



# KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train. Fight. Win.

JULY 26, 2012 VOL. 73 NO. 29



## Fata Morgana show wows Keesler audience

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# KEESLER NEWS

**Brig. Gen. Brad Spacy**  
81st Training Wing  
commander

**81st Training Wing  
Public Affairs**

**1st Lt. Victoria Porto**  
Director

**Jerry Taranto**  
Deputy director

**Staff Sgt.  
Kimberly Rae Moore**  
NCOIC

**Senior Airman  
Heather Heiney**  
Keesler News co-editor

**Steve Hoffmann**  
Keesler News co-editor

**Kemberly Groue**  
Photojournalist

Public affairs staff  
**Senior Airman  
Eric Summers Jr.  
Joel Van Nice  
Tim Coleman  
Susan Griggs**

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## ON THE COVER

Brig. General Brad Spacy, 81st Training Wing commander, takes a stroll along the tightrope while Bello Nock, comedic daredevil and international circus star for Fata Morgana, coaches him on proper technique. Members of Fata Morgana performed a military appreciation show for Keesler families Saturday at the Bay Breeze Event Center. Fata Morgana, an Italian phrase meaning optical illusion, featured a small number of various acts throughout the show..

Photo by Kemberly Groue



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

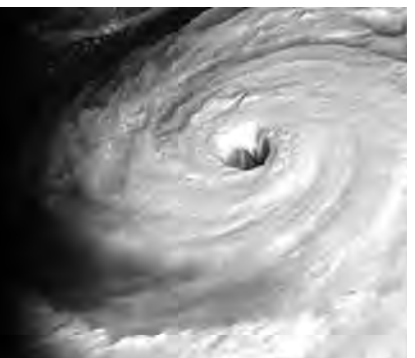


Chad Martin, a Keesler firefighter, cools off by pouring a bottle of water on his face during an exercise July 18. In the exercise scenario, a disgruntled base employee sprayed harmful chemicals on Airmen in the Triangle training area injuring several people. Witnesses contacted 9-1-1 and within minutes, members of the 81st Security Forces Squadron apprehended the individual and first responders began decontamination and treatment of the victims. Keesler held the three-day exercise to test the response of base personnel. To submit your photo for the Keesler News photo of the week email a copy to keeslernews@us.af.mil.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

## HURRICANE SEASON

runs from June 1 - Nov. 30. For more information and preparations tips,  
visit [www.keesler.af.mil/hurricaneinfo.asp](http://www.keesler.af.mil/hurricaneinfo.asp)



# Cultivating a culture of compliance at Keesler

By Master Sgt. Elijah Ramsey

81st Training Wing  
compliance officer

Supervisors must establish a culture that promotes compliance the moment a new Airman arrives on the job. The supervisor should address compliance in following procedures during section meetings and while on the job. It is imperative that supervisors stress the importance of understanding the Air Force mission and meeting expectations to everyone in the workplace. This focus clarifies the direction or path we must all follow. As leaders, we should set the example and do the job right the first time to promote an environment of compliance.

There are so many changes that occur over time and when



Days left until UCI inspection

these compliance changes comes about we, as supervisors and leaders, must focus our attention to ensure these changes are implemented throughout the workforce. As a compliance officer, I have heard the story many times, where compliance becomes complacent in the workplace i.e. a worker has done a job incorrectly 1,000 times and the 1,001 time, the worker gets hurt and the words out of his or her mouth is "I can't believe this happened." This behavior is not accepted in

our workforce.

I say all this to focus on the importance of compliance. If an Air Force squadron has a fatality, the affected commander and his squadron will be investigated. There will be compliance officers interviewing commanders, supervisors and even the lowest ranking worker. A deficient compliance program can also result in increased liabilities, harmful management distractions and also affect our Air Force image. We must understand that our efforts to protect and serve also relate to being in compliance.

