



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Volume 71, No. 26
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Train to Fight — Train to Win

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**16 weeks until
Unit Compliance
Inspection**

New home for trainer development team



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Robert Cannette, 81st Training Support Squadron, repairs a tool at the new trainer development facility June 24. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the 38,000-square-foot structure at the southwest corner of Larcher Boulevard and Chappie James Avenue is 8 a.m. Wednesday. Story and more photos, Pages 4-5.

NSPS transition starts this month; Keesler scheduled for Sept. 12 move

By Tech. Sgt. Phyllis Hanson

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The transition of the majority of Air Force civilians under the National Security Personnel System to the General Schedule begins Sunday and continues through Sept. 12.

Keesler's transition from NSPS to GS is scheduled to take place Sept. 12 during the last of four implementation phases.

Mandated by the Fiscal 2010 National Defense Authorization Act, the conversion to the GS by the end of this fiscal year supports the deputy secretary of defense's goal to convert most employees by Sept. 30.

About 90 percent of NSPS employees will transition by that date; the remaining 10 percent are statutory and Department of Defense-approved exceptions to this conversion timeline, namely deployed civilians, few select medical professionals and those employees that are transitioning to the Acquisition Demonstration Project.

In addition, employees affected by base realignment and closure activities, such as realignment, transfer of function or transfer of work will transition in accordance with gaining installation BRAC timelines or remain in NSPS through base closure.

Air Force transition out of NSPS will be accomplished predominantly by installation and servicing civilian personnel sections.

To introduce or reacquaint civilian employees with the GS personnel and position classification system, two resources are available at <https://www.my.af.mil/afknprod/nsps-gs-tng>. A training module is offered called "GS-101, Classifying Positions under GS and Performance Management: A Tool to Achieve Results." The same Web site has a Defense Connect Online PowerPoint briefing with voiceover detailing the GS Air Force performance management system.

The DOD NSPS Transition Office Web site also contains information at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/transition>.

General recalls painful 4th of July memories

By Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog

2nd Air Force commander

I'll be honest with you. The Fourth of July weekend is not one of my favorite times of the year. I guess it goes back to when I was a child and I had some painful experiences on that weekend.

I remember one Independence Day when my brother and I were playing croquet and he hit me in the head with the mallet. I ended up with five stitches and a scar on my forehead.

Then there was the Independence Day my brother (yes, the same one) pulled my braces off during a pillow fight. It was one of those freak accidents; the pillow case had a loose thread that got wrapped in my braces when he hit me in the face.

The entire upper row of my braces came right off. It was a painful experience,

especially telling my father how it happened and having him cut the dangling braces off with a pair of needle-nose pliers.

Then there was the holiday when I decided to see how many firecrackers I could stuff in a soda bottle to make it blow up. It didn't take but one firecracker to blow that bottle to smithereens, and luckily, I didn't cut up anyone but myself.

As you can see, I have had some memorable Independence Day happenings and didn't use the best judgment. But hey, I was a kid!

Well, none of us has that excuse anymore. We are all adults and role models, and folks look to us to set the example in many areas, especially in safety.

This year's Memorial Day weekend made history with no fatalities, and I know we can repeat that accomplishment

as we approach the second major holiday in the "101 Critical Days of Summer" campaign.

Independence Day is a time to celebrate our freedom and remember those who have fought for that freedom. During this four-day weekend, many of us will travel to visit family and friends and celebrate with lots of food and beverages. As we celebrate, let's remember to keep a focus on safety.

Providing information to all Air Force employees and doing whatever it takes to prevent mishaps should be the guiding principal this holiday.

History has taught that we are exposed to increased mishap potential due to summer-related activities.

People will head out on our nation's highways to vacation spots, parks, beaches or other recreational areas. Alcohol consumption may also

increase during this period, which may contribute to uncharacteristic risk-taking by normally prudent and mature people. Don't take those risks!

I urge all of you to discuss your safety concerns so this Fourth of July weekend and the remainder of our "101 Critical Days of Summer" can be the safest ever. Let's make sure we demonstrate that being prepared, planning ahead and proper risk management are vital parts of all summer activities.

Take that extra moment or two to talk about increased risks, applying sound risk management, weighing the risks versus benefits, and take action to mitigate or eliminate threats.

Have fun this Fourth of July, but think before you act. Watch your kids with those fireworks! Hopefully none of them will be as troublesome as I was at that age!

Holiday weekend — keep safety in forefront

By George Foreman

2nd Air Force safety chief

Sunday is the 4th of July, the second major holiday in the 101 Critical Days of Summer campaign. Now is the time to remind ourselves, our friends, and our family to play it safe this holiday weekend.

Supervisors should already know what activities their personnel will be involved with during the holiday. Supervisors and senior officials at all level should redouble their mishap prevention efforts and focus on events incurring risk. Don't let luck be a course of action for our personnel. Ensure they have a solid plan before participating in events and the need to watch out for their wingman, whether that wingman is a family member or a co-worker. Proper planning will make a difference between an inconvenient stop versus a potential life and death survival situation of a broken-down vehicle in the middle of nowhere. Do whatever it takes to bring them back safely.

The 4th of July presents challenges as our people are afforded another great opportunity to take some well-deserved time off. This time off conjures visions of travel, family, visit friends, and food, although not necessarily in that order. While their focus will be on having fun, the risk of a mishap increases. At times this contributes to uncharacteristic risk-taking by normally prudent and mature people. A regretful scenario sometimes follows resulting in embarrassment at best and tragedy at worst. Don't let them cram too much fun into the 96 hours.



This week's Keesler News offers safety tips on fireworks use on Page 17. Other areas of safety concern are:

Driving — The 4th of July is the second deadliest holiday on the roads, right after New Year's Day. A lot of people are traveling and the chances of a mishap are much higher. Inspecting your vehicle before departing on a trip is an excellent idea. Watch out for other drivers not using lights, signals or weaving.

Drinking and driving — We lose many of our Air Force family in private motor vehicle mishaps, and it's unforgivable that alcohol is a factor in the majority of these mishaps. It's up to you and me to stop this tragic trend. In doing so, we can avoid other injuries and deaths by analyzing risks, making smart choices and then reassessing risks whether we are on or near the water, enjoying the mountains, playing a sport or enjoying our yards. People should have a plan before they drink. Law enforcement will be stepping up patrols and checkpoints in an effort to reduce the number of impaired drivers on the road. Bottom line — don't drink and drive.

Barbeque grills — Be familiar with how to operate and store your grill. Don't use charcoal grills indoors, including vehicles, tents, or campers. Charcoal grills produce carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can accumulate to toxic levels in closed environments.

When using gas grills, make sure the valves work and that you are completely familiar with how to use them and with their purpose. Make sure they are off when you aren't using the grill. Store gas cylinders outside. When lighting the grill, keep the top open. If the grill doesn't light in first several attempts, wait five minutes to allow gas to dissipate. If your gas grill needs repairs, take it to an authorized dealer or repair shop.

Please see **Safety**, Page 3



DRAGON ON THE STREET

By Kemberly Groue

Keesler News photojournalist

What does public affairs do and why is it important?



"Public affairs informs the base populace of events and information."

Tech. Sgt. Kimetta Masching, 335th Training Squadron



"PA explains base policies and procedures and builds strong relationships with stakeholders at Keesler and in surrounding communities."

Kristina Keeton, 81st Training Wing



"It's important to get our news out to the media and to the public."

Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Raymond Lee, Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit Public Affairs

Safety, from Page 2

Food safety — Keep meat chilled until you're ready to cook it and wash your hands frequently with soapy water when working with raw meat.

Water safety — Know how to swim before entering the water and never swim alone. Be knowledgeable of the water environment and its potential hazards, such as deep and shallow areas, currents, depth charges, obstructions and the location of entry and exit points. Pay attention to local weather conditions and forecasts, and know the local laws and regulations. The more informed you are, the more aware you will be of hazards and safe practices.

Boating safety — The 4th of July is the busiest weekend on our waterways. The number of unskilled boat operators is greatly increased. If boating at night, make sure to have operational navigation lights, a sober boat driver and travel at a safe speed.

Knowledge of the body of water on which you are navigating is essential. Know the local laws and regulations.

Heat stress — Have you ever felt dizzy, dehydrated or disoriented? These are the three D's associated with heat illness. You may experience other symptoms, include dry, hot skin with no sweating, seizures or convulsions, upset stomach or vomiting and weakness. Heat illnesses can cause serious health concerns that don't discriminate against anyone. Individuals and wingman have the responsibility to make sure they are adequately trained in first aid and knowing how to tell if someone is suffering from heat stress or heat stroke. If someone is suffering from heat stress, call 911, move the individual to a cool, shaded area, loosen or remove heavy clothing and provide cool drinking water. Immediate first aid can make a difference. During summer months, remember to stay hydrated, monitor yourself and others regularly and have appropriate work/rest cycles.

Be a survivor this holiday and help someone else be a survivor too. It's our sacred duty to preserve our most valuable resource — our people. We have a moral and professional obligation to stop the needless loss of life in order to produce the world's best trained Airmen. We must eliminate the misconception that there is a distinction between on duty and off duty when it comes to safety.

Finally, take that extra moment or two to talk about increased risks, applying sound risk management, weighing the risks versus benefits and take action to mitigate or eliminate threats. Let's make sure we demonstrate to our personnel and families that being prepared, planning ahead and risk management are vital to all summer activities. This attitude is the best way to avoid a needless tragedy. Let them know each day through Keesler's gates pass the best trained warriors in the Air Force, Air Education and Training Command and 2nd Air Force. Let's bring them back safely on Tuesday!

Exceptions to Keesler's 25 mph speed limit:

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

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

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

KEESLER NEWS

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

TRAINING AND EDUCATION



Left, the 38,000 square foot trainer development facility is at the southwest corner of Larcher Boulevard and Chappie James Avenue.

Right, metal photo transferer Scott Brown is one of the 42 members of the 81st Training Support Squadron who work in the new building.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Base showcases new trainer development facility

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new trainer development facility is 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Members of the 81st Training Support Squadron's trainer development flight have already



Machinist Tom Capers uses a metal lathe to make discharge tubes for a fire extinguisher trainer.

made the move to the new structure and couldn't be happier with their new home, according to Bruce Scott, flight chief.

He pointed out that the new building moves the 31 members of his flight and the 10 members of the 81st TRSS training technology flight's SIMWARE section into the same location.

"The fact that both the hardware production and the software development components are now under one roof is an incredible bonus that will prove to be more efficient and effective," Mr. Scott explained. "Together we've saved the Air Force millions and millions of dollars with in-house development and production of training equipment."

Construction of the new facility at the southwest corner of Larcher Boulevard and Chappie James Avenue began 16 months ago.

About \$13.5 million dollars was invested to replace the aging facility and to update manufacturing equipment that will allow for quicker project turnaround times and a more consistent product.

