



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

DEC. 16, 2010 VOL. 71 NO. 49



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Team Keesler

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Air Force leaders send holiday message

By Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley,
Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz
and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy

Air Force News Service

As we celebrate the holidays, please take the opportunity to reflect on our many blessings as Americans, and to remember the people who most enrich our lives. We also should contemplate our broader aspirations that, given the many demands of very busy lives, we often neglect to consider throughout the year.

Also, especially while many remain engaged in combat operations across the globe, we are thankful for the men and women who have answered our nation's call, and selflessly serve to defend our country and preserve our precious liberty. Those who are spending this special time of the year away from friends, family and

loved ones are particularly worthy of the deep and abiding respect of fellow Airmen and of a grateful nation. We look forward to their safe return home.

We also honor the quiet sacrifice of family members who sustain and bring great personal meaning to the service of their loved ones. Those of us with the good fortune to be able to celebrate the holidays at home amongst family and friends remember our deployed Airmen and their family members who miss them. We ask that you reach out to these families as well as our single Airmen, and in the spirit of giving and support that makes our Air Force so special, we ask that you welcome them into your holiday celebrations.

In all of the joyous ways that we celebrate this holiday season, we wish you and yours the very best during this special time, and throughout the new year.



It's time for friendship, fellowship and fun

By Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller

81st Training Wing commander

Keri and I would like to wish each of you happy holidays! We are proud to be a part of Team Keesler and thank each of you for what you do for the base, the community and our Air Force.

Regardless of the assignment or location, the holiday season seems to bring out a little of the best in everything and everyone, and this year is no different. Keri, our daughters and I have thoroughly enjoyed all the wonderful holiday tra-

ditions here at Keesler. Lighting the Christmas tree at marina park, competing in the holiday Christmas card decorating contest, standing for hours in front of "that house in Bayridge" and watching Keesler's highly-decorated Dolphin and her "musical" crew sail to second place in the Christmas on the Water boat parade are wonderful traditions that we were proud to share this year.

As things slow down over the next couple of weeks, I encourage all of you to take a little extra time to enjoy the friendship, fellowship and family fun the

holidays always bring. In addition, this year, like many before, more than 250 members of Team Keesler are deployed over the holidays, so don't hesitate to take the opportunity to reach out to the families of these service members and share your holiday spirit.

Finally, use the Air Education and Training Command Family Day to do one or two of those things with your families which were pushed aside throughout the course of a busy year.

Happy Holidays, Team Keesler!

Core values guide Airmen in challenging times

By Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy

The Air Force core values guide us in all of our decisions as we rise to meet any challenge presented. These enduring values anchor and bind Airmen together each and every day. Any compromise diminishes the character of our service.

With input from each of the military services, Congress is now considering changes to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. As military men and women, the American people count on us to adhere to the laws of the land, and we now stand ready and able to follow any decisions made. The success of implementing any changes in policy rests on the shoulders of our Air Force senior leaders, commanders and the noncommissioned officer corps. We're confident that as professional Airmen, we will let our core values guide us in meeting challenges resulting from any changes.

Integrity First

Airmen must serve with the utmost integrity. We need to be honest in all things and have respect for ourselves and each other.

It is necessary that we act with integrity both in our professional lives as well as our personal lives because our word is our bond.

Service before self

All of us volunteered to serve our nation and put the needs of the Air Force before our own. No matter the issue or task, you have always overcome challenges with conviction, confidence and professionalism. This time is no different. Serving in our Air Force is a higher calling. We commit to following our leaders and protect our wingmen every day.

Excellence in all we do

Excellence means respect for each other and value of individual contributions. We need to understand that people depend on and trust us to give our very best. As others value our contributions, we must recognize the worth of fellow Airmen.

The Air Force Core Values are what we live by, and they will continue to guide our standards. I'm proud to serve alongside you in the world's finest Air Force. I know we can handle any challenge we are faced with.

Take care of each other during holidays

By Gen. Edward Rice

Air Education and Training
Command commander

AETC Family,

As Airmen and their families all around Air Education and Training Command pause to celebrate, Teresa and I wish each of you a joyous and safe holiday season.

Many of us are blessed to be with our family and friends this time of the year, but I ask you to remember the sacrifices our deployed Air Force and sister service members are making for our great nation.

I encourage you to reach out to each other, especially to those members or families who may be quietly struggling through the holidays. We are not only part of a fantastic team, but also part of a great Air Force family and, as Wingmen, we take care of each other.

The holidays afford more opportunities to relax with friends and family, watch some sports, or take care of some long lost projects at the house. Whatever you decide to do, do so with safety and care. The best weapons and technology in the world are nothing without the No. 1 resource behind it — you.

Again, Teresa and I wish each of you a safe and wondrous holiday and a new year full of rich blessings.

ON THE COVER

Santa Claus holds 5-month-old Ayden Agee during Saturday's 81st Medical Group children's Christmas party in the hospital's Don Wylie Auditorium. In addition to Santa presenting gifts to scores of children with the help of Mrs. Claus and several elves, the event offered games and food. Ayden's parents are Senior Airman Kimberly Delus, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, and Gene Agee. Other units across the base have already had their holiday parties and others have planned their celebrations for this weekend.

Photo by Steve Pivnick



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.*

KEESLER NEWS

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Exodus Students take training break to celebrate holiday season

By Airman 1st Class Heather Holcomb

Keesler Public Affairs

Every year technical school students at Keesler disperse like a dropped handful of marbles, returning home to spend the holidays with their friends and families.

This year holiday exodus takes place Dec. 22 to Jan. 3.

Tech. Sgt. Shaun Wilke, 81st Training Group military training leader, said, "It gives the Airmen time to decompress and recharge during the holiday period. They've experienced a great deal between basic military training and going straight to technical training.

"For many, this is the first time they've been away from home for an extended period, and we all know how difficult that becomes during the holiday season," he said, "The opportunity to spend time with their families and friends at home definitely refreshes and motivates our Airmen."

Airman 1st Class Megan Lima, a student with the 338th Training Squadron, said that because of holiday exodus, she'll have the opportunity to carry on her Rhode Island family's tradition of ice skating every Dec. 26 which she hasn't missed since she was 10 years old.

"Spending time with family is important because it can remind us of where we came from," said Airman Lima.

Students leaving for the holidays are given emergency contact cards so that if anything happens while they are away they know who to call. The cards contain the phone numbers to charge of quarters at the dormitory, MTLs, the wing chaplain, security forces, command post and Tricare.

MTLs also get a chance to unwind and reconnect with family members during exodus.

"We are always on the go throughout the year, and if we do take leave, someone else has to pick up the slack and work twice as hard," Sergeant Wilke said. "This time of year we can take leave and just enjoy the time,"

Staff Sgt. Will Mitchell, an MTL from the

336th TRS, is staying at Keesler during exodus. His family is from the local area and every year they have their Christmas dinner the Saturday before Christmas. This is the first year that he's been close enough to host the dinner at his own home.

Manning is reduced to essential personnel only in the military training facility, but the only difference in his day-to-day job is the increased number of phone calls from scattered Airmen.

"It's a good example of the training environment being in line with the operational Air Force," said Sergeant Mitchell.

Some students decide to stay behind during exodus for many reasons, including to save money or save leave for a trip home before they move to their first permanent duty station.

Students remaining on Keesler will be consolidated into one dormitory in order to increase management efficiency.

Sergeant Wilke said, "Consolidation also ensures camaraderie for our Airmen and affords them an opportunity to meet students that they wouldn't normally run across."

Students are expected to essentially run the MTF during exodus by maintaining the facility and running the charge of quarters area.

Students are offered a variety of activities:

The 81st Training Wing chapel staff provides movie nights, video games and runs the "home away from home" program where students have the opportunity to share a holiday meal with a Keesler family.

The Keesler Spouses Club will be visiting the students with cookies and holiday wishes.

The Fleet Support Squadron will be hosting a non-prior service bowling tournament on Dec. 28 along with dart and pool tournaments.

The Bay Breeze Event Center and Gaude Lanes are both hosting New Year's Eve events for all base personnel.

Students returning home can purchase airline tickets and shuttle tickets to and from the airport at the information, tickets and travel office on the first floor of the event center. For more information, call 377-3818.

www.jetairmen.af.mil

New website with information about the

Joint Expeditionary Tasking and the Individual Augmentee programs

Wingman saves life with Heimlich manuever



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Lieutenants Saber, left, and Mills get right back on the horse and chow down at a lunch buffet Monday at a Biloxi casino.

333rd Training Squadron

What started as a regular day for three undergraduate cyber training students from the 333rd Training Squadron quickly became one that they wouldn't soon forget.

Second Lts. Jason Saber, Brian Mills and Liezl-Anne Sarte were eating lunch at one of the base's dining facilities when a piece of chicken became lodged in Lieutenant Saber's throat. Unable to breathe or speak, he tried to free the obstruction to no avail. His two classmates immediately realized he was in trouble and asked if he was choking. Receiving a positive confirmation, Lieutenant Mills performed the Heimlich maneuver, dislodging the blockage and allowing Lieutenant Saber to breathe again.

"That chicken was really stuck," recalled Lieutenant Saber, a former F-16 avionics specialist from Utah. "I'm glad Brian was there, and that he saved my life."

"It was all very surreal," said

Lieutenant Sarte, who hails from California and had been a victim of a similar incident in the past. "He (Mills) was very heroic."

Lieutenant Mills, a former ground radio technician from Tennessee, maintains that someone else would do the same for him if the roles were reversed.

"I'm just glad it all worked out for the best, and I'm grateful he's OK," Lieutenant Mills commented.

"This example shows us why we receive regular training on self-aid buddy care," Capt. Walker Hofmann, a 333rd TRS instructor, pointed out. "But more importantly than that, this story clearly demonstrates the wingman concept. Had Lieutenant Mills and Lieutenant Sarte not been present and willing to help their friend, the results could have been quite different. We're very proud of Lieutenant Mills for his quick thinking and timely actions, following his training and being there for his wingman."

Accident sharpens Keesler's response to hijacking threat

Keesler fire chief James Donnett keeps in touch with other responders by radio during a hijacking exercise Dec. 9.



Staff Sgt. Teddy Poole, left, and Tech. Sgt. Christopher Bowling, 81st Security Forces Squadron, discuss an action plan and cordon placement on the flightline.



From left, Sergeant Bowling, Capt. Jason Williams and another 81st SFS member learn who the hijacker is and familiarize themselves with his photo.

Left, Tech. Sgt. Erica Cepriano and Robert Polanco, 81st SFS, portray negotiators during the exercise. Sergeant Cepriano talks to the hijacker and Mr. Polanco records the information.



Left, Sergeant Bowling delivers food demanded by the hijacker to the aircraft.

Right, an 81st SFS member stands on the flightline awaiting orders to move in on the hijacked aircraft, a WC-130J from the 403rd Wing.



Photos by
Kemberly Groue



Airman Bell

Top Airman, military training flight named

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Dec. 8, the 81st Training Group announced its Airman of the Month and top military training flight for November.

The Airman of the Month is Airman 1st Class Hannah Bell, an airfield systems student in the 338th Training Squadron from Oahu, Hawaii. She graduates Monday and returns to her home state for an assignment with the Hawaii Air National Guard's 297th Air Traffic Control Squadron

Each of the five squadrons that train nonpriority service students selects one Airman to compete at a monthly group board.

Airmen are graded on personal appearance, communication skills and military bearing. They also respond to questions about customs and courtesies, dress and appearance, selected entries in the Airman's Manual and current events from that week's issue of the Keesler News.

