



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

MAY 17, 2012 VOL. 73 NO. 20



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81st Training Wing Public Affairs

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ON THE COVER

Chief Master Sgt. Angelica Johnson, 81st TRW command chief carries the Olympic Torch down Phantom Street accompanied by Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, Col. Glen Downing, 81st TRW vice commander, and runners from the 81st Security Forces Squadron in preparation for the Special Olympics Mississippi Summer Games, Saturday, at Keesler. This is the 26th year that Keesler has hosted the statewide event. Opening ceremonies took place Friday. Athletic competitions were followed by a victory dance Saturday night. More than 1,200 athletes and coaches and 3,000 volunteers joined forces to make the weekend a success.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



DRAGONS THAT I MEET

**Airmen 1st Class Carlos Urrutia
and Miguel Rodriguez**



Photo by Kemberly Groue

By Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller

81st Training Wing commander

I would like to introduce you to Airman First Class Carlos Urrutia and Miguel Rodriguez, whom I met in the Keesler blood donor center. They are both members in the 81st Diagnostic and Therapeutics Squadron. Urrutia is a medical laboratory technician and has been at Keesler for nearly a year while Rodriguez is a Phase II Laboratory student and has been at Keesler for a little over a month.

Phlebotomy, or drawing blood, is one of many jobs in their career field.

I'm happy to have Carlos and Miguel as a part of Team Keesler and proud to have them as this week's Dragons.



TRAIN, CARE, INNOVATE — DEVELOPING COMBAT POWER FOR AIR, SPACE AND CYBERSPACE

Mueller reiterates Keesler's core mission, values

By Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller
81st Training Wing commander

As I depart this team on Friday, I leave with a clear understanding of the continued importance of what Keesler's men and women do for the future of the mission of our Air Force. Developing combat power for air, space and cyberspace is as important today as developing aviation and engine mechanics was in 1941, when the City of Biloxi donated the land to create Army Air Corps Field No. 8.

Since 1941, more than 2 million students have graduated from technical training courses taught at Keesler, earning initial qualifications in a variety of skill sets. Seventy years later, Team Keesler is still recognized for excellence. Keesler's mission today is a proud reflection of this 70 years of heritage embodied in three overarching themes:

Training

Without a doubt, training is the foundation of Keesler's mission. Today, Team Keesler provides more than 400 courses in 39 specialties. This includes training to qualify every cyberspace operator and air traffic controllers in the Air Force, along with weather courses for Sailors, Marines and Airmen and graduate level education in medical and dental residencies.

Caring

From providing state-of-the-art medical care to the full spectrum of Airmen who use the Keesler Hospital to watching over families of deployed Airmen through Keesler's award-winning Airman and Family Readiness Center, taking care of our Airmen is a key component of our mission. Caring extends into promoting professional development of our Airmen through Airman Leadership School, Mathies NCO Academy and Community College of the Air Force. Caring also extends into ensur-

ing our base facilities are the best they can be.

Rated as Air Education and Training Command's most outstanding base in 2011 and earning the command's nomination for the 2012 Commander-in-Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence certainly demonstrates Keesler's excellence in caring.

Innovating

Bringing new technology and subjects into Keesler's classrooms is a mainstay of our training mission. Most recently, the 81st Training Group transformed the entire communications and information technology curriculum into the only undergraduate cyber training program in the Department of Defense, bringing the newest cyberspace domain into the technical training arena. This innovation places Keesler at the forefront of training for in the most modern warfighting systems in cyberspace.

However, beyond training, caring and innovating, Keesler's team has an even more important mission. Every day, Keesler is home to about 3,000 of the newest Airmen in the Air Force. Each and every day, we set the example for these Airmen to emulate as they strive for a successful career in the Air Force. Good or bad, YOU set the example for our future Air Force. The impressions we leave on our Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines are lasting impressions that can provide a solid foundation for their future success.

The task of setting a solid foundation for our warriors is extremely important, anchored in our vision of the Air Force of the future. To be clear – the impressions and training you are instilling in these Airmen today will remain throughout their careers, and if they all serve for 30 years, your impressions will last until the year 2042 and beyond!



Mueller greets students during his change of command ceremony in 2010. He relinquishes command to Brig. Gen. Brad Spacy 8 a.m. Friday at the parade field behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

Your challenge is you have only one chance to get it right. Once an Airman graduates, your impact on their success and the overall success of the mission is cast. Good or bad, the basis for their actions in their gaining unit and their impression of their contribution to the mission is set. When it comes to training, there are no "recalls" or "do-overs." Therefore, it is imperative we get it right the first time.

