



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

AUG. 5, 2010 VOL. 71 NO. 30

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Social networking and OPSEC: Can they coexist?

By Mark Diamond

Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT Air Force Base, Ill. — When the Air Force recently opened its network to Internet-based capabilities — primarily social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, to name just a few — it also opened a virtual Pandora's Box of questions and concerns from Airmen at all levels.

Can Airmen use Facebook during duty hours on their government computer? What type of information can and can't be posted? Do Airmen need to worry about the information they post during their off-duty time? Can any Air Force unit or organization create its own official Web presence?

It's important to provide answers and there are, in fact, a number of new Department of Defense, Air Force and command-level instructions, memorandums and policy letters that answer the important questions. (If you haven't seen the new guidance, talk to your supervisor or your local Public Affairs office.)

But here's the bottom line: Airmen already know the answers to most of these questions. With the exception of a truckload of new Web sites such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube that are now accessible from your government computer, not much has changed. Airmen still need to pay attention to what they say; they still need to protect the Air Force network from viruses, Trojans and other malicious attacks; and all Airmen — on and off duty — still need to remember their core values: integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.

To me, the biggest question (the 400-pound gorilla in the room) is: Can the Air Force strike a balance between Operations Security and the acceptable use of social networking sites?

During the past couple of months, I've spent a lot of time studying social networking and Operations Security, or OPSEC. One thing is painfully obvious: social networking and OPSEC are on opposite ends of the communication spectrum. OPSEC is about identifying critical information and safeguarding information that could be useful to our adversaries, while social networking is all about sharing information; and in



Information graphic by Mark Diamond

some cases, too much information (no, we do not want to know what you had for dinner last night).

In fact, during the past month, I've attended several Air Force briefings that almost had me convinced to run home and deactivate all of my social networking accounts. Almost. I didn't actually ban social networking from my life, because I understand the risks, I pay attention to privacy settings, and I'm not likely to post my address or phone number for the world to see.

The information did have a noticeable affect on a few others, however.

During each briefing, as I scanned the audience, I noticed some of the older attendees (the Baby Boomers, primarily) were excitedly nodding their heads in agreement, while some of the younger Airmen were doing a not-so-good job of hiding their smirks and eye rolls.

This didn't surprise me. In the past couple of months, I've also done a fair share of research on the technology gap between the various generations (e.g., Baby Boomers vs. Millennials, digital immigrants vs. digital natives, and so forth).

Older Airmen who grew up without digital music players in their hip pockets and mobile phones glued to their hands tend to react negatively to the privacy concerns inherent in many social networking sites, while Millennials (typically, those born in the late 80s or early 90s) are sharing information about themselves that would make a Baby Boomer blush.

Other studies, however, show young Americans are also protecting their online information better than older users. This may be attributed to the fact that young Americans are savvier about privacy settings.

The fact is, young Americans today are sharing more information about themselves than ever before, and the social networking industry is betting they'll maintain that habit and, perhaps, share even more information about themselves and their friends. After all, in today's age of social networking, information is money. Advertisers know young Americans trust recommendations from their friends more than they trust traditional advertising techniques. Advertisers also know many of these peer-to-peer recommendations now occur over social networking sites, like Facebook and Twitter.

Although this increased sharing of information may not bother many of today's youngest Airmen, it has some Air Force leaders and OPSEC experts worried; and for good reason.

Although many of today's young Americans may not be concerned about broadcasting their personal lives on the World Wide Web, the Air Force wants to make doubly sure Airmen continue to protect information, protect the network, and uphold the personal and professional behavior expected of all Airmen, on and off duty.

The same OPSEC and Information Assurance training all Airmen receive still applies. And an Airman's con-

duct should always be above reproach. In other words, the rules haven't changed, even though the playing field has grown considerably.

That said, many older Airmen need to understand social networking is here to stay and, whether our Airmen are at work or at home, they are and will continue to be fully engaged in these Internet-based capabilities, like Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, YouTube, Instant Messaging, Google Buzz, Flickr, DIGG, Yelp, Foursquare ... the list is huge and continues growing.

Is this a concern? It could be, but with the right mix of education and training, combined with some common sense and acceptance, I think we'll manage.

About two decades ago, many senior leaders were concerned about another technological breakthrough that involved the mass and immediate sharing of information. It was called "the Internet." Around the same time, another technological marvel had some Airmen waving the OPSEC flag. It was called "e-mail." Can you imagine not using either of these technologies today? Before e-mail, Airmen either hand-delivered paperwork to other offices, or they used a large, yellow envelope that looked like it was attacked by a hole puncher, nicknamed "Holy Joes."

So, how do we find that middle ground between OPSEC and social networking?

We need to accept that these new Internet-based capabilities are here to stay and will become even more prevalent as today's teens grow into tomorrow's Airmen and today's junior Airmen grown into tomorrow's leaders. We also need to understand that many of these Internet technologies can add significant value to the personal and professional lives of all Airmen and their families. Today's young Americans have grown accustomed to these new Internet capabilities, and they can, in fact, use those capabilities to work smarter and faster.

Social networking is a new operating environment. Rather than ignore the inevitable, we need to provide our Airmen the tools and training they need to operate and succeed in this new environment.

ON THE COVER

Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, left, prepares to relinquish command of the 81st Training Wing to Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller during Monday's ceremony on the parade field. Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, 2nd Air Force commander, officiated. General Mueller comes to Keesler from Eskisehir, Turkey, where he was the deputy commander for NATO's Combined Air Operations Center 6, Allied Air Forces Southern Europe. General Dickinson will serve as Director, Communications and Information, and Chief Information Officer for Air Force Space Command. Story and more photos, Page 8.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



KEESLER NEWS

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DRAGON ON THE STREET

By Kemberly Groue

Keesler News photojournalist

What are you doing to improve your overall physical fitness?



"I work out twice a day, during lunch and after work."

Staff Sgt. Andre Torres,
81st Medical Support Squadron



"I'm more mindful of what I eat."

Capt. Dorinda Mazza,
335th Training Squadron



"I've been going to spin classes at Dragon Fitness Center during my lunch hour since February."

Freddie Jordan, 81st Force Support Squadron



11 weeks until Unit Compliance Inspection

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.

Coexist, from Page 2

Additionally, all Airmen — young and old alike — need to accept the fact that OPSEC, network security and our core values will always trump their right to post information on the Web. The security of our country and the safety of our fellow Airmen are far more important than broadcasting your weekend plans, or what your unit is doing, to your Facebook friends. Rather than roll your eyes or smirk at the risks involved with social networking, pay attention to the overarching message; filter out the obvious opinions and sometimes-exaggerated examples of the "Internet Gone Wild," and

focus on what's important.