The MTF of the month for September is from the 335th TRS. The Bulls scored the highest overall in areas such as marching, physical training, room inspections, open ranks, Airman's Manual, charge of quarters and retreat. The flight received a roving sign to put in the front of its squadron to recognize its achievement.

TRAINING, EDUCATION NOTES

Postal center hours

From Wednesday through Jan. 2, Postal Service Center No. 2 in the Levitow Training Support Facility is open noon to 3 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

Academy visit program

The Air Force Academy will host 25 Airmen for an all-expenses-paid tour, Jan. 13-16.

Airmen from all over the country are matched with a cadet escort to gain insight into life at the academy.

Airmen ages 22 or younger with no dependants who are U.S. citizens can apply by forwarding a letter of endorsement and an Air Force Form 1786 signed by their squadron commander, copy of their high school transcript and copy of ACT or SAT scores e-mailed to eddie.cunningham@usafa.edu.

For more information, call DSN 333-8836 or log on to www.academyadmissions.com.

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group's 2011 drill down and parade schedule is:

Drill downs — 8 a.m. Feb. 18, April 29, June 24, Aug. 19 and Oct. 28.

For more information, call 377-2103.

Parades — 6 p.m. March 17, July 21 and Sept. 29 and during Special Olympics, May 13-15.

For more information, call 377-2789.

ROTC at USA

The University of South Alabama offers a four-year ROTC program for qualified students wishing to pursue an Air Force commission.

The campus is 60 miles from Keesler and offers Alabama in-state tuition rates to residents of George, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Perry and Stone Counties in Mississippi.

For more information, call 1-251-460-7211 or e-mail robertpatt@usouthal.edu.

Base shuttle schedules are found at <http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp>

Academic aces



Airman 1st Class Amanda Daab, left, and Staff Sgt. James Healy graduated Dec. 8 from the personnel apprentice course in the 335th Training Squadron with perfect scores. Airman Daab, from O'Fallon, Ill., is assigned to the Illinois National Guard's 126th Mission Support Flight, Scott Air Force Base, Ill. Sergeant Healy, from Duvall, Wash., is assigned with the Washington Air National Guard's 194th Regional Support Wing, Camp Murray, Wash.

12 graduate from NCO Academy

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Twelve Keesler technical sergeants are members of the Mathies NCO Academy Class 11-1 that graduated Dec. 8:

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Alisha Baxter.

81st Contracting Squadron — Kimberly Sturdivant.

81st Medical Group — Craig Hutchinson.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Richard Coombs and Katherine Hartley.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Byron Self.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Christopher Speir.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Rebecca Sargent.

333rd Training Squadron — Jason Roberts.

335th TRS — Jeremy Stanger.

366th TRS Detachment 6 — Scott Cruz.

403rd Wing — Kirk Martin.

Santa's helpers



Photo by Kemberly Groue

From left, Airman Basic Xavier Kinsey, Airman 1st Class Ashley Sydnor, Airman Basic Mirelys Rivera and Airman 1st Class Dominique Favers, 336th Training Squadron students, sort gifts collected by their squadron for Toys for Tots. As of Monday, 527 toys have been collected.

Remember to to shred or tear documents containing personal data such as Social Security Numbers and home phone number and address so personal data can't be reconstructed when documents are placed in recycling bins or trash cans.



From left, Francis Frye, 81st Security Forces Squadron; Carl Nehlig, 81st Training Support Squadron; Staff Sgt. Merissa Pough, 81st Training Wing; Capt. Donna Burroughs, 81st Medical Support Squadron; and Master Sgt. Christopher Rash, 81st SFS, show no remorse as they laugh, eat and text while incarcerated as part of last week's Santa Police fundraiser.

Blue Christmas

Lt. Col. Glen Downing, center, 81st TRW vice commander, was arrested while attempting to escape the Mathies NCO Academy Dec. 8. Staff Sgt. Chris Freimann, left, 332nd Training Squadron, and Airman 1st Class David Schlothauer, 81st SFS, apprehended Col. Downing without incident and drove him to a secure location. Bail matched the price paid for an inmate's arrest and helped raise \$4,000 to benefit Fisher House and finance the 81st SFS Christmas party.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



24th Air Force becomes AFCYBER

By Tech Sgt. Scott McNabb

24th Air Force Public Affairs

LACKLAND Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force officials announced that 24th Air Force changed from Air Forces Strategic to Air Forces Cyber Dec. 8.

The change better reflects the mission the numbered Air Force performs for the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

“The name change will not impact the 24th Air Force’s mission,” said Col. Mark Ware, 24th Air Force’s director of cyberspace plans and operations. “What the change does is maintain the Air Force naming convention of aligning the numbered Air Forces with the combatant commands they support. The mission of 24th Air Force has always been grounded in the cyberspace domain.”

Implementation must be done using currently programmed manpower and budgetary resources.

“When 24th Air Force was activated Aug. 18, 2009, U.S. Strategic Command’s cyberspace entities included Joint Functional Component Command-Network Warfare and Joint Task

Force-Global Network Operations,” Colonel Ware said. “There was no U.S. Cyber Command. May 21, JFCC-NW and JTF-GNO combined to form the core of USCYBERCOM, a sub-unified command under the authority of USSTRATCOM.

“On that same day, USSTRATCOM delegated control of the Air Force service component for cyberspace operations — 24th Air Force-AFSTRAT — to USCYBERCOM,” he said. “Twenty-Fourth Air Force immediately submitted the organization change request to change its name to 24th Air Force-AFCYBER to clearly articulate the (numbered Air Force’s) role.”

The name change came on a special date for cyberspace history. Colonel Ware said on this date in 2005, then Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff T. Michael Moseley added cyberspace into the Air Force mission statement.

The realignment of 24th Air Force conveys the numbered Air Force’s role in DOD operations.

“This was the first Air Force-wide acknowledgement of the importance of this warfighting domain,” said Colonel Ware.

IN THE NEWS

Segment of Larcher closed

Northbound traffic on Larcher Boulevard between C Street and the exchange pharmacy’s drive-through entrance is rerouted Sunday through Jan. 13.

Northbound traffic on Larcher will be redirected either to go west on C Street and north on Third Street or east on C Street and north on Commissary Road.

All entrances to the commissary and exchange remain open. Southbound traffic on Larcher is not affected.

Meadows Drive Gate changes

Monday through Dec. 31, the Meadows Drive Gate is closed to all non-commercial traffic due to temporary relocation of the commercial search area while hospital road construction is under way.

While the Meadows Drive Gate is authorized for commercial traffic only, personnel are asked to use the White Avenue Gate or Pass Road Gate for base access.

Holiday household waste

The housing office has arranged with the refuse contractor to place dumpsters at several locations Dec. 27-30 to collect extra holiday household waste.

The dumpsters will be located at the corner of Patrick and Vandenberg Drives in Bay Ridge, corner of Garfield Avenue and Givens Street in East Falcon, rear of the Polk Circle cul-de-sac in West Falcon and the northwest side of Cannon Drive in Thrower Park. There won’t be a dumpster placed at Sandhill Landing.

These dumpsters are for extra trash — no edible waste or hazardous materials. Artificial trees can be placed in dumpsters, but real trees can be picked up with recycling items.

Household bulk waste pickup is Jan. 11.

King memorial luncheon planned

The annual memorial luncheon honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is 11 a.m. Jan. 13 at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

The speaker is Rev. Eric Dickey, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church, Gulfport.

The cost is \$16 by cash or check payable to the African-American Heritage Committee. Reservations must be made by Jan. 6 by calling 377-9386 or 5250.

Clinics close for warrior training

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group conducts warrior training noon to 5 p.m. Jan. 13.

Keesler News holiday schedule

This is the last issue of the Keesler News for 2010.

The Keesler News isn’t published Dec. 23 or 30.

The first issue for 2011 is published Jan. 6.

Dragons deployed — 250

'Portraits in Courage' features Keesler medic

By Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The fifth volume of "Portraits in Courage" released Friday highlights 18 Airmen who demonstrated bravery and heroism in the crucible of war as they repelled air and ground enemy fire, led convoys through perilous terrain and assisted injured comrades.

The stories describe ordinary Americans who accomplished extraordinary deeds despite harrowing challenges.

Master Sgt. Kenneth Gestring, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron anesthesia flight superintendent, was one of the Airmen featured in the volume.

Sergeant Gestring, who received the Purple Heart earlier this year, established a

casualty collection point under fire without regard to his own safety and injuries he sustained from a blast following an insurgent forces submunitions attack.

In the preface, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy said the collection "serves as an unremitting tribute to the spirit and accomplishments of all Airmen, poignantly reminding us of the sacrifices that are required, by service members and their families, to secure the many blessings of liberty."

To read the complete fifth volume of Portraits in Courage, log on to <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-101209-019.pdf>



Courtesy photo

Sergeant Gestring, right, provides treatment to wounded coalition forces and Afghan National Police after the Jan. 6 attack.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Information dominance wins wars — protect it!

Special tactics recruitment briefings

Monday, the 24th Special Tactics Squadron, the Air Force's special operations unit, holds briefings at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Sablich Center auditorium.

The specific Air Force Specialty Codes being sought are 1C0X2, 1N0X1, 1P0X1, 2G0X1, 3D0X2, 3D1X3, 3S2X1, 4A1X1, 4N0X1, 6F0X1 and 8F.

Recruiters are looking for members in the ranks of senior airman through master sergeant with at least two years time in service, at least 21 years old, with the ability to obtain and maintain a top secret clearance and no current unfavorable information files.

For more information, call 1-910-243-6825 or 910-495-5558 or e-mail 24STSrecruiting@jdi.socom.mil.

Change for MTI opportunities

The military training instructor corps has received authorization to pursue 18-month time-on-station waivers. First term Airman must be within their career job reservation window.

For more information, call the MTI recruiting team, DSN 473-1016 or 1018.

Classes for job hunters

These upcoming classes are held in the airman and family readiness center's conference room in Sablich Center.

There's a limit of 10 per class, and registration is required.

Interview skills and salary negotiation — 9 a.m. Jan. 20 or Feb. 24.

Federal format resume writing — 9 a.m. Jan. 19 and Feb. 2.

Civilian format resume writing — 2 p.m. today; 9 a.m. Jan. 25.

Career skills assessment — 9 a.m. Jan. 26, Feb. 10 or March 10.

For more information, call 376-8728.

Transition assistance briefings

The airman and family readiness center has a number of upcoming programs for members planning to separate or retire.

Mandatory pre-separation briefings — 1 p.m. Tuesdays for those separating with honorable discharges and 2:30 p.m. for retirees; Room 110, Sablich Center. Bring one copy of separation or retirement orders. This appointment is required by law, and must be accomplished 90 calendar days before the separation or retirement date. For short-notice separations or retirements, the briefing should be done as soon as possible.

Veterans benefits briefing — 8-11 a.m. today, Room 108A, Sablich Center.

Retirement briefings — intended for those with less than a year until retirement, 1-3:30 p.m. today, Room 108A, Sablich Center.

To pre-register or for more information, call 376-8728.

Civilian deployments play critical mission role

By Jeanie Lessley

81st Force Support Squadron

Air Force civilians play a critical role in carrying out the Air Force's expeditionary mission. Civilian deployments are an important part of overall career development and are crucial to meeting the Air Force's future needs.

Currently, there are more than 143,000 Air Force civilian employees. In 2009, Air Force senior leaders outlined their vision for supporting Department of Defense civilians to serve in global expeditionary positions through a program called the Civilian Expeditionary Workforce.

The CEW is a subset of the civilian workforce that is organized, trained and equipped to deploy in support of military combat operations, humanitarian and disaster relief missions and other contingencies. The assignments are in support of DOD mis-

sions overseas and stateside.