Supervisors must remain diligent in managing their troops and making compliance a priority in the workforce. To motivate and cultivate Airmen to follow good work ethics concerning compliance,

one must be an advocate. As supervisors, managers and leaders we should never place compliance on the back burner or procrastinate implementing complaint behaviors. If we neglect to promote a culture of compliance we will not be prepared and may receive a failed or conditional compliance inspection rating.

However, if we prepare ourselves by being in a constant state of readiness, inspections could be viewed as opportunities to enhance our practices and better serve our customers, our co-workers and our nation. So, let's take this opportunity to better prepare for the upcoming Unit Compliance Inspection. Let's start by setting a good example and be proactive in accomplishing self inspection checklists. This shows

our Airmen a clear picture of how important the inspection is to the Air Force mission.

As supervisors and leaders, provide clear and precise guidance to Airmen, leave an open line of communication and give the opportunity to ask for clarification. Instructions should always include specific tasks, and why those tasks need to be accomplished. Supervisors should be available to answer questions and provide additional training if necessary.

By changing our behaviors and tactics, we can open our Airmen's eyes to a culture of compliance. We can inspire, motivate and teach good practices that will lead to sustained compliance long after the Inspector General's team has departed.

## Every job should be treated like a career

By Capt. Heidi McMinn

81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron  
blood services chief

Imagine you were a part of a deploying unit and spent six months to a year in a combat zone. Then, your unit commander wrote an account of the experiences of your unit to chronicle the trials and accomplishments of your deployment. You bought this book and, as you are read the author's note, you came across this statement: "I have no desire to expose any soldiers who did not live up to the standard, so I have changed the names and identifying characteristics of some soldiers."

I found this statement at the beginning of a book called "Outlaw Platoon," by Army Lt. Sean Parnell. When I came across it, the sentence gave me pause. And as the story unfolded of the 10th Mountain Division's experiences in the mountains of Afghanistan, I felt haunted by this statement. There were 40 men in this 3rd Brigade infantry platoon who spent 16 months of their lives fighting together for each other — some lost their lives. I couldn't help but think how devastating it would be

to read an account of my team's combat experiences and realize that my name was changed because I didn't measure up. What makes somebody not measure up?

When I joined the Air Force 12 years ago, I had no illusions of spending 20 years climbing through the enlisted ranks. I wanted a college degree, medical experience and a host of other things. The Air Force was probably not going to be a career for me — perhaps just a job.

In the last 12 years, I have made decisions that directly contrasted with my original life plans. I said I would not stay in the Air Force, yet here I am. I said more than once, "I will never be a lab officer," yet, here I am. I actually sort of like it. When my mentor asked which Air Force Institute of Technology program I wanted to apply for, my exact words were, "Anything but the Blood Banking Fellowship."

Why do I bring this up?

If I hadn't come into the Air Force and treated it like a career, even though to me it was only a job, the commissioning door would not have opened up for me. I didn't need my medical laboratory

technologist when I got out of phase II, but I took the test, just in case. I ended up working as an MLT while I finished my degree and didn't have to scramble when it came time to get a job. I wanted to separate when my enlistment was up, but I studied for staff sergeant anyway. When I asked for letters of recommendation for my commissioning package, people were happy to write them because while I was an Airman, I treated it as my career.

As we can all attest to, we make plans but then life happens and plans change. There are very few things both in and outside the military truly within our control.

I have spoken with the recent medical laboratory phase II graduates about owning their situation and about always doing the right thing, because the minute you don't, you allow other people to make your decisions. I know they all have different plans for their careers and lives but the one common theme they all share is that they are driven to excel. I challenged them to take that drive and embrace any situation in which they may be placed.

I told them to treat their experience

as Air Force medical laboratory technicians as a career and not just a job. "Your work impacts more people than you can ever imagine." Unfortunately, we usually only learn how great an impact we have on people when we do something wrong. But every day they turn out a potassium result, blood type or culture result, they impact people's lives. Not just the individual who receives that result, but their family members and friends as well. I stressed they treat this with the seriousness it deserves and be the best lab technician they can possibly be and they will be met with continued success.

