

NEWSBRIEFS

Charleston AFB Youth Programs receives award

By Dorothy Featherston
437th Services Squadron

Charleston AFB Youth Programs has been awarded the Boys & Girls Clubs of America 2000 Honors Award for Program Excellence from the South Carolina Area Council in the Overall Program category.

The Overall Program award is presented to the Boys & Girls Club that has conducted the best overall program, as determined by entries submitted in each of the five core program categories (Character and Leadership Development; Education and Career Development; Health and Life Skills; The Arts; Sports, Fitness and Recreation).

Youth Programs entered a package detailing a play that was developed by the Keystone Flyers. The play was designed to educate the younger children of the Youth Center about proper nutrition, and featured various characters representing the food groups.

"It was great to see our Keystoner's working with the younger children" said Denise John Youth Programs Activity Coordinator, "Using their leadership skills to



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The Youth Programs Staff was awarded the 2000 Honors Award for Program Excellence by Rodney Collins, Executive director of the Charleston Area Boys & Girls Clubs. Left to right: Ken Randolph, Jennifer Hoffmann, Ed Jones, Collins, Sherri Redmond, Denise John.

educate and influence others in their community is what the Keystone Flyers is all about".

This represents the third consecutive year Youth Programs has been recognized with an Honors Award for Youth Program Excellence.

Spotlight

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Communications Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. James Gonnella April 28 at 3 p.m. in the Community Education Center. All base members are invited to attend.

Around the base

Closure: The 437th Transportation Squadron Vehicle Maintenance Flight will close at 1 p.m. today for a retirement ceremony. For vehicle problems, call 963-4236.

Closure: The Charleston AFB Veterinary Clinic is moving and will be closed until April 24. The new facility is located at 107 Scarton Lane.

Closure: The commissary will be closed April 23 for Easter.

Meeting: The African American Heritage Council will have a General Assembly meeting today at 11:30 a.m. at the Charleston Club. Everyone is invited to attend.

Meeting: The 437th Medical Group and the Charleston Navy Hospital will host a Joint Healthcare Consumer Advisory Council meeting Wednesday from 7-8:30 p.m., at the Charleston Club. All beneficiaries can attend. For details, call 963-6901.

Quarterly awards: The 437th Airlift Wing quarterly awards breakfast is May 3 at 7:30 a.m. at the Charleston Club. Cost for the breakfast buffet is \$7 for club members and \$9 for nonmembers. Sign up no later than April 28 by contacting your unit first sergeant.

Hosts needed: The 437th Airlift Wing is looking for volunteers to help host 50 members of U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Squadron 5 May 4-7.

The cadets, who are visiting as

part of the Cadet Squadron Sponsor Program, will need places to stay during their visit. Those interested in hosting a cadet can call 1st Lt. Jeff Nelson or 1st Lt. Rob Hamill at 963-5874.

At the chapel

Easter egg hunt: There will be a base-wide Easter egg hunt April 22 at 1 p.m. behind the chapel. Children between the ages of 3 to 7 are invited to attend and should bring their own baskets. For information, call 963-2536.



Ecumenical Lenten series: The Base Chapel has begun a six-week ecumenical luncheon series, "The History, Traditions, and Beliefs of Lent," on Wednesdays.

Each of the chaplains will conduct a 10-15 minute session on a specific Lenten theme, beginning with a general overview then moving through events surrounding the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The program, including a soup and bread lunch, will be held in the Base Chapel Annex beginning at noon and will last no more than one hour.

Family Support Center

Pre-Deployment Briefings, 8 a.m., Monday and April 24; 4 p.m., Thursday and April 27.

How to Develop A Spending Plan Workshop, 9-11 a.m., April 26.

Checkbook Management, 1-2:30 p.m., April 26.

TAP 3-Day Workshop, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday.

Mini Job Fair, 3-5 p.m., Thursday.

Troops-to-Teachers, 10-11 a.m., April 24.

Car Buying Workshop, 9-11 a.m., April 25. In this workshop, you'll learn how to get the best deal when purchasing the car of your dreams.

Violence and Youth, 1-4 p.m., April 25. This workshop is designed to raise awareness about violence in our society, address theories associated with violence, and empower you to begin developing strategies for lessening violent behavior among youth in our community and within our homes.

SMOOTH Move, 8:30 a.m. to noon, April 27.

Securing Your Financial Future, 9-11 a.m., April 28.

All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For information or to register, call 963-4406.

Charleston Profile

Tech. Sgt. Mary Ranguette 315th Aircraft Generation Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mary Ranguette is a personnel craftsman with the 315th Aircraft Generation Squadron, Air Force Reserve. She is primarily responsible for maintaining the squadron's performance reports, decoration program, PCIII updates and the unit weight management program.

"Working in personnel gives me the opportunity to meet almost everyone, and I enjoy that the most," Ranguette said.

She is a Charleston native, whose parents still live in Mount Pleasant. Ranguette's father is a retired Air Force colonel who currently works at the Citadel.

She entered the Air Force in January 1989 and spent her first four years at Langley AFB, Va. before going to Stuttgart Army Post, Germany.

In 1996, Ranguette was assigned to the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, where she stayed until she separated from active duty and joined the Air Force Reserves in July 1998.

"Some days I miss active duty, but other days it seems like I never left," she said. "I see a lot of the same faces from my time in the 437 AW because there are so many of us who left active duty and crossed the street to join the 315th Reserves."

Ranguette sewed on technical sergeant at the beginning of the month and will soon be moving to a



Staff Sgt. Raymond Padgett

Master Sgt. position in the 315th Mission Support Squadron. Professionally, she said she'd like to make master sergeant in two years and finish her bachelor's degree in Human Resources.

When Ranguette is not pulling Reserve duty here, she resides in Jonesboro, Ga., with her husband Richard, where she is a food advertising coordinator. She said she enjoys aerobics and "playing with my four-year-old son, Christopher."

Ranguette said the best things about serving at Charleston are the people, the weather and being close to home.