



Newslines

Force shaping

Mass briefings are set for Monday at the Base Theater at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. They are open to anyone with questions about force shaping. For more information, call 895-1594 or 895-1595.

Education Center

Classes are set to begin at the new Education Center, Building 398, on Monday. All testing is now being conducted there.

Patrol Road closure

Patrol Road, from Condor Country Road to Dryden Way, is set to close Monday. That section of road will be permanently removed.

Voting deadlines

Voting for presidential primaries in Tennessee and Virginia is set for Tuesday, and in Wisconsin on Feb. 17. For more information, see your unit voting representative or call 895-1200.

New hours

The 20th Comptroller Squadron's hours are now Mondays - Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Parking issue

Members exercising near Outdoor Recreation on base should park at the ball fields, not OR's lot.

Housing reminder

Base housing occupants are reminded to bag small yard debris for curb-side pickup Wednesdays.



February is
National Children's
Dental Health Month



Photo by Airman 1st Class Susan Penning

Brush rush

Children, ages three to five, brush their teeth Tuesday at Shaw's Child Development Center. Participants there are encouraged to brush after breakfast and lunch each day.

'Force shaping' means some can leave active duty early

By Maj. John Thomas
Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas -- There is good news for thousands of airmen considering leaving active duty who thought they could not because of existing service obligations.

An effort dubbed "force shaping" is opening the exit doors to officers and enlisted service members in select career fields and year groups by waiving some active-duty service commitments previously incurred for events like government-funded education, permanent changes of station and promotion.

Force shaping includes opportunities to transition to the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, and can relieve some people of their active-duty service commitments.

Rules for leaving active duty early will be the least restrictive for anyone wanting to transfer to the Guard or Reserve through the Palace Chase program.

Some bonus payback requirements may also be waived, officials said.

Applications for any of the force-shaping early-release programs must be made through local military personnel flights by March 12.

More than 16,000 additional people -- 12,700 enlisted and 3,900 officers -- currently projected to leave will be allowed out to help the service return to its authorized active-duty force size by Sept. 30, 2005. The goal is to get within authorized end strength while avoiding "extreme measures" that "wreak havoc" with mission and

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Weekend Weather

Saturday



Mostly cloudy
High: 59
Low: 45

Sunday



Clear
High: 53
Low: 31

Courtesy of the 20th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

Inside: Page 13: Gullah celebration honors African-American culture, traditions.
Page 15: Valentine's Day: Healthy alternatives to candy.

Traffic rules change at Shaw

By 1st Lt. Sarah Bragg
20th Security Forces Squadron
Operations Officer

Significant changes have recently been made to the Shaw supplement to Air Force Instruction 31-204, *Air Force Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision*. Drivers on Shaw are responsible for all information contained within the Shaw and Air Combat Command supplements, as well as the parent instruction. This information can be accessed by clicking the Driving on Shaw link on Shaw's intranet. Questions regarding information contained in the supplements or instruction should be directed to the 20th Security Forces Squadron Operations section at **895-8892**.

Some highlighted changes include:

- It is unlawful to operate any motor vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration of .08% or higher.
- It is unlawful for a person under 21 to operate any motor vehicle with a BAC of .02% or higher.
- Under the South Carolina Zero

Tolerance Law, failure of or refusal to submit breath/blood samples will result in confiscation of the driver's license and suspension of driving privileges in South Carolina for at least three months.

■ Devices designed to detect speed-measuring devices must be turned off, disconnected and removed from their operational mounts before entering Shaw.

■ Vehicle stereo and radio equipment must be maintained at a low volume to ensure the capability of hearing warning signals, horns and sirens, as well as to avoid disturbing the general public or creating sound pollution.

■ A member may not drive through base housing unless he resides in base housing, is visiting a resident of base housing or conducting official business at an office located in base housing.

■ All-terrain-vehicle riding is not permitted on base. All mil-

itary members must take the ATV safety course prior to riding ATVs off base.

■ Those riding non-motorized wheeled transportation such as bicycles, tricycles, unicycles, skates, skateboards and scooters must wear helmets and any other required safety gear. Shoes, gloves, elbow and knee pads are highly recommended.

■ No parking is allowed on grass, seeded or sodded areas, any places not designated as parking areas or any reserved parking areas.

■ Personnel whose driving privileges have been suspended or revoked must remove the Department of Defense decal from their vehicle(s) and return it to Pass and Registration.

Reminders

- Seat belt use is mandatory.
- Obey posted speed limits. In addition, always heed traf-

fic control signs and devices.

■ Motorcycle safety requirements must be met at all times.

■ Motorcycle operators and riders must wear all required gear.

■ Operators or riders on a motorcycle must complete a motorcycle safety course and one-on-one counseling from their unit commander. Motorcycle safety training is scheduled through the 20th Fighter Wing Safety Office at **895-1985**.

Members
must obey
all Shaw's
traffic laws.

Consequences

■ Base driving privileges may be suspended for up to 30 days for three traffic violations in a three-year period (moving or non-moving, including warning citations).

■ Base driving privileges may be suspended for up to six months for five traffic violations in a three-year period (moving or non-moving, including warning citations).