At the end of your career, whether it's four years or spans a couple decades, if you treat your job as your career — with ownership, pride and excitement — your unit commander won't feel the need to protect your name because you didn't measure up but will instead proudly use your name to tell the account of what happened on their deployment or during the countless missions of which you will have an opportunity to be a part.

## Chemical attack tests base response

More photos on page 17



Senior Airman Aaron Bradley and Airman 1st Class Wesley Mory, 81st Security Forces Squadron, assist an exercise "victim," Airman Basic Dillon Hall, 336th Training Squadron, during an exercise July 18. In the exercise scenario, a disgruntled base employee sprayed harmful chemicals on Airmen in the Triangle training area injuring several people. Witnesses contacted 911 and within minutes, members of the 81st Security Forces Squadron apprehended the individual and first responders began decontamination and treatment of the victims. Keesler held the three-day exercise to test the response of base personnel.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Tech. Sgt. William Kiddy, 81st Medical Group and NCO in charge of the in-place patient decontamination team, directs team members during the exercise.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Airmen 1st Class Art Easterling, James Rodriguez, Jason Parker and Demi Cook, 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron, secure stretchers on scene for exercise victims.

# Airman fights through disorder to graduate

By Mike Joseph

JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas — It normally takes a trainee 8½ weeks to complete Air Force Basic Military Training. For one recent graduate, it took overcoming Guillain-Barre Syndrome to become an Airman, graduating six months after his arrival at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

In his fourth week of basic training last December, trainee Luke Bolen, a physically fit 21-year-old, noticed he was two minutes slower on a 1½-mile run. He attributed the slower time to a respiratory infection.

“It was weird,” he said about his time jumping to 12 minutes, 46 seconds from 10:55.

Little did Bolen know it was the first sign of Guillain-Barre Syndrome, an immune system disorder that damages nerve cells and causes muscle weakness. A week later, on Christmas day 2011, the disorder began to overtake his extremities. First it was his fingers, then his right arm, then his left arm and finally his legs. In less than 72 hours, GBS had paralyzed the young trainee from the neck down.

By the time his parents flew in from North Carolina, the day after the young trainee was admitted to the intensive care unit at San Antonio Military Medical Center, Bolen was on a ventilator.

Between the paralysis and the ventilator, the situation looked bleak.

After the SAMMC team started treatment and began to counter the GBS attack, Bolen and his parents were told recovery could take up to two years.

“I told his neurologist you don’t know my son, he’s got the heart of a champion. Give him a chance, he’s a fighter; I think he’ll amaze you,” said his father, Brian Bolen.

When given the option to succumb to GBS’ damage to his body and possible separation from the Air Force, Luke



Photo by Alan Boedeker

**Airman Luke Bolen hugs his father, Brian Bolen, as his mother, Lisa, looks on during the Air Force Basic Military Training graduation ceremony May 11 at the 321st Training Squadron. Bolen was diagnosed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome while at basic training. He recovered to complete basic training, graduating six months after his arrival.**

instead chose to fight.

And that’s exactly what the young Bolen did.

It seemed as quickly as he was struck down by GBS, Bolen began to fight back. After 11 days in intensive care, including a week on a ventilator, he took his first steps on the road to recovery a little more than two weeks after being admitted to SAMMC.

By early February, Bolen was moved from the San Antonio Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center to the 324th Training Squadron, the BMT medical hold unit. He continued to rebuild strength and stamina over the next two months in the 324th TRS until he passed the test to return to basic training.

He went back to the 321st TRS April 20 and graduated BMT May 11.

Not only had Bolen defied the odds, he obliterated the

doctors’ anticipated recovery time frame.

“The doctor originally told me a minimum of 18 months to a couple of years,” said Bolen, now in technical training at Sheppard Air Force Base. “The medicine was working a lot faster than they anticipated. Everything started coming back a day at a time.

“By Jan. 10, I was able to stand up and would strategically fall into something. I walked 100 feet and back that night. When my parents came in the next morning, I walked with a walker. That was the big turning point.”

From there, Bolen pushed himself every day to regain movement in his legs and arms. Driven by will, positive reinforcement and his family’s emotional support, he always believed he would complete the training.

But Bolen first had to

convince his doctors and the Air Force.

“They wanted to discharge me. I kept saying, ‘no.’ My dad kept saying, ‘No!’” Bolen said. “I told them, ‘give me a chance, you don’t know what I can do.’ I’ve learned to walk again. I’ve learned to write again. I’ve learned to lift one pound at a time. I’ve got it all back. They told me I was going to be in leg braces for another six months. I’m out of them and it hasn’t been three months.”

Bolen’s rapid recovery was nothing short of miraculous.

“He was on a ventilator, unable to move,” said Master Sgt. Nicole Basnight, 321st TRS first sergeant, when she saw Bolen in the ICU unit. “Only his eyes were moving. It seemed as soon as the doctors said what he couldn’t do, all of a sudden — I would say it’s a miracle — he started getting better.”

How quickly Bolen was

back on his feet also surprised the hospital staff.

“The doctors (at the rehabilitation center) had explained to us it was going to be a long, arduous process,” said Brian Bolen. “(The day Luke was walking with a walker) one of the neurologists looked at me and said, ‘this is absolutely remarkable.’ I told him as his father, I call this a miracle.”

“To those responsible for giving my son the opportunity to prove he has the heart of a champion, I cannot thank you enough,” said the father.

“I always believed the Air Force was the best choice for my son in his service to the greatest nation on earth ... and with the care and dedication our family received from everyone associated with Luke’s training and recovery, my beliefs were confirmed.”

## Keesler firing range holds inaugural shooting competition



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Rae Moore

A Gulfport police officer fires left-handed during the second round of the inaugural pistol competition at Keesler's indoor firing range Friday. Representatives from Air Force Office of Special Investigations, 81st Security Forces Squadron, Biloxi, Ocean Springs, Gulfport and D'Iberville Police Departments, the Drug Enforcement Administration and Customs and Border Protection competed in two rounds of various pistol shootings. Gulfport Police Department won the overall team award but 81st SFS's Tech Sgt. Nicholas Tessmer won "Top Shot."



Staff Sgt. Christopher Burk, 81st Security Forces Squadron, loads his magazines in preparation for the competition.



Capt. Sara Rathgeber validates scoring on targets used during the competition.



Photo by Scott Ash

Gen. Mark Welsh III, the commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe, testifies before the Senate Armed Services Committee in Washington, D.C., July 19, as part of the confirmation process to serve as the 20th Air Force Chief of Staff. If confirmed, Welsh will replace Gen. Norton Schwartz, who retires Aug. 10. Additional witnesses before the committee were Lt. Gen. John F. Kelly, U.S. Marine Corps, who is nominated to the rank of general and to take command of U.S. Southern Command, and Lt. Gen. Frank Grass, Army National Guard, also nominated for the rank of general and for appointment as the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

## CSAF nominee testifies before senate committee

By Tech Sgt. Richard Williams, Jr.

Air Force Public Affairs Agency

WASHINGTON — Gen. Mark Welsh III addressed a range of issues here July 19 during his Senate confirmation hearing to be the next Air Force chief of staff.

Welsh, who has commanded U.S. Air Forces in Europe since December 2010, answered questions from members of the Senate Armed Services Committee about budget and force structure, sexual assault prevention and response, the new Defense Strategic Guidance, and other areas.

“I am very excited about the opportunity to work with you to find ways to reduce our deficit and to keep our Air Force trained, equipped and ready to defend our nation, its citizens and its interests,” Welsh said during his opening statement.

“I’ll admit I’m even more excited about the opportunity to lead the men and women who serve in the world’s

finest Air Force,” he added.

Welsh said America’s Airmen move people and cargo to every corner of the world, conduct intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance operations for every combatant commander, conduct lifesaving aeromedical evacuations for wounded warriors, and bring fallen comrades home to the nation and the families who love them.