It is the responsibility of all Airmen to understand the rules and how those rules apply to each situation: whether they're talking to their parents on the telephone; chatting with a significant other online; writing an letter or e-mail to their spouse; posting a photo or video online; or holding a face-to-face conversation with a close friend; it is imperative all Airmen protect information, protect the network, and protect the image, integrity and security of their nation, their service, and their fellow warfighters.

For more information, log on to <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-091210-043.pdf>

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Trainers claim Air Force C4 Association awards

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Two members of the 81st Training Group are recipients of Air Force C4 Association awards for 2009.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Okeefe, 338th Training Squadron, was recognized in the noncommissioned officer category, and Edward Simpson, 333rd TRS, won in civilian category 2.

Sergeant Okeefe, who's been in the Air Force for 6½ years, was deployed to Afghanistan for nearly a year as the communications officer and only Air Force member of a 60-person provincial reconstruction team. The team conducted more than 100 missions with no fatalities. He configured 125 radios for 39 convoys which provided a command and control lifeline for 150 troops.

Sergeant Okeefe was a first responder after a mortar attack who called in a medevac helicopter that saved the lives of three wounded Afghan children. He secured



Sergeant Okeefe

a forward base during an attack, leading three combat sweeps that protected 60 Soldiers and \$3 million worth of equipment from counter attack. He also established an operations center at a remote Afghan camp responsible for construction of two wells and two new roads and participated in a humanitarian project that distributed food to 800

people in an Afghan village.

Previously a satellite, wide-band and telemetry systems instructor in the 338th TRS detachment at Fort Gordon, Ga., Sergeant Okeefe moved to Keesler last year to help with establishing the first of 10 cyber training courses and now teaches in the radio frequency transmission systems course. While at Fort Gordon, he volunteered with the USO and the American Heart Association's Heart Walk.

Mr. Simpson served as a ground radio instructor while on active duty in the 338th TRS. After he retired with 21 years of military service two years ago, he became a civilian instructor in the basic communications officer training course in the 333rd TRS.

Mr. Simpson was lauded as an exceptional instructor who conducted more than 1,800 hours of cyberspace-focused training to 114 students with a 92 percent class average. He's a certified instructor in 208 curriculum hours, increasing



Mr. Simpson

the qualified staff 25 percent.

He identified outdated communication and information officer curriculum and revamped the air expeditionary force training document with field concepts. He created new test safe procedures and trained seven team members to ensure complete accountability and control of testing and resources.

Mr. Simpson led the effort to add hands-on content to the course by scheduling 50 tours and guest speakers to focus on real world issues explored in training. He reviewed more than 420 Technical Training Management System entries, creating an office checklist to share lessons learned, reducing review time by 10 percent.

He is the director of a community youth basketball organization and led the 81st Force Support Squadron Over-30 basketball team as a free agent to the base intramural championship. He led a church clothing drive and raised funds for African-American Heritage Committee's scholarships.

The C4 Association was formed nearly 20 years ago to preserve and promote the camaraderie and best interests of those who serve in the Air Force's command and control, communications and computer functional community.



Bulls assist area food bank

From left, Airman Grace Alva, Staff Sgt. Steven Pflug and Senior Airmen Jon Talley and Stalyn Murillo were among the 38 Airmen from the 335th Training Squadron who volunteered at the Bay Area Food Bank in Theodore, Ala., Saturday. The volunteers sorted more than 10,000 pounds of food and boxed groceries for 540 families, according to Staff Sgt. Amber Shema, who organized the effort. The food bank, which serves the residents of the central Gulf of Mexico states of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi, is facing the challenge of helping many families in the area who've lost their incomes because of the BP oil spill. The food bank is part of Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger relief network.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Amber Shema

Operations director is former student, instructor

By Staff Sgt. Kimberly Moore

Keesler Public Affairs

The 334th Training Squadron has a new director of operations, but this isn't his first time at Keesler.

Maj. Daniel Williams first arrived at Keesler 21 years ago as an enlisted Airman.

"I decided to enlist in the Air Force for the educational benefits," he said. "I did not come from a military family so I had no clue about serving in the military. However, after joining, I realized this was something bigger than just gaining educational benefits, this was an organization that stood for something and I wanted to be a part of it."

When the major first joined, he didn't have a career path in mind.

He said, "I actually came in 'open general.' The recruiter asked me if I wanted to try air traffic control and I said, 'Sure, why not?' I attended technical training here at Keesler in November 1988 and had no clue about the career.

"After starting class, I was convinced this was the hardest thing I had



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Major Williams, who pinned on his new rank this week, started his air traffic control career at Keesler 21 years ago as a technical trainee.

ever tried — the academic workload and next-day performance of that material was overwhelming," Major Williams said. "At first I did not think

I would successfully complete the course. Fortunately, one day the light bulb came on and all the pieces fell into place."

Major Williams successfully completed ATC training and moved on to his first assignment.

"My first duty location was Barksdale Air Force Base, La. where I was a tower controller for seven years," he said. "There I found balancing a career and a life at such a young age was a huge responsibility. Out in the field, I was working continually rotating shifts, so going to school was difficult. In order to complete my degree, I decided in 1996 to come back to Keesler where I could work a steady shift as an air traffic control instructor."

Once he earned his degree in 1999, he applied for commissioning through Officer Training School and was accepted. He completed OTS and was commissioned in 2000.

Since his commission, Major Williams served in airfield operations positions at both the base and wing level. He also served in joint-service and combined-nation roles and sup-

ported several contingency operations to include a deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Major Williams took advantage of a recent career opportunity.

"A great opportunity became available — director of operations here at the 334th TRS," he said. "The timing was excellent and I thought this move would be a great one, giving me a chance to return once again to the place where it all started."

Major Williams said he continues to set goals and has another one in which Keesler plays a part.

"I would love to return as commander of the 334th TRS," he said. "I feel that would be the pinnacle of my professional career and I would hope to be a positive influence on young Airmen starting their future in the United States Air Force."

"Getting placed in the ATC career field was the best thing that could have happened for me in the beginning of my Air Force career, and I truly enjoy the challenges it still brings," he added.

Technical training students achieve perfect scores



From left, Airmen Basic Shane Walker and Schynequa Mathis and Staff Sgt. Tamara Thompson have graduated from technical training with perfect scores in their courses. Airman Walker aced the electronic principles course in the 332nd Training Squadron and graduated Tuesday. He hails from Oklahoma City, and heads to Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, for the 16-week communication/navigation/mission systems apprentice school. Airman Mathis and Sergeant Thompson are reservists who graduated July 27 with perfect scores from the personnel apprentice course in the 335th TRS. Airman Mathis returns to McChord AFB, Wash., and Sergeant Thompson is assigned to Barksdale AFB, La.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Drill downs, parades

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Friday and Oct. 15.

Parades — 6 p.m. Sept. 16.

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

USM fall term

Registration for the fall semester for the University of Southern Mississippi is Aug. 10-11 at the Fleming Education Center on the USM Gulf Park campus in Long Beach.

Orientation for new undergraduate students is at 1 p.m., followed by advisement and registration from 2-6 p.m.

New undergraduate students are asked to call 865-4565 in advance.

Classes start Aug. 18.

For more information, e-mail Sandy Laubersheimer, sandra.laubersheimer@usm.edu or call 376-8479.

AFCEA awards scholarships



Two recent high school graduates received \$512 scholarships from the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association July 28 at a luncheon at the Dragon's Lair. Levi DeLuke, a graduate of Vancleave High School, will major in mechanical engineering at Yale University. His parents are Jeff and Sheila DeLuke. Mr. DeLuke is a retired master sergeant who works in the 81st Training Support Squadron. Rachel Docter, a graduate of Biloxi High School, plans to major in computer engineering at the University of South Alabama. Her parents are David and Vicki Docter.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Professionalism, perseverance, pride Mueller sets priorities at change of command

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

In assuming command of the 81st Training Wing Monday, Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller issued a three-part challenge to Team Keesler — professionalism, perseverance and pride.

General Mueller took command from Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson in a ceremony on the parade field officiated by Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, 2nd Air Force commander.

In highlighting professionalism, General Mueller challenged his team “to be an example to our Airmen. Be an inspiration to them — be someone they’ll want to emulate as they move forward in their careers.”

In emphasizing perseverance, the new commander said, “I can’t guarantee that construction schedules will stay on timeline, that there won’t be another tropical storm or hurricane that may try to interrupt our training schedule. But we must persevere through these incidents — they are never an excuse to cut back or skimp on our training effort.”

General Mueller encouraged Team Keesler to take pride in its mission, pointing out, “While it will never make the headlines or the front page of the news, it’s extremely important to the Air Force, and every commander in the field recognizes the contributions that Keesler makes.”

Although General Mueller never trained at Keesler, he comes to his new assignment with a clear vision of the importance of training to the Air Force mission.

“Training is what stimulates the action in the field — training is the foundation of everything the Air Force does in the field,” he stressed. “The difficult challenge here at Keesler



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Top, General Mueller addresses Team Keesler after accepting command.

Left, General Hertog passes the guidon to General Mueller as Chief Master Sgt. Lonnie Slater, 81st TRW command chief, looks on.

For more photos, log on to www.keesler.af.mil.



Sophie Mueller, 7, gets a “high five” from Lt. Col. Brian Casleton, 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander, at a reception following the change of command ceremony. Her sisters are Hailey, 10, and Maurie, 13.

is that we only have one chance to do it right. There are no recalls or re-dos after we graduate our students.”

General Hertog called General Mueller an “Air Force standout” and told the new commander, “You’ve inherited a championship team and the support of the wonderful com-

munity surrounding this base. My only advice to you is to take care of your people and they’ll take care of you — and to have fun.”

Having fun is something General Mueller, his wife Keri and their three daughters are looking forward to after a year-long separation during

his last assignment in Turkey as the deputy commander for NATO’s Combined Air Operations Center 6, Allied Air Forces Southern Europe.

General Hertog also recognized General Dickinson for leading Keesler through the final stages of its Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. That reconstruction program resulted in the completion of more than 1,000 new homes six months ahead of schedule and the completion of a new shopping complex, fire station, postal facility, dormitory, radiation and oncology center. A new events center opens next month and construction of a new inpatient and emergency tower and permanent party dormitory are underway.

“General Dickinson has been the catalyst behind the Air Force’s cyberspace training transformation,” she stated. “Under his leadership, our cyber experts brought cyber training online four months early. This massive undertaking included remodeling a

facility, realigning instructors and developing 18 courses.”

General Dickinson recalled that he had returned to command Keesler 15 years after he had trained at Keesler, and after his 15-month tenure as the 81st TRW commander, he remarked, “We’ve done so much in these 15 months. It would be hard to tell if those 15 years or 15 months had seen more change.

“You’ve invested in Keesler’s future, and that’s investing in the Air Force’s future,” he added. “We provide the future force, trained and combat ready to take their positions within the Air Force.”

General Dickinson said he was excited about his new job as Director, Communications and Information, and Chief Information Officer for Air Force for Air Force Space Command at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., but noted, “This has truly been the best assignment of my career. I look forward to hearing great things about Keesler in the future.”

Misuse of prescription medication could cost Airmen career, jail time

By Senior Airman
Amanda Dick

86th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN Air Base, Germany — Sitting in his room with a headache, an Airman contemplates whether or not to take pain medication that was prescribed to him for a tooth extraction several months ago.

He decides it's pain medication, and he's suffering from pain, so there can be no harm. The next day, the Airman tests positive in a random drug test. His career now hangs in the balance.

People testing positive from misuse of prescription and over-the-counter medication are becoming a common occurrence throughout the Air Force.

"The numbers are on the rise," said Alex Tremble, a Ramstein drug demand reduction program manager. "They have jumped up at least 40 to 50 percent within the last year. And, it's not just here; it's in the (U.S.) as well."

To use medication for anything other than its intended purpose or other than prescribed is considered to be misuse, illegal and punishable by the Uniformed Code of Military Justice.

"The UCMJ states it is illegal to wrongfully use controlled substances," said Capt. S. Daniel Colton, an 86th Airlift Wing assistant staff judge advocate. "Wrongful in its basic definition is without a legitimate medical reason. Having a prescription for a specific issue is a valid medical reason."

"The prescription itself is going to expire six months after it's written ... that's federal law," said Maj. Crystal Price, 86th Medical Group chief of pharmacy services. "Keeping the pain medication in your possession past its intended use will set up the potential for breaking that rule for which the medication was intended. (Saying) 'I didn't know the rules; I didn't know that,' is not an excuse for misuse. You knew it was given to you for

AT KEESLER

Unlike some installations, Keesler doesn't have a drop box to dispose of old or leftover medication.

"We don't take in expired prescriptions from patients because of state regulations," said Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Brown, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron pharmacy superintendent. "We could run into problems with narcotics counts if we take in expired medications."

Patients can dispose of unused prescriptions by mixing them with cat litter or used coffee grounds, putting them into an empty margarine tub or sealable bag then placing them into the trash. Empty pill bottles can be placed in the trash, but patients should remove the label or conceal any personal information.

your tooth extraction, muscle tear or surgery. The fact that you're saving it instead of getting rid of it is putting you in the position to be at risk.

"If you give medication to your friends or sell it, that's drug trafficking; it's a federal offense," Major Price added.

The excuse of "my friend gave it to me" doesn't work.

"The first thing that happens when you test positive on a drug test is it goes to a medical reviewer to see if you were prescribed the medication," said Capt. Bob Greiman, 86th Medical Operations Squadron alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment program officer in charge. "If it's not in your medical records, it can create some problems for you."

Every Airman should know what is being given to them whether prescribed or over the counter to avoid the risk, Major Price said.

In some countries, there are things that can be obtained legally that are not authorized

for military members' use.

"In Germany, there are certain medications you can buy over the counter that you can only get by prescription in the (U.S.)," Captain Colton said. "If it's on the controlled substance list, it's a controlled substance whether you get it in the U.S. or in Germany. If you're in the military and you use it, you've still violated the law. You're always under the UCMJ, and you can still be prosecuted for wrongful use."

While there's no list of banned items for the Air Force, U.S. Code Title 21 Section 812 lists the types of controlled substances considered illegal. This list, as well as other information on illegal drug use, can be found on the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's website at www.justice.gov/dea/pubs/csa/812.htm.

If members are prosecuted under the UCMJ for wrongful use, they could face up to a dishonorable or bad conduct discharge, incarceration and total forfeitures of pay and allowances.

Legal and medical officials also offer this advice to help avoid medication misuse:

Review product ingredients; know what you are taking.

See your physician to get medication if you're sick or in pain, instead of buying over the counter.

Let your physician know if you've come into contact with a controlled substance while on the job, so it can be documented in your medication profile that an accident occurred. An example is if you're opening a box, and the substance inside is broken and gets on you.

Only take medication for its intended purpose and for the prescribed dosage amount.

"You could be a really good Airman," Mr. Tremble said. "The next thing you know, you're standing in front of legal, having to explain why you used the drug. Don't put yourself and your command at risk."

IN THE NEWS

Construction closes part of I-81

A portion of the I-81 running track near the Bay Breeze Events Center is closed until Aug. 16 for construction at the entrance of the facility from the golf cart crossing on the west side of the events center to the drinking fountain next to I-81 on the east side of the facility.

Runners are directed not to detour on Ploesti Drive or the golf course.

Squadron reactivation Friday

The reactivation ceremony for the 345th Tactical Airlift Squadron is 10 a.m. Friday at the Roberts Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Facility.

The 345th TAS is an active associate unit of both the 403rd Operations Group and the 19th Operations Group, Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. The unit pairs active-duty units with reserve units as part of the total force integration initiative.

Eglin proposed for F-35 basing

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Air Force announced July 28 its proposal for basing 59 F-35 Lightning IIs at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

The draft supplemental environmental impact statement, which Air Force officials plan to release in September, includes the preferred alternative of basing the 59 F-35 aircraft at Eglin AFB. Flight operations will also be conducted at Duke and Choctaw Auxiliary fields.

This decision supports the recommendation of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission to establish the F-35 Initial Joint Training Center at Eglin.

The decision to limit the number of F-35s to 59 was based on airspace limitations highlighted in the modeling efforts of the Gulf Region Airspace Strategic Initiative, which indicates Eglin-managed mission airspace couldn't accommodate aircraft above that number.

Air Force officials will conduct half of the flight operations from Duke and Choctaw fields, minimizing the effect on other missions on Eglin Reservation while also taking advantage of the initial joint training site.

"This alternative minimizes the impact on the Air Force Special Operations Command mission, 7th Special Forces Group and preserves the critical test and training missions," said Kathleen Ferguson, Air Force deputy assistant secretary for installations. "Further, this alternative minimizes operations, to the maximum extent practicable, to reduce noise impacts on the surrounding communities."

Clinics close for warrior training

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group conducts warrior training, noon to 5 p.m. Aug. 12.

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.

PERSONNEL NOTES

New submittal policy for finance

81st Comptroller Squadron.

To meet Air Force guidelines, enhance productivity and utilize electronic applications, the 81st Comptroller Squadron will no longer accept hard copy documents that can be processed through MyPay or eFinance as of Aug. 15.

The electronic applications help us ensure your documents are submitted to the Air Force Financial Services Center for processing with greater accuracy and more accountability than our current processes, thereby proving you a better quality product with less time waiting in the queue," said Lt. Col. RandolphToris, 81st CPTS commander.

Information about MyPay, eFinance and most financial questions can be found by logging into the Air Force Portal, selecting "Life and Career," then "Money-Welcome to Virtual Finance." There are links to all major financial systems, frequently asked questions and instant advice pages.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. William Kiser, 376-8189, or e-mail the financial services office at 81 CPTS/Contact Center on the Keesler global address listing.

Classes for job hunters

Job hunters can improve their chances for success with several upcoming classes at the airman and family readiness center.

All classes are held in the center's conference room in Sablich Center. There's a limit of 10 people per class.

Federal format resume writing — 9:30 a.m. Aug. 12 or 26; 2 p.m. Sept. 16 or 30, Oct. 14, Nov. 17 and Dec. 9; and 3 p.m. Oct. 28.

Civilian format resume writing — 9:30 a.m. Aug. 19; 2 p.m. Sept. 9, Oct. 7 or 21, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2 or 16; and 3 p.m. Sept. 23.

Career choices — noon to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 26, Sept. 23 and Oct. 29.

Interview skills and salary negotiation — 11 a.m. Aug. 24, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23 and Dec. 28.

Registration is required.

For more information, call 376-8728 or e-mail lana.smith.1@us.af.mil.

Paralegal opportunities

The Air Force paralegal career field (AFSC 5J0X1) offers many career opportunities.

Qualifications include rank of at least senior airman with a minimum 5-skill level in any Air Force specialty code, minimum general Armed Forces Qualification Exam score of 51, ability to type at least 25 words per minute and no convictions by court-martial, punishment under Article 15, or conviction by civilian court (excluding minor traffic violations).