SGLI, FSGLI policies a benefit for members

Service Members' Group Life Insurance is the life insurance currently available to all members of the uniformed services and is managed by the Office of SGLI. Members on active duty, active duty for training or inactive duty for training and members of the Ready Reserve are eligible for insurance through this program. SGLI is available for members in \$10,000 increments up to \$250,000.

In addition, Family Service Members' Group Life Insurance is a life insurance policy designated for spouses and dependent children of military members.

There are some facts to note about current SGLI and FSGLI policies.

SGLI will pay, regardless of the circumstances surrounding a death. For example, line-of-duty determinations are not a factor in receiving benefits.

SGLI will pay in a suicide case. Most civilian life insurance companies have a suicide clause. Suicide clauses may require policy payments for a five-year minimum or the company may not pay.

Most civilian insurance companies have a war clause. If a member is deployed and his civilian company deems the area a war zone, he could lose coverage. SGLI will pay in any area of the world.

For active-duty members, SGLI costs \$16.25 a month for a \$250,000 policy, regardless of age or condition of health.

If a member chooses a policy with less than \$250,000 in coverage, the cost is 80 cents per month per \$10,000.

Civilian insurance companies have various plans and costs based on an individual's health and age.

The most recent best rate listed for a 20-year,

\$250,000 civilian insurance policy costs \$160 per year for a male or \$135 per year for a female. Individuals eligible for these rates must be non-smokers, not on any medication and not overweight.

FSGLI coverage has a maximum limit of \$100,000 for a military spouse, and a \$10,000 maximum amount for dependent children.

Dependent-children coverage costs nothing to the service member. Spousal premiums are based on age.

For more information on SGLI or FSGLI benefits, call **895-1596**, visit Customer Service in the 20th Support Center building on base, or go to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/casualty/sgli_information.htm.

(Information courtesy of the Air Force Personnel Center. Airman 1st Class Susan Penning contributed to this article.)

Annual Black History Month Banquet

Where: Shaw Conference Center

When: Feb. 20

Time: Social hour: 6 p.m.

Dinner: 7 p.m.



Cost: \$15

Dress: Semi-formal or African attire

(For more information, call **895-3034**, **895-3962** or **773-9910**.)

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morale, officials said.

Active-duty airmen wanting to transfer to the Reserve or Guard will be able to apply for a waiver of an active-duty service commitment regardless of their career field.

"We're a total force, and for our active-duty airmen who would like to separate early and still retain a connection to their Air Force, the Palace Chase program provides the perfect vehicle to preserve operational capability while reducing active-duty end strength," said Maj. Gen. John Spiegel, Air Force director of personnel policy at the Pentagon.

"We're focusing a big part of our efforts there because it keeps service members and their expertise in the total force, while allowing them increased stability and a chance to continue working toward a military retirement," the general said.

Some applications may not be approved, however.

Because of manning shortages, 29 officer and 38 enlisted specialties will not qualify for many of the waivers. Among those are pilots, navigators, air battle managers, aerial gunners, fuels

specialists, nurses and first sergeants. The complete list of "stressed" career fields excluded from many of the waivers is posted at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape.htm.

"We don't want to break any career fields during our force-shaping efforts or create problems in future years similar to the ones caused by the downsizing in the early 1990s," said General Speigel.

"Approval authority for miscellaneous enlisted separations will rest at the personnel center to centrally review applications and ensure compliance with manning needs," said Maj. Dawn Keasley, chief of retirement and separation policy at the Air Staff.

Examples of efforts to "shape" the force go beyond waivers. They include procedures where those who fail to complete technical schools will only be allowed to leave the Air Force or reclassify into short-manned career fields. In addition, high-year-of-tenure extensions will only be granted to those in specific shortage career fields or for personal hardship reasons.

Program highlights include:

- The chance to transfer to the

Guard and Reserve for those with at least 24 months time in service, incurring a 2-for-1 service commitment (not less than 1 year or greater than 6 years).

- Enlisted waivers of active-duty service commitments associated with technical training and bootstrap programs.

- Potential service commitment waivers of up to 18 months for permanent-change-of-station moves.

- Potential service commitment waivers for officers of up to 24 months for Air Force Institute of Technology doctoral education and Education With Industry.

- Up to 12-month waiver of intermediate and senior developmental education commitments for officers.

- Possibility of Reserve Officer Training Corps commissioning directly into the Reserve or Guard.

- Aviator Continuation Pay, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences scholarships, and AFIT fellowship, scholarship and grant commitments will not be waived.

According to officials, force shaping is designed to return the Air Force to its authorized uniformed population,

or "end strength," while shifting some airmen to fill positions in specialties that need more people of their rank.

The Air Force brought in thousands of people since the late '90s to build up to end strength, with limited consideration for the skill mix, officials said. But more people came into the service and fewer than expected left, leaving the force with more people than are authorized to be on active duty.

To reduce the total number of active-duty people in uniform, the Air Force is continuing efforts like retraining people into careers where they are needed more, outsourcing jobs to private industry and converting some jobs from military people to Air Force civilian workers.

However, these new force-shaping tools are being offered because still more needs to be done, officials said.

