



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

MAY 31, 2012 VOL. 73 NO. 22



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The Keesler News office is in Room 201A, Wall Studio, Building 0902. The mailing address: 81TRW/PAIN, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2120. Phone: 377-3837, 3604, 2254 or 9966. Published Thursday. News deadline: noon Monday. Editorial content edited, prepared and provided by the 81st TRW Public Affairs Office is in compliance with Air Force journalistic standards. Photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. The Keesler News is published by Gulf Publishing Co., a private firm in no way connected with the Air Force, under an exclusive written contract with the 81st TRW as an authorized publication for U.S. military service members. Contents aren't necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Air Force. Advertising doesn't constitute endorsement by the U.S. government, DOD, Air Force or Gulf Publishing of products or services advertised. Everything advertised shall be available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor.



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ON THE COVER

Keesler volunteers helped place flags on graves at Biloxi National Cemetery Saturday in advance of Monday's Memorial Day ceremony. Brig. Gen. Kory Cornum, 81st Medical Group commander, was the guest speaker and the Keesler Honor Guard participated in the event. Brig. Gen. Brad Spacy, 81st Training Wing commander; Chief Master Sgt. Oscar "Deno" Mackin, 2nd Air Force command chief; and Chief Master Sgt. Angelica Johnson, 81st TRW command chief, attended a Medal of Honor ceremony Monday honoring Army Pfc. James Diamond, the only World War II Medal of Honor recipient who enlisted in Mississippi. Col. Glen Downing, 81st TRW vice commander, spoke at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2434 Memorial Day ceremony at the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor and 2nd Lt. Charity Walls, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron, sang the National Anthem. Airman Leadership Students conducted a Memorial Day ceremony at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport and the honor guard participated in a similar program at East Jefferson General Hospital, Metairie, La.

Photo by Herb Welch



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Remembering our fallen heroes



Staff Sgt. Amber Oaks, 334th Training Squadron and Non-commissioned officer in charge of the Keesler Honor Guard, plays "Taps" at the conclusion of the Memorial Day observance Monday at the Biloxi National Cemetery. Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Kory Cornum, 81st Medical Group commander, was the guest speaker for the annual event.

Photo by Steve Pivnick



TRAIN, CARE, INNOVATE — DEVELOPING COMBAT POWER FOR AIR, SPACE AND CYBERSPACE

'Not my problem' not an option for Airmen

By Master Sgt.
Casy Boomershine

81st Logistics Readiness Squadron

You have one last stop before going home from a very long Air Force day. Your goal is simple, to purchase liquid refreshment at the Shop-pette and get out as quickly as possible, but then you see it. You don't want to see it, but you do. You heave in a deep sigh, rub your eyes and blink, hoping it was just a trick of the light. No, it was no trick of the light. That Airman is wearing a bright fuchsia backpack while in uniform. At that point you have two options — correct it, or ignore

it. Which one do you pick? Does your answer change if I say that it's someone you know? Is it different if it's your supervisor? How about if it's a friend?

What if it's not something so simple? What if you see a fellow Airman give bad customer service or act unprofessionally in their work place? What do you do? Go ahead; think about it for a minute. I'll wait. Now answer me this... why?

Your internal dialogue probably addresses their behavior, but do you say anything out loud? Perhaps you stay silent because it's not

your Airman or your work center. Maybe you don't feel comfortable saying something to someone that outranks you. Maybe you don't want to be the bad guy, or you don't want to cause a scene, or you don't want to be viewed as the person that walks around looking for infractions to correct. It's easy to rationalize it away, but the fact remains that if you ignore it, you condone it. Worse yet, maybe you don't see it as your problem.

The Air Force is our Air Force. Each work center is our work center. Each Airman is our Airman.