There are many pieces to "getting it right," but these are three keys which I still feel are essential to sustaining an environment that provides a solid foundation for success for every Airman, Soldier, Sailor and Marine who enters Keesler's gates.

Professionalism

Simply put, let how you accomplish your job be the positive example for others to follow. Challenge yourself

to be an expert in your career field and maintain this expertise. Follow the established processes and procedures to ensure unit compliance with existing directives. Do not accept lapses in our Air Force standards.

Perseverance

Construction, demolition, remodeling, detours, continued budget cuts, severe weather and, no doubt, tropical storms are all in your future. Despite the inconvenience and hardships these events can create, do not let them become an excuse for cutting corners, a reason for inaction, or worse, lapses in professional judgment. Instead, maintain our mission focus and work together as a team to overcome each and every obstacle.

Pride

Each of you should be extremely proud of what you do

here at Keesler. Everyone has a role in ensuring our mission success and we cannot do the mission without you on the team. Take ownership of what you do. Be proud of what you do and do not be afraid to share that pride with others.

To be members of Team Keesler for the past two years has been a very rewarding experience for the Mueller family. We leave with hundreds of memories of outstanding Airmen doing great things to better our mission, our base, our community and our Air Force. In addition, the support we received from local community was incredibly gracious and unmatched in any of our previous assignments. When people ask us where we are from, be certain will smile and proudly say, "Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi!"

TRAIN to FIGHT
TRAIN to WIN!

Photo by Kemberly Groue

Medic determined to achieve education goals



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Spiel, right, simulates treating Staff Sgt. Sheri Samuels, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, by “freezing” a skin condition using liquid nitrogen.

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Kayla Spiel, 81st Medical Operations Squadron Dermatology Clinic, is determined to meet the goal she set for herself when she enlisted in the Air Force – to further her education.

The future physician accepted four of the six awards presented during the Spring CCAF graduation ceremony, including a \$400 Air Force Association Pitsenbarger Award, \$200 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Excellence Award, a \$100 University of Southern Mississippi Textbook Scholarship Award and a \$100 William Carey University Excellence Award. She has earned 79 college credits with a 3.6 grade point average.

Spiel joined the Air Force in June 2007, immediately upon graduation from high school in her hometown of Dupree, S.D.

“I began taking college courses in 2008, concentrating on pre-med,” she said. April 19, Spiel marked a milestone in her ultimate goal to earn a

medical degree and become a dermatologist as she was presented her Community College of the Air Force degree in allied health sciences.

She hopes eventually to be accepted into the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, located in Bethesda, Md. She currently is taking courses at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College leading to a bachelor’s degree in physics.

Maj. (Dr.) Wendi Wohltmann, Dermatology Clinic chief, said she is extremely proud of Spiel. “When she first started working here, she had planned on becoming a physician assistant and did not have a degree. She is an inspiration to others to complete school and shoot for the stars! She is also heavily involved in volunteering and is spearheading a hospital-wide recycling program, completely on her own.”

Spiel encourages others to continue their education. “Do not let the fear and convictions of others hinder your dreams. Continue to persevere, expanding your knowledge and achieving your goals.”

Military wives eligible for vocational scholarships

By Airman 1st Class Zachary Vucic

Defense Media Activity

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. — Operation Homefront and the Women’s Self Worth Foundation will offer the Saban Military Wife Educational Scholarship to wives of uniformed service members who attend certain vocational training programs in the medical field and meet eligibility requirements.

Overall, 22 vocational training scholarships will be awarded, totaling \$237,500.

Two \$30,000 scholarships will be awarded for tuition for vocational nursing programs. Also, 15 scholar-

ships of \$8,500 and five scholarships of \$10,000 will be awarded for tuition for vocational training in the following medical fields: dental assistant, medical assistant, medical billing and coding specialist, medical insurance technician, patient care assistant/ technician, nurse assistant training program and medical transcription.

To be eligible, applicants must be a legal wife of a military member currently serving on active duty, whether they are active duty, Reserve or National Guard. Applicants must be accepted for registration by a vocational school in one of the fields mentioned above, and be an active volunteer in their community. If awarded a scholarship,

awardee must complete 12 hours of volunteer work per year while using the funds. The funds awarded must be put to use within 12 months of the scholarship award date and must be used in their entirety within 48 months.