The under-the-roof square footage of the new trainer development facility is about 38,000 square feet, said metal trades supervisor Tomme Lassabe.

"There are numerous administrative and executive offices on both the first and second floors of the building," Mr. Lassabe said. "However, the new industrial area which occupies 18,000 square feet is the real jewel to this facility."

The new building offers a variety of special features, such as a down draft paint booth, a powder coating paint booth and oven and a multi-cam router for fabricating items from wood, plastics, and metals. It features an improved sawdust collection system with under-floor duct work, a fused deposition modeling machine.

There's a larger welding shop size and integral fume collection/extraction system, a materials receiving and warehouse storage area, a transfer truck height loading dock with dock leveler, an overhead crane with a two-ton capacity hoist to handle



Welder Heath Harris is one of the craftsmen in the 81st TRSS trainer development flight.

materials and equipment and a 4,000-pound electric fork lift for materials management and loading/unloading.

Three-dimensional printing and scanning are in the works, but not yet installed.

"Trainer development's function is to provide high-quality trainers, training devices and simulators

Please see **New facility**, Page 5

New facility,

from Page 4

throughout Air Education and Training Command with a realism that allows instructors and students to perform various maintenance and performance tasks as if they were using the actual, more costly equipment,” Mr. Scott noted. “The addition of several new pieces of industrial equipment, updated software and a new communications and network infrastructure will open doors to other avenues of training that previously had to be outsourced.”

The old facility was the result of two separate buildings being joined together. The north building was constructed in the 1940s and had once been an aircraft engine test cell. The south building was erected in 1969 and ironically suffered its first hurricane damage from Hurricane Camille while it was still under construction.

About 25 percent of the old facility was deemed uninhabitable after Hurricane Katrina nearly five years ago.

“Numerous attempts to stop leaks in the roof over the years proved to be impossible,” Mr. Scott commented. “The heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in the facility required constant attention and had to be nursed along to provide what little cooling the building had. The network infrastructure had deteriorated to the point where connectivity was a hit-or-miss proposition.”

“This new state-of-the-art facility is extremely important for us to continue to carry out our assigned mission of engineering and manufacturing trainers and simulators,” Mr. Scott concluded. “The new equipment tremendously enhances our design and fabrication capability and will help secure our role into the future.”

Ahoy, commander!



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Cmdr. Angie Walker, left, who became commander of Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit Friday, looks over materials for the synoptic scale forecasting course with Aerographer's Mate 3rd Class Porter Vaughn and his instructor, Aerographer's Mate Chief Eugenia Carpenter. Cmdr. Walker came from Stennis Space Center, where she was deputy assistant chief of staff for operations for the commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command. Cmdr. Cris Treharne, former commander, is now assigned to the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, Reston Va.



Mad Dogs' new leader

Maj. Trevor Wall, new commander of the 332nd Training Squadron, is briefed by Michael Gainey, information technology instructor supervisor, as Airman 1st Class Ben Herbert and Airman Basic Zeth Bell get familiar with equipment used in the IT fundamentals course. Major Wall assumed command June 17 from Lt. Col. Brad Hamant, who'll command ROTC Detachment 640 at Miami University, Ohio.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

Red Wolves welcome new leader

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Lt. Col. Russell Voce turns over command of the 336th Training Squadron to Lt. Col. Brian Worth, 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Welch Auditorium.

A reception follows the ceremony at Vandenberg Community Center.

Colonel Voce, who's led the Red Wolves for the past two years, is headed to Fort Bragg, N.C. to become division chief in the communications directorate at Joint Special Operations Command.

Colonel Worth comes to Keesler from Scott Air Force Base, Ill., where he commanded the 375th Communications Support Squadron.

Taylor wins ROTC scholarship



Cadet Taylor

By YoLanda Wallace

Keesler Public Affairs

Biloxi High School graduate Brandon Taylor, son of retired master sergeants Timothy and Maria Taylor, has been awarded a four-year \$60,000 ROTC scholarship.

Cadet Taylor, 14th in his graduating class of 343 students, is headed to Mississippi State University this fall.

Cadet Taylor was involved in Biloxi High's Junior ROTC chapter for two years, where he was a cadet major, cadet of the quarter, drill team member, drill team member, Delta Flight commander, personnel flight commander and winner of the

National Sojourner Award.

He earned varsity band letters for three years, was a five-time Gulf Coast Band Association participant and was involved in the Disney festival band competition.

He was treasurer of Students Against Destructive Decisions and belonged to the National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, Kitty Hawk Air Society and a member of the "We The People" constitutional hearings state competition winning team.

He played basketball in Biloxi's youth league and volunteered with the March of Dimes, Relay for Life and other community organizations.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Services scholarship

Today is the deadline to apply for the Air Force Services Agency's Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program.

Current Air Force club members in good standing and their family members are eligible to win one of 25 \$1,000 scholarships.

Participants must provide proof of having been accepted or currently enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry this fall.

To enter, write and submit an essay of 500 words or less on with the topic: "What Does it Mean to be a Member of the

Air Force Family?"

For entry forms, eligibility requirements and essay guidelines, visit the Katrina Kantina or log on to www.afclubs.net.

Submit essay packages to Glenn Jones, 505 C Street, Room 5423, Locker House, Building 3101.

Commissioning briefings

Commissioning briefings are 10 a.m. Tuesdays in Room 224, Sablich Center.

Drill downs, parades

Parades — 6 p.m. July 22 and Sept. 16.

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Aug. 20 and Oct. 15.

For more information on drill downs, call Tech. Sgt. Julie Hammond, 377-2103. For information on parades, call Staff Sgt. Gregory Washington, 377-2789.

CCAF fall graduation

The last day to apply for the Community College of the Air Force fall graduating class is August 27.

By that date, all supporting documentation must be on file at CCAF at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala., including the nomination action request. For more information, visit the education office, Room 224, Sablich Center or call 376-8708 or 8710.

Base shuttle schedules are found at

<http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp>

Veterans Affairs leader visits Keesler



Photos by Steve Pivnick

Tech. Sgt. Afrika Patton, 81st Medical Operations Squadron magnetic resonance imaging technologist, talks with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki during a visit to Keesler June 24. Sergeant Patton explained how the diagnostic imaging flight implements one of several joint initiatives between the VA and Department of Defense, specifically the 81st Medical Group Hospital. Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, left background, 81st Training Wing commander, and Col. David Garrison, 81st MDG deputy commander, accompanied Secretary Shinseki during his visit. The secretary also visited the hospital's new radiation/oncology clinic, viewed construction of the hospital's new inpatient tower and was briefed on cardiovascular procedures available to veterans.

Individual mobilization augmentees sought

By Capt. Kimberly Champagne

AFRC Readiness Management Group Public Affairs

ROBINS Air Force Base, Ga. — With 400 new funded billets and recent attrition rates in fiscal 2010, Air Force Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee Program officials expect to hire 1,600 people by September.

"We're hiring and that is terrific news on several fronts," said Col. Nancy Zbyszinski, Readiness Management Group commander. The group oversees the Air Force's 8,700 individual mobilization augmentees and 1,500 participating individual ready reservists.

"The IMA program offers a unique opportunity to serve in Reserve status for those who are not located near a traditional Air Guard or Reserve unit, for anyone who cannot commit to one weekend every month, or for anyone

who wants to participate in new Air Force missions," she said.

The hiring initiative gives members of the PIRR the chance to come back to the program and get paid for their annual duty. Air Guard or Reserve members who need more flexibility in location, duty dates or types of missions, will find what they're looking for in the IMA program.

Reservists who recruit people into the Air Force Reserve can win prizes including MP3 players and flat-panel TV through the "Get 1 Now" program which assisting recruiting service officials in meeting their goals. Reservists can submit referrals any time at Get1Now.us. Awards are totaled between Oct. 1 and Sept. 30.

For more information or a Web password, call 877-786-2372 or visit www.afreserve.com.

IN THE NEWS

No Keesler News July 8

The Keesler News won't be published July 8. Under contract, 4th of July week is one of the three weeks a year a paper isn't published.

New leader for 81st IPTS

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Col. Allison Plunk relinquishes command of the 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron to Col. Susan Bassett, 1 p.m. today in the 81st Medical Group Hospital's Don Wylie Auditorium.

Colonel Bassett comes to Keesler from Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, where she's served as the 882nd Training Group's chief nurse since February 2009.

Colonel Plunk, who assumed command of the squadron in June 2009, becomes 81st MDG chief nurse upon the July 22 retirement of current chief nurse Col. Cassandra Salvatore.

Curfew policy outlined

81st Security Forces Squadron

Following and understanding the base's curfew rules is the responsibility of both parent and minor, which is any person 16 years of age or younger.

Keesler Air Force Base Instruction 31-206, Para 1.3 through 2.7.3., governs Keesler's curfew policy.

June 1 through Aug. 31, it's unlawful for minors to be in or on Keesler streets or other base facilities, 11 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Sept. 1 September to May 31, it's unlawful for a minor to be in or on Keesler streets or other base facilities from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

There are some exceptions. A minor may be in or on Keesler streets or other base facilities during curfew when accompanied by a parent or an adult authorized by the parent or when returning home by a direct route from and within 30 minutes of an approved special designated activity, such as a school activity; morale, welfare and recreation activity; or activity of a religious or other voluntary association.

Requests for special designated activities are approved by the security forces chief and must be made in writing indicating place, time, description of event and probable time of termination.

For more information, call 377-3040.

Clinics close for warrior training

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group conducts warrior training, noon to 5 p.m. July 15.

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

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

For emergency situations, go to the nearest emergency room or call 911 for an ambulance.

LEGAL BRIEFS

There are traps to avoid when buying used car

By Richard Brock

81st Training Wing legal office
attorney adviser and civil law chief

Our first car is usually a used one and probably is the most we've ever spent at any one time on a personal item.

Our first car is often an impulse purchase which means we haven't given it a lot of thought. There are many questions that should be asked. Can I afford it? Is the dealer reputable? Have you talked to others who have purchased a used car? Have you talked to your first sergeant? Where will you obtain financing? Are you paying more than you should? Will you be "upside down" after the purchase?

Most used cars are traded in because of a problem with the vehicle, so for the most part, you're buying someone else's problem. Then you usually pay more for the car than it's worth. There is a blue book value that reflects retail, dealer, wholesale and loan values. You should shoot for a cost right at loan value. Check to see if you can afford it. Remember, not only do you have a monthly car note, but insurance, license tag, normal maintenance and gas fill-ups.

If you have no credit because you are just starting out, you have to shop around for a good interest rate. Your credit union is probably the best place to see if you can qualify for a loan. There are used car dealers that guarantee that they can get you a qualified for a loan and they can — at a high rate of interest.

Most finance companies don't care if you can really afford to keep the car running once you buy it. They want a sale and if you are military, you probably won't be around to make a complaint about the dealer.

Before you buy, see if you can take the car to a mechanic for an inspection. For about \$50, a mechanic will check out the car and spot problem areas fairly quickly, such as burning or leaking oil, transmission problems, fluids, belts, suspension and front end tire wear.

Take your time. Shop more than one car dealer. Ask permanent party members for recommendations. Check with the legal office to see whether complaints have been received about a dealer that you're considering.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Top, Tech. Sgts. Marisa Guzman, Adam Reay, Tisha Hargrove, Jesse Newhart, Jason Behrens and Rebecca Williams hang siding at a house under construction in Gulfport Friday. They were among the 20 students and five instructors from the Mathies NCO Academy who worked on three houses in Biloxi and six houses in Gulfport June 19 and 25. Sergeants Guzman and Hargrove are from Keesler, Sergeants Ray and Williams are from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., Sergeant Newhart is from Schriever AFB, Colo., and Sergeant Behrens is from Columbus, AFB, Miss.

Right, Tech. Sgts Shannon Smith, Travis AFB, Calif; and James Butler and Mark Liston, Minot AFB, N.D. hang insulation under a raised home being built in a Biloxi neighborhood that was ravaged by Hurricane Katrina's storm surge.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Jegel



Keesler volunteers work on Biloxi, Gulfport homes



Think about health care before leaving town

Air Force News Service

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Preparing for a road trip or vacation requires planning — what to pack, where to stay and what to do — but taking a few minutes to think about health care before hitting the road can save a lot of hassles.

To reduce the chance of health care problems while traveling, beneficiaries should see their doctor to take care of any regular office visits or treatment for ongoing conditions before leaving town.

Tricare Prime beneficiaries get routine care from their primary care manager, while Tricare Standard beneficiaries can go to any Tricare-authorized provider. Regardless of the Tricare plan you use, it's a good idea to get routine care before leaving home.

If beneficiaries need emergency care while traveling, they should immediately seek treatment by calling 911 or going to the nearest hospital emergency room.



Prime beneficiaries don't need prior authorization for emergency care, but they should notify their PCM within 24 hours, or on the next business day, so follow-up care can be coordinated. Tricare Standard beneficiaries have no follow-up requirements after receiving emergency care.

Beneficiaries who need medical treatment for urgent illnesses that are not an emergency may go to an urgent care facility. For urgent care, beneficiaries should contact their PCM for a referral or call their regional health care contractor for assistance before receiving care.

For Prime beneficiaries, failure to obtain a referral may cause care to be covered under the point-of-service option, which means higher costs.

Before traveling, Tricare beneficiaries should make sure their Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System information is accurate. For more information updating DEERS records, go to www.tricare.mil/DEERS.

Beneficiaries who take prescription medicine should order refills before their trip. If it's necessary to get a refill while on the road, the nearest network pharmacy in the U.S. can be found at <http://member.express-scripts.com>.

Beneficiaries should save all medical receipts. This is one of the most important things beneficiaries can do while traveling away from home.

For more information about using Tricare while traveling, beneficiaries can go to www.tricare.mil or contact their regional health care contractor.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Special duty team briefing Tuesday

Have you ever been interested in becoming an Air Force recruiter, military training instructor or military training leader?

The Air Education and Training Command Special Duty Team visits Keesler to provide a special duty briefing, 9-11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Welch Auditorium.

The team is recruiting airmen first class with at least 24 months time in service through technical sergeants with less than 17 years total active federal military service. Members from each of special duties mentioned will conduct the briefing.

Spouses of potential applicants are also invited.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Steve Mullens, 81st Training Wing Career Assistance Advisor, 377-3697, or Senior Master Sgt. John Coleman, 377-1365.

Retirement webinar for officers

Air Force Personnel Center

July 8 at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., the Air Force Personnel Center presents “Retirements-101 for Officers” via the Defense Connect Online at <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/afpcofficerretirements101>.

The webinar lasts 30-45 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer period.

If you don't have a Defense Connect Online account, register immediately at <https://www.dco.dod.mil>. DCO is the standard medium for AFPC to communicate with the field.

If you're entering the webinar as a guest or registered user:

Click on the DCO site for this webinar which is <https://connect.dco.dod.mil/afpcapprovedretirementnowwhat>.

If you enter the webinar as a guest you must enter the webinar with your grade, first name, last name, nnit and base (for example, MSgt Joe Snuffy, AFPC/DPS, Randolph AFB TX). You'll be accepted into the webinar if you provide this information; otherwise you may be declined by the webinar host.

If you're attending the webinar as a group in a conference room, let AFPC know how many people are attending in the group chat pod for tracking purposes..

If members are unable to view the live broadcast, a recorded version is available on the AFPC website; but members are encouraged to view the live broadcast to have their questions answered. For the prerecorded webinar, log on to https://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cgi-bin/askafpc.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=8292

For more information, e-mail afpc.dpsor.retirements@randolph.af.mil or call DSN 665-3930. For help with registering or resetting your password, call DSN 850-3136 or 1-800-447-2457.

Gathering for female veterans

Airman and family readiness center

A gathering to provide information and communication for female veterans is 7-11 a.m. July 27 in Sablich Center Room 108B.

The event is hosted by the Women Veterans Program of the Gulf Coast Veterans Administration.

To register, call 376-8728.

Military personnel contacts

Military personnel section phone numbers:

Customer support — 376-8738.

Career development — 376-8739.

Force management — 376-8740.

Student personnel center — 377-4111.

Testing — 376-4111.

Discrimination hotline

Air Force Personnel Center

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

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

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

Cell phone plans change to save \$2 million per year

By Tech. Sgt. Phyllis Hanson
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Officials from the Office of Management and Budget have developed a plan to save the Air Force an estimated \$2 million a year on government-issued cell phones.

The plan is based on a suggestion for the President's SAVE program by the Air Force Information Technology Commodity Council. Beginning in August, changes through the Cellular Airtime Optimization Plan will be made to about 10,000 cell phone plans for Air Force employees which will better reflect their actual usage starting in fiscal 2011 (October 2010).

"Many cellular lines are not on the most cost-effective rate plan based on their usage profile," said Debra Foster, the 754th Electronics Systems Group deputy for enterprise services at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, Ala.

"With the authorization by the (major command communication officials), the vendors have been able to move users to plans that reflect their actual usage. Actual usage will be evaluated semi-annually and appropriate changes will be made to rate plans."

Rate plan optimization will occur within existing contracts held by the three main providers, Verizon Wireless, AT&T Wireless and Sprint. No contracts have been cancelled thus far, and no users have changed carriers as a result of this initiative, Ms. Foster said.

Prior to this initiative, each user selected a plan based on anticipated usage. The Air Force Information Technology Commodity Council initiative selects appropriate plans based on actual usage.

All Air Force major command communication offices

had input into the strategy, which was an initiative developed from the Air Force chief information operation-approved Cellular Services and Devices strategy in 2006, Ms. Foster said.

Initially, the savings was validated in 2008 through implementation at three major commands; Air Force Reserve Command, Air Mobility Command and Air Force Space Command.

"The Air Force is now in the process of expanding the optimization to include all continental United States MAJCOMs," Ms. Foster said.

"Account managers are encouraged to review the voice minutes usage on their accounts periodically and should contact their vendor to make changes as needed to a more appropriate plan based upon minutes used," Ms. Foster said.

The ITCC has developed a rate plan calculator that will help determine the best plan that can be accessed from the Air Force Cellular Services and Devices Web site at www.my.af.mil

Civil Air Patrol cadets visit Keesler



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Capt. Brandon Cowell, right, 815th Airlift Squadron, gives a tour of a C-130J model aircraft to a group of Mississippi Civil Air Patrol cadets June 23. Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, 81st Training Wing commander, welcomed the group of more than 130 cadets during their annual tour of Keesler. General Dickinson reflected on his experience and involvement in the Civil Air Patrol and encouraged the cadets to take the CAP challenge as an great opportunity to excel. The cadets also toured the 81st Medical Group Hospital, the air traffic control school and the fire station.

Personnel director retires with 38 years of service

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Legusta “Lee” Hathorn, Keesler’s human resources officer, is retiring with 38 years of federal service.

Mr. Hathorne began his federal career in 1972 while still in college with the Office of Personnel Management, where he served as a certification assistant and later became a federal test examiner.

After graduating from Jackson State University in 1974, he came to Keesler as a personnel management specialist. He was one of the Air Force’s first interns in the Manpower and Personnel Center Program hired under a program now referred to as the Outstanding Scholars Program.

In 1977, Mr. Hathorn was selected as Keesler’s first black employment program manager

and later accepted a reassignment to the base equal employment opportunity office.

He was reassigned as a personnel staffing specialist in 1981 and a year later he was promoted to lead personnel management specialist. In 1983, he was reassigned to the staffing section as chief of affirmative employment. In 1989, he became the chief of labor/employee management relations and served as assistant to the human resources officer.

He assumed his current position in 1999, leading the civilian personnel flight to two “outstanding” Air Education and Training Command inspection ratings and earning AETC’s outstanding civilian personnel flight in 2001, 2005 and 2008.

Mr. Hathorn won the Air Force outstanding intermediate civilian personnel program



Mr. Hathorn

manager award and AETC recognition as outstanding human resources officer, distinguished EEO award in the supervisory action category and outstanding intermediate personnel specialist. He’s also

the recipient of the Air Force Exceptional Civilian Service Medal and many performance awards.

“In order to work an entire career in personnel, you have to have an interest in people,” Mr. Hathorn said. “My greatest satisfaction came from the times when I was able to put a smile on the customer’s face, or instill a bit of happiness in their day, by finding or constructing a solution to the problems in their lives.”

Mr. Hathorn recalled that when he first arrived at Keesler, the base had more than 3,000 appropriated civilians. Over the years, that number has been cut in half due to mission changes, arbitrary and scheduled manpower reductions, privatizing and changes in student load.

“Such a drastic reduction in the work force has been accom-

plished through a series of reductions-in-force over the years,” Mr. Hathorn explained. “I was deeply involved in two major RIFs at Keesler, and I consider those to be my biggest challenges.

“During RIFs at Keesler, the civilian personnel office has always sought to limit involuntary separations through every means legally possible,” he continued. “Not only is it challenging, but it can become an awesome burden, as the futures of affected employees often rely upon the actions and decisions made within the personnel arena.”

Mr. Hathorn said his greatest accomplishment from a personal perspective was leading his team of human resource professionals through an eight-year process in executing Keesler’s last RIF of more than 300 appropriated positions without a single involuntary separation.

Mr. Hathorn and his wife, Carolyn, have been married 37 years.

They have two sons and two grandsons.

“First, I want to take some time and rest,” he said of his retirement plans. “After that, I’m thinking about exploring the possibilities of volunteering as a Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster team member to help pay back for the many volunteers who helped us during Hurricane Katrina.”