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Daniel O'Hara, 376-8145.

Recruiting service alumni group

The Air Force Recruiting Service Alumni Association (www.usafraa.org) is looking for new members. Membership is open to all former Air Force Recruiting Service personnel, military and civilian, regardless of the position held.

The nonprofit organization brings together former AFRS personnel to foster fellowship and keep in touch with each other. The group also supports AFRS nationwide recruiting efforts and provides assistance with Operation Blue Suit.

For more information, e-mail retired Chief Master Sgt. John Stocks, central region representative at www.CentralRegion@usafraa.org

Airmen eligible for stop loss special pay

By Daniel Elkins

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Thousands of current and former Airmen remain eligible to receive \$500 in retroactive special pay for each month they were affected by stop loss. Airmen have until Oct. 21 to apply through the Air Force Personnel Center.

Air Force officials used stop loss for Operation Enduring Freedom from Oct. 2, 2001, through Jan. 31, 2003, and Operation Iraqi Freedom from May 2 through Dec. 31, 2003.

Those eligible include active, retired and former members as well as Reserve component members who served on active duty while their enlistment or period of obligated service was involuntarily extended, or whose eligibility for separation or retirement was suspended as a result of stop loss. Those who accepted a selective re-enlistment bonus subsequent to being affected by stop loss aren't eligible for the special pay.

More than 3,000 claims by Airmen have been approved for retroactive stop loss special pay since September 2009. An additional 13,000 current and former Air Force members may be eligible.

To file a claim, eligible members or legally designated beneficiaries may download a stop loss claim application at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss. Applicants who were serving in the Reserve or Air Guard at the time of stop loss may apply by visiting the Air Reserve Personnel Center website at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR>.

For more information on program eligibility and claims instructions, call the Total Force Service Center, 1-800-525-0102.

Businesses encouraged to compete

81st Contracting Squadron

The 81st Contracting Squadron encourages small businesses to compete on a number of solicitations that already have “hit the street.”

The squadron has been receiving competitive bids from Mississippi Gulf Coast small businesses.

For example, the contracting squadron awarded five contracts totaling \$147,854 in July to small businesses in Biloxi, Ocean Springs, Gulfport, and Pascagoula.

Additionally, the contracting squadron performed 85 actions last month that added work to existing contracts among local small businesses, with additional work totaling \$4,682,828.

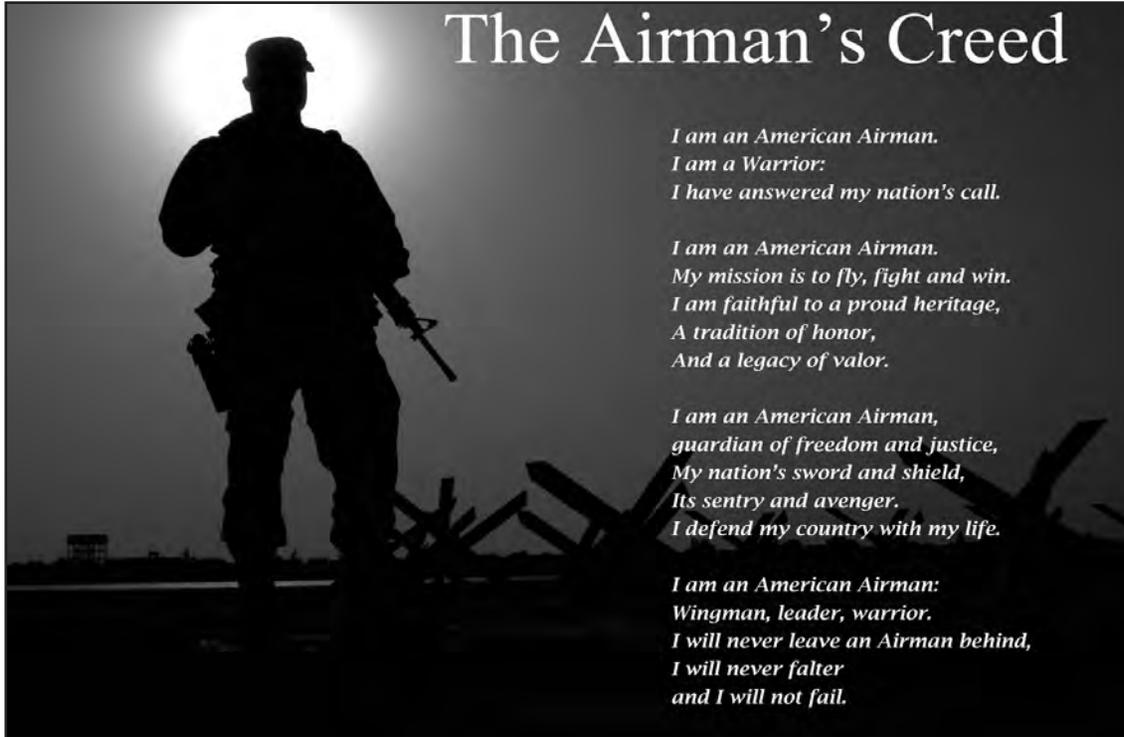
August and September represent the busiest months of the fiscal year in terms of awarding new contracts. Of note, the 81st CONS has solicited two construction projects valued between \$1 million and \$5 million. Small businesses designated within historically underutilized business zone areas may compete on these two particular solicitations. Other solicitations, with less competition restrictions, will hit the streets frequently throughout August and September.

Representing Keesler to the small business community is one of the major mission areas for the 81st CONS.

As part of the continuous outreach program, George Budz, the squadron’s director of business operations, presented, “How to Do Business With Keesler” to local small businesses Friday at the 2010 Mississippi 8(a) Business Development’s Procurement Summit and Economic Recovery Conference.

These events foster awareness and contacts for both contractors and government personnel.

Contractors and vendors interested in bidding on future projects should call Mr. Budz, 377-3131 for information.



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.*



**Don't drink
and drive.**

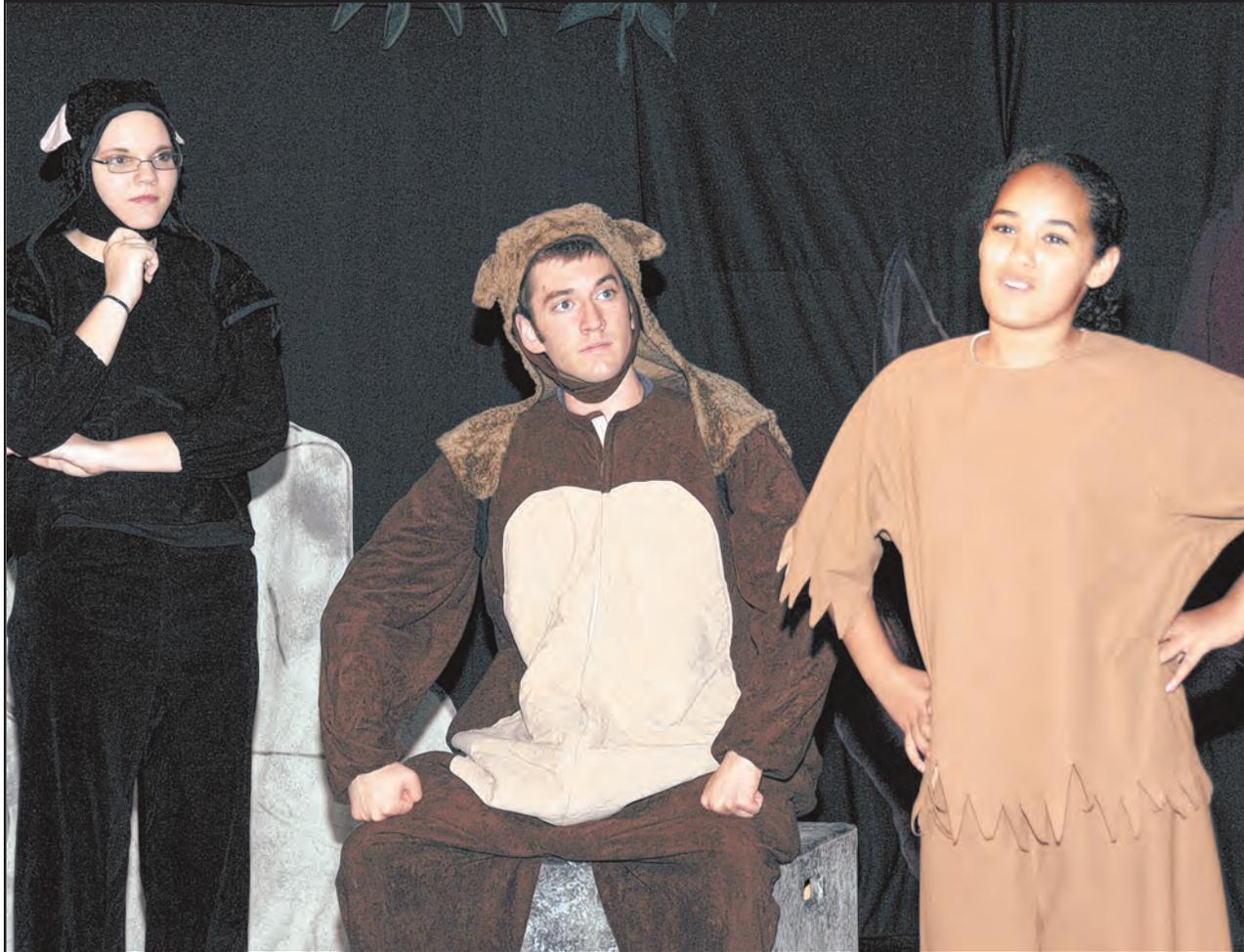
Call
Airmen Against
Drunk Driving,
377-SAVE,
for a safe ride home.

**199 saves
so far this year**

Youth center roars with 'Jungle Book'

From left, Kaylee Hamann, Tyler Stamm and Britney Cheney rehearse for Friday's presentation of "Jungle Book" by the Missoula Children's Theater. Kaylee, 14, is the daughter of Capt. Ronald Hamann, 333rd Training Squadron. Britney, 12, is the daughter of Tech. Sgt. Alisha Baxter, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Michael Baxter, 335th TRS. Mr. Stamm served as tour director with Jonathan Brantley for the week-long camp conducted by the theater. Fifty-eight young people from the youth center performed in the play and another 150 were in the audience for Friday's performance.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Sexual assault prevention seminar set for Aug. 17

The sexual assault prevention and response office is sponsoring a "Commitment to End Violence" seminar Aug. 17 in the Sablich Center auditorium.

There are morning and afternoon sessions, and participants may register for either or both by calling 377-8635.

From 8 a.m. to noon, the session focuses on emergency department care for sexual assault victims.

The presenter is Shalotta Sharp, a sexual assault nurse examiner from the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Continuing education units and social work units are offered for this portion of the seminar which covers victimology, offender typology, nursing assessment, documentation, evidence collection, medical management and military procedures.

From 1-5 p.m., domestic violence and sexual assault training takes place. The session is conducted by Heather Wagner, special assistant attorney general and director of the domestic violence division.

Topics include victim dynamics, state and federal laws, effective investigation and prosecution techniques and special considerations for military personnel and dependents.

An American
is sexually assaulted
every 2½ minutes.

One in five
American women
has been the victim
of an attempted
or completed rape

At least 2/3
of sexual assaults
are committed
by someone
the victim knows.

Personal weapons must be registered

81st Security Forces Squadron

All personnel storing privately-owned weapons in base housing must complete a firearms registration form at the 81st Security Forces Armory, Building 3501.

Personnel must maintain one copy of the form in their unit's orderly room and return one copy to the armory.

Personnel that store privately-owned weapons in their family's quarters must secure weapons in an appropriately-constructed locked container or equipped with a tamper-proof mechanical lock or other safety device. The keys and combinations for mechanical locks and/or other safety devices must be closely controlled to prevent access to children under 18 and other unauthorized users.

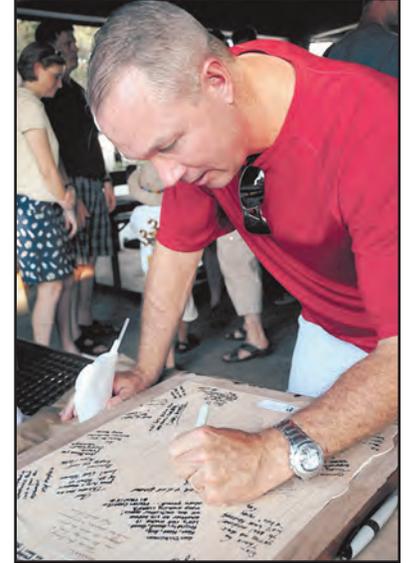
Requirements are spelled out in Keesler Instruction 31-101.

For more information, call 377-2406.

Dickinsons bid farewell to Keesler family at barbecue



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Brig. Gen. Ian Dickinson, outgoing 81st Training Wing commander, gets a gift and a hug from Capt. Donna Burrowes, vice president, and Jermaine Jordan, president of the company grade officers council, at a going-away barbecue Sunday at marina park. More photos are posted at www.keesler.af.mil.



Top, Lt. Col. Scott Solomon, 81st Training Group deputy commander, signs a farewell print for the Dickinsons.

Left, General Dickinson and his wife, JJ, say goodbye to Lt. Col. Daniel Gottrich, 338th Training Squadron commander, his wife Ainsley, and their children, Erin, 2, and Ryan, 4.

Law protects tenants at foreclosure

By Bobby Moore

Legal office

Congress recently enacted legislation aimed at protecting millions who lease or rent properties.

“Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act” is part of the, “Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009” signed into law by President Obama. The act aims to protect tenants from suddenly being left out in the cold when their landlords are foreclosed upon.

The act allows bona fide tenants who had active leases prior to the foreclosure proceedings to remain in their rental properties until the term of their lease ends.

The legislation provides that a lease or tenancy shall be considered bona fide if: the mortgagor or a relative/ dependent is not the tenant; the lease or tenancy was the result of an arms-length transaction; and the lease or tenancy requires the receipt of rent that is not substantially less than fair market rent for the property or the unit’s rent is reduced or subsidized due to a federal, state or local subsidy.

There is an exception, however, when the entity foreclosing on the property finds a buyer who will make the property their permanent place of residency. At that point, the entity or person may terminate the lease so long as the tenant receives 90 days notice to vacate by the property owner.

The act provides virtually the same protection for Section 8 renters who are subsidized by the federal government. Proponents of the legislation say it’s vital for renters to have this protection in times where foreclosures are at an all-time high, and many properties being foreclosed upon are rental properties.

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



Make safety a part
of your back-to-school preparations.
Observe the posted speed limit
in base housing and school zones.
Watch for children at bus stops.
Stop for flashing lights on school buses.

Oath lights the way



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Jesus Gutierrez, right, 81st Contracting Squadron, raises his hand to 2nd Lt. Alexandra Gamiere, 81st CONS, July 27 as he takes the Air Force oath to reenlist inside the Biloxi Lighthouse in front of family and friends. Sergeant Gutierrez chose the symbolic lighthouse for his ceremony to honor the strength and spirit of the Gulf Coast community he witnessed after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina nearly five years ago. Sergeant Gutierrez is leaving for Ramstein Air Base, Germany, after more than eight years at Keesler.

Observe special customs, courtesies during Reveille, Retreat, National Anthem

Special courtesy and conduct are required when Reveille, Retreat and the National Anthem are played.

At Keesler, the “Giant Voice” sounds Reveille in the Triangle only, 5:30 a.m. weekdays. Retreat is sounded at 5 p.m. weekdays across the base. A full retreat ceremony is held at 4:50 p.m. Wednesdays in front of the Levitow Training Support Facility.

During the playing of Reveille, Retreat and the National Anthem each day, even as a civilian or in civilian clothes, stop and face the flag or the music if walking and stop your vehicle safely if you’re driving.

If you’re sponsoring guests, including contractors, inform them of these requirements.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Military members salute and civilians place their right hand over their heart during Monday’s change of command ceremony as the National Anthem is sung.

What do I do when Reveille or Retreat is played?

Stop where you are and turn to face the flag, or if the flag isn’t visible, turn in the general direction of the flag or the sound. If in uniform, stand at parade rest. If not in uniform, stop and face the flag or the music out of respect.

When do I come to attention and salute the flag?

When Retreat concludes, personnel in uniform come to attention and render a salute when the first note of the National Anthem sounds. Remain at attention saluting the flag until the National Anthem has finished playing.

If you’re not in uniform, don’t salute. Come to attention and place your right hand over your heart. Remove your hat with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder while your right hand is over the heart.

Service members and veterans not in uniform may render a salute during the hoisting, lowering or passing of the flag as specified in the 2008 Defense Authorization Act. Congress realized the omission of the National Anthem and added an amendment to the 2009 Defense Authorization Act to allow veterans and service members not in uniform to salute during the National Anthem if they so desire.

What if I’m wearing physical training gear?

Don’t salute when in PT gear. Follow procedures for those who aren’t in uniform.

What do I do if I’m driving?

Bring your moving vehicle safely to a complete stop. Turn off any music playing in the vehicle. Everyone inside the vehicle remains seated at attention.

What should I do when indoors?

Military members in uniform, while in formations, should wear appropriate headgear and render the military salute at the first note of the National Anthem and maintain that position until the last note. While not wearing headgear during an indoor ceremony, military members, whether

in formation or not, should stand at attention at the first note of the National Anthem and maintain that position until the last note without rendering the military salute. An exception is military members in uniform, under arms, who should salute. Civilians stand at attention facing the flag with their right hand over their heart.

What is done during the playing of “To the Colors” and “Taps”?

During “To the Colors,” render the same customs and courtesies as those given to the playing of the National Anthem. Upon hearing Taps at a military ceremony, those in uniform render a hand salute until the music is complete. Civilians remove headgear and place their hand over their heart. When in civilian clothes and outdoors, stand at attention and place your right hand (with a hat if wearing one) over your heart.

What should I do when in uniform, but not in formation?

Come to attention, face the flag and salute. At sporting events, if the flag is visible, face the flag and salute. If the flag isn’t visible, face the band and salute in its direction. If the music is recorded, face the front and salute. At all other outdoor occasions, come to attention, salute and face the flag, if visible, or the music.

What do I do when I’m in civilian clothes?

Outdoors, take the same action as when in uniform, but men remove the headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder with the right hand over the heart. Men without hats and women salute by standing at attention and placing the right hand over the heart. Indoors, render the civilian salute by standing at attention and placing the right hand over the heart.

This story originated with the 60th Civil Engineer Squadron, Travis Air Force Base, Calif., with supporting information from Air Force Manual 36-2203, Air Force Pamphlet 34-1202 and Air Force Instruction 34-1201; a commentary written by Capt. Caroline Lorimer, 452nd Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs; a June 15, 2009, Air Force Times column by Mathew Tully; and the 81st Training Wing Protocol and Legal Offices.



News tips?

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

'Heart Link' emphasizes importance of spouses

Airman and family readiness center

Heart Link, a free orientation program for Air Force spouses, is 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 19 in Room 108A, Sablich Center

Heart Link is designed to increase awareness of the Air Force mission, customs, traditions, protocols, and on and off base resources and services. The importance of spouses to the Air Force community is emphasized.

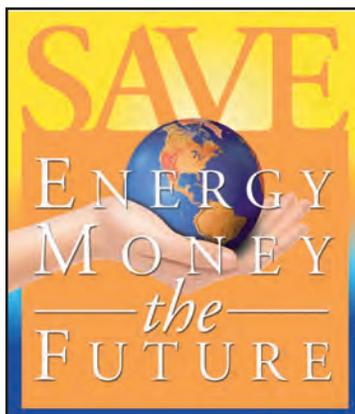
"Heart Link has six inter-linked activities in which vital information is presented in an interactive manner," said Becky Stanley of the airman and family readiness center.

"Each activity is a building block for the program. The activities contain icebreakers, games, skits and presentations to make the experience worthwhile and fun for spouses."

Participants receive free lunch, prizes, Heart Link coins and tote bags.

Limited child care is available.

To register, call 376-8728.





KEESLER NOTES

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.

Job opportunities

People interested in applying for nonappropriated fund positions may submit an application in person or on line.

Hours for the NAF personnel office, Room 211, Sablich Center, are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

To apply online, log on to <https://nafjobs.afsv.net>.

For current job openings, call the 24-hour job line, 377-9055, or log on to www.keeslerservices.us.

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.

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.

Supply issues

For supply issues, contact the CSC supply customer service element, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002; call Michael Cashion, 377-8891, or e-mail michael.cashion.2.ctr@us.af.mil.

Supply classes

Quarterly supply classes are held in Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building .

Block I basic supply class is 9 a.m. Sept. 22 and Dec. 15.

All newly-assigned supply custodians and resource managers are required to attend.

For more information, contact Patrick Governale, 377-5998 or patrick.governale.ctr@us.af.mil, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270, paulette.powell.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Block IIA-Bench Stock is 9-9:30 a.m. Sept 9 and Dec 9. To schedule an appointment, call Crystal Simpson, 377-9955.

Block IIB-Repair Cycle is 10-11 a.m. Sept. 9 and Dec 9. To schedule an appointment, call Nathaniel Parks, 377-2310.

Block III training is 1 p.m. Sept. 22 and Dec. 15. All newly-assigned supply equipment custodians are required to attend as well as all other custodians annually.

For more information, contact Willie McDonald, 377-2660 or willie.mcdonald.1.ctr@us.af.mil or Paulette Powell, 377-2270, paulette.powell.1.ctr@us.af.mil

AAFES offers photo contest for pet lovers

AAFES Public Affairs

Through Sept. 30, authorized exchange shoppers can submit a photo and a short description of their pet along to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's Patriot Pet photo contest.

Submissions are judged on creativity, uniqueness, quality and effectiveness in conveying the loyalty and companionship of pets belonging to military members.

The grand prize winner wins a \$1,000 AAFES shopping spree. There's a \$500 shopping spree for first place and eight runners-up receive either an aquarium, pet bed, pet's view eye cam, pet gate or a portable pet crate.

For entry details, log on to www.aafes.com.

Elliptical marathon: Colonel achieves fitness best



Mastrianna

By Tech. Sgt. Francesca Popp

U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN Air Base, Germany — His peers and his wife said he was crazy, but that didn't stop Joseph Mastrianna from achieving a personal workout best and earning a top fitness award.

Mastrianna, the U.S. Air Forces in Europe manpower, personnel and services deputy director, completed 37.5 miles in five hours on an elliptical machine at the fitness center at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, June 4. With that, the colonel also hit the 1 million point milestone to earn the elite platinum status in the President's Fitness Challenge.

The challenge offers programs for people of all ages and abilities. Each program helps identify realistic goals to encourage fitness for a lifetime. A personal activity log records activities online. There are also special awards for completing each program.

He began more than three years ago while assigned to the Air Force Serv-

ices Agency in Texas. He finished just a few weeks shy of his 50th birthday.

He earned the bronze and silver awards — 40,000 and 90,000 points, respectively — in four months. He was then reassigned as group commander at Royal Air Force Menwith Hill, United Kingdom. By August 2007, he racked up 160,000 points — the gold award.

“On the day I entered my workout information and the computer program calculated my scores for the gold award, was when I learned about the next level,” he said. “It read, ‘Congratulations, you are 16 percent on the way to platinum’ ... I went from being 99.9 percent complete for the gold award to being 16 percent of the way along.”

For the next few years, Mastrianna stayed true to his routine while working his way to platinum status.

He's out of bed by 2:15 a.m. and on the elliptical cross-trainer in his home by 2:30 a.m. during the week. He's at work by 6:15 a.m. and leaves about 6:30 p.m. He rests on Saturdays. On Sundays, he'll work out 2.5 to three hours (on the machine). He gets to bed

by 10 p.m. almost nightly.

He said worked out longer on Sundays in the weeks leading up to the June 4 achievement.

“I had planned to do five hours and knew I could do it. I felt really good at four hours; I thought I could go for six. But, I let my electrolytes run out. When I reached 4:30, I hit the wall really hard,” said Mastrianna, who's been in the Air Force for nearly 26 years. “The last 30 minutes was a brutal struggle. I had no intention at that point to go over five hours.

“Thankfully, my wife was there. She kept me from quitting,” he said.

In addition to reaching his all-time personal fitness best, the colonel raised about \$1,000 for Ramstein's Air Force Aid Fund.

Mastrianna said he is working toward bronze again and is making steady progress. He hopes to complete 12,500 miles, which is more than half the circumference of the earth, before he retires.

For more information, visit www.presidentschallenge.org.

Mini-triathlon set

Services and the health and wellness center sponsor a free mini-triathlon, 8 a.m. Aug 20.

Participants 18 and older swim 200 yards, bike 8 miles and run 2 miles. Events start and finish at the Triangle Pool.

Individual categories are separated by gender and age: 18-29, 30-39, 40-49 and 50+. There's a separate category for Clydesdale (men weighing more than 200 pounds) and Athena (women weighing more than 150 pounds).

Relay teams consist of three participants, one must be female. New this year is an Elite category for those who can complete the event in 45 minutes for men and 50 minutes for women.

Preregister by noon Aug. 17 at the HAWC or Blake Fitness Center. Unit sports representatives also have sign-up sheets. Sign in is 6:30-7:45 a.m. Aug. 20.

For more information, call 376-3170.