

DISPATCH



A I R L I F T

Daylight-saving time

► Clocks should be turned ahead one-hour Sunday, 2 a.m.



Vol. 40, No. 12

437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC

Friday, March 30, 2001



Photo staged by Senior Airmen Jason Smith and Donald Church

Two recent fires in base housing serve as a reminder for all Charleston AFB personnel to think about fire safety. Residents of both homes were able to escape unharmed.

Fire department, victims urge safety

By Senior Airman Donald Church
437 AW Public Affairs

Two recent fires in Charleston AFB housing have the 437th Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Flight and victims reminding everyone about the danger of fire.

One fire is being attributed to an electrical short in a household appliance, and the other is still under investigation for possible human error, according to fire officials.

"When you have several fires close together like this it always increases awareness," said Master Sgt. Chris Summers, 437 CES fire protection supervisor. "What we ask folks is for them to look at what they are doing and practice common sense fire safety to protect themselves and their families."

A more vivid picture of what fire safety awareness can prevent comes from the victims of fire.

"What really startles you is how quickly you have to react to everything," said Capt. David Siegrist, 15th Airlift Squadron, who recently lost

his home to fire. "So much happens so fast that the best thing I can say is that you have to have fire plans, practice them. Also, what I realized is that while most of us keep an extinguisher in the kitchen, we never keep one anywhere else. In our case, we weren't even able to get to it."

Siegrist's home had approximately 80 percent damage due to the fire. Others have lost even more.

"I was at work when my mother called to tell me that my apartment was on fire," says Rebecca Holbird, a West Ashley resident who was living in the Melrose Park Townhouses during a large fire there last year. "Even though I considered myself pretty much a fire-safe person, a fire that started seven apartments down from me wiped out everything that I had. No clothes, belongings, and loss of irreplaceable personal belongings leave you devastated."

"I still remember going back the next day after we were given the all clear," con-

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Findley, area commanders sign proclamation to end abuse

By Senior Airman Donald Church
437 AW Public Affairs

Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, and other military commanders from around the Charleston area gathered March 21 to commit themselves to stamping out spouse and child abuse.

With April identified as National Child Abuse Prevention Month, military commanders in the Charleston area wanted to formalize their position against domestic abuse in the military by signing a proclamation at the Naval Weapons Station.

According to Prevent Child Abuse America, 43 percent of American parents reported spanking or hitting their children within the last 12

months, and another 37 percent reported insulting or swearing at their children. In 1998, more than 3 million children were reported to child protective service agencies as alleged victims of child abuse or neglect, and approximately 1 million of these reports were confirmed.

Jim Hernandez, 437th Medical Group Family Advocacy Outreach manager, said Charleston AFB reported 44 substantiated child abuse or neglect cases over the last two fiscal years, with eight more cases this year.

"Placing an emphasis on positive parenting is an important component to the prevention of child abuse," said Hernandez. "As a community, it is essential we support parents and

families. As parents, we must strive to respect and nurture our children."

It is Air Force policy to prevent or to minimize the impact of child abuse, child neglect, and spouse abuse, and their attendant problems, according to the Air Mobility Command Judge Advocate office. To further this policy, the Air Force attempts to identify abuse and neglect, document such cases, assess the situation and provide treatment to the family. The Air Force will consider taking administrative or judicial action in appropriate cases.

"The physical and emotional abuse of children yields harmful consequences," said Hernandez. "A growing body of evidence links child abuse and neglect with drugs and

alcohol, teen pregnancy, youth violence and chronic health problems. It is therefore critical to focus on preventing child abuse and neglect before it starts."

According to Air Force statistics, the number one form of child maltreatment continues to be improper child supervision. While Air Force guidance is available to assist parents in deciding at what age and maturity a child can be left alone, the guidance is in the form of guidelines only, and it is up to parents to individually assess their child's particular abilities and circumstances.

The statistics also show several common trends for child abuse in

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IN THE NEWS

Safety office launches program to catch you in the act

**By Senior Airman
Jason Smith**
437 AW Public Affairs

The 437th Airlift Wing Safety Office has started a new program called You Were Caught Doing Something Safe.

The program is to encourage Charleston AFB members to follow appropriate guidelines to prevent injuries to personnel and damage to equipment.

Master Sgt. Larry Cain, 437 AW Safety Office ground safety superintendent and founder of the program here, said he got the idea from a similar program at one of his previous bases.

"It worked well at a previous base of mine," said Cain. "During our last Air Force Occupational Safety and Health Council meeting here, I brought up the idea of starting the program here. Everyone liked it, and we're set to present an award at the upcoming April 18 meeting in the wing conference room."

The quarterly AFOSH Council meetings are used to brief Team Charleston leaders and squadron safety representatives on current and future safety issues, according to Cain. You Were Caught Doing Something Safe tickets will be passed out to the safety representatives at the meetings. It will be their job to either catch their unit folks following safety guidelines, or to give the tickets to supervisors in a position to monitor safe work environments.

"We want the people who are most likely to observe people following specific safety rules to have the tickets," said Cain. "That could be a unit safety representative, a supervisor or a first sergeant."

Once someone is issued a ticket, the receiver can be nominated for the quarterly award. Supervisors will only have to send a one or two paragraph email or document to the safety office. The nomination should briefly

describe the safe act.

"We don't want more than two paragraphs," Cain said. "I realize supervisors already have EPRs, quarterly award packages and other things to work on that occupy a lot of time. We're going to avoid all of that. Writing a paragraph or two about something safe is a lot easier than working up an AF Form 1206 full of bullet statements."

The safety office will select the winner each quarter from the nominations they receive. Cain said he has already spoken with squadron commanders at the AFOSH meetings, and they're prepared to give time off for winning the award.

"The winner will be presented with a certificate signed by Col. (Rusty) Findley (437 AW commander)," said Cain. "All the commanders have also agreed to give a three-day pass to any members of their unit who wins. It looks a lot better being recognized for something posi-

tive than trying to explain why a member of your squadron was injured doing something unsafe."

Staff Sgt. Bart Craven, 437 AW Safety Office, said a great deal of focus right now has been placed on confined space safety issues.

"Confined space safety mainly deals with the folks who perform routine maintenance in our underground sewers," said Craven. "Recently, we found someone in a pit with no rescue crew available and no tripod or man winch. He didn't even test the air for gas. Basically, if anything went wrong, he had no way out."

Craven said finding someone who was observing specific rules and guidelines while working in a confined space would be an opportunity to issue a safe ticket.

Another example of an unsafe act occurred in February, according to Cain. An electrician was working on an outlet in a building and

was shocked because he didn't use lock-out and tag-out procedures.

"Basically, he didn't turn off the breaker for the circuit he was working on and lock it so no one else could turn it back on," Cain said. "He was shocked during the process. He was treated at the hospital for minor injuries, but it could have been a lot worse." Incidents like these can be easily prevented, according to Cain. He hopes the You Were Caught Doing Something Safe Program will encourage Team Charleston to think about safety while accomplishing the mission.

"We realize that safety incidents are not the norm," Cain said. "Most Charleston AFB workers are doing a great job in following safety guidelines. Hopefully we can use this to recognize them for doing what's right, instead of seeing them getting punished for doing what's wrong."

For more information, call the safety office at 963-5594.

Base School Committee makes transitioning easier

By Kendy Taylor
Lambs Elementary School representative

Families with school-age children leaving from or arriving at Charleston AFB can take advantage of the Base School Committee's work on easing student transition in schools.

The Transition Committee put together in- and out-processing checklists to help parents ease their children's transition in and out of the local school district.

The in-processing checklist consists of the following:

- Information on how to access the CAFB Standard Installation Topic Exchange Services; SITES contains extensive information and links about reporting in to CAFB as well as state, county and base web sites

- Information on the public schools that support CAFB; Lambs Elementary (for housing residents who live on the main base), Hunley Park Elementary (for housing residents who live in Hunley Park), Morningside Middle School, and North Charleston High School

- Information on additional school options, i.e., private schools, magnet schools and home schooling

- Information on where to obtain test scores and statistical informa-

tion

- Information on the Exceptional Family Members Program

- Names and phone numbers of the school principals to set up school visits

- Course descriptions and curriculums

- Items needed to register children in South Carolina public schools

For students out-processing there is a withdrawal list. It includes things parents can do to ensure a smooth transition. Examples are:

- Give as much notice as possible to the school prior to departure; most schools need at least 48 hours to gather all the needed information required for a student to out-process

- Call ahead to determine if a child's new school has special programs available

- Review the education information in SITES for the gaining base

Additionally, the Family Support Center has several pamphlets available to assist parents and children when transferring in or out of a new school. For more information, contact Betsy Crump, Family Support Center Consultant, at 963-4411. She can also be reached via e-mail at betsy.crump@charleston.af.mil.



Photo by 1st Lt. Beth Szucs

'Go ahead, make my Pilot for a Day'
Tech. Sgt. Phillip Borneman, 437th Security Forces Squadron, teaches Terra Edwards, Pilot for a Day, how to use the Fire Arms Training Simulator. Edwards, a leukemia patient, is Charleston AFB's first female Pilot for a Day. She also visited the C-17 simulator and a static display before getting her "wings" at a ceremony.

Abuse

continued from page 1

the military. Studies on the data have shown parents, stepparents and other adult relatives are responsible for 80 percent of confirmed cases. The remaining cases tend to have boyfriends and unrelated baby-sitters involved. Most often, the perpetrator is a young, junior enlisted male, and the spouse is out of the home when the abuse occurs.

While several causes have been identified for child abuse, the two most common, according to Air Force statistics, are parents being abused themselves as chil-

dren and unrealistic expectations of children. Another common theme is social isolation resulting from the constant moving in the military.

Air Force statistics show a 30 percent increase in the number of confirmed child abuse cases in the last 10 years, though they also suggest better recognition and reporting of child abuse may be contributing to the higher rate. One alarming trend on the rise is shaking injuries that result in increasing numbers of fatal abuse cases.

"What everyone needs to know is that individual and family counseling and educational classes are available on base for parents struggling with child discipline and other stressful family issues," said Hernandez.

Hernandez gives the following tips:

- Be a nurturing parent—Children need to know they are special and loved; educate yourself about a child's developmental process so you can have reasonable expectations about what your child can and cannot do

- Help yourself—When the big and little problems of everyday life pile up to the point where

you feel overwhelmed and out of control, take time out, do not take it out on your child; take a deep breath, turn on some music

- If your baby cries—It can be frustrating to hear your baby cry, especially when nothing you do seems to work; learn what to do if your baby will not stop crying; never shake a baby

- Monitor your child's television and computer use—Watching violent films on TV or playing violent computer games can harm young children

- Spend time playing with your children—or read to them instead

- Report suspected abuse or neglect

Keeping children safe is the responsibility of every adult in the community. If you have reason to believe a child has been or may be abused or neglected, call the Charleston AFB Family Advocacy Program at 963-6972 to communicate your concern. Professional counselors will follow up your report.