Details and career counseling are available from unit career assistance advisors at each base. People can also call the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000, toll-free (800) 616-3775, or Shaw's Separations and Retirements Office at 895-1594 or 895-1595 for more information.

20th Security Forces Squadron Blotter

(Editor's note: The blotter includes incidents from the 20th Security Forces Squadron reports. The following information is intended to increase awareness of resource protection and safety concerns.)

- An airman reported damage to government furniture in the dayroom of Dorm 409.

- An airman and his wife were involved in a domestic assault.

- A civilian was charged with possession of illegal narcotics and driving under suspension.

- Eight airmen were charged with underage drinking, provoking speeches and gestures, communicating a threat and drunk and disorderly conduct.

- An airman reported a theft of personal property at his government quarters.

- A vehicle struck the perimeter fence near the chemical-warfare classroom.

- Security Forces responded to five incidents regarding accidents and damages to POVs.

- There were 28 traffic tickets issued during the week.

In case of emergency, call **911**. Direct routine questions and non-emergency concerns to the 20th SFS at **895-3670**. If you have information about any crime, listed here or otherwise, call the 20th Security Forces Investigations section at **895-3600**.

Traffic Tips

In accordance with Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4, *DoD Traffic Safety Program*, the use of radar or laser detection devices on DoD installations is prohibited.

Operation of a device used to interfere with correct radar readings is also prohibited. Drivers must turn off and remove from its operational mount any device designed to detect speed-measuring equipment **prior to entry onto the installation.**

Question Corner



Question: Where was Col. Sam Angelella, 20th Fighter Wing commander, stationed before he took command at Shaw?

Last week's question: DCC, in reference to last week's Commander's Connection photograph, stands for Disaster Control Center.

Last week's winner: Staff Sgt. Kenneth Campbell, 20th Maintenance Operations Squadron

The first person to e-mail *The Shaw Spirit* at spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil with the correct answer will get their name in next week's paper.

SHAW AFB DUI/DWI STATISTICS	
LAST YEAR	THIS YEAR
28	5
28 OWS	WAS THE LAST UNIT TO RECEIVE A DUI/DWI
IT HAS BEEN 4	DAYS SINCE THE LAST INCIDENT

(As of Thursday)

AADD 983-9722

Food service team kicks off evaluation with icebreaker



Shaw fire trucks spray red, white and blue water at the Conference Center on base Monday. The event kicked off an evaluation of Shaw's food service team, which is competing for the Air Force Hennessy Award.



Photos by Master Sgt. Paul Holcomb



Above, former Dallas Cowboys running back Tony Dorsett signs autographs at the Conference Center during the icebreaker. Left, Sumter High School cheerleaders perform for a crowd gathered at the event.

AAFES receives award at NRF convention

Service recognized for supporting mission stateside, abroad

NEW YORK - At the National Retail Federation Annual Convention, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service was awarded the American Spirit Award.

Past recipients of the prestigious award, which is designed to recognize exceptional achievement and is presented only when circumstances dictate, include former Presidents Jimmy Carter and George Herbert Walker Bush and former U.S. Senator Bob Dole.

During the awards luncheon, the NRF Chairman of the Board declared that Dallas-based AAFES was selected for the 2004 honor because of its support of U.S. service men and women fighting abroad against terrorism.

When she accepted the award, AAFES' commander Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost took the time to specifically thank Chief Operating Officer Marilyn Iverson and Senior Vice President, Europe, Karen Stack. Gen. Frost praised Ms. Iverson and Ms. Stack for their leadership in focusing AAFES on the importance of the mission to support deployed troops.

Gen. Frost also relayed how the benefit AAFES is providing deployed troops had a profound effect on her during a trip to Kuwait at the peak of the

troop build-up before the invasion of Iraq.

"That's when I realized in locations like this, soldiers and airmen don't always visit an exchange because they need to 'buy' something. They often come because they are surrounded by things that are familiar: U.S. products, well-known labels, popular brands and AAFES employees. In remote and hostile regions, sometimes a visit to the exchange is simply a connection to home."

Gen. Frost said witnessing this firsthand compelled her.

"That's when I knew AAFES would do whatever was necessary to bring a little bit of home to soldiers and airmen fighting for us."

Gen. Frost accepted the American Spirit Award on behalf of the AAFES workforce that is committed to serving the military community wherever they go.

"They put their lives on hold -- leave family, comfort and safety behind, expose themselves to danger -- all to take care of American troops," she said. "They really deserve this award."

Today, AAFES continues to bring that bit of home to troops with nine stores in Kuwait and 30 in Iraq, and has approximately 450 associates

deployed at any given time. Those associates live and work right alongside the deployed troops. In addition, AAFES supports 88 units at forward-operating bases where it is too remote or dangerous to set up a store. Additionally, AAFES runs 37 call centers throughout Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom regions, where deployed troops can call home to their loved ones.

According to Patricia Austin, acting AAFES general manager for Fort Jackson and Shaw exchanges, there are currently six civilians deployed from Fort Jackson and Shaw AAFES facilities. Dave Moring, Shaw and Fort Jackson exchange general manager, and Randy McDaniel, