



KEESLER NEWS



Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 69, No. 21
Thursday, May 29, 2008

Rebuild the base ... Renew the community ... Reload the Air Force

INSIDE

COMMENTARY

Keesler says farewell, **2**

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Facility dedication, **4**

NEWS

AND FEATURES

DUI accident skit, **8**

Little BOS update, **9**

Housing forecast, **16**

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Special golf tourney, **19**

Base pools open, **20**

SECTIONS

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

Training, education.....**4-7**

News, features.....**8-18**

Sports, recreation.....**19-20**

Digest.....**21-23**

Classifieds.....**24**

Hurricane supplement...**A1-8**

Keesler on the Web
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>



Dragons deployed
— 236



Photo by Kemberly Groue

General Welsh, left, passes the 2nd Air Force flag to General Flowers during Friday's change of command ceremony on the parade field. General Flowers came to Keesler from Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., where he commanded Air University's officer accession and training schools.

General Flowers takes command of 2nd Air Force

By Senior Airman Carlos Rodriguez

Keesler Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Alfred Flowers accepted the 2nd Air Force flag from presiding officer Maj. Gen. Mark Welsh, Air Education and Training Command vice commander, Friday to become the newest commander of the 2nd Air Force.

In a change-of-command ceremony marked by a parade, flag presentations and military music provided by the technical training students of the 81st Training Group, Maj. Gen. Mike Gould bade a fond farewell to Keesler while General Flowers laid out plans for his tenure.

"My No. 1 goal is to take care of the men and women of our Air Force," said General Flowers. "We want to make sure their quality of life is taken care of and we want to take care of their families."

"(Our mission) is to recruit and train the Airmen, making sure they're ready to tackle and enter the Air Force," the former Officer Training School commander added. "I'm excited any time I can train our new Airmen."

In a career that has sent him from the West Coast to the East Coast and points in between, General Flowers is looking forward to his new assignment in Mississippi.

Please see **Flowers**, Page 9

Clock ticks for A-76 force reduction

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

At a May 20 town hall meeting, Keesler employees learned that the reduction in force driven by the A-76 competitive sourcing process was set in motion the previous day.

Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander,

reported that the contract has been signed with Computer Sciences Corp. to cover most base operating support functions for an initial year and nine option years at a cost of \$270 million.

"Office space has been allocated, and you'll see CSC's presence here very soon," the colonel said. "A follow-on

meeting with CSC takes place next week to discuss CSC's proposed timeline."

Contract implementation dates are:

Sept. 1 through Oct. 31 — 60-day mobilization period.

Nov. 1 through Jan. 31,

Please see **A-76**, Page 9

**PREPARING
for the storm**



**HURRICANE
SUPPLEMENT
PAGES A1-8**

Keesler bids farewell to 2 leaders

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

This week the Keesler family bids farewell to two great Air Force leaders, Col. Richard "Hawkeye" Pierce and Chief Master Sgt. Jimmy Kelly.

Colonel Pierce has served as the 81st Training Wing's vice commander for the past two years and has been instrumental in the rebuilding of our base, the renewal of our community and the reloading of our Air Force.

Arriving after Hurricane Katrina, Colonel Pierce guided the wing in the rebuilding process. His inspirational leadership and positive attitude is infectious and made a huge difference in the lives of many not only here at Keesler but in our community as well. He is the member of several community organizations including the Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club and has become a pillar of the community.

After graduating from wing vice commander duties, Colonel Pierce is headed off for a command of his own.

He is heading back to Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., where he will command the southeast region of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. We thank him for his great leadership and energy and wish him and his wife, Linda, all the best in their new assignment.

Chief Kelly, 2nd Air Force's command chief, is retiring this week after 30+ years of distinguished service to our country. Chief Kelly's leadership is second to none and has made a positive difference across the Air Force.

With a background in aircraft maintenance, Chief Kelly has proven himself to be a role model for Airmen of all ranks and experience. In his role as the command chief for 2nd Air Force, Chief Kelly has been a critical player in

the creation of realistic and effective combat skills training for our battlefield Airmen.

He has been at the forefront of a massive transformation in how we train our airmen and has guided the training of 200,000+ airmen during his tenure. Additionally, he recently returned from the Middle East, where he was a handpicked representative of Air Force senior leadership to assess the training, morale and welfare of our forces in the field.

He is a Chief among chiefs and a man who has made a huge difference across the Air Force. I am positive that he will continue to make a huge difference for our country in another role as he steps from the active-duty ranks. We wish Chief Kelly, his wife Katrina, and the Kelly family Godspeed.

Both these Airmen represent the finest qualities of our core values: they put integrity first; they put service

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

You're encouraged to work concerns through your chain of command or contact an appropriate helping agent. For unresolved issues, call the commander's action line for assistance.

Suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool are welcome. Call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81st TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81st TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base).



Colonel Touhill

before self; and they've demonstrated excellence in all they've done. If you are looking for great role models, you need not look any further than Col. Hawkeye Pierce or Chief Jimmy Kelly.

As we regret their departure, we have two great new leaders stepping up to replace

them. Please join me in bidding Colonel Pierce and Chief Kelly a fond farewell and welcoming our new wing vice commander, Col. Chris Valle, and our new 2nd Air Force command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Paul Moreau, and their families to our Keesler and Mississippi Gulf Coast home.

Bon appetit



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Chef Shannon Johnson, left, and executive chef Chris Poplin from the IP Casino and Resort prepare food for a dinner May 20 at Fisher House marking completion of the facility's kitchen remodeling. Other IP staff members assisted in preparing and serving the dinner for invited guests.

Hands on the wheel



Photo by Kemberly Groue

It's a primary offense to use a cell phone while driving on base without a hands-free device. Violators can be stopped and ticketed for this offense by the 81st Security Forces Squadron.



DRAGON ON THE STREET

What was your
favorite
assignment?



Howard Air Base, Panama — it was a diversified assignment in both family life and job advancements.
— **retired Master Sgt. Willie Andrews**



I loved Mayport Naval Station, Jacksonville, Fla., but I do also like Keesler.
— **Penny Swiebel, wife of retired Navy Cmdr. Robert Swiebel**



I loved Guam. It's a Pacific Island — what more could you ask for?
— **Master Sgt. William Shipton, 81st Training Support Squadron**

KEESLER NEWS

81st Training Wing commander

Col. Greg Touhill

Public affairs director

Jerry Taranto

Editor

Tech. Sgt. Dan Neely

Staff writers

Susan Griggs

Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch

Staff photographer

Kemberly Groue

Public affairs staff

Billy Bell

Tech. Sgt. Chuck Marsh

2nd Lt. Nick Plante

Michael Plummer

Senior Airman

Carlos Rodriguez

Airman 1st Class

David Salanitri

The Keesler News office is in Room 201A, Wall Studio, Building 0902. The mailing address: 81TRW/PAIN, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2120. Phone: 377-3163, 4130, 3837, 7340, 9966. Published Thursday. News deadline: noon Monday. Editorial content edited, prepared and provided by the 81st TRW Public Affairs Office 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.

Keesler on the Web
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

New training facility dedicated



From left, Col. Bradley Thompson, 720th Special Tactics Group deputy commander, Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Col. Prince Gilliard, 81st Training Wing commander; Dante Matero, 10; Roneisa Matero; Brianna Matero, 13; Lt. Col. Scott Chowning, 334th Training Squadron commander; Judy Nicholson, Mrs. Matero's mother, and Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander, cut the ribbon for Keesler's newest training facility May 22. The building is named in memory of Tech. Sgt. Christopher Matero, who died in 2002 along with nine comrades when their MC-130H crashed during a training mission in Puerto Rico. Sergeant Matero, Mrs. Matero's husband and Dante and Brianna's father, graduated from combat control training at Keesler 15 years ago.



Photos by Kemberly Groue
 Capt. Jason Newcomer, 334th Training Squadron, salutes the flag during the National Anthem during the Matero Hall dedication ceremony.

2nd Air Force training manager wins Tulane award

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

A 2nd Air Force training manager is a recipient of the Tulane 34 Award from Tulane University.

Master Sgt. Ronald Warr, who graduated May 17 with a bachelor's degree in digital art with a minor in media art, was one of 34 Tulane graduates from Tulane's 11 schools and colleges to receive the honor.

Named for the year in which the university was founded, 1834, the award recognizes students for exemplary leadership, service and academic excellence.

democratic excellence.

Sergeant Warr maintained a 3.97 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. He began his Tulane studies in 2004 with classes both at the main campus in New Orleans and the Tulane University College Biloxi campus.

A dean's list scholar, Sergeant Warr is a member of Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society, Mississippi Campus Honor Board and Gideons International and received the Elmo and Margrett Allen Waltzer scholarship in 2006.

At 2nd Air Force, Sergeant Warr provides oversight and

guidance for technical training in more than 600 different Air Force specialties. As liaison to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, he's been responsible for more than 65 percent of all Air Force technical training affecting more than 77,000 students annually.

Sergeant Warr was accountable for site activation and stand-up of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter maintenance training schoolhouse, the F-22 Raptor maintenance training program, explosive ordnance disposal, Air Force medical training and advanced electronics and avionics training.

At Keesler, he's involved with the Air Force Sergeants Association and Top III. He participated in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life and assisted with the Katrina Homeowner Grant Program.

Sergeant Warr, who hails from Atlanta, has been in the Air Force for 23 years. He's been stationed at Keesler for 15 years — three in the 338th Training Squadron, eight in the 81st Training Support Squadron and four at 2nd Air Force, where he was a courseware developer before assuming his current position.



Sergeant Warr

Air Force combines officer promotion and developmental education releases

AFPC News Service

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials recently announced they will begin combining the public releases for officer promotions and developmental education announcements as part of an ongoing effort to streamline personnel processes.

The new initiative will start later this year with the September 2008B lieutenant colonel line of the Air Force central selection board.

“Combining these releases is smarter and much more efficient,” said Brig. Gen. Darrell Jones, director of Force Management Policy at the Pentagon. “This change reduces the workload involved in processing two separate releases for each officer promotion board, and it eliminates the delay between promotion notification and DE ‘select’ notification.”

In June 2002, officials began announcing officer promotion results and professional military education candidacies separately to place more emphasis on the promotions.

“Because DE opportunities have expanded, ‘re-coupling’ these releases makes more sense now and will save the Air Force time and resources in the long run,” General Jones said.

**More photos
for many
Keesler News stories
are available at
[http://
www.keesler.af.mil](http://www.keesler.af.mil).**

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group holds drill downs and parades on the drill pad behind the Levittow Training Support Facility.

The schedule:

Parades — 9 a.m. today to honor Chief Master Sgt. Jimmy Kelly, 2nd Air Force command chief, on his retirement; 6 p.m. Aug. 21 and Oct. 16.

Drill downs — 6 p.m. July 17, 7 a.m. Sept. 19 and 8 a.m. Nov. 14.

For drill down information, call Tech. Sgt. Trina Girley, 377-2737. For parade information, call Staff Sgt. Donald McNair, 377-9527.

GI Bill benefits

Montgomery GI Bill benefits may be used in conjunction with tuition assistance.

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

HHA scholarships

Saturday is the deadline to apply for the Swan 38 Memorial Scholarship from the Hurricane Hunters Association.

One or two \$500 scholarships are awarded, depending on funds raised.

For eligibility requirements, call Capt. Kaitlyn McLaughlin, 377-3457, or visit <http://www.hurricanehunters.com>.

Club scholarships

July 1 is the deadline to apply for one of 25 \$1,000 Air Force club scholarships.

Spouses, children, stepchildren or dependent grandchildren accepted by or are enrolled in an accredited college or university for this year's fall term as a part-time or full-time undergraduate or graduate student are eligible.

Applications are available at McBride Library, Blake Fitness



Academic ace

Airman 1st Class Charles Hayden graduated from the electronic principles course in the 332nd Training Squadron this week with a perfect score on all block tests. Airman Hayden, from LaPlata, Md., is headed to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, for training in the communication/navigation/mission systems apprentice course.

Center, Katrina Kantina, Gaudé Lanes, arts and crafts center, outdoor recreation and <http://www.afclubs.net>.

Submit packages to Dave Bowers, Room 5405, Locker House, Building 3101.

Services commanders or directors, division chiefs, deputy commanders, flight chiefs, club managers, assistant club managers, marketing directors and their family members aren't eligible.

Academic counseling

For college counseling, call 376-8708 or 8710.

Tuition aid online

Air Force members can request tuition assistance online from the workplace through the Air Force Virtual Education Center at <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>.