At this time, most positions are located in Iraq and Afghanistan, and some opportunities are in Africa and Europe. With the CEW, Air Force officials predict an increase in the total number of civilians who deploy on a regular basis. The civilian deployment progression will be streamlined and integrated with the military's deployment processes.

That process begins with a visit to the CEW Web site at www.cpms.osd.mil/expeditionary/. At the top of the CEW homepage, there's a link, "How to Apply." Click on that link for a user-friendly, self-explanatory format.

There are numerous career fields that are recruiting for volunteers. Positions advertised on the Web site remain open until filled or there's no longer a requirement. New positions are added continuously, so it's advised to check back periodically.

As an Air Force employee, the application process requires you to download the Volunteer Statement from the Community of Practice link, and a common access card is required to access the portal. Follow the directions on the link and forward your application for Air Force approval. Once the CEW receives Air Force approval for your request to deploy, your application is processed. The CEW Web site fully explains health and pay benefits along with other pertinent information.

At this time, positions are open to U.S. citizens only, and most positions require a secret or top secret clearance. If you're currently a permanent federal government civilian employee, the CEW has the ability to obtain the clearance level needed.

Most individual deployment tours are one year in length, but there are occasionally six-month tours. The CEW program doesn't permit tours of duty longer

than two years and a minimum 90-day period of reintegration between deployments is usually required.

Many DOD civilians will be working on a secured U.S. military base or forward operating base. These bases have essential services that support a safe and productive working environment. For example, there are buildings, trailers or tents for office work, dining, recreation, communication and first responder requirements.

Others work outside the military base or secured compound in local communities with local officials, U.S. active-duty officials, U.S. State Department and other Federal agency officials or coalition partners. Work may be in buildings or other temporary facilities or on farms or other rural environments.

Selected volunteers are advised of the daily work location at the time of an offer. However, because the environment is dynamic, these

conditions can change without notice to meet mission and safety needs.

DOD began a joint, pre-deployment training program in January 2010 for employees deploying to Afghanistan and Iraq. The 10-day training is a one-stop, fully integrated training and pre-deployment platform. This training consists of an intense mix of classroom and field exercises that provide a learning environment where the setting simulates the conditions of deployment and helps to strengthen emotional and mental resilience.

Successful deployment experiences support new duty positions that require joint knowledge and cultural expertise as important attributes for growing leaders. Civilian deployments, along with developmental education, foster the necessary skills to maintain the Air Force as the world's dominant air, space and cyberspace force.

Tax time

Forms available through myPay, mail

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.— Military service members, military retirees, annuitants and federal civilian employees paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service can get their 2010 tax statements up to two weeks earlier using myPay.

DFAS has recently released the schedule for posting and mailing 2010 tax statements such as W-2s, 1099Rs and 1099INTs customers need to file their annual tax returns.

DFAS customers with myPay access (<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>) will be able to obtain their tax statements online on the day they are posted using the secure and convenient pay management system. Additionally, military retirees and annuitants can download their 2010 account statements with information on wages, tax withholdings and allotment information.

Tax statements available through myPay are approved for use by the IRS. In addition to their earlier availability over mailed forms, tax statements posted to accounts in myPay remain available throughout the year.

MyPay users can establish limited access passwords for family members and trusted caretakers or tax preparers to view and print tax statements. Limited access users are not permitted to make changes to the primary users account information. After logging in to myPay, go to Personal Settings to establish limited access passwords.

MyPay is a secure Web-based pay information system. One of the many benefits of this system is avoiding risks associated with identity theft. The secure technology provided to myPay customers meets or exceeds security requirements in private industry worldwide.

Using myPay to access tax statements eliminates the preparation and mailing costs incurred with the traditional distribution methods. Combined with the earlier availability of statements online, this makes myPay a better option for many DFAS customers and

Timeline for forms

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

This is the 2010 tax statement schedule. The first date listed is the date the form is available on myPay. The second date is the mailing date through the U.S. Post Office.

Retiree Annual Statement — Dec. 4; Dec. 16-31.

Retiree 1099R — Dec. 14; Dec. 16-31.

Annuitant Account Statement — Dec. 15; Dec. 19-31.

Annuitant 1099R — Dec. 15; Dec. 19-31.

Voluntary Separation Incentive/Special Separation Benefit W-2 — not available via myPay; Jan. 4-5.

Active-duty Air Force, Army and Navy W-2 — Jan. 24; Jan. 24-29.

Reserve Air Force, Army and Navy W-2 — Jan. 4; Jan. 4-7.

Marine Corps active-duty and Reserve W-2 — Jan. 18; Jan. 19-20.

Civilian employee W-2 — Jan. 6; Jan. 7-15.

Savings Deposit Program 1099INT — Jan. 21, 2011; Jan. 21-22.

Vendor Pay 1099 — not available via myPay; Jan. 20-25.

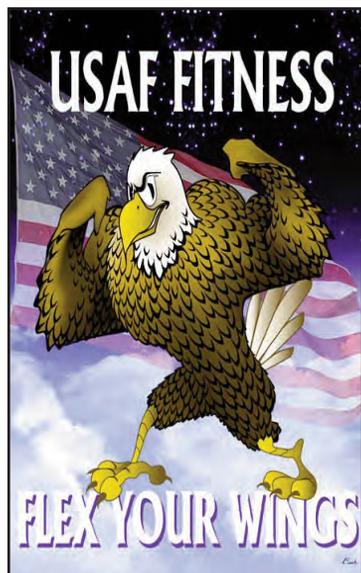
Vendor Pay Miscellaneous W-2 — Jan. 31; Jan. 20-25.

Travel PCS W-2 — Jan. 31, 2011; Jan. 20-25.

Army Non-Appropriated Fund Civilian Pay W-2 — Jan. 11; mailing date unavailable.

the Department of Defense.

DFAS customers who have forgotten their user name, password or wish to open a myPay account can do so on the myPay Web site at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>.



New law: 'Spice' now carries same penalty as heroin, ecstasy

By Staff Sgt. Robert Shavers

Legal office

Synthetic marijuana, commonly referred to as Spice, has been a continuous problem at Keesler. Sometimes Spice has been referred to as the "marijuana of the Air Force."

The chemicals in Spice imitate THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, and haven't been approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

The makers of Spice usually have the phrase "not for human consumption" displayed on the packaging of their products. Brands like "Spice," "K2," "Blaze," and "Red X Dawn" label their packages as incense to hide their intended purpose, but users purchase these products to smoke like marijuana. Feelings of sickness and nausea are common side effects of smoking Spice.

Spice has been banned Air Force-wide since June 9 when Guidance Memorandum 44-121 went into effect. Prior to that, use of Spice was prohibited by general orders signed by wing commanders and major commands across the Air Force.

Nov. 24, the Drug Enforcement Administration categorized five variations of Spice as Schedule 1 controlled substances, placing them in the same drug category as heroin and ecstasy. This means that the possession, use, sale, and distribution of these five variations will be considered a



federal crime by civilian authorities and charged as violations of the Uniformed Code of Military Justice Article 112a, which carries a maximum penalty of forfeiture of all pay and allowances, a dishonorable discharge and five years confinement in the military justice system.

In 2010, there have been about 30 cases involving Spice use among Keesler Airmen. The severity of punish-

ment is determined by the immediate commander and differs with each case. The most severe punishments imposed on Keesler Airmen for using Spice have included a reduction in rank to airman basic, forfeiture of a half month's pay for two months, and an administrative discharge with a characterization of "under other than honorable conditions." In the special court-martial cases for Spice use, the Airmen were found guilty, and in addition to the sentence and subsequent discharge, now have federal convictions on their records.

As a result of this growing problem, commanders and first sergeants have been encouraged to increase physical checks, such as dorm and vehicle inspections, in order to crack down on Spice use Air Force-wide.

For more information, call the legal office, 376-8602.

**Don't drink
and drive.**

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

**344 saves
so far this year**

Trainer development chief retires after 37 years of service

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Bruce Scott, chief of the 81st Training Support Squadron's trainer development flight, retires Jan. 1 with 37 years of federal service.

Mr. Scott, a native of Albia, Iowa, enlisted in the Air Force in 1973 and served as an avionics instrument systems technician at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. He joined the Air Force Reserve 403rd Wing when he separated from active duty in 1976. He was an air reserve technician instrument mechanic from 1976-1980 and worked in the avionics guidance and control systems shop from 1980-1995, when he retired from the reserve as a master sergeant.

Mr. Scott has been assigned to what is now the trainer development flight in various capacities since March 1980.

When the unit was known as the 3300rd Technical Training Wing's training services division, he worked as an electronics Mechanic from 1980-1985. During that time, he earned an associate degree in avionics systems technology from the Community College



Mr. Scott

of the Air Force and a bachelor's degree in industrial electronics technology from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Mr. Scott also served as an electronics mechanic foreman from 1985-1986, an electronics general foreman in 1986, an electronics mechanic supervisor from 1986-1989, an electronics technician from 1989-1990 and an engineering technician-program manager from 1990-1994.

Sixteen years ago, Mr. Scott assumed his current

position in which he manages the design and fabrication of training devices. He manages the design, development, fabrication and assembly of training devices that include computer embedded simulators, part-task trainers and live and static mockups.

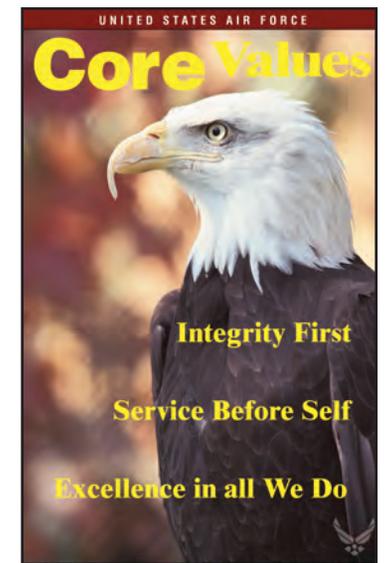
Mr. Scott's flight supports resident and nonresident training, field training, tenant units and other governmental activities. He's also responsible for quality assurance, maintenance, modification, repair, refurbishment and storage of training devices.

He earned the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Reserve Service Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal. He was Keesler's outstanding civilian employee of the quarter in 1992, the 81st Training Group's training support flight commander of the year in 1994 and the 81st Training Wing's civilian supervisor of the quarter in 2009.

Mr. Scott and his wife, Susan, live in Saucier.

They have been married 35 years and have two children, Melissa and Matthew.

For chapel service schedules,
call 377-2520 or 4859.



Keesler 2010: Photographic year in review



Photo by Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca
A Chilean surgeon, left, and Maj. (Dr.) Yekaterina Karpitskaya, an orthopedic surgeon from the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, work side by side to cast a Chilean child's broken arm March 19. Nearly 60 members of the 81st Medical Group deployed to Chile in March in the aftermath of a massive earthquake. Another 50 Keesler medics provided support following Haiti's devastating earthquake in January.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Jan. 11, Keesler's first regular flight of basic military training graduates landed and headed to technical training. Previously, students were transported from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, by bus. This year, the 81st Training Group graduated 27,403 students, including nonprior service Airmen, prior service airmen, sister service students and international students. This includes all course delivery methods from classroom instruction to mobile training teams.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Gen. Stephen Lorenz, commander of Air Education and Training Command, greets guests at a fish fry during Air Education and Training Command's spring conference hosted by Keesler, March 29 through April 1.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, shows his pride in Team Keesler during an outbrief in which the base learned of its "Excellent" rating from the Air Education and Training Command Inspector General Compliance Inspection, Oct. 24-Nov. 2.



