



KATRINA Daily News

VOL. 1, NO. 16

Operation Dragon Comeback

Friday, Sept. 16, 2005



Hefty HUMRO -- Members of the 97th Air Expeditionary Group load one of three trucks full of donated clothing Thursday. The donations were taken to a Goodwill distribution warehouse in Gulfport for distribution to victims of Hurricane Katrina. The 97th AEG stood up here Sept. 6 to help relief agencies that request Department of Defense assistance in humanitarian relief operations. (Photos by 1st Lt. Brady Smith)



Tall order -- An electric power contractor elevates himself skyward to repair lines in a Keesler housing area Wednesday.

Katrina Daily News stands down

This is the final issue of the Katrina Daily News newsletter. Keesler's base newspaper, ***Keesler News***, resumes publication with the Sept. 22 issue. For more details or to get your information in Keesler News, contact the newspaper staff at DSN 597-4130 or e-mail it – just type “Keesler News” in the global e-mail directory. For a list of newspaper distribution points, see the “Keesler News” heading on Page 2.

KEESLER BASICS:

General Information

Keesler News – *Keesler News* resumes publication Sept. 22, with distribution at the following locations:

Primary locations include: Muse Manor; Levitow Training Facility; Tyer House; Youth Center; Larcher Chapel; Public Affairs; Library; Shaw House; Child Development Center; Triangle Mini Mall; Vandenberg Hall; Blake Fitness Center; Clinical Research Lab; Magnolia Dining Facility; Azalea Dining Facility and Retiree Support Office in Thrower Park's child care center.

Other locations: Keesler Federal Credit Union offices in Ocean Springs; Long Beach; Gautier; D'Iberville; Orange Grove; Biloxi; Pascagoula; and Stennis.

AAFES availability for retirees – The Mini Mall BX and gas station are now open to retirees from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.

Welch Theater – Keesler Top III will be showing the movie *Sahara* tonight and *Constantine* Saturday night beginning at 7 p.m. in the Welch Theater.

AAFES – Beginning Saturday, the Mini Mall will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Laundry will be open noon to 5 p.m.; U-Haul rental will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Bldg. 1704.

Curfew hours – South of railroad tracks: 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.; Harrison County: 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.; Jackson County, midnight to 6 a.m.

CE civilian recall – All civilian members of the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron at Keesler AFB are asked to return to work on Sept. 17. Personnel presently at safe haven locations are also asked to return. All 81st CES employees are deemed mission essential at this point to aid in the recovery of the base.

Long distance service: Commercial long distance telephone service has been restored to Keesler AFB, according to 81st Communications Squadron officials. Base members are advised that line availability may be sporadic during key times.

Uniforms – Uniform issue is open 7 a.m. to midnight at the Taylor Logistics Building (Bldg. 4002).

Uniforms will be issued only to those who lost their uniforms in the hurricane or damaged them during recovery work.

Dining facilities – Both facilities are open.

Breakfast: 5:30 to 8 a.m.

Lunch: 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 to 8:30 p.m.

Family support – The Family Support Center Annex in Chapel 1 has a variety of items for distribution. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Storage – If you need temporary storage due to the hurricane, contact your group POC. Also, Avery Manor is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for key sign out. POC is MSgt Ransom, DSN 597-3297 or 860-3014.

Military Star aid program – Military STAR is offering disaster relief to hurricane evacuees living in or displaced by Katrina. For details, call 1-877-891-7827.

Personnel Information

AF emergency leave transfer program – The Air Force has implemented an emergency leave transfer program for employees affected by Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. The ELTP permits employees to donate accrued annual leave for transfer to employees adversely affected by Hurricane Katrina and who need additional time off from work without having to use their own paid leave. Questions concerning ELTP should be directed to your servicing Human Resources Specialist at extension 7-3697.

MPF – The military personnel flight is open upstairs in the Levitow Building from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. A walk-in center is available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those with assignments, retirements or separations call DSN 597-3595 for an appointment.

TMO – The Traffic Management Flight is temporarily located in the Levitow Bldg., Room 211 until further notice. Customer service hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, call DSN 597-0174/1263/7448/3147.

Claims Information

Claims briefings – Legal representatives will take in new claims from 8 a.m. to noon and are available to answer claims questions from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

There will also be a daily claims briefing at 10 a.m. All times are Monday through Friday.

Legal assistance – Attorneys are available to assist with personal civil legal matters Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. Call DSN 597-5404 to schedule an appointment.

Finance Information

Finance – Financial services are available at the Levitow Bldg. from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Customer service hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. To reach a representative for customer service/travel pay related issues call DSN

597-7479. For budget issues, call DSN 597-2770. Contact a finance representative at DSN 597-7256 for additional information.

Health Care Information

Active duty military: Care is available at the EMEDS tent hospital located just east of the Sablich Center on Fisher Street.

Routine or non-urgent sick call hours are 8-11 a.m. and 3-6 p.m. daily. 24-hour emergency care is available. Limited dental care is available at the Dental Clinic from 7:30 to 9 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m. For more information, call 377-3003.

Retirees, Dependents of Retirees, and Dependents of Active Duty Living Off-Base:

Care is not available at Keesler AFB. Seek care through other Department of Defense medical treatment facilities, TRICARE network providers, or other civilian providers. TRICARE has waived referral requirements for Keesler's TRICARE Prime enrollees. Necessary care can be obtained from any network provider with no preauthorization required.

For more information, contact TRICARE by phone at (800) 444-5445, or visit TRICARE's Katrina Web site at:

www.tricare.osd.mil/Katrina/index.cfm

Dependents of Active Duty Living On-Base:

Limited care is available at the EMEDS tent hospital located just east of the Sablich Center on Fisher Street. Other care is available from TRICARE network providers.

SARC – Keesler's Sexual Assault Response Coordinator is available 24 hours a day.

If you are the victim of an assault, contact DSN 597-7278 or the Keesler Command Post at DSN 377-4330 for immediate assistance.

Chapel Services

Please note all services will be conducted in the Fishbow, unless otherwise announced.

Sunday: Protestant worship, 9 a.m.

Catholic Mass, 10:30 a.m.

Latter Day Saints, 4:30 p.m.

Protestant worship, 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Protestant mid-week prayer and Bible study, 6:30 p.m.

Friday: Jewish Shabbat service, 6 p.m.