Bringing the newest and latest technology into the Air Force has also been a mainstay of our heritage. In 1962, the 3380th Training Wing was the first technical training center to introduce television technology into the classroom. In 1973, the base welcomed the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron with its one-of-a-kind hurricane hunting mission. Later the 403rd Tactical Airlift Wing — which today we know as the 403rd Wing — is the largest air reserve wing equipped with C-130J aircraft. In 2010, the 81st Training Group embarked on a complete modernization of the communications and information training to build a cyberspace training schoolhouse and the first-ever undergraduate cyber training program for the Air Force. Being responsible for all the initial training which qualifies Airmen to operate in the cyberspace domain affords all of us at Keesler the unique opportunity to impact the future of the Air Force mission in cyberspace.

Since 1941, Keesler has been recognized as one of the top bases in our Air Force, a reputation we proudly maintain today. Respect the 70 years of heritage which made our base what it is today. Take pride in your contribution to Team Keesler's rich history of training, caring and innovating. **Train to Fight. Train to Win.**

Storms are brewing — are you ready?

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

I settled into my chair early Tuesday with a steaming cup of coffee, my newspaper and my morning companion — The Weather Channel.

Usually, I let those familiar faces tell me know whether to carry an umbrella or grab a sweater. This morning, an ominous tracking map showed the all-too-familiar hurricane symbol with a large red “2” to mark the growth and forward progress of Hurricane Irene. About a dozen projected paths all target Florida and the East Coast, away from Mississippi's shore. I breathed a sigh of relief.

The Hurricane Hunters from the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron are hot on Irene's trail. The experienced team is credited with improving the forecast of the National Hurricane Center by 30 percent.

Tuesday's forecast from the National Hurricane Center expects Irene to become a Category 3 storm today and strike somewhere along the coast of the Carolinas. A Category 3 storm has winds up to 130 mph and a storm surge of up to 12 feet.

So South Mississippi is safe — so why am I so uneasy?

Maybe it's because Monday is the sixth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's landfall on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Recent arrivals to Keesler have no doubt heard the horror stories and I'm sure that more than a few of these people think that our Katrina memories are exaggerations. They aren't.

Katrina strengthened to a Category 5 level before striking our coastline as a strong Category 3 storm with winds of 125 mph. The storm surge in Biloxi topped 20 feet in some places. If you drive around East

Biloxi with its many vacant lots and concrete slabs, you might notice a blue stripe painted on some of the utility poles. That's how high the water rose in that area.

Keesler had no deaths, but nearly a billion dollars in damages.

My apprehension is probably rooted in the knowledge that after several years of relatively minor tropical storm activity in our area, complacency can set in. As long as the storm is headed somewhere else, why worry about it?

I was born here and have experienced more hurricanes than I care to remember. Even so, I don't have a hurricane preparedness kit. I don't have an ample supply of bottled water, nonperishable food or batteries.

So Hurricane Irene can be a warning to all of us. The old adage, “It's better to be safe than sorry,” is wise advice.

PREPARING for the storm



For hurricane preparation information, log on to www.keesler.af.mil and click on the Hurricane Season 2011 icon at the top right of the home page.

ON THE COVER

Aug. 25, 1941, Army Air Corps Station No. 8 was officially designated Keesler Army Airfield in honor of 2nd Lt. Samuel R. Keesler, a World War I aerial observer. Keesler, a native of Greenwood, Miss., died after being shot down in air combat with four German aircraft in World War I. For more Keesler heritage highlights and photos, see Pages 21-22. For Saturday's birthday events, see Page 13.

Air Force photo



KEESLER NEWS

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DRAGONS ON THE STREET

By Kemberly Groue

Keesler News photojournalist

What is
your personal
cheer-up
technique?



"Spend time with my family."

Staff Sgt. Jakavious Pickett, 81st Security Forces Squadron



"Working out four days a week in the gym."

David Bethea, retired senior master sergeant of Ocean Springs



"Running with retired colonel Wayne Barnett."

Ann Layton, spouse of Capt. Darrin Layton, 334th Training Squadron

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Red Wolves dominate drill down



Airman Basic Daniel Bruce, Red Wolves drill instructor, shows some winning moves during the freestyle competition.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

There was no question about the overall winner of Friday's 81st Training Group drill down competition.

The Red Wolves of the 336th Training Squadron dominated the field with first place finishes in open ranks, regulation drill and freestyle drill to win their third drill down of the 2011 season.

The 336th TRS team also claimed the top spot in the February and June contest.

The Bulls from the 335th TRS came in second place overall, with second place in freestyle and regulation drills.

The only other team to earn an overall win this season, the 334th TRS Gators, finished third overall, with third place finishes in each category. The Gators won first place overall in April's competition.

The 338th TRS Dark Knights took second place in open ranks.

Airmen on the 336th TRS drill team are:

Regulation drill — Airman Ariles Amokrane, drill master; Airmen Basic Johnny Chhuor, Ryan Hacker, Kevin Heidt and Emily Keough; and Airmen 1st Class Thomas Cluney, Jonathan Person, Michael Akins and Lorelei McCann.

Freestyle drill — Airman Basic Daniel Bruce, drill instructor; Airmen Basic Kiara Daniels, Andrew Freeman, Gabriel McMaster, Ronald Priestera and Andre Tucker; Airmen Michael Bordes and Austin Manuel; and Airman 1st Class Daniel Ricker.

Open ranks — Airmen 1st Class Maribel Cardenas, Douglas Carroll, Aaron Eldridge, Nicholas Gray, Michel Hallit, Christa Little, John Pelle, Christopher Pineda and Melissa Yarger.

The final drill down of the season is 8 a.m. Oct. 28 on the drill pad.



From left, Airman Erica Whitney, Airman 1st Class Anthony Baker and Airman Basic David Lowe compete with the 335th TRS freestyle drill team. Baker was the drill master for the team.

Photos by Kemberly Groue

Feeding the future

From left, Airmen Basic Patryk Herman and Derrick Dillion, 338th Training Squadron students, are served pizza by Staff Sgt. Tawny Crutcher, Tech. Sgt. Charles Poston, Staff Sgt. Charmaine Flint, Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Miller and Master Sgt. Jakelyne Kamarakafego, members of the Air Force Sergeants Association. Crutcher is from the chapel staff, Poston is from the 333rd TRS, Flint is from the 81st Force Support Squadron and Miller and Kamarakafego are from the 335th TRS. In addition to pizza, the nonprior service students were treated to ice cream and cookies for dessert at the Fishbowl Student Center Aug. 18.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



In case of fire ...



Top, Airman 1st Class Matthew Whelan, a Keesler firefighter, climbs the extended fire truck ladder toward the air traffic control tower as part of fire rescue training Aug. 17.

Right, Keesler firefighter Raymond Bell extends the fire truck ladder and carefully places it against the tower as a means of escape during the exercise.

Photos by Kemberly Groue





Capt. Michael Balzotti, 334th Training Squadron, salvages the wreckage of his cardboard boat after the “Sure Hope It Floats” cardboard boat regatta Saturday at the Triangle Pool. He and Staff Sgt. Jason Ware, first mate from the 81st Dental Squadron, had the first craft to sink, earning them the Davy Jones Locker trophy.

Regatta, luau highlight end-of-season pool party



Airman 1st Class Nathaniel Whitfield, top, and Airman Basic James Iams, 335th TRS students, join the biggest splash competition with their “belly busters.”



Bartender Jenna Kent at the Vandenberg Community Center serves a non-alcoholic daiquiri to Airman Basic Adrianna Shaw, 334th TRS student.

Right, even a beach ball barrage by Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller can't keep Senior Airmen Justin Kent, left, and Airman 1st Class Gerad Lee, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, from winning the cardboard boat regatta. Mueller is commander of the 81st Training Wing.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Changes to Post 9/11 GI Bill going into effect

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON — Department of Veterans Affairs officials are reaching out to inform veterans of recent changes made by Congress to the Post 9/11 GI Bill that take effect in 2011.