Photo by Senior Airman Katie Gieratz
Staff Sgt. Tyrone Edwards, an air traffic controller deployed from Keesler, documents arrival and departure times on a flight progress strip at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia, Oct. 18. Up to 282 Dragons have been deployed each week during 2010 from units across Keesler.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
April 19, the last of 1,028 new homes was turned over to Keesler, as the largest military family housing construction project in Air Force history came to a close. The \$287.8 million project took nearly three years and was completed nearly four months ahead of schedule.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
From left, Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, 2nd Air Force commander, passes the guidon to Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller as he assumes command of the 81st Training Wing Aug. 2 as Chief Master Sgt. Lonnie Slater, 81st TRW command chief, looks on.



Photo by Steve Pivnick
April 12, the Keesler Dragons varsity basketball squad won the National Military Athletic Association's men's basketball championship. Coach Jesse Harris, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron, displays the trophy.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
From left, Airman Basic Bernard Links, 332nd Training Squadron; Airman 1st Class David Gross, 336th TRS; and Airman Basic Robert Oberle, 338th TRS, are served lunch by Carrie Keeton at the Azalea Dining Facility. Keesler won the John L. Hennessy Award recognizing the Air Force's top food service operation. The base's three dining facilities serve about 2.4 million meals annually.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Senior Airman Brandon Ailes, fifth from right, is flanked by Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Defense Commissary Agency, Keesler and community leaders as he cuts the ribbon on the base's new shopping mall Tuesday. Airman Ailes, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, is Keesler's Airman of the Year. The new shopping complex replaced the main exchange and commissary devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Other new facilities that opened in 2010 included an event center, student dormitory, fire station, munitions storage facility, radiation oncology center, trainer development building and a central energy plant at the hospital.



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Fifteen officers graduated from the Air Force's first undergraduate cyber training course at Keesler Dec. 7, marking another milestone in the Air Force's cyber training transformation. Since October 2009, the 81st Training Group has launched 19 new cyber courses in what's been called the largest training development effort in Air Education and Training Command.

4 selected for promotion this month

Four Keesler enlisted members have been selected for promotion in December.

To staff sergeant — Senior Airmen Marcus Easterling, 81st Dental Squadron, and Noah Erdman, formerly of the 338th Training Squadron.

To technical sergeant — Staff Sgt. Scott Ross, 334th TRS.

To master sergeant — Tech. Sgt. John Lane, 333rd TRS.

I-110 bridge repairs affect traffic for four months

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Commuters who use I-110 to get to and from the base should find an alternate route for the first few months of 2011,

A project to replace the steel grid deck in the center of the I-110 bridge starts the first week of January and should

take about 14 weeks.

“Sometimes the traffic will be restricted to one or two lanes,” said Kelly Castleberry, District 6 engineer for the Mississippi Department of Transportation. “We’re totally replacing the steel deck span. We’ve been welding new plates constantly to repair the damaged areas.”

Work on the project has been scheduled to avoid hurricane season, Mr. Castleberry said.

“This strategic timing will lessen the impact of the

restricted openings of the drawbridge,” he pointed out.

For more information as the work progresses, log on www.gomdot.com.



Teamwork helps heart patient

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

It wasn't post-Thanksgiving indigestion.

The patient, who prefers to remain anonymous, woke up a little after 1 a.m. Nov. 26 with tightness in his chest. This, coupled with vomiting, caused him to realize he was suffering a heart attack.

"Being a 'diehard Air Force guy,' I got into my truck and 45 minutes later arrived at the Keesler hospital. I walked in the front door (clinic entrance) and asked the Airman at the desk for directions to the emergency room. I walked there, gave the lady at the desk my ID, told her I believed I was having a heart attack and was rushed into the back."

Maj. (Dr.) George Dockendorf, emergency medicine physician on duty in the Keesler emergency room, recalled, "It was a pretty slow night. The patient arrived shortly after 1 a.m. I saw on the computer he was complaining of chest pain"

ER protocol calls for patients reporting with chest pain to have an electrocardiogram within five minutes of arrival. After receiving the EKG, he was taken back to Dr. Dockendorf.

"The EKG results were textbook, exactly what you see for an acute heart attack, formally referred to as an ST (from the EKG) elevated MI myocardial infarction. I immediately asked the charge nurse (Capt. Daniel Damitio) to get Dr. (Lt. Col. Steven) Kindsvater (chief of the 81st Medical Operations Squadron's Cardiovascular Services) on the phone. While he was doing that, I went in and talked to the patient. After identifying myself, I wanted to get a quick medical history before telling him he was having an acute heart attack.

"He told me he woke up with chest pain and had been vomiting, both symptoms of a heart attack. He gave the classic presentation of someone having a heart attack: pressure-like chest pain radiating to the left arm, sweating and vomiting. We immediately



Major Dockendorf

gave him a full dose of aspirin and sublingual nitroglycerine a total of three times which eventually resolved his chest pain. I then let him know I was concerned he was having an acute heart attack and would have to go to the cardiac catheterization lab where they would look at him and treat whatever they found.

"Dr. Kindsvater arrived (from his Ocean Springs home) within 15 minutes of my calling him and went into the patient to explain what was going on. Within another 15 minutes, having evaluated him as having an acute heart attack — the most serious type — he was admitted to the cath lab."

Dr. Dockendorf stated, "The event couldn't have gone any smoother, considering it was Thanksgiving night. Everyone worked as a unit, from the medical technicians to the nurses, to ensure the patient received the best possible care."

Dr. Kindsvater observed that if this type of condition was left untreated or treatment was delayed, there is 20 percent likelihood the patient would not survive.

He noted the national standard for care from the time a patient arrives at the emergency room to the point of an open blood vessel in the cath lab is less than 90 minutes.

"If the heart attack occurs during a hospital's normal duty hours, 90 minutes is an achievable goal 90 percent of the time," Dr. Kindsvater pointed out. "After duty hours, very few hospitals are



Colonel Kindsvater

able to meet the goal. I'm very proud that through the professionalism of everyone involved — both the ER and cath lab teams — we were able to reach the open vessel stage within 75 minutes. This was better than is expected during normal business hours, let alone after duty hours."

Dr. Kindsvater said, "We placed two stents into the large vessel going to the left side of the patient's heart." Three days later, they fixed the vessel leading to the right side.

After recovering in the hospital's intensive care unit, the patient was discharged Nov. 30, getting into the truck he drove here in the early hours of Nov. 26.

"Dr. Kindsvater said to get out and 'get with it' so that's what I'm going to do plus lose the weight I gained over the past 10 years," the patient said. "I figured I made it here with a heart attack so I sure can drive myself home. I have to admit that driving myself with a heart attack was a risky move that I wouldn't recommend anyone to attempt."

The patient retired from the Air Force in 1988 after 23 years and the U.S. Postal Service in November 2009. The 63-year-old man said his father had died of a heart attack at 54, but his mother lived into her 90s.

"I prefer military, particularly Air Force, hospitals," he said. "If I have the choice, that's where I go. They absolutely should be proud of the work they are doing, and everyone I met was helpful, friendly and smiling."

Flight medicine expands services

By Maj. Paul Langevin

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Jan. 3, the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron flight medicine clinic expands its services with changes being made to sick call and normal duty hours.

Sick call will be offered to all active-duty flying, special operational duty personnel and air traffic control students 7-8 a.m. Monday-Friday.

The clinic is closed on non-training Fridays. Personnel reporting to sick call and anyone requesting to return to flying status must check into the clinic at 7 a.m. to be seen.

The clinic's normal duty hours will be 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and non-training Fridays and 8-11 a.m. Wednesday.

To make an appointment for the flight medicine clinic,

active-duty military eligible for flight medicine care call the hospital appointment line, 1-800-700-8603, 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday or 8 a.m. to noon Sunday. If appointments aren't available, call the clinic, 376-0444, in advance to see if they can be seen on a walk-in basis.

Patients are reminded to call 911 if they have a medical or mental health emergency after duty hours on nights, weekends, federal holidays and non-training Fridays.

For issues requiring a flight surgeon's input or decision that can't wait until the following duty day, call the Tri-care appointment line, 1-877-794-4629.

Those outside of the local area or who a non-life threatening emergency should call the regional Tricare number,

1-800-444-5445, where members can be directed to a nearby physician or emergency room. However, anyone seen in an emergency room must be seen in flight medicine the next duty day.

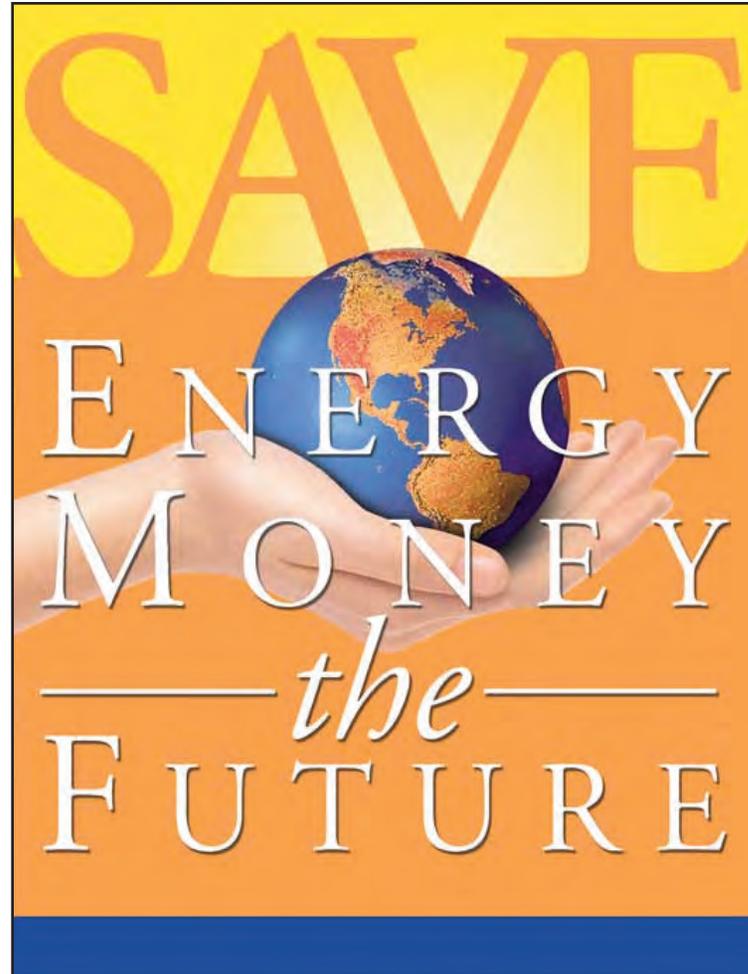
All flying, special operational duty personnel and air traffic control students must report to flight medicine following a clinical visit anywhere other than flight medicine.

Active aircrew, air traffic controllers and air traffic control instructors are responsible for scheduling an annual preventive health assessment to maintain medical qualification in their career field.

The PHA may be scheduled anytime within 90 days of the end of the birth month.

To schedule a PHA, call flight medicine, 377-6668.

Volunteer — get connected.



Keesler has DOD's busiest cardiac cath lab



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Dr. Kindsvater, left, and Mr. Hudson perform a heart catheterization Tuesday.

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Group Hospital's cardiac catheterization laboratory team treats more patients annually than any other medical facility in the Department of Defense.

Led by Lt. Col. (Dr.) Steven Kindsvater, 81st Medical Operations Squadron cardiovascular services chief, the 19 medical professionals will complete more than 1,000 procedures in 2010.

Most U.S. military hospitals have seen a decline in heart catheterization lab volume, but not at Keesler.

"What accounts for the high number of procedures is our aggressiveness in seeking patients in our community to treat, including the many veterans we see as a result of our close relationship with the Veterans Administration hospital system," Dr. Kindsvater stated.