We are a much smaller

force than we used to be. As the Air Force continues to shrink, we need the people who remain to be that much better. Let's help them to get there. We must continually look out for one another, and sometimes what that means is to take opportunities to help our fellow Airmen be better. Constructive criticism might be the catalyst for change that someone needs, or what they need might be a helping hand. I'm talking about all the ways that we can help each other out. Being a wingman is more than making sure your teammates don't drive drunk. It's more than one person can do

alone, it's all Airmen being there for their Air Force family, and trying to make it better.

If someone comes to you for help, don't send them to someone else because you don't know how to help them. Find out how you can help them. If you see something wrong, address it; don't expect someone else to do it. If someone needs help, do what you can to work with them instead of turning a blind eye and watching them struggle through. Don't consider rank or position a barrier; treat your fellow Airmen as "your" Airmen, because they are.

Single parenting requires community support

By Paula Spooner

Family advocacy outreach manager

Like many Keesler Airmen, I have experienced the joys and stresses of single parenting.

When my 18-year-old daughter was 2 years old, her father and I divorced. For the next 16 years, I held two jobs while daily struggling to maintain that precarious balance between the non-negotiable demands on my time and meeting all three of my kids' needs.

As often happens, I was suddenly thrust into the roles of both mom and dad. It wasn't easy. Through those years, our little family experienced moves, holidays, rituals, new schools, exciting rites of passage, teenage romances and broken hearts, volunteering together and significant loss.

Now that they are older, I am better able to appreciate the glue that held us together and continues to connect us still. Certainly we loved each

Single parents support group

The next daytime meeting for the single parents support group is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 14 in the Arnold Annex conference room. Plans and goals for future growth will be discussed at this meeting, so bring your lunch and creative ideas. Meetings are relaxed, with no concern for rank. And if you prefer, come in civilian clothes.

other, but it was more than that — a firm and undeniable responsibility to keep going when things got tough, to defend and protect siblings (I can tease my sister but don't even think about you doing it), to sacrifice when necessary. I am proud of those years, especially because they were so challenging.

The 2012 Community Action Plan for Keesler reflects 353 active-duty single parents on Keesler. While not certain of the exact number of single parents within Keesler's civilian workforce, I suspect there

are more than a few. Many of these folks provided candid input to the 2011 and 2012 single parent focus groups; this feedback led to the identification of specific issues which were then elevated to the Air Force Caring for People Forum.

Knowing firsthand the challenges of raising children solo, I am invested in identifying and establishing avenues to support our Keesler single parents. Recently I came across an article titled, "7 Habits of Highly Successful Single Parents" by Jennifer

Wolf. It lists seven practices that, when applied, significantly improve both the home and personal lives of single parents. They were:

1. Create a community of support
2. Schedule time for yourself
3. Learn to say "no"
4. Play with your kids
5. Maintain a positive attitude
6. Live within your means
7. Feed your brain

I like these and happen to agree. It's no coincidence that "Create a community of support" is ranked No. 1. Supportive, caring relationships are, in fact, the single most powerful protective factor we have available. And while it sounds great in theory, it's just not so easy in real life — not when regular PCS moves, deployments and TDYs interfere with opportunities to become well-connected within a community.

Keesler single Airmen want to change this. They envision a vital, dynamic network of kindred parents that will provide that community of support — via friendship, commonality, skill exchange and true understanding. In fact, the first meeting of the Keesler Single Parent Information Network has already occurred and plans are underway for future meetings and events. The ideas brought forth at this meeting were fresh, exciting and very do-able.

If you are a single parent at Keesler (separated, divorced, widowed, never married, geographically-single military and civilians), strongly consider attending the next meeting. Pass this information along to a single parent in your workplace. Very relaxed, often humorous (single parents HAVE to know how to laugh!) and accepting, this group knows what is needed and plans to accomplish it.

For more news, photos, videos and information, log on to www.keesler.af.mil

or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/keeslerafb



Volunteering is elementary

Staff Sgt. Roy Sowell III, 81st Training Support Squadron, reads to Melvin Ewing V, fifth grader at the 28th Street Elementary School in Gulfport. Stowell currently volunteers once a week and has been helping the school since September 2011. According to Gerry Cross, Keesler's school liaison officer, there are volunteers in about 10 local elementary schools. To volunteer during the next school year, call (228)376-8505.

Photo by Gerald Cross

Keesler Youth Center receives accreditation

By Airman 1st Class
Heather Heiney

Keesler News co-editor

The Keesler Youth Center's School Age Programs received accreditation from the Council on Accreditation May 15.

COA is an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits community-based behavioral health care and human service organizations.

According to the accreditation letter, "COA accreditation is an objective and reliable verification that provides confidence and support to an after school program's children and youth, parents, staff and community partners."

Ann Smith, 81st Force Support Squadron youth programs director, said, "Achieving accreditation through the Council on Accreditation means that Keesler's School Age

Program has received professional recognition as providing the highest quality services for our children and families. We also think it means that families can feel good about having their children entrusted to our care and that we are an integral part of the 'village' that it takes to raise children."

Smith also said that achieving accreditation was a project of continuous quality improvement and included three phases.

First, the youth services team gathered the information that would measure the program's quality by conducting customer interest and satisfaction surveys, classroom observations, records reviews.

Then, they developed a quality improvement plan and implement changes throughout the program and prepared documentation for the COA to review.

Finally, COA endorses studied the program description, conducted interviews with parents and staff and visited the youth center to determine that the program met the standards for accreditation.

"Through this year-long process of self-study and program improvements, our school age program has steadily made improvements in all areas of the program; from developing or refining required policies and procedures to enriching classroom environments and activities for children," Smith said. "For example, last year SAP received end-of-year funding from the base in order to purchase new activity room furnishings and learning materials. These enhancements were evident to children, staff, parents, visitors and Air Force inspectors."



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Damian Dixon, 8, left, and Dylan Smith, 10, play pool during a free fun night at the youth center sponsored by the Keesler Spouses Club Sept. 9, 2011. Dixon's mom is Master Sgt. Carmaneta Dixon, 335th Training Squadron. Dylan's parents are Tiffany and Master Sgt. Gregory Jackson, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron. The sponsored event provided refreshments and activities to 155 children.

Keesler member has given six gallons of blood

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

A self-declared “avid blood donor” has given six gallons of the life-saving fluid to the Keesler Blood Donor Center since he began in 1994.

Jake Jacobsen, a member of the 81st Communications Squadron, visited the center May 18 and rolled up his sleeve one more time to provide a unit of blood, making a total of six gallons, 48 pints, since he started donating here.

As he explained, “I have been an avid blood donor at Keesler since 1994, when we were on green portable cots at the Keesler Fire Department. I walk through these doors every 56 days, get a painless stick and donate a pint of my blood. It is the best feeling in the world to watch that bag filling up, knowing I am able to save the lives of three people with my blood donation. There is never enough blood. Everyone should donate at least once in their lives; it does make a dif-

ference. A single hour, a single needle, a single pint of blood — three lives.”

He noted he was wearing a special T-shirt for the occasion. “I wore this shirt for the first time today. I’ve had it for about 10 years and wanted to honor the blood donor center and the lives they save.”

Jacobsen said he actually began donating blood in the late 70s or early 80s.

“Now my goal is 10 gallons. I still have a while to go at Keesler, so why stop now?”

According to Lisa Lynn, BDC blood recruiter, the closest donor to Jacobsen is Susan Gardner with the 334th Training Squadron. She has given five gallons to date.

The Keesler Blood Donor Center conducts sponsored blood drives, but encourages anyone wishing to donate to schedule online at www.militaryblood.dod.mil. The center also accommodates “walk-ins” 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Photo by Steve Pivnick
Jake Jacobsen, 81st Communications Squadron, gives a spontaneous “thumbs-up” as Tommy Joseph, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical laboratory technician, prepares to draw the pint of blood that will mark a total of six gallons he has donated to date.

Keesler to undergo cyber security inspection

By Airman 1st Class Heather Heiney

Keesler News co-editor

Members of the Defense Information Systems Agency are scheduled to visit Keesler from U.S. Cyber Command at Ft. Meade, Md., June 4-8 to conduct a Command Cyber Readiness Inspection.

“Inspectors will be evaluating Keesler’s cyber security posture to ensure we are doing our part to make the cyber domain a safer place to perform our mission,” Chuck Cerny, 81st Training Wing Information Assurance chief, said. “They will assess Keesler’s compliance with Department of Defense information assurance policies as well as traditional and physical security standards; protecting our networks and the information transmitted, processed, and stored on those networks.”

Cerny said that the inspection will primarily focus on the 81st Communications Squadron’s network facilities, but that everyone on Keesler can contribute to a successful inspection.

“This is accomplished by users embracing and employing good computer and network security practices,” Cerny said. “Protecting our networks requires all users to fully embrace the cyber culture. Users must thoroughly understand and uphold their responsibility to protect our network.”

In order to keep computers and information secure, Cerny suggested that the following practices be used every day:

- Lock computers and remove common access cards when leaving the system unattended
- Never download e-mail attachments from unknown senders
- Treat all passwords and personal identification numbers like a toothbrush – don’t share them with others
- Never connect any device to your computer via USB
- Protect Personally Identifiable Information data by encrypting e-mail and files
- Report spam and scams to your unit Information Assurance Officer; never forward them
- Be careful not to post deployment or other official information to social media sites
- Always secure your office area when empty and departing at the end of the day
- Challenge anyone in your areas that you do not recognize; find out why they are there and determine the reason is legitimate; report suspicious personnel to your unit security manager
- Ensure positive access control procedures are followed at all times; control the movement of visitors in your areas and facilities; provide escorts when necessary

- Report suspicious requests for information to your unit security manager or supervisor

“Teams have been working very hard to review our current configuration and procedures to verify compliance with DOD policies,” said Julie Noakley, network operations chief. “Additionally we have been educating users across the base on the importance of their role in cyber security. Following the tips listed above and just having a security focus when utilizing computing resources is our best defense.”

Noakley also said that a positive result on the CCRI would show that Keesler is doing its part to protect information and takes its responsibility to secure DOD assets seriously.

Rosman “Ro” Kimbrough, 81st Communications Squadron director, said, “In today’s cyber culture, all personnel assigned to Keesler should guard against complacency. We’re all accustomed to thinking of warfare in conventional terms. However, with the proliferation of computer networks and our ever increasing reliance on them to perform our mission, we are all at the tip of the spear on the cyberspace battlefield. The enemy is clever and will attempt to exploit us using methods that appear harmless, even friendly. We all must be vigilant in recognizing that threat and taking the actions necessary to thwart those attempts.”

Spacy gets 81st Training Group tour



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Brig. Gen. Brad Spacy, 81st Training Wing commander, tours the 334th Training Squadron air traffic control tower simulator May 22 at Cody Hall. Spacy visited the 81st Training Group to gain an understanding of their mission, operations and personnel.



Brig. Gen. Brad Spacy, 81st Training Wing commander, speaks to students at the Levitow Training Support Facility for an Airmen's in-processing briefing.

Keesler celebrates Asian-Pacific heritage



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Amber Oaks, 334th Training Squadron, wears a Chinese kimono during the fashion show at the Asian-Pacific American Heritage cultural extravaganza at the youth center May 22. In addition to the fashion show, there was also a food tasting and a variety of cultural dances performed.



Master Sgt. Robert LeBlanc, 333rd TRS, is served spam masubi and kimchee by Airmen Basic Vaughan Blincoc and Mark Gallis-Zimmerman, 336th TRS, at the event.

Time is now to prepare for hurricane season

By Airman 1st Class
Heather Heiney

Keesler News co-editor

To someone from say, Colorado, the word hurricane is a legend, a myth or at least something that happens in a very distant corner of the country. However, along the Gulf Coast and at Keesler, it is a distinct reality for which people must prepare.

The official hurricane season is between June 1 and Nov. 30 of every year. Last year's hurricane season brought Tropical Storm Lee to the area along with wind, thick rain and sand sweeping across U.S. Highway 90.

The potential for a major storm exists every single year. This year, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting 9-15 named storms, 4-8 hurricanes and 1-3 major hurricanes. At least one Category 2 (sustained winds of at least 96 miles per hour) or stronger hurricane has struck Keesler in each of the last five decades — Camille (1969), Frederic (1979), Elena (1985), Georges (1998), Ivan (2004) and Katrina (2005).

As a hurricane draws closer, the base will declare escalating Hurricane Conditions. Each condition describes the progress of the storm and what actions are required from Keesler members:

HURCON 5 is the condi-

tion of hurricane readiness that lasts the entire season and up until 72 hours before a predicted landfall. During this time personnel must review and update Keesler Form 21, Shelter Information, by the seventh of each month at <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/Sentinel/>. This form is an accountability tool that allows commanders to know where individuals will be during a storm.

This is also a good time to prepare family emergency plans, evacuation routes, pet sheltering plans and gather supplies. Keep in mind that supplies should last each person at least three days and should include food, water, safety items as well as items to protect your health, pets, car and home.

HURCON 4 is 72 hours prior to the forecast arrival of destructive winds of at least 50 knots (58 miles per hour). During this time personnel should pay attention to weather bulletins, follow instructions from unit commanders, secure household items, check emergency supplies, fill car tanks with gasoline and store small boats in enclosed shelters or tie them down.

HURCON 3 is 48 hours prior to the forecast arrival of destructive winds of at least 50 knots. During this time individuals should stay away from windows, keep in contact with



Photo by Staff Sgt. Valerie Smock

The center of circulation can be seen as the WC-130J aircraft flies over Tropical Storm Lee Sept. 3, 2011. The 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron "Hurricane Hunters" were heading back to Keesler after penetrating the storm Sept. 2, 2011.

duty section or squadron, and minimize phone calls to base.

HURCON 2 is 24 hours prior to the forecast arrival of destructive winds of at least 50 knots. During this time individuals should make final preparations including gathering drinking water, food and toiletries and storing personal papers or valuables in water-proof boxes. Everyone except mission-essential personnel

and students are encouraged to evacuate at this time.

HURCON 1 is 12 hours before the forecast arrival of destructive winds of at least 50 knots. During this time mission-essential personnel and students report to their designated shelters.

After a hurricane passes, damage could be extensive so always keep safety in mind and remain in shelters until it

is declared safe to leave. Individuals who evacuated should contact their units for instructions. If communication with the base isn't possible, call the Air Force Personnel Center, 1-800-435-9941.

For more information including evacuation routes, supply checklists, sheltering information and recovery information go to www.keesler.af.mil/hurricaneinfo.asp

Evacuations may carry financial entitlements

81st Comptroller Squadron

Do you know what you're entitled to if the Wing commander issues a mandatory evacuation order for base personnel in the event a hurricane is forecasted to impact operations at Keesler? Just like establishing a budget or saving for the future, pre-planning and knowing your entitlements is the key to financial success.

Evacuations may be ordered as early as HURCON 3, when the storm is just 48 hours away, or as late as HURCON 1, when the storm is 12 hours from hitting the base.

Regardless of whether or not one may receive reimbursement for evacu-

ation expenses, leaving voluntarily, if at all possible, isn't a bad idea. For safety purposes, a voluntary evacuation could be a very viable option, especially for families with small children or elderly members.

"Keesler members need the 81st Training Wing commander's authority to evacuate before they can begin traveling on reimbursable entitlements," said 1st Lt. Semira Moore, 81st Comptroller Squadron. "Dependents are also authorized entitlements, but if they choose to leave before the evacuation order is given, some expenses will not be reimbursed."