To make an appointment, call the Family Advocacy Office at the number listed above, or the counseling and guidance center at 963-6852.

Fire

continued from page 1

tinued Holbird. "Even though there were a handful of things that were salvageable, that and the horrible smell only remind you what you lost. For me the worst thing was knowing that I did not have any renter's insurance, and I had nothing left. I got help from my parents and other organizations and got back on my feet, but the experience is one I will not forget."

While these particular cases were unexpected, most fires are still caused by simple lapses in judgment.

According to Summers, unattended cooking continues to be the number one source of fire hazards in the home.

"What we are finding is that a large number of people don't know how to deal with a cooking fire," said Summers. "I've seen the mess that results from someone pulling out their fire extinguisher to put out a fire in a pan. You run the risk of spreading a fire that way and it is much simpler to place a lid on the fire until it goes out."

Fire officials advocate smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers, but caution

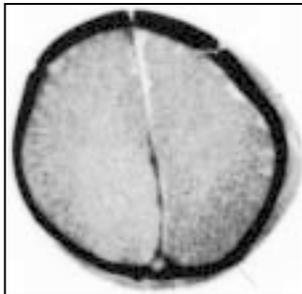
people against being their own firefighters.

"While it is great that folks are being better prepared by having smoke alarms and extinguishers," said Summers, "we also don't want them to have a false sense of security or try to do more than they should. Just because you have an extinguisher handy does not mean you should try to fight a fire yourself. Most homes here at Charleston AFB usually have only one person who has been trained to use an extinguisher, the active duty member, and they are rarely at home when a fire occurs."

Base housing residents are not the only ones needing to review their fire safety. According to the National Fire Protection Association, 66 percent of all fire deaths result from fires in one- or two-family dwellings or manufactured housing.

"Everyone needs to know about fire safety," said Summers. "While these recent fires do bring a fresh awareness, it is still up to everyone to take a look at what they do and practice fire safety not just today but everyday."

For more information, contact the fire department at 963-3117. In case of an actual fire, dial 911.



Courtesy photo

Above is an x-ray of an abused seven-month old child's skull. The black mass in the center is blood from severe shaking.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement ceremony: The 437th Civil Engineer Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. David Linquist today, 10 a.m., at the Charleston Club. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Paul Legg at 963-5053.

Retirement ceremony: There will be a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Spero Thomas today, 10 a.m., at the base education office. A luncheon at the Charleston Club will follow at 11 a.m. All Team Charleston members are welcome. For more information, call Master Sgt. Don Leech at 963-6124 or 1st Lt. Randall Ackerman at 963-6100.

Around the base

Senior NCOs: Requests for senior NCO volunteers to be a part of military liaison teams in Estonia and the Ukraine are being taken. Those selected will work with senior officers who have had little contact with the U.S. military in the past. Nominees must possess a high level of interpersonal skills and exceptional military maturity. Tour lengths are 179 days, and are comprised of members from all branches of the military. For more information, go to www.eucom.mil/programs/jctp/jctpmlts.htm, or call Tech. Sgt. Lisa Barkman at 963-6336.

Spanish linguist: Volunteers are needed to be Spanish linguists for support of Operation Dominant Chronical, Counterdrug Division. Volunteers must submit a letter including name, grade, social security number, Air Force Specialty Code, unit, security clearance, duty phone, language proficiency level and commander's endorsement to the personnel readiness function at the military personnel flight. For more information, call Senior Airman Tammy Haas, Randolph AFB, Texas, at DSN 665-2505.

Educational benefits: There will be Veterans' Educational Assistance Program to Montgomery GI Bill conversion briefings at the base education center today, 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. For more information, call 963-4575.

SGLI: Military members will see an increase to \$250,000 in their Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage starting Sunday. The monthly rate for the increased coverage is \$20. All members will automatically be updated to the \$250,000 coverage. Those who don't want the increased SGLI, need to fill out a SGLV Form 8286.

Base school forum: A school forum is scheduled for Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. at the Charleston Club. Lambs Elementary, Hunley Park Elementary, Morningside Middle,

Charleston Profile

Cigan

437th Security Forces Squadron

Military Working Dog Cigan is assigned to the 437th Security Forces Squadron. Cigan's duties include enforcing military and civilian laws regarding narcotics. He also assists Security Forces handlers with their duties by acting as both a controlled weapon and as a partner to help prevent crime at Charleston AFB.

Cigan, a German Shepherd, was born in Connecticut in March 1999. He was procured by the Department of Defense for the Military Working Dog Program two months after his birth. The DOD procures dogs from throughout the world for the program based on breeding and learning ability. He attended training at Lackland AFB, Texas, last year and was certified by the DOD in December 2000 as a detection and patrol dog.

The MWD section consists of a kennel master, trainer, six handlers and seven dogs. On average, Cigan's section performs temporary duty 135 days a year. He is currently in training and in the future may provide support for the Secret Service as well as providing routine support for the United States Customs Service.

When not busy training to bring down would-be drug dealers and bad guys, Cigan can be found playing hard at the kennel grounds. His hobbies include jumping on his fellow handlers and playing with his Kong; a toy about six-inches high resembling a plastic snowman, which is a reward for doing his job well.

When asked what it was like being a military working dog, Cigan replied, "ruff."



Photo by Senior Airman Donald Church

North Charleston High and Stall High Schools will be represented. Dr. Owen Bush, District 4 superintendent, and Bill Lewis, District 4 construction manager, will be in attendance to brief about construction projects for District 4. Parents will have a chance to ask questions and interact with school representatives. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Terrie Powell at 963-2202.

Dining in: There will be an Enlisted Dining In April 28, 6 p.m., at Nose Dock 1. The next meeting for the dining in will be Wednesday, 3 p.m., in the wing conference room. The planning committee is still in need of volunteers. Mr. and Madam Vice interviews will be April 3, 9-11 a.m. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. James Moody at 963-5516 or Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Lautenslager at 963-4559.

Fort Dorchester Wrestling: The Fort Dorchester High School Wrestling Open will be April 7. Registration and weigh-ins are from 8-9:30 a.m. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kevin Peters at 963-4684.

Commander's call: There will be an enlisted and civilian commander's call April 11, 9-10:30 a.m., at the base theater. There will also be an officer and civilian commander's call April 11, 3-4:30 p.m. All personnel are reminded to be in their seats 10 minutes prior to start time. Commander's call is a mandatory

function. For more information, contact your orderly room.

Recycling: Curbside recycling pick up for military housing will be April 12 and 26.

Commissary: The Commissary will be closed April 15 in observance of Easter.

Officer's dining in: There will be an Officer's Combat Dining In April 28, 6 p.m., at the washrack. The guest speaker is Maj. Gen. John Vines, 82nd Airborne Division commander. If interested in volunteering, call 1st Lt. Charles Rock at 963-5520. For tickets, contact your squadron representative or executive officer.

AEF scholarship: The Aerospace Education Foundation is taking applications for the annual Jodi Callahan Memorial Graduate Scholarship. Applications must be post-marked before July 1. Applicants must be enrolled in current or upcoming semester with a minimum of 3 credit hours, 3.0 GPA and verification of Air Force Association membership. The scholarship is for those working toward a master's degree. For more information, send an email to AEFstaff@aef.org, or visit their Web site at www.aef.org/scholars/callahan.html.

Daedalians scholarships: The local chapter of the Order of Daedalians is sponsoring a flight

scholarship in the amount of \$750 with potential matching funds from their national headquarters for a total of \$1,500. The scholarship is available to high school seniors and college students who demonstrate the desire and potential to become commissioned military pilots. The application deadline is May 15. For more information, call Capt. Brian Newberry at 856-4014.

Family Support Center

Pre-Deployment Briefings: Monday, April 9, 16 and 23, 8 a.m., and Thursday, April 12, 19 and 26, 4 p.m.

Sponsorship Training: Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., and April 18, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Newcomer's Tour: Thursday, 3 p.m.

Education Opportunity Assistance: April 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Couples Communication: April 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Troops-to-Teachers: April 23, 10-11 a.m.

Resume II: April 24, 9-10:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Families Facing Divorce: April 25, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Smooth Move: April 26, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Interview Techniques: April 26, 1-4 p.m.

Financial Fitness: April 30, 8:30-11:30 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.

COMMENTARY

About the paper

AIRLIFT
Dispatch

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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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New dining facility opens Monday

By Col. Rusty Findley
437 AW commander

I attended the 21st Air Force commanders conference at Andrews AFB, Md., Monday through Wednesday and then headed to Air Mobility Command headquarters at Scott AFB, Ill., Thursday to attend the annual awards banquet. At the banquet, Staff Sgt. Jackie Dent, 437th Contracting Squadron, competed for airman of the year honors. It's too late to know the results for this week's paper, but regardless of the outcome I am very proud of her accomplishments.

Monday was a big day for Team Charleston as we cut the ribbon on our new dining facility next to the dormitories. If you have not had a chance to see this world-class facility for our world-class professionals, then find some time to see it...you will be impressed. It is a significant quality of life improvement for our single enlisted airmen living in the dormitories.

We had our newest airman to arrive on the base, Airman Basic Edwin D. Pena from the 437th Supply Squadron, and Art Myers, Air Force director of services, assist in the ribbon cutting Monday. Pena shares the same surname as my mom, and as I said in my comments at the event, his presence there made me think back to my years as the son of a career Air Force Senior NCO and the facilities I remember from those days as I grew up on many different AF bases. We have come a long way as an Air Force over the years in improving the quality of life for our people. This new dining facility is testament to the rightful emphasis being placed on doing just that. Also on hand to cut the ribbon was our longest serving dining facility employee, Ester Glover. We appreciate all her hard work for the past 21 years.

Art Myers was joined by Col. Dale Collins, chief of the Resource Management Division, and we spent some time reviewing the proposed location and plans for our new golf course clubhouse. We also showed them our Child Development Center, Sports and Fitness Center and other 437th Services Squadron facilities. We appreciate them finding time to visit us.

A special thanks to the 17th Airlift Squadron and the 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office for arranging for another Pilot for a Day Program March 23. We work closely with the Medical University of South Carolina to bring these kids and their families onto the base. Terra Edwards, a 9-year-old from Conway who is suffering from acute leukemia, visited the 437th Security Forces Squadron fire arms training facility, flew in the Boeing simulator, had lunch in the club and also toured the fire department for a ride to the flight line.

She had a great time, and you could see the huge smile on her face when Lt. Col. Red Millander, 17 AS commander, pinned her PFAD wings on her shirt late Friday afternoon. This is a great community outreach program and one that can add some joy to a child's life when facing a life-threatening illness.

A special thanks to the following individuals for their outstanding support: Capt. Trey Hodges, 17 AS; 1st Lt.

Kevin Minor, 17 AS; Tech Sgt. Brian Jones, 437 AW PA; Tech. Sgt. Philip Borneman, 437 SFS; Staff Sgt. Bill Myers, 17 AS; 437th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters Senior Airmen Scott Beckham and Gerron Jones; Harriet Barret from the Charleston Club; and of course, the Boeing staff for the C-17 simulator.

We hosted the C-17 Executive Program Management Review Tuesday and Wednesday. Joining us for this comprehensive look at the progress of the C-17 and how it has held up over the years, was Howard Chambers, vice president and general manager of the Boeing Airlift and Tanker Program, and Col. Ted Bowlds, the director of the C-17 System Program Office at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. We had representatives from headquarters AMC, Warner-Robins AFB, Ga., and all the C-17 bases, at the review. During his visit, Chambers also had the opportunity to fly on a C-17 mission and tour the 373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 5. Congratulations also to Ted Bowlds on his recent selection to brigadier general.

Charleston hosted this important semi-annual review, and the outcomes of these meetings result in a better, more reliable weapon system. The review also offered an opportunity for everyone connected with the C-17 to get various block version updates. A special thanks to Lt. Col. Jerry Bateman, 437th Operations Group, for his hard work in organizing this very important review.

I have noticed a negative trend lately on Driving Under the Influence and Driving While Intoxicated incidents. We have had an inordinate number of DUI/DWIs since January, and we are headed in the wrong direction. I need supervisor and commander support to reverse this trend now. I am concerned about our people and their conduct in this regard. Do everything you can within your power to prevent DUI/DWIs from happening in our community. The risks are just too great for our people and innocent bystanders.

We celebrated Earth Day/Arbor Day Wednesday at the base picnic grounds. A special thanks to the 437 CES, Al Urrutia, Keith Thompson and members of the 437 CES environmental flight. We had great support from 62 volunteers from throughout the wing for this annual event.

More than 1,000 local school children visited the base for the fifth annual Earth/Arbor Day celebration. About 30 exhibitors made presentations to elementary school students from 12 Charleston area schools. The exhibits emphasized recycling, energy conservation and wildlife protection. Children also had an opportunity to participate in earth-friendly games, hands-on presentations and a formal tree planting ceremony.

There were demonstrations by the base firefighters, Explosive Ordnance Disposal and the security forces military working dog section. The annual event educates children about the importance of taking care of our environment.

I am looking forward to the promotion ceremony today, 1 p.m., in the Charleston Club. Please come out and cheer on your folks. Our people will get due recognition for their accomplishments. We also graduated another class from the Airman Leadership School Thursday. Thanks to the leadership school staff for grooming our future NCOs. As always, I thank our people for what they did yesterday, today and what they will do for tomorrow. Keep up the good work.



Photo by Bob Tobias

Col. Rusty Findley, 437th Airlift Wing commander, signs a proclamation to end child abuse. For more information, see page 1.

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

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



Women serving their country with pride and distinction

Did you know there are almost two million women veterans? From the American Revolution to Panama, Bosnia, Kosovo, Desert Storm and more, women have served in some way in every conflict.

More than 33,000 women served in World War I, and almost 500,000 took part in World War II. During the Korean War era, 120,000 women were in uniform, and 7,000 were deployed in theater during the Vietnam War. During Desert Storm seven percent (over 40,000) of the total U.S. forces deployed were women.

Harriet Tubman, a former slave and well-known "conductor" for the Underground Railroad, made repeated trips into the Confederacy to lead her people to freedom. She also served as a soldier and guide for the Union Army, taking part in several raids, including one on June 2, 1863, where she commanded three Union gunboats on a mission up the Tennessee River. The mission destroyed a critical bridge and gathered intelligence about the strength of the Confederate forces.

Women took part in many duties and tasks such as: cooking and

laundry for the troops, melting lead and making ammunition, carrying water, tending to the wounded and delivering dispatches.

Military nurses worked to keep wounds clean, bathed patients until their fever broke, made and spoon fed nourishing broth, and tried to keep the delirious and the psychotic from injuring themselves or others. When the Army was not in the field, many of the women living on post could be found working in the kitchen, doing laundry, maintaining the grounds and equipment, and tending to the children, animals and vegetable gardens. They also fetched water, laundered bandages and bedding, chopped wood and built fires in winter, fanned patients in summer, and attempted to create a clean, healing environment in the midst of the filth and chaos of war.

In later wars, women volunteered their services in the Red Cross, helping service members in many areas. The American Legion Auxiliary women visited veteran hospitals doing everything from rolling bandages to distributing gifts, cards, stationery and playing cards. The patriotism and commitment exerted by these women

helped keep the forces both mentally and physically prepared.

As years passed, the role of women changed in our military forces. History forgets to tell us that Katherine Wright, sister of Orville and Wilbur, played a vital role in the first flight at Kittyhawk, N.C. Women were actually flying airplanes before they could vote; but not in the U. S. military.

The story of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots tells us women gallantly flew every plane during World War II, yet were not considered military pilots until decades later. After campaigning for several years for military recognition they justly deserved, Congress declared the WASPs were indeed veterans of World War II in 1977. In 1984, each WASP was awarded the Victory Medal. Other women who served for more than one year were awarded the American Theater Medal.

Jacqueline Cochran broke the sound barrier in 1953, set speed and altitude records, and lobbied for the use of women pilots in the military; to no avail. Civilian women were flying over the North Pole, around the world and through the sound barrier; but

until the 1970s, the military resisted having women pilots.

The Navy, not the Air Force, took the first step. In 1973, six women won their wings and became the first Naval aviators. The Army followed suit in 1974 and trained female helicopter pilots. The Air Force caught up in 1976 and admitted women to their pilot training program. The first ten female fliers graduated from the Air Force Undergraduate Pilot Training at Williams AFB, Ariz. Not until 1993 were women allowed to fly combat aircraft. Women today fly Air Force B-52's, Navy F-14s and many other aircraft.

Air Force colonel, Eileen Collins, became the first woman to command a space shuttle mission in 1999.

Women today serve in various positions in our military forces. Rear Admiral Lillian Fishburne is the first African-American female to be promoted to Admiral.

Today, women make up 18.9 percent of the Air Force. Women comprise about 300 pilots, 100 navigators and almost 600 enlisted aircrew members. *(Submitted by the 437 MEO Office)*

Security forces technical sergeant helps show community kids what we do

Commentary and photo by Tech. Sgt. James Scott 437SFS

Community service is more fulfilling than I had ever imagined. I never realized what an impact could be made until I had the opportunity to look into the eyes of 12 young men from the DuBose Middle School, Summerville, that had never seen what we do on a daily basis.

On March 7, the 437th Security Forces Squadron had the distinct pleasure of showing these men what it was like to be a part of one of the best security forces squadrons in the Air Force. With their eyes full of wonder and anticipation, we provided a learning opportunity and made a dramatic impact on their lives.

The tour showed firsthand what it's like to work and live on the air base, and it showcased some of our very own specialties. Staff Sergeants Denis Woods and Keith Collins, and Airman 1st Class Scott Barnes accompanied me on this tour and provided further expertise and insight to our special guests.

The class field trip,

planned and coordinated by teacher assistant Sandra Scott and accompanied by Debbie Wilson, teacher, William Storz, teacher, and Betty Smalls, teacher's assistant, started out with an exclusive Military Working Dog demonstration. Woods, kennel master, explained the six phases of controlled aggression used by the working teams. The highlight of the show was a demonstration by Senior Airman Shaun Flynn and his K-9 companion "Rex," better known as the "Freight Train." When Rex

attacks, he hits as hard as a freight train, and doesn't let go until his handler commands the release.

After the one-hour demonstration, the class was then guided to the flightline where they got an up-close and personal view of the C-17 Globemaster III. Accompanied by pilot, Maj. Scotty "Luke" Walker, 17th Airlift Squadron, and loadmaster Staff Sgt. Corey Clewley, 15th Airlift Squadron, the young men received a detailed briefing about the flight deck and how the C-17 loads and

unloads cargo. Many pictures were taken as each student and teacher had the chance to climb into the pilot's seat and get some real hands-on instruction. Even the bus driver, Mr. McClellan, got into the act.

While eating lunch, the students were taken to the SFS "Defender" conference room where they were treated to a military briefing explaining the day-to-day operations of the Defenders. Military insignias, ranks, symbols and jobs were explained, along with

an overview of the worldwide commitment of peace our troops are entrusted with.

After lunch, the tour was capped off with a tour of our squadron building and all the different agencies. The students were allowed to climb inside the armored, highly mobile, multi-wheeled vehicle, better known as the "Humvee." There was a stop at the armory for a look at all the weapons assigned to the unit, followed by an up-close and personal look at the detainment cells, where a few brave hearts took their chances in the "clink."

All in all, the visit was a huge success with the greatest impact on the tour guides as we learned from our visitors. We realized that our obligation to pass on our learned skills as mentors and teachers to the community continues to prove to be a beneficial experience to all those involved. We also learned that by taking time to show genuine care and concern, community service can have a positive impact on the lives of the next generation and can prove to be a rewarding challenge.



(Left to right) James Holcomb, Jerome West, Clint Clark, Easton Larkins, Brendan Cummings and Dustin Shanks, all from DuBose Middle School, in the "clink" at the 437th Security Forces Squadron.

FEATURE

Construction boom continues to build on Charleston AFB

Story and photos by
Lt. Col. Ed Memi
437 AW Public Affairs

Drive around Charleston AFB, and you'll immediately notice a wide variety of construction projects in various phases of development. The 437th Civil Engineer Squadron engineering flight is currently managing 32 awarded projects worth about \$96 million, using money authorized from several different fiscal year budgets.

Although the C-17 bed-down, which began in the late 1980s, is almost complete, there are still a number of projects related to the assignment of the C-17 to the base in June 1993. The base's top-five construction projects are two new C-17 Squadron Operations and Maintenance Units (Numbers 3 and 4), a new corrosion control facility, renovation of the 437th Services Squadron headquarters building, North Auxiliary Airfield runway repairs and renovation of visitors quarters.

The Southern Division Navy Facilities Engineering Command in North Charleston is responsible for the oversight of new or very large projects such as the Squadron Operations and Maintenance Units, corrosion control facility and North Field runway repair. They ensure the new facilities meet the base's requirements. They designed, solicited and awarded the contracts, and they manage each project. The 437 CES is responsible for smaller projects such as renovation of the 437th Services Squadron headquarters building and visitors quarters.

The corrosion control facility is a design-build type project, which means it can be constructed faster

than most facilities because design and construction aspects of the project are combined. The new building will provide a specialized facility for painting the C-17, which relies heavily on lightweight, but stronger composite materials. Keeping a C-17 painted is especially important because the composites could delaminate if moisture gets in between the layers of material and freezes at high altitudes, or if the composites are subject to extensive ultraviolet radiation which causes deterioration.

"The new building will allow us to paint under more varying conditions than currently," said Chief Master Sgt. Georgia Fallaw, aircraft overall supervisor and 315th Fabrication Flight chief. "We're hoping to add full climate control, such as moisture and temperature reduction, to the project someday."

The 47,000-square-foot facility will feature two specialized movable platforms, and special ventilation and filtration systems. The project was awarded to the Austin Company, based in Houston, Texas, for a cost of \$18.1 million. Construction began in February.

"All the concrete has been torn out from where the old wheel and tire shop used to be," said Tommy Kicklighter, project manager for the new facility. The design was modeled after the one at McChord AFB, Wash., but will have the offices on only one side, he added. The project is expected to be completed in the summer of 2002.

The new building will feature a fan-blown, high-expansion foam, fire-suppression system. The corrosion control facility will be the first in the command to feature this new system.

"The foam expands rapidly with

air to about 50 times its volume and smothers the fire," Kicklighter said. "The old system was put out by a cannon that would cover and smother the fire, but it used chemicals that were very corrosive. The new system is more environmentally friendly and non-corrosive."

The North Field project consists of resurfacing the 9,000-foot runway with 14 inches of asphalt in the middle, and 14 inches of concrete on each end. The airfield markers, lighting and drainage will also be upgraded as part of this project. The contract was awarded in March for \$8.75 million. The runway is expected to reopen to aircraft in August.

"The new pavement has to cure 90 days before they can groove the entire runway, which will prevent past problems with standing water," said Jay Hundley, chief of the 437 CES engineering flight. "The grooves channel water away from the aircraft wheel footprint, thereby improving friction when the pavement is wet. After the runway is grooved, then the contractor will paint the runway markings in their final form."

The approximately 40,000-square-foot C-17 Squadron Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Units, Numbers 3 and 4, will house maintainers and flyers together like the previously built ones. The units are located between Bldg. 700 and the 437 CES headquarters building. Both projects are about a year behind schedule, according to 437 CES officials. The two buildings will cost \$12.7 million and were awarded to the same contractor. The facilities are expected to be complete in 2002.

The first two previously constructed C-17 Squad Ops/AMUs were designed using a headquarters "cookie-cutter type approach," but the designs were later modified to better meet the actual requirements of flyers and maintainers, according to Warren May, 437 CES project manager.

Building 322 is the 437th Ser-



The 437th Services Squadron headquarters building has been "gutted" as part of a total renovation to the facility.

vices Squadron headquarters facility. The building, which also used to house the Base Lodging Office, has already been "gutted" as part of a total renovation of the facility. The Base Lodging Office and staff are now permanently located in Bldg. 362, which was also recently renovated.

"Building 322 will not have any work done on its third floor due to funding constraints, with the exception of lights, elevator and the stairs," Kicklighter said.

The renovated facility will house the 437 SVS command section, resource management, marketing, readiness and human resources flights.

"We're basically combining our administrative functions that are spread out across five different buildings on base and bringing them together into one building," said Capt. Tim Sites, chief of the Combat Support flight in the 437 SVS.

The renovation of Bldg. 346 was awarded March 8 and will refurbish the existing building to provide 24 visiting quarters.

"Everyone from an E-1 to an O-5 will stay in the same type of room that will include a private bath and 280 square feet of living space," Sites said.

Sites added the base currently has to send many people to off-base facilities and has contracts with 14 area hotels.

"The old building was in horrible shape with mold, mildew and plaster falling off the walls," Kicklighter said. The project is expected to cost \$3.2 million and will be completed in 2002.



Work has been underway on two new C-17 Squadron Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Units.



NEW DINING FACILITY

On the Menu



Today

Lunch: Cream of broccoli soup, barbecue chicken, yakisoba, parmesan fish, spanish rice, rissole potatoes, vegetable stir-fry, brussels sprouts, fried okra, brown gravy

Dinner: Sloppy joes, chicken a la king, steamed rice, tater tots, corn, carrots, cauliflower

Saturday

Lunch: Tomato vegetable soup, baked ham, beef and broccoli, hot wings, steamed rice, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, stewed tomatoes, gravy

Dinner: Grilled chicken breast, fried shrimp, baked potatoes, macaroni and cheese, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, cheese sauce, cocktail sauce

Sunday

Lunch: Tomato vegetable soup, yankee pot roast, italian sausage, chicken, rice, potatoes, baked beans, asparagus, peppers, chicken gravy

Dinner: Roast turkey, liver with onions, peas and pepper rice, mashed potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower combo, wax beans, lima beans

Monday:

Lunch: Cream of broccoli soup, baked fish, baked chicken, beef stew,

rice pilaf, potatoes, green beans, carrots, peas, chicken gravy

Dinner: Roast pork, veal parmesan, egg noodles, mashed potatoes, fried okra, cauliflower, mixed vegetables

Tuesday

Lunch: Tomato vegetable soup, pork steaks, chicken a la king, lasagna, rice, potatoes o'brien, lima beans, spinach, stewed tomatoes, gravy

Dinner: Chili macaroni, chicken enchiladas, rice, oven-browned potatoes, corn, squash, bean combo

Wednesday

Lunch: Cream of chicken soup, chicken, pork chops, meat loaf, potatoes, rice, broccoli, succotash, beans, gravy, cheese sauce

Dinner: Roasted beef, spaghetti with meat sauce, potatoes, mashed potatoes, asparagus, corn-on-the-cob, cauliflower combo, garlic toast

Thursday-Mexican Meal

Lunch: Mexican onion soup, chicken fajitas, burritos, tacos, spanish rice, refried beans, stewed tomatoes, mexican corn, squash, chili gravy, mexican corn bread

Dinner: Turkey nuggets, beef stew, steamed rice, potatoes, broccoli combo, wax beans, lima beans, gravy



Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kaminsky

"Meating" the need

(Left to right) Staff Sgt. Jeff Pring, 437th Services Squadron shift leader, cuts filet mignon while Tech. Sgt. Phil Maynor, 437 SVS dining facility manager, and Nahum Arnold, 437 SVS chef, look on. The new dining facility opened for business for the Sunday midnight meal. Approximately 400 people showed up to eat during Monday's lunch.

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.

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

Jewish: Call Jewish Lay Leader: Airman 1st Class David Winner at 963-2102.

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 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.

"The Wedding Planner" – Jennifer Lopez

A busy wedding planner realizes that she spends so much time organizing other people's romances by way of their weddings, that she doesn't spend the time to think about her own love life. **(PG-13)**

100 minutes

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Sweet November" – Keanu Reeves

Based on a 1968 screenplay, "Sweet November" is a romantic comedy based on a man, Nelson, whose life is dramatically changed in only one month due to one extraordinary woman. Nelson is completely involved in only one thing; himself. Then he meets a special woman and the rules change dramatically. That's all it takes. **(PG-13)**

114 minutes

April 6, 7:30 p.m.

"Monkeybone" – Branden Fraser

Life couldn't be better for Stu. He's happy, in love and on the verge of big success, as his comic strip is about to become a national television show. But on the night Stu is to propose, he is struck down in a freak accident. Now, he must outwit death before the doctors pull the plug. **(PG-13)**

93 minutes

Fitness & Sports

Team Charleston member to be in hall of fame

**Story and photo by
Senior Airman Jason Smith**
437 AW Public Affairs

The National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Stillwater, Okla., will be adding a Team Charleston member to its ranks April 14.

On behalf of the NWHF and the Friends of Long Island Wrestling, Sam Boone, Starlifter Lanes rece-



Sam Boone (right), hall of fame wrestler, shows Al Poirier, 437th Services Squadron flight chief, photos and newspaper clippings documenting some of his achievements.

ation aid for the 437th Services Squadron, will be honored for his years of faithful commitment to wrestling and the community.

Boone was born in Summerville and moved to New York at age 11. After an impressive run of wins as a Freeport High School wrestler, Boone joined the Air Force in 1957 and turned his focus to judo while stationed in Japan.

"I was looking to get into wrestling, but all I could find was judo," said Boone. "I tried out for the base team. At first I thought the sport was dirty with all the chokes, arm locks and throwing techniques, but I made the Air Force team and became a three-time world champion between 1959 and 1961."

Boone worked as a physical conditioning instructor for the Air Force when not traveling with the judo team. His specialized duties included teaching hand-to-hand combat techniques to pilots and air police.

With Olympic gold on his mind, Boone left the Air Force to pursue his childhood dream. He won the Greco Roman National Olympic Trial Championship at 136.5

pounds in 1964, earning himself a spot on the Olympic team.

Held up by a required medical exam for an injury, Boone missed the plane carrying the U.S. Olympic team to Tokyo for the 1964 Games. The Nassau County Republican Committee (New York) jumped behind Boone and raised enough money to send him to the Olympics. While technicalities prevented Boone from competing in the games, he trained and practiced with teams from many countries, especially Japan.

After his Olympic experience, Boone went back to New York and continued to work for the County of Nassau Department of Public Works. He gave countless hours of his time to community programs, especially youth programs.

"I think my proudest accomplishment was cleaning up Roosevelt Park," said Boone. "The place was full of drug dealers. We had rapes and all kind of crime there. I was asked how to clean it up. I came up with a plan that included police patrols and surveillance cameras that resulted in 48 arrests. It felt good to finally give the park back to

the neighborhood."

During all of his wrestling, judo and community work, Boone found time to raise five children with his wife, Bernice. Boone said Bernice was very understanding of his hobbies even before they were married in 1961.

"I had the opportunity to a scholarship to Hofstra University," said Boone. "The problem was, I had to wrestle on my wedding day to get it. I explained it to Bernice, and she said we could reschedule the wedding. She told me, 'you better win!' And I did. She's always been very supportive of me."

Boone retired from his Nassau County job in 1995 and decided to move back to the Charleston area. He calls it "his home."

To Boone, wrestling and Judo are not just sports, but a way of life.

"Judo, like wrestling, takes perseverance," he said. "It's not a matter of second-guessing. You don't think 'maybe I know how to throw you,' you know, 'I know how to throw you, and I know it will work.' Wrestling is no different. It teaches the ability to never give up. Winners never quit."