“The Post 9/11 GI Bill is incredibly important because it reduces the financial burdens of higher education so that veterans have an opportunity to achieve their education goals,” said Gen. Allison Hickey, undersecretary for benefits. “VA believes it is important for veterans to be aware of changes to the GI Bill this year and learn more about how these changes may affect them.

“It’s hard to believe how far we have all come with the Post-9/11 GI Bill the past two years,” she said. “Today, more than 537,000 students have received over \$11.5 billion in GI Bill benefits to help them take charge of their future.”

Changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill, effective Aug. 1, include paying the actual net cost of all public in-state tuition and fees rather than basing payments upon the highest in-state tuition and fee rates for every state, capping private and foreign tuition at \$17,500 per academic year and ending payments during certain school breaks, to preserve veterans’



entitlement for future academic semesters.

Also, certain students attending private schools in select states can now continue to receive benefits at the same rate payable during the previous academic year.

Beginning Oct. 1, eligible individuals will be able to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for programs such as non-college degrees, on-the-job training and correspondence courses, and they will be eligible to

receive a portion of the national monthly housing allowance rate when only enrolled in distance learning courses.

VA officials are implementing the latest round of changes to the Post 9/11 GI Bill and have already begun processing fall 2011 enrollment certifications. The VA outreach has helped to increase participation by colleges and universities in the Yellow Ribbon program, which helps students avoid out-of-pocket costs that may exceed the benefit. Currently, more than 2,600 schools are participating in the Yellow Ribbon program.

“VA is committed to ensuring veterans have the information and tools they need to succeed,” Hickey said.

Complete information on the Post-9/11 GI Bill is available at: www.gibill.va.gov. VA’s education information phone number is: 1-888-GIBILL-1.

For ongoing benefit information, veterans and service members can log into the VA eBenefits website at www.eBenefits.va.gov.

To ask a question in a secure e-mail, use the “Ask a Question” tab at: <https://www.gibill2.va.gov/cgi-bin/vba.cfg/php/enduser/ask.php>.

More news, videos, information and photos on the Web at <http://www.keesler.af.mil>

Mobile app prepares recruits for Air Force life

By Dianne Moffett

Air Education and Training Command
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — A free mobile phone application geared toward people preparing for life in the Air Force and focusing on physical training was released this summer.

The mobile app, called “Fundamentals,” is available for download from the iTunes Store and the Android Market.

“The application will help Air Force candidates prepare for basic military training and ensure they arrive in better physical condition,” said Maj. Sandra Magaña, the Air Education and Training Command chief of future learning capabilities.

The physical training segment of the app includes menus for warm-up and cool-down plus pre-exercise preparation, she said. Instructional videos teach candidates running techniques and how to properly perform sit ups,



push ups and pull ups are featured as well.

Also included is a video to teach exercises that are designed to rapidly improve muscular strength by doing three 1-minute sets of push-ups or sit-ups, officials said. The app has a tracking tool for the user to record improved muscular strength. Users will also be

able to link to the BMT website to view and use their 14-week workout schedule.

Other segments contained in the app include Airmen fundamentals, such as the Heritage Hall to learn the Airman’s Creed, the Air Force song and core values, officials said. The Hall of Ranks has enlisted and officer ranks with

insignias and a game to help learn instant recognition. The uniform issue segment has information and photos of the Airman Battlefield Uniform, physical training uniform, service and service dress uniforms.

Carol Wall, the project manager for AETC’s future capabilities branch of the future learning division, said the app is pretty extensive and received its inspiration from the Army’s Future Soldier Training System.

“Our application is fully comprehensive; not only does it show you the proper form for exercises, but it shows you how to get ready for exercise and allows you to track your progress,” Ms. Wall said. “This application is a great tool for all Airmen to prepare for their physical training assessment and for all candidates to prepare for basic military training.”

The app was created for AETC by General Dynamics Information Technology.

Lost & Found

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

Exceptions to
Keesler’s
25 mph
speed limit are:
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.



Instructors needed at Air Force Academy

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Opportunities are available for active-duty officers to apply for U.S. Air Force Academy instructor vacancies for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Interested officers must apply by Sept. 15 for dean of faculty, preparatory school and athletic department positions. Limited positions are also available at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.; and the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, Long Island, N.Y.

Eligible applicants include first lieutenants through lieutenant colonels who will have a minimum of four years time on station between June 1 and Dec. 1, 2012. Those stationed overseas must be eligible to return from overseas between May and December 2012.

This special duty assignment is a controlled, three-year maximum tour, and officers must be released by their Air Force Personnel Center core officer assignment team in order to compete.

Officers must submit a completed Air Force Form 3849, PME/AFIT/RTFB Officer Worksheet, to the Academic and Special Utilization Branch by Sept 15, and AFPC will notify officers selected for assignment by Jan. 10, 2012.

For more information, go to the Air Force personnel services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil/app/home> and search for USAFA opportunities.

CCAF deadline

Friday is the deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force fall graduation.

By that date, all supporting documentation must be on file at CCAF at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., including your nomination action request.

For more information, visit Room 224, Sablich Center, or call 376-8708 or 8710.

OTS recruiting boards

Dates for Officer Training School recruiting service boards:

Rated — Dec. 1 applica-

tion cutoff for Jan. 23; June 21, 2012, cutoff for Aug. 13, 2012.

Non-rated — March 1 cutoff for April 16.

CALT program

The Civilian Acculturation and Leadership Program is a two-week in-residence course patterned after the Officer Training School curriculum.

CALT is open to Air Force civilians in permanent General Service 7-13 with a bachelor's degree and two to five years experience.

Applications are open on a continuing basis.

Nominees can apply by completing the Air Force

Civilian Competitive Development Nomination Form.

Seven classes are offered between October and September 2012. Classes are open until all seats are filled.

For more information, call 376-8161 or log on to Air Force Personnel Services.

Civilian tuition aid

Civilians using tuition assistance must receive a grade of "C" or higher for undergraduate classes or a grade of "B" or higher for graduate classes.

Failure to do so results in reimbursement to the government for its portion of paid tuition assistance.

Course grades must be provided to education services within two weeks of course completion.

For more information, call 376-8708.

Manager certification

The Community College of the Air Force awards professional manager certification that recognizes an individual's advanced level of education and experience in leadership and management, as well as professional accomplishments.

For more information, log on to <http://www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/certifications.asp> or call 376-8708 or 8710.



Annual charitable campaign is launched Sept. 1 at Keesler

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The 2011 Combined Federal Campaign kicks off Sept. 1 with two special events at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

The Southern Mississippi Combined Federal Campaign kickoff breakfast is at 8 a.m.

At 3:30 p.m., the base's drive begins in conjunction with the monthly promotion and recognition ceremony.

This year marks CFC's 50th anniversary, according to Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, who's chairing the regional CFC coordinating committee.

"CFC's mission is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee-focused, cost efficient and effective in providing all federal employees to make meaningful differences and improve the quality of life for all," the general said.

CFC offers federal civilian, postal and military employees the opportunity to donate through simple payroll deduction to more than 20,000 health and human service charities around the world. Donors may designate contributions to their preferred recipients.

The Keesler drive runs through Oct. 14 and the regional campaign ends Dec. 15.

CFC was developed to eliminate year-round solicitation in the workplace by charitable organizations and has become the hallmark of charitable giving.

"Since the inception of the Combined Federal Campaign in 1961, federal employees have contributed nearly \$7 billion to a variety of charities," Mueller said. "Last year, generous federal employees collectively donated \$281.5 million to CFC charities throughout the world."

The goal for this year's regional campaign is \$730,000, with 25 percent participation among federal employees.

"In recent years, the south Mississippi CFC campaign has done a phenomenal job at exceeding the financial goal, but has fallen short in the number of participants, which shows that our generous contributors have big hearts," the general pointed out. "Our support can have a powerful impact on a global as well as a local level. Even a modest donation can make a huge difference to those in need."

For more information or to make a contribution, contact your unit CFC representative.

IN THE NEWS

Sunshade work affects base access

81st Security Forces Squadron

Sunshades are being installed at Keesler's gates this weekend:

Meadows Drive Gate — 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

White Avenue Gate — 4-9 p.m. Saturday; traffic limited to single lanes in and out on west side of the gate.

Pass Road Gate — noon to 6 p.m. Sunday; traffic limited to single lanes in and out on north side of gate.

81st AMDS change of command

Lt. Col. Brian Casleton relinquishes command of the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron to Lt. Col. William Hurtle, 8 a.m. Tuesday in front of the Keesler Hospital.

Hurtle comes to Keesler from Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, where he commanded the 48th AMDS bioenvironmental engineering flight.

Casleton will command the 455th Expeditionary Medical Operations Squadron at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

Air Force Ball is Sept. 17

Sept. 17, the Air Force Association Stennis Chapter hosts an Air Force Ball at the Bay Breeze Event Center to celebrate the Air Force's 64th birthday.

Log on to www.gulfcoastairforceball.org for more information

Dental residency program review

The Commission on Dental Accreditation is reviewing the general practice and endodontics residency programs of the 81st Medical Group Nov. 15-16.

Third-party comments from students and patients are solicited by CODA until Sept. 15, 60 days prior to the scheduled review. Such comments must pertain only to the standards for the particular program or policies and procedures used in the commission's accreditation process.

A copy of the appropriate accreditation standards and/or the commission's policy on third-party comments may be obtained by contacting the commission at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611, or by calling 1-800-621-8099, extension 4653.

Many of the CODA standards and policies also are available at the American Dental Association's website at www.ada.org/100.aspx. Comments are screened by commission staff for relevancy. For comments not relevant to these issues, the individual is notified that the comment is not related to accreditation and, where appropriate, referred to the appropriate agency.

For local questions, consult the program directors or the 81st Dental Squadron Residency Flight Commander, 606 Fisher Street, Keesler AFB, MS 39535, or call 376-5190.

Early Keesler News deadline

The deadline for the Sept. 8 issue of the Keesler News is noon Sept. 1 because of the Labor Day holiday, Sept. 5.

Dragons deployed — 373



**A Hospitable Welcome
To . . .
Air Force Families**

The people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast extend a hospitable welcome to Air Force families. May your stay here be both pleasant and productive. During your tour of duty at Keesler Air Force Base, we request that you think of our communities as your "home away from home." You are now honorary citizens of the Mississippi Coast!

This advertisement from the 1960-61 Keesler Base Guide reflects the support of Keesler's community partners. Then and now, Keesler is proud to share its progress and success with the communities, businesses and people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Happy Birthday Keesler Air Force Base!

70 Years of Excellence... With a Touch of Class!

Birthday Golf Scramble

8 a.m. Aug. 27 at the Bay Breeze Golf Course

Four-person, select-shot tournament; must have a verifiable handicap. \$40 per player; includes greens, cart, coffee, pastries, lunch, beverages, prizes and giveaways. Preregistration is required. To sign up or for more information, call 377-3832.

**Demo
Day!**



Family Birthday Party

*Free for the
whole family!*

9 a.m. to noon Aug. 27 at the Bay Breeze Event Center

Activities & refreshments: games, clown, face-painting, inflatables, pony rides, arts and crafts, cookies, ice cream and more! For more information, call 377-4116.



Keesler's Birthday Gala

7-11 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Bay Breeze Event Center

Join us in the ballroom for a special themed event featuring live entertainment by Big Band Theory, dancing, scotch & cigar sampling, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a photo booth. Enjoy an evening of southern charm, come dressed Kentucky Derby style. Prizes awarded for best dressed!

AF club members \$15, nonmembers \$20. Purchase tickets at the Bay Breeze Club and pro shop, the marina and Gaudé Lanes Bowling Center. For more information, call 377-1690 and 377-2334.





PERSONNEL NOTES

Online job fairs

Airman and family readiness center

Veterans and military spouses looking for work can participate in online job fairs if they have an Internet connection.

The free service has more than 15,000 jobs available from more than 80 industry leading employers. Quarterly large events and regional fairs. Veterans can register and visit the environment at anytime day or night, regardless of location..

For more information, log on to www.veteranscareerfair.com or call 202-558-2899, extension 101.

ID 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 non-training 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.

Transition assistance classes

81st Force Support Squadron

The airman and family readiness center plans the following classes for 2011 at the Sablich Center.

For more information or to preregister for classes, call 376-8728.

Mandatory pre-separation briefings — 1 p.m. Tuesdays for those separating with honorable discharges and 2:30 for retirees, Room 110. Bring one copy of separation or retirement orders. This appointment is required by law, and must be accomplished 90 calendar days before the separation or retirement date. For short-notice separations or retirements, the briefing should be done as soon as possible. Medical separation must receive a one-on-one briefing.

Transition assistance program workshops — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 12-14, Oct. 17-19, Nov. 14-16 and Dec. 12-14, Room 108A. Dress is business casual; no jeans, T-shirts or uniforms.

Veterans benefits briefing — 8-11 a.m. Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15, Room 108A.

Retirement briefings — 1-3:30 p.m. Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15, Room 108A; for members with less than a year until retirement.

Executive transition assistance workshop — Dec. 6-9 for colonels and chief master sergeants with the necessary knowledge and skills to organize their search for a second career in the private, nonprofit and government sector. Air Education and Training Command headquarters facilitates this workshop. For more information, call Robert Bertels, DSN 487-2669.

Keesler participates in federal campaign to feed needy families

Airman 1st Class Michael Phipps, left, 81st Dental Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. Amanda Fisk, 81st Medical Group, collect food donations outside the commissary Aug. 15. Fisk coordinated Keesler's involvement in the Feds Feed Families campaign. The program was launched to encourage federal employees to donate nonperishable food items for distribution to area food banks. Keesler's partner for the drive is the Loaves and Fishes soup kitchen in Biloxi. The overall federal collection goal is 2 million pounds. The Defense Department's goal is 733,800 pounds.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Keep safety in mind this summer.

ENERGY AWARENESS

Energy conservation helps create and maintain a clean environment, reduces pollution and our dependence on foreign oil, and helps the Air Force meet its federal goals. Here's how you can help:

- Turn off lights in unoccupied offices or rooms
- Replace inefficient incandescent bulbs with energy-efficient compact fluorescent bulbs
- Turn off monitors, printers and fax machines when leaving at the end of the day
- Buy "Energy Star" labeled appliances and products
- Install programmable thermostats to set lower temperatures in unoccupied areas
- Make sure broken windows are reported and everything is caulked and sealed as appropriate
- Recycle. Recycling paper can save one tree per 16.5 reams of paper; recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television for three hours
- Styrofoam is not recyclable -- use coffee mugs instead

Make energy awareness
a part of your day ... everyday

Photo by Ian Duke

When using a cell phone to report an emergency by calling 911 while on base or in base housing, callers must tell the dispatcher that they're calling from Keesler to avoid a delay in response. When calling 911 on a cell phone in this area, calls are automatically routed to either Harrison County or the City of Biloxi. Delays have occurred in the past due to routing errors and similar street names.

Cyberspace isn't a secure environment.

Specialized skin cancer surgery available again



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Dr. Wisco simulates removing skin cancer from “patient” Senior Airman Kayla Spiel, a dermatology clinic medical technician. In an actual procedure, the tissue would be frozen, placed on a slide and reviewed. If Wisco finds there’s still cancer at the site, he would remove it as well.

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The Keesler Hospital again offers Mohs surgery, a specialized technique for removing various types of skin cancer.

Maj. (Dr.) Oliver Wisco arrived in July to restart the treatment that hadn’t been available here for a year.

Wisco, a member of the Air Force for 10 years, earned a bachelor of science in biochemistry from the University of Portland in 1997 as an ROTC member .

He received a doctor of osteopathy degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2002. He completed his internship in family practice at David Grant Medical Center, Travis Air Force Base, Calif., in 2003 and then served as a flight surgeon to U-2 reconnaissance aircraft pilots at Beale AFB, Calif., from 2003-2005.

In 2005, Wisco began a three-year residency in dermatology at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas, where he served as an attending physician until he entered a one-year fellowship in Mohs surgery. The program was a joint skin cancer-surgical and melanoma fellowship conducted by Boston’s Massachu-

setts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School and Mystic Valley Dermatology.

Wisco said Mohs surgery “involves removal of skin cancer with the least amount of tissue in a specialized way, after which the tissue is frozen and placed on a slide. I look at the tissue to see if there is any cancer left. If there is, I take the cancer based on the way it’s growing to leave the least amount of residual damage. Once the cancer is completely removed, I repair the tissue using techniques from simple closure to complex flaps.”

He added, “The majority of the surgery is done on the face and ears.”

In addition to Wisco’s Mohs surgery clinic, he also directs a skin cancer clinic every Wednesday.

“Focus is placed on patients with a high risk for skin cancer, but all patients requesting a full body-skin exam to look for skin cancer can be seen in this clinic by a referral from their primary care manager,” he said.

Wisco’s patients are referred by other clinics, but all military health system beneficiaries are eligible to be seen. Patients with TRICARE benefits diagnosed with cancer by civilian physicians also may be treated.



Photos courtesy of 81st Training Wing History Office

Parade marches down the streets of old downtown Biloxi, 1942.



Aerial view of Keesler, 2002.



Keesler Medical Center, 1960s.



46th Squadron class photo, 1946.



Old Gate 2, 1940s.

Happy 70th Birthday, Keesler!

Keesler Public Affairs

Even before there was an Air Force, there was a Keesler Field. Today, Keesler turns 70, making the base more than six years older than the service to which it belongs.

For seven decades, Keesler has trained nearly 2.3 million American and foreign military people in a broad range of subjects and disciplines.

June 12, 1941, the original 832-acre site was officially designated Air Corps Station No. 8, Aviation Mechanics School, Biloxi, Miss.

Before the land was transferred to the Army Air Corps by the City of Biloxi and Veterans Administration, it was known as the Biloxi Country Club, with three golf courses, the Biloxi Airport, a baseball park used by the Washington Senators major league baseball team for spring training, the Naval Reserve Park and some private property.

Aug. 25, 1941, Army Air Corps Station No. 8 was officially designated Keesler Army Airfield to honor 2nd Lt. Samuel Keesler, a native of Greenwood, Miss., who died after being shot down in air combat with four German aircraft in World War I.

Originally, the base's mission was training aircraft mechanics. Basic training was added and the first 12 recruits arrived Aug. 12. They were followed Sept. 20 by the first class of about 800 aircraft mechanic students.

More than 7,000 troops were in basic training and



Tent quarters in the former Naval Reserve Park, 1941.

another 4,000 in aircraft mechanics school when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941, bringing the U.S. into World War II.

During the war, 336,000 recruits and 142,000 aircraft mechanics were trained here. Most B-24 mechanics stationed throughout the several theaters of war — Europe, Africa, the Far East and Pacific — trained at Keesler.

Many pilots forced to ditch in the Pacific Ocean owed their lives to OA-10A amphibian aircrews graduated from the air-sea rescue school here. Chemical warfare training was also conducted at Keesler, and shortly after the war ended, the world's first rotary wing school for helicopter mechanics opened here.

In 1943, Keesler's first detachment of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps arrived to fill administrative and clerical positions and the training of U.S. allies' military people was introduced. This program continues today, with students from more than 50 nations receiving personnel, administrative and electronics training.

Keesler moved from aircraft mechanic to electronics training in 1947, the year the Air Force became a separate service. The new service first moved its radar school from Boca Raton, Fla., to Keesler, and then elements of its communications and electronics courses from Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Eventually, these courses evolved into ground and airborne communications-electronics maintenance and operator training, and air traffic control courses. Then came the semi-automatic ground environment air defense system that made the digital computer a central feature of Keesler's electronics training program.

In 1967, flying training came to Keesler under the Military Assistance Program. Over the next six years, about 800 South Vietnamese pilots earned their wings.

Another new training mission arrived in 1968 —

personnel and administration courses. In 1972, when the Air Force became the manager for all training in the Defense Department's worldwide military command and control system, Keesler people taught programs here and at sites around the globe.

Pilot training ended in 1973, then resumed two decades later with the activation of the 45th Airlift Squadron, which deactivated earlier this year after training pilots on both C-12 and C-21 aircraft.

From 1973 into the 1990s, flying activity at Keesler centered around three associate units: 403rd Wing of the Air Force Reserve, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron and 7th Airborne Command and Control Squadron. The 7th ACCS left several years ago. The 53rd WRS — Hurricane Hunters — was deactivated as an active-duty unit in 1991 and reappeared as an arm of the 403rd Wing two years later. The reservists also operate the 815th Airlift Squadron, a transport unit. In 2010, the 345th Airlift Squadron officially reactivated at Keesler as an active associate unit to the 403rd Wing as

a part of the Air Force's total force integration initiative.

Growing in numbers and visibility in the 1990s were the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, reflecting the increasing emphasis on joint military training and operations in the wake of downsizing.

A major milestone in Keesler's training history came in June 2009, when the Air Force's cyber schoolhouse was established at Keesler in what's been called the largest training development effort in the history of Air Education and Training Command. That October, the first of 19 new cyber courses stood up to replace 13 existing communications courses, impacting two training wings, four training squadrons and one detachment.

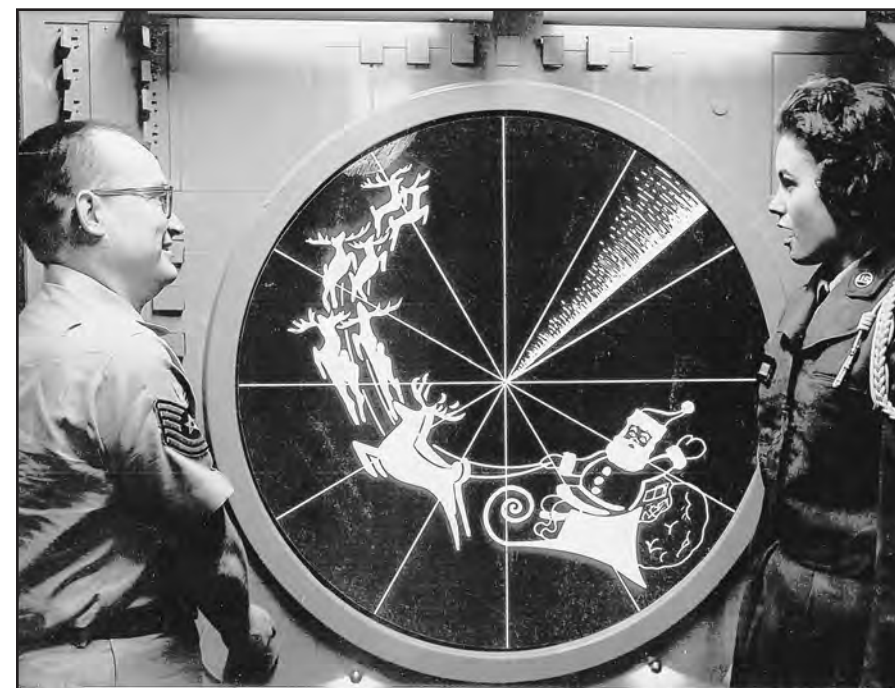
Along the way, hurricanes dealt staggering blows to Keesler — there was Camille in 1969, Frederic 10 years later, Elena in 1985, Georges in 1998, but none worse than Katrina on Aug. 26, 2005.

Although Katrina temporarily halted Keesler's training mission, classes came back on line quickly. By Oct. 20, all enlisted initial skill courses were

approved to be taught and by Nov. 1, 1,762 students were back in training at Keesler. By year's end, nearly all training facilities, dining halls and student dorms that had sustained damage were fully operational. Eleven months ago, Keesler completed a nearly billion dollar reconstruction project.

Through 70 years of constant change, Keesler's mission has remained essentially the same: to provide the finest technical and specialized training to every student who passes through its gates.

Perry Jenifer, retired Keesler News editor; Susan Dawson, base historian; and Susan Griggs, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.



Keesler training on tracking Santa, 1950s.



Mess Hall Row, 1943.

Lifesavers

Bulls corral 230 pints in three blood drives

By Lisa Lynn

Keesler Blood Donor Center

Recently, the 335th Training Squadron, composed of Airmen, Sailors and Marines, hosted its third blood drive this year in the weather training building, bringing their total collection numbers to more than 230 pints.

The Armed Services Blood Program provides an excellent way for military members and their families to show their support for one another in a concrete, meaningful way. Giving blood to the military blood program allows donors to be there for friends, neighbors and comrades-in-arms when they need the precious gift of blood.

Because red blood cells and platelets have short shelf lives, the need for blood is continuous. It's only through volunteers that the program is able to meet the needs of service

members worldwide who are in need of blood. By giving blood to the program, life-saving blood products are available whenever and wherever they are needed.

Donors participate in base blood drives for many different reasons. Some donate to help their fellow servicemen; others donate in remembrance of a fallen loved one, but many just want to support the men and women who serve.

One such donor is Air Force retiree Robin Gardner, a 335th TRS meteorology instructor since 1993.

"I donate because it makes me feel good and I'm saving lives," he said.

Gardner has donated over a gallon of blood to the ASBP. His wife of 32 years, Yoko, joined the Keesler Blood Donor Center in January as a medical laboratory technician.

No matter what moves a

person to donate blood, they all have one common goal; to help save a life. As the 335th TRS continues to host blood drives every eight weeks for the ASBP, the Keesler Blood Donor Center will continue to support the military men, women and families in need of life-saving blood.

To schedule a blood drive, call 376-6100.

Become a Keesler fan on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/keeslerafb>

TRICARE expands retail pharmacy vaccine program

Air Force News Service

FALLS CHURCH, Va.— TRICARE is expanding the number of preventive vaccines covered at retail network pharmacies. Until now, the majority of vaccines were only covered when obtained through a physician's office.

TRICARE covers age-appropriate vaccines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including the high-demand shingles vaccine, Zostavax. Since late 2009, TRICARE has covered seasonal flu, H1N1 flu and pneumococcal vaccines at retail pharmacies with nearly 300,000 vaccines administered to date.

The expanded program covers immunizations for measles, mumps, shingles and many other preventable diseases. To see the expanded list of vaccines available from authorized TRICARE retail pharmacies visit

www.tricare.mil/vaccines.

TRICARE officials strongly recommend that beneficiaries check ahead before making a trip to their pharmacy to make sure it's part of the TRICARE network and authorized to offer the vaccines. Ensuring that the pharmacy has the needed vaccine is also advised as some, such as shingles, may be in short supply.

In addition, while all 50 states and the District of Columbia allow pharmacists to administer vaccines, individual state laws can restrict which vaccines pharmacists may administer, or may restrict based on licensing or by age of the recipient.

Beneficiaries who obtain vaccines through their regular physician do not pay copayments for preventive care such as immunizations and recommended screenings, but usual cost shares and copayments for office visits may apply.

Keesler historian deploys to Southwest Asia

By YoLanda Wallace

Keesler Public Affairs

Being deployed around the globe is a fact of life for today's Airmen. But deployment is even part of the job for some civilian employees.

Dr. Susan Dawson, 81st Training Wing historian, is packing her duffle bags for a four-month assignment to Southwest Asia. She'll wear khaki pants and polo shirts instead of the airman battle uniform, but she had to be fitted for a gas mask, get her shots and complete other training procedures like her military counterparts.

Dawson, who holds a doctorate in history from Ohio State University, leaves the first week of September to collect, document, investigate and compile daily, weekly, and monthly historical reports that will help other historians write an accurate, comprehensive history of Operations

Would you like to deploy?

Qualified Air Force civilians can volunteer for deployments in a variety of career fields, including civil engineering, contracting, intelligence, logistics management and security administration.

These volunteer opportunities can be found at the Civilian Expeditionary Workforce website, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/expeditionary>, on the Air Force Personnel Center personnel services website by searching the key words "civilian deployment" or by calling the 24-hour Total Force Service Center, 1-800-525-0102.

Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

"I didn't volunteer to deploy, but it's part of the job — the historian career field is largely emergency essential, so we know going into it that we'll deploy every 18 months," Dawson explained. "We can volunteer for deployments, though, especially if someone is pulled out of bucket and they need a replacement."

Dawson began her civil service career in 2005 through the Palace Acquired Internship Program at Air Force Space Command headquarters, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. She came to Keesler 14 months ago.

"I guess I'm like everyone else who is deploying for the first time — I'm excited, but nervous too," she admitted. "The work is quite different. We go through contingency training to write the histories that you do overseas. It's still hard to figure out what the job will be like, so I'm nervous about what to expect and if I can keep up with the pace of writing massive monthly, rather than yearly histories — the pace is really quick."

Civilians deploying to Southwest Asia must complete advanced distributed learning system instruction, weapon training and self-aid and buddy care training. They must be fitted for a gas mask and be trained about its use. Their shot records must be updated and emergency documents completed.

Dawson said, "The biggest challenge and surprise has been all the paperwork and logistics for managing the care of my home, pets, paying bills and accepting the overall day-to-day life I'll miss.

"I'll miss my family at the holidays just like all the other people will," she continued. "But the nice thing is that you aren't alone — everyone else is going through the same things, so they really help support you."

Dawson, who comes from



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Dawson checks out her gas mask as she goes through her deployment duffle bags in her office in wing headquarters.

an Army family, says she's looking forward to seeing another country, experiencing another culture and meeting new people.

"I expect to gain a different perspective on the military actions going on so I can study the effects of foreign policy from the ground up," Dawson pointed out. "The deployment will help me be a better historian on all levels, a better researcher and writer, and I can bring those skills back to work here on my annual 81st TRW histories."

Dawson also teaches at the University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Coast and just wound up a class in U.S. foreign relations.

"This deployment will make me not just a better historian, but also a better teacher with a different perspective on U.S. foreign policy in action that I can bring into the classroom," she commented, "so I'm very excited on those levels."

Susan Griggs, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.



Photo by Steve Pivnick

From left, Maj. (Dr.) Tom Paynter and Wendi Wohltmann and Capt. (Dr.) Robert Henley, Keesler flight surgeons, have been rotating through the 14th Medical Group medical facility at Columbus as part of Air Education and Training Command's unique regional physician exchange program. Paynter is the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron's chief of orthopedic surgery, Wohltmann is the 81st Medical Operations Squadron chief of dermatology and Henley is an 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron flight surgeon who plans to train in ophthalmology in his next assignment.

Health care win-win Keesler medics maintain skills, Columbus gets specialized care

By Rick "Sonic" Johnson

14th Flying Training Wing public affairs chief

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MISS. — Flight surgeons from the 81st Medical Group, among them some who have completed additional specialty training, have brought specialty care, including orthopedics and dermatology, to the base population at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

In return, Columbus has provided a venue for Keesler flight surgeons to maintain their clinical and operational medicine currency in support of one of the busiest flight lines in the Air Force.

Col. Billye Hutchison, 14th Medical Group commander, stated, "This has been an opportunity for us to not only get robust flight medicine support, but specialty care as well. And with great support from the 14th Operations Group, we are getting our visiting physicians flying experience in our T-1, T-6, and T-38 aircraft."

This program maintains access in a high-tempo career field, and also builds deployment capacity. For example, Maj. (Dr.) Wendi Wohltmann, Keesler's dermatology chief, was

an Air Force Special Operations Command flight surgeon prior to completing her dermatology residency. She'll deploy this fall to cover another Air Education and Training Command flight surgeon's office that would have otherwise been critically manned during this period.

Next week at the request of Keesler line leaders, a team of physiologists from Columbus will visit Keesler's flight surgeons. They'll identify total force opportunities to leverage a team approach to human performance using the unique capabilities that physiologists and flight surgeons can bring to support both Keesler's training and operational missions.

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Kory Cornum, 81st MDG commander, a practicing orthopedic surgeon and flight surgeon, thanked the 14th OG and 14th MDG for their support.

"We're all in the same Air Force," Cornum said. "Everybody wins when we identify total force opportunities to leverage a team approach and support the mission by caring for patients together."

Col. (Dr.) Paul Nelson, 81st Medical Group, contributed to this report.

Skating fun at youth center



Eight-year-old Melanie Gilliam, daughter of Master Sgt. Lancer and Melissa Gilliam, 338th Training Squadron, shows her skating skills at a skating party for families of deployed Airmen, Aug. 13 at the youth center. Melanie's dad is deployed to Southwest Asia.



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Katherine Price, 5, takes her scooter for a whirl. She's the daughter of Tech. Sgt. Scott and Jennifer Price, 333rd TRS. Katherine's dad is deployed to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.



Six-year-old Saige Kirkbride and her mom, Spring, do a spin on their skates at the '70s theme party sponsored by the airman and family readiness center. Saige's dad, Capt. Troy Kirkbride, is deployed to Greenland.

Officials offer peek into officer promotion boards

By Jon Hanson

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Air Force officials offered a peek into the officer promotion board process recently to explain how they are conducted.

“The promotion system is clear-cut and extremely fair,” said Col. Ramona Dolson, chief of the Air Force Selection Board Secretariat. “The Air Force has done a great job in making the promotion process transparent, fair and equitable.”

Every board begins the same way with extensive Secretary of the Air Force approved training covering all aspects of the board process. This includes going over the board authority and organization, whole-person concept, scoring scale, selection record content, communication guidelines and other statutorily and policy driven board activities.

Board makeup

The makeup of the board is limited to colonels and above, ensuring members are senior to the eligible officers. It will include a reserve officer if a reservist is eligible. Air Force policy dictates board membership reflects the eligible population of officers in term of command of assignment, career area, aeronautical rating, race, ethnicity and gender.

After the training, the board president reads the SECAF’s memorandum of instructions and then the board secretariat administers the oath that binds the members to perform the duties imposed upon them without prejudice or partiality. The MOI outlines the secretary’s specific instructions for each board.

The board president, always a general officer, is assisted by the recorders of the selection board secretariat. The recorders are certified by the SECAF to assist board presidents in ensuring boards are conducted in accordance with established laws, directives and secretarial instructions.

Trial run exercise

The board then participates in a multi-faceted trial run exercise. The exercise allows members to see the range of quality they will see in the live records, the colonel said. It exposes them with some situations they might come across as they assess the records. It also helps each member to establish his or her own scoring standard.

After the exercise, secretariat officials facilitate a debriefing for board members to collectively discuss Air Force considerations that may assist them while scoring the records. An example of this could be discussing how getting a letter of reprimand as a young lieutenant might be viewed differently than a major getting one later in his or her career, said Lt. Col. Rose Jourdan, the chief of operations at the Air Force Selection Board Secretariat.

Scoring candidates

Before the board members can score their first live record, they must acknowledge they understand the process and their role in the process, and are comfortable with the scoring scale and content of the selection records, she said.

Once the last record is scored, the board establishes a preliminary order of merit. Records that are close to the promotion quota cutline fall into the “gray zone,” Jourdan said. The board

then conducts a series of quality reviews to resolve that gray zone. Afterward, they rescore all those records to establish the final order of merit to assign the remaining available quota.

At this point, the board has a preliminary list they must verify are “fully qualified” in accordance with Title 10, U.S.C., Section 616. This step allows the board to acknowledge that all members recommended are not only the best qualified, but are also fully qualified for promotion.

Once they have verified those on the list are the best, fully qualified officers, they will complete other remaining board actions, if necessary, such as selective continuation. The board will then certify it complied with the SECAF’s instructions and adjourn.

The boards typically run about two weeks, but may run longer to ensure board members have enough time to ensure each officer’s record is given fair and equitable consideration.

Are boards fair?

Board members have specific do’s and don’ts they have to follow. These include what board members can and cannot reveal about board procedures and processes. At no time are board members, recorders and administrative assistants ever allowed to reveal board proceedings.

The board is briefed that they are not allowed to engage freely in conversations with other board members in regard to any particular officer or record. Additionally, board members cannot introduce or discuss information not found in an officer’s record.

“The Air Force has pledged that officers will be made aware of all information in their records that will

be presented to the board,” Dolson said. “If board members were permitted to gather information on the side or introduce information not in the record, the Air Force would violate that promise. To ensure this doesn’t happen, a selection board secretariat recorder must be present for all board room discussions.”

Board preparations

Lieutenant colonels and below should review their records located at the Air Force Personnel Center. These officers can request copies of their records over the phone, via e-mail, or in person during permissive temporary duty to Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Officers can also call 210-565-2693 or DSN 665-2693 to speak to selection records staff.

Officials encourage officers to not wait until the last minute to request a copy of the selection record as it may take up to 45 days to process the request. If they are checking on a single document, there’s no need for a full records request; they can contact customer support direct at 210-565-2998 or DSN 665-2998.

A telephonic review of records can be done at any time. Every attempt should be made to accomplish a records review or request the appropriate copies well before the board meets.

“By being proactive and practicing due diligence, promotion eligibles can ensure a complete and accurate record is seen by the board,” Jourdan said.

Colonels should contact the Air Force Colonels Matters Office, AF/DPO, 703-571-3423 or DSN 671-3423.

For more information on the board process, refer to Air Force Instruction 36-2501, Officer Promotions and Selective Continuation.



Computer virus prevention depends on you.

An American
is sexually
assaulted every
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ 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.

Upcoming movies at Welch Theater

Friday — 6:30 p.m., Harry Potter and the Deadly Hollows 2 (PG-13).

Saturday — 2 p.m., Horrible Bosses (R); 6:30 p.m., Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG-13).

Sunday — 1 p.m., Zookeeper (PG).

Sept. 2 — Harry Potter and the Deadly Hollows 2 (PG-13).

Sept. 3 — 2 p.m., Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG-13); 6:30 p.m., Friends with Benefits (R).

Sept. 4 — 1 p.m., Winnie the Pooh (G).

Sept. 9 — 6:30 p.m., Crazy Stupid Love (PG-13).

Sept. 10 — 2 p.m., Friends with Benefits (R); 6:30 p.m., Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13).

Sept. 11 — 1 p.m., Harry Potter and the Deadly Hollows 2 (PG-13).



Parking spots must be marked on both sides by a white diagonal or horizontal line or a white "T" in accordance with Keesler Instruction 31-204. Parking on seeded areas, on troop walks and at the student dormitories in the Triangle are prohibited. It's also illegal to park with the driver's side nearest the curb, instead of the passenger's side.

Airman and family readiness center

Editor's note: Registration is required. All briefings take place in Room 108, Sablich Center, unless otherwise noted.

Today — 9 a.m. to noon, Bundles for Babies. Open to all expecting military and dependants at Keesler. Receive a layette gift valued at \$75 upon completion of the class.

Arts and crafts center

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-2821.

Saturday — 10 a.m., advanced creative woodworking class. Learn intarsia, a technique that uses varied shapes, sizes and types of wood inlaid together. \$25 includes materials.

Through Sept. 1 — summer photo contest. To enter, submit a printed copy of your photo to the center; entries will be placed on display. Prizes awarded. Free to enter.

Bay Breeze Collocated Club

Editor's note: Must be age 18 or older to enter collocated lounge. For more information or reservations, call 377-2334.

Friday — 5-11 p.m., Texas hold'em tournament. First 100 people guaranteed a seat. Prizes awarded. Free for Air Force Club members, \$5 nonmembers. Sponsored by Budweiser-Responsibility Matters and Forest City.

Saturday — 7-11 p.m., Keesler birthday gala. Live entertainment by Big Bang Theory, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and much more. Come dressed Kentucky Derby style. Prizes awarded. Adults only. \$15 for Air Force Club members, \$20 nonmembers. Tickets available at the Bay Breeze Club, golf course, marina and Gaudé Lanes.

Weekdays — food and drink specials in the collocated lounge. Monday madness with domestic draft specials, taco Tuesdays, wings and things Wednesdays and ladies night on Thursdays before nontraining Fridays.

Bay Breeze Community Center

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2503.

Saturday — 9 a.m. to noon, free Keesler family birthday party. Activities, games, cookies and ice cream, pony rides and more.

Bay Breeze Golf Course

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-3832.

Saturday — 8 a.m., Keesler birthday golf scramble. Four-person, select-shot tournament. \$40 per player; preregistration required. Players assigned to teams by handicap.

Wednesdays — 4:30 p.m., free golf clinic. Adults only.

Child development center

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-2211. Fee based on family income.

Through Oct. 1 — open enrollment for kindergarten transition program for 4-year-olds

and preschool part-day program (morning and afternoon sessions.)

Fitness centers

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-4385 or 3056.

Through Wednesday — summer powerlifting competition registration, Triangle Fitness Center. Competition is Sept. 2; open to all men and women; free to participate.

Gaudé Lanes

Friday-Saturday — 9 p.m. Friday and 7 p.m. Saturday, glow bowling.

Saturday-Sunday — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and 1-4 p.m., Sunday, nine-pin no-tap tournament. Three game no-tap set with shoes, \$15 per person. Chance of winning up to \$800, multiple entries allowed.

Swimming pools

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3948 or 3568. Identification and entry fee required for admission; \$1.50 daily.

Daily except Monday — 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., main base pool. Adult lap swim 11 a.m. to noon.

Saturday and Sunday — 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Triangle pool. Adult lap swim 11 a.m. to noon.

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor's note: Friday and Saturday night activities are part of the late night dances, \$3 admission; nonprior service students only.

Wednesday — 5 p.m., free movie night; popcorn provided. All personal movies must be screened by staff.

Friday — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., polo party. Come dressed to impress in Polo gear.

Saturday — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., "V" talent spotlight DJ battle. Winner is guest DJ for the night.

Youth center

Editor's note: For more information or to register, call 377-4116. Drop-ins accepted on space-available basis.

Friday — 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday night fun, ages 6-12. Games, skating, movies and more. \$10 for first child, \$5 others. Air Force Club members receive 10 percent off first child's fee.

Tuesdays — tennis lessons, 5-5:30 p.m., ages 4-7; 5:30-6:30 p.m., ages 8-10; 5:30-7 p.m., ages 11-16. Prices vary. Dance class, 5:30-6:30 p.m., ages 3-5; 6:30-7:30 p.m., ages 6 and older. \$45 per month.

Through Sept. 3 — youth flag football registration. \$50 for first child, \$25 for each additional child. Season begins in October. Air Force Club members receive 10 percent off first child's fee.

Dragon Wagon

Thursday-Sunday — catch a ride to base "hot spots" for 50 cents, \$10 monthly passes available at Gaudé Lanes and Legends Café; Air Force Club members ride free. For route and schedule, visit <http://www.keesler81fss.us>.

Worship schedule

Roman Catholic

Daily Mass, 11:15 a.m., Monday through Friday, Triangle Chapel.

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

Protestant

Traditional service, 8:30 a.m. Sunday, Larcher Chapel.

Contemporary service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Triangle Chapel.

Gospel service, noon Sunday, Triangle Chapel.

Jewish

Regular services are 8 p.m. Fridays at Congregation Beth Israel, 12277 Three Rivers Road, Gulfport.

High holidays:

Sept 28 — 8 p.m., Erev Rosh Hashanah.

Sept. 29 — 9:30 a.m., first day Rosh Hashanah/Shacharit; 6:30 p.m., Minchah/Ma-ariv.

Sept. 30 — 9:30 a.m., second day Rosh Hashanah; 8 p.m., Shabbat Shuvah/Ma-ariv.

Oct. 1 — 10 a.m., Shabbat Shuvah/Torah study.

Oct. 7 — 6 p.m., Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre.

Oct. 8 — 9:30 a.m., Yom Kippur/Shacharit; 5 p.m., Yom Kippur/Minchah/Ne-ilah

For more information, call 377-4050, 207-2196, 539-1655 or 1-405-740-9077.

Greek Orthodox

Sunday Divine Liturgy, 10 a.m., Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 255 Beauvoir Road, Biloxi. For more information, call 388-6138.

Islamic

Prayer is five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon on Friday, Building 2003. For more information, call 377-2520.

Latter-Day Saints

Student group service, 2 p.m. Sunday, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-616-881-1994.

'Dad's 101' is Friday

"Dad's 101: A Class for Dads, by Dads" is 7:30-10:30 a.m. Friday in the Arnold Medical Annex classroom.

The program, hosted by the family advocacy program, is open to active duty, retirees, family members, civilian employees and contractors.

The class covers baby basics such as diapering feeding and bathing and allows expectant or new dads an opportunity to discuss issues, concerns, fears or expectations about fatherhood. Civilian attire is encouraged.

Registration is required by calling 376-3459.

Air Force Aid assistance

Starting Sept. 1, Air Force Aid Society assistance, including Falcon Loans, is provided by appointment only.

Emergency travel aid will still be provided on a walk-in basis.

For an appointment, call 376-8728.

Air Force Aid

Air Force active duty members and spouses, retirees and surviving spouses of deceased active duty members can apply for Air Force Aid Society assistance online.

Log on to <https://my.afas.org/memberportal/Login/Login.aspx>.

The client completes and submits the application to the airman and family readiness center at the selected base. The applicant receives an e-mail and is instructed to call the center, 376-8728, to schedule an appointment.

Parenting class

Family advocacy is sponsoring a program covering effective parenting of children ages 2-12, 3-4:30 p.m. Sept. 1, 8, 15 and 22 in the Arnold Annex conference room.

The "1-2-3 Magic" program is a humorous look at parenting and a serious look at discipline that encourages good behavior and self-confidence.

It's open to anyone with access to the base, but seating is limited.

To sign up, call 376-3457 or 3459.

Coombs retirement

A retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Harry Coombs Jr. is 10 a.m. Sept. 1 at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

Pharmacy closed

The Keesler Hospital's outpatient pharmacy is closed for remodeling Sept. 2.

All new prescriptions normally filled at the outpatient pharmacy will be diverted to the exchange pharmacy, which will be open that day with additional staffing to prevent delay in patient care.

The outpatient pharmacy reopens at 7:30 a.m. Sept. 6.

Free Friday fun

The Keesler Spouses Club sponsors a free Friday fun night at the youth center, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 9 for children ages 6-12.

The regular admission charges, snacks and drinks are covered by donations from club members.

Cancer screenings

Skin cancer screening — 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Sept. 14, 21 and 28 in the dermatology clinic. Patients need a referral and no other dermatology issues will be addressed.

For more information, call 376-3501.

Prostate cancer screening — 8-11 a.m. Sept. 23 in the urology clinic.

Any male eligible for military health care ages 40 and older, may walk in for a quick prostate cancer screening. The process includes a short questionnaire, a blood test at the lab and a digital rectal exam. Patient education materials are also available.

Diversity Day

Keesler's second annual Diversity Day is Sept. 13 at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

To volunteer for one of the committees, call 377-9160 or e-mail 81mss.dpn@us.af.mil.

Spouses club welcome

The Keesler Spouses Club plans a birthday bunco night in honor of the Air Force's 64th birthday, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 13 in function rooms 1 and 2 on the first floor of the Bay Beeze Event Center.

The free "welcome back" event features light snacks, door prizes and information on the club's thrift shop, volunteer activities, scholarships, bunco, play group, book club and discovery club.

For more information, email membership@keesler spousesclub.com, visit www.keeslerspousesclub.com or call 207-1523.

Airman's Attic

Airman's Attic, at the corner of Meadows Drive and 1st Street, assists junior enlisted members with obtaining free basic household items.

Donations are needed such as furniture, area rugs, cutlery, dishware, infant wear and maternity clothes which are

clean and in good condition.

Summer hours are 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon non-training Fridays and the last Saturday of the month.

For more information, call 209-1390 or 377-3814.

Keesler Thrift Shop

The Keesler Thrift Shop, operated by the Keesler Spouses Club, is at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street.

Profits benefit base and area charities and provide scholarships.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

Log on to www.keesler spousesclub.com for a list of preferred donations. Pickup is available for bulk donations.

For more information, call 377-3217 or log on to www.keesler.af.mil.

Hemodialysis care

The Keesler Hospital offers chronic hemodialysis to patients requiring the care.

Hemodialysis removes waste products such as creatinine and urea as well as free water from the blood when the kidneys are in renal failure.

The staff currently cares for Department of Defense beneficiaries only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The eight dialysis machines, located in three treatment rooms, allow them to care for up to 12 patients a week.

For more information, call 376-5537.

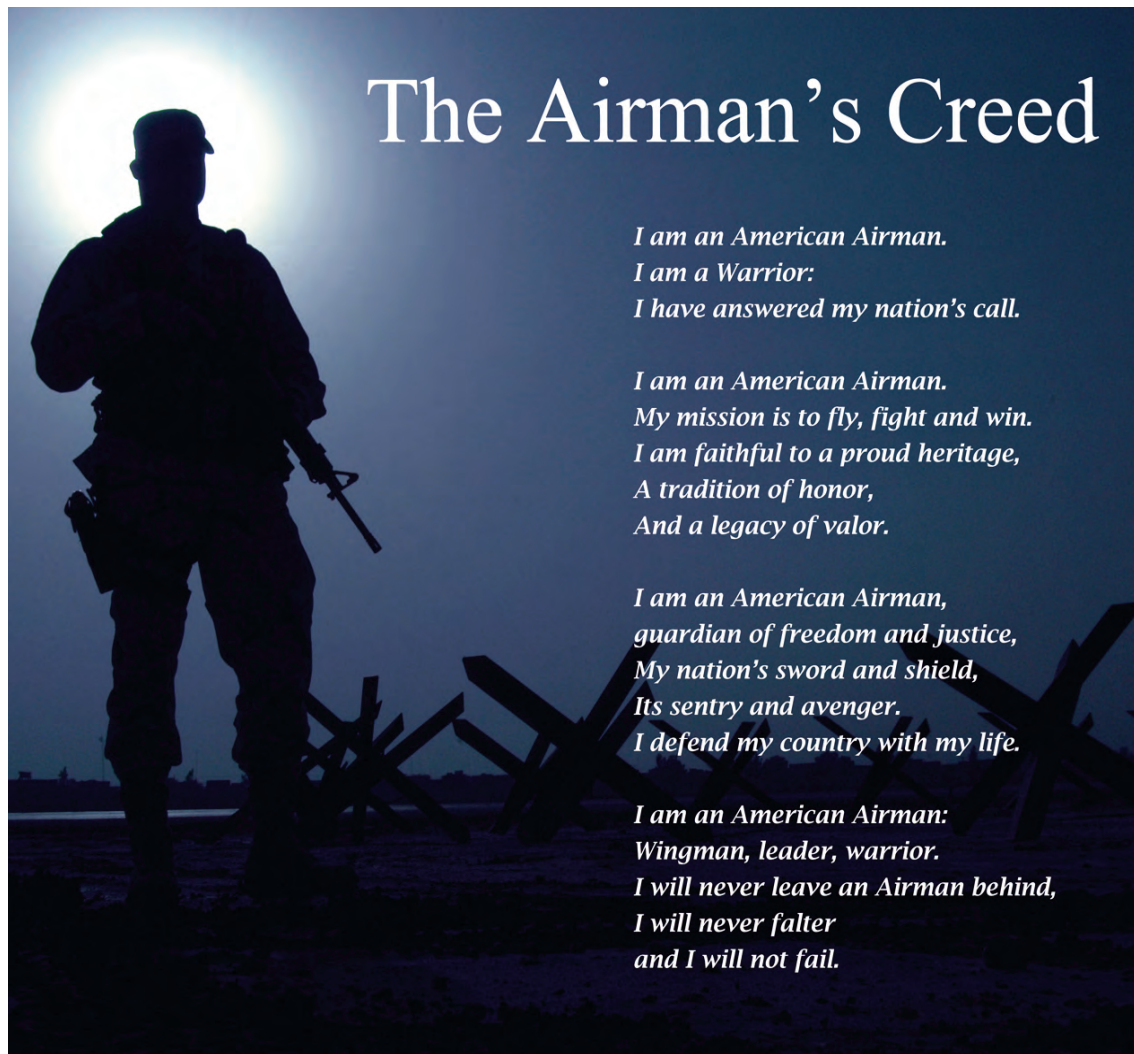
Supply source

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office is a free source of supplies and equipment.

For more information, visit CSC supply customer service, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002; call 377-2005 or e-mail 81LRS.CustomerSVC@us.af.mil.

Repair parts

For maintenance activities wanting to order bit/piece repair parts, call the wing awaiting parts monitors, 377-4180 or 5590.



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.*

Biloxi schools host Tuesday's Parent Academy

81st Force Support Squadron

The Biloxi Public School District holds Parent Academy, 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at Biloxi Junior High School, 1424 Father Ryan Avenue.

Gerry Cross, Keesler's school liaison officer, said that parents can attend three different half-hour sessions, including topics such as kindergarten, special education and gifted programs, Project Read, state testing, sports programs, technology, college planning and scholarships, cybersafety and cyberbullying, transportation, study skills, communication with the schools, healthy habits and helping students at home.

For more information, call 376-8510.

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SPORTS AND RECREATION



Individuals, teams compete in Sept. 10 mini-triathlon

Mark Roberts, 81st Dental Squadron, was the overall male winner of Keesler's 6th annual mini-triathlon, Aug. 21, 2010. This year's event, set for Sept. 10, includes a 200-yard swim, 9 miles cycling and 2 miles running. For relay teams, each member does a different event, one member must be female and all must be from the same unit. For more information, call the health and wellness center, 376-3170.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

Finals slated for soccer, golf

Weather willing, the championship matches for two intramural sports have been scheduled.

Soccer — playoffs began Monday, with the championship game set for 6 p.m. Wednesday at the multipurpose field.

Golf — championship match is 1 p.m. Sept. 6.

For more information, call 377-2244.