The scholarship is sponsored and funded by the Women’s Self Worth Foundation, therefore it is only available to women, said Judy Trevino of Operation Homefront.

A letter of recommendation from a nonprofit organization or other group the applicant has volunteered with will be required for application.

In addition to meeting the eligibility standards, the application process will involve the submission of a 300 word

essay answering the question: How, besides being a military wife, do you feel you have contributed to making your community a better place?

Applications are accepted from April 1, 2012, through June 1, 2012, and are available at www.operation-homefront.net/scholarship. Operation Homefront is the manager of the scholarship. All questions and concerns should be directed to Operation Homefront Program Manager by email at scholarship@operationhomefront.net, or by mail at: Operation Homefront-Scholarship Program, 8930 Fourwinds Drive, Suite 340, San Antonio, Texas 78239.

Local high school students win KSC scholarships

By Staff Sgt.
Kimberly Rae Moore

Keesler Public Affairs NCOIC

The Keesler Spouses Club awarded 11 scholarships May 8 at Keesler's Bay Breeze Event Center.

Recipients of the scholarships were chosen by a panel of judges from local colleges and universities.

Winners of \$2,000 scholarships are:

Benjamin Hurtado, a senior at Biloxi High School, is the son of Veronica and Master Sgt. Carlos Hurtado, 81st Training Support Squadron. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Mu Alpha Theta. He is captain of his high school's baseball team, a football player and volunteers with Special Olympics, Biloxi Coastal Cleanup and the American Red Cross. He plans to attend Mississippi State University and major in aerospace engineering, earn an Air Force commission and continue playing baseball. He also received the \$1,000 First Command Scholarship.

Angela Klipp, a senior at Ocean Springs High School, is the daughter of Master Sgt. Catherine Klipp, 403rd Wing, and retired Master Sgt. Ronnie Klipp. She volunteers as a candy striper and goes on missionary trips to Mexico. She participates in the Cotillion Sorority, Arms Open and the Ambassador Mentor Leadership program along with her school's track, cheer, dance and gymnastics teams. She plans to major in nursing at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and hopes to become a neonatal nurse practitioner.

Rebecca Croker is the daughter of retired Chief Warrant Officer Robert and Bonnie Croker. She is a senior at Vancleave High School and a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Club and Catholic Youth Organization. Rebecca plans to attend William Carey University and double major in music education and biology with a goal

of becoming either a pediatric surgeon or a band director.

Sarah Pace is the daughter of Valerie and David Pace, 81st Medical Support Squadron. She is a senior at Ocean Springs High School and a member of the Seal Club, National Honor Society, the Honor Choir and Mu Alpha Theta. She has worked with canine rescue and volunteers as a candy striper. Sarah plans to attend the University of South Alabama with a major in pre-med and a goal of improving quality of life for cancer patients and curing leukemia.

Paige Lyons, daughter of Wayne and Lisa Lyons, 81st Force Support Squadron, is a senior at St. Patrick High School. She plays softball and is member of the student council, Interact Club, National Honor Society, Key Club and Mu Alpha Theta. She plans to attend University of Southern Mississippi and major in nutrition, dietetics and child nutrition.

Winners of \$1,000 scholarships are:

Danielle Maxon is married to Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Maxon and is enrolled in Washburn University where she has played and coached the softball team and worked as an aquatics safety instructor. She volunteers with her church and at a special needs camp. She is majoring in physical therapy and is a member of the American Physical Therapy Association. In addition to the \$1,000 KSC scholarship, Maxon was also awarded a \$1,000 Mary Martin Scholarship.

Kiante Evers, son of Army Sgt. 1st Class Carlos and Carla Evers, Camp Shelby, is a senior at Gulfport High School and a member of the National Honor Society, the Quota Club and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Band. He has participated in his school's robotics team and is working on his first novel. Kiante plans to major in mechanical engineering at the University of South Alabama and hopes to organize engineering programs in high-poverty schools after



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Back row from left to right are Sarah Pace, Benjamin Hurtado, Isaiah Hurtado, Angela Klipp and Elia Busey; and front row from left to right are Paige Lyons, Rebecca Croker, Kiante Evers, Rebecca Berry and Elizabeth McNeer, are winners of the 2012 Keesler Spouses' Club Scholarships, which were presented at a ceremony May 8, at the Bay Breeze Event Center. Danielle Maxon was not present.

earning his degree.

Elia Busey, daughter of Erica and Jeff Busey, is a senior at Ocean Springs High School. Her mother is an Army and Air Force Exchange Student employee. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Technical Honor Society and the Ambassador Mentor Program. She plans to major in kinesiology at Louisiana State University and to attend medical school to work as a team doctor for a professional sports team.

Elizabeth McNeer, daughter of George and Sara McNeer, is a senior at Biloxi High School. Her father works in the 85th Engineering Installation Squadron. Sara is active in her church, the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce Junior Leadership program, the National Honor Society and her school's Math and Science Society. She also plays the violin with her school's bands and the Mary C. O'Keefe Youth Symphony. Elizabeth plans to

attend Mississippi State University and major in biomedical science in preparation for medical school.

Isaiah Hurtado, son of Veronica and Master Sgt. Carlos Hurtado, is a senior at Biloxi High School. His father is assigned to the 81st Training Support Squadron. He is a member of the National Honor Society, National Business Honor Society and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He plays football and golf and volunteered for the Special Olympics, the American Red Cross Angel Tree and the Gulf Coast Beach Beautification Project. Isaiah plans to attend Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and major in business administration.

Rebecca Berry is married to Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Berry, 335th Training Squadron. She volunteers for the Veterans Olympics and with her church and has spent time in India providing food and support to families in poverty-stricken

areas. She's the mother of two and a student at Tulane University where she is pursuing a master's degree in public health with a goal of addressing worldwide inequities in nutrition and basic health care.

The Keesler Thrift Shop is the main source for the scholarships and is run by KSC volunteers. Sales generate funds that support the college scholarships and contributions to other charitable organizations benefiting Keesler and the local community.

The Keesler Spouses Club is open to Keesler spouses of any Armed Forces service member, including active duty, guard, reserves, civil service or key civilian personnel working at Keesler, both women and men of any rank.

For more information on the Keesler Spouses Club or the scholarships, go to <http://www.keeslerspousesclub.com>

Chiefs release strategic direction on sexual assault

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Despite years of concerted effort, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the commandant of the Coast Guard are dissatisfied with progress made in reducing sexual assault in the military, and have released strategic direction to increase the emphasis on combatting the crime.

The chiefs released a “32-star” letter to commanders and leaders, titled “Strategic Direction to the Joint Force on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response.” In the past two years, service members have reported 6,350 cases of sexual assault.

In what is mandatory reading for all commanders and leaders, the letter says the mission is to reduce and ultimately eliminate incidences of sexual assault, and establish an environment of mutual respect and trust, and a work place where the act is not tolerated.

Sexual assault is a crime that erodes the bonds of trust essential for military units to succeed and puts all members of the military team at risk. The chiefs stressed that prevention and response must be emphasized in all aspects of planning, training and mission execution — requiring actual leadership, not just a “checking-the-box” mentality.

The chiefs have been working diligently for months on the strategic direction, officials said.

“Sexual assaults endanger our own, violate our professional culture and core values, erode readiness and team cohesion and violate the sacred trust and faith of those who serve and whom we serve,” the document’s introduction says.

“As military professionals we must fully understand the destructive nature of these acts, lead our focused efforts to prevent them, and promote positive command climates and environments that reinforce mutual respect, trust and confidence,” the letter reads.

Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Navy Adm. James Winnefeld, the vice chairman; Gen. Ray Odierno, Army chief of staff; Adm. Jonathan Greenert, chief of naval operations; Gen. Norton Schwartz, Air Force chief of



staff; Gen. James Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps, Air Force Gen. Craig McKinley, chief of the National Guard Bureau and Adm. Robert Papp Jr., commandant of the Coast Guard, signed the letter.

Officials said they wrote the guidance to synchronize efforts to combat sexual assault.

“Commanders and leaders must personally read, understand and implement this strategy, the chiefs wrote. “We are fully committed to supporting your efforts to put this strategic direction into action and operationalize [sexual assault prevention and response] within your commands across the joint force.”

Evidence clearly shows gaps remain between the precepts of the Defense Department Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and full implementation at all levels of command. The strategic direction calls on commanders to close these gaps, “by exercising the full measure of their authorities, options and resources.”

The direction looks to “imbue a culture and cultivate a climate and environment that is resilient to the risks and vulnerabilities associated with sexual assault,” the document says.