The colonel is proud of his team's ability to provide nearly every procedure for the treatment of heart and vascular diseases currently available in the U.S.

"There is virtually no procedure we don't do here," Dr. Kindsvater said. "Due to our experience and equipment, we have

more capability to treat complex cardiovascular disease in our cath lab than essentially anywhere in Mississippi."

He added, "The one service we no longer provide at Keesler is cardiothoracic surgery. However, our close working relationship with the Singing River Hospital System (Ocean Springs and Pascagoula) allows our beneficiaries to receive excellent cardiothoracic surgery care locally."

Dr. Kindsvater, who's been at Keesler since 2002, estimates he has completed at least 7,000 procedures. He is one of three cardiologists on the staff. The others are Maj. (Dr.) Michael Benca and Matthew Hann, who is currently deployed. In addition, a cardiology nurse practitioner, Jennifer Walker, recently joined the staff.

Other cath lab members are nurses Capt. Aimee McLaurin, 1st Lt. Leigh Fuller, Alexandria Hults, Katie Hursey and Richard Stoll. Scrub technicians include Adam Hudson, Toni Rosetti, Senior Airman Allison Weeks, Staff Sgts. Matt Worsham, Matthew Parker, Trey Garner, Matthew Worsham (deployed) and Jessica Fish. Other team members include vascular surgeon Maj. (Dr.) Michael Hogan and cardiology nurses Maj. Dion Vecchio and Lou Dick.

Not letting bedbugs bite becoming harder to do

By Airman 1st Class
Heather Holcomb

Keesler Public Affairs

For children, bedbugs are as creepy as the boogey man, but the thought of tiny insects crawling in and out of mattresses and sucking blood in the middle of the night is enough to give adults goose bumps, too.

Bedbugs look like apple seeds and are small, nocturnal parasites that usually live within 8 feet of where humans sleep. They commonly feed on the blood of humans but have been known to feed on birds and other mammals as well.

Maj. (Dr.) Wendi Wohltmann, 81st Medical Group dermatology clinic chief, said that bedbugs are an increasingly common problem.

According to the National Pest Management Association, there's been a 71 percent increase in bedbug calls in the United States since 2001.

Bedbug bites are small red

spots or bumps and can become itchy due to an allergic reaction. One distinct characteristic of bedbug bites is that they can occur in linear groups of two or three. These are often referred to as "breakfast, lunch, and dinner," and other insects usually don't bite in that manner.

Because bedbugs don't generally burrow under clothing, bites tend to occur in uncovered areas such as the face, arms and legs.

Dr. Wohltmann said bedbugs usually hide in the mattress or in cracks and crevices of furniture during the day, so the best way to find them is to set an alarm between 2-3 a.m. and turn on the lights. Then check the bed, seams, sheets, mattress, box spring and the cracks and crevices of furniture for any signs of infestation.

She said there are four things to look for:

— Adult bedbugs.

— Nymphs, baby bedbugs that are smaller and lighter in

color and can look pink or red soon after feeding.

— Casts, the exoskeletons of bedbugs.

— Small red or brown stains on the sheets — the red stains are a result of inadvertently squishing the bugs at night and the brown stains are their feces.

The casts and stains may be visible during the day, so Dr. Wohltmann suggests switching from dark sheets to white sheets to better identify an infestation.

"Bedbugs are a unique type of infestation because they are especially difficult to eradicate. Unfortunately, they commonly survive standard pest control measures," Dr. Wohltmann said, "Many people end up throwing away their mattresses, box springs, and other affected furniture after multiple failed attempts at extermination."

The Center for Disease Control and the Environmental Protection Agency recommend using an integrated pest management system. This involves using monitoring devices, removing clutter where bed bugs can hide, applying heat treatment, vacuuming, sealing cracks and crevices to remove hiding places, using non-chemical pesticides and judicious use of effective chemical pesticides.

The CDC and EPA also said that bedbugs are becoming pesticide-resistant and that it is wise to seek professional help instead of attempting extermination yourself because this can be ineffective and add to the resistance.

Dr. Wohltmann said inspecting can help prevent the complex process of extermination. She said to inspect secondhand items such as mattresses or upholstered furniture carefully prior to bringing them into your home. At hotels, do an inspection upon check-in and place luggage on tables or dressers instead of on the floor.

"Many patients are concerned that they have bedbugs; luckily most of the time



Photos by Maj. (Dr.) Wendi Wohltmann

Bedbugs are nocturnal parasites that feast primarily on the blood of humans, at night, while they sleep. Bedbugs hide during the day under the mattress, behind the headboard and other cracks and crevices near the bed. If bed bugs are suspected, contact a professional exterminator.

they don't," said Dr. Wohltmann, "If a person has skin lesions that may be from bedbug bites, they should examine for infestation."

She said that if infestation is confirmed, management of the facility should be notified immediately and homeowners should call a professional exterminator. If infestation isn't confirmed, make an appointment with a healthcare provider to examine possible causes of the lesions.

If skin lesions are itchy or bothersome, Dr. Wohltmann suggests using hydrocortisone 1% cream or camphor-menthol topical ointment.

"It is controversial as to whether bedbugs are able to spread hepatitis B and American trypanosomiasis (Chagas disease) and the feces of bedbugs may be a factor in asthma," said Dr. Wohltmann.

However, bedbugs are not a sexually transmitted disease. It's possible to get bites from sleeping in someone's infested bed and carry eggs home, but it is not contagious from one person to the next.

Also, bedbugs aren't indicative of filth — they've been found all over the world at hotels in all price ranges.

"Bedbug bites don't usually cause any permanent damage to the skin; however, infestation can have a profound effect on mental health and wellbeing, as well as costing time and money for eradication," Dr. Wohltmann said, "It's best to get infestations treated promptly and thoroughly. The only way to prevent new lesions from forming is to get rid of the bedbugs permanently."

For more information go to: <http://www.cdc.gov>.



Bedbugs bite at night on areas of the skin that are uncovered. Also, bedbugs often have a characteristic bite pattern consisting of three bites in a row known as the "breakfast, lunch and dinner" pattern.

Where is Rudolph when you need him?

By Capt. Heather Garrett

403rd Wing Public Affairs

Loaded up with its human cargo, the C-130J waited on the taxiway Saturday for its chance to take off into the drizzly sky above.

What was meant to be a day filled with dropping paratroopers as part of the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations (Airborne) Randy Oler Memorial Toy Drop turned into one of disappointment for the six members of 815th and 345th Airlift Squadrons.

As the weather worsened, those on board hoped they would be cleared to complete their mission. However, Mother Nature doesn't always cooper-



Photo by Capt. Heather Garrett
Captain Sittikorn Ruangjit of Thailand was the jumpmaster aboard the C-130J from the 815th AS that participating in the toy drop. Had the mission not been cancelled due to weather, the paratroopers on board would have earned Thai jump wings.

ate, and the crew got the call they didn't want to hear: the ceiling was too low and there would be no more drops.

"We were disappointed when we heard the call that we weren't going to be able to drop," said 1st. Lt. Mike Tolzien, 345th AS pilot. "The disappointment we felt wasn't so much for us, but for the paratroopers because for them, being able to jump under the supervision of a foreign jumpmaster is a rare opportunity."

It is a status symbol within the Airborne community to wear an allied or coalition airborne force's jump wings. Earning such wings is only possible when a U.S. military service member participates in a multi-national airborne operation with a foreign-service jumpmaster. Toy Drop not only provides the opportunity to earn foreign jump wings, it allows the U.S. military to train over the skies of Ft. Bragg, N.C. as they would fight in a deployed environment.

"There's a tremendous amount of coordination to get all these different units, all these different planes and all these different paratroopers coming together at the same time to execute an operation," said Army Maj. Gen. David M. Blackledge, U.S. Army CAPOC (Airborne) commander and host of the event. "That's what we do in real-world situations, so this gives us the opportunity to train just as we operate."

Though paratroopers are required to contribute a new, unwrapped toy in order to participate, earning foreign

jump wings is just a bonus for many participants.

"Part of the tradition of Toy Drop is those of us (airborne qualified) who get to jump earn the jump wings of the country our jumpmaster is from," said Tech. Sgt. Wes Bonin, 403rd Wing survival, evasion, resistance and escape instructor.

Sergeant Bonin didn't get a chance to jump due to the weather cancellation. However, that didn't hinder his enthusiasm for participating in Toy Drop.

"Toy Drop is really about the kids toys are collected for," said Sergeant Bonin. "I've got 2,300 jumps, so for me, being a part of this was knowing that a child will have a good Christmas."

The new, unwrapped toys collected are distributed to children's homes and social service agencies throughout North Carolina. Despite the operation's name, the collected toys are not dropped out of the aircraft.

Although the crew wasn't able to off-load their human cargo, they echoed Sergeant Bonin's sentiments and prove that Santa will deliver even if Rudolph isn't there to lead the way to the drop zone.

Editor's note: Donna Miles, American Forces Press Service, contributed to this report. More than 1,300 paratroopers were able to jump Saturday before the ceiling became too low, and more than 6,000 toys are expected to be collected. The mission continues throughout the week, enabling most of the 4,000 participating paratroopers the opportunity to earn foreign jump wings.



Photo by Capt. Heather Garrett
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Fountain, 815th AS loadmaster, runs his checklist in preparation for the 815th AS and 345th AS aircrew's participation in Saturday's toy drop.



Paratroopers line up early Saturday to donate a toy for a child in need while hoping to earn foreign jump wings. Through the 13th annual Randy Oler Memorial Operation Toy Drop, Army and Air Force service members are donating thousands of toys to brighten the holidays for children and families in need.

Army photo by Staff Sgt. Sharilyn Wells

Reservist balances family, work, military duties

By Senior Airman Kimberly Erickson

403rd Wing Public Affairs

Editor's note: This story is the first story in a three-part series on the civilian jobs of 403rd Wing reservists.

For some, finding balance between family and work is, at best, an optimistic New Year's resolution. For 403rd Wing reservist Staff Sgt. Deanna Attaway, a mother of three working full time while pursuing her master's degree, it's a necessary way of life.

Sergeant Attaway drills with the 403rd Wing at Keesler one weekend a month with an additional 15-day annual tour. When she isn't working in the wing education office, she's director of USO for the Gulf Coast, serving Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana. The nonprofit organization provides support to military members through morale and recreational services.

Just two weeks after beginning work with USO, Sergeant Attaway was offered and accepted a director's position that she's held for more than two years.

"The most rewarding aspects (of the job) are also the most exhausting," Sergeant Attaway said. "When troops leave the airport, you know that the USO staff and volunteers are probably some of the last friendly faces from home that they're going to see for the next six months."

"Monday through Friday, I wear a suit and play the role of professional businesswoman, raising money for the troops," she said. "Then on Saturday, I jump in uniform and fill the role of Citizen Airman."

Please see **Reservist**, Page 27



USO Gulf Coast director Deanna Attaway, right, discusses the distribution of care packages for upcoming deployments with Dr. Mary Elizabeth Stevens, a volunteer at the USO lounge at the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport.

Courtesy photo

Reservist,

from Page 26

Prior to working as a USO director, Sergeant Attaway served on active duty for nearly 12 years in both security forces and as a military training leader at Keesler.

Sergeant Attaway said her decision to rejoin the Air Force as a 403rd Reservist following a two-year break in military service was largely based on her previous experiences here.

“I chose the 403rd because I still feel a strong sense of commitment to this area and to the base,” she said.

“I felt like I had lost a part of myself after I was out of the military for about six months, said Sergeant Attaway. “(Working for) USO, you’re around military all the time, and I found myself wanting to be a part of that again.”