“They fight shoulder to shoulder with Army, Navy and Marine Corps comrades on the battlefield and they patrol the skies above them, ready to respond when lives are on the line,” Welsh said.

When asked about the Air Force’s fiscal 2013 budget request, Welsh said that should he be confirmed, he would look to improve the process by which the service develops its budget proposals.

“I believe that there needs to be a more inclusive coordination process on the budget,” Welsh said. “I think what matters the most today is how we move

forward from here.”

The general vowed that, if confirmed, he would work closely with the National Guard Bureau, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, state Guard leaders and others on future budget deliberations.

The Senate committee also asked Welsh about the challenge of stopping sexual assault in the Air Force.

“Everyone is trying to do the right thing and figure out some way of stopping this,” Welsh said. “But the fact is we haven’t even reversed the trend.”

The Air Force has institutionalized sexual assault prevention and response training during the past 10 years from the most junior levels to the headquarters level, the general said. Additionally, bystander intervention training is a requirement for the entire Air Force.

“The simple fact is the goal for sexual assault in the United States Air Force is not a decline in the trend... it is zero,” Welsh said.

Welsh was also asked for his thoughts on the Defense Department’s new Defense Strategic Guidance, and its focus on the Asia-Pacific theater.

“I believe what it means is there is a new strategic focus on the Pacific, meaning that our Air Force planning for capabilities to respond to combatant commander support needs to be focused on the Pacific first, without forgetting the activity in the Middle East, which remains a focus area as well,” Welsh said.

The general said the Air Force is already well on its way in implementing the new strategic guidance, thanks to the hard work of Airmen all across the world.

“If confirmed, I fully accept the responsibility to stand beside Secretary [of the Air Force Michael] Donley and lead all of those Airmen--690,000 strong, active, guard, reserve and civilian Airmen--who selflessly serve our nation as part of an unbeatable joint team,” Welsh said

## Commentary by Senior Airman Heather Heiney

Keesler News co-editor

Adults aren't supposed to get giddy over acrobats, strongmen and dancers and they surely aren't supposed to learn life lessons from clowns. But that's exactly how I spent my Saturday morning when performers of the cirque-style show Fata Morgana gave a free performance to the Keesler community at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

Before the show even started, I was lying on my stomach in the center aisle with my feet swinging back

and forth — you know, because that's the best place to get good photos and not at all because I was excited and wanted to be as close as possible to the performance.

As I watched the performance with my camera glued to my face, I was completely absorbed and couldn't help but think of the dedication those performers must have. Each act required strength, finesse and accuracy. One missed beat at the top of a balanced ladder, across a wire or within a spinning metal ring could result in injury or death. To put that in Air Force terms, the performers epitomized the term "excellence in all we do" and exemplified the results of physical fitness and training.

After the main performance was complete, we were invited to gather outside the Bay Breeze for a trampoline and low-wire act by comedic daredevil, Bello Nock. Throughout his performance he allowed us to peer through the crushed-velvet curtain and see the life of a performer. Nock has been training, performing and traveling the world since he was a small child and explained to the audience that any skill takes a lot of time and practice to acquire.

"Anyone can walk a high wire by age five...with thirty years of practice," Nock said.

When it came time for Nock to walk the low wire behind the Bay Breeze, he said that he treats every wire with the same amount of respect no matter how high or low it is; just like each person should be treated with the same amount of respect no matter who they are.

He said that the most difficult part of any venture, including a high-wire walk, is taking that first step. After that, you just let your feet feel the wire beneath them and move forward. He also explained that whatever your goal is (say, making it to the other end of the wire) you should focus on that goal the entire time and never look down.

"If you look down, you're focusing on the problem, not the solution," Nock said.

I immediately took out a note card and pen so I could write that down to remember forever.

Too often I've found myself looking down at a problem just like that and it has stopped me from moving forward in fear or made me so unbalanced that each step took a tremendous amount of effort. Sometimes I've even given up completely. But now, I've been inspired to start finding the solution and keeping my eyes on it so I can calmly and surely move forward.



Photo by Senior Airman Heather Heiney

Bello Nock, comedic daredevil and international circus star for Fata Morgana, performs a trampoline routine in front of a crowd outside the Bay Breeze Event Center. The performance was part of a military appreciation show for Keesler families Saturday.



Photo by Senior Airman Heather Heiney

Bello Nock performs a bike routine at the Bay Breeze Event Center.



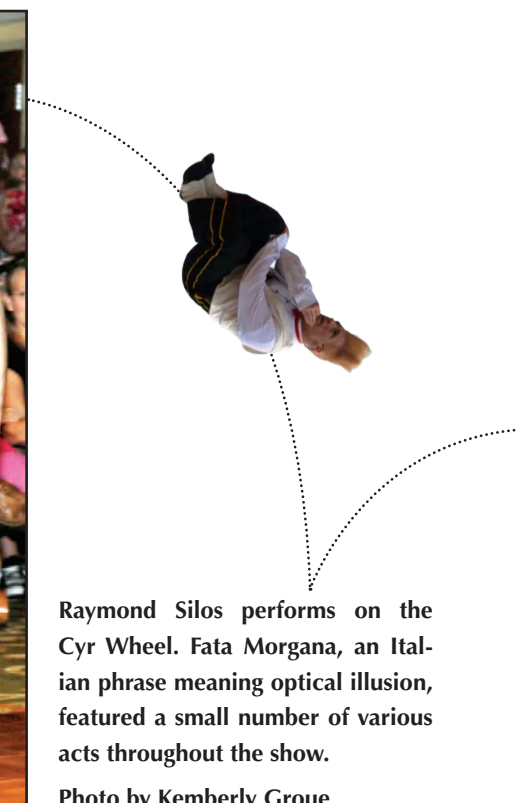
Photo by Kemberly Groue

Adam Vasquez and Anton Makhuhin, members of Fata Morgana, perform a hand balancing act as a show of strength.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Brig. General Brad Spacy, 81st Training Wing commander, and Keesler Air Force Base children pose for a photo with Bello Nock.



Raymond Silos performs on the Cyr Wheel. Fata Morgana, an Italian phrase meaning optical illusion, featured a small number of various acts throughout the show.

Photo by Kemberly Groue





Photos by Kemberly Groue

James Donnett, 81st Infrastructure Division Fire Chief, center, briefs members of the fire department, 81st Medical Group and 81st Security Forces Squadron on the status of the exercise.



Airman Basic Malachi Rizzo, 336th Training Squadron, has mouflage applied to his face for a more realistic representation of a chemical attack.



Officer Jeremy Ellzey, 81st Security Forces Squadron, is decontaminated by members of the Keesler Fire Department

## AFA upcoming events

The Air Force Association works for all members of the military, with a focus on the Air Force. The local chapter, the John C. Stennis Chapter, works here on base to increase community support for Keesler and support our military members. There is a monthly meeting at a location in the local community or the Bay Breeze Event Center lounge. The next meeting is 6 p.m. Aug. 7 at Pleasants BBQ in Ocean Springs. The Chapter also hosts events on base throughout the year, including the annual Air Force Ball to celebrate the Air Force birthday.

AFA is currently looking for volunteers to help with the Air Force Ball, Sept. 22 at the Bay Breeze. Regular planning meetings are at the Bay Breeze lounge July 25, Aug. 15 and 29, and Sept. 12 and 19.

## 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.

## Promotion release party

A staff sergeant promotion release party is scheduled for 3 p.m. Aug. 2 at the Roberts Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Facility.

## Senior NCO induction ceremony

Team Keesler is invited to the Senior NCO induction ceremony at the Bay Breeze Event Center, Aug. 10, to celebrate our newest master sergeant selects.

Social hour is 6 p.m. and dinner starts at 7 p.m.. Please contact your unit representative for tickets; the cost is \$25.

## Unsupervised youth on base

Keesler offers a great variety of entertainment and ac-

tivities for all ages. However, it is strongly encouraged that youth dependants be accompanied by a parent or guardian when visiting base facilities.

The summertime increase in unsupervised youth occasionally results in disruptive behavior that impacts the operations within our facilities. When this happens, parents will be notified to immediately come and pick up their children and, when necessary, security forces will be contacted.

## CCAF deadline

The last day to apply for the Community College of the Air Force fall 2012 graduating class is Aug. 31. By that date, all supporting documentation must be on file with the CCAF at Maxwell Air Force Base including your nomination action request. For more information contact the education services office in room 224 of the Sablich Center, or call (228) 376-8708.

## Energy saving tips

- Turn off computer monitors, printers and other office equipment when not in use.

- Keep thermostats set above 76 degrees in the spring and summer and below 69 degrees in the fall and winter.

- Report any outdoor lights left on during the day to civil engineering, 228-597-5859.

- Use Energy efficient electronic products.

- Unplug chargers when not in use.

- Don't forget to turn out that light!

## 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](http://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. Quarterly Supply classes are held in Room 121B, Taylor Logistics Building.

## checklist

At **HURCON 5**, as of June 1, crisis action team implements tropical storm advisory and directs commanders and/or first sergeants to review TSA checklists and take appropriate actions.

At **HURCON 4**, listen to latest weather bulletins and follow instructions from unit commanders.

Off-base and base housing residents should:

- Brief family members on their responsibilities. Review actions to take if sheltering is necessary.

- Keep radio and television on for information on status of the storm.

- Check supply of food that can be eaten without cooking.

- Stock flashlights, extra batteries, camp lantern, transistor radio, special prescribed medicines and food, baby food, first aid kit, insecticides, water purification tablets, fire extinguisher, tool kit and hardware, boards for windows and plastic bags to cover any broken windows.

- Tie down mobile homes and disconnect propane tanks.

- Secure objects in open areas.

- Fill car tanks with gasoline.

- Store small boats in enclosed shelters or tie them down.

At **HURCON 3**, dorm residents should:

- Store personal items in lockers and drawers.

- Move furniture to walls opposite windows.

- Unplug electrical equipment and turn off lights.

- Close all doors.

- Secure equipment, motorcycles, trash cans, signs, etc.

- Stand by for briefings by unit commanders.

- Plan to brace doors securely.

- Stack furniture and rugs.

- Have flashlights within easy reach.

- Stay away from windows.

- Keep in contact with duty section or squadron.

- Minimize phone calls to base.

- Pay particular attention to bulletins and advisories issued by base officials, and to radio and television for information and evacuation or sheltering instructions.

At **HURCON 2**, make final preparations — fill jugs, bottles, etc., with drinking water. Put important personal papers or valuables in water-proof strong boxes. Everyone except mission-essential personnel and students is encouraged to evacuate.

At **HURCON 1**, mission-essential personnel and students report to their designated shelters.

# Target



for elimination,

call Keesler's hotline 377-7053

# ENERGY CONSERVATION



WHAT A BRIGHT IDEA

# Keesler Events Calendar

## Today

**11 a.m.** — 81st Training Wing quarterly awards luncheon at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

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

## Friday

**4 p.m.** — Summer reading program finale, "Pasta Frenzy," at the McBride Library.

**6 p.m.** — Ladies Night at the arts and crafts center.

## Saturday

**9 a.m.** — Wood shop for beginners class at the arts and crafts center.

**10:30 a.m.** — Jewelry I

beginner class at the arts and crafts center.

— Pottery wheel for beginners class at the arts and crafts center.

**1:30 p.m.** — Jewelry II beginner class at the arts and crafts center.

## Tuesday

**9 a.m.** — Pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

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

**1 p.m.** — Retirees pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

## Wednesday

**3:30 p.m.** — 81st Training Wing enlisted promotion

ceremony.