Service members need to understand that sexual assault is a crime under the Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Four distinct offenses —rape,

“Sexual assaults endanger our own, violate our professional culture and core values, erode readiness and team cohesion and violate the sacred trust and faith of those who serve and whom we serve.”

— Chiefs letter to commanders, leaders

sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact and abusive sexual contact — are contained in Article 120. These and two other offenses -- forcible sodomy and attempts to commit these offenses - are sexual assault crimes within DOD’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program.

Commanders need to work with military lawyers to understand the legal ramifications of these crimes, the chiefs wrote, and need to communicate them to members of their units.

The letter emphasizes that prevention always is better than prosecution. “Commanders must train service members to ensure they understand, for example, that consumption of alcohol can impair the judgment of both parties and the consequences of an alcohol-related sex crime can have a significant and long-lasting impact on the victim, offender, unit cohesion and ultimately the readiness of the joint force,” the chiefs wrote.

The chiefs look to instill this call to action at all levels of professional military education, from recruits entering the service to general and flag officers, officials said.

The chiefs set out five lines of effort: prevention, investigation, accountability, advocacy and assessment. The lines of effort will be governed by overarching tenets - leadership, communication, culture, integration and resource-

ing - that will guide how the lines of effort will be implemented.

Sexual assault in the military is a problem that all service members must face, the chiefs said. The top uniformed leaders have set goals for themselves, too, and spelled out their tasks in the strategic direction.

The chiefs will engage commanders, leaders and service communities worldwide to promote the health and discipline of the force. They will work with the combatant commanders to identify additional requirements that may be needed and examine how to improve sexual assault prevention in forward-deployed locations.

Also, the chiefs will work closely with the Office of the Secretary of Defense to resource the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program and will establish a quarterly executive council “dedicated to a candid and enduring dialogue designed to assess the effectiveness of operationalizing [Sexual Assault Prevention and Response] into commands across the joint force.”

The complete report is available at <http://www.jcs.mil>

Special olympians showcase competitive spirit



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Athletes and their Airmen sponsors arrive at the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics Mississippi Summer Games, Friday. It's the 26th year that Keesler has hosted the statewide event.



Arnie Howe, athlete, throws the shot put while being cheered on by volunteers and Airman sponsors.



Col. Maureen Smith, 81st Training Group commander, laughs with Jill Mixon, coach; Earl Dragon, athlete; and Alicia Clayton, volunteer, as Dragon waits his turn in the Bocce competition.



David Robertson, athlete, trails behind athlete Beth Ann Sullender in the 100-meter freestyle swim competition at the Biloxi Natatorium.



The Keesler Honor Guard marches the colors onto the parade field during the Special Olympics opening ceremonies.



Tech. Sgt. Alex Jordan, Mathies NCO Academy, volunteers his services by presenting medals to the athletes.



Airman 1st Class Steven Tepperberg, 338th Training Squadron; Chris Ferrell, athlete; and Airman Basic Zachary Coonrod, 335 TRS, display a few moves during the victory dance, inside a Hangar, following closing ceremonies Saturday ending the Special Olympics.

Seventeen-year-old Brady White, Wendell Yates, Desmond Brown, Tierrez Macon, and Chase Meadows, athletes, participate in the 50-meter run. Athletic competitions took place throughout the day. More than 1,200 athletes and coaches and 3,000 volunteers joined forces to make the event a success.



A look back on Mueller's command



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Mueller was presented a \$1,500 check for the Combined Federal Campaign by Tech. Sgts. Mark Sanders and Johanna Pillitiere; Staff Sgts. Angela Everson and Ray Williams, Jr.; and Master Sgt. Rob Rosh on behalf of the 336th Training Squadron Booster Club Oct. 12, 2011, in front of Holbrook Manor. This was the 50th anniversary of the CFC and Mueller served as the 2011 Southern Miss. CFC Chairperson.



Mueller shows Biloxi Mayor A.J. Holloway some of the items to be included in a time capsule that was buried after the 81st Training Group student parade, Sept. 29. Holloway represented other honorary commanders in reviewing the parade with Mueller. The time capsule, in commemoration of Keesler's 70th birthday in 2011 was buried exactly 70 years after Keesler's airplane and engine mechanics school began operations.

Photo by Adam Bond



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Mueller and his wife Keri served as Grand Marshalls for the Jeff Davis Elementary School Mardi Gras parade in Biloxi Feb. 17. They led the parade and tossed beads as the Keesler Honor Guard and Airmen from the 81st Training Group carrying the 50 state flags followed.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, addresses Team Keesler after accepting command in 2010.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Mueller and four-to-five year old children from the Child Development Center, plant a Live Oak tree during an Earth Arbor Day ceremony Feb. 23, outside of the CDC.

For more news, photos, videos and information, log on to www.keesler.af.mil
or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/keeslerafb



Three win AETC-level awards

AETC Outstanding Senior Attorney

- Colonel Polly Kenny, 2nd Air Force

Air Force Senior NCO Academy Commandant Award Winner

- Senior Master Sgt. Robert Jackson, 81st Training Wing

AETC Technical Training Support SNCO of the Year

- Master Sgt. James Musgrove, Jr, 338 Training Squadron

KEESLER NOTES

Immigration assistance

From 8 a.m. to noon today, a representative from the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is in the legal office to meet with military members, their families, retirees and their dependents to answer questions about the immigration application process and how being a military member helps the immigration process. Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are seen as time allows. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 228-376-8601.

13L air liaison career

June 1 is the deadline to volunteer for the 13L air liaison career field.

Candidates selected dur-

ing this cycle attend the Phase II ALO aptitude assessment Aug. 2-6 at the Jacks Valley Training Area at the Air Force Academy, Colo.

ROTC and Air Force Academy cadets who are graduating in 2013, Air Force cross-flow officers, interservice transfer candidates and Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve officers who'd like to be recalled to active duty are eligible. A limited number of 2014 academy and ROTC graduates may be considered, depending on the number of applications received.

For eligibility requirements and more information, call DSN 574-8384, email acca3fc.jid@langley.af.mil or log on to <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil/>

app/answers/detail/a_id/22138.

Master Sergeant Select Release Party

Everyone in Team Keesler is invited to the Bay Breeze Event Center, 4 p.m. today to congratulate our newest Master Sergeant selects. Refreshments will be provided.

MSG's Ultimate Warrior Challenge

The 81st Mission Support Group is holding the "MSG's Ultimate Warrior Challenge" from 8-10 a.m. May 31 at the Triangle Track. Nine teams will compete in a race featuring 10 deployment-related challenges to promote esprit de corps in support of the deployment mission.

I-81 running track

The I-81 Running Track will be under construction and closed for the next few months in order to remove and replace the asphalt surface. The contractor will begin work Monday and is scheduled to be completed mid-July.

Summer classes

William Carey University is currently enrolling for the Summer trimester which begins May 28. William Carey offers flexible bachelors and masters degrees. Advisors are available to answer questions about degrees, VA benefits, and tuition assistance. For more information, call (228) 376-8440.

Asian-Pacific Heritage Month

In honor of the Asian-

Pacific Heritage Month, the base exchange and the Asian Shop will be hosting a cultural event May 26. The Keesler Asian Pacific Committee will perform dances from the Philippines and Hawaii, and will have a fashion show. The function will be from 1-2 p.m. in the mall area in front of the exchange. Please come and join the celebration and bring your cameras.

Keesler Thrift Shop

The Keesler Thrift Shop, operated by the Keesler Spouses' Club, is at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street. Profits benefit base and area charities and provide scholarships. Hours are 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. Visit www.keeslerspousesclub.com for more information and a list of preferred donations. Pickup is available for bulk donations. For more information, call 228-377-3217.

Keesler Events Calendar

Today

8 a.m. — Veteran's benefit briefing at the Sablich Center room 108A. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

1 p.m. — Retirement benefits briefing at the Sablich Center Room 108A. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

— Post deployment briefing at the Sablich Center Room 108.

4 p.m. — Master Sgt. Select Release Party at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

6 p.m. — Scrapbooking 101 class at the arts and crafts center.

Friday

8 a.m. — 81st Training Wing change of command at the parade field behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

11 a.m. — Annual First Sergeant Golf Tournament at the Bay Breeze Event Center

Saturday

8 a.m. — Sign in begins for America's Armed Forces Kids Run at the exercise grounds next to the youth center, run begins at 9 a.m.

Ages 5 through adult. First 50 to sign up get a free t-shirt.

9 a.m.-1 p.m. — Community Yard Sale in the Bay Breeze Parking Lot for more information or to reserve a table call (228) 377-2509.

— Woodshop class at the arts and crafts center.

Tuesday

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

— Separatees pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center in Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

1 p.m. — Retiree pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

May 24

9 a.m. — Bundles for babies at the Sablich Center Room 108B. Call (228) 376-8728 for more information.

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

May 25

AETC family day.

8 a.m. — National Bicycle Month 25-mile bike trek with outdoor recreation. Call (228) 377-4409 for more information.

10:30 a.m. — Ceramic mold pouring class at the arts and crafts center.

1 p.m. — Ice cream social at the arts and crafts center.

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

May 26

10:30 a.m. — Jewelry I class at the arts and crafts center.

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

May 28

Memorial day.

May 29

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

— Separatees pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center in Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.

1 p.m. — Retiree pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110. Call (228) 376-8728 to register.



Press Release May 14, 2012

Subject: Notice of Route Improvements

CTA will implement changes to the fixed route bus services listed below on Sunday May 20, 2012.

Casino Hopper – Extend route to service The Margaritaville Casino. The Casino Hopper will no longer operate on a 15 minute time interval. The new time interval will be every 20 minutes.

Route 24 Keesler – Due to the relocation of Walmart from Pass Rd. to C.T. Switzer Dr., Route 24 will move from Pass Road to Hwy 90. The time interval will remain at 1 hour.

Route 34 Pass Road - Due to the relocation of Walmart from Pass Rd. to C.T. Switzer Dr., the Route 34 time schedules at Walmart and Edgewater Mall will change. The route will continue to operate on a 45 minute time interval.

Please check the new 2012 Spring Rider's Guide for these changes as you may have to make some minor adjustments to get to your destination. The 2012 Spring Rider's Guide has been released and are available at the CTA office on DeBuys Rd., the CTA Biloxi Transit Center and the CTA Gulfport Transit Center.

For additional information call 896-8080 or visit us at www.coasttransit.com.

"We Keep the Gulf Coast Rolling"

Deployed Keesler medic serves life-saving role

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Hospital emergency physician Maj. (Dr.) Melissa Dooley is putting her expertise to use during her current deployment to Afghanistan. A member of the 81st Medical Operations Squadron Emergency Services Flight, Dooley has been assigned to a forward operating base as part of a Navy forward surgical team since December.

She explained, "This facility performs what is called 'damage control surgery,' which consists of stabilization surgery to save lives. Patients receive surgery to control or stop bleeding, reduce fractures and limit further damage from their trauma. Often these patients are in critical condition post-operatively and are still on a ventilator, receiving resuscitative fluids, blood products and medications. They are then packaged and prepared for transport via a (U.S. Army UH60) Black Hawk helicopter with me and the medevac

crew to a Role 3 medical facility where more definitive treatment can start."

Dooley continued, "Medical Airmen are here as part of the joint team. My Air Force tactical critical care evacuation team consists of two nurse anesthetists and an emergency medicine doctor. The three of us are then sent out individually to different locations in-theater supporting remote FOBs.

Our guiding principle behind this system of medical care is to ensure that the level of care patients get at each stage never decreases in capability in an effort to increase survival from battlefield to final destination. I am part of the second group to do this job, so we are constantly adapting patient care and coordinating lessons learned from having an Air Force doctor attached to a Navy command filling an Army billet. This experience has been the most satisfying part of my Air Force medical career."



Courtesy photo

Dooley provides training on preparing patients for their flight to the next higher level of medical care.



What a sight

Staff Sgt. David Schwartz looks down the barrel of an M-24 rifle at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 7. Schwartz is an advanced designated marksman with the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and is deployed from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Ericka Engblom

Mixed Martial Arts professionals teach bootcamp class at Dragon Fitness Center

Alan Belcher, owner of the Alan Belcher MMA Club, teaches a basic Brazilian Jiu Jitsu mixed martial arts move to Airmen Shade Bennett, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, and Kiara Daniels, 81st Training Group, at a single Airman MMA Bootcamp May 10, at the Dragon Fitness Center. The bootcamp consists of six weeks of training the basics of MMA including Muay Thai boxing, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, kickboxing and grappling. The bootcamp was made possible by the Air Force Single Airman Programming Initiative.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



Mike Sanford, professional mixed martial arts instructor from the Alan Belcher MMA Club, assists Alan Belcher in a demonstration as class participants look on.

Airman First Class Anthony Tressel, 338th Training Squadron, and Alan Belcher, owner of the Alan Belcher MMA Club, demonstrate a basic Brazilian Jiu Jitsu mixed martial arts move.