



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train. Fight. Win.

SEP. 6, 2012 VOL. 73 NO. 34



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Brig. Gen. Brad Spacy
81st Training Wing
commander

**81st Training Wing
Public Affairs**

1st Lt. Victoria Porto
Chief

Jerry Taranto
Deputy chief

**Staff Sgt.
Kimberly Rae Moore**
NCOIC

**Senior Airman
Heather Heiney**
Keesler News co-editor

Steve Hoffmann
Keesler News co-editor

Kemberly Groue
Photojournalist

Public affairs staff
**Senior Airman
Eric Summers Jr.
Joel Van Nice
Tim Coleman
Susan Griggs**

The Keesler News office is in Room 201A, Wall Studio, Building 0902. The mailing address: 81TRW/PAIN, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2120. Phone: 377-3837, 3604, 2254 or 9966. Published Thursday. News deadline: noon Monday. Editorial content edited, prepared and provided by the 81st TRW Public Affairs Office is in compliance with Air Force journalistic standards. Photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. The Keesler News is published by Gulf Publishing Co., a private firm in no way connected with the Air Force, under an exclusive written contract with the 81st TRW as an authorized publication for U.S. military service members. Contents aren't necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Air Force. Advertising doesn't constitute endorsement by the U.S. government, DOD, Air Force or Gulf Publishing of products or services advertised. Everything advertised shall be available without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor.



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ON THE COVER

Storm surge in the Back Bay raises waters over the Keesler Marina's docks. In an effort to ensure the safety of Keesler personnel and assets during Hurricane Isaac, the base was closed Aug. 28-29 and reopened Aug. 30 following minimal damage. According to James Tart, lead forecaster with CSC, Keesler's total rainfall was 10.14 inches and maximum wind speed reached 56 miles per hour.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Rae Moore



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

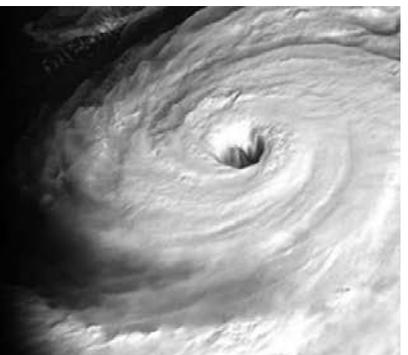


Photo by Adam Bond

Honorable Daniel B. Ginsberg, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Brig. Gen. Bradley Spacy, 81st Training Wing commander, pose for a photo at 81st TRW headquarters prior to an office visit at the beginning of Ginsberg's tour of Keesler Aug. 21. During his two-day tour he also visited various training squadrons, the Keesler Hospital A-Tower and the 403rd Wing.

HURRICANE SEASON

runs from June 1 - Nov. 30. For more information and preparations tips,
visit www.keesler.af.mil/hurricaneinfo.asp



Airmen have a choice — get bitter or get better

By Senior Master Sgt.
Joel Shepherd

338th Training Squadron
first sergeant

As warriors in today's Air Force we face many overwhelming challenges. These challenges include an ever-expanding mission, a constantly shrinking manpower pool, a diminishing budget, an increasing overload of personal stressors, a demanding environment of "multi-hatted" duties at all levels and the same expectation of excellence in all areas that's always been expected.

These daunting burdens present us with great adversity. This adversity can lead to discouragement and negative attitudes. As leaders, we are at a crossroad where we can either "get bitter or get better."

Our nation, our Air Force, our leaders, our peers and our

Airmen all need us to provide bold leadership with a positive attitude of hope and optimism every day.

When faced with adversity the easy thing, and possibly the natural thing, to do is to commiserate and breed an Eeyore-like mentality, "The sun's too hot, the road is too long, and there is a rock in my shoe." We can choose to "Worry-down-and-all-around" or "Warrior-up". Stephen Covey wrote, "Opposition is a natural part of life. Just as we develop our physical muscles through overcoming opposition—such as lifting weights—we develop our character muscles by overcoming challenges and adversity." Adversity can make us better if we don't let it make us bitter (John Maxwell, Attitude 101).

One of the secrets of getting better is to focus on what we do have rather than

what we don't have. One of the keys to success is to not let what you can't do interfere with what you can do (John Maxwell, The Difference Maker). Despite all our challenges, we have a selected team of all-stars who are willing to do what is asked of them for this country. We have the title as one of the greatest organizations the world has ever known. We have a responsible enlisted corps of warriors who are bred to be technically sound in their craft. And, we have the core values as a foundation in all our Airmen. Whether we breed bitterness or betterment amongst our teams is truly dependent upon our attitudes as leaders.

As leaders, our attitudes can become our greatest and most inexpensive asset or our most burdensome and costly liability. The price we pay for

a positive attitude is simple and cheap. This bill includes showing up to work with some enthusiasm, not becoming a naysayer, concentrating on solutions rather than problems, consistently meeting and enforcing standards, thanking and rewarding superior performance, expressing pride in the unit identity and the Air Force and smiling frequently.

Our attitudes can breed commitment over mere compliance. Compliance is easy to build and it is easy to recognize. Our Air Force is full of compliant Airmen who do what they are told. A team that operates under compliance is just watching the clock, hoping that no further tasks come down prior to the end of the day. On the same note, a team operating under commitment is more concerned with mission

accomplishment, excellence and teamwork rather than watching the clock. We can either become masters of our attitudes and reap the daily benefits of teamwork and morale, or we can become victims of our attitudes and battle the daily burdens of complacency and mediocrity.

Our supervisors, our peers and our subordinates depend on us to provide daily dosage of a positive attitude and an optimistic hope. Understand, we get paid and are charged with executing the mission and solving problems, not with complaining about the barriers and perpetuating further negativity.

Worry-down or Warrior-up? Perpetuate problems or find solutions? Become masters or settle as victims? Breed commitment or build compliance? Get bitter or get better? The choice is ours.

Symptoms of stress need to be attacked

By Capt. Scott Taylor

Air Force Legal Operations Agency

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — As an area defense counsel in the Air Force, it is my job to represent Airmen who get in legal or administrative trouble, and I love my job.

I have spent the majority of my legal career as an attorney representing people in trouble, both as a civilian and now as an ADC. It has been my experience that people seldom make bad decisions in a vacuum. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, stress, and depression are very common factors amongst my clients over the years.

For the majority of people, these factors do not excuse behavior, but we are failing our fellow Airmen if we ignore environmental factors that can substantially contribute to that behavior. Being a defense attorney allows me to see my clients and not see them for the worst thing they have ever done, but rather see the whole person and all the good they have done in their life as well. I come from a very conservative background, and I was very surprised to find I enjoyed the work and the lifestyle of a defense attorney. It has changed my outlook on life dramatically.

Stress

Ask any doctor about the effects of stress on a body and you will hear that stress has powerful effects on your physical and mental health. Stress comes in all forms. In the United States, approximately one in five veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has major depression or PTSD. Veterans with PTSD or depression experience more serious legal problems, a higher lifetime use of alcohol and other substances, and worse general health. A 2007 Department of Defense report noted that military service can result in "hidden wounds" such as combat stress and PTSD. These hidden wounds can lead to difficulty controlling anger, irritability, self medicating with alcohol and other drugs, and other reckless or high risk behaviors. Stress is not limited to combat stress however.

Military life comes with a significant amount of stress that takes its toll on our mental health, our physical health, and our family lives. Awards and great performance reports are a fantastic achievement, but every award or great performance report comes with an investment. As we all strive for excellence in all we do, we make an investment with our time and our health through

long hours, extra duties, volunteer work, and all the associated activities that come with being the best. We can all relate to giving our best and having that achievement seemingly overlooked. We can all point to a time when we felt a quarterly award was deserved but someone else was nominated instead, which only increases the mental workload. Every deployment, every award, every stellar performance report, and every significant accomplishment is paid for. We cannot place these stressors on Airmen and then treat the negative consequences of that investment as an isolated behavioral problem.

Consequences

Not all of my clients over the years can reasonably point to stress as a legitimate source of poor decision-making. I have represented people as a civilian attorney who are criminals in the classic sense of the word. I have also represented a large number of people who made a poor decision either during or after a divorce, or when dealing with a medical condition, or suffering personal loss, or who dealt ineffectively with pressure or, again, stress.

As I get to know the whole person when I meet new clients, I am often struck with how often bad decisions are accompanied with family prob-

lems, alcohol use, drug use, or other negative behaviors. It is extremely rare when I meet someone who woke up one morning and decided to break the law. Few people truly contemplate the consequences of their actions; rather we live in the moment. I have represented a lot of very good people who did some very bad things, and who are often dumbstruck as to how they wound up in serious legal trouble.

External factors tend to pile up and lead a person down a path to their downfall, and when I speak to clients under the attorney client confidential relationship, I can't help but notice how many are shocked that they were capable of making such poor choices. These choices can be as simple as deficiencies in the work place, to fitness failures, to alcohol-related incidents or drug abuse, to serious criminal conduct.

Attacking Symptoms

Part of my job entails telling the whole story, and explaining how a client arrived at a point in their life where they made a decision to break the law or some other poor decision. I have represented veterans in my civilian career and have personally seen the negative consequences of a conviction,

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Stress,

from Page 3

or a punitive or involuntary discharge. I met veterans who never got help, and who escaped into drugs or alcohol, and who lost their families and homes. I met hopeless people who served their country, but now have nothing to show for their sacrifices. I represented one particular homeless veteran on a drug charge, and made an argument to a judge that his service should be taken into consideration. That judge turned the tables on me and asked why I did not serve. He asked me if I was too good to serve my country, and I did not have a good answer at the time. Later, the same judge administered the oath for my commission.