Rainbow on the rise in Afghanistan



A photo of a rainbow in Parwan, Afghanistan, was taken recently by 1st Lt. Joost Verduyn, deputy director of the 81st Training Wing Public Affairs Office. Lieutenant Verduyn is deployed with Joint Task Force 435.

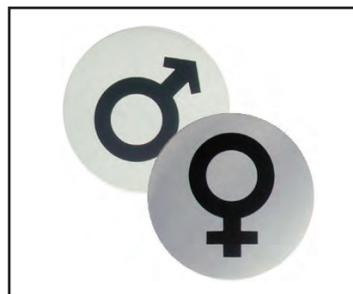
Show portrays sensitive subject with humor

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

“Sex Signals” is presented at 9 and 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. July 9 at the Welch Auditorium.

“A two-member team gives the presentation, mixing improvisational comedy, education and audience interaction to provoke discussions about dating, sex and the issue of consent,” said Barry Newman, a program specialist in Keesler’s sexual assault response and prevention office.



The 75-minute play begins with an irreverent and funny look at the awkwardness of dating, with each actor representing their gender’s perspective. Through a no-holds-

barred approach, the show explores how social pressures, gender role stereotypes and unrealistic fantasies can make social interaction a challenge.

The program is primarily intended for nonprior service students, since Air Force statistics indicate that those under 25 years remain the most at-risk population for sexual assaults.

For permanent party members who’d like to attend, e-mail christine.mcgill.1@us.af.mil by Friday.

CSAF stresses importance of Airmen and mission

By Tech Sgt. Mike Edwards

447th Air Expeditionary Group
Public Affairs

SATHER Air Base, Iraq — The Air Force's top uniformed officer made a visit June 24 to meet with Airmen, talk about his priorities, and listen to the concerns of those living and working here.

"Let me begin by reminding you that everyone matters," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz. "It's like a team; everyone plays a position. If you have someone on the team who doesn't do their part, the team cannot win. Everybody counts. Everybody matters."

In addition, Gen. Schwartz highlighted the need for discipline and compliance with Air Force standards.

"We had a major issue a little while back regarding accountability for nuclear weapons," he said. "Fundamentally, we had lost focus. But we have taken steps to correct that."

He explained the need to maintain high levels of vigilance and dedication.

"Compliance is not a four-letter word," he said. "It helps keep us safe and maintain our standards of excellence."

The general acknowledged that the Air Force is currently

challenged with too many people in its ranks.

"We are having a problem because retention is the best it has ever been in years," he said. "As a result, we have had to implement some force-shaping measures to get our numbers back down to our allotted end-strength."

He noted that payroll is the first bill paid out of the budget.

"If we have more people to pay than we have in the budget, the money has to come from other programs such as childcare, housing and medical," he said.

"Losing personnel is always tough, but we are opening up cross-training opportunities for those willing to change jobs," he said.

He also mentioned opportunities to continue to serve in the Air Reserve components or in the civilian workforce.

The last point the General Schwartz stressed was preventing suicides.

"We are experiencing the highest rate of suicides we've seen in years," he said.

"Suicide affects not only the individual, but also the immediate and the larger Air Force family. If you see someone who needs help, assist them in getting that help," General Schwartz said. "That's what being a wingman is about. That's what family is all about. We take care of each other."

When the general opened the floor for questions, one Airman expressed concern that Iraq might become the "forgotten" war as the transition is made from Operation Iraqi Freedom to Operation New Dawn.

"What we are seeing and experiencing right now is a result of our successes and the sacrifices we have made," General Schwartz said. "I know that the American people support you and have not forgotten what you are doing here. Just because the media attention is focused on Afghanistan right now, does



Photo by Tech Sgt. Mike Edwards

General Schwartz visited the 447th Air Expeditionary Group June 24 at Sather Air Base, Iraq. The general met with Airmen to discuss the importance of who they are and what they do to support the mission.

not mean anyone has forgotten what you are doing here or the sacrifices we have made."

Another question from the audience asked about what initiatives have been addressed for families during the "Year of the Air Force Family."

"I talked earlier about how we are all a team and that everyone on that team has to do their part for us to be successful," General Schwartz said. "Families are a very important member of our team. We have undertaken some very important steps to help take care of our families."

Improving the availability of childcare and improving services for special needs families were two of the initiatives he mentioned, and he also addressed housing.

"Over the past several years, we have been working with our privatized housing initiative to either build or

refurbish more than 50,000 homes," he said. "We want our bases to be an attractive place to live. We are working to make them communities in which people feel safe and secure, and one in which people are happy with the network of services we have to offer them."

The general noted that schools have a huge role in creating those communities.

"The quality of schools is a significant factor for those volunteering for certain assignments or choosing whether or not to live on or off base," he said. "We are working to improve that."

General Schwartz concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for what they are doing, and for their commitment.

"What you do is important," he said, "and what you do matters to the overall success of the team. Never forget that."

Identity theft
is a
personal nightmare
and security risk.
Shred bills,
statements, letters,
old journals, records,
outdated
application forms
and any documents
that contain
your full name,
Social Security number,
duty title and
job information,
credit card,
bank account numbers
and names of
family members.
If you see documents
being removed from
trash cans, call the
81st Security Forces
Squadron
law enforcement desk,
377-3040.

News tips? Call the Keesler News, 377-4130, or e-mail keeslernews@us.af.mil

Fireworks follies can ruin 4th of July celebrations



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Sunday's public fireworks displays are at 8:30 p.m. on Ocean Springs front beach, 8:45 p.m. near the Gulfport Small Craft Harbor and 9 p.m. near the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor.

Safety office, fire prevention office and Keesler News staff

Dry weather in south Mississippi makes fireworks a dangerous proposition for Independence Day.

James Palmer, Keesler's fire prevention chief, stressed that fireworks are strictly prohibited on base and in surrounding cities, but fireworks continue to be sold in Harrison and Jackson counties outside city limits.

"Some people insist on buying and using them, regardless of the dangers," Mr. Palmer said.

A June 2010 report from the National Fire Prevention Association noted that in 2008, the most recent year for which statistics are available, about 7,000 fireworks-related injuries were treated in U.S. emergency rooms.

About 53 percent involve injuries to the extremities and 37 percent to the head. About 40 percent of the injuries involved young people under the age of 15.

Sparklers, often considered "safe" for young children, caused 22 percent of the injuries, and small firecrackers accounted for 18 percent.

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is at an outdoor public display put on by professionals. Stay at least 500 feet from the launch area.

For people who opt to light their own fireworks, here are some safety reminders:

Fireworks are not toys. They burn at about the same temperature as a household match.

Buy fireworks from reliable merchants.

Never attempt to make your own homemade fireworks. Mixing chemical powders can result in an untimely explosion that can cause death or injuries.

Know the difference between a legal consumer firework and a dangerous explosive device. Items such as M-80s, M-100s and blockbusters are federally-banned explosives that can cause serious injury or even death. If you know of anyone selling such devices, contact your local police department.

Different fireworks mean different hazards, so read the instructions on each one and follow them carefully.

Avoid anything that isn't clearly labeled with the name of the item, the manufacturer's name and instructions for proper use.

Light the tip of each firework at arm's length, using a fireworks lighter or fuse wick. Move back immediately.

Light one firework or sparkler at a time. Rockets should be launched from a rocket launcher, not from glass or metal containers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, so make sure that anyone holding one wears gloves and puts each spent one into a bucket of water as soon as it's gone out.

Never give fireworks to small children. Close adult supervision of all fireworks activities is necessary.

Don't throw fireworks onto a bonfire.

Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.

Don't carry fireworks in your pocket.

Always ignite fireworks outdoors.

Never throw fireworks at another person.

If a firework doesn't go off, it could still be live and could go off unexpectedly. Douse the "dud" with water, then bury it.

Pets hate bangs and flashes and get frightened around fireworks, so keep pets indoors and close curtains to make things calmer.

Before lighting any fireworks, make sure enough room is available in a safe place.

Have a full bucket of water handy for any emergency, and for disposing of used sparklers.

Loose clothing or scarves can catch on fire very easily. If clothing catches fire, stop, drop to the ground and roll over to put out the flames.

Drinking alcohol adds to the danger when there are fireworks and bonfires around. Consider not having any alcoholic drinks available until after all fireworks have been set off.

For more information, call the safety office, 377-2910, or fire prevention office, 377-8441.

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

Air Force takes steps in suicide prevention

By Master Sgt. Russell Petcoff

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force vice chief of staff testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee June 22 to address steps the service is taking to stem the rising suicide numbers.

Gen. Carrol “Howie” Chandler, in testimony alongside the other service vice chiefs and the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, noted that the Air Force officials have been addressing the problem with their suicide prevention program and total force resiliency program.

Additionally, General Chandler said the service is re-emphasizing the wingman culture.

“The Air Force initiated the total force resiliency program in February of this year to holistically address the root causes of suicide,” the general said. “The Air Force program reflects a broad-based approach to supporting Airmen and their families, recognizing that physical, mental and emotional health are critical to quality of life and readiness of the force.”

The Airman Resiliency Program is a three-tier program, with different intensity approaches at each level, said Lt. Col. Catherine Bobenrieth, chief of the mental health branch at the Air Force Medical Operations Agency, San Antonio.

Tier 1 targets and tracks Airmen who have been exposed to potentially traumatic events during deployment, she said. Airmen will undergo team debriefings, education and reintegration activities.

Tier 2 addresses groups identified as higher-than-average risk that may need a targeted training or intervention, Colonel Bobenrieth said. It includes pre- and post-deployment training.

Tier 3 is available to all Airmen, and features voluntary services available on bases through the Airman and Family Readiness centers and chapel services, she said. It also includes computer-based suicide prevention training.

General Chandler noted in his testimony that the Air Force approach is multi-faceted.

“Airman resiliency and the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program are complementary efforts that rely on leadership engagement, immediate family involvement and wingman support as key components, he said.

“There is no substitute for Airmen knowing their subordinates and knowing coworkers well enough to recognize changes in attitude, behavior and personality, and then intervene when something is not right,” he said.

“In May, the Air Force chief of staff directed a service-wide ‘Wingman Day’ to reinforce the significance and role of every Airman as mutually supportive, critical components in suicide prevention and resilience,” General Chandler said.

Wingman Stand Down 2010 addressed suicides and motor vehicle fatalities. The Air Force’s top commissioned and enlisted Airmen addressed the issue of suicides in a memorandum they released announcing the stand down.

“The loss of any Airman is a concern for us all, and demands our renewed and steady focus on preventing these tragedies,” said Chief of Staff Gen.

Suicide warning signs

- Unusual or sudden changes in behavior
- Decreased work performance
- Disciplinary problems
- Financial problems
- Accidents or deaths of loved ones
- Relationship difficulties at work and at home
- Spouse and/or child abuse
- Alcohol or drug misuse
- Social isolation
- Moodiness or irritability
- Depression, feelings of hopelessness or thoughts of suicide.

Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy in their joint memorandum. “We must redouble our efforts to identify those at risk for suicide and get them the support that they need to regain hope and balance in their lives.”

General Chandler said suicides affect Airmen from throughout all Air Force specialty codes and it takes Airmen up and down the chain to tackle this problem.

“While no segment of the Air Force is immune to suicide, there are known high-risk populations and known common risk factors, like relationship problems, legal issues, financial troubles, and history of mental health diagnosis,” General Chandler said. “The Air Force recognizes suicide as a public health concern that requires active and persistent involvement from commanders, supervisors, and peers, also referred to as wingmen, at all levels of the organization.”

Colonel Bobenrieth said the goal of Air Force officials is to let all Airmen know there’s help available and to get folks who need help in touch with people and programs that can help.

“A suicide is the terrible loss of a promising life,” Colonel Bobenrieth said. “It is very disruptive to the lives of family and friends, and the entire Air Force community. And many of them are preventable.”

As of June 22, there have been 27 suicides in the Air Force for calendar 2010.

At the Wingman Stand Down, Airmen received “ACE” cards and identified who their wingman will be on cards each will carry, according to Colonel Bobenrieth.

ACE stands for ask, care and escort:

Ask your wingman — directly asking a distressed wingman if he or she is having thoughts of killing him or herself.

Care for your wingman — take control of the situation; listen to a wingman and understand his or her situation; remove any items that can cause harm.

Escort your wingman — never leave your wingman alone; escort him or her to someone in the chain of command, a mental health care provider, a chaplain, or a medical care provider; call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 800-273-TALK (8255) to speak with a counselor.

A recent American Forces Press Service story fea-

tured how a widow is dealing with her husband’s suicide.

Kim Ruocco’s husband, Marine Corps Maj. John Ruocco, committed suicide Feb. 6, 2005, after battling depression. She stressed the importance of ACE in a June 11 story titled “Survivor shares story to combat troop suicides.”

“I tell the troops to practice ACE — ask, care, escort,” she said. “You can never leave a person who is in that much pain alone. You can’t say, ‘I’ll call you tomorrow.’ Grab their arm and escort them to help.”

Many victims of suicide communicated their intentions in advance, Colonel Bobenrieth said.

The colonel said thoughts of suicide generally manifest themselves in some form.

There are also positive actions people can take to address someone’s suicidal behavior.

“There are several protective factors,” the colonel said. “They include having close relationships with family, friends and your battle buddy or wingman, maintaining a social support network, and having an ongoing relationship with health and mental health care providers.

“It’s also important to have an understanding of coping and problem-solving skills, and reasons for living,” the colonel said. “Two other important protective factors are cultural and religious beliefs that value life and discourage suicide.”

To assist Airmen with information about dealing with suicide, Colonel Bobenrieth pointed out the Air Force’s suicide prevention Web site at <http://www.af.mil/suicideprevention.asp>. The Web site features a variety of tools and links to sites about dealing with suicide.

“This is an important Web site to have handy,” Colonel Bobenrieth said. “You never know when you might need it.”

AIRMEN LOOKING OUT FOR AIRMEN

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS

- Trouble eating or sleeping
- Drastic change in behavior
- Withdraws from friends
- Gives away possessions
- Makes out a will
- Preoccupied with death
- Takes unnecessary risks
- Had a recent severe loss
- Lost interests in personal appearance
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Loss of interests in hobbies, work, school, etc.

1-800-SUICIDE

WWW.AF.MIL



'Warrior of the Week' awarded to deployed chaplain's assistant

Staff Sgt. Tomeka Gordon, left, a chaplain's assistant deployed from Keesler, has been recognized as the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing's Warrior of the Week. As a religious support team member at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, Sergeant Gordon supports the religious diversity of more than 300 hospital staff members and a monthly average of more than 600 patients. She's supported needs outside of her career field including guarding inpatient enemy patients, aeromedical evacuation, patient care and trauma response.

Air Force photo

'Teddy Bear Run' brings smiles to base hospital children

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 2010 "Airmen Teddy Bear Run" is 8 a.m. July 17 on the Biloxi side of the Biloxi-Ocean Springs Bridge.

The event will benefit the 81st Medical Group Hospital's pediatric patients.

According to Tech. Sgt. Julie Hammond, 81st Training Support Squadron and one of the run's organizers, "Runners will stage at the base of the bridge on the Biloxi side, run across the bridge, pick-up a stuffed animal on the Ocean Spring's side and return to deposit it in collection spot. Teddy Bears will be delivered to Keesler Hospital to brighten a child's day."

Sergeant Hammond said that her supervisor, Master Sgt. Anthony Fisher, 81st TRSS military training super-



"Our purpose was to make some children happy by giving them a bear when they are scared or frightened about going to the doctor."

— Sergeant Hammond

intendent, originated the idea earlier this year.

"He threw it out there to us in the office to see how it sounded," she said. "I told him

I would take it on and start making some phone calls to see if we could make it happen. I contacted the (81st Medical Operations Squadron) pediatric clinic

officer-in-charge, Maj. Mickaëlle Germaine, to see if they could accept the bears and she said she could."

Then things just fell into place.

The first run on Feb. 27 resulted in 130 bears donated to the pediatric clinic.

"They appreciated it and our Airmen loved helping them out," Sergeant Hammond recalled. "Our purpose was to make some children happy by giving them a bear when they are scared or frightened about going to the doctor.

"Another purpose was to get our Airmen out in the community and volunteering for a good cause," she continued.

"We opened it up to the non-prior-service Airmen students as well as the military training leaders in the training squadrons and, since the hospital is a part of this too, we

encouraged them to participate as well," she added.

Sergeant Fisher's involvement has encouraged them to do the second run.

"His wife does home day care and a little boy that she watches was admitted to the hospital," Sergeant Hammond. They went to see him and he had this bear. He explained to Sergeant Fisher he was allowed to pick a bear from a room that had tons of them in it. It turned out they were the bears we had donated and he was as happy as could be having this bear beside him. So our 'Teddy Bear Run' served its purpose!"

Donations of new stuffed animals can be brought to Room 144 of the Levitow Training Support Facility.

For information, call Sergeant Hammond, 377-2103.

Identity theft
is a
personal nightmare
and security risk.

Shred bills,
statements, letters,
old journals, records,
outdated
application forms
and any documents
that contain
your full name,
Social Security number,
duty title and
job information,
credit card,
bank account numbers
and names of
family members.

If you see documents
being removed from
trash cans, call the
81st Security Forces
Squadron
law enforcement desk,
377-3040.

Diversity Day

Plans are under way for Keesler's inaugural diversity day, noon to 5 p.m. July 22 at marina park.

The event will include music, literature, dance, poetry, face painting, games and food.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Adrienne Russell-George, 377-2759, or e-mail adrienne.russellgeorge.1@us.af.mil.

Senior NCO induction

The senior noncommissioned officer induction ceremony is 6:30 p.m. Aug. 5 at

the Roberts Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Facility.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Ezra Khan, 377-9160.

Root canal treatment

The Keesler Dental Clinic is seeking patients who require root canal treatment.

All authorized beneficiaries, including military retirees and dependents of active duty and retired, are eligible for care.

Patients accepted for treatment are treated by either the endodontic specialty program residents or the residents in the general dentistry program.

Referral from a dentist for

root canal treatment is needed.

For more information, call the endodontics department, 376-5227.

Zero overpricing

Submit zero overpricing items on Air Force Form 1046 to CSC supply customerservice, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002.

For overpricing issues or concerns, call Michael Cashion, 377-8891, or e-mail michael.cashion.2.ctr@us.af.mil.

Wheelchair taxi

The 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle operations has a wheelchair-accessible minivan

available for taxi service.

For more information, call 377-2430.

Speakers bureau

The public affairs office is looking for people who enjoy public speaking to tell the Air Force story.

The Keesler Speakers Bureau is a community relations program developed as a public service and information vehicle. It's comprised of military and civilian Air Force employees who volunteer their time and information to speak to community groups.

Speakers come from a variety of experiences and backgrounds that offer a variety of

presentations. Topics include aircraft maintenance, aviation, computer operations, communication skills, health, military life, military law, combat experience, financial management, child development, Air Force history and more.

For more information, call YoLanda Wallace, 377-1179.

Visitor center hours

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

Thrift shop closed

Due to an impending move, the Thrift Shop is closed through July.

For donations during the summer or if you have no way to get them to the thrift shop, call 377-3217 to schedule a drop off or pick up time.

Lodging reservations

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

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

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

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

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

All rooms are nonsmoking.

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

Immunization clinic

Immunization clinic hours:

Immunizations — 7 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday; closed 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. non-training Fridays.

Allergy shots — 1-4 p.m. Monday; 7:30-10:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

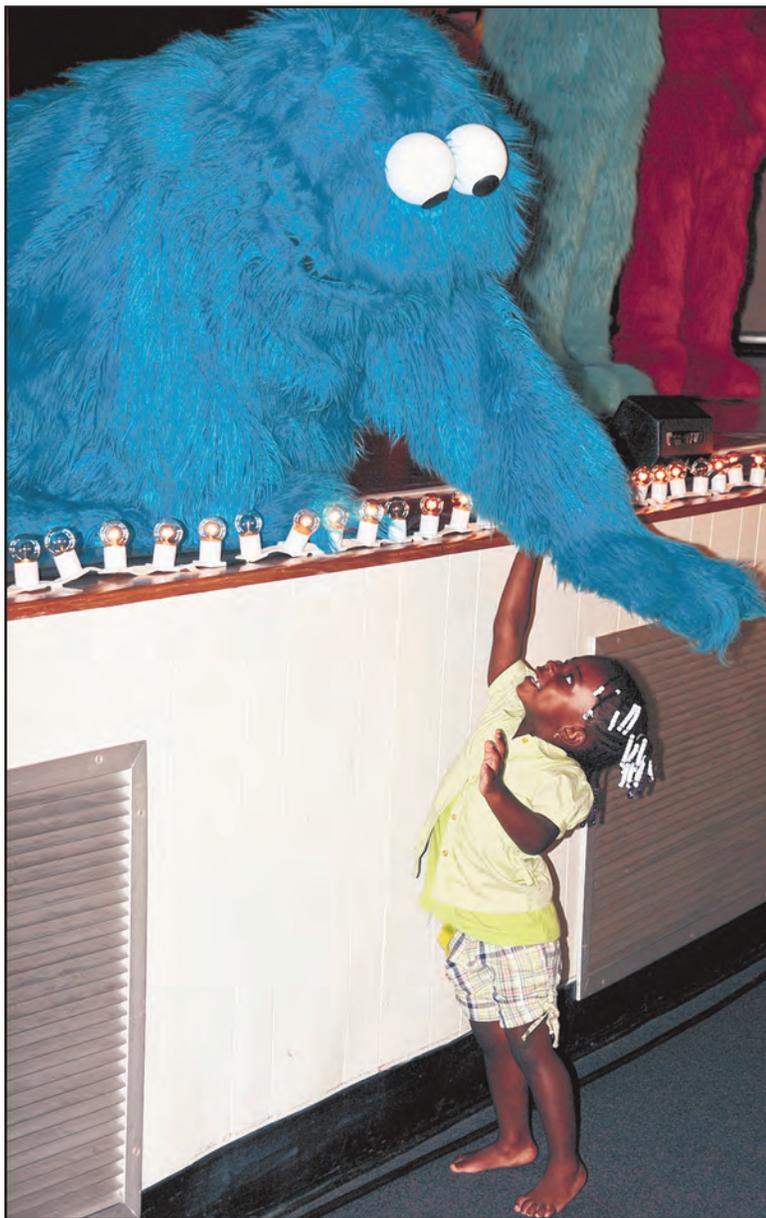
The clinic is closed noon to 5 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month for training.

For more information, call 376-3553.

Sesame Street makes special trip to Keesler

Right, Cookie Monster gets acquainted with Tyonna Turner, 2-year-old daughter of Thomas and Nickesha Turner, during one of four free performances of The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families, June 23-24 at Welch Auditorium. Tyonna's dad is currently deployed to Okinawa, Japan, with NMCB 11 out of Gulfport.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Master Sgt. Adam Chuilli, 2nd Air Force, and his 4-year-old son, Owen, enjoy one of the June 24 programs at Welch Auditorium.



Keesler kids storm the Welch Auditorium stage after one of the two June 24 performances.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Eight teams in softball playoff hunt

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Intramural softball playoffs began Monday with eight teams competing.

Four teams each from the National and American Leagues face off in this week in the double-elimination tournament.

The winners of each league meet in the championship game July 6.

In the National League, competitors include the combined team from the 81st Training Wing staff agencies and 81st Force Support Squadron (9-1), 81st Dental Squadron (8-2), 336th Training Squadron-B (8-2) and

334th TRS (7-3).

The top seed in the American League is the undefeated 335th TRS (10-0). Other teams are the Marine Corps Detachment (9-1), 332ND TRS (8-2) and the 336th TRS-A (6-4).

For more information, call sports director Sam Miller, 377-2444.

Soccer season's smaller teams promise more scoring, action

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Intramural soccer kicks off with a preseason tournament July 10 on the parade field.

League play begins July 12. Games will take place at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

"We have nine teams registered, and we are looking to play at least 10 regular season games," said sports director Sam Miller. "Traditionally soccer is played with 11 players on the field, but we'll be playing with only seven

players on a smaller sized field. This will allow for more scoring and game excitement. It also accommodates teams with low participation numbers."

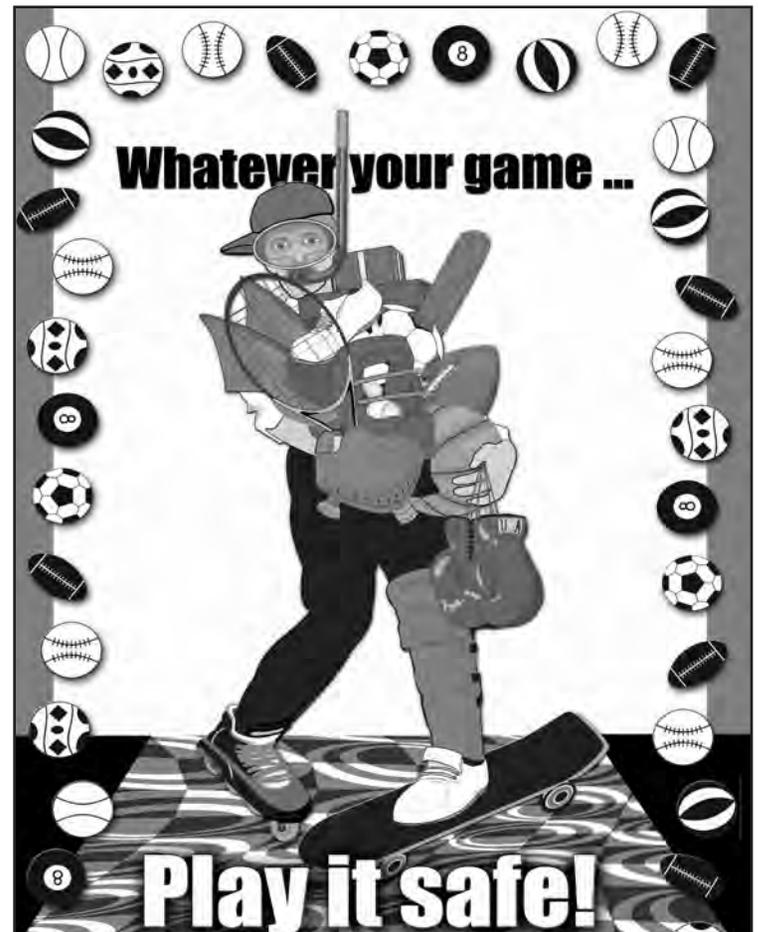
Only one team, the 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, is outside of the 81st Training Group.

The 338th Training Squadron is fielding A, B and C teams. Other squads represent the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit and the 332nd, 334th, 335th and 336th TRS.

For information, Call Miller, 377-2444.



Call
Airmen
Against
Drunk
Driving,
377-SAVE,
for a safe
ride home.



Bowling

New hours — Gaudé Lanes and the 11th Frame Café are Sunday through Tuesday and holidays until further notice. The bowling center is open Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to midnight.

The café is open Wednesdays 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5-9:30 p.m.; Thursdays 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Fridays 6:30 a.m. to midnight; and Saturdays 10 a.m. to midnight.

For more information, call 377-2817.

Fall bowling leagues — accepting registrations now for the following leagues beginning in Sept. Tuesday big money; Wednesday women's, parent/child and regular; Thursday senior's and intramurals; Friday mixers and Saturday youth and bumper leagues. For more information, call 377-2817.

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

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

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

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. Fridays and 7 p.m. Saturdays.

Team building special — 1-3 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays. Bring employees bowling for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. For reservations, call 377-2817.

Youth bowling — for any child old enough to throw the bowling ball down the alley. League meets 9:30 a.m. Saturdays; instruction available. For more information, call 377-2817.

Fitness centers

Firecracker 5-K run — 7 a.m. today, Blake Fitness Center. Register 6:30-7 a.m. T-shirts for first 100 persons to register. Individual awards to the first, second and third place finisher in the male and female divisions.

Dog Day 20-Mile Baton Relay — 7 a.m., Aug. 6 at the Triangle track. Register 6-7 a.m. Teams will consist of 4 persons, with each person running a total of 5 miles, ¼ mile at a time. Participants are responsible for forming their own teams. Women's competition will be conducted first, followed immediately by the men's event. Custom T-shirts will be given to the first 20 teams to register. Awards presented to the first and second place winners in both the male and female divisions.

Fall power lifting meet — 9 a.m. Sept. 18, Triangle Fitness Center. Squat, bench press and dead lift for men and women. No entry fee. Open registration through Sept. 16.

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

Free fitness classes — boot camp, self-defense, cycling, yoga,

step aerobics, Tae Kwon-do, core fitness, kick boxing and pilates at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Free fitness testing, exercise prescription and personal training — at Blake, Dragon and Triangle fitness centers. Call for appointment.

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

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

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

Golf

Intramural league

(As of June 15)

| Team | Points |
|-------------|--------|
| 81st FSS | 28 |
| 334th TRS-A | 27 |
| 334th TRS-B | 24 |
| 81st DS | 24 |
| 81st MDOS-A | 22 |
| MARDET | 18 |
| 335th TRS | 18 |
| 333rd TRS | 17 |
| * 81st LRS | 14 |
| * 81st TRSS | 10 |
| 81st MDSS | 3 |
| 338th TRS | 3 |
| * 81st SFS | 0 |

* match to be played

Other

Golf 4 Kids — Tuesday through July 8 and July 13-15 and 20-22. Two sessions: 8-10 a.m. for ages 6-9 and 10 a.m. to noon for ages 10-13. \$40 per child. Maximum 10 per session; first come, first served. To register, or for more information, call 377-3832.

Dragon fun golf — 4:30 p.m. Thursdays. \$20 including greens fee, cart, food, beverages and prizes. Four-person teams. Two-person blind draw. Check in as a twosome or single. Format decided by draw each week. Limited to first 36 golfers.

Fitness center work continues

Certain areas of Blake Fitness Center will be closed for renovation:

Through July 16 — men's restroom/locker room. Portable showers available.

July 19-Aug. 20 — women's restroom/locker room. closed July 19-Aug. 20. Portable showers available.

Aug. 23-Sept. 27 — reception area.

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

Twilight special — 2 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays; play unlimited golf until closing. Fees: E1-E4, \$12; E5-O3, \$20; O4-up, \$22; guests \$22.

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

Outdoor recreation

Wine and cheese cruise — 6 p.m. Sunday. Anchor near Deer Island to view Ocean Springs and Biloxi fireworks. For pricing, call 377-3160.

July 4 special — 10 percent discount on camping/fishing equipment rental.

Mississippi Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo — this weekend. Civilian and military divisions. Sign up at the Gulfport Island View Casino parking garage today through Sunday.

Special fishing rodeo trip — pre-register now for a special tournament trip on the Keesler Dolphin Sunday. Only 16 spaces available for each trip. Trip takes about 14 hours per day. Cost is \$125 per person. Daily and overall tournament prizes.

Free kids fishing rodeo — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 17. Three age groups for boys and girls. Bring your own pole or we can provide one. Free bait. Trophies and prizes awarded.

Pool parties — at main base or Triangle pools. For information, call 377-3568.

Beach trips to Horn Island aboard the Keesler Dolphin — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$30 per person including a barbecue grill, charcoal and ice. You bring food, beverages and fishing equipment. Minimum 15 passengers. Group rates available. For more information, call 377-3160.

Archery — check out our archery equipment and range.

Wolf River canoe or kayak trips — with experienced guide; 2-4 hour or 4-7 hour trips Saturdays and Sundays. Minimum 4, maximum 20 people. To register, or for more information, call 377-3160.

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

Catamaran sailboat for rent — \$10 per hour (minimum two hours) or \$75 per day. Must be sailboat certified.

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

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

Deep sea fishing trips — this Friday and Sundays on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. For more information and to reserve, call 377-3160.

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

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

One-day fishing trips — to Horn,

Ship or Cat islands; pick date for charter trip to Delacroix and Reggio, La., with professional guide. For more information, call 377-3160.

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

Rental campers — \$50 day. Two available; one sleeps six, one sleeps eight. For more information and towing requirements, call 377-3160.

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

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

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

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

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

Softball

Intramural

American League

(As of Friday)

| Team | Won | Lost |
|-------------|-----|------|
| 335th TRS | 10 | 0 |
| MARDET | 9 | 1 |
| 332nd TRS | 8 | 2 |
| 338th TRS-A | 6 | 4 |
| 336th TRS-A | 6 | 4 |
| 403rd Wing | 4 | 6 |
| 333rd TRS | 4 | 6 |
| 81st TRSS | 3 | 7 |
| 81st LRS | 2 | 8 |
| CNATTU | 2 | 8 |
| 81st MDSS-B | 1 | 9 |

National League

(Final regular season standings)

| Team | Won | Lost |
|--------------|-----|------|
| 81st WSA-FSS | 9 | 1 |
| 81st DS | 8 | 2 |
| 336th TRS-B | 8 | 2 |
| 334th TRS | 7 | 3 |
| 81st SFS | 6 | 4 |
| 81st MDSS-A | 5 | 5 |
| Firefighters | 3 | 7 |
| 338th TRS-B | 2 | 8 |
| 45th AS | 1 | 9 |
| 81st MDTS | 1 | 9 |

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles/information technology fundamentals

— Airmen Basic Kevin Ackins, Nicholas Alexander, Andrew Anderson, Alex Auch, Kyle Banogon, Christopher Baris, Ian Briley, Jeff Burns, Tiffany Butto, Adam Byrd, Patrick Capaul, Robert Carballo, David Corey, Christopher Craig, Scott Esler, Bronson Faurot, Andrew Foldhazi, Jonathon Hosbrook, Willie Hyche, Christopher Lemons, Logan Malaney, Kevin Marshall, Josiah Martin, Joffrey McClure, Trevor Mckenzie, Brandon Mcneary, Corbin Mein, Jeremy Mills, Chasen Milner, Ryan Perez, Cana Quave, Andrew Quinn, Cameron Rivenbark, Andrew Roberts, Mary Samson, Stephen Sanders, Paul Sandlin, Andrew Smith, Francisco Solis, Joshua Tessmann, Brandon Tregle and Timothy Williams; Airmen Alexander Allred, Kristopher Baker, Corey Boepple, Mitchell Burney, Nathaniel Carrington, Alberto Cortesjavariz, Michael Harper, Eric Henson, Michael Hill, Alexander Mohr, Thomas Morning, James Mounie, Micah Sheffield, Jean Shungu, James Wilson and William Wroten; Airmen 1st Class Cord Bailey, Hannah Bell, Brian Berns, Raylon Bio, Matthew Brown, Antonio Burgos, Richard Chappell, Odale Charles, Kyle Charrette, Matthew Chrest, John Craunakis, Gianluca Cugnetti, Jared Diehl, Derek Drennan, Anthony Furman, Ryan Furukawa, Cicely Georges, James Gillispie, Michael Grimm, William Harrold, Benjamin Hebert, Phillip Henkel, Ashton Johns, Tiffany Johnson, Justin Kvantas, Daniel Leone, Abraham Lopez, Jacob Madrid, Ryan Mansfield, Raul Martinez-Rivera, Brian Mcinnes, Cheri Michaeltree, David Munn, Toni Myatt, Eric Osborn, Caleb Palmer, Reynaldo Pena, Helio Pereira, Nancy Picard, Stevan Polewski, Kent Reyburn, Christopher Ries, Colt Sims, Jason Sockwell, Jeremy Stewart, Asa Thompson, Philip Togia, Randall Walker, Joshua Walls, Stephen Warren, Ryan Wilmoth and Jacob Yelinek; Senior Airmen Faisal Al-Balushi, Erick Ceballoscedpeda, Brandon Gray, Jonathan Kelly, Amy Masuyama, Kimberly Moore and Warren Powell, Staff Sgts. Aaron Andrus, Stephen Athey, Kevin Barton, Brandon Budnick, Derek Enmon, Travis Jemmett, Andrew Johnson, Ethan Lambert, Lester Samano and Lionel Suber; Tech Sgts. Gregory Brooker, Brian Leonard, Brandon Nott, Aviel Perez and Melissa Simmons; Master Sgts. James Ledbetter and Rebecca Sparkman.

Metrology basic course — Airmen 1st Class Teresa Jacobson and Michael Wortham.

334th TRS

Aerospace control and warning systems — Airmen Basic Donovan Rogers; Tech Sgts. Esperanza Aviles, Brenda Cardenas and Nicole Langdon.

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Christopher Buehrer, Sam Bushery, Jasper Flores, Jordan Gelnett, Jake Jansen, Matthew Kurtz, Jessica Navarro, Nicholas Royer, Shumms Ullah and David White; Airmen Jennifer Bruce, Nathan Hubbard, David Johnson, Rian Kilgore and Seth Norman; Airmen 1st Class Chase Bell, Andrew Campos, Austin Cooner, Zachary Craven, Russll Crenshaw, Kevin Durgan, Blake Hanson, Adam Karre, Preston Knight, James Langley, Stephen Livingston, Alexander McCluree, Seth Mclagan, Ryan Nizamuldin, Matthew Rardon, Derrick Risner, Jonathan Smits, Phillip Threlkeld, Ryan Travers, Kevin Tyndall, Alexander White and Anthony Witt; Senior Airmen Matthew Hunter and Millard Morgan; Staff Sgts. Bradley Davis, John Gleese, Troy Hawkes, Keith Janda and Zachary Roberts; Senior Master Sergeant Huqwi.

Airfield management apprentice course — Airman Basic Matthew Hetlage; Airmen First Class Alex Arnold and Nathaniel Penaloza; Tech Sgts. Douglas Baldwin and Daniel Morency; Master Sgt Michael Ceselsky.

335th TRS

Personnel apprentice course — Airman Basic Sarah Garcia and Karina Masterson; Master Sgts. Kevin Huff and Kelly Prior.

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Cody

Vandermartin, Brittany Witcher and Jeremy Yee; Airman Pradeep Muddasani; Airmen 1st Class Timothy Budka, Phillip Calton, Timothy Cram, Lauren Culligan, Matthew Dier, Kevin Goldsmith, Zachary Kossack, Sara O'Brien, Michael Spall, Brandon Srebnik, Briana Williams and Christopher Winkel; Senior Airman Ronald Carter; Staff Sgts. Michael Best, Bryan Case, Stella Hoy, Rachel Lawrence, Danielle Marshall Victoria Morrison, Mark Paquette, Chad Smith, Matthew Such, Cynthia Swensen, Kimberly Thomas, Daniel Vasquez and Jeffrey Wyant; Tech Sgts. Glenn Buie and Kirk Chatman.

Weather initial skills course — Airmen Basic Randy Meese, Jessica Moore, Amanda Otto, Christina West, Michael West and Josie Zelasko; Navy Airmen Recruit Alexander Beck and Rily Passini; Airmen Ashley Blair, Daniel Johnson and Rae Steichen; Airmen 1st Class Chelsey Clark, Andrea Hall, Jacob Laas, Tony Oakley, Taylor Riggan and Matthew Vandermus; Staff Sgts. Jorge Arellano, Christopher Koonce and Nathan Kahle.

336th TRS

Communications computer flight — Airmen Basic Shalimar Enriquez, Brittney Forner, Jack McVean and Elizabeth Rivas; Airmen Conrad Frederick and Joshua Poulin; Airmen 1st Class Richard Campbell, Kia Chapman, Adam Graham, Nickolas Jones, Binnie Muncrief, Mark Schultz and Maryna Smith; Senior Airmen Betty Blackstock and Gabriela Carrico; Staff Sgts. Christopher Couch, Sarah Maynard, Renee Munyan and Chace Pfeil; Tech Sgts. Shelia Battenfeld, Tracy Cockrum and Elizabeth Sailor; Master Sgt. Lora Noble.

Communication and information flight — Airmen Basic Caleb Chase, Jack Shultz, Ernest Smith and Sean Zeni; Airmen Walter Meadows; Airmen 1st Class Araceli Carillo, Barry Riester, Juliette White and Nicholas Spinicelli; Senior Airmen Michael Hewlett and Jonathan Phenis; Staff Sgts. Christopher Gee, Joshua Joyce and Jason Wehrman; Jonathan Ballinger.

CHAPEL SERVICES

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

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional with children's ministry.....8:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel contemporary service.....10:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass, Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.
Weekday Mass, Triangle Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Jewish

Jewish services are held Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Israel, 12277 Three Rivers Rd., Gulfport. Call Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5835 or 207-2196.

Islamic

Prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jumma congregational prayer, noon Friday. Building 2003, across from the Live Oak dining facility. Call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

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

Orthodox

Divine Liturgy 10 a.m. Sunday at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 255 Beauvoir Rd, Biloxi. Call 388-6138 or Father Stephen Clos, 377-4105.

338th TRS

Cyber transport systems — Airmen Basic David Costello, Stephanie Rosier and Brian Valencia; Airmen Benjamin Crawley, Christopher King and Scott Morris; Airmen 1st Class Adrien Ace, Samuel Anderson, Vitaly Bivstresky, Johnathan Blackwell, Steven Bordelon, Kevin Brennand, Cody Burtner, Daniel Cecil, Qiaofen Chen, Alfaro Cortez, Eric Dettling, Eric Dungan, Joseph Ferguson, Dustin Gerard, Chase Gross, Cody Hill, Lyle Koehler, Thomas Lawson, Gregory Perusse, Jordan Pffingsten, Gregory Schlosser, Caleb Sindt and Todd Whitfield; Senior Airmen Brandon Flynn and Kathleen Welsh; Staff Sgts. Cory Fonger, Aaron Goroski, Robert Hangley, Stacey Roberts, Carlton Stokes and Robert Whitfield; Tech Sgt. John Carvalho; Master Sgts. Justin Christman and Daniel Lord.

Ground radar systems — Airman Basic Kristopher Werner; Airman Justin Abernathy; Airmen 1st Class Christopher Barrera, Michael Busby, Jacob Fohr, Timothy Freeman, Steven Harris, Matthew Johnson, David Noland, Johnny Ross, Jeremy Tharp, Barry Welborn, Anthony Wiscovitch and James Woolfolk; Staff Sgt. Timothy Domka; Master Sgt. Keith Henry.

Radio frequency transmission systems — Airmen Basic Stephen Crawford and Kaleb Eberle; Airmen Matthew Moody; Airmen 1st Class Zachary Ayers, Charles Bienia, Buck Carpenter, Weston Fischer, Andrew Garske, Heather Glazier, Keith Hooper, Andrew Moriarity, Jay Patel, Stephan Phillips, Thomas Ryan, Matthew Waite, Shawn Westbrook, Jameson Williams, David Zabinski and Michael Zarbo; Senior Airman Jason Hester; Staff Sgts. Randy Black, Anthony McClellan, Robert Powell and Richard Wysong; Master Sgts. Francisco Martin and James Nance.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Editor's note: Hours reflect changes in observance of the Independence Day federal holiday observed Monday.

Keesler News — closed.

Commissary — 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inns of Keesler — open 24 hours.

Fam Camp — open 24 hours.

Magnolia Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., 4:30-6 p.m.

Live Oak Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 4:30-6 p.m.

Azalea Dining Facility — closed.

Outdoor recreation — 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vandenberg Community Center — noon to 6 p.m.

Bay Breeze Golf Course — 7 a.m. to dusk.

Blake Fitness Center — 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Triangle and Dragon Fitness Center — closed.

Arts and craft center — closed.

Auto hobby shop — closed.

Katrina Kantina — closed.

McBride Library — closed.

Dragon Fitness Center — closed.

Information, ticket and tours office — closed.

Legends Café — closed.

Youth center — closed.

Child development center — closed.

Family child care — closed.

Gaude Lanes — closed.

11th Frame Café — closed.

Veterinary clinic — closed.

Main exchange — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mini mall — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Class Six/Shoppette — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Military clothing sales — main exchange 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; mini mall closed.

Charley's Grilled Subs — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Anthony's Pizza — 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Manchu Wok — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Taco Bell — 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Baskin Robbins — 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Starbucks — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mobile units — closed.

Nail salon — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Digest,

from Page 26

Subway — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
GNC — main exchange 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., mini mall 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Beauty shop — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Barber shops — main exchange 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., mini mall 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., hospital closed,
Optical shop — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Optometry — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Flower shop — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Game Stop — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sports store — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Asian store — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Watch and jewelry repair — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Guitar store — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Mini-mall laundry and dry cleaners — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
U-Haul — closed.
Enterprise Car Rental — closed.
Sprint — main exchange 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., mini mall 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Quick Clean Alterations — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Firestone — 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 10-5 — graduates Wednesday.

Mathies NCO Academy

Class 10-5 — graduates July 8.

Airman and family readiness center

Resume writing workshops — 9:30-11:30 a.m. Room 110, Sablich Center. Dates for civilian or private sector resumes are July 17, July 29 and Aug. 19. Resumes for government jobs, including Air Force positions, are July 22, Aug. 12 and Aug. 26. To register, call 376-8728, no later than the day before the class begins.

Arts and crafts center

Summer arts youth camp for ages 6 and older — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays – Thursdays. Register for one or more camps by calling 377-2821.

July 12-14 — Woodworking

July 19-21 — Plants, Pots and Photos

July 26-28 — Back to School

Jewelry making — 10:30 a.m. to noon, July 10 and 24. \$25 including materials. Learn wire wrapping and tooling.

Pottery — 10:30 a.m. to noon, July 17 and 31. \$40 including materials.

Card making — 10:30 a.m. to noon, July 10. \$7 per person.

Glass painting — 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., July 17 and 31. \$25 including materials.

Framing class — 12:30-4 p.m. July 9 and 23. \$30 per person including materials. Bring a photograph or art work, no larger than 5" x 7" for framing.

Beginning woodworking — 10 a.m. Saturdays. Make a cutting board. \$25 including materials and shop use. This class will certify you to use the equipment in the future.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. July 10 and 24. \$15 including materials. Intarsia is the art of piecing wood in a decorative pattern.

Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. July 17 and 31. \$20 per person including materials and tool use.

Auto Hobby Shop

Air conditioning service — Recover current refrigerant, check for leaks, recharge the system and add Freon if needed. \$60 plus \$1 per unit of needed Freon.

Chapel

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

Catholic religious education — after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.
Protestant Sunday School — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for 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.

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

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

McBride Library

Voyage to Book Island children's reading program — 2-3 p.m. July 15. Treasure hunt with prizes. 2-4 p.m. July 21, luau with free food, games, crafts and prizes.

Education open house — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 29. Representatives from more than 20 schools answer questions and offer registration and course enrollment. A tuition assistance representative is available to answer questions and computers are available to apply for assistance on site.

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

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

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

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

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

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Family child care

Air Force Aid Society programs — the family child care program assists the Air Force Aid Society with volunteer and permanent-change-of-station child care programs. AFAS pays for child care for volunteers working on base and 20 hours of child care for E6 and below who are PCSing in and out of the base. For eligibility and more information, call the airman and family readiness center, 376-8728.

Returning home care — for children ages 12 and under. Up to 16 hours of care per child, per six-month period, is available to active duty members and Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members returning to home stations after deployments of a minimum of 30 calendar days in support of a contingency operation, and members returning for a two-week rest and recovery leave. For more information, call 377-3189.

Be your own boss — Military spouses on and off base are needed who wish to care for children in their homes. Providers also needed to care for children with special needs, including asthma, allergies, cerebral palsy and other physical impairments, and to work swing and evening shifts. For more information, call 377-3189.

Expanded duty care, child care for PCS and returning home child care — is available. For information, call 377-3189.

Katrina Kantina

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

Please see **Digest**, Page 28

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — herbed baked chicken, beef and noodles, fried catfish, blackeyed peas, rice, cornbread, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, chili, broccoli soup, bean ham soup, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Dinner — roast pork loin, jaegerschnitzel veal, chicken coron bleu, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, chili, broccoli soup, bean ham soup, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, baked macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, rice, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower parmesan, beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetables, chicken noodle soup, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — crispy baked chicken, beef yakisoba, baked ham, baked potatoes, spicy brown rice pilaf, gravy, broccoli, french-style peas, carrots, fruit medley salad, bean salad, raisin sauce, chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almondine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, okra, fruit medley, bean salad, chicken chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada and buffalo wings.

Sunday — Fourth of July cookout

Lunch — barbecue spareribs, grilled strip loin steak, bbq chicken, grilled hamburgers and cheeseburgers, cole slaw, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, corn on the cob, assorted cakes, cookies and pies, chilled watermelon, fruit, cheese pizza.

Dinner — barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, seafood cocktail sauce, beef manicotti/cannelloni, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, blackeyed peas, collard greens, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, chili, broccoli soup, chicken with rice and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — Swiss steak, baked chicken, sausage, peppers and onions, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, carrots, cucumber onion salad, macaroni salad, chile con queso, Tuscan vegetable, cheeseburger chowder, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — roast turkey, ribeye steak, tempura fried fish, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, cucumber onion salad, macaroni salad, chili con queso, Tuscan vegetables, cheeseburger chowder, cannonball sandwich and fried chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — lemon-garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, summer squash, spinach salad, Waldorf salad, timberline chili, minestrone, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese sub and tacos.

Dinner — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, Waldorf salad, spinach salad, timberline chili, minestrone soup, baja chicken enchilada, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — Chinese five-spice chicken, beef broccoli stir fry, Cantonese spareribs, vegetable egg rolls, shrimp fried rice, steamed rice, stir-fry vegetables, fried cabbage, gravy, lemon sesame green beans, coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, Swiss steak, garlic toast, fried chicken, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, cabbage, coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken chili, clam chowder, chicken gumbo, cheese fishwich and pizza.

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Monday lunches — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 12, 19 and 26. Menu changes each week. \$6 for club members, \$8 for non members.

Member wine tasting — 4-8 p.m., July 10 with assorted wines, domestic and imported cheeses and seasonal fruit. Free for members and one guest. Non members pay \$5 or apply for membership and get in free, and become eligible for a new member giveaway.

Wings and things — 5-7 p.m. July 28. Free for Keesler club members; \$3 for nonmembers. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and \$1 domestic draft beer.

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

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

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

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor's note: All events but dances open to all Keesler personnel.

Weekend dance specials — \$3 admission – NPS students only
Sunday — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. assorted music

July 8 — 8-10 p.m. Country/western music; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Hip Hop/R&B/Top 40.

July 9 — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Ol' School Dance. Dance contest begins at 10 p.m. Prizes awarded to the winners.

July 16 — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Rep Yo' City. Represent your home town.

July 22 — 8-10 p.m. Latin music; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Hip Hop/R&B/Top 40.

July 23 — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. all night black light party.

July 30 — 9 p.m. Karaoke night. Prizes to the winners.

July 31 — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dressed 2 Impress end of summer ball. Prizes for best dressed male and female.

Youth center

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

Summer camp — For school agers and teens. To check on available spaces, call 377-4116.

Missoula Children's Theater — July 26-30. Auditions July 26. Practice all week for "Jungle Book" show to be performed at 6 p.m., July 30. For more information, call 377-4116.

Saturday fun night — 6:30-9:30 p.m. for ages 6-12.

Volunteers needed — To share personal interests and talents with ages 13-18 during summer camp, and late afternoons and Saturdays during the school year. For information, 377-4116.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Discounted tickets — for more information, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us> and click on the ITT link.

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

Tour bus — available for group rental, seats 23.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, call Master Sgt. Charlene McCombs, 377-7116; e-mail charlene.morse@us.af.mil or visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center.

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who'll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings are 1 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 111, Sablich Center, for those separating and 2:30 p.m. for those retiring. If separating or retiring under special circumstances, call 376-8728 for appointment.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, call Master Sgt. Charlene McCombs, 377-7116; visit Room 125-F, Sablich Center, or e-mail charlene.morse@us.af.mil.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

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

July weather outlook

Temperatures and thunderstorms reach their peak in the month of July when the average temperatures range from 77 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Thunderstorm activity normally occurs on eighteen days of the month. On many occasions, the thunderstorms will be within sight of Keesler but won't actually move over the base. The wind tends to be from the south at 5 to 10 knots with gusty conditions near thunderstorm activity. Hurricanes, tropical storms, and depressions also occur frequently in July and should be closely monitored so that protective actions can be taken if necessary.

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| Extreme maximum temperature (F) | 102 |
| Mean daily maximum temperature (F) | 90 |
| Mean daily minimum temperature (F) | 77 |
| Extreme minimum temperature (F) | 60 |
| Mean relative humidity (percent) | 66 |
| Mean monthly precipitation (inches) | 7.36 |
| Mean number of days with precipitation..... | 12 |
| Mean number of days with thunderstorm | 18 |
| Maximum 24-hour rainfall (inches) | 7.59 |
| Percentage of observations with ceiling less than: | |
| 2,000 feet | 2.4 |
| 1,000 feet | 0.6 |
| 300 feet | 0.0 |
| Percentage of observations with visibility less than: | |
| 6 miles | 16.3 |
| 3 miles | 1.1 |
| 1 mile | 0.2 |
| Percentage of observations with wind: | |
| 0-3 knot | 41.3 |
| 4-10 knots | 53.3 |
| 11-21 knots..... | 5.3 |
| 22 knots or greater | 0.1 |

Radar, satellite and a general forecast is available on the local area network in the public folder under CSC Weather.

To change
information
in Digest,

call 377-3163 or 4130

or e-mail

KeeslerNews@us.af.mil.

For more news,
videos and photos,
visit Keesler's public
Web site,
[http://www.
keesler.af.mil](http://www.keesler.af.mil)

The Airman's Creed

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

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

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

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