Sergeant Attaway said she wasn’t sure what to expect

when transitioning into the Reserve. “What I thought was going to be a disadvantage, that everyone seems to be a tight-knit family, is definitely something that facilitates a lot of continuity and brings cohesiveness to the entire wing.”

Additionally, she said her experience in the Reserve compliments her civilian job as a USO director. “I know that I’m becoming more educated on the 403rd’s mobility commitment and processes, which will help me better serve our Reservists when they deploy.

“The Reserve gives you an opportunity to be a part of something bigger than yourself. When you’re new to the military at 18, you tend to take what you do for granted —when you’re faced with the reality of the civilian world, you realize everything the military taught you was to prepare you for something,” Sergeant Attaway said.

“That’s one of the things that drew me back: service to my country.”

New stop signs enhance Larcher Boulevard safety

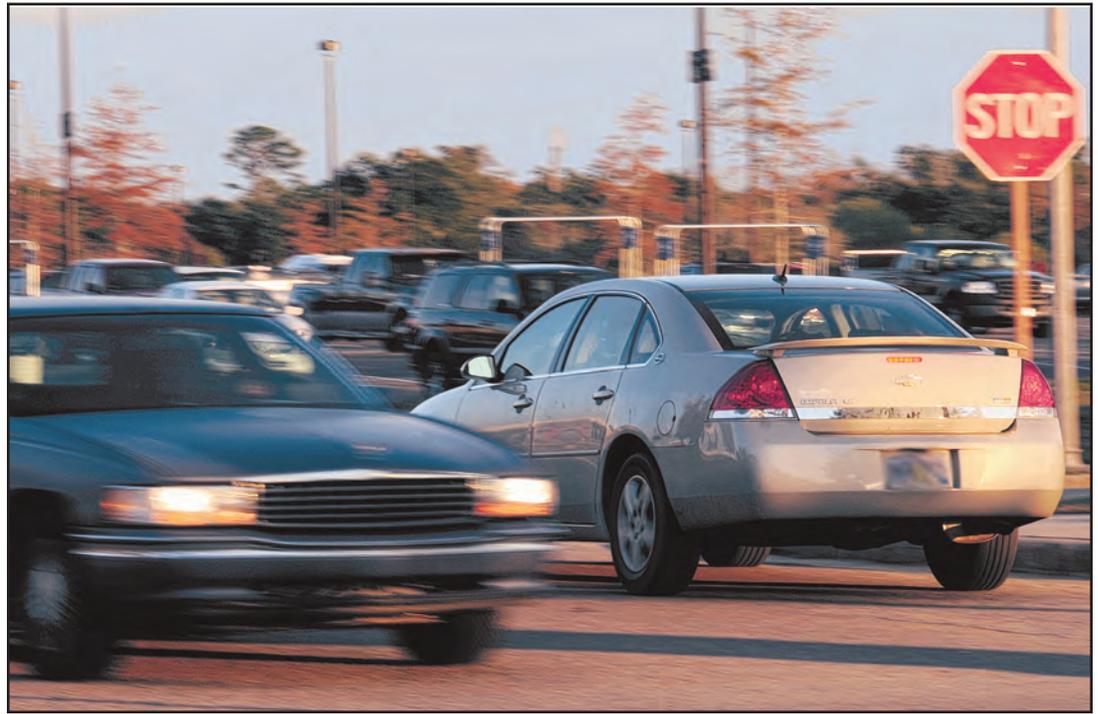


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Stop signs have been installed in the Larcher Boulevard median at C, D and E Streets to protect crossing vehicles. “We recently had an accident at Larcher and C Street, and close calls are a regular event,” said Lt. Col. Sean Gallagher, 81st Mission Support Group deputy commander.

Caring for People survey still open

By Erin Tindell

**Air Force Personnel, Services and
Manpower Public Affairs**

SAN ANTONIO — Air Force members looking to voice their concerns about community support programs and services still have time to complete the 2010 Caring for People Survey.

The survey allows total-force Airmen, civilians, retirees and spouses an opportunity to tell Air Force leaders how they can better address services within health and wellness, Airmen and family support, education and development, and housing and communities.

Since the survey launched Dec. 1, more than 50,000 members have participated. Officials said the response from civilians, reservists, guardsmen, retirees and spouses has been impressive. However, the active-duty response rate is about half of what is needed.

"We need more active-duty members to participate in the survey so leaders have a better picture of where and how to best allocate resources," said Curt Cornelssen, the chief of future operations for Air Force Services at the Pentagon.

Officials also say they have enough responses to make decisions about how to improve services for the Air Force as a whole and for major commands, but need more responses about needs at the base level.

Insights from the 2008 survey and subsequent focus groups spurred the development of several initiatives for improving fitness facilities, dining operations and housing. Officials also allocated \$10 million to start development of a Single Airmen program.

Members may complete the survey at <http://www.cfigroup.com/cfpsurvey/> until Dec. 31.



**Become a Keesler fan
on Facebook!
81TRW Keesler AFB, MS**

License needed for child care in housing

81st Force Support Squadron

People living in base housing who care for children in their homes could be breaking the rules.

Air Force Instruction 34-276, which governs day care in on-base quarters, states “any individuals caring for children more than 10 hours a week on a regular basis must get approval.”

It states that the “installation commander may revoke the housing privileges of individuals who provide child care but refuse to become licensed or who continue to provide care after their license has been suspended or revoked.”

The rule applies whether or not caregivers are compensated for their services.

“We feel people living in base housing, who regularly care for children without being licensed, may be unaware of the regulation,” said Mary Pleasant, family child care program coordinator. “We want not only to bring the information to their attention, but to educate them on the alternative — to become a licensed family child care provider.”

Licenses are granted by the 81st Mission Support Group commander, usually within 30 days upon completion of the initial FCC provider training, background screenings and home inspections.

The training includes child guidance, play environments, nutrition, ages and stages of development, child abuse and neglect, recordkeeping, business management, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid.

“FCC providers are professionals trained to give the best possible care to the children left in their charge,” said Ms. Pleasant.

Once licensed, providers may care for children from 2 weeks through 12 years old assistance from the FCC staff in setting up their home and have access to an extensive library for toys, equipment and materials which help keep costs down. They may set up their own hours of operation and fee structure.

For more information, call 377-3189, 5934 or 5935, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays.

**Lost &
Found**

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

KEESLER NOTES

Postal center hours

Wednesday through Jan. 2, hours for Postal Service Center No. 1 on Meadows Drive are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

Healthy eating classes

The health and wellness center offers a class on eating on the run and dining out during the holidays at noon today.

To sign up, call 376-3170.

Finance office closes

The 81st Comptroller Squadron closes at 11:30 a.m. today for a unit function.

Housing decorations

Holiday decorations in base housing should only be lit from dark until midnight.

All decorations should be taken down by Jan. 6.

Spouses club event

The Keesler Spouses Club plans a wine and tapas tasting, 6:30 p.m. Jan. 11 in the third floor lounge at Bay Breeze Event Center for members and their spouses.

Chef Jon Marc Van Zutphen demonstrates appetizer preparation techniques and discusses wine pairings. Donnie D'Aquin from E&J Gallo Winery pours wines for tasting.

The cost is \$10 cash, check or club card for food and \$5 for three wine tastes. Additional wine and beverages are available for purchase at the bar.

To attend, call 1-660-864-1100 no later than Jan. 6.

Airman's Attic

Airman's Attic, at the corner of Meadows Drive and 1st Street, assists junior enlisted members with obtaining free basic household items.

Donations are needed such as furniture, area rugs, cutlery, dishware, infant wear and maternity clothes which are clean and in good condition. Bring donations to Airman's Attic during regular hours, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, non-training Fridays and the last Saturday of the month.

Thrift shop

The Keesler Thrift Shop, operated by the Keesler Spouses



Base's holiday blood drive happens today

The Keesler Blood Donor Center holds a holiday blood drive, 2-6 p.m. today at the Arnold Annex Building on Meadows Drive.

Donors are entered into a drawing for two \$50 restaurant gift cards and receive blood center coins and T-shirts.

For more information, call 376-6100.

Club, is at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street.

Profits benefit base and area charities and provide scholarships.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

Pickup is available for donations, such as kitchen items, small appliances, furniture, rugs,

household items and infant and children's items.

For more information, call 377-3217.

Space available flights

Regularly scheduled flights on 403rd Wing unit training assembly weekends are available to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.; Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.; Little Rock AFB, Ark.; and Millington Municipal Airport, Memphis, Tenn.

For recorded flight information, call 377-4538 or DSN 597-4538, and for a passenger representative, call 377-1259 or DSN 597-1259.

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.

Raise your voice — honor your country.
If you're interested in singing the National Anthem at base or community ceremonies, call YoLanda Wallace, 377-1179.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Basketball action is heating up



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Justin Gachett, 81st SFS, sails through the air for a lay up in Monday's Eastern Conference matchup with the 81st TRSS. The cops won, 55-51.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Here is a quick look at how intramural basketball is shaping up as of Dec. 9, the end of the second week of the season.

Eastern Conference

The 81st Medical Group is 2-0, the only undefeated team in the eight-member conference.

Dec. 6, the 81st Force Support Squadron slammed the 81st Dental Squadron, 70-37; the 332nd Training Squadron's B team clobbered the 81st Training Support Squadron, 58-38; and the Seabee Base defeated the 81st Security Forces Squadron, 43-29.

Dec. 8, the 332nd TRS-B beat the 345th Airlift Squadron, 52-28, and the 81st MDG slipped past the Seabees, 42-39.

Western Conference

The two remaining undefeated teams at the end of the second week are the 403rd Wing at 2-0 and the 334th TRS with one win.

Dec. 7, the 334th TRS ran past the 333rd TRS, 49-33; the 338th TRS-B overpowered the 332nd TRS-A, 38-25; and the 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron squeaked by with a 52-50 victory over the 335th TRS.

Dec. 9, the 338th TRS-A claimed a 53-34 win over the 338th TRS-B; the 403rd Wing was credited with a 20-0 win over the 81st LRS; and the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron clipped the 332nd TRS-A, 41-37.

Games are 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at Blake Fitness Center – the Eastern Conference plays Mondays and Tuesdays and the Western Conference tips off on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Games are played Monday and Tuesday next week, but no other games are scheduled until the first week of 2011.

For more information, call 377-2444.

Play can make a healthy new you

By Diana Egger

CSC marketing specialist

You know the feeling. It's a new year and after nearly a month of delicious indulgences at special events and holiday parties, your waistline has expanded.

At a time where resolutions are made or broken, the 81st Force Support Squadron is here to help you play your way to a healthier lifestyle.

Lifestyle changes

With the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it's easy to become overwhelmed. It helps to get back to the basics and treat yourself to some re-energizing fun.

An abundance of natural resources surround Keesler, which makes the outdoor recreation and marina park a nature lover's dream for physical activity. Canoes, kayaks and sailboats are just some of the various boats offered for rent. Not only will a trip out on the water in one of these make for a fun day but it can also serve as a great workout. Disc golf is another way to have fun and get some exercise. The course, which is free to use, is just north of the Pass Road Gate. Discs can be rented or purchased at outdoor recreation's retail store.

From camping and fishing to birding and picnicking, we

have what you need to find the serenity you're seeking.

Golf is often thought of as a leisure activity, but you can work up a sweat as you hit the links at the Bay Breeze Golf Course. Skip the golf cart and opt to walk your way around the course. Just carrying your clubs around the course can burn up to 400 calories in one round.

If golf isn't your game, consider bowling as an option for anybody at any age. There are plenty of lanes available at Gaudé Lanes, and whether you take in a few games over lunch or join a league, you'll get exercise and have fun, too.