An important thing to remember in

making this decision is that the order is the official document authorizing reimbursement for travel. Evacuating before the order does not preclude a member from receiving reimbursable entitlements. Once an official order is issued, the member will start receiving entitlements effective the date/time specified on the order.

Once the evacuation order is given and initial accountability is taken, members in temporary duty and leave status who are outside the local area must check with their commanders to determine whether they should remain at their current location or return to Keesler. Some members on leave status

may be ordered to TDY status until it is safe to return.

"It behooves us all to remain reasonable prudent and modest in the use of our advances," Moore advised.

When the evacuation order is issued, there'll be an allowed mileage radius — for example, evacuate no closer than 150 miles, but no further than 600 miles. Anyone who travels outside of the allotted radius will have to pay out of pocket for the extra miles.

The bottom line, the lieutenant stated, "is that all Keesler members should include finance in their hurricane plans. It's too late to begin planning when a storm is on its way."

KEESLER NOTES

Hurricane town hall meeting

Today there are two town hall meetings in preparation for the upcoming hurricane season. The meetings will be held at 1 and 5 p.m. at the Welch Theater.

13L air liaison career

Friday is the deadline to volunteer for the 13L air liaison career field.

Candidates selected during this cycle attend the Phase II ALO aptitude assessment Aug. 2-6 at the Jacks Valley Training Area at the Air Force Academy, Colo.

ROTC and Air Force Academy cadets who are graduating in 2013, Air Force cross-flow officers, interservice transfer candidates and Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve officers who'd like to be recalled to active duty are eligible. A limited number

of 2014 academy and ROTC graduates may be considered, depending on the number of applications received.

For eligibility requirements and more information, call DSN 574-8384, email acca3fc.jid@langley.af.mil or log on to https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil/app/answers/detail/a_id/22138.

MSG's Ultimate Warrior Challenge

The 81st Mission Support Group is holding the "MSG's Ultimate Warrior Challenge" from 8-10 a.m. today at the Triangle Track. Nine teams will compete in a race featuring 10 deployment-related challenges to promote esprit de corps in support of the deployment mission.

I-81 running track

Portions of the I-81 running track will be under construction and closed for the next few months in order to

remove and replace the asphalt surface. The contractor is scheduled to be completed mid-July.

Keesler Airman's Attic

The Keesler Airman's Attic provides free donated items to enlisted members of any branch, E-5 and below with the expectation that when the person is done, they will return the item for another's use. The facility is located at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street and is open Mondays, Wednesdays and every non-training Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The last Saturday of the month is an "all ranks" day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call (228) 377-3814.

Chapel Marriage Care retreat

There is a free chapel-sponsored marriage care retreat June 15-17 at the Riverview Plaza Renaissance Hotel in

Mobile, Ala. to provide couples with an opportunity to take time out for their relationship. For more information and to register call (228) 377-4859.

AFCEA luncheon

There will be an Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association Gulf Coast Chapter luncheon at 11:45 a.m. June 13 at the Bay Breeze Event Center third floor lounge.

The scheduled guest speaker is Maj. Gen Earl D. Matthews, Office of Information Dominance and Chief Information Officer cyberspace operations director for the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force.

For more information call (228) 377-0627.

New SharePoint site

To provide customers with more efficient service, the military personnel section is rolling out a new SharePoint site on Monday. This new site will provide customers with Air Force Instructions, Personnel Services Delivery Guides, templates, forms and a drop-box. This initiative is expected to reduce the number of trips customers make to the MPS by enabling them access from their desk

tops at <https://keesler.eis.aetc.af.mil/81msg/fss/mps/default.aspx?PageView=Shared>.

For more information call (228) 376-8648.

Street Survival School

Keesler member can register for the second installment of Keesler's Street Survival School until June 19. The class is scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 23 with a classroom portion at the professional development building, 2902, and a hands-on portion on ramp three of the flight line.

To reserve a spot or for more information, call (228) 376-3123, email keeslerauttox@gmail.com or visit www.streetsurvival.org.

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. - 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. Visit www.keeslerspousesclub.com for more information and a list of preferred donations. Pickup is available for bulk donations. For more information, call (228) 377-3217.

Local area offers 16 locations for child safety seat inspections

Bay St. Louis Police Department (228) 467-9222

Biloxi Regional Trauma Center (228) 436-1345

Citizens Against Needless Death in Youth (228) 769-2175

Coastal Family Health Center (228) 234-5557

George County Health Department (Lucedale) (601) 947-4217

Gulf Coast Community Action Agency Head Start (228) 236-5032

Hancock County Sheriff's Department (228) 466-6900

Harrison County Health Department (Gulfport) (228) 863-1036

Isiah Fredericks Head Start

(228) 324-5590

Miss. State Dept. of Health (228) 436-6770

Moore Community House (228) 297-5074

Morning Star Pregnancy Center (228) 864-4221

Pass Christian Police Department (228) 452-3302

Stone County Health Department (Wiggins) (601) 928-5293

Waveland Police Department (228) 467-3669

Women's Resource Center (228) 897-8958

For more information go to http://msdh.ms.gov/msdh-site/_static/resources/4454.pdf.

Keesler Events Calendar

Today

8 a.m. — 81st Mission Support Group's "Ultimate Warrior Challenge" at the Triangle Track.

1 p.m. — Airman and family readiness center post deployment briefing at the Sablich Center Room 108.

2 p.m. — Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit Keesler change of command at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

Friday

1 p.m. — Ice cream social at the arts and crafts center.

Monday

3:30 p.m. — 81st Training Wing enlisted promotion ceremony at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

5 p.m. — Coupon basics class at the Bay Breeze community center.

Tuesday

9 a.m. — Airman and family readiness center post deployment briefing at the Sablich Center Room 108.

— Separates pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

1 p.m. — Retiree pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

Wednesday
6:30 a.m. — Professional Wellness Month 5K run/walk at the Triangle Fitness Center.

June 7

8 a.m. — Heart Link at the Sablich Center Room 108B. For more information call (228) 376-8728.

1 p.m. — Airman and family readiness center post deployment briefing at the Sablich Center Room 108.

4 p.m. — Father's Day special at the arts and crafts center.

June 9

1 p.m. — Father's Day special at the arts and crafts center.

June 12

9 a.m. — Airman and family readiness center post deployment briefing at the Sablich Center Room 108.

— Separates pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center in Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

1 p.m. — Retiree pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

June 13

7 a.m. — Newcomer's orientation at the Sablich Center Room 108B.

2 p.m. — Intramural soccer coaches meeting at the Vandenberg Community Center.

101 Critical Days of Summer campaign stresses safety

By Airman 1st Class
Kenneth Norman

97th Air Mobility Wing
Public Affairs

ALTUS AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. — With summer fast approaching, soon it will be time to uncover boats, dust off motorcycles, put on swim shorts and engage in all sorts of outdoor activities.

Summertime can be a great time for fun, but with an increase in activities comes a greater chance for accidents to happen. The days of summer with the greatest chance of accidents are known to Air Force members as the 101 critical days of summer.

The Air Force Safety Center's Critical Days of Summer safety campaign began Friday and runs through Sept. 4.

"Now's the time when the weather is warmer and people are out doing the activities that they put on hold during the winter months," said Master Sgt. Jason M. Greco, 97th Air Mobility Wing ground safety superintendent. "People are out on their motorcycles a lot more; there are a lot of summertime sports out at the lake, and things people haven't done for a long time so their skills are rusty."

According to the Air Force Safety Center, "The objective of the Air Force Critical Days of Summer Campaign 2012 is to call attention to the tragic loss and or injury of Airmen during summertime and to make them realize that safety is personal for their families, friends, coworkers and themselves. Counting back to Oct. 1, 2002, the Air Force has ex-



perienced 218 fatalities during the Critical Days of Summer (201 off-duty and 17 on duty). The Air Force's vision is to ensure all of our Airmen have zero preventable mishaps and an injury-free summer."

Airmen can take precautions to help prevent mishaps.

The best thing Airmen can do is to use personal risk management and look at every activity they are doing, Greco said. If they break down their activities step by step, and identify potential hazards, they need to do whatever they can to reduce those hazards. Airmen also need to let their leadership know what activities they are participating in as well, so that supervisors can help give the proper guidance. People may not always make the right decisions for them-

selves, a lot of things they do are on a whim, so talking to leadership can help them make the right choices.

During the 101 Critical Days of Summer campaign, supervisors are especially encouraged to get involved with their employees.

"One thing I want to stress is that supervisors should be engaging with their personnel and getting involved in what their Airmen are doing in their extra-curricular time to help point them in the right direction and make sure that they are making the right decisions to keep themselves as safe as possible," Greco said.

If base members adhere to the proper safety precautions, there is no reason that this can't be a great and safe 101 Critical Days of Summer.



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Keesler youth tour Biloxi Lighthouse

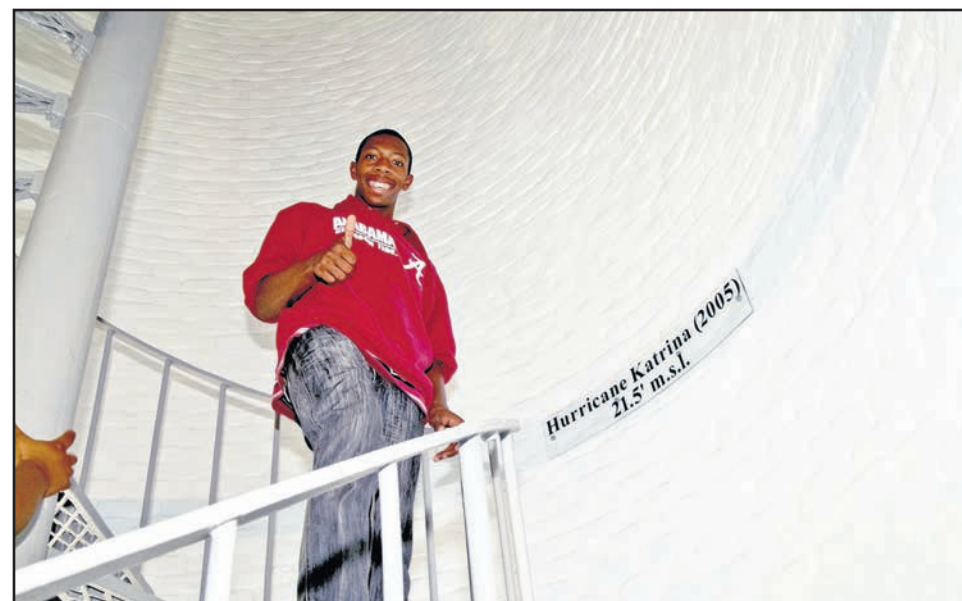


Photos by Herb Welch

Chandler Belford, son of Brad Belford, 81st Medical Group, and Michelle Belford, child development center; and Julian August, son of 1st Lt. Teena and Jonathan August, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron, climb the spiral stairs in the Biloxi Lighthouse during a Keesler Youth Center tour on Friday.



From left, Ashyton Graham, daughter of Allyson Hill, 81st Communications Squadron; Jamie Mignott, child and youth program assistant; and Chandler Belford look at an information binder at the top of the Biloxi Lighthouse.



Charles Moore Jr. gives the thumbs up at the stripe marking the height of the Hurricane Katrina flood surge in the Biloxi Lighthouse. Moore is a youth center teen group member who volunteered to help take the Keesler youth group on a tour of the Biloxi Lighthouse. Charles is the son of Charles Moore, 403rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Intramural Soccer League



Registration

Letter of Intent Due June 7

Coaches' Meeting June 13
2 p.m. @
the "V"

Season Starts July 9

All games will be held at multipurpose field.

For more information,
call 377-2444.