That experience is a large part of why I am here today, serving you as an area defense counsel. By the time

that I met him that homeless veteran was too deep down the rabbit hole for me to make a difference in his life, though I tried my best. I think of him and I think of everyone on this base who is facing stress, no matter the source. That homeless veteran was an Iraq war veteran, who self medicated with drugs and was involuntarily discharged. He had nowhere to go, and no one to help him since because of his discharge, he did not qualify for most veteran's benefits. He never addressed his mental health problems that I could see as plain as day. Instead, the symptoms of his illness were punished and his life became unrecognizable to him.

The Way Forward

I committed to giving up my life as a civilian attorney and entering active duty to serve you. If I do nothing else during my time on active duty, I hope

to represent Airmen who need help, and to put the brakes on the Air Force taking negative action before they go down the same path as my civilian clients. All the awards and officer performance report bullets in the world mean nothing if I do not try to help you avoid those same pitfalls. Certainly, there is misconduct that simply derives from personal shortcomings and poor decision making. However, I know a good amount of misconduct or poor decision making is also accompanied by signs of a bigger problem.

The solution is to talk about these stressors. Talk to your friends, talk to your families, talk to a chaplain, or talk to a mental health professional. When you hold that stress inside, and are too proud to talk because you are afraid of appearing weak; that leads to misconduct, fitness problems, or even suicide.

I sincerely hope that anyone contemplating hurting themselves will

talk to someone before making a decision that cannot be un-done. I have represented clients who have done some of the most awful things imaginable, but I have never met someone who we should give up on.

I write this because everyone is both a potential client, and potentially someone who could hold my clients fate in his or her hands. We all like to think we will always make great decisions, and it is easy to isolate poor behavior and look at it in a vacuum. However, with all the sacrifices and stress that accompanies military service, never forget that it could be you facing a charge for driving under the influence, a fitness failure, a bad performance report, or even a court-martial. My clients are great people who sometimes make bad decisions. My goal is that everyone recognizes and talks about their stressors with someone so you do not need my services.

Keesler performs exercise in deployment readiness



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Ron Hartley, CSC, at right, issues mobility bag equipment to “deploying Airmen” at the Taylor Logistics Center during a two-day deployment exercise Aug. 21.



Staff Sgts. Tommy Edgar, 338th Training Support Squadron and David Frahm, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, conduct a joint inspection on cargo outside of the Taylor Logistics Center warehouse.

TMO office helps Airmen through PCS transition

By 2nd Lt. Allanna Jones

333rd Training Squadron

The Keesler Traffic Management Office is one of a kind, a one stop shop for all moving, PCS, and travel needs. Providing Airmen with an on-site commercial moving contractor and a Commercial Travel Office to ease stresses associated with permanent change of station moves.

The office was established in 1991 as an independent operation by Henry Watson with Ms. Carol Emling, as supervisor, and called it the Tech Training Traffic Management Office. Prior to the office’s existence there was one Airman in charge of handling all in-processing non-prior service students, which created a logistical mess. Now, there are two offices, one in the Sablich Center and one in the Levitow Training Support Facility in the Triangle training area, used solely to ease the logistics of Airmen arriving or leaving the base.

The Levitow TMO office provides crucial personal property and travel counseling to get the job done right the first time, mitigate any burdens on the students and save the government money. The office provides crucial personal property and travel counseling.

First-time movers, Airmen moving dependents, moving

overseas or those just simply needing general assistance, the Levitow TMO office wants to “go the extra mile to help make their transition a little smoother and ensure our NPS know that they are not alone in this process” says Tawanda Simpson, Triangle TMO office customer service.

On average the staff members help approximately 90 airmen per day, inputting more than 100 personal property shipments per week. They see each NPS student once or twice before they leave Keesler, making approximately 350 customers a week and 12,000 to date, this fiscal year. The office so far has already issued 3,000 government tickets and performed 3,000 personal property shipments.

Due to the speed and urgency of their job, the Levitow office has a “One Team, One Fight, roll up our sleeves and get it right!” mentality said Simpson. Please take advantage of the knowledge and services this office is here to provide.

The Triangle TMO office is located in the Levitow Training Support Facility, Room 211. They are open 8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays. For more information call 228-377-1263/4557.

Academic ace

Airman 1st Class Jeremy Smart graduated with a perfect score from cyber surety course in the 336th Training Squadron Aug. 24. Smart, a native of Bonaire, Ga., is now assigned to the 55th Combat Communications Squadron, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Courtesy photo



'Dragon Medics' at Bagram



Courtesy photo

Twenty-five deployed members of the 81st pose for a group photo at Craig Joint Theater Hospital at Bagram, Afghanistan. The medical group has deployed 77 people this year in support of contingency operations across the globe.