Learn one of the world's most popular martial arts or loosen up your twinkle toes at the Bay Breeze Community Center. High-activity classes offered include tae kwon do and ballroom variety dance for ages 18 and older. Not only will you improve your skill in the class of your choice, but you can also lose weight and become a part of a team or partnership. For more information, call 377-2509.

Imagine burning calories without realizing it by dancing the night away. Dance nights are held at the Keesler Club every Saturday. For nonprior service students, Vandenberg Community Center offers dance nights every Thursday before nontraining Fridays,

and every Friday and Saturday. For more information call the club at 377-2334 or the "V" at 377-3308.

The base's three fitness centers come fully outfitted with the equipment and personnel with the knowledge and expertise to help you trim down.

At Dragon Fitness Center, sweat away the pounds by joining a free fitness class like Zumba, cycling or Pilates.

Triangle Fitness Center offers boxing equipment for those who need to vent their frustrations on a double-ended punching or heavy-hitting bag. The Triangle Fitness Center also conducts intramural and varsity sports for those who prefer team sports.

Blake Fitness Center has basketball courts, racquetball courts, saunas, cardio and weight equipment. The center hosts a number of 5-kilometer run/walks throughout the year.

Certified personal trainers are available free of charge at all three fitness centers; and a consultation is only a phone call away. So whatever your fitness goal, the fitness centers can accommodate. For more information, call 377-4409.

Healthy state of mind

Changing your lifestyle encompasses good nutrition and exercise habits as well as a healthy state of mind.

To help you in this quest, take advantage of some of these programs that 81st FSS offers.

As a child, do you remember the sense of calm that came over you as you colored in your favorite coloring book? You can have that sense of tranquility once again by taking part in one of the classes available at the arts and crafts center. Choose from painting and drawing classes, ceramics, jewelry making and scrapbooking. The woodworking shop is a great place for you to de-stress by accomplishing a project, such as building a new entertainment center, bedroom suit or even something as simple as a bedside table.

Yoga classes, the perfect outlet for total mind, body and spirit relaxation, are offered at the Dragon Fitness Center. This class will not only help you to relieve stress, but it will teach you breathing and relaxation techniques, core strength and will improve your overall quality of life.

Become the "new you" today by getting involved in any of the morale, welfare or recreation activities available. Whether it's just you or the whole family, there are many things to do that are fun and will help improve your overall lifestyle. For more information, call 377-3181.

January 2011

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE
FORCE
SUPPORT SQUADRON

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Hats Off to 2010
Wear your most festive hat!
\$40 per person

\$35 for Club Members

*Purchase tickets from the Bay Breeze Event Center's cashier. For more information, call 377-2334.
Be safe, reserve a room at the Inns of Keesler, 374-0088. Transportation provided to and from lodging.*

*Keesler Club's New Year's Eve
Celebration 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 31
at the Bay Breeze Event Center.*

Music | Dancing | Prizes

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

Late Night Breakfast

Midnight Champagne Toast





EXTRA! Here's what's happening! EXTRA!



11TH FRAME CAFÉ

Editor's note: Located inside Gaudé Lanes Bowling Center, 377-2036. Contractors welcome. Menu is subject to change without notice.

Kingpin daily specials \$6.95 — 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays. Call-in orders accepted 10-11 a.m. Wednesdays feature meat loaf, Thursdays get chicken fried steak or chicken, and Fridays enjoy golden fried catfish.

New menu items — now serving pizza and milkshakes.

Lunch punch card — purchase nine combos or Kingpin daily specials and your tenth one is free.

BAY BREEZE GOLF COURSE

Editor's note: For more information or tee time, call 377-3832.

Free golf clinics for nonprior service students — noon to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 15 and 21.

Breakfast — the snack bar will begin serving breakfast Jan. 3.

Twilight golf special — 2 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays pay one price and golf until closing; includes cart. E1-E4, \$12; E5-O3, \$20; O4 and up, \$22; and guests \$22.

Golf lessons with a teaching professional — \$30 for a half-hour lesson for any level golfer, from those learning the basic fundamentals to fine tuning the most advanced golfers' skills. Lessons are by appointment Monday-Saturday; call to schedule.

"UBU" nonprior service students' special — \$15 for 18 holes or \$10 for nine holes includes greens fee and cart; \$20 for 18 holes or \$15 for nine holes includes greens fee, cart, and rental clubs.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

GAUDÉ LANES BOWLING CENTER

8 P.M.-1 A.M. DEC. 31

\$30 FOR ADULTS

\$25 FOR AGES 6-17

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 377-2817.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

BOWLING - SHOES INCLUDED!
MUSIC! PRIZES! DANCING!
PARTY FAVORS! FINGER FOODS!
NONALCOHOLIC MIDNIGHT TOAST!

Ages 5 and younger free. Ages 14 and younger must be accompanied by an adult.
Alcoholic beverages sold separately.

AIRMAN AND FAMILY READINESS

Editor's note: Registration is required for all briefings, classes and workshops below, call 376-8728. Space is limited.

Preseparation counseling — Tuesdays, 1 p.m. for those separating, 2:30 p.m. for retirees. Mandatory suspense for completion is 90 days prior to separation/retirement.

Post-deployment brief — 9 a.m. Tuesdays or 1 p.m. Thursdays for all those returning from deployment. No briefing Jan. 13.

Sponsor training — 10-11 a.m. Jan. 10 and 24. Learn about resources and tips for making newcomers feel welcome.

Transition assistance workshop — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 10-12. Workshop helps with transition to the civilian work force for those 12 months or less from separation or 24 months from retirement.

Predeployment brief — 7-9 a.m. Jan. 13 for all individuals deploying. See your Unit Deployment Manager to schedule.

Retirement benefits brief — 1-4 p.m. Jan. 13.

Veterans Administration benefits brief — 8-11 a.m. Jan. 13. Active duty members and their spouses are invited.

Survivor's benefit briefing — 9-11 a.m. Jan. 19 for single and married members and their spouses.

Federal resume writing/job search — 9-11:30 a.m. Jan. 19. Learn how to prepare a resume for federal employment.

Interview skills, salary negotiations — 9-11:30 a.m. Jan. 20.

Airmen on the move — 1-2:30 p.m. Jan. 20.

Civilian jobs resume writing course — 9-11:30 a.m. Jan. 25. Learn about formatting options and how to concisely present accomplishments. Bring a resume if you have one.

Career skills assessment — 9-11:30 a.m. Jan. 26.

BAY BREEZE COMMUNITY CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2509.

Holiday pajama party and double feature — 3-8:30 p.m. Dec. 23 in function rooms 1 and 2. Free admission for the entire family. Bring a pillow or sleeping bag, relax and enjoy two holiday classics: "Santa Paws" and "The Christmas Story." \$1 pizza slices, \$1 sodas and free popcorn. Door prizes.

Exodus gaming challenge — 5-10 p.m. Dec. 27 in the cyber and pool rooms. Video game, pool, chess and checker tournaments. Free admission. Prizes awarded. Video game tournaments include Madden NFL 11 on PS3, Call of Duty on Xbox and World of Warcraft on Xbox. For nonprior service students only.

Family talent show — 5-8 p.m. Dec. 30 in the ballroom. Children and youth talent hour, adult performances, karaoke, and buffet. \$12, club members receive a \$2 discount, \$5 for ages 4 and older, free for ages 3 and younger. Prizes.

Free pool — enjoy a game of billiards on the house. Brand new tables and a flat screen TV, what more could you ask for?

Internet gaming — the cyber sports room has computers dedicated solely to internet gaming. Play for free.

Tae kwon do classes — 6-7 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 18 and older. \$75 per month. Class held at the "V."

Private guitar lessons — \$50 per month for ages 18 and older; your first class is free.

Ballroom dance lessons — 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays, \$50 per month.

Voice and drums instructors needed — please call if you're interested in becoming an instructor.

Book your next event at the Bay Breeze Event Center — a variety of rooms and services are available for both personal and official base functions. We can accommodate parties up to 500 people. For more information, call or email bos.svc@us.af.mil.

DINING FACILITIES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2200.

Daily menu — call 377-DINE (3463).

Monthly birthday celebration — 5:30 p.m. Jan. 12 for all non-prior service students, permanent party enlisted, and Essential Station Messing members. Reservations must be made in advance by the 25th of the previous month; call 377-3854. Personnel collecting Basic Allowance for Subsistence must pay cash and surcharge.

GAUDÉ LANES BOWLING CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2817. Bumpers are available on 19 lanes by reservation for ages 10 and younger.

Wi-Fi — now available for your convenience.

Keesler Kingpin Challenge — 7-10 p.m. Dec. 28 for nonprior service students only. Nine-pin, no-tap bowling tournament, dart and pool tournaments. \$5 cover charge. Prizes awarded.

Bowl at lunch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, \$1 per game and \$1 for shoes.

Keesler Club member special — Thursdays. Show your current club card and bowl for \$1.50 with free shoe rental.

Team building — 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays and 1-5 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, bring your employees and bowl for \$1 a game plus shoe rental. Call for reservations.

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

Birthday parties — 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m. Saturdays. The birthday child is free, you provide the cake. Parties range in price from \$8.95 to \$15.95 per child. Reservations are required.

"UBU" special — show your UBU card and bowl for \$1.50 per game before 5 p.m., \$2 per game after 5 p.m., shoes included.

Fundraiser idea — an exciting way to score over \$450 cash for your organization in just a few hours.

INNS OF KEESLER

Editor's note: For reservations and more information, call (228) 374-0088 or DSN 597-4900.

Stay with us New Year's Eve — planning to attend the New Year's Eve Party at the Bay Breeze Event Center? Transportation provided to and from lodging/the big event. Call now to book your reservations. For more information, see advertisement on page A1.

Check-in/out — at Tyer House located on Fisher Street. If arriving after 6 p.m., please call with credit card information to hold reservation. A business center is on site for your convenience.

Rooms available — space-available reservations can be made three days in advance. Rooms offered are visiting airmen's quarters \$34.75 with a queen bed, refrigerator, microwave and shared bathroom; visitor's quarters \$39 with a queen bed, refrigerator, microwave and private bathroom; and temporary lodging facility \$41.50 for one- and two-bedroom units with full kitchen. Pet TLFs available for an additional \$10 per night.

INFORMATION, TICKETS AND TRAVEL

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3818.

Mississippi Surge hockey tickets — \$12, get your tickets now.

New Orleans Audubon Nature Institute — tickets available now for Audubon zoo, aquarium, insectarium and IMAX® theatre.

Disney World's Salute to the Military — four-day hopper ticket \$138, four-day base ticket with the water park option \$138, four-day park hopper with the water park option \$165. Great deals on resort stays; blackout dates apply.

Armed Forces Vacation Club® — A space available vacation program. No membership fee, no dues and no gimmicks; just a great vacation value for members of the uniformed services, Department of Defense and nonappropriated fund employees. Pay \$369 for seven nights and eight days in a resort condominium. Log onto <http://www.afvclub.com> to reserve. When making your reservations, please designate installation #121 as your base.

Leisure travel

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-1658.

Travel discounts — on cruises, airline tickets, hotels and more.

Seven-day Alaskan group cruise — May. Inside cabin \$1,066.19 per person; ocean view \$1,601.19; balcony \$1,707.19. Price is based on double occupancy and includes tax, transfers, meals and entertainment. Passports are highly recommended.

KEESLER COLLOCATED CLUB

Editor's note: All ranks and contractors welcome. Club members must show club card to receive discounts. For more information, call 377-2334.

Mongolian barbecue — 5-8 p.m. Jan. 7 in the ballroom. Club members pay 95-cents per ounce, nonmembers \$1.10 per ounce.