## Aug. 2

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

## Aug. 7

**9 a.m.** — Pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

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

**1 p.m.** — Retirees pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

## Aug. 8

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

# Two Keesler medics to begin AFIT fellowships

By Steve Pivnick

## 81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Two 81st Medical Group members will begin Air Force Institute of Technology fellowship programs soon.

Cpts. Donna Burrowes and Steven Bryant, both members of the 81st Medial Operations Squadron, learned in the fall they had been selected for the AFIT training.

Burrowes, a psychologist with the mental health flight, has already left Keesler and Bryant, Physician Assistant Residency director, departs by the end of the month.

Burrowes will attend a one-year child psychology post-graduate fellowship at Harvard Medical School's



Burrowes

Children's Hospital under the Developmental Medicine Program starting Aug. 1.

"I am honored to have been



Bryant

selected for the AFIT Child Psychology fellowship. It has been an aspiration of mine to broaden my career by becom-

ing an Air Force child psychologist and be able to further help military families. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be able to study under Harvard Medical Services and gain experience with military children in (United States Air Forces in Europe)." Burrowes said, "I was told that my likely follow-on would be Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, but I won't know definitively until January 2013. I do know that all of the child psych billets are in USAFE and I was told 'Spang' would be the only one open. So I will most likely be in Germany."

Bryant will attend the Duke University Orthopedic Physician Assistant Fellowship, also a one-year program, starting

Sept. 3. He noted that he is the only Air Force PA in the fellowship this year and there are just a handful of orthopedic PAs.

"There will only be eight for 25 slots by 2014," Bryant said.

"It's a brand new program. I'm excited. This is a great opportunity, especially at Duke. A lot of dominoes had to fall to make it happen. It's pretty phenomenal!"

As an orthopedic PA, Bryant said he will assist during surgeries and likely will be the initial evaluator for patients coming into the clinic, determining whether they require surgery or less invasive care.

## Exchange offers savings on back-to-school items

### AAFES Public Affairs

With a new school year right around the corner, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is stocking the shelves to help students with all their school needs. From supplies to clothing, the Keesler Exchange has it in store for students and parents.

"Every product is, of course, tax free every day at the Keesler Exchange," said General Manager Penny Madison. "As a result, shoppers with Exchange privileges aren't subject to the restrictions and limited savings opportunities available through the upcoming 'tax holiday.' In fact, military shoppers who shop the Keesler Exchange during this year's 'tax holiday' will see an added benefit as local sales tax percentage discounts will be matched, by category."

The Exchange will effectively double the exchange's

tax-free benefit July 27-28, offering an additional percentage off, equivalent to the local sales tax rate, to the already low Exchange prices.

Regardless of when they shop, parents can expect more while paying less with the Exchange's back-to-school savings. On average customers save 24 percent and the price match policy can save shoppers even more.

"The Exchange's buying staff has done its homework over the past year and we're ready to pass the savings lessons on to military families," Madison said. "Even though we've crammed to deliver the best back-to-school shopping experience possible, we're always prepared to match the lowest local price to ensure authorized shoppers are getting the best value for their back-to-school dollars."

## 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.*

## Airman and family readiness center

500 Fisher St., Bldg. 701 (228) 376-8728  
Levitow Annex: 140 Phantom St. Room 134  
(228) 377-0155

## Keesler, Seabees partner to provide youth art classes



Courtesy photo

The Keesler arts and crafts center recently partnered with the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport to provide art classes to children ages 5-12 that are participating in their summer youth programs. During their time at the arts and crafts center, children participated in activities such as acrylic painting, mosaic and woodworking projects. According to Kim Reid, NCBC child and youth program director, the purpose of the partnership is to help broaden the horizons of Seabee children through art. The arts and crafts center is open Tuesday through Saturday and offers a variety of instructional classes to unleash your inner artist or craftsman. For more information on classes, visit [www.keesler81fss.us](http://www.keesler81fss.us) or call (228) 377-2821.

# Lost & Found

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