Keesler sustains minimal damage following Hurricane Isaac



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Rae Moore

Raised waters from a storm surge in the Back Bay extend from the Marina and cover portions of Keesler's golf course, Aug. 29, 2012. In an effort to ensure the safety of Keesler personnel and assets during Hurricane Isaac, the base was closed Aug. 28-29 and reopened Aug. 30 following minimal damage. According to James Tart, lead forecaster with CSC, Keesler's total rainfall was 10.14 inches and maximum wind speed reached 56 miles per hour.



Photo by Herb Welch

Members of the 334th Training Squadron scour the flight line to perform a foreign object debris walk Aug. 30 at Keesler during base restoration following landfall of Hurricane Isaac. The FOD walk was held to clear the flight line of debris that could potentially cause damage to aircraft engines.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Darlene Gnuschke, Air Force retired and Biloxi resident, receives help from Maria Ainaga, head bagger at the base commissary with loading cases of water and other hurricane supplies into her trunk.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Base Operations Center "hardened" as it awaited Hurricane Isaac. Keesler personnel took preventative measures to prepare and protect themselves and Keesler's assets as the base commander declared HURCON 3, meaning destructive winds of 58 MPH or greater were expected as Isaac approached.

Inventory reminder for equipment custodians

81st Communications Squadron

Did you know all documents in the ITEC binder should reflect the filed and completely signed official inventory? Yes, I am stating the official signed inventory can have writing on it. Any changes that happen you should circle the serial number of the impacted asset and write beside the serial number the type of impact. New assets, write the information on the inventory where you know to refer to it.

Tabs that applies to transactions impacting serial number adds or movement:

TAB C – DRMO turn-in documents (DD form 1348-1A) and donation to school TAB D – Receiving New Assets, Found on Base(FOB), Government Purchase Card(GPC), Transfer and Change TAB F – Report of Survey document (DD form 200)

Please do not submit a new official inventory every time a major change has impacted your account.

There are only two reasons why an official inventory will be required:

(1) Annual inventory will be conducted not later than 365 days from the date the commander signed the most current inventory.

(2) Ensure outgoing primary and incoming primary ITEC conduct and sign a loss-gain joint physical inventory, not later than 30 calendar days prior to the primary ITEC being relieved of duty.

Remove any documents that no longer apply to the most current inventory. I suggest you setup an inactive file for the old documents.

For more information call 228-377-1752.

Deadline for ‘Motorsports Fest’ registration is Sept. 18

The Gulf Coast Region of the Sports Car Club of America has teamed up with the 81st Force Support Squadron to offer Keesler Air Force Base community the inaugural “Keesler Motorsports Fest.”

Sept. 22-23 will be full of motorsport activities on Keesler. There are two venues — the Keesler Marina will host their 9th annual “Cruising Keesler” classic car and bike show

while the lot on the corner of Phantom Rd. and Hangar Rd., will welcome the auto and bike customization crowd.

Also, the Gulf Coast Region Sports Car Club Association will be conducting their 4th installment of the Tire-Rack Street Survival Course on Keesler Air Force Base. The class is scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 22nd. Space is limited to the first

30 participants. Those with driver’s permits and parental consent are allowed based on space availability.

Registration must be received and a \$35 fee for participation must be paid by September 18.

To reserve a spot in the course, or for more information, call 228-376-3448 or email keeslerautox@gmail.com.

Periodontics department seeking patients

81st Dental Squadron

The Keesler Dental Clinic’s Periodontics Department is looking for patients with periodontal needs (“gum problems”) for the dental residency program.

According to Col. (Dr.) Scott Malthaner, chief of periodontics, the warning signs of periodontal disease include red, swollen or tender gums or other pain in the mouth; bleeding while brushing, flossing or eating hard food; receding gums or gums that pull away from the teeth; loose or separating teeth; pus between gums and teeth; sores in the mouth; persistent bad breath; or a change in the way teeth fit together when biting.

Eligible beneficiaries accepted as teaching cases in the residency program can receive their periodontal care at Keesler at no charge. Limited numbers of patients will be accepted for teaching cases.

“We are not looking for patients with extensive restorative needs, such as those who need many fillings, crowns, bridges or dentures,” Malthaner stressed. “Patients accepted for periodontal care will be treated by our Air Force general dentistry residents under specialty supervision. Patients need to be readily available for appointments (generally Monday afternoons and Wednesday mornings). Appointments may last longer than normal.”

For more information call (228) 376-5225.

Keesler hospital clinics closed for warrior training

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Keesler Medical Center clinics are closed for warrior training from 1-5 p.m. the second Thursday of each month except October. Due to the Columbus Day holiday and non-training Friday during the normal week, October’s Warrior Day is the first Thursday of the month.

Family Practice, Internal

Medicine, Pediatrics and General Surgery Clinics each will have one doctor available for urgent appointments. For urgent situations, contact Central Appointments at 1-800-700-8603 or report to the emergency room.

Although Pharmacy, Radiology and Laboratory services are open, they will have reduced staffing. Patients are asked to delay visits to these services during Warrior Training.

For emergency situations such as shortness of breath, chest or abdominal pain or bleeding with pregnancy, please go to the nearest emergency room. If this is an emergency, contact 911 for an ambulance.

The 81st Medical Group staff is committed to maintaining the highest level of war and peacetime readiness. It does this through monthly training sessions. They apologize for any inconvenience.



'Give a little, Help a lot' CFC fundraiser kicks off

By Eric Summers, Jr.

Keesler Public Affairs

An opportunity for government and federal employees to donate to more than 26,000 charities through the Combined Federal Campaign runs Sept. 4-28 here at Keesler.

There is a CFC kickoff event scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Friday at the Bay Breeze Event Center where several charities will display information.

The CFC is an employee-focused campaign that participates with non-charitable organizations at local, regional, national and international levels, which are available at www.GreaterMSCFC.org. This year's fund-raising goal for Keesler is \$150,000.

"It's the one opportunity for Federal employees to collaborate in support of a variety of charity locally, regional, national or international," said Capt. Benjamin Wright, CFC installation Project Officer for Keesler. Each us, in our own way, give money or donate time and the CFC is the opportunity to have a huge impact by joining all of our efforts.

The campaign's theme is "Give a little, Help a lot" and will begin with a kick-off event Sept. 5 from 8:30-11 a.m. at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

"In the time that we live in there are a lot of people in need," said Wright.

Wright said just giving a small donation to one organization can help a lot.

"By donating through CFC, you enable more funds to go to your selected charity than just what you donate," Wright said. "For example I may donate just \$20 to one charity, but the CFC receives 1000s of dollars undesignated to any charity. The local federal coordination committee receives responsibilities and redistributes donations to any charity that had a donation."

"So my \$20 could benefit that charity with thousands more from the undesignated funds," Wright added.

People can contribute to the CFC by giving a cash donation, check, payroll deduction or a one-time credit card payment online.

For more information about the CFC or how to donate contact your unit project officer or key-worker, or visit www.cfc-nexus.org to find charities and make donations.

Keesler conducts annual base housing survey



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Lt. Col. Jileene Vivians, 2nd Air Force production support chief, and her husband, Col. Mark Vivians, 81st Mission Support Group commander, fill out a base housing survey Aug. 24 at the Keesler Community Center. The survey is conducted annually to provide feedback about the quality of base housing and satisfaction of its residents.

Save your smile, wear a mouth guard

By Tech. Sgt. Caroline Bunce

81st Dental Squadron

When it comes to protecting your mouth, a mouth guard is an essential piece of athletic gear that should be part of everyone's standard equipment. Although some sports-related traumatic injuries are unavoidable, most can be prevented.

All sporting activities have an associated risk of facial or teeth injuries due to falls, collisions and contact with hard surfaces or sporting equipment. Mouth guards help buffer an impact or blow to the face and teeth and are one of the best ways to prevent injury to teeth, tongues and lips.

Generally, a mouth guard covers only the upper teeth. A well-fitted guard should feel comfortable and stay in place without having to clench your teeth and it should not rub or irritate your gums. It also should not affect your ability to breathe or talk.

Once you have a mouth guard, its longevity

will depend on its care and use:

- Do not chew the mouth guard.
- Maintain proper care because mouth guards can absorb stains, odors and bacteria.
- Rinse with water after each use.
- Place in a case with vents until the next use.
- Periodically brush with a toothbrush and warm water.
- Never leave in the sun.
- Check for wear and tear to see if it needs replacing.

Have regular dental checkups and bring the mouth guard with you so the provider can check its condition and fit and replace it if necessary.

Don't take your teeth for granted. A properly fitted mouth guard is an important piece of athletic gear that can protect your teeth and smile.

Mouth-formed, "boil and bite" mouth guards are available at Keesler fitness centers and the 81st Dental Squadron.

Keesler couple retires with 72 years of service

By Susan Griggs

Keesler Public Affairs

John and Judy Madden retired Friday from the 81st Training Group with a combined 72 years of federal service and have a ceremony scheduled for today.

John has devoted 46 years to the Air Force – 27 years on active duty and 19 years as a civilian. Judy has worked as a federal employee for 26 years.

“I think John is one of the original ‘tell it like it is guys,’” said Stanley Hall, 338th Training Squadron training support flight chief. “John has been a mainstay in the 338th TRS from the day he arrived. He took his experience and knowledge as a chief master sergeant and brought that leadership into the training environment. If you need an accurate, gutsy decision that produces results, he’s your guy.”

John joined the Air Force in 1964 as a computer maintenance trainee. His first assignment was with the 632nd Radar Squadron, Roanoke Rapids Air Force Station, N.C. Roanoke Rapids was Judy’s hometown. They met in 1967 and married the following year.

From 1969-72, John was assigned to Fort Lee AFS, Va. He served in Southeast Asia from 1972-73 and participated in Operation Linebacker 11, the last major operation of the Vietnam Conflict, as a member of the 7th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, Royal Thai Air Force Base.

The Maddens came to Keesler in 1973, where John handled various communications electronics maintenance duties. Judy worked at the main exchange and later as a bookkeeper at the base service station and an insurance clerk at a local physician’s office.

In 1980, the family headed to Kapaun Air Station, Germany. As part of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe European Communications Divi-

sion, John was responsible for nuclear command and control systems and the bed-down of the cruise missiles in the European theater.

The Maddens headed to Offutt AFB, Neb., in 1982. John served as chief of computer maintenance for Headquarters Strategic Air Command and Judy spent a semester at Bellevue College.

When they came back to Keesler in 1983, John was the maintenance superintendent for the 2052nd Communications Group until he retired in 1991.

In the meantime, Judy came to work at Keesler in 1986 as an instructor’s aide as part of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College’s co-op program. She earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1988.

Judy taught the basic personnel course in the 335th TRS until 1990, when she moved to what is now the 81st TRSS as a faculty development instructor for four years. After teaching the basic communications-computer course in the 333rd TRS for a year, she was selected as an instructor in the advanced communication officer course, moving up to ACOT training specialist in 1999. She returned to the 81st TRSS in 2005 to assume her current position as training specialist for the qualification training flight.

“Judy’s revision of the curriculum developers training program generated a production output increase of 55 percent,” said her supervisor, Lawrence Monroe. “As an instructional systems development expert, 21 Air Force job qualification standards and qualification training packages covering 11 cyber career fields were phase developed in 50 percent of the prior time.”

John spent his first two years of retirement completing his bachelor’s degree in management information sys-



Photo by Kemberly Groue

John Madden, 338th Training Squadron, and his wife, Judy Madden, 81st Training Squadron, retired Friday at Keesler with a combined 72 years of federal service. John has devoted 46 years to the Air Force — 27 years on active duty and 19 years as a civilian. Judy has worked as a federal employee for 26 years.

tems from USM. He began his civilian career at Keesler in 1993 as a precision measurement equipment laboratory technician in the 81st Logistics Squadron. He was hired in 1995 as an electronics instructor in computer maintenance in the 336th TRS. When the course moved to the 338th TRS, he was promoted to computer maintenance instructor in 1996, training specialist in 1997, training development element chief in 2000 and his current position of training manager almost 11 years ago.

John takes great pride in working with dedicated professionals to meet two major training challenges – directing the development of training that merged the computer and crypto maintenance career fields in the 2000-2001 timeframe and his involvement in the 81st TRG’s cyber workforce transformation in 2009.

“The merger resulted in a

recurring \$19 million annual training cost savings, and our team earned the 2001 Air Force Productivity Excellence Award,” John pointed out. “In the cyber workforce transformation, we reduced our communications electronic maintenance Air Force Specialty Codes from 10 to five. My portion involved integrating skill sets from six separate AFSCs into the radio frequency transmission systems AFSC.”

Judy says her favorite thing about working in a training environment has been making a difference and meeting great students.

“I’ve taught non-prior service Airmen, enlisted and officer instructors and comm officers – each group presented its own set of rewards and challenges,” she explained. “The NPS Airmen responded to being told they were entering a new life and appreciated any help. The instructors wanted to learn their craft and do well,

and the officers were smart and kept us on our toes.”

The Maddens agreed that the best thing about working at Keesler is its people.

“It would be extremely difficult to find a better group of people in one place,” John insisted.

“It’s the sense of integrity, the pride of a job well done and the willingness to go the extra step to make it happen,” Judy added.

The Maddens will remain in Ocean Springs after they retire. In addition to spending more time with their two daughters and their grandchildren, John is looking forward to traveling, golf, fishing, shooting and other outdoor activities. Judy plans to continue her involvement with community theater and advocacy of the arts in the local area.



Photo by Steve Pivnick

Parents Miriam and Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan Castellon watch their first child, Michael Anthony, in the Keesler Hospital's Family Birthing Center Aug. 30, the day after his birth.

Keesler hospital delivers Hurricane Isaac baby

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

It was almost déjà vu.

Keesler Hospital staff delivered a "Hurricane Isaac" baby almost seven years to the day after the birth of a "Hurricane Katrina" baby, although the circumstances were radically different.

Micheal Anthony Castellon-Guevara was born 9:40 p.m. Aug. 28 during a fairly routine delivery as Hurricane Isaac pounded the Gulf Coast. This contrasted with the Aug. 29, 2005, "Hurricane Katrina"

birth at the height of the worst natural disaster to strike the U.S. — a caesarian section conducted without power with the staff using flashlights during the procedure.

Micheal's parents are Miriam and Petty Officer 3rd Class Bryan Castellon and he is their first child. Bryan is assigned to the Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport. In fact, Bryan had to report for duty Aug. 30 to prepare for his third deployment.

Bryan said Micheal wasn't due until Sept. 1 but "the hurricane threw off his timeline."

The earlier-than-expected birth didn't seem to affect Michael Anthony; he weighed 8 pounds-7 ounces and was 21 inches "tall" and went home Aug. 31. Bryan mentioned that several hospital staff members including the 81st Medical Group commander and several nurses tried unsuccessfully to encourage them to include Isaac as part of his name.

Both parents are from Sun Valley, Calif. He's been in the Navy for four years.



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Military Personnel Data System to be unavailable during December 2012

During December 2012, the Air Force Personnel Operations Agency is scheduled to upgrade and migrate the Military Personnel Data System to the Defense Information Systems Agency Defense Enterprise Computing Center to improve system sustainability and reliability. This upgrade/migration will require MilPDS to be unavailable beginning 3 December 2012 for approximately 23 days.

How does this affect you? Several essential personnel and pay systems, education and training systems, and transactional applications will be impacted during the downtime because they rely on data from MilPDS. Whether you are due to retire, separate, or reenlist, appropriate actions must be taken earlier than the usual time frame. Some non-critical pay-affecting updates will be performed post-upgrade.

Below are a few personnel actions that Airmen must consider before the migration:

- Scheduling an OPI test for foreign language proficiency bonus must be completed by Sept. 15.
- Applications for reenlistment, extension or separation must be completed by Oct. 29.
- Base of preference applications must be submitted by Nov. 1.

- In-place base of preference application must be submitted by Nov. 2.

- Voluntary retraining applications must be submitted by Nov. 15.

- Scheduling DLPT test for foreign language proficiency bonus must be completed by Nov. 15.

- Updating SGLI must be completed by Nov. 16.

- Reenlisting must be completed by Nov. 16.

- Extending current enlistments must be completed by Nov. 16.

Base pay & entitlements managed by Air Force finance offices will not be affected. To avoid pay issues, FSS/MPS will send pay transaction data through AFPC directly to DFAS for:

- Actions affecting start, stop, or continuation of base pay.

- DOD Benefits and Entitlements.

- Mobilization, demobilization, or participation of Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

Most pay issues are personnel-driven, therefore if you have any questions or concerns please contact your local MPS first, not the finance office. There will be a delay for non-critical pay-affecting updates until after the completion of the upgrade. If you have any questions or concerns in regards to the MilPDS migration, call 228-376-8649 or 228-376-8648.

2012 Heart Walk

Team captains are needed for the 2012 Heart Walk "Walkin' on Sunshine" 7:30 a.m. Sept. 29 at Jones Park in Gulfport. To join the Keesler team at the 3-mile walk call (228) 376-3501.

Finance office closed

Finance will be closed noon to 3 p.m. Sept. 13 for an official function. If you have a finance emergency during that time call 228-313-4593.

PWOC kick off

The Keesler Protestant Chapel community extends an open invitation to all women to come and join them as the Protestant Women of the Chapel kicks off their new year 3-5 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Triangle Chapel. There will be a time of worship and fellowship as ladies are encouraged to bring a "generational" dish that has been served at their homes to share. PWOC is a women's ministry for the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard. For more information call 228-377-5331.

PWOC Bible study

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will be beginning their newest Bible study, 9-11 a.m. Sept. 12th at the Triangle Chapel Annex. All women with base access are invited. For more information, email 2968bth@gmail.com.

Retiree bowling finishes

The Thursday morning retired seniors bowling league finished their summer season Aug. 23. Coming in first place was the team including Ruth Jenkins, Louis Green and R.B. Bryant. High average for women was Bea Cargill with 174 and the high average for men was Roy Davis with 177.

Anyone 50 years or older interested in joining the new league that begins 9 a.m. today should call 228-594-0237.

USM admissions

A University of Southern Mississippi admissions counselor will be at the USM office in the Sablich Center, Room 219 2-5 p.m. Sept. 18th to meet with students interested in programs at USM.

To make an appointment,

call 228-276-8479.

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.keeslerspouses-club.com for more information and a list of preferred donations. Pickup is available for bulk donations. For more information, call (228) 377-3217. Quarterly Supply classes are held in Room 121B, Taylor Logistics Building.

Central selection board

The CY12C colonel (BSC/MSC/CHAP), lieutenant colonel (BSC/CHAP) and major (LAF/BSC/CHAP) central selection board will convene Dec. 3 at HQ AFPC. To be eligible the officer must have an extended active duty date of June 6, 2012 or earlier with a date of separation of March 3, 2013 or later. Also, officers on active duty under the Voluntary Recall Program or any other Reserve Recall Program must

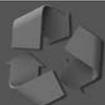
have at least one year on active duty as of the board convening date, starting from their new EAD date. For more information call (228) 376-8356.

Unsupervised youth on base

Keesler offers a great variety of entertainment and activities for all ages. However, it is strongly encouraged that youth dependants be accom-

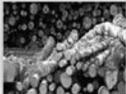
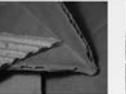
panied by a parent or guardian when visiting base facilities.

The summertime increase in unsupervised youth occasionally results in disruptive behavior that impacts the operations within our facilities. When this happens, parents will be notified to immediately come and pick up their children and, when necessary, security forces will be contacted.



Recycling Guide

Keesler AFB Recycling Center

 Shredded paper	 Wood Based Items	 Yard Waste	 Electronic Waste
 Mattresses	 Mixed Plastics	 Concrete and Dirt	 Pens
 Mixed Paper	 Cardboard	 Mixed Metal	
	 Used Furniture	 Aluminum Cans	
		 Toner Cartridges	

NO

- Light Bulbs
- Batteries
- Wet Paint
- Motor Oil
- Chemicals

Please recycle these items through the base environmental office.

(228) 377-5802

Questions?
Call
Douglas Smith,
Project Manager
Zero Waste Solutions
(228) 377-4546





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Keesler Events Calendar

Today

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

4 p.m. — Children's story time at the McBride Library.

Tuesday

9 a.m. — Pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

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

1 p.m. — Retirees pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

Saturday

4 p.m. — Parents night out at the youth center.

Sept. 13

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

Sept. 14

3:30 p.m. — Strut your mutt fun run at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

Sept. 15

8 a.m. — Wingman scramble golf tournament at the Bay Breeze golf course.

Sept. 18

9 a.m. — Pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

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

1 p.m. — Retirees pre-separation counseling at the Sablich Center Room 110.

Sept. 19

8 a.m. — Newcomer's orientation at the Sablich Center, Room 108B.

10 a.m. — Children's story time at the McBride Library.

Did You Know ?

Keesler Public Affairs

When Keesler Field was activated in June 1941, Keesler was not only a technical training center, but one of the Army's basic training centers. Due to the doubled population many service

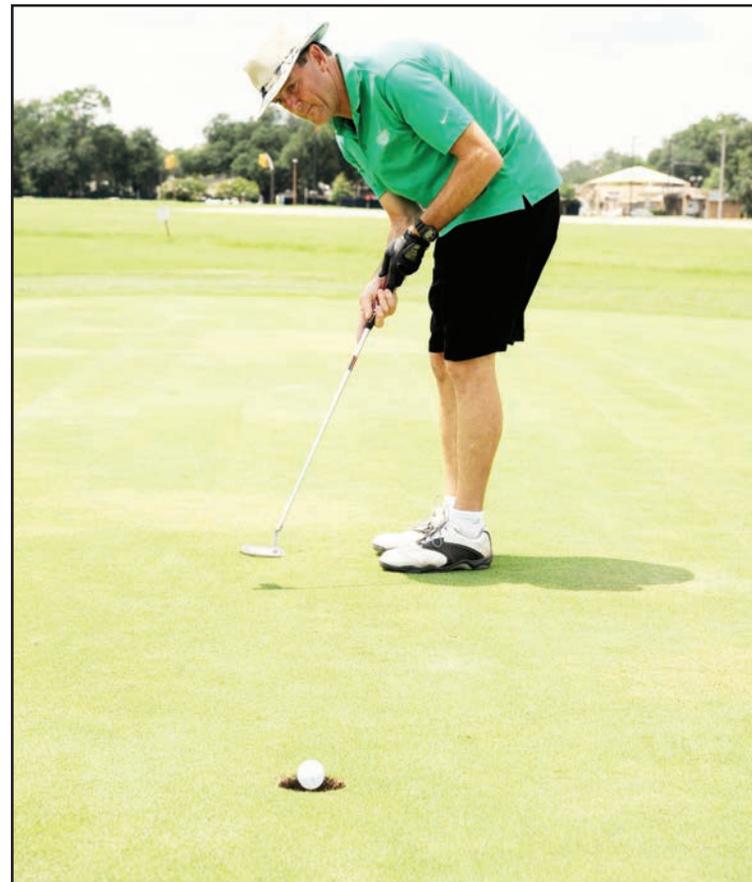
members lived in a "tent city" that, when the rainy season hit, quickly turned into a "swamp city." However, it wasn't long before engineers built wooden platforms that raised the tents off the ground.

Intramural golf held at Bay Breeze Golf Course



Photos by Kemberly Groue

James Cooks, 81st Training Support Squadron, hits the ball out of the sand trap on hole number five as his teammate, Ken Powell, 81st TRSS, watches during an intramural golf match against the 334th Training Squadron Aug. 21 at the Bay Breeze Golf Course.



Joel Riley, 334th Training Squadron, putts the golf ball into hole five during an intramural golf match against the 81st Training Support Squadron.

333rd TRS defeats 81st LRS



Photos by Adam Bond

Daniel Votipka, 333rd Training Squadron, and Kawan Gibson, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, battle for the ball during an intramural soccer game Aug. 23. The 333rd defeated 81st LRS 10-0.



Michael Vetri, 333rd Training Squadron goalie, makes a block as his teammate, Mark Ciaravino, 333rd TRS, stands by ready to assist him and Michael Vanossenbruggen, 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, is also close by to hit the ball in for his team.