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Photo by Ed Kelly

Country star Charlie Daniels visited Charleston AFB Oct. 25 to offer praise and entertainment for the military family here.

## Charlie Daniels visits CAFB

*Country star offers words of thanks, songs to entertain*

**By Staff Sgt. Pamela Smith**  
437 AW Public Affairs

Country singer Charlie Daniels delivered a message of spirituality and words of patriotism to Charleston AFB members during a visit here Oct. 25.

Daniels, who was in town to perform at the Coastal Carolina Fair, was invited to the base by Chaplain (Maj.) Phil Guin, 437<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Chapel, and performed an impromptu, one-man concert at the base theater.

"I had originally asked him to come here and speak at our National Prayer Break-

fast or some other similar event," Guin said. "Charlie expressed an interest to come here but was somewhat reticent because of his very busy touring schedule. Just following the events of Sept. 11, I had been in contact with him and obviously his interest had peaked. I noticed that he would be in the Charleston area because of the Coastal Carolina Fair, and so I asked him to come here once again. He replied 'I'm going to do my very best to make this happen.'"

Though he was without his signature fiddle, Daniels still got the crowd on its feet with his new release "It Ain't No

Rag, It's a Flag."

"I just released this song and haven't got it all memorized yet, so bear with me if I mess it up," he said.

Daniels missed a word or two during the song, but no one seemed to care as Daniels sang about justice in the wake of the Sept. 11 tragedy. He talked of his initial reaction to the news of what happened.

"At first I was saddened and I wept bitterly, then I got mad and bitter," he said. "We have to take care of business and go after the people who did this. If we don't do anything, what kind of world are we

See DANIELS, page 3

## Suspicious mail: don't open it, don't shake it, don't transport it, officials say

As national concern over letters suspected of containing anthrax or other harmful substances grows, Air Force officials remind everyone to remain alert and proceed with caution when they receive mail at home and at work.

Before opening their mail, people should always know where it came from and should suspect such obvious signs as a no-return address, excessive postage and tape and misspelled names, said Master Sgt. Joseph Bovair, Air Mobility Command's Antiterrorism Force Protection program manager.

"If for some reason you think you have a suspicious package, be it a possible anthrax-contaminated parcel or letter bomb, don't open it, don't smell it and don't transport it," Bovair said. "If you live on base, contact security forces immediately. If you live off base, call local authorities. Evacuate the area and inform everyone nearby of the suspicious package."

Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, there have been no reports of Air Force people or their families receiving hazardous substances in letters or packages, according to the Air Force Office of Special Investigation.

"From the day of the attacks to now, we haven't initiated any investigations based on receipt of toxic substances by military personnel or mili-

tary installations," said Special Agent Steven Kerley, director of counterintelligence for AFOSI at AMC. "We attribute that to a high-state of awareness and good mail-handling procedures by our military organizations."

But, Kerley added, events can happen on any given day or at anytime, and people should always be on the lookout for suspicious activity.

According to Bovair, practicing force protection procedures should be an everyday occurrence.

"Everyone's being a lot more careful because of the major events taking place around the world, but we should be vigilant at all times," he said. "Force Protection starts with the individual and it's everyone's job, not just Security Forces or AFOSI."

The U.S. Postal Service Web site has some tips for identifying suspicious mail. According to the site, some characteristics that should trigger suspicion include mail that:

- Has any powdery substance on the outside of the package
- Is unexpected or from someone unfamiliar
- Has excessive postage, handwritten or poorly typed address, incorrect titles or titles with no name, or misspellings of common words
- Is addressed to someone no longer with the organization or otherwise

See MAIL, page 2



Photo by Staff Sgt. P.J. Farlin

## Somewhere under the rainbow

Following a sudden downpour, a rainbow arcs over a Charleston AFB C-17 at a deployed location. CAFB personnel and aircraft are currently deployed around the world in support of Operation Enduring Freedom

## IN THE NEWS

## 437 MXS gives base 'professional' look with sign covers

By Lt. Col. Ed Memi  
437 AW Public Affairs

Building custodians throughout the base got a little help from the talented craftsmen from the 437<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Squadron when they custom made about 75 tan heavy-duty vinyl covers to cover up building signs during higher force protection conditions.

Because of the higher force protection measures, the base sign in front of each building had to be covered. The new covers replace a hodgepodge of homemade sign covers that consisted of everything from garbage bags to blankets.

The five military and seven civilians in the Survival Element in the Fabrication Flight of the 437 MXS saw the need for the covers and sprang into action to sew the new ones

starting Oct. 17 with the last one installed Wednesday.

"We had some excess Herculite (heavy duty vinyl) in the shop," said Staff Sgt. John Morse, NCOIC of the fabric section. "The Herculite is a heavy-duty vinyl used for covering equipment and should stand up well under the tough outdoor environments."

Morse said the simple sign covers take about 30 minutes to assemble while the more complex ones can take a couple of hours to complete. The shop has a variety of industrial sewing machines and about five people worked on them on any given day.

"We've asked the building custodians to sign for each sign and they are completely reusable since we included Velcro tabs on them for easier installation and removal," Morse said.

Morse said building custodians can reuse the sign covers repeatedly during exercises or real world contingencies. He added that this was a special one-time initiative of the flight and asked building custodians to take good care of the new covers.

"This is just like downtown - professional service, outstanding quality and just what we needed," said Senior Master Sgt. Randy VonHoldt, superintendent and building custodian for the 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron Information Systems flight. "It will save us a lot of time and effort."

Morse said he loves the idea of removable sign covers.

