

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Spotlight

**Pumps closed:** The gas pumps at the shoppette will be closed beginning Monday for 30-50 days while new "pay at pumps" are installed. The re-opening date has not been determined yet.

**Retirement ceremony:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Transportation Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. David Simms Aug. 25, 2 p.m. at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Ken Dean at 963-6280.

**Retirement ceremony:** The 437<sup>th</sup> Supply Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Barry Mattison Sept. 8, 10 a.m. at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Curtis Perz at 963-4860 or Tech. Sgt. Barry Mattison at 963-4864.

## Around the base

**City of Chicago College:** The City of Chicago College will be holding registration for Term I until Sept. 30 at the base education office. Tuition is \$75 per semester hour. Active-duty military members will only pay \$56.25 for a three semester-hour course. For more information, call 552-5959 or 963-4575.

**Trident Technical College:** Trident Technical College is now accepting enrollment applications. Late fees are being waived until the first day of class. For more information, call 963-4575.

**Religious education:** The base chapel is holding registration for the upcoming year of religious education Sunday, 3-4:30 p.m. Preschool through eighth-grade students of both the Catholic and Protestant congregations can register. The chapel will be offering ice cream and toppings for "sundaes on Sunday." For more information, call Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Erica McGee at 963-2536.

## Charleston Profile



Senior Airman Jason Smith

**Senior Airman Nikki Irvin**  
437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron

Senior Airman Nikki Irvin is a passport agent for the 437<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron, Outbound Assignments. Her job is to process official passports for military members and their families who need them to move to assignments overseas.

On average, Irvin said a passport request takes six to eight weeks to process. She suggests people start their paperwork as soon as they know they need passports.

"People should come in as soon as possible," said Irvin. "If they wait too long, it can hold them up from getting where they're supposed to be on time."

Irvin said she's had to process passports quicker than the standard period from time to time, and it can create problems for everyone.

"If we have to expedite a passport, it takes a lot of extra time and work that could have been easily avoided," she said.

Irvin has been in the Air Force for almost three years now. She said she joined because her father was in the Navy and she too wanted to be a part of the military.

"I wanted to try something different than what my dad did," said Irvin. "Besides, you never have to figure out what to wear to work."

Irvin said she wishes she and her husband could be stationed closer together. He's in the Army, stationed about two hours away.

When she's not at work or traveling to be with her husband, Irvin said she spends most of her time with her two-year-old daughter.

**Officers' Spouses' Association:** Members and non-members of the Officers' Spouses' Association are invited to attend a "coffee" Tuesday, 6 p.m. at the Charleston Club. There will be services booths, guest speakers, refreshments and door prizes. For more information, call Dixie Roberts at 571-1116.

**"Strengthening Stepfamilies" Class:** The medical clinic is holding a five-session class concerning stepfamily living. The class begins Tuesday and will run for five consecutive Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

**Daedalian meeting:** The Order of the Daedalians is having a meeting Thursday, 6-8 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Retired Lt. Col. Bill Paige, F-4 Phantom pilot, will be the guest speaker. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Capt. Lenny Richoux at 963-3203.

**Parents committee:** Parents of Lambs Elementary, Hunley Park Elementary, Morningside Middle School and North Charleston High School students are encouraged to join a committee that will represent the educational needs of base children. The committee will address issues relating to the schools that support Charleston AFB members. A meeting will be held Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. in the Family Support Center. For more information, call 963-2202.

**Commissary:** The Commissary will be closed Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day. It will re-open Sept. 5, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Enlisted Dining-Out:** An Enlisted Dining-Out will be held Sept. 16 for all Charleston AFB active and reserve enlisted personnel. Volunteers of all enlisted ranks are welcome to participate in all preparation efforts. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tracy Brewster at 963-6318 or Master Sgt. James Scanlan at 963-2798.

**Pool hours:** The base swimming pool's hours have changed. The new pool hours are: Tuesdays-Fridays, 2 to 7 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 11

a.m. to 7 p.m. and closed on Mondays. Call 963-5271 for more information.

**Instructor's positions:** The 373 TRS/DET 5 has three instructor positions available in the following AFSCs: 2A452, 2A655 and 2A656. Contact Master Sgt. Lee Woody at 963-2948 for details.

**Orthodontics:** Special provisions are needed for patients who are undergoing or considering orthodontic treatment. Certain written approval is required for military members and their families. Contact the Daily Dental Clinic at 963-6842 or 963-6839 before treatment is obtained.

**Passports:** Military members and family members who require official military passports should contact their unit passport monitor or base passport agent. Only critical missions will be considered for expedited processing. For more information, call 963-4553.

## Family Support Center

**Hearts Apart:** Hearts Apart is an on-going program for spouses of deployed service members. The program offers such services as email, morale calls, video phone calls and free oil changes. For information, contact Tech. Sgt. Ken Fisher at 963-5630.

**Troops to Teachers,** 10-11 a.m., Monday.

**Securing Your Financial Future,** 2-4 p.m., Tuesday.

## Don't do it!

With hurricane season here again, the base legal office would like to remind military members that falsifying travel vouchers in case of evacuation is a punishable offense.

For more information on travel vouchers, call the 437<sup>th</sup> Comptroller Squadron at 963-3700.