Champagne brunch — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 9 and 23 in the ballroom. Visit with some of your favorite cartoon characters. \$16.95, members receive \$2 discount.

Daily lunch specials — served 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For menu log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

Pasta station — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays.

Children's menu — available upon request.

Catering — professional services for your special occasions.

Collocated Lounge

Editor's note: Must be age 18 or older to enter.

Social hour — 4-7 p.m. daily. Domestic beer specials: pitchers \$5, draft by the glass \$1.50 and bottles \$2.

Fridays — 5-8 p.m. jazz music; 8 p.m. hip-hop with DJ, "M&M."

DJ Dynamite — 4 p.m. to midnight Jan. 8.

Motown night — 8 p.m. Jan. 22, dance the night away to the swingin' sounds of DJ, Johnny "B" Good.

Wingman Wednesdays — Jan. 5 and 19, domestic draft pitchers \$5. Wings and things free for members, nonmembers pay \$3.

"Football Frenzy" — Sundays, Keesler Club members enter to prizes.

Tailgate brunch — noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. \$8.50, members receive a \$2 discount.

NFL Sunday Ticket — available in both the collocated lounge and casual dining room. Catch the games on our big screen TVs. Free Wi-Fi access for fantasy football. Casual dining room opens at 11 a.m., collocated lounge opens at noon. Giveaways.

Hip-hop dance night — 8 p.m. Jan. 6 and 20 for nonprior service students only. Free admission.

Bonanza bingo — cards \$1, available at the cashier or ask your bartender; you could win a \$500 prize.

LEGENDS CAFÉ

Editor's note: Dine-in or take-out. Located inside Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call 377-2424.

A fast and inexpensive place to grab a bite — serving pizza, wings, chicken tenders, hamburgers, wraps, quesadillas, sandwiches, salads and more. Open evenings Thursdays-Saturdays.

"UBU" special — nonprior service students show your UBU card and get a free large fountain drink with a \$5 purchase.

MCBRIDE LIBRARY

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2181.

"One Page at a Time" — youth reading program through March. Ages 5-13 choose books from suggested reading lists and earn prizes for completed readings.

Children's story time — 10 a.m. Jan. 12, ages 3-5.

Free Wi-Fi — available 24/7. Ask the front desk for login.

Search our online catalog — search for print and audio books, DVDs, CDs, VHS, magazines, periodicals and more, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

Free Rosetta Stone online language learning — a Web-based program with access to 31 languages. Check with the library staff for more information and eligibility requirements.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AND MARINA

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3160.

Wildlife poster contest — three age groups: 3-6, 7-10 and 11-15. Submit entries, no larger than 14x22-inches, by Jan. 31.

January special — 10 percent off rental equipment.

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

Deep sea fishing trips — \$75 includes everything you need to fish, bring food and beverages. Payment is due upon reservation. Minimum 10, maximum 22 people. Call for reservations.

Mississippi Sound fishing charter — aboard the Dolphin II, Keesler's 50-foot fishing vessel. Price is \$750 for first 10 people, \$50 for each additional person with a maximum of 22 people. Fishing licenses are not required. A \$100 deposit is required.

Towable campers for rent — clean and roomy with side slide out. \$50 per day. Tow to your destination and enjoy.

Back Bay fishing trips — \$20, bring your own food and beverages. Mississippi State fishing license required. Call to schedule.

RESALE LOT

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2821.

Buy, sell, trade — \$10 per month to place your vehicle on the lot, \$20 for recreational vehicles and boats. Located on Meadows Drive; register at the arts and crafts center 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Registration, license and insurance required.

SPORTS AND FITNESS

Editor's note: Keesler has three fitness centers for your convenience — Blake Fitness Center, 377-4385; Dragon Fitness Center, 377-2907, and Triangle Fitness Center, 377-3056.

"I Lost It at Keesler" — weight loss competition Jan. 17-Feb. 27 at the Dragon Fitness Center. Initial weigh-in is 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Jan. 3-13. Weekly weigh-ins held throughout the competition. Personal trainers will be available to assist with weight loss goals. Final weigh-in is 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 28. Must be age 18 or older and eligible to use fitness centers to participate. Awards given to the male and female participants with the highest percentage of weight loss. Call for more information.

Wall of fame competition — squat, bench and dead lift power meet held the first nontraining Friday of each month at the Triangle Fitness Center. Compete in one or all three events. Record breakers will receive a T-shirt and have their picture posted on the Wall of Fame. Open to active duty, dependants, retirees, reservists and Department of Defense employees, ages 18 and older. For more information, call 377-3056.

5-K red sweetheart run/walk — noon, Feb. 11. Register 11:30 a.m. day of event. Start and finish at Blake Fitness Center. Wear red in recognition of National Heart Month.



ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTER

Editor's note: Preregistration is required for all classes. Register at craft sales, Building 5904. Space is limited. For more information, call 377-2821.

Specials

Gifts to go — get a décor mug filled with goodies, just \$10 each. Choose one with a picture of a magnolia and the Biloxi lighthouse for a souvenir.

Sale — check out our discount bin; selected products reduced by up to 50 percent.

“UBU” special — UBU card holders get 10 percent off all items in the crafts resale store.

Multi-crafts shop

Editor's note: Potter's wheels, ceramic molds, air brushing, and tools are available for use in the shop. Classes include materials.

Beginners ceramics — 4-6 p.m. Jan. 9, 16 and 23. Learn the basic skills you'll need to create your own ceramic work of art. \$35 includes supplies.

Cartooning — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 14-15. Learn techniques in drawing and developing cartoons. \$30 includes supplies.

Multi-media painting — 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 15. \$30 includes supplies.

Glass painting — 10:30 a.m. to noon Jan. 8 and 22. \$25 includes a completed painted project.

Pen and ink — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 28. \$30 includes supplies.

Acrylic painting — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 29. Learn techniques for painting and leave with a finished piece of art work. \$30 includes supplies.

Wood shop

Editor's note: Hardwoods and plywood in stock for sale. Stock includes walnut, mahogany, pecan, maple, oak, poplar, cypress and cedar.

Beginning woodworking — 10 a.m. Saturdays. Learn how to use over 20 woodworking machines and make a cutting board to take home. \$25 includes shop use, instruction and materials. Class certifies you to use the shop equipment in the future. Watching a safety video is required.

Beginning intarsia — 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 8. \$25 includes supplies. Intarsia is the art form of piecing wood together in a decorative pattern.

Advanced intarsia — 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 15. \$35 includes supplies.

Engraving shop

Custom items — we can etch glass items and customize your order of plaques, trophies, awards, mugs and writing pens for gift giving, special mementos and squadron functions. Organizational name tags are our specialty.

Frame shop

Framing class — noon Jan. 7 and 21. \$30, bring a picture or piece of art no larger than 5x7-inches for framing.

Custom orders — we will customize all work to individual orders. We can coordinate framing awards with engraving shop accessories.

Auto hobby shop

Editor's note: Indoor and outdoor stalls and lifts available. For more information, call 377-3872.

Qualified mechanics — on hand to help with car care needs.

Tire service/air machine — coin-operated, available 24-7. Located at the vacuum station.

Collection site — for privately-owned vehicle oil, antifreeze, transmission and brake fluids.

24-hour coin-operated car care — vacuum station and car wash featuring foamy brush wash, high-pressure rinse, wax, towelettes and Armorall.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2211 or 377-4116.

Give parents a break — 4-10 p.m. Jan. 8. This Air Force Aid Society program offers free child care at the center for Air Force families who are referred by base agencies such as the airman and family readiness center and family advocacy, first sergeants, commanders and chaplains. Certificates must be coordinated through the airman and family readiness center. School-age children go to the youth center.

FAMILY CHILD CARE

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3189.

Child care slots — call for availability.

Be your own boss — we're recruiting military spouses on and off base who wish to care for children in their homes. Providers are 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.

Child care assistance programs — Air Force Aid Society, returning home care, expanded duty care and Air Force subsidy programs are available to assist parents with child care. Call for guidelines.

HELP WANTED

Editor's note: The 81 Force Support Squadron's human resource office is in Room 211, Sablich Center.

Nonappropriated fund positions — apply online at <https://nafjobs.afsv.net>.

Current job openings — for complete list, call the 24-hour job line at 377-9055 or log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

VANDENBERG COMMUNITY CENTER

Editor's note: All events, except dances and weekend competitions, are open to all Keesler personnel. For more information, call 377-5576.

* \$3 cover charge applies.

January is arts month — the “V” will be honoring various creative and performing arts.

Dance video jam — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Jan. 6. Dance to the hottest videos on our jumbo screen.*

To be or not to be — 9 p.m. Jan. 7. Produce a 15-minute comedy, drama, action or one man/woman show and perform it for our audience.*

And...action — 6-9 p.m. Jan. 12. Shoot your own short film to be shown at the “V.” Free admission. Rated “R” content is prohibited. All movies will be previewed by management.

Keesler's got talent — 9 p.m. to midnight Jan. 14. Come wow the crowd with your talent.*

Cookie-eating contest — 9 p.m. to midnight Jan. 20. Compete in our timed milk and cookie eating contest. The first one to wipe their plate clean wins.*

Open mic night — Jan. 21. Grab the mic and take the floor in a three-minute talent showcase.

Meet and greet — 6-8 p.m. Jan. 27. Get to know the staff and enjoy free music, billiards, board and card games, “CZ Zone” and movies. Food specials offered at the Legends Café.

Club “V” grand re-opening — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 28. Come check out our renovations. There'll be food, music and so much more.

“V” After Party — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Jan. 28.

Karaoke — 9 p.m. Saturdays.*

Last player standing pool tournaments — 7 p.m. Wednesdays in January. Prize awarded. Players can bring their own pool sticks.

Late night dances — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursdays before nontraining Fridays and every Friday and Saturday.*

Pool tournaments — 7 p.m. Tuesdays 9-ball, Wednesdays 8-ball. Free to enter.

VETERINARY TREATMENT FACILITY

Editor's note: Located on 3rd Street, Building 0408. All animals in base housing must be registered with the veterinary office. For appointment, call 376-7495.

Eligible patrons — active duty, retirees, reservists and National Guard on active duty for more than 72 hours with orders may use the clinic.

Sick call and vaccines — by appointment only, call to schedule.

Health certificates — available for interstate and overseas travel.

YOUTH CENTER

Editor's note: All children registered in a youth center program receive free membership. For more information, call 377-4116.

Co-ed basketball — season begins Jan. 15.

Fine arts exhibit — through Jan. 7. Selected art work will be forwarded to the Boys and Girls Club regional art show in February.

Friday night fun — 6:30-9:30 p.m., ages 6-12. \$10 admission. Games, snack bar, movies, skating, holiday parties, video games and more. Preregistration is required; drop-ins are welcome if space is available.

Homeschoolers — meet 1-3 p.m. Thursdays.

Open recreation — 3-7 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 3-6 p.m. Fridays. Computer media center, homework assistance, sports and fitness.

Instructional classes — tennis, tae kwon do, piano and guitar. Call to schedule.

Teen open recreation/TRAIL meetings — 4-8 p.m. Saturdays. Recreational and sports activities, video games and tournaments, team building games, computer center and more.

HAPPENINGS is a monthly supplement to the Keesler News produced by the CSC marketing department. Information is subject to change without notice. Federal endorsement of sponsors not intended.

Lisa Campbell, marketing director; Diana Egger, marketing specialist; Cindy Milford, publications administrator; Hank D'Aquila, graphics illustrator; Tanja Smith, commercial sponsorship coordinator.

PLEASE PULL OUT AND KEEP THIS SUPPLEMENT AS A HANDY REFERENCE FOR MONTHLY EVENTS OF THE 81ST FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON.