

NEWS BRIEFS

Charleston Profile



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Smith

Staff Sgt. Mick Purdy

437th Operations Support Squadron

Staff Sgt. Mick Purdy is an air refueling scheduler and wing operation plan builder for the 437th Operations Support Squadron current operations. His day-to-day activities include building a local training WOP and coordinating air refueling.

Purdy has been in the Air Force for 12 years and has been at Charleston AFB the whole time.

"I really love it here," said Purdy. "I like the people and the atmosphere. Everyone takes you in like family."

Along with receiving praise from his peers and superiors, Purdy does some "praising" of his own as a deacon for the Midland Park Baptist Church in North Charleston.

"I play the keyboard for the praise band," said Purdy. "I also like to participate in the skits. I don't mind trying to be funny to get the point of the sermon across."

Purdy, a Malone, N.Y., native has three sisters and a brother. His brother is an officer in the Navy.

While Purdy hopes to make chief master sergeant someday, he said making master sergeant is a more realistic goal.

Positively affecting others is one of Purdy's major goals in the Air Force.

"I like people," said Purdy. "I try to make everyone smile when I can. Everyone leaves a legacy. I want to leave one that counts."

ships 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.

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 on active duty, reserve or guard as of June 21. Prior recruiters may request authorization through unit commanders and Headquarters Air Force Reserve for approval.

Medical records: The medical records of military beneficiaries are property of the U.S. Government and must be maintained at a military treatment facility. Any records being stored elsewhere should be returned immediately.

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 and Dec. 18, 8 a.m. and Thursday and Dec. 21 and 28, 4 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Around the base

NDTA luncheon: The Charleston Chapter National Defense Transportation Association is hosting a meeting and luncheon Wednesday, 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.

School committee: The base school committee is meeting Tuesday, 7 p.m., at the Family Support Center. The guest speaker will be Thomas Mullins, North Charleston High School principal. He will be discussing an upcoming restructuring program. All parents of North Charleston High School students are invited to attend. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Terrie Powell at 963-2202.

Testing: The base education office will not be conducting testing Dec. 26. For more information, call 963-4575.

Chiefs' Group: The Charleston AFB Chiefs' Group is meeting Dec. 21, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. Nominations of officers for next year will be taken in preparation for the January election. All chiefs are encouraged to attend.

Commissioning briefing: The

base education center is holding an officer commissioning briefing Jan. 10, 11 a.m. The briefing will provide information regarding commissioning program opportunities. For more information, call 963-4575.

Dental care: United Concordia Companies, Inc. will take over the administration of the new TRICARE dental program on Feb. 1. Inquiries and appeals can be processed through the dental contractor at 1-800-866-8499, or at www.ucci.com.

Members currently enrolled in the TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan or the TRICARE-Selected Reserve Dental Program will be automatically enrolled in the new plan. Enrolled personnel should check their Leave and Earning Statements to ensure dental premiums payments reflect their elected dental coverage.

Commissary scholarship: The Defense Commissary Agency/Fisher House Foundation is offering scholar-

CAFB Holiday news briefs

Santa's mailbag: Members of the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, Eielson AFB, Alaska, have volunteered to send letters back to children who wish to write to Santa Claus. Send a self-addressed, legal size, stamped envelope to:

Santa's Mailbag
354 OSS/OSW
1215 Flightline Ave STE 100B
Eielson AFB, AK 99702-1520

A letter will be returned with the official North Pole, Alaska, cancellation stamp on it. There is no charge for the letters, but donations are accepted to help defray the cost of postage.

Toys for Tots: Military families who need assistance for the holidays should contact the Family Support Center. The Toys for Tots program supplies families in need with toys for their children. For more information, or to volunteer, call the Toys for Tots hotline at 743-4947.

Recycling: The December recycling schedule will not change due to the holidays. Recycling is scheduled for Dec. 21. For more information, call Nicole Shope at 963-2690.

