

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Supply Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Reggie Hicks today, 9 a.m., at the Charleston Club.

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Mission Support Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Otto Giron today, 10 a.m., at the Charleston Club.

Around the base

Gas pumps: The gas pumps at the Shopette will be closed Monday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., for an annual inspection.

CGOC luncheon: Maj. Gen. George Williams will be the guest speaker at the Company Grade Officer's Council's luncheon Monday, 11:55 a.m., at the Charleston Club. The cost is \$9 for club members and \$11 for non-members. Everyone should be seated by 11:55 a.m. For more information, call 1st Lt. Randall Ackerman at 963-4589.

Blood drive: The American Red Cross is holding a blood drive Wednesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the base education center. Donation times should be scheduled with squadron representatives. For more information, call Master Sgt. Dennis Pinner at 963-5635.

NDTA luncheon: The Charleston Chapter National Defense Transportation Association is hosting a meeting and luncheon Dec. 13, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Tony Ryan, vice president and general manager of the American Roll-On/Roll-Off Carriers division will be the guest speaker. Everyone is invited, but reservations should be made through Maj. Daren Baker at 963-3210.

Commissioning briefing: The base education center is holding an officer commissioning briefing Jan. 10, 11 a.m. The briefing will provide information regarding commission-

Charleston Profile

Staff Sgt. Robert Hess III 437th Mission Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. Robert Hess III is the NCOIC of personnel readiness for the 437th Mission Support Squadron. He has been in the Air Force for seven years.

Hess' daily activity includes serving as the base office of primary responsibility for personnel matters involving contingency TDYs for Charleston AFB. Along with processing orders and tracking personnel, Hess also has the responsibility of maintaining personnel strength accountability in the Personnel Data System.

The personnel readiness flight participated in CAFB's recent Exercise Crisis-Look, and they are preparing for an upcoming deployment exercise.

"We have to make sure the new people in the deployment process are up to speed," said Hess. "Anytime there's a deployment, we're there. We're happy with the job we did during Exercise Crisis-Look, but there is always room for improvement."

Hess, a Jacksonville, Fla., native, said he loves Charleston AFB. "I did an assignment swap to get here. I paid to move myself from Dover AFB, Del. I just really love the Southeast."

Hess said he should be done with his bachelor's degree in six months. Time permitting, he hopes to start his master's and finish it in a timely manner.

Travel, education and job experience are just a few of the reasons Hess came in the Air Force. He had this advice to offer to others: "Don't focus on the negative — There's just too much positive out there."



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

ing program opportunities. For more information, call 963-4575.

Dental Assisting Program: The 437th Dental Flight is accepting applications for the next Red Cross Dental Assisting Program, which begins Jan. 8. The program includes an academic phase as well as hands-on dental assisting training. Some duties include preparing a dental treatment room, taking and recording vital signs, preparing dental materials for use and some administrative tasks. The program lasts six to seven months, with 40-hour class weeks. Benefits include a certificate of training and obtaining a marketable skill. Anyone interested in applying should pick up an application at

the dental clinic reception desk. The deadline to submit an application is Dec. 8. For information, call Staff Sgt. Jennifer Ramirez at 963-6841.

Ribbon eligibility: The Secretary of the Air force has approved an Air Force Recruiting ribbon. The ribbon is authorized for those who successfully completed 36 months as recruiter and were active duty, reserve or guard as of June 21. Prior recruiters may request authorization through unit commanders and Headquarters Air Force Reserve for approval.

Flu shots: The 437th Immunizations Clinic has received its first major shipment of flu vaccine. Due to the delayed supply, they are only offering the vaccine to active-duty personnel and those with high-risk medical conditions upon recommendation from their health care provider. More vaccine is expected to arrive by the end of December. Once the remaining shipment arrives, all other beneficiaries will be offered the shot. The shot is required for active-duty personnel.

Commissary scholarship: The Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation is offering scholarships for military children. The program will award a scholarship of \$1,500 or more to a college-bound military child at installations served by a commissary. Applications can be picked up anytime starting today

and must be returned to the commissary by Feb. 15.

Family Support Center

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

Pre-Deployment Briefing: Monday, Dec. 11 and 18, 4 a.m. and Thursday, Dec. 14, 21 and 28, 4 p.m.

Resume I: Tuesday, 9 a.m.-noon.

Educational Opportunities Assistance: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

Sponsorship Training: Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Newcomer's Tour: Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Small Business Seminar: Thursday, 9-11 a.m.

Troops-To-Teachers: Dec. 11, 10-11 a.m.

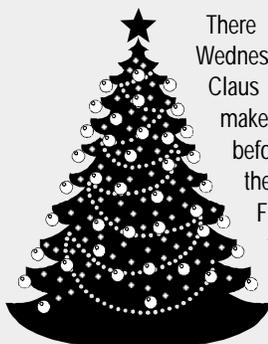
TAP 3-Day Workshop: Dec. 12-14, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

How to Develop a Spending Plan: Dec. 13, 9-11 a.m.

Checkbook Management: Dec. 13, 1-2:30 p.m.

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

Base Christmas tree lighting



There is a Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony Wednesday, 6 p.m., in front of Bldg. 1600. Santa Claus is scheduled to make an appearance before returning to the North Pole.

For more information, call 963-3252.