ACSC options

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

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

For more information, call Joyce James, 376-8472.

Triangle clinic

The mental health clinic in the Triangle is open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Master Sgt. Brad Belford, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, covers the body of Staff Sgt. Kimberly Zimlich, who was "killed" during practice for a skit April 25. The skit, intended to heighten awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving, was presented during two 81st Training Wing commander's calls May 20 as part of Keesler's preparation for the 101 Critical Days of Summer safety campaign. Sergeant Zimlich is assigned to the 81st Medical Operations Squadron.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Drunken driving danger depicted during wing commander's call

Sergeant Belford, left, and Senior Airman Emily Conte, 81st MDOS, portray medics providing emergency treatment to Airman 1st Class Shawn Dorsey, 81st CES, a wreck "victim." In the skit, Airman Dorsey was propelled through the windshield of a truck onto the hoods of both vehicles after a head-on collision caused by a drunk driver.



IN THE NEWS

Construction relocates road

Construction of the new Bay Breeze Events Center, west of the golf course's practice driving range, requires moving Ploesti Drive to west along Vandenberg Drive.

Access to the Bay Ridge housing area and golf course remains open, but detours and minor delays may be experienced. The speed limit is 15 mph while construction is under way for the next 90 days.

For more information, call Vic Tilley, 377-9346.

Construction shifts traffic flow

Construction of Keesler Medical Center's new radiation oncology center has caused permanent closure of Baughman Boulevard, the north-south road between Tyer House and Keesler Medical Center's emergency room.

For the best access to the emergency room:

From the White Avenue Gate, take Larcher Boulevard to Fisher Street. Turn left on Fisher and then right on 2nd Street, the second available right turn west of Tyer House. Turn right on J Street, then right on the remaining section of Baughman Boulevard to get to the parking area across from the emergency room.

From the Pass Road Gate, turn left onto Ploesti and follow it around the flight line. Take a left on J Street, then right on Baughman to the parking lot across from the emergency room.

Inns of Keesler phone upgrade

The base lodging operation's phone system is being replaced with a modern system that's capable of handling the volume that's required for an operation of its size.

System degradation may occur while the project is underway.

To reach the lodging office, call 377-3566, Muse Manor front desk; 377-7900, Tyer House front desk; and 377-5859, 9950, 9951 or 9961, reservations office, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

For more information, go to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the Inns of Keesler link.

Cell phone restrictions for drivers

It's a primary offense to use a cell phone while driving on base without a hands-free device.

Violators can be stopped and ticketed for this offense by the 81st Security Forces Squadron.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are the Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park (except during daylight hours or official events) in Biloxi; Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway in Pascagoula and Toni's Lounge in Moss Point.

A-76,

from Page 1

2009 — 90-day transition period.

Feb. 1, 2009 — first full performance period begins.

Civilian personnel director Lee Hathorn reported that due to pre-RIF planning, nearly half of the 311 civilian positions being eliminated are covered by vacancies and early retirement/separation incentive buyouts. However, 158 occupied positions remain.

Currently, 83 positions are vacant, and 70 Voluntary Early Retirement Authority and Voluntary Separation Incentive Program offers have been accepted.

Mr. Hathorn explained other important milestones in the RIF process:

June 30 through July 28 “is a big month for us,” Mr. Hathorn pointed out. “We’ll be receiving RIF retention

registers, and the civilian personnel office and the Air Force Personnel Center will be in daily contact, transferring and discussing employee data to make sure we implement the RIF process according to federal regulations.

“We’ll reach out and touch other employees interested in VERA/VSIP if they meet the criteria,” he stated. “Some employees occupying A-76 positions opted to wait on our receipt of the retention register before making their decision to accept or refuse the VERA/VSIP offers, and they’ll be contacted during this time.

“We’ll also be looking at the ‘daisy-chain’ process of bumping and retreating for alternate placement,” Mr. Hathorn continued. “We expect that VERA/VSIP offers will be made to employees occupying non-A-76 positions during the same time frame.”

July 29 through Aug. 29, general RIF notices are issued and a right-of-first-refusal listing is given to the contrac-

tor to advise which employees are available to be offered employment.

“We’ve introduced general RIF notices into the process to place an official notice into employees’ hands to show some type of adverse impact, such as a change to a lower grade or separation,” Mr. Hathorn noted. “This notice may be used by employees who wish to seek employment with the contractor.”

Sept. 12 is the date for specific RIF notices to be issued. Mr. Hathorn explained that AFPC and civilian personnel have agreed to speed up the process at every opportunity, including earlier issuance of specific RIF notices if possible.

“If identified to be placed in another position, the specific notice will tell you the exact position, organization, title, series, grade and pay,” Mr. Hathorn stated. “The notices also indicate if you’re targeted to be separated, but we’ll continue to assist employees with job prospects even after the RIF notices have been issued.”

Sept. 15-26, representatives from AFPC and the Department of Defense will be at Keesler to work with the civilian personnel office to register impacted employees for the priority placement program for employment throughout DOD.

“Resumes are highly encouraged, and we’re coordinating with the airman and family readiness center to hold resume preparation classes,” Mr. Hathorn said.

In response to a question, Mr. Hathorn replied, “It’s possible for placement to be expanded beyond our original region, but DOD states its representatives will consider each employee’s individual situation.”

September through Jan. 31, 2009, “our primary task is to continue to work better job offers for employees impacted by the RIF process, at Keesler and throughout DOD and other federal agencies,” Mr. Hathorn commented.

Jan. 31 is the effective date

‘Little BOS’ cancelled; future mirrors other bases

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler’s A-76 solicitation for base operating support for most communication functions, commonly referred to as “Little BOS,” has been cancelled.

“Since the Air Force cancelled the solicitation, we won’t be using the (most efficient organization) structure,” said Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander.

Originally, the MEO, made up of government employees, was chosen to provide communication support at a cost of \$54 million over 10 years.

The 81st Communications Squadron will convert to an all-civilian workforce for the positions under the A-76 study.

“The squadron’s military footprint will be reallocated elsewhere in the Air Force to locations that have a deployment mission,” Colonel Touhill explained. “Keesler’s residual communications functions will be performed by a civilian/contractor mix similar to those already in place at other locations.”

The colonel indicated that Keesler would press ahead to implement Air Force Network Operations Command and Air Education and Training Command transformation initiatives already established at other bases.

AFNETOPS was created nearly two years ago to standardize network operations tactics, techniques and procedures across the Air Force and to centralize command and control of network management and defense. The reorganization is intended to boost the Air Force’s ability to fly and fight in air, space and cyberspace.

Keesler’s remaining communications functions will be consolidated based on the AFNETOPS template and two-flight structure, according to Colonel Touhill.

for the RIF, “and whatever you’ve been offered by that date will stand,” he added.

Senior Master Sgt. Shirley Bailey, military personnel flight superintendent, said military members in affected organizations needed to update overseas preferences for assignments that flow on June 15.

“Your commander determines if you can compete in this next cycle on an individual basis,” she explained. “You’ll get eight stateside choices for base-of-preference matches, and dream sheets need to be updated with our outbound assignments office in Sablich Center no later than Sept. 8.”

By Sept. 30, all assignments should be issued. From January through March, early reporting dates for stateside

assignments are determined by each commander “so everyone won’t be leaving at the same time,” she noted.

Colonel Touhill reiterated the base’s commitment to treat employees with dignity and respect in the coming months.

“Everybody who’s being affected by A-76 is a distinct individual, and we’re going to treat you as such,” the colonel emphasized. “This is not going to be an assembly-line process. We want you to be well cared for, and we want the process to be open and transparent to one and all.

“Your commanders will have a huge role during this process,” he added. “Please don’t hesitate to ask any questions through your chain. We’ll keep you posted on timelines and progress.”

Flowers,

from Page 1

“Wherever the Air Force wants me to be, I’m ready to go,” said General Flowers. “I’m glad to be here and I’m excited about being here.”

General Flowers had visited the Mississippi Gulf Coast twice since its devastation by Hurricane Katrina nearly three years ago, and said he’s been impressed with what he’s seen so far.

“It is amazing the work that has been done here,” said

General Flowers. “I’m looking forward to helping to make the base better than it was.”

General Flowers’ first order of business after the change of command was to meet and greet Airmen from across Keesler’s wide spectrum of personnel as well as dignitaries from the surrounding community who were invited to the event.

General Flowers takes command of more than 225,000 Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and foreign students training in more than 250 specialties through 2,500 courses both in the continental U.S. and around the world.

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.

Keesler Honor Guard needs new members.
For more information, call 377-1986 or 2081.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Chief authorizations through 2011 downgraded

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A board recently completed a chief master sergeant grade review that downgrades the number of authorizations in which the top 1 percent of the enlisted force serves.

Based on budgetary restraints over the next three years, chief master sergeant manning authorizations at most major commands will decrease.

The order-of-merit ranking provides the “cut line.” Positions above the line, based on end-strength, are funded as chief master sergeant grades and those below the line are downgraded to senior master sergeant billets. For fiscal years 2009-2011, 2,483 authorizations will be funded.

The board designated 178 grades as “directed grades,” or positions that will always be filled by a chief master sergeant. These include, but are not limited to chief master sergeant of the Air Force, command chiefs and commandants at noncommissioned and senior noncommissioned officer academies. Other grades will be reviewed by a board every four years or when directed by manpower, personnel and services officials at the Pentagon.

Changes to the order of merit are frozen until Sept. 30, 2009. Requests for exceptions based on emerging missions and organizational changes must be coordinated through the Manpower and Organization Directorate and the Chiefs’ Group.

Major commands are notified of the chief master sergeant grade allocations through the command's manpower and organization chiefs or equivalent.

For more information, call the Chiefs Group, DSN 664-8153, or 1-703-604-8153.

ID cards without SSNs

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — As a means of combating identity theft, the Defense Department plans to issue identification cards without full Social Security numbers.

Plans are to remove the Social Security numbers from identification cards issued to military family members by the end of this year. Those cards would still display the sponsor's SSN, for now. Between 2009 and 2010, all department-issued identification cards feature only the last four digits of a holder's Social Security number.

Preparing household goods move

Ensure residence or pickup location is clean and free of soil and pest infestation.

Empty, defrost and thoroughly wash the inside of your refrigerator and freezer.

Disconnect all appliances. If shipping or storing a front-loading washer, provide necessary hardware (retaining and shipping bolts).

Dispose of foods that could spill or spoil in transit or storage.

Dispose of worn out and unneeded items.

Safeguard cash, jewelry and important documents.

Dismantle outdoor equipment and structures. Drain all gasoline, oil and water and remove the battery from power equipment.

Retirement annuity information

Personnel affected by A-76 can get estimates of their retirement annuities at the Air Force Personnel Center secure Web site, <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/AFPCSecureMainMenu.asp>.

Click the link for the entitlements and benefits section. First-time users are required to register.

Personal retirement computations are also available by calling 1-800-616-3775.

For more information related to A-76, call 376-8176.

Mental health question changes

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Defense Department officials are changing a question on its long-standing security clearance form referencing an applicant's mental health history because they believe it is needlessly preventing some people from seeking counseling.

Standard Form 86, Questionnaire for National Security Positions, asks the applicant to acknowledge mental health care in the past seven years. It does not ask for treatment details if the care involved only marital, family or grief counseling, not related to violence by the applicant, unless the treatment was court-ordered.

Officials said surveys have shown that troops feel if they answer “yes” to the question, they could jeopardize their security clearances, required for many occupations in the military.

Applicants no longer have to acknowledge care under the same conditions, nor if the care was related to service in a military combat zone. The revised wording has been distributed to the services and will be attached to the cover of the questionnaire. The revised question won't show up printed on the forms until the department depletes its pre-printed stock later this year, officials said.

Military medical progress benefits civilian health care

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Psychological health issues and traumatic brain injuries are primary areas of study in military medicine, said a senior Department of Defense medical official recently.

“What we are learning in studies will lead to some major breakthroughs in the world of medicine,” said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick, deputy director for force health protection and readiness programs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs.

Dr. Kilpatrick said the better they understand how to prevent both psychological health issues and traumatic brain injuries will lead to quicker diagnosis and improve wounded service-members’ treatment time.

He said the contributions military medicine has made to the world are born out of the urgencies and contingencies encountered on the battlefield.

“When you go to war, you don’t have a fixed building or a fixed structure, and you have equipment that has to be much more mobile and much more rugged,” Dr. Kilpatrick said. “So I think what the military has learned in combat and all theaters of operation have been those contributions to medicine.”

He added that technological advances since the Vietnam War have directly benefited servicemembers’ ability to survive wounds suffered in combat.

“One of the major breakthroughs in Vietnam was the use of the helicopter to transport the wounded,” Dr. Kilpatrick said. “That has advanced to today’s war, where we have actually flying intensive care units; where we can put multiple people inside a large plane with nurses, technicians and doctors and safely transport them out of theater to a major hospital to get the quality care they need and deserve.”

Also, the ability to quickly

move the injured out of harm’s way has increased the rate at which servicemembers also recover from injuries suffered on the battlefield.

“In today’s war, in the combat theater, 97 percent of those people who were wounded in theater survived those wounds because of the medical care,” Dr. Kilpatrick said. “That’s just a phenomenal number, and it’s because that care is so immediate. Within seconds or minutes, there is medic or a corpsman there being able to use a one-handed tourniquet to stop bleeding, (or) able (to) use a ‘Fibernet’ cloth bandage, another research product, that has gone from bench to battlefield to save people’s lives.”

The military medical field consists of 140,000 care providers, educators, trainers and medical researchers. These professionals work at 65 military hospitals, 412 medical clinics and 414 dental clinics.

Numerous classrooms and research laboratories around the world also are sponsored and run by all branches of the services. Some of those medical researchers have initiated the Millennium Cohort Study, started five years ago, that’s studying 140,000 servicemembers over 20 years.

The servicemembers will report in every three years about their health and to be evaluated, so researchers can better understand the rigors of military service and how it affects long-term health, Dr. Kilpatrick said.

“We are trying to look prospectively at people, and I think this is a very important study that is ongoing,” Dr. Kilpatrick said. “We think in the next 15 years the studies will be invaluable not only to the military people, but also to our civilian counterparts.”

Dr. Kilpatrick also said that military research has been directly applied to the civilian world. For instance, Lifeline helicopters that rescue civilians after highway crashes evolved from military medical-evacuation flights.

SNIT

Trainers work to lessen student waiting period



By Capt. Keith Melancon

81st Training Group

The mission of the 81st Training Group is to train students to reload the Air Force.

A chief concern of Col. Prince Gilliard, 81st TRG commander, is ensuring students are in class, not waiting for a course to start or to travel to their next base.

For each student not in training, the cost to the Air Force is approximately \$130 per day. Reducing SNIT — Students Not in Training — is a priority for Air Education and Training Command, 2nd Air Force and the 81st TRG.

Keesler currently leads AETC with the lowest daily SNIT average for the past year, but Colonel Gilliard has challenged the other groups on base to help his training team to continue the trend.

The 81st TRG does its part by keeping instructors qualified and juggling schedules to meet both air expeditionary force commitments and training requirements.

The other units help in the areas where the 81st TRG has no control. As examples, the 81st Security Forces Squadron processes security clearances, the 81st Force Support Squadron processes orders and the 81st Medical and Dental Squadrons treat students so they can be released to their follow-on training or assignment.

The efforts of Keesler's training team and support units are saving the Air Force money, keeping our Airmen gainfully employed and graduating Airmen on time to support the global war on terrorism.

Although Keesler leads the command, the 81st TRG continues to explore ways to streamline the student pipeline and gain efficiencies in the many steps technical training students must complete.

SNIT statistics

This table shows the average number of SNIT days for the five AETC bases that train nonprior service enlisted students for the past 12 months broken down by quarter.

Base	3Q FY07	4Q FY07	1Q FY08	2Q FY08
Keesler	6.2	4.8	4.5	4.8
Sheppard	6.0	5.6	5.0	6.3
Lackland	8.2	8.4	7.2	7.3
Goodfellow	11.0	11.6	11.2	10.8
Vandenberg	21.0	23.5	28.0	30.7
AETC average	7.9	7.4	7.2	7.3

Regular detergent OK to wash ABUs

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen are now authorized to wash their airmen battle uniforms in regular detergent, regardless if the detergent uses optical brighteners, announced Air Force leaders.

March 25, the Army released a memorandum concluding that ABUs laundered with detergents containing optical brighteners don't pose a detection threat to the wearer in an operational environment.

"After reviewing Army test results and conducting follow-on evaluations, we have determined that changes from

laundering ABUs in detergents containing optical brighteners are negligible," said Lt. Col. Chuck Arnold, chief, recognition and uniforms branch, directorate of force development at the Pentagon.

Any detergent can be used to launder the uniform, but fabric softeners or bleach should be avoided. The uniform should be tumble dried at the low heat setting.

The ABU, which replaces the temperate and hot-weather battle dress uniform and the desert camouflage uniform, made its first appearance in late summer 2007 when it was issued to Airmen

deploying to Iraq, Afghanistan and Southwest Asia.

It was also issued in October to basic military trainees in the initial-issue clothing bag. It was authorized for wear by all Air Force personnel, including Reserve and National Guard, in November.

The ABU, which was fit-and-wear tested in 2004 and altered based on feedback, is designed to be a wash-and-wear uniform.

Starching and hot pressing is still prohibited; these procedures deteriorate the fiber in the uniform.

DOD improves disaster relief response efforts

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department and U.S. military are better prepared than ever to aid disaster-relief efforts, and have improved measures for tracking military families affected by catastrophe, a top Pentagon official said May 21.

DOD entities are poised to assist with evacuations, emergency transportation and search-and-rescue missions as the nation braces for the hurricane season that starts June 1, said Paul McHale, assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense and Americas' security affairs.

"Today, DOD is better prepared to assist civil authorities than at any other time in our nation's history," Mr. McHale said at a Hurricane Awareness Day news conference at the Federal Emergency Management Agency here.

The department understands its role in catastrophic relief and has worked with FEMA to put in place a wide range of missions to support a national response, Mr. McHale said. In the event of disaster, the Pentagon is prepared to coordinate FEMA logistics on military bases, to deploy emergency communications rapidly, and to deliver ready-made meals, water and power generators.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff praised the increased role the Defense Department has assumed over recent years.

"(The people of DOD) have been phenomenal partners over the last couple of years and have become really fully integrated with our planning system and our approach in a way that was not the case previously," he said.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Staff Sgt. Eric Hernandez

Position — base emissions security manager

Unit — 81st Communications Squadron

Time in Air Force — 8 1/2 years

Time at Keesler — three years

Hometown — Bryceville, Fla.

Noteworthy — earned first Air Force Commendation Medal as a senior airman for deployed action in Afghanistan; earned both the John Levitow and leadership awards at Airman Leadership School; coach of varsity soccer team for 2 1/2 years.

Why did you join the Air Force? to serve my country and to find a career path when I had none to start with

Your favorite quote? “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

What are your short- and long-term goals? short-term, to finish my bachelor’s degree; long-term, to retire as a chief and start my own business.

What are your hobbies? playing and coaching soccer, working out and just hanging out with friends and family.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

DIAMOND NOTES

In addition to passing your annual physical training test, members must present a professional military image while in uniform.

Commanders can direct members into the fitness improvement program regardless of overall fitness score.



— Master Sgt. Gerald Cross, 335th Training Squadron first sergeant



MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Aug. 26, 1948

Keesler became an Air Training Command installation.



Remembering past patriots

Eight-year-old Ashton Bliss and her parents, Staff Sgt. Michael and Lindsay Bliss, and other volunteers from Keesler and surrounding communities placed flags on the 17,000 graves at Biloxi National Cemetery Friday to prepare for Monday's Memorial Day observance. Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander, was one of the speakers. The honor guard also participated in the ceremony.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

KEESLER NOTES

Dental clinic renovation

Renovation of the dental clinic has split it into two separate sections.

The center of the clinic, including six dental treatment suites, administrative offices and main waiting area, is under construction.

The front door from the dental parking lot is closed and the front desk is temporarily located in the dental conference room.

Access to the temporary front desk is through the door on Fisher Street, nearest to

Second Street and across from the child development center. Patients check in and then may need to leave the building and re-enter at the west end toward First Street.

All telephone numbers remain the same.

Work on this phase, which began in early May, is expected to take about three months.

Auditions

Wall Studio is conducting auditions for people to go on camera for a series of video projects in support of the 81st Training Group.

Positions are open to military members and civilians.

For more information and to schedule an audition, call Bruce Norton, 377-2793.

Airmen's Attic hours

Airmen's Attic is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays and 3-5 p.m. Fridays during May and June.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Steven Dickinson, 377-3814.

Clinic services

Adult appointments for group therapy, individual and

marital counseling and medication management are available at the mental health clinic.

Space-available therapy appointments are also open to children age 10 and older.

Clinic hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays.

For more information, call 376-0385.

Lactation services

Lactation services are offered at Keesler Medical Center.

Included are prenatal teaching, breast-feeding education, breast-feeding assistance fol-

lowing discharge from the medical center, care for infants with special needs and breast care for non-breast-feeding mothers.

For more information, call Brenda Valdez, 376-3121.

Patients sought

The pediatric dentistry clinic seeks patients for the advanced education in general dentistry residency.

Eligible are children ages 4-12. Patients must be available Thursday mornings.

For more information, call 376-5144.

Joint staff examines programs for wounded

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A joint team formed by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is looking at the broad range of care and support services for wounded warriors to find any gaps and tap into best practices to share across the force.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen stood up the Joint Staff Wounded Warrior Integration Team in April and appointed his strategic plans and policy chief, Marine Lt. Gen. John Sattler, to head it up.

The team evaluate all programs that affect wounded warriors and their families to see which are working best, which can be improved and how to make the services they provide easier to tap into.

“A lot of things are being done across the spectrum by a lot of great people,” General Sattler said. “We just want to make sure that where there may be a duplication of effort, we can use those resources more wisely, and if there may be unintentional gaps and seams, we can overcome those.”

General Sattler noted improvements in the care and support for wounded troops and emphasized that the task force wasn’t formed to fix any particular shortcoming or problem.

“No commander stops raising the bar because they think they have hit the objective,” he said. “Even if we’re doing all we can do, the harder you look at things, the more often you find things you can do better.”

General Sattler conceded that wounded warriors and their families are a “hard-core crew” who don’t ask for much as they try to move forward with their lives.

“They want to take their own destiny into their own hands and they want to advance their cause,” he said. “Whatever their wound may be, they want to get back to where they can function in society. No one is looking for a handout.”



Shovels at work

Lt. Col. Paul Valenzuela, 81st Force Support Squadron commander; Lt. Col. Jeff Szatanek, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron commander; Col. Rodney Croslen, 81st Support Group commander; Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander; William Yates, Yates Construction, and Navy Cmdr. Chris LaPlatney, officer in charge of Hurricane Katrina construction for Naval Facilities Engineering Command, break ground for the Bay Breeze Events Center May 20.

Photo by Adam Bond



Reconstruction efforts in Afghan province led by Keesler colonel

Lt. Col. David Poage, right, listens to a village elder during a meeting with tribal leaders and elders May 4 at the Alishang District Center in Afghanistan's Laghman Province. During the meeting, leaders discussed pressing issues and problems affecting their community. Colonel Poage, Keesler's safety chief, is deployed as the commander of the Laghman Provincial Reconstruction Team.

Air Force photo

Counter-biological warfare reaches critical milestone

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force counter-biological warfare concept of operations recently reached a critical milestone, achieving initial operational capability across the service.

“It results from six years of analysis and testing,” said Col. Steve Lucky, chief of the Air Force Strategic Plans and Policy Division at the Pentagon.

“Although these new procedures significantly improve our ability to operate in a biological warfare environment, there is still a significant amount of work to be done to fully prepare the Air Force to meet the threat,” Colonel Lucky said. “Air Force major commands are working together to ensure the CONOPS reaches full operational capability by April 2009 and is successfully institutionalized across the service.”

Simply put, the CONOPS for counter-biological warfare outlines the Air Force approach to countering biological warfare and terrorism, as well as naturally occurring disease outbreaks.

It prescribes the actions to be taken before, during and after a biological event to limit casualties and sustain mission capability at Air Force installations.

Base commanders use operational risk management to evaluate possible courses of action, identify risks and benefits, and determine the best course of action for installation response.

Several additions have been made to various Air Force instructions regarding biological warfare.

An example includes Air Force Instruction 10-2604, Disease Containment Planning Guidance. This document provides policy and guidance for disease containment planning, outlines roles and responsibilities and identifies planning considerations.

SPORTS AND RECREATION



Keesler, Biloxi Bay Chamber tee off for annual challenge

Photos by Kemberly Groue

Left, Richard Moss, and above, Ed Ashley and Mike Bell warm up on the putting green before the Keesler vs. Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce golf tournament Friday at Bay Breeze Golf Course. Moss commands the 403rd Wing, Ashley is a civilian in the 81st Force Support Squadron and Bell is a retiree. Keesler won the annual challenge, 42-38.

