

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Maintenance Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Roberto Pomperada Dec. 29, 2 p.m., at the Fuel Cell Hangar, Bldg. 570. For more information, call 963-4605.

Around the base

Military day: The South Carolina Aquarium is hosting a military day Jan. 11. Military adults and spouses who present a valid ID will be admitted for \$7 and \$5 for those under 18 years old.

Order of the Daedalians: Brig. Gen. Richard Bundy, vice director, Operational Plans and Joint Force Development, will be the guest speaker at the Order of the Daedalian's meeting Jan. 11 at the Charleston Club. Cocktails start at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7 p.m. The cost is \$13 per person. For more information, call Capt. Lenny Richoux at 963-3203.

Unity Walk: The African-American Heritage Council is holding a Unity Walk Jan. 15, 10 a.m., at the Charleston Club. The walk will honor the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The walk will conclude at the base chapel where a commemorative service will be held. This event is the first of its kind at Charleston AFB. The AAHC has many other events scheduled for 2001. For more information, call Master Sgt. James Jarmon at 963-2331.

Stepfamily class: The base clinic is offering a five-session Strengthening Stepfamilies class beginning Jan. 16. There will be reading, discussions and at-home activities to help make stepfamilies work. The class will run for five consecutive Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. To register, call

Charleston Profile

Linda Wheeler The Litter "Gitter"

Linda Wheeler can be seen on a daily basis cruising around Charleston Air Force Base in her golf cart picking up litter.

"I pick up anything that's an eyesore," she said. "My biggest annoyance is the styrofoam peanuts. If I could find the person who invented them, I would have him down on his hands and knees picking them up."

Wheeler, who's been working on the base five years, said the job has its benefits. She finds some interesting things. "I've found as much as \$22 in one day," she said, "and after doing this for so long, you have an idea about where to find the most trash." She added that bushes seem to collect the most trash and are always at their worst after high winds.

A lot of the trash seen floating around the base comes from dumpsters that aren't closed and trash cans that aren't cleaned out, Wheeler said.

Before coming to work here, Wheeler was a substitute teacher. "I took this job to help get my girls through college. I needed something more stable than subbing."

In her free time, she still volunteers at the local elementary schools doing whatever may need to be done. She also enjoys doing crafts and horseback riding.

Wheeler's husband, John, is the assistant fire chief at the CAFB Fire Department. They have two daughters and one son.

"I love my job," she said. "The base looks nice and I feel like I've contributed to something."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan Murphy

Jim Hernandez at 963-6504.

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.

Smart Discipline Workshop:

There will be a Smart Discipline Workshop Jan. 18, 7-9 p.m., at the base education center auditorium to help parents learn about discipline and self-esteem for their kids. The seminar is free and open to everyone. For more information, call 963-2536.

Communication seminar: There will be a Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus seminar Jan. 19, 6:30-9:30 p.m., and Jan. 20, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the base education center. The seminar is designed to increase

communication and commitment in relationships. The seminar is free and open to everyone. For more information, call 963-2536.

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 recruiters 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.

Reunion: The 22nd Military Airlift Squadron is planning a reunion at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, in May. Anyone interested in attending or helping plan the event should call Ray Daley at (937) 323-6304.

NCOIC needed: The Base Honor Guard is seeking a new NCOIC. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Phil Johnson at 963-3398.

Family Support Center

Sponsorship Training: Jan. 3, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Newcomer's Tour: Jan. 4, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Pre-Deployment Briefing: Jan. 8, 22 and 29, 8 a.m., and Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25, 4 p.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.

Holiday briefs

Commissary: The Commissary holiday hours are as follows:

- Dec. 24, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Dec. 25, closed
- Dec. 26, closed
- Dec 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Jan. 1, closed
- Jan. 2, closed

Christmas closure: The Fitness and Sports Center will be closed Dec. 25. For information about holiday guest use of the facility, call 963-3347.

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

Holiday credit: Christmas doesn't have to be a lifelong struggle of paying bills. The personal financial manager at the Family Support Center may be able to



help eliminate credit card debt. For more information, call 963-5448.

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.