"The new covers are certainly a lot better than those old taped up blue tarps, blankets and garbage bags," said Morse. "These new covers should give the base a much

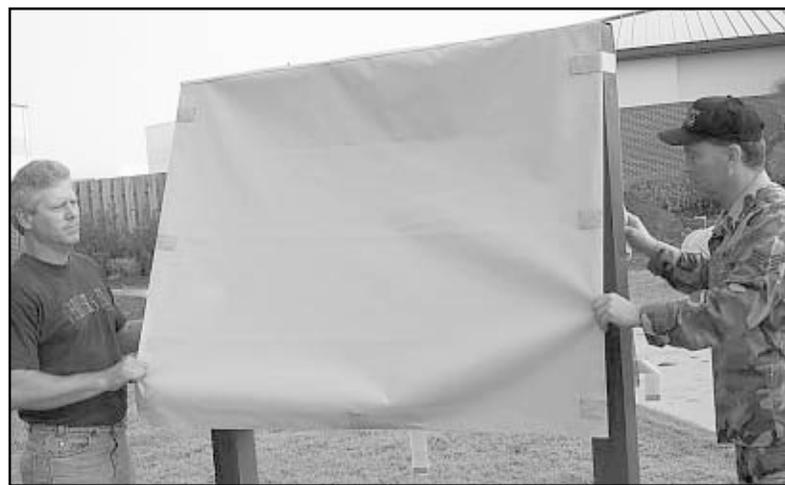


Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

David Burgsteiner and Staff Sgt. John Morse, both from the 437 MXS Fabrication Flight, place a newly-made cover on the sign in front of one of Charleston AFB's buildings.

more professional look and should match our buildings better."

When not making sign covers, the shop maintains the survival equipment located on the C-17. The 437 MXS Survival Equipment Element is comprised of three sections:

parachute, flotation and fabric. The shop usually packs parachutes, floatation devices and life preservers, and re-covers the sheepskin seats in the C-17. They also make engine covers and anything else in the C-17 that uses fabric.

## MAIL

continued from page 1

outdated

■ Has no return address or one that can't be verified as legitimate

■ Is of unusual weight, given its size, or is lopsided or oddly shaped

■ Has an unusual amount of tape

■ Is marked with restrictive endorsements, such as "Personal" or "Confidential"

■ Has strange odors or stains

The site also offers advice to individuals if they receive an anthrax threat by mail.

■ Do not handle the mail piece or package suspected of contamination

■ Make sure damaged or suspicious packages are isolated and the immediate area cordoned off

■ Ensure all persons who have touched the mail piece wash their hands with soap and water

■ Notify local law enforcement authorities

■ List all persons who have touched the letter and/or envelope; include contact information; have information available for authorities

■ Place all items worn when in contact with the suspected mail in plastic bags; have them available for law enforcement agents

■ As soon as possible, shower with soap and water

Capt. David Newman,

437<sup>th</sup> Public Health commander, said personnel living off base who receive suspicious mail and are informed by local law enforcement that the mail is truly suspicious need to contact the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group as soon as possible.

"If a truly suspicious parcel is found on base Security Forces will notify the Medical Group," Newman said. "We don't want people to sit for days waiting for (civilian) tests to come back without their medical provider knowing about a possible exposure." (AMCNS. Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter, 437 AW Public Affairs, also contributed to this article.)

## Anthrax; dispelling myths, rumors

By Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs

At any given hour in the past few weeks, someone is saying something about anthrax on at least one radio or television station.

"There's a very low risk," to Charleston AFB members now, "but people need to be careful," said Capt. David Newman, 437<sup>th</sup> Public Health flight commander.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Web site, anthrax is an acute infectious disease caused by spore-forming bacteria, *Bacillus anthracis*. It appears most often in animals such as cattle, sheep, and other herbivores. The bacteria can infect humans when exposed to infected animals. The bacteria can also be spread as a bioterrorism agent, but engineering the bacteria to create an effective agent is difficult.

"Anthrax is not spread from person to person," said Newman.

Anthrax infection can occur in three forms: cutaneous (skin), inhalation and gastrointestinal, according to the CDC site. Symptoms usually occur within seven days.

■ Cutaneous: About 95

percent of anthrax infections occur when the bacterium enters a cut or abrasion on the skin when handling contaminated material; skin infection begins as a raised, itchy bump resembling an insect bite, but within one-two days develops into a painless ulcer with a characteristic black dying area in the center; death rates are rare with proper medical treatment

■ Inhalation: Initial symptoms resemble a cold; after several days, symptoms may progress to severe breathing problems and shock; usually fatal; if there is evidence to lead law enforcement personnel to suspect anthrax was used as a biological agent, medical authorities would prescribe antibiotics

■ Intestinal: This form may follow the consumption of contaminated meat and is characterized by an acute inflammation of the intestinal tract; initial signs of nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting and fever are followed by abdominal pain, vomiting of blood and severe diarrhea; results in death in 25-60 percent of cases

"With cutaneous anthrax, the most common form diagnosed so far, thoroughly washing hands with soap and water is the primary and best defense," Newman said.

Newman said ingested anthrax is least likely to occur, because properly cooking meat will kill the bacteria.

Newman also stressed mail is a poor delivery system for spreading inhalation anthrax.

## FBI Advisory

**If you receive a suspicious letter or package**

**What should you do?**

- 1 **Handle with care**  
Don't shake or bump
- 2 **Isolate and look for indicators**
- 3 **Don't Open, Smell or Taste**
- 4 **Treat it as Suspect!**  
Call 911

**If parcel is open and/or a threat is identified...**

<p><b>For a Bomb</b></p> <p>Evacuate immediately Call 911 (Police) Contact local FBI</p>	<p><b>For Radiological</b></p> <p>Limit Exposure - Don't Handle Distance (Evacuate area) Shield yourself from object Call 911 (Police) Contact local FBI</p>	<p><b>For Biological or Chemical</b></p> <p>Isolate - Don't Handle Call 911 (Police) Wash your hands with soap and warm water Contact local FBI</p>
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## Off duty--Around town



### Sports

**Stingrays:** Military Appreciation Night Saturday, 7:30 p.m., vs. Augusta. All upper level one seats are \$7 each. Tickets are available at the Outdoor Recreation Center or at the Coliseum Box Office. Many prizes, sponsored by the Charleston Cup Steeplechase, will be given away. For more information, go to [www.stingrayshockey.com](http://www.stingrayshockey.com).

**Lowgators:** The North Charleston Lowgators are holding Military Night Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., vs. the Fayetteville Patriots. Active duty, Reserve, DOD civilians, retirees and their family members are eligible for buy-one, get-one-free tickets to the game. Tickets are only available at the North Charleston Coliseum box office, and proper ID is required to receive the discount. For more information, call 764-4013 or 416-1162.

### Events

**Parade:** The Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center is hosting a Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11, 2 p.m., starting at the corner of King and Calhoun streets and traveling to Broad Street.

**Free admission:** Anheuser-Busch is offering free admission to seven of its theme parks for America's Heroes: law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical workers and members of the armed forces, including active duty, Reserve, and National Guard members. Free admission is available every day through the end of the year to Sea World, Orlando, Fla., and San Diego, Calif., and Busch Gardens, Tampa, Fla. Free admission is available weekends through the end of their seasons to Sea World, San Antonio, Texas; Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Va.; Sesame Place, Langhorne, Penn.; and Adventure Island, Tampa, Fla. Deployed members will have until May 31, 2002, to visit the parks. To gain entrance, those eligible must show current identification and proof of employment or membership. On the first visit, each hero will receive a customized passport valid for free unlimited admission every day through December. Guests will receive complimentary admission on their first visit and a 25 percent discount for the rest of the year. For more information, call (800) 342-5283.

### DANIELS

continued from page 1

leaving for our children and our grandchildren?"

Daniels, who was once known to be a little wild, also discussed his deep relationship with God and sang a couple of gospel songs, in addition to his more popular hits including "In America" and "Long-Haired Country Boy."

He encouraged the 600 concert attendees to focus on their relationship with Jesus Christ.

"Some people may live with this thought that they're not good enough and that's true," he said. "None of us are really good enough, but that's the good thing about Jesus Christ. We can go to him with all our baggage and he'll accept us as we are."

Daniels spent about 40 minutes performing for base personnel and their families, and took time to sign autographs after his performance. Though Daniels has never served in the military, he is no stranger to the military way of life. He has performed for military members throughout the world, to in-

clude bases in Europe and the Pacific theater.

"I fell in between the cracks of two wars," he said. "I was a child of World War II. I was 5 when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. I was too young to understand but I remember seeing and feeling the country pull together."

Daniels concluded his performance with his rendition of "How Great Thou Art." Before exiting the stage and making his way back to Summerville where he was staying, Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437 AW commander, presented him with a framed photo of a C-17 and a wing coin, which was carried during a humanitarian airdrop mission over Afghanistan.

"If you're ever in Nashville you can stop by my museum there," Daniels said. "This will hang in there."

"Charlie told me that he's been asked to perform for troops all over the world, but no chaplain had ever made such a

request," said Guin. "He was very honored to visit CAFB and I believe everyone who attended this event could sense that. He shared not only his music, but he also shared himself. It's clear he loves the troops. It's also very clear he is deeply Christian and completely American."



Photo by Ed Kelly

Charlie Daniels accepts a wing coin and picture of a C-17 from Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437 AW commander.

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Charleston Profile



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

### Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Manuel Ortiz 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group

Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Manuel Ortiz works as a medical material journeyman for the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group.

A normal day at the clinic for Ortiz involves ordering, receiving and stocking medical supplies of all kinds. However, due to the current Force Protection Condition, Ortiz is working as an augmentee for the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron.

"Definitely exciting," Ortiz said about working side-by-side with security forces. "Working with this squadron has given me some insight into a different career field. It's a great experience."

Ortiz is mainly working at the gates and flightline, checking IDs and passes, but he said his second week on the job found him acting as a translator for an arrest made in Hunley Park.

Quality leadership and dedication to duty were the reasons Ortiz named for why he was enjoying his augmentee time so much.

"Everybody has been real good to me," he said. "The leadership and supervisors really take care of their people. It really feels like a team effort."

The Brooklyn native has been in the Air Force for almost two years. He said he joined because of all the opportunities the military has to offer.

"When you hang around positive people with goals, positive things happen," said Ortiz. "The Air Force is full of opportunities, and I'm going to make my experience a positive one."

Ortiz's immediate goals are to make senior airman below the zone, continue working toward his Community College of the Air Force degree and join the Base Honor Guard.

Ortiz said when he's not working, he enjoys seeing his wife, Jessica, who is currently finishing college in New York. He also spends time working out and swimming.

viduals must take a copy of their orders to TMO, which will process the paperwork. The member will have to do some paperwork and deliver the vehicle. Members have up to 90 days after the TDY to get the vehicle out of storage.

**NCO retraining:** Air Force officials have announced the start of the fiscal 2002 NCO Retraining Program. During fiscal 2002, staff, technical and master sergeants will have the opportunity to retrain from Air Force Specialty Codes with NCO overages to AFSCs with NCO shortages. A listing of retraining-out and retraining-in AFSCs is available at the 437<sup>th</sup> Military Personnel Flight, Personnel Employment, Room 207. For more information, call Senior Airman Leslie Melencion at 963-4567.

**CCC:** City Colleges of Chicago offers video courses for students waiting for Term III. The term begins Jan. 6. Schedules for Term III will be available by the middle of December. All students who have completed two or more classes with CCC can call 552-5959 to request a formal evaluation from the Chicago office.

**Limestone College:** Limestone College will have a representative on base every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon, at the Community Education Center. Limestone offers a non-traditional approach to education. For more information, call 745-1100 or 963-7298.

**Operation Eagle:** Operation Eagle, a volunteer organization supporting the U.S. Armed Forces and their families, is launching a project effort to support U.S. and Allied troops deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The project, called Operation Homefront, is a 50-foot-long support poster. The project organizers are seeking names of patriotic citizens to add to the poster. The poster will be sent to the White House on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Those wishing to add their names can e-mail OpEagle@Bellsouth.net.

**Enlisted Support Club:** The Enlisted Support Club meets the fourth Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., usually at the Family Support Center. Anyone associated with enlisted personnel at Charleston are eligible to attend. For more information, call Marcia Lytton at 760-6892.

### Family Support Center

**Pre-deployment Briefing:** Thursday, Nov. 15 and 29, 4-4:30 p.m. and Monday, Nov 19 and 26, 8-8:30 a.m.

**Resume I:** Tuesday, 9 a.m.-noon. All workshops are held at the FSC unless otherwise noted. For more information or to register, call the Family Support Center at 963-4406.

### Spotlight:

**Order of the Sword:** The NCOs of Air Mobility Command will honor Gen. Charles "Tony" Robertson, U.S. Transportation Command commander in chief and AMC commander, Saturday, 6 p.m., at the Scott Club, Scott AFB, Ill. The dinner, London Broil with mushroom sauce, is \$30. To sign up for the event or for more information, contact Staff Sgt. Julie Buie at 963-5497.

### Around the base

**OSA:** The Officers' Spouses' Association will be selling cookbooks and patriotic items today and Nov. 15-16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Commissary.

**AFSA:** The Air Force Sergeants' Association is sponsoring a baby clothing drive now-Nov. 16. Donated clothing will go to the Lowcountry Crisis Pregnancy Center, a private, non-profit corporation serving Berkeley, Dorchester and Charleston counties. The center serves approximately 300 women per month and is in need of clothing sizes ranging from infant to 2T. To make a donation, drop items off at the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group Flight Medicine lobby area. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Cassie Isom at 963-6652 or Senior Airman Wendy Guistwite at 963-6923.

**Tobacco cessation class:** The

Health and Wellness Center will be conducting a tobacco cessation class beginning Tuesday, noon, in the Fitness and Sports Center classroom. This is a five-week class, meeting every Tuesday, noon, for one hour. For more information or to sign up in advance, call 963-4007.

**Car seat safety:** Trident Area Safe Kids is scheduled to hold a Check-Up Clinic at Babies 'R Us, Rivers Ave., Tuesday, 4-6 p.m. The clinic will check the proper installation of car seats. For more information, call 792-5327.

**BX gift wrapping:** Any organizations interested in participating in the Base Exchange gift-wrapping booth should send a representative to a special meeting, scheduled for Thursday, 1 p.m., in the 437<sup>th</sup> Support Group conference room, Bldg. 1600. The first gift-wrapping day is Nov. 23, and the last day is Dec. 24. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Allan Harris at 963-2202.

**Case-lot sale:** The Charleston AFB Commissary will hold a Veterans Appreciation Case Lot Sale Thursday and Nov. 9, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The sale will be outdoors. Paper products, detergent, cereal, canned goods and snacks are a few of the items featured. For more information call 963-5694.

**Free skate:** The Carolina Ice Palace will offer free ice skating and skate rental Veterans Day, Nov. 11, to all active-duty and retired service members. An active or retired military ID card is required for the offer. Skating sessions are 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

**Commissary:** The Commissary will be closed Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day and will be open Nov. 12 and 13, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

**OSA:** The Officers' Spouses' Association will meet Nov. 13, 6 p.m., at the Charleston Club. Dennis Stiles, of The Original Charleston Walks, will give information on historical Charleston and will be joined by crafters from Middleton Place. The event is \$12 for club members and \$15 for non-members. For reservations, last names A-M, call 875-2505 and last names N-Z, call 207-7379 by Nov. 11.

**Tops in Blue:** Tops in Blue is scheduled to perform Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., at the Gaillard Auditorium. Doors open at 7 p.m.

**Vehicle storage:** Any individual going on a contingency TDY for more than 30 days is entitled to have his or her POV stored at government expense. This includes current AEFs and other deployed locations. Indi-

## COMMENTARY

## CFC needs your help: you can still contribute

By Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley  
437 AW commander

A special thanks to Bill Hammond and the local Boeing employees for their generous contributions toward this year's Combined Federal Campaign. We are lagging behind on our goal for this year. I know it has been tough because of the war on terrorism, but every little bit helps, so please spread the word. Everyone should have been contacted by now to ensure they had an opportunity to contribute towards this year's campaign.

Although the campaign is drawing to a close, you can still contribute and make a difference in someone's life. I would like everyone in the wing to make one last, big push and hopefully that will put us over the top. Today, more than ever, local and national charities rely upon our assistance. Please contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Thanks to Chaplain (Maj.) **Phil Guin**, the 437<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron and 437<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron members to include **John Hattel**, **Laura Abell** and Staff Sgt. **Josh Glover**, of the base honor guard, for their efforts to arrange a well-received Charlie Daniels appearance in the base theater Oct. 25. We also had a special performance by the Chapel's Truth Project Band. It was a unique honor to host such a celebrity on the base. We thanked him for taking time out of his busy schedule. See the article on page 1 for more information.

The pace at Charleston has slowed a little bit this past week. We are taking this opportunity to catch up with maintenance on our fleet of C-17s. We have been working really hard for the past seven weeks, and we are getting ready for whatever is next. President George W. Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld recently reiterated that eradicating worldwide terrorism would not happen overnight.

"It's a marathon, not a sprint," Rumsfeld told reporters. "It will be years, not weeks or months."

I echo his sentiments, and we need to prepare ourselves for the long haul.

The Town Hall meeting Tuesday evening was a success, and I appreciate the opportunity to meet with base members and their families. We had a number of briefers from the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group, Chaplain's office, Legal office, and Family Support Center to name just a few. A special thanks to the briefers. Our most important resource is our people. It is always nice to see people take an interest in what is happening in our community and to keep our base populace informed. I appreciate all the feedback, and we will continue to improve our programs.

My congratulations to everyone who put on new stripes this week as part of the Monthly Enlisted Promotion Ceremony Wednesday afternoon in the Charleston Club. It is always nice to see lots of spirit and support for those putting on a new rank. Congratulations on your achievement.

We held a luncheon to celebrate the heritage of Native Americans Thursday in the Charleston Club. The luncheon featured representatives from local tribes and a great meal. We had a good showing at the luncheon and it

was a well-done event. A special thanks to **Johnnie Brooks**, 437<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Generation Squadron and Chief Master Sgt. **Jo Lisenbee**, 437 AGS, and the committee members.

I leave today for the change-of-command ceremony at Scott AFB, Ill. Gen. John W. Handy will assume command of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command from Gen. Charles "Tony" Robertson Nov. 5. I will get a chance to bid a fond farewell and say thanks to Gen. and Mrs. Robertson for their many years of dedicated service. You can read about Gen.

Robertson's thoughts on page 9 of the *Airlift Dispatch*. We welcome Gen. Handy, who is no stranger to Charleston and to the command.

Congratulations to our officers recently selected for the highly competitive Intermediate Service and Senior Service Schools. Selected for Air Command and Staff College were Majors **Christopher Carper**, **David Morrissey**, **Patrick Dowling**, and **Scott DeThomas**. Maj. **Jeffrey Schwefler** was also selected to attend Army Command and Staff College.

We also did well with the Senior Service School selections. Lt. Col. **Pete Hirneise** was selected as a Rand Research Fellow. Lt. Col. **John Zazworsky Jr.** was selected to attend the Naval War College and Lt. Col. **William Changose** will attend the Air War College. Lt. Col. **John Norton Jr.** will attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. Congratulations on your achievement!

Team Charleston will be participating in the annual downtown Veteran's Day parade Nov. 11. We have a number of units marching in the parade and will have several displays in the parade. The parade begins at 2 p.m. at the corner of King and Calhoun Streets. The parade will go down King Street and will turn right on Broad Street where it will end at Rutledge Avenue and Broad Streets. The annual parade is sponsored by the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center. Hope to see you out there for the parade.

It is not too early to remind everyone about the Air Force Holiday Ball scheduled for Nov. 30 in the Charleston Club. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. If you've already purchased tickets for the postponed Air Force Ball in September, hang on to them, as they are still good. If you can't go, but purchased tickets, please remember to turn them back in to the Protocol office. Just bring your old ticket in for a full refund. The ball will be a first class event, and we want as many people as possible to attend!

We are especially fortunate to have the Air Force Tops in Blue scheduled to perform Dec. 4 at the Gaillard Auditorium in Charleston. Doors open at 7 a.m. with the performance at 7:30 p.m. Tops in Blue is the premiere Air Force entertainment troupe that travels the globe performing music, comedy and dance for military members and their families. Like last year, we have opened up this year's performance to the public. We hope to fill the auditorium, so please tell your friends and neighbors. Admission is free. Mark your calendar now. Additional information is available at our public web site: <https://www.charleston.af.mil/chasweb/events/events.htm>.

Keep up the good work. We have shown the world that we are indeed the premiere airlift wing on the face of the planet. Our accomplishments are well-known throughout the Air Force, and I could not be prouder. Stay safe and keep charging forward!



Courtesy photo  
Brig. Gen. Rusty Findley, 437 AW commander thanks deployed Charleston AFB troops for their efforts during a visit to Germany.

## About the paper

AIRLIFT  
Dispatch

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## Deadlines

The deadline for submitting stories for space-available publication is noon Friday, preceding the desired publication date. The *Airlift Dispatch* reserves the right to edit all copy submitted for publication.

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## Action Line

The Commander's Action line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston Air Force Base a better place to live, work and play.

First give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at 963-5581 or send an e-mail to [action@charleston.af.mil](mailto:action@charleston.af.mil).

To ensure you receive a response to your concerns, please leave your name and the information needed to contact you.



# 'Year of Warrior Spirit' AMC theme for fiscal 2002

**By Tech. Sgt.  
Karen Petitt**  
*AMC Public Affairs*

Air Mobility Command unveiled its new theme for fiscal year 2002 as Year of the Warrior Spirit.

"Although we were hit on our own soil, America's response has been global," said Gen. Charles "Tony" Robertson Jr., U.S. Transportation Command commander in chief and AMC commander. "Taking the fight to our enemies is what the warriors of AMC are all about, and that, in essence, is what warrior spirit is all about.

"As we focus on our

warfighting skills this year," continued Robertson, "we'll also be putting the spotlight on those things that make us, and our calling, so special...our profession of arms, our heritage, and our esprit de corps."

While last year's theme of retention and recruiting focused on the benefits of the Air Force family, Robertson said this year's theme focuses on warriors, first and foremost.

"Our call to duty and our

love of country is really why so many of us stay in the Air Force," said Robertson.



"The attacks of 11 September jolted many Americans out of their normal day-to-day routines in a very abrupt manner, but the

warrior spirit which defines who and what we are, enabled us to respond in a manner that left most

Americans watching us in awe.

And even more satisfying, the warrior spirit of the men and women of AMC's total force continues to be proudly displayed every-

where I go. The good news is that we don't need to tell our people how to have warrior spirit or that they should be focused on being warriors first because they're already showing it,

every day, around the world, by the example they're setting."

Maj. Glen Downing, Year of the Warrior Spirit project officer, said the Year of Warrior Spirit committee wants to highlight past and present heroes, and recognize people who show warrior spirit day-to-day. They want to accomplish this in conjunction with base representatives.

Downing and his crew are making final plans for the campaign. He said the theme of warrior spirit may appear directed toward those in uniform, but it applies to the entire Air Force family.

## 'I'm very proud of what we have been able to accomplish together'

**By Gen. Charles  
"Tony" Robertson Jr.**  
*AMC commander*

Just over three years ago, I took command of two magnificent organizations, the U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command. In just a few days, with a mixture of pride and nostalgia, my tenure as your commander will come to a close.

If there's ever been a service for which the term "labor of love" was coined, it has been this one. The opportunity to contribute to and improve upon a mission that's so critical to our country, while at the same time rubbing shoulders with some of the finest airmen this country has ever produced, has been, to put it mildly, exhilarating!

I'm very proud of what we have been able to accomplish together. From deploying our Expeditionary Air Forces, to delivering emergency relief supplies to flood-ravaged countries, to helping fight the fires that have scorched thousands of acres in the United States, to lifesaving medical evacuations, the Total Force men and women of AMC have always been there, leaning forward, to answer our nation's call. September 11 was no exception.

Our response to the worst terrorist attacks in America's history was crucial to the early success of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. From the very first moment, you, the warriors of America's Air Mobility Team, responded as you always have, with the total commitment and unwavering professionalism your grateful nation has come to expect.

During the weeks that followed the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, you have flown emergency response teams, supplies and equipment to the East Coast. You have manned air

refueling aircraft in the skies over America, allowing our fighters to maintain, uninterrupted, their homeland defense caps. You have taken our U.S. forces to the fight, helping to deny the terrorists hiding in Afghanistan the safe haven from which they have been operating, with impunity, for years. At the same time, you've delivered food, medicine and other supplies to the victims of Taliban oppression on the ground in Afghanistan. And you have extended the wings of our fighter, bomber and airlift fleets through an air refueling air bridge of major proportions. Your complete devotion to duty, not to mention your commitment to your country and to your countrymen, is truly admired, both at home and around the world.

There are a host of new challenges on the horizon as we face the dual demands of this new century and changing world, but no organization is better prepared to meet those challenges than AMC. No organization has a finer team of leaders, and no group of warriors has so much to offer to our great nation.

Over the years that I have been honored to be your commander, I've generally reviewed the command's issues through one of three prisms: readiness, modernization/process improvement, and people. Today, I'm very proud to report that together we have brought about major improvements and significant successes in every area.

Our readiness can easily be seen in our response to our nation's repeated call for emergency relief and crisis intervention. Our tremendous successes are also apparent in our response to those who would use the bombing of innocent civilians as their weapon of choice, to Saddam Hussein's repeated provocations in Southwest Asia, as

well as to the U.S. and NATO support of emerging democracies in Bosnia and Kosovo.

But our successes have gone beyond large combat operations. We also engaged in an endless series of other "high amplitude, short wavelength" operations. With respect to these quick in-and-out operations, I am particularly proud of our response to the U.S. embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, as well as to that of the USS Cole; of our South Pole airdrop and subsequent medical evacuation missions; and of our missions to repatriate the Navy EP-3 crew that was forced to land on Hainan Island.

As impressive as those high-visibility missions were though, our readiness can't be viewed in a vacuum. It has been imperative that we maintain an aggressive force modernization program, to recapitalize our aging aircraft fleets, aging ground handling equipment, and global infrastructure.

In this regard, I'm very proud of our tremendous across-the-board success in gaining higher-level support for our modernization and process improvement initiatives. From our new Tunner and Halvorsen loaders to the total cockpit and avionics modernization of our C-5, C-141, C-130 and KC-135 fleets, to our C-5 re-engining program, to continued and expanded procurement of the C-17, we have locked in the decisions and the funding required to keep mobility squarely in the fast lane of defense modernization for many years to come.

As you and I well know though, modernized equipment doesn't guarantee success. Air Force people are the heart and soul of our capability. It only stands to reason that if we're to maintain our readiness and our technological edge,

we've got to do everything we can to take care of our people and their families.

We began our Year of the Family program in fiscal 1999 and continued it through 2000 to focus our command on quality-of-life initiatives. I designated fiscal year 2001 as the Year of Retention and Recruiting to further focus our efforts on attracting and retaining the kind of high-quality people we need to carry on our critical global mission.

Through literally hundreds of initiatives, we have upgraded our family housing, our dormitories, our squadrons, our dining facilities, our medical facilities, our child development centers, our fitness and recreation facilities, and our places of worship throughout AMC.

And now fiscal 2002 is our "Year of Warrior Spirit." I can't think of a more appropriate time to focus our attention on the warriors who, day-to-day, make our important mission so successful. As I have said, taking the fight to our enemies is what AMC warriors are all about, and that, in essence, is what the "Year of Warrior Spirit" is all about.

When all is said and done, please know and remember only this: whatever accomplishments may be ascribed to me during my time as commander, you are the ones who have routinely made it happen. In the final analysis, I've been but one more of the millions of men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation proudly. Brenda and I have truly cherished this opportunity and, when the last echelon has passed the reviewing stand, of all the things we will miss, Brenda and I will miss you the most: the men and women who make our Air Force and our Command the world-class organization that it is. No one else comes close!

## FEATURE

# Seeing is believing

*Optometry clinic provides ounce of prevention, keeps CAFB's eyes healthy*

**Story and photos by  
Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter  
437 AW Public Affairs**

If Air Force members had to spend their time battling such adversaries as myopia, corneal abrasions and conjunctivitis, they wouldn't have a whole lot left over to fight real enemies, like Al Qaeda and other terrorist organizations.

That's where the 437<sup>th</sup> Medical Group's Optometry Clinic comes in to save the day. Capt. Tina Luichinger and Staff Sgt. Constance Dangerfield help about 250 people see every month.

The office provides routine eye exams for active-duty members and for TRICARE Prime enrollees on a space available basis, according to Luichinger.

"Active-duty members are our highest priority, because they are our mission," Luichinger said.

The clinic also orders and dispenses glasses, about 335 per month, according to Dangerfield.

Dangerfield said under the "Frame of Choice" program, active-duty members can choose one of six civilian style frames. The new frames are more popular than the older-style military issue frames.

Glasses may take some time to come back to the clinic. All orders



Staff Sgt. Cassie Isom (left), 437<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Dental Squadron Flight Medicine, peers into the slit lamp, a type of microscope. Capt. Tina Luichinger, 437 MDG optometry clinic, uses this piece of equipment to evaluate Isom's eyes.

DOD-wide are currently processed by the same company, which isn't in the local area, said Luichinger. The turn-around time for glasses depends on the workload of that company.

Another service the clinic provides is contact lens prescription updates, Luichinger said. Patients must have a copy of their prescription or the contact lens package and must wear the lenses for the exam.

Luichinger said she doesn't guarantee an updated prescription.

"If there are any problems, the patient has to go off-base," Luichinger said. She added contact lenses are really the military members responsibility, as the clinic provides the additional service for convenience, not because it has to.

Many optometry patients are interested in photorefractive keratectomy, or PRK, a procedure that may correct vision without glasses or contacts. According to Luichinger, though the Air Force is now performing this service in some locations, it may or may not come to Charleston AFB. She also emphasized the procedure may not be right for everybody, or deemed necessary by the military for everyone. She said as soon as the clinic receives additional information, she will be sure to pass on the news.

In addition to routine eye

exams, the clinic also treats eye diseases and injuries, Luichinger said. The top-three things the clinic treats are ocular abrasions, or something in the eye, minor conjunctivitis (pink-eye) and corneal abrasions.

Appointments for the optometry clinic are made by calling the central appointment line, 963-6880.

Dangerfield said active-duty members can usually be seen within a week and dependents can be seen in one-two weeks, if space is available.

Most active-duty members should have their eyes examined every one-two years, according to Luichinger, depending on the individual.

"If everything is fine, it's more like every two years, but if there are issues to address, appointments

should be made more often," said Luichinger.

Children should have their first eye exam at age 5, Luichinger said.

To prepare for appointments, patients should bring their glasses and a pair of sunglasses, prescription or non-prescription, Luichinger said. The sunglasses may be necessary if a patient needs to have his or her eyes dilated. Dilation is not always performed, but patients should know they take about thirty minutes to take affect, and the drops may cause blurry vision up close and light sensitivity for four-six hours, according to Luichinger.

The two-person optometry team keeps the force ready to fight by ensuring they can first see where the fight is.

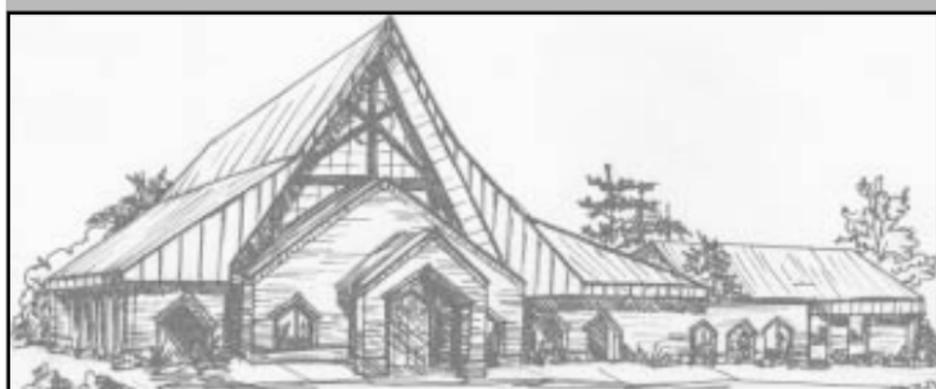


Luichinger uses the phoropetor to determine an eyeglasses prescription for Isom.



Isom keeps her eye open for the "puff test" at the non-contact tonometer. The tonometer shoots a blast of air at the eye to measure intraocular pressure and aid in the diagnosis of glaucoma, an eye disease.

## Chapel schedule



### 107 Arthur Drive

**Office hours:** 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

**Phone:** 963-2536. After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

#### Catholic Services

**Saturday** -- 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass.

**Sunday** -- 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church.

**Weekdays** -- 11:30 a.m. Mass, Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex. For Sacrament of Marriage, call the Catholic chaplain six months prior to the wedding.

#### Protestant Services

**Sunday** -- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, 11 a.m. Children's Church.

**Thursday** -- 7 p.m. Praise and Worship contemporary service.

**Buddhist:** Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

**Orthodox:** Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

**Jewish:** Call Jewish Lay Leader: Senior Airman David Winner at 963-2676.

**Islamic:** Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

## Movie schedule

### Admission prices:

Adults/Children -- 99 cents

Any child under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor child to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.



**Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times, which are subject to change.**

### Today, 7:30 p.m.

#### **"Two Can Play That Game" – Vivica Fox**

When it comes to matters of the heart, keeping her man happy and committed is all in a day's work for Shante Smith. When her boyfriend Keith is caught stepping out with her arch-rival, Shante institutes a plan to get her man in line. **(R) 90 minutes**

### Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

#### **"Hardball" – Keanu Reeves**

When Conor O'Neill tries to borrow money from a friend to pay for his gambling habit, the loan is on the condition that he coach a Little League baseball team for the Cabrini Green housing projects. **(PG-13) 106 minutes**

### Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.

#### **"Hearts in Atlantis" – Anthony Hopkins**

Bobby lives with his mother, a bitter, vain woman, who looks for pleasure for herself without sharing much with her son. Into their lives comes a mysterious new boarder, who befriends the boy but generates mistrust from the mother. As time passes, the man and boy share confidences and special powers are revealed. The two share a summer's adventures and come to love one another before the inevitable happens. **(PG-13) 101 minutes**

# Fitness & Sports

## Week Nine

Name/Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### Sunday, Nov. 11

Buffalo @ **New England**  
 Carolina @ **St. Louis**  
 Cincinnati @ **Jacksonville**  
 Dallas @ **Atlanta**  
**Tampa Bay** @ Detroit  
**Green Bay** @ Chicago  
 Kansas City @ **New York Jets**  
**Pittsburgh** @ Cleveland  
**Miami** @ Indianapolis  
 San Diego @ **Denver**  
 Minnesota @ **Philadelphia**  
**New Orleans** @ San Francisco  
**New York Giants** @ Arizona  
**Oakland** @ Seattle

### Monday, Nov. 12

**Baltimore** @ Tennessee  
 Monday night total points: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Swami's Monday night points: 28

Swami's picks are in bold and underlined.

Send your picks to: Swami@charleston.af.mil

Picks may be dropped at the Public Affairs office in Bldg. 1600, Room 224.

\*\*Picks must be submitted by Friday, Nov. 9, 4 p.m.\*\*

## Reeder gets lucky

By the Swami

*Pigskin Prognosticator*

Week seven is over with Rich Reeder coming out victorious. Reeder's 11-3 record tied Alison Bethea, but his tie-breaker score gave him the win.

Reeder's season standings are very impressive also. His .651 win percentage places him in second place for the year so far. Too bad he has only played three easy weeks so far. A monkey could score that high by playing the three weeks Reeder played.

Todd Walker stands alone as the cellar dweller this week. His miserable 6-8 record is better than that of previous week's losers, but it's truly pathetic on such an easy week.

The Swami also noticed the name Dutch near the bottom of the list. He was just one lucky pick away from being the worst again this week. Give it up!

The Steelers may have finally pulled it together. The Swami has talked about their poor offense in the past, but he thinks they may have a chance at the playoffs. The Titan coaching staff could've easily won by putting in Neil O'Donnell. They didn't, and they paid for it.

The Swami received an e-mail about a Dallas practice getting cut short. It goes like this:



*Photo illustration by Senior Airman Jason Smith*

The *Airlift Dispatch* staff found this 1995 photo of Steeler's former quarterback Neil O'Donnell. The Swami has often spoke about the glory days of O'Donnell. Upon closer examination of facial features, the Swami's praise for O'Donnell may be apparent.

Dallas Cowboys football practice was delayed Wednesday for nearly two hours. One of the players, on his way to the locker room, happened to notice a suspicious looking, unknown white powdery substance on the field. Head coach Dave Campo immediately suspended practice while the FBI investigated.

After a complete field analysis, the FBI determined the white substance, unknown to the players, was the goal line. Practice was resumed when FBI special agents decided the team would not likely encounter the substance again.

## Butting out: Great American Smokeout helps smokers kick habit

By Tech. Sgt. Janet Clayton  
 437 ADOS

For over two decades, the staff and volunteers of the American Cancer Society have used the Great American Smokeout to help smokers quit cigarettes for at least one day.

In 1971, Arthur P. Mullaney created an event in Randolph, Mass., which asked people to give up cigarettes for a day and donate the money they would have spent on cigarettes to a high school scholarship fund.

On Nov. 18, 1976, the California Division of the American Cancer Society got nearly one million of the state's five million smokers to quit for the day in the Great American Smokeout.



The American Cancer Society hosted the first nationwide Great American Smokeout on the third Thursday of November 1977 and started a tradition that has practically become a national holiday.

In the following two decades, the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout has been chaired by some of America's most popular celebrities, including Sammy Davis, Jr., Edward Asner, Natalie Cole, Larry Hagman, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and many others.

The event has helped millions of Americans quit by proving to themselves they can quit for a day and therefore quit for a lifetime.

As times have changed, the focus of the Great American Smokeout has also evolved from simply helping adults quit smoking to helping children and teenagers understand they should never start smoking in the first place. The Great American Smokeout is also a time for Americans to renew their commitment to a smoke-free environment for themselves and for their children.

This year's Great American Smokeout is Nov. 15. Those interested in participating may go to the HAWC to sign-up any day before Nov. 15 and get a free survival kit. Every year over 100,000 people quit smoking. Quitting even for a day increases chances for success - besides, what is there to lose but a bad habit? For more information on how to take part in the Great American Smokeout or on how to quit smoking, call 963-4007.



*Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements*

## Hoop dreams

Otis Alexander, All-Air Force Basketball Camp attendee, defends a Charleston Southern University player during a scrimmage Oct. 25.