SCORES AND MORE

Bowling

Intramural

Monday Budweiser (Final)

Team	Won	Lost
Perry's Refrigeration	126	84
Wayne's World	126	84
Old Skool	121	89
Our Gang	121	89
Man On!	121	89
Gannon's Cannons	116.5	93.5
3 Steps Forward	115	95
Why Not	110	100
Slater's Shooters	104	106
Hoop's Gang	101	109
Team 2	100	110
Pin Heads	97	113
Ghost Riders	96	114
Endangered Species	94.5	115.5
The Corner Pins	90	120
Martini's	90	120
B-Buster	85	125
Unpredictables	74	136

High average — Mark Barhanovich, men, 212; Gilda Davis, women, 175.

Tuesday Hospital Mixed (Final)

Team	Won	Lost
Bed Buddies	166	58
Pill Pushers	159	65
Radiology Renegades	159	65
Pediattack	136	88
Drug Dealers	126	98
Team 6	32	176
Team 8	26	198
Team 7	16	208

Wednesday Mixed (Final)

Team	Won	Lost
Ocean's Eleven	137	73
Jokers Wild	123	87
3DR	120	90
Clyde's Crew	117	93
Hang Chucky	117	93
Ichiban	116	94
Misfits	115	95
2 Old 2 Bowl	109	101
MUDD	107.5	102.5
Lucky Strikes	96	114
70s Plus	89	121
Neighbors Plus 1	88.5	121.5

High average — Mike Foster, men, 199; Gilda Davis, women, 174.

Thursday Retired Seniors Mixed (Final)

Team	Won	Lost
6-Pack	146.5	84.5
Team 16	134	97
Dummys Dummies	130	101
3 Is Company	122.5	108.5
Team 12	122	109
The Very Best	121	110
Delema	120.5	110.5
Friends	117	114
Team 1	116.5	114.5
Amy's Bunch	116	115
2 Bee's and a D	112	119
Freda's Kids	110	121
Full Speed	106	125
TNT Express	104	127
Team 15	103	128
Barb's Boys	100.5	130.5
Team 2	94.5	136.5

High average — Bob Slater, men, 193; Bea Cargil, women, 178.

Splash into summer



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Adam Krueger, 333rd Training Squadron, swims laps at the Triangle Pool Monday. The main base and Triangle pools opened Saturday. Swimming lessons and lap swimming are available. Purchase passes at the pools or outdoor recreation. Daily pass is \$1.50, single season pass \$20, family season pass \$60, and free for ages 5 and younger. For more information and schedules, call 377-3160, 3948 or 3568.

Thursday Federal Intramural (Final)

Team	Won	Lost
85th EIS	178	94
Team 3	177	95
Team 5	163	109
332nd TRS	162	110
338th TRS	153	119
Team 14	152	120
81st CPTS	148	124
403rd Rolling Thunder	146	126
403rd MXS	141	131
Misfits	134	138
Team 4	125	147
GCCS Squad	123	149
Team 10	120	152
81st TRSS	120	152
81st MSS	94	178
Ghosts	16	256

High average — Don Simpson, men, 210; Sabra Miracle, women, 156.

Friday Mixed (Final)

Team	Won	Lost
Lady and the Tramps	141	76
Team 10	141	76
Team 3	119	98
Sandbaggers	114	103
Jax Hax	114	103
Harry's Team	98	119
3 Guys and a Babe	97	120
Pin Busters	91	126
Dreamers	74	143

High average — Terry King, men, 212; Linda Durbin, women, 188.

Other

League registrations — for Monday trio, Tuesday family, Thursday intramural and Thursday morning seniors; call 377-2817.

Penny a pin — Tuesdays. Your

score is what you pay rounded out to the nearest nickel. Bowl 225 or over and game is free.

Birthday party package — Saturdays 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m., and Sundays 2:30-4 p.m. Basic party with bowling and food \$8.95 per child. Mid party, including table supply and T-shirt, \$11.95 per child. Premium party with games and a pin, \$15.95 per child. Reservations required.

Nonprior service students special — 5-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, all nonprior service students bowl for \$1.50 game including shoe rental.

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Open bowling — for days and times, call 377-2817.

Hurricane alley, fundraisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Fitness centers

Massage appointments — at Triangle Fitness Center, call 263-5515.

Wall of Fame — powerlifting event, 1-4 p.m. first compressed work schedule Friday of every month, Triangle Fitness Center. Squat, bench press and dead lift; one attempt in any or all three events; 12 weight classes for men, 10 for women. Set a record for most pounds lifted or break an existing record and get your picture on the wall. Open to all Defense Department personnel 18 years of age and older.

For more information, call 377-3056.

Golf

Intramural

Division A (as of May 20)

Team	Points
81st FSS-A	51
335th TRS	39
333rd TRS	32
81st CPTS	27
81st CS-A	25
81st CES-B	23
81st TRSS	22
81st CES-D	0

Division B (as of May 20)

Team	Points
81st FSS-B	45
81st CES-A	40
334th TRS	39
81st MDOS	37
338th TRS	29
81st SUPS-TRANS	17
81st MDSS	16
81st CES-C	1

Other

Golfing for wellness — through Saturday. Golfers receive an award at Blake Fitness Center each time they walk a round of golf at Bay Breeze Golf Course.

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

Driving range — 40 balls, \$2.

Course and pro shop — 7 a.m. to dusk daily. For tee times, call 377-3832.

Martial arts

Editor's note: Classes at Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call 377-3308.

Shaolin pentjak silat — 7-8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, all ages. \$65 month. Striking, kicking, grappling, weapons and internal energy; sash ranking system.

Pukulan pencak silat tempur — 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$65 month. Closequarters combat class; used for personal protection.

Mixed martial arts — 8-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. \$65 month; muay thai, western boxing, kung fu, wrestling, judo and jujitsu.

Women's self defense — 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays. \$25 month. Mental, physical and tactical training.

Outdoor recreation

Delacroix, La. fishing site — two self-contained trailers for rent, \$50 per night. Maximum four per trailer. Bring linens and cooking utensils. Louisiana fishing license required.

Pontoon boat training — to rent a pontoon you must take a test and be certified. Call for information.

May fish of the month — weigh heaviest ground mullet, take home \$100 savings bond.

Bicycles for rent — 3500 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$3 day, \$15 week.

Wet slip fees — monthly, boats more than 32 feet, \$3.75 per foot; less than 32 feet, \$2.50 per foot. Overnight, \$5 per boat.

Deep sea fishing trips — compressed work schedule Fridays and Sundays aboard the Keesler Dolphin II. \$60 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 15, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$700 for first six people, \$35 each additional person Mondays-Thursdays, \$40 weekends and holidays. \$350 deposit required.

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

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

Recreational vehicle, boat and trailer storage — \$15 per month. For more information, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — to rent a pontoon you must take a test and be certified. Call for information.

Canoe trips — for more information, call 377-3160.

Disk golf — distance, fairway, multi-purpose, putt and approach disks for sale or rent.

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

Paintball

Paintball course — open by reservation only; for reservations or more information, call 377-3160.

GRADUATIONS

Airman Leadership School Class 08-4

53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron — Senior Airman Paula Newton.

81st Dental Squadron — Senior Airmen Eric Robbins and Rodan Ubungen (John Levitow Award).

81st Inpatient Operations Squadron — Senior Airmen Calvin Ripp and MariaKristine Santos.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Senior Airmen Stephanie Brown, Andrew Samland and Nathaniel Sheppard.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Senior Airmen Jason Brown and Bethany Guidry (leadership award).

81st Supply-Transportation Squadron — Senior Airman Stephanie Travis; Staff Sgt. Melanie Bieller (class first sergeant).

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Senior Airman Laquita Hambrick

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Senior Airmen Sam Gerrian and Matthew Hoefing; Staff Sgt. Cody Johnson (academic achievement and class commander).

334th Training Squadron — Senior Airman Acacia Oudinot.

336th TRS — Senior Airman Zahary Lehmann.

403rd Wing — Senior Airman Sammy Thames.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations — Senior Airman Derek Wright (distinguished graduate).

Keesler NCO Academy Class 08-4

81st Communications Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Richard Toomey.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Dakita Bailey and Siah Driggers (distinguished graduate).

81st Security Forces Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Jarrod Williford.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Ariel Nay.

335th Training Squadron — Tech. Sgts. Nicky Brown, Breanna Halici and Timothy Verville.

336th TRS — Tech. Sgt. Christina Burkett.

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Medical Center chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Jewish

For worship opportunities, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235.

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-801-694-8900.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Juan Alcaz, Michael Aleo, Timothy Boner, David Caudle, Ebone Cleveland, Brian Covert, Jennifer Czap, Rashawn Daniels, Edwin Daub, Nicholas Davis, Stalling Duenas, Brandon Duncan, Eric Edmunds, Frank Ellis, Kevin Finstuen, Hunter Griffin, Brandon Guillory, Claude Home, Gillian Howard, Jennifer Hurley, Thomas James, Carlos Jimenez, Aex Johnson, Derek Johnston, Shawn Johnston, Jeremy Lane, Kyle Lott, Deana Masotta, David Matthews, Jacob McGlothlin, Jeffrey Miller, Nicholas Mladineo, Michael O'Brien, Jose Perez-Torres, Adam Razani, Andrew Rutherford, Mark Shelton, Paul Szymanski, Colby Teafatiller, Bryan Thayer, Mathias Turbessi, James Turner, Brody Wilcox, Rick Wilson, Zachary Wooters and Cory Zylstra; Airmen Isaac Chiellini, Nathan Digges, Lucas Horn, Sebastian Jimenez, Caleb Johnson, John Laux, Joseph Perez, Matthew Spagnola, John Tkach, Vincent Tudela, Stace Welsh and Charlee White; Airmen First Class Joshua Bond, Anthony Cosentino, Gerald Creech, Benjamin Digiammo, Kyle Eckert, Jacob Enyart, Edward Gussman, Ryan Hehl, Jason Hodges, Zachary Hughes, Kevin Kasper, George Kiska, Brandon Knapp, Alisa Lowry, Juan MercadoGuzman, Patrick Martin, James McLean, Joseph Moody, Todd Mulroy, Mykel O'Neal, Xavier Rubio, Dustin Shirley, Josiah Smith, Robert Stack, Michael Twarozynski, Bobby Vaughn, Antwan Williams, Zachary Wirfs, Joel Wysocki and Zachary Zellmer; Private First Class William Sitnik; Senior Airmen Anthony Fuentes, Bradley Pike and Forrest Searle; Staff Sgts. Telshaun Davis, Richard Grubb, Amanda Perrizo and Andrew Vantress; Tech. Sgt. Ricky Ellison; Master Sgt. Russell Atwater and Tommy Nelson; Charles Hayden

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems — Airman Basic Stacy Philip; Airman Georgeluis Weis; Airmen 1st Class Sean Flynn and Wayne Toxey; Staff Sgts. Armando Tirado and Rolando Zuniga.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Gregory Alba, Jessica Baird, Christopher Baradat, Ty Barnes, Brandon Boncore, Adam Chafins, Ryan Connors, Ryan Dean, Eric Durbin, Jeremiah Jacobs, Bret Konsavage, Jason Legore, Justin McNelly, Sean Neilan, David O'Connell, Sean O'Toole-Manning, Brett Reynolds, Thomas Rocha, Sara Stockinger and Cole Woodworth; Airmen Sean Greenwell, Bryan Lemire, Joshua Newton and Steven Smith; Airmen 1st Class Joshua Biggs, Darrel Prior and Stephen Vanhooser; Senior Airmen Samuel Benedict and Lucas Kelsey; Staff Sgts. Christopher Adams and Brandon Lockhart; Lt. Zoltan Farkas.

Airfield management apprentice course — A.

Command post apprentice course — Airman Basic Javier Velazquez; Airmen 1st Class Jilayne Coale and Donald McKeown; Senior Airmen Danielle Hughes, Tina Spivey and Franklin Wiley; Staff Sgts Jason Harvey, Bruce Hedrick, Julius Rolland, Darell Shaw, William Sherman; Tech Sgts Bryan Chamberlain, Kevin Morrissey, Max Polakowski, James Pruitt, Chad Reid, Richard Schuster, David Strampe, Eugene Skidmore and Marvin Thompson

335th TRS

Weather training flight — Airman Basic Magnus Creed; Airmen Nicholas Elwell, Kristen Nelson and Matthew Smith; Airman Rocco O'Farrell; Airmen 1st Class Cassandra Guzman, Russell Hathaway, Jonathan Kolbe, Amanda Leyvas, Matthew Lucas, Jerrod McClain, Brandon Ross, Airel Schepmoes, Jeremy Smith and Tyson Unrau; Marine Lance Cpl. Kenneth Sheridan; Senior Airmen Kyle Haynes and Thomas Techmeyer; Staff Sgts. David Candelaria and Michael McGhee; Tech. Sgt. Thomas Weideman.

338th TRS

Airfield systems — Airman Daniel Egert.

Ground radar — Airman Basic Randall Pierce; Airman Jones Gold; Airmen 1st Class David Arceneaux, Kevin Kruse and Joseph McCauley; Staff Sgt. Jackson Parnell.

Please see **Digest**, Page 22

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6957
:01	:31 338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32 Welch Auditorium
:04	:34 AAFES Furniture Store
:06	:36 Jones/Bryan/Hewes Hall at gazebo
:08	:38 Thomson Hall
:09	:39 New Cody Hall
:11	:41 Supply, civil engineering
:12	:42 Rental store
:13	:43 Shaw House
:14	:44 Old base exchange
:15	:45 McBride Library
:16	:46 Credit union, Blake Fitness Center
:17	:47 Medical center, Tyer House
:18	:48 Sablich Center
:19	:49 Dental clinic
:20	:50 Allee and Wolfe Halls
:21	:51 Base operations
:22	:52 Hangar 4

Technical training route

5:10-5:37 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Building 5025
:12	Building 5022
:14	Shaw House
:16	Muse Manor
:18	Tyer House
:20	TLQ east side 2000 block
:21	TLQ east side of Locker House
:25	332nd TRS
:28	Welch Auditorium
:33	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:34	McClellan Hall
:36	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:37	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off base

Call vehicle operations, 377-2432, to coordinate taxi service to and from the base.

Editor's note: Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged, have excess baggage, medical appointments at off-base hospitals or clinics or unable to ride the base shuttle, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430. Until further notice, weekend shuttle service isn't available. Taxi service is available on an "as needed" basis.

Digest,

from Page 21

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 08-5 — today through July 9.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 08-5 — today through July 9.

Airman and family readiness center

How identity thieves get your information — 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today, Room 108B, Sablich Center, presented by Keesler Federal Credit Union. To register, call 376-8728.

Arts and crafts center

Multi-craft shop

Summer craft camp — 12:30-4 p.m., Tuesdays-Thursdays, June 3-July 24, ages 8 and older. New craft each week. \$28.50 weekly includes all supplies and daily snack. Sign up for individual weeks or entire session. Space limited.

Ceramic mold pouring — 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. \$25 including mold use, all supplies and first firing. Learn to cast ceramics and the use of different paints for finishing techniques.

Wood shop

Classes cancelled until further notice due to illness.

Frame shop

Framing and matting — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Matting, frame building and glass cutting. \$60 including materials, shop use and completed framing.

Auto hobby shop

Editor's note: open shop use, preregister for classes.

Vehicle resale lot — one block west of Larcher Boulevard on Tingle Street north of the 81st Security Forces Squadron building. Register at multi-craft shop. Registration, license and proof of insurance required. To place a car on the lot, call 377-2821.

Qualified mechanics — can assist with vehicle maintenance.

Oil collection site — for personal vehicles.

24-hour coin-operated car wash, vacuum and tire air pump — wash, rinse, wax system, towelettes, Armorall and vacuum.

Chapel

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

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

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

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

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

Tuesday Bible study — 6-7:30 p.m. at the Haven.

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

McBride Library

Orientations for commanders, first sergeants and instructors — 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Free wireless Internet available — check at circulation desk.

Overdrive — information available at front desk.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2827.

Mental health clinic

Post-traumatic stress disorder — 1:30 p.m. Mondays.

Healthy thinking — 2 p.m. Tuesdays.

Stress management techniques — 10 a.m. Wednesdays.

Relaxation techniques — 9 a.m. Mondays.

To register, call 376-0385.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

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

Pool tournaments — 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays.

Movie night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. New releases, popcorn.

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

Katrina Kantina

Editor's note: In the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay.

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music.

Thirsty Thursday — 5-7 p.m. today with barbecue chicken, beef kabobs, baked beans, potato salad, rolls and apple cobbler with ice cream. \$6 club members, \$8 nonmembers.

Luncheon specials — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. New menu each week. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. For more information, call 377-2219.

Karaoke night — 5 p.m. Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays.

Taco Tuesdays — members get two tacos for \$1, nonmembers pay \$2.

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

Youth center

Annual membership — \$25, ages 9 and older. Discounts on programs, classes and sports.

Registration for summer camp/teen camp — ongoing for ages 6-12 and 13 and older. Camps are 11 weeks, beginning Tuesday. Sign up for as many or as few weeks as needed; fees based on family income.

Saturday night shots — 6-10 p.m. Hot-shot competition and 3-on-3 basketball tournament, ages 6-12. \$5 members, \$7 nonmembers. Refreshments and prizes.

Art, FitFactor, sewing clubs — 4-7 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, ages 9 and older. Free for members; pr-registration required.

Cooking club — Tuesday, ages 9 and older. Call for times. Free for members; space limited. Preregistration required.

Open recreation — 4-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9 and older.

Classes — 9 a.m. Saturdays. Dance and gymnastics, \$50 for members, \$55 nonmembers, ages 3 and older. Piano \$70 for members, \$75 nonmembers, ages 6 and older. Karate for ages 6 and older meets one week on Mondays and Tuesdays, following week Wednesdays and Thursdays; \$70 for members, \$75 for nonmembers; call for times.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Gulf Islands Water Park — season tickets available.

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World in Florida. For price list, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

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

Here's to the Heroes — program provides a single day's free admission to any Sea World or Busch Gardens park, Sesame Place, Adventure Island or Water Country USA for any active duty, active reserve, ready reserve service member or National Guardsman and as many as three direct dependents. Register online at <http://www.herosalute.com> or in the entrance plaza of a participating park and show Department of Defense photo identification. Also included are members of foreign military coalition forces in Iraq or Afghanistan or attached to American units in the U.S. for training.

For more information, visit <http://www.4adventure.com> or call toll-free 1-800-4ADVENTURE.

Please see **Digest**, Page 23

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

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

Dinner — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fried okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, cream of broccoli soup, cheeseburger soup, chicken chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Friday

Lunch — shrimp scampi, beef stew, turkey, egg noodles, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, cauliflower, collard greens, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — chili macaroni, barbecue chicken, fried catfish, potato wedges, Spanish rice, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, broccoli, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, creamed corn, asparagus, steamed squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, chicken chili and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — baked fish, knockwurst, Chinese five-spice chicken, potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, spinach, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, chili and chicken nuggets.

Sunday

Lunch — oven fried fish, spareribs, chicken breast parmesan, macaroni and cheese, O'Brien potatoes, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, pork chop suey, sauteed mushrooms and onions, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — beef pot roast, baked stuffed fish, roast pork loin, potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans, cucumber/onion salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, loin strip steak, turkey, baked potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, squash, carrots, broccoli, sauteed mushrooms and onions, macaroni salad, cucumber/onion salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Tuesday

Lunch — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, baked fish, rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, steamed carrots, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

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

Wednesday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken and pork chops, beef fajitas, jalapeno cornbread, refried beans, corn, gravy, pinto beans, peas and carrots, cole slaw, garden cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — lemon-herb chicken, sweet and sour pork, jambalaya, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, Mexican corn, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken noodle soup, cream of potato soup, chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who'll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 108A, Sablich Center, 1 p.m. for personnel who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. Individuals with less than honorable discharges, receiving extra benefits such as second enrollment opportunity in Montgomery GI Bill, Reserve or Guard personnel coming off 180-day deployments or entering the disability system, call 376-8728 for individual counseling appointment. To register, call 376-8728.

Transition assistance program — planned dates are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 16-19, July 14-17, Aug. 11-14, Sept. 15-18, Oct. 20-23, Nov. 17-20 and Dec. 8-11, Room 108A, Sablich Center. For military personnel who are 12 months or less from separation or 24 months or less from retirement, and Department of Defense civilians; spouses welcome. Military members should complete congressionally-mandated pre-separation counseling in advance. Attire is business casual — no uniforms, jeans, shorts or T-shirts. To sign up, call 376-8728.

Military retirement benefit seminars — 8-10:30 a.m. June 5, July 10, Aug. 7, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Tricare, Survivor Benefit Plan, movement and storage of household goods, military and retired pay issues and other topics covered. Spouses encouraged to attend. To sign up, call 376-8728.

Employment opportunities

Career focus program for spouses — information on area employment opportunities, job Web sites, human resources contacts, temporary jobs, on-base listings and free training programs. Computer lab available for resume preparation or job search in Room 108B, Sablich Center. For an appointment, call Ron Bublik, 376-8502 or 376-8728, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations — senior airmen with less than six years time in service, and staff and technical sergeants with less than 12 years time in service are eligible. Foreign language, computer or technical skills are desired, but not required. Those accepted attend the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Ga. for training in instruction in law, report writing, forensics, interview techniques, firearms and defensive tactics and other subjects related to the challenges of investigative duty. For more information on applying, contact AFOSI Detachment 407, 377-3420.

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, visit Room 216, Sablich Center.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, visit Room 216, Sablich Center.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 652 — 4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kat Hataway, 377-1389, or visit the group's Web site, <http://www.afsa652.org>.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Tuesday of the month. For more information, call Michelle Foster, 273-4591, or e-mail auxiliary.president@afsa652.org.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — For more information, call Senior Airman Aaron Eden, 1907; Staff Sgt. Brad Mills, 377-1714, or call 377-SAVE.

Asian Pacific-American Heritage Committee — 11:30 a.m. first Wednesday of month, Room 111, Sablich Center. For

more information, call Lucy Belles, 377-2179, or Larry McKean, 377-3252.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Dewi Clark, 377-2714 or e-mail dewi.clark2@keesler.af.mil; Arleen Stewart, 377-2440, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Blacks in Government — 5:15 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Taylor Logistics Building conference room. For more information call Florence Clay, 377-8681, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270.

Company grade officers council — meets first Wednesday of the month. For time and location, call 1st Lt. Michael Newson, 377-7626, michael.newson@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Justin Meyer, 377-4149 or 324-5806, or e-mail justin.meyer2@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association — 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Heather Melancon, 831-8895.

Keesler Spouses Club — second Tuesday of the month. For time and place, call Gretchen Gorline, 374-8024, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

Native American Heritage Committee — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Tailon, 377-6242.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Toyshaline Young, 377-0591, or Tech. Sgt. Jodi Evans, 377-2835.

Top III — 3:30 p.m. third Thursday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Krejci, 376-6346.

Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter — 5 p.m. first Thursday of the month, McBride Library. For more information, call Glenda Mosby, 243-1992, gmosby1@bellsouth.net, or Charles Bowers, 860-3665.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 adults and \$1.50 children for regular features, and \$2.50 adults and \$1 children for matinees. For recording about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 6:30 p.m., Street Kings (R).

Saturday — 2 p.m., jThe Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13); 6:30 p.m., 88 minutes (R).

Sunday — 1 p.m., Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R).

June weather outlook

Thunderstorms commonly occur along the Gulf Coast in June. Most of these storms form due to the sea breeze effect, which is common during the summer months. Although frontal passages are infrequent, squall lines may form and drop heavy rainfall. June is also the first month of hurricane season. However, tropical storms and hurricanes don't usually affect Louisiana and Mississippi this early. Daily temperatures and humidities rise considerably in June. Nights are warm with occasional thunderstorms that form off the coast during the early morning hours. While these morning storms may sometimes affect Keesler, it's the afternoon sea breeze that's likely to bring activity over the base.

Extreme maximum temperature (F).....101

Mean daily maximum temperature (F).....87

Mean daily minimum temperature (F).....75

Extreme minimum temperature (F).....55

Mean relative humidity (percent).....74

Mean monthly precipitation (inches).....5.53

Mean number of days with precipitation.....9

Mean number of days with thunderstorms.....11

Maximum 24-hour rainfall (inches).....5.5

Percentage of observations with ceiling less than:

2,000 feet.....1.8

1,000 feet.....60.2

300 feet.....0.0

Percentage of observations with visibility less than:

6 miles12.1

3 miles0.4

1 mile.....0.1

Percentage of observations with wind:

0-3 knots.....35.1

4-10 knots.....58.1

11-21 knots.....6.7

22 knots or greater.....0.1

Base personnel can access radar and satellite data and a general forecast on the local area network in the public folders under 81 OSF Weather.

Voting assistance

Installation voting officer — Dave Duggins, 377-5799.

Alternate installation voting officer — Maj. Sharon Walker, 376-5551.

2nd Air Force — Master Sgts. John Scott, 376-6350, and Shannon Gray, 377-1316.

45th Airlift Squadron — Capt. Bryan Beck, 377-0663.

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Capt. Nicola Perry, 376-3166.

81st Civil Engineer Squadron — Master Sgts. Aubrey Goff, 377-4209, and Bruce Dishman, 377-6611; Tech. Sgt. Melvin Jackson, 377-5826.

81st Communications Squadron — 2nd Lts. Kaneshia Webber, 377-8885, and Trevor Owen, 377-4041.

81st Comptroller Squadron — Master Sgt. Sherriann Baldwin-Rash, 376-81861, and 1st Lt. Mishawn Johnson, 376-8189.

81st Contracting Squadron — Master Sgt. Kimberley Alvarez, 377-3642, and 1st Lt. Ernest Stewart, 377-1836.

81st Dental Squadron — Capt. Eric Ladimer, 376-0511, and Master Sgt. Wendell Thomas, 377-7071.

81st Force Support Squadron — Master Sgts. Kelle Turner, 377-3697; Terrence Hardwick, 376-8341; and Ruby Bordley, 376-8340.

81nd Inpatient Support Squadron — Capt. Erik Vacarelli, 376-3327.

81st MDOS — 1st Lts. Maryann Edwards, 376-4459, and John Harrell, 377-0500; 2nd Lt. Sarah Montoya-Ortega, 376-5072, and Master Sgts. Joseph Hebert, 376-3754; Corey Johnson, 376-4839, Vernell Harrison, 376-4954, and Curtis Maley, 376-3810.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Capts. Carissa Grant, 376-5055, and Renee McClennon, 376-4727; Master Sgt. Patty Jones, 376-4749.

81st Operations Support Flight — Staff Sgt. Michael Delgado, 377-3305.

81st Security Forces Squadron — 1st Lt. Schneider Rislin, 377-7231 and Master Sgt. Rod East, 377-9096.

81st Services Division — Master Sgt. Andrea Turner, 377-1986.

81st Supply-Transportation Squadron — David Weekley, 377-2936; Master Sgt. Kevin Benjamin, 377-7924; Senior Master Sgt. James McClish, 377-4451.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Master Sgts. Steve Lacy or Robin Pugh, 376-0452, or Capt. Cynthia Myers, 376-5621.

81st Training Support Squadron — James Franks, 377-0758; Senior Master Sgt. Richard Skripek, 377-0758, and Sherry Clark, 377-1230.

81st Training Wing legal office — 1st Lt. Thomas Greenwood, 376-8603.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — 1st Lt. Jason Rhodes, 377-4076, and Capt. Justin Stoner, 377-1077.

332nd Training Squadron — Tech. Sgt. Len Kedrow, 377-0737, and Master Sgt. Jason Harrell, 377-9680.

333rd TRS — William Bacon Jr., 377-2469, and Master Sgt. Brian Frazier, 377-7745.

334th TRS — Senior Master Sgt. CarolAnn Daniels, 377-3408, and Master Sgt. Lori Derr, 377-0476.

335th TRS — Master Sgts. Robert Marlett, 377-0331 and Rolando Espino, 377-2909; Robert Lloyd, 377-7641.

336th TRS — Maj. Boyd Cooke, 377-4599.

338th TRS — George Landrum, 377-2784; Alexander Verrett, 377-3371; Staff Sgt. Christopher Guertin, 377-1154; Airman 1st Class Nicholas Giulian, 377-3945.

403rd Wing — Lt. Col. Kelvin McElroy, 377-5007.

Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit — Petty Officer 1st Class Moses Balls, 377-3502.

Keesler NCO Academy — Master Sgts. Lisa Arnold, 377-8622, and David Harrison, 377-8623

Marine Corps Detachment — Master Gunnery Sgt. William Scott, 377-8762, and Chief Warrant Officer 4th Class James Lewis, 377-0789.

HURRICANE SUPPLEMENT: seasonal survival tips

By Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch

Keesler News staff

Almost three years ago, Keesler Air Force Base was all but destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, the worst natural disaster in U.S. history.

If lightning never strikes twice in the same place, then Keesler members shouldn't have to worry about another Katrina. However, 12 to 16 named storms and two to five major hurricanes could form this year, according to the National Climate Prediction Center.

Busy summer ahead?

With an average season having 11 named storms, the prediction means this year's hurricane season could be busier than normal.

Forecasters and emergency responders fear that coastal residents will be apathetic this year after the United States escaped the past two storm seasons virtually unscathed.

"With hurricane season upon us, now is the time for all of us to prepare ourselves," said Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander.

"Don't be surprised and don't panic," said Lt. Col. Jeff Szatanek, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron commander. "Just have a plan and be prepared to get out of the way."

"My family had no trouble evacuating (during Katrina). I was very grateful they were out of harm's way and they didn't have to shelter where I did," he added.

Get out of town

The main reason my family didn't have any trouble evacuating was because they had a plan, he said.

"Double check your evacuation plans and make sure you have your evacuation vehicle in good working order and fueled," said Colonel Touhill.

"During Katrina, there was no gas in the local area — three hours away, gas was available, but at \$5 per gallon," said Lt. Col. Randy Coats, Bryan Hall's shelter commander during Katrina.



Photo by Stanley Morgan

Hurricane Katrina's rising storm surge rolls through a parking lot, flooding vehicles and surrounding Dolan Hall.

He now serves as chief of staff for 7th Air Force, Kunsan Air Base, Korea.

For those sheltering on base, some simple but necessary steps must be taken now to avoid complications during a hurricane.

"This can make a world of difference when the world is in chaos," said Colonel Touhill.

Accountability is paramount, according to Colonel Touhill, who noted, "All Keesler Airmen — military and civilian — need to have their Forms 21 up to date."

Hurricanes can form fast and take people by surprise as Colonel Coats quickly learned three days before Katrina unleashed its wrath on Keesler.

"One of my sharpest young master sergeants pointed out Katrina may grow into something over the weekend. He suggested we update our shelter and evacuation data sheets," Colonel Coats explained. "I admired his enthusiasm, and told him 'that's not a bad idea.' I then promptly forgot to do anything because I didn't believe Katrina was headed our way, and I had other things to do besides worry about a piddly

Category 1 storm."

At 8 a.m. Aug. 28, 2005, radars showed Katrina as a category 5 storm, occupying most of the Gulf of Mexico, and it was headed straight for Keesler. By 10 a.m., Keesler members were ordered to shelter or evacuate by 9 p.m.

Many people were out of town for the weekend, and accountability was a nightmare, said Colonel Coats. By 10 p.m., the doors on the shelters were locked and boarded, but not everyone came prepared.

Critical shortages

"Our most critical shortfalls were food, diapers, baby food and feminine hygiene products — we had one day's supply of diapers, two days of baby food, but at least three more days in the shelter," said Colonel Coats. "People were told to bring food and water for three days — most brought food for only two days."

They actually sheltered in Bryan Hall for six days and five nights, he added.

"People were desperate," said Colonel Szatanek. "I saw the lines of thousands of people just waiting to get dinner at the Magnolia (dining facili-

ty). For those that weren't prepared, little things were taken for granted, such as food. You just couldn't run to a restaurant to get a burger because none were open."

"Three days after Katrina hit, the dining facility next to the shelter opened for one hot meal of whatever was available," said Colonel Coats. "Shelter residents waited in line two or more hours for rice with spaghetti sauce and a piece of bread. After the week we'd had, it was like Grandma's Thanksgiving dinner."

In addition to supplies, everyone needs to review their insurance policies as well, advised Colonel Szatanek.

"Having renter's insurance got us financially through Katrina," he added.

"Some cried for what they lost, some for what they saw. News reports didn't prepare them for seeing not just their home, but their entire neighborhood destroyed," said Colonel Coats. "My wife spent years building a beautiful collection of Amish figurines. Seeing the trail of broken figures across two yards was painful to endure."

"I tried to stay focused and

project a positive attitude, given that all my worldly possessions would probably fit in a gym bag," Colonel Coats said.

"When security forces came to tell me that my cat was safe, but that my house looked as if everything inside had been destroyed, I really had to fight back tears," said Colonel Coats. "But I pushed my losses aside because I knew my family was safe."

Everyone was alive

"What we lost was just stuff," said Colonel Szatanek. "What was most important to us was that everyone was still alive — I know what struggles people went through, just making sure their families were alive."

Today, Keesler members may see the new construction on base — Thrower Park, the Sablich Center, Keesler Medical Facility — without realizing what Keesler looked like nearly three years ago after nearly a billion dollars in storm damages.

"The devastation was shocking: trees down everywhere, cars trashed everywhere, windows blown out, walls busted out, buildings collapsed and roofs ripped apart," said Colonel Coats.

Learning from Katrina

To avoid such future devastation, post-Katrina construction projects have incorporated many design elements that could withstand another major hurricane. Generators were improved, buildings and housing were built above the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood elevation standard and new windows can now withstand 140 mph winds.

This doesn't mean that Thrower Park residents should shelter there if the evacuation order is given, said Colonel Szatanek.

"They need to get out of the storm's way," he said.

The bottom line is have a plan and stick to it.

"People just need to be prepared," Colonel Szatanek said. "It's hurricane season now."

Keesler's hurricane plan — how it works

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).

Perhaps the single greatest contributing factor to the base's record of one death and three injuries from all those storms is its five-step hurricane preparation plan. HURCON, an acronym for hurricane conditions, is the name given to the base plan. June 1, the base goes into HURCON 5, the first level of the base plan.

Preparation

Personnel review and update Keesler Form 21, Shelter Information, by the seventh of each month during the hurricane season. The form is available at <https://wwwmil.keesler.af.mil/>.

Families are advised to develop disaster plans. For an example, see crisis checklist, Page A8.

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 waterproof 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.

After a "hurricane watch" is issued by the National Weather Service, the installation control center convenes in the command post. From there, bulletins are distributed to units across the base declaring specific hurricane conditions and directing actions to be taken at each HURCON level.

Hurricane advisories, updates and other related information are available only through advisories and bulletins issued from the crisis action team.

The National Weather Service issues a "hurricane watch" at HURCON 4 or 3 and a "hurricane warning" at HURCON 2 or 1.

There are five levels of preparation for hurricanes: HURCON 5 (also referred to as Hurricane/Tropical Storm Advisory and Preparation, or TSA). Review, update and execute, as needed, checklists.

HURCON 4 — 72 hours prior to the forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots (58 mph).

HURCON 3 — 48 hours prior to the forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots.

HURCON 2 — 24 hours prior to the forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots.

HURCON 1 — 12 hours prior to forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots.

Sheltering

The 81st Training Wing commander decides whether mission-essential personnel and/or students shelter on base or evacuate.

Only one entrance to each shelter is open.

People on basic allowance for subsistence provide their own food. Although those on meal cards receive meals-ready-to-eat, they should bring extra food.

Take non-perishable food, baby supplies, clothes and prescription medicine for three days. Take flashlights with extra batteries, first aid kit, as much water as you can carry, books, magazines, games, cards, blankets or sleeping bags, pillows, manual can opener and portable radio with batteries.

Take base and coast maps, as familiar landmarks may be gone and familiar roads closed when you leave shelters or return from evacuation. Take important documents and cash.

Alcohol, electrical appliances, weapons, pets and smoking aren't allowed in shelters.

To shelter pets off-base, call the Humane Society of South Mississippi, 863-4394, Extension 101. Shelter pets with three-day supply of water, food and medicine.

Recovery

After a hurricane passes, Keesler people who evacuated contact their units for instructions. If communication with the base isn't possible, call the Air Force Personnel Center, 1-800-435-9941.

Those who shelter on base:

Remain in shelter until officials say you may leave.

Military report to duty sections. Control centers delegate recovery operations to all units.

Don't enter damaged buildings.

Don't check for gas leaks with matches.

Don't turn utilities on until they've been checked.

Don't eat or drink anything without first checking it for damage or contamination.

Assess and record all damage.

Report building damage to 81st Civil Engineer Squadron if you're in base housing, or to your insurance company if you live off-base.

Report damaged personal property to your insurance company.

Make plans for temporary lodging until repairs are made.

Stay away from stray animals.

Emergency phone numbers — fire department, 911; chaplain, 377-4859 or 377-2111, (after hours, 377-2330); command post, 377-4330; medical center 24 hour information line 376-2550, or 377-0500 (emergency room); security forces, 377-3040.

Emergency management phone numbers — Mississippi Emergency Management Agency: (601) 933-6362; MEMA Agency Public Information Hotline: (answered 24 hours per day during an emergency or evacuation) 1-(866) 519-6362. Hancock County: 466-8200. Harrison County: 865-4002 (Gulfport, Biloxi, Pass Christian), 831-0760 (Long Beach). Jackson County: 769-3111 (Pascagoula), 475-8848 (Moss Point), 875-0114 (Ocean Springs).

Coast radio stations — stay tuned for information and instructions on Keesler's recovery, medical care and emergency assistance for housing, clothing, food, etc.:

AM stations — 570, WVMJ, Biloxi; 1130, WQFX, Biloxi-Gulfport; 1190, WBSL, Bay St. Louis; 1240, WGCM, Gulfport; 1390, WROA, Gulfport-Biloxi; 1490, WXBD, Biloxi; 1580, WZZJ, Pascagoula.

FM stations — 90.3, PMPB Biloxi; 92.5, WXOR, Ocean Springs-Biloxi-Gulfport; 93.7, WMJY, Biloxi; 94.5, WJZD, Gulfport; 96.7, WUJM, Gulfport; 97.9, WCPR, Gulfport; 99.1, WKNN, Pascagoula-Biloxi-Gulfport; 102.3, WGCM, Gulfport; 103.1, WOSM, Ocean Springs; 105.9, WXRQ, Pascagoula-Biloxi-Gulfport; 107.1, WXYK, Gulfport-Biloxi; 107.9, WZKX, Gulfport-Biloxi.

Family assistance center — in the aftermath of a hurricane, information on programs and services for Keesler people may be consolidated in a one-stop family assistance center

Now's time to review personal insurance

The time to act is now. Insurance companies won't write policies if your property is in an area under threat of a named hurricane.

To guarantee complete coverage, inventory household goods. Photograph expensive, hard-to-replace items and antiques. Have receipts and appraisals for expensive items. Keep this in a lock box or take it along when you evacuate or shelter.

Make sure you read and understand your policy regarding water damage. What is or is not covered water damage is a hotly-contested issue in the courts now. Damage caused by flooding or rising water is covered for base housing residents.

Base residents should review their renter's insurance to make sure there is not a flood exclusion. On- and off-base residents can purchase flood in-

surance through the National Flood Insurance Program. Keep in mind that flood insurance is not immediately effective, so plan accordingly. Rates vary depending upon where you live, and the type and date of construction of your house. People who live off-base should also view their policies for structural and wind damage coverage.

Off-base residents can also obtain insurance to cover debris removal. But check the policy because some type of debris, like trees or bushes, may not be covered.

Temporary repairs coverage reimburses the policy owner for necessary and reasonable repairs made to prevent further storm damage. Living expense insurance provides motel, food and transportation if you're forced from your home.

Consider replacement cost insur-

ance, too. For your house, make certain the amount of insurance is adequate to pay the cost of building a new house.

You may submit claims for personal property lost, destroyed or damaged on base. However, you must contact your insurance company first. The government makes up the difference between your insurance and the depreciated value of the property, up to the maximum allowable for that particular category.

Military and civilians who live off base can't submit damage claims to the government. Base housing occupants can receive up to \$100,000 in claims payments. However, to ensure adequate coverage for replacement costs, base housing occupants are wise to invest in extra personal property or special coverage insurance.

Comprehensive car insurance is al-

so worth considering. Vehicles can be destroyed by flood or windblown debris. If you're buying or still making payments, consider guaranteed asset protection insurance if the balance owed is more than the current replacement cost.

Only active-duty people can make claims against the government for such damage. The maximum payable for uninsured damage or loss to a vehicle on base is \$3,000. In most cases, glass and paint damage alone are going to be above that figure.

People who store boats at the base marina sign a document waiving the base's responsibility for any losses. Boats and campers in base storage areas are covered up to \$2,500 for uninsured losses.

For more information, call the legal office, 376-8601.

Mandatory evacuations — financial entitlements

By Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch

Keesler News staff

When skies are blue and birds are singing, Keesler members may not be concerned about their financial entitlements during mandatory hurricane evacuations.

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.

The minute evacuation is ordered is too late to begin thinking about how much service members are authorized for travel, hotels and food, said Capt. Mishawn Johnson, 81st Comptroller Squadron.

Keesler members need the 81st Training Wing commander's authority to evacuate before they can begin traveling on reimbursable entitlements, said Captain Johnson. Dependents are also authorized entitlements, but if they choose to leave before the evacuation order is given, some expenses won't be reimbursed.

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.

Keesler members need to keep their government travel card handy, as evacuation-related travel expenses can be charged on them, said Captain Johnson. Nominal cash

advances are authorized and can be applied for at the finance office, but they aren't recommended, according to Captain Johnson.

"The lines for cash advances will be wrapped around the hallway and with only 48 hours to evacuate before the storm hits, you're risking not getting out of town on time," she said.

Expenses such as hurricane kits, emergency supplies and costs associated with sheltering on base aren't authorized charges on a GTC.

"GTCs should be used for evacuation only," said Captain Johnson.

"When the evacuation order is issued, there'll be a mileage radius," said Capt. Jeffrey Rich, 81st CPTS commander. "For example, 'Evacuate no closer than 100 miles, but no further than 600 miles.' If you choose to evacuate further away than 600 miles, you'll only receive travel for the 600 miles, and you will get the standard stateside per diem rate," he explained. "But if you have a certain town on your Form 21 and decide to stay somewhere else, you'll still receive your entitlements for where you stayed as long as it is within the 600-mile evacuation guidance.

Keesler members with dependents who are unable to evacuate without the sponsor should discuss entitlements with finance and make plans for their evacuation prior to hurricane season, said Captain Johnson.

The bottom line, she said, 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.

Coping with 'disaster stress'

A hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico is on a collision course with the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Scenario for stress? You bet. "Disaster stress" may show itself in several ways, before and after the disaster occurs:

Physical — fatigue, tension, nausea.

Emotional — anxiety, anger, helplessness, depression.

Mental — forgetfulness, easily distracted, intrusive thoughts, nightmares.

Behavioral — increased drinking, irritability, restlessness, trouble sleeping.

Social — dropping out of usual activities, and after the disaster hits, avoiding the site.

Some coping strategies:

Ask for social and emotional support from loved ones.

Give social support to others.

Don't abandon your usual social networks, i.e., church, neighborhood groups, friends.

Become part of a disaster survivor group.

Control drinking and pill-taking carefully. Avoid over-indulgence.

Understand you'll experience stress, but also believe it becomes less intense over time.

Try to exercise about three times a week.

Eat nutritious food and

avoid excessive caffeine, alcohol, tobacco and sugar.

Talk to someone you trust about your feelings. Survivors often learn to talk to and listen to each other, which helps.

Think of yourself as a survivor, not a victim. A survivor is tough, experienced, active. A victim is passive, helpless.

Use positive self talk, a new perspective on a negative experience, thought stopping, humor, divide the big problem into small problems and plan how to deal with each one.

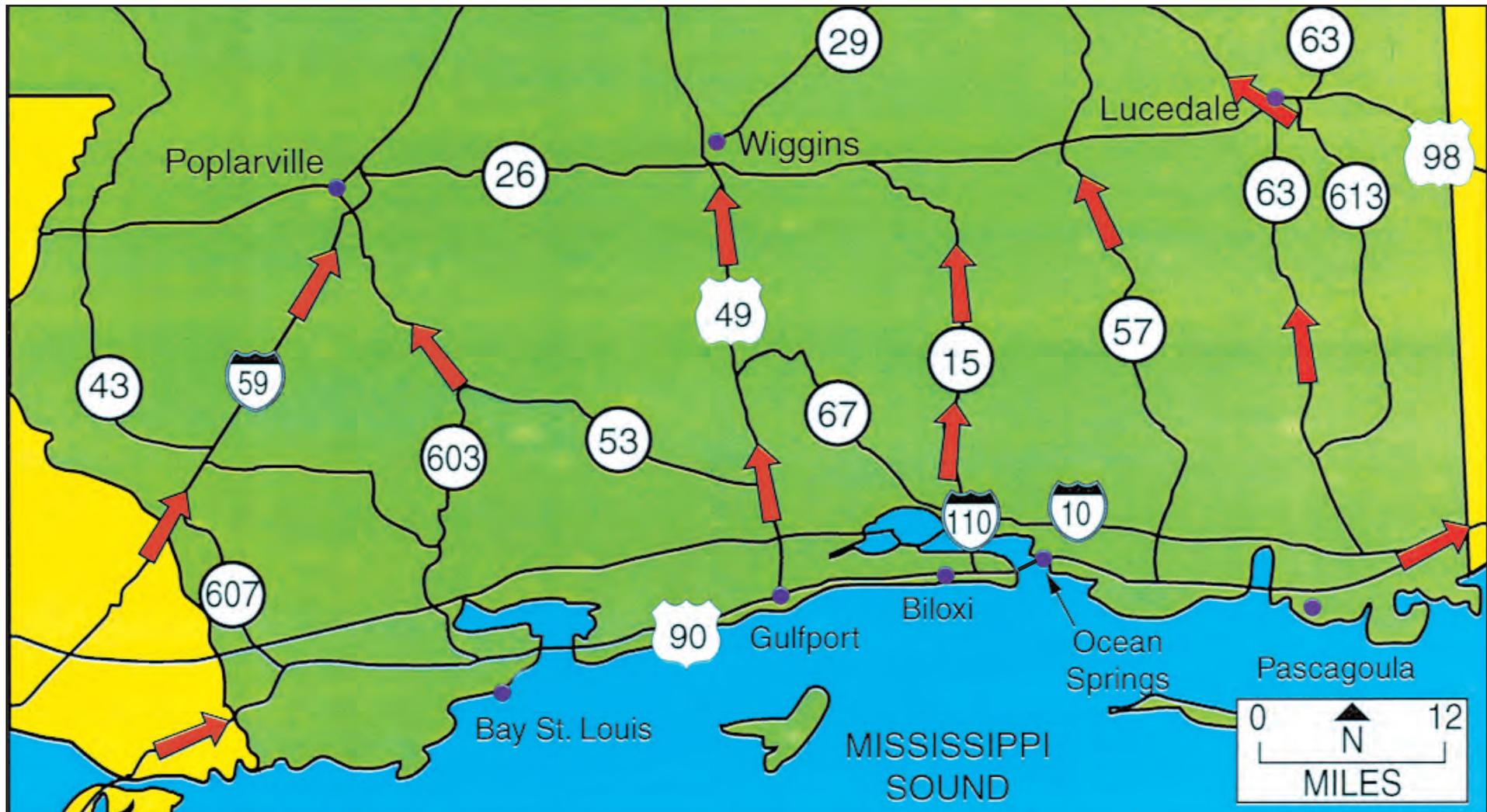
Your ability to handle difficult situations is important to your children. Reassure your children, prepare them for losses and let them know that's part of life.

Assure your children it's OK to grieve at the same time you're getting on with life.

Pets can be traumatized by disasters, too. They need comfort and reassurance when the disaster has passed. Walk pets on leashes until they become reoriented.

Be patient. Recovery from disaster stress takes time. If you feel you're not healing, ask for professional help.

For more information or assistance, call the mental health flight, 376-6216.



Map by Gulf Publishing Company

Several roads lead from the coastal counties — Hancock, Harrison and Jackson — toward shelter. Officials advise against sheltering in out-of-state coastal cities; travel inland to the north. They suggest the longer people wait to evacuate, the farther they'll have to travel to find accommodations. The yellow areas are Louisiana, left, and Alabama, right.

Evacuating? Here are routes to safe harbors

Evacuation routes on the Mississippi Gulf Coast lead from the three coastal counties — Hancock, Harrison and Jackson — toward shelter.

Make hotel reservations before an evacuation ordered is issued. Be prepared to travel 150 miles to the evacuation order mileage limit north and away from the storm track. On arrival, call your unit control center, emergency management representative, the Keesler Accountability Team (phone number to be determined) or the Air Force Personnel Center, 1-800-435-9941.

At Keesler, mission-essential personnel and students may be required to shelter on base. All others are encouraged to evacuate. An evacuation order may be issued as early as HURCON 3 or as late as HURCON 1, depending on the specific hurricane threat.

Evacuation routes:

Hancock County

Mississippi 607 — goes through the NASA preserve and could be taken to Interstate 59.

Mississippi 43 — begins in Waveland and from which Mississippi 603 branches north of Kiln. Mississippi 603, which links up with Mississippi 53, could also be taken to I-59.

To reach Keesler's Emergency Intranet, open Internet browser and type in <http://kenet>.

Also see <http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=5081>

Interstate 10 — could be taken west to I-59 north at Slidell, La., or to I-12 west to Baton Rouge, La. Officials advise against going to New Orleans to ride out a storm because that city is below sea level and highly susceptible to flooding.

Harrison County

U.S. 49 — major evacuation route to the north.

Mississippi 67 — meets U.S. 49 at Saucier. Can help evacuees avoid traffic congestion on southern end of U.S. 49.

Mississippi 15 — heads north from the intersection of I-10 and I-110. Meets Mississippi 26, which

runs east and west. Going east, Mississippi 26 crosses Mississippi 57, which intersects U.S. 98 north to Hattiesburg, and runs on into Lucedale. There, Mississippi 63 and 613 connect and continue north. U.S. 98 could also be taken north. Mississippi 26 west goes to Wiggins and such northbound routes as U.S. 49, Mississippi 29, and still farther west, I-59.

Jackson County

Mississippi 57 — runs north from U.S. 90 about halfway between Ocean Springs and Gautier. Crosses Mississippi 26 and intersects U.S. 98, which goes north to Hattiesburg.

Mississippi 63 — runs north from Moss Point to Lucedale in George County. Four lanes all the way to U.S. 98 in Lucedale.

Interstate 10 — runs out of the county to the east toward Mobile. Disaster preparedness officials advise against seeking shelter in Mobile and other coastal cities. However, highways in Alabama going north toward Montgomery, Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, such as I-65, can be reached by going to the outskirts of Mobile.

Storm names

The National Weather Service near Miami gives names to tropical disturbances with rotating winds of more than 39 mph.

Giving women's names to tropical storms was a common practice in the late 1800s. When the NWS began naming these storms in 1953, it continued the tradition of using female names.

Beginning in 1978 (for Pacific storms) and 1979 (for Atlantic storms), male and female names were alternated by the NWS.

Six lists of names are rotated every six years.

Noteworthy storms have their names retired from the list — Agnes, Alicia, Allen, Allison, Andrew, Anita, Audrey, Betsy, Beulah, Bob, Camille, Carla, Carmen, Carol, Celia, Cesar, Charley, Cleo, Connie, David, Dean, Dennis, Diana, Diane, Donna, Dora, Edna, Elena, Eloise, Felix, Fifi, Flora, Floyd, Fran, Frances, Frederic, Georges, Gilbert, Gloria, Gracie, Hattie, Hazel, Hilda, Hortence, Hugo, Inez, Ione, Iris, Isabel, Isidore, Ivan, Janet, Jeanne, Joan, Juan, Katrina, Keith, Klaus, Lenny, Lili, Luis, Marilyn, Michelle, Mitch, Noel, Opal, Rita, Stan and Wilma.

These are the names for Atlantic tropical storms in 2008:

Arthur
Bertha
Cristobal
Dolly
Edouard
Fay
Gustav
Hanna
Ike
Josephine
Kyle
Laura
Marco
Nana
Omar
Paloma
Rene
Sally
Teddy
Vicky
Wilfred



Photo by Master Sgt. Efrain Gonzalez
Staff Sgt. Arthur Hughes, Hurlburt Field, Fla., uses a chainsaw to remove fallen trees that destroyed nearly 1,000 of 1,800 base homes during Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

Storm categories

Category 1 — wind speed 74-95 mph. Damage primarily to shrubbery, trees, foliage and unanchored mobile homes. Storm surge of 4-5 feet above normal.

Category 2 — wind speed 96-110 mph. Considerable damage to shrubbery and trees, some trees down, glass broken by flying debris, major damage to exposed mobile homes and roof damage to structures. Storm surge of 6-8 feet above normal.

Category 3 — wind speed 111-130 mph. Large trees blown down, most signs destroyed, major roof damage, window and door damage, some structural damage to homes and many mobile homes destroyed. Storm surge of 9-12 feet above normal.

Category 4 — wind speed 131-155 mph. Many trees blown down, all signs damaged or destroyed, extensive window and door damage, and complete destruction of many mobile homes. Storm surge of 13-18 feet above normal.

Category 5 — wind speed greater than 155 mph. Very severe and extensive window and door damage. Complete failure of roof structure on most residences, small structures overturned or destroyed, and complete destruction of mobile homes. Storm surge of 18 or more feet above normal.

Editor's note: Wind speeds are often reported in knots, rather than miles per hour; 4.3 knots is equal to 5 mph.

Coming to terms with language of hurricanes

Hurricanes are tropical cyclones in which winds reach constant speeds of 74 miles per hour or more and blow in a large spiral around a relatively calm center called the eye.

A band of high-velocity winds extends outward 20 or 30 miles from the rim of the eye, and winds may gust to more than 200 miles per hour as they approach it.

Hurricane winds do their share of harm, but they cause the greatest damage when dumping water on the areas over which they move. As storms move across the coastline, they create huge waves and storm tides which may reach 25 feet or more above normal. As winds diminish, the torrential rainfall normally accompanying the hurricane strikes. Drownings are the most common fatalities associated with hurricanes.

The following terms are associated with hurricane activity:

Tropical cyclone: The general term for all rotating storms originating over tropical waters.

Tropical disturbance: A moving area of thunderstorms in the tropics that maintains its identity for 24 hours or more.

Tropical depression: Rotary circulation at surface, highest constant wind speed 38 miles per hour (33 knots).

Tropical storm: Distinct rotary circulation, constant wind speed ratings from 39 to 73 miles per hour (34 to 63 knots).

Gale warnings: Issued when winds of 39 to 54 miles an hour (34 to 47 knots) are expected.

Storm warnings: Issued when winds of 55 to 73 miles an hour (48 to 63 knots) are expected. If a hurricane is expected to strike a coastal area, gale or storm warnings will not usually precede hurricane warnings.

Hurricane watch: Issued for a coastal area when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

Hurricane warning: Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area in 24 hours or less. Hurricane conditions include winds of 74 miles an hour (64 knots) or more and dangerously high tides and waves. Actions for protection of life and property should begin immediately when the warning is issued.

Flash flood watch: A flash flood is possible; stay alert.

Flash flood warning: A flash flood is imminent. Take immediate action.

Contraflow: Lane reversal is used during mass evacuations on major limited or controlled access highways to reduce the duration of an evacuation by opening up all lanes in one direction.

Voluntary evacuation: A warning to persons within a designated area that a threat to life and property exists or is likely to exist in the immediate future. Individuals issued this type of warning or order aren't required to evacuate, but it would be to their advantage to do so.

Mandatory evacuation: This is a warning to persons within the designated area that an imminent threat to life and property exists and individuals must evacuate in accordance with the instructions of local officials

This supplement was prepared by Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch and Susan Griggs, Keesler News staff writers. Contributors: 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, 81st Comptroller Squadron, 81st Medical Group, legal and disaster preparedness offices, airman and family readiness center, Gulf Publishing Co., Harrison County Civil Defense, American Forces Press Service and National Weather Service.

Crisis checklist — don't face storms without it

Natural disasters, power failures, terrorist attacks ... what can a family do to be prepared?

Larry Tabor, operations plans chief for the 81st Training Wing, said a crisis checklist can help people collect items to keep on hand to meet their immediate needs in an emergency situation.

This sample checklist can be especially helpful in making preparations to evacuate out of the path of an approaching hurricane.



Food

Dried and canned products, such as fruit, vegetables, milk, juice, bouillon and soup.

Grains, nuts, jerky, snacks, trail mix and granola and high-energy bars.

Condiments, herbs and spices.

Instant coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

Manual can opener.

Paper plates, cups, napkins and paper towels.

Fondue pots fueled by candles or Sterno fuel can be used indoors; propane and fuel stoves or grills can only be used outdoors.



Safety

Flashlights.

Two radios — solar or wind-up and battery powered.

Extra batteries.

Fire extinguisher.

Hand tools.

Plastic sheeting, duct tape and towels to seal air gaps.

Blankets.

Survival manual.

Area map with highlighted evacuation routes.

Waterproof matches and lighter.

Candles.

Battery-operated lanterns.



Health

First aid kit.

Family or pet medications.

Vitamins and minerals.

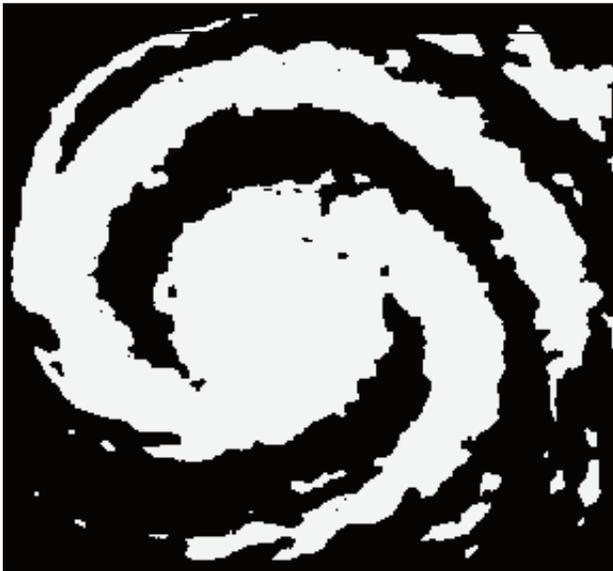
Feminine hygiene supplies.

Waterless hand cleaner, pre-moistened towelettes, towels, washcloths and soap.

Household chlorine bleach.

Supplies for babies and the elderly.

Extra medications and prescription glasses.



Online resources

<http://www.redcross.org>

<http://www.iprep.com>

<http://www.ready.gov>

<http://www.arenyprepared.com>

<http://www.preparedness.com>



Water

Store one gallon per person per day — two quarts for drinking and two quarts for cooking and cleaning.

Use clean, sterilized plastic soda bottles or water containers. Date and store in cool, dark place; rotate often.

Emergency indoor water sources include ice cubes, reservoir tank of toilet and hot water heater (with gas or electricity off, open drain at bottom of tank, turn off water intake valve and turn on a hot water faucet. Refill tank before turning gas or electricity back on.)

To disinfect water, add two or three drops of household bleach per gallon. Shake well and let it set for 30 minutes before using.



Pets

To shelter at home, store low-protein food to reduce stool volume, water, bowls, puppy training pads, garbage bags for refuse, bed, blanket, familiar toys and crate.

In case of evacuation, obtain a pet carrier or crate, and collect identification and vaccination records, registration papers, food, water, medications, muzzle and leash.



Car

Gas tank should be at least 3/4 full. Place five-gallon can of gas in trunk.

Road maps.

Flashlights and batteries.

First aid kit.

Cell phone or walkie-talkies.

Flares.

Jumper cables.

Blanket.

Compact tent.

Light jacket or rain gear, clothing, socks, shoes and hat.

Freezer bags, quart and gallon size.

Cash, change and credit cards.

Pocket-size survival manual.

Portable radio with extra batteries.

Personal hygiene supplies — toilet paper, feminine supplies, soap, tissues, paper towels, moist wipes, brush, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, razor and shampoo.

Health supplies — multivitamins, energy bars, dried fruit, nuts, jerky, trail mix, water and bleach.

Safety supplies — candle lantern, whistle, waterproof matches, lighter, large piece of aluminum foil for cooking if necessary, string, compass, clothespins and pocket knife.

Miscellaneous supplies — pen or pencil, paper, extra batteries, glasses, scissors, sunglasses, deck of cards, needle and thread, book, metal cooking pot.



Home

Sanitation items such as a portable toilet or 5-gallon trash can with lid and plastic liners, odorless sanitation liquid or tablets and toilet paper.

Eating and cooking utensils and containers.

Needle, thread and safety pins.

Forty-gallon garbage can with lid and plastic liners.

Cash and credit card.

Entertainment items, such as books, toys, games, crayons, paper, compact disks and deck of cards.

Change of clothing and shoes.

Extra set of car and house keys.

Documents in fireproof safe or airtight plastic container, such as birth and marriage certificates, passports, insurance policies, deeds, recent tax returns, Social Security cards, driver's license, bank accounts, credit card information, stocks, bonds, immunization records and other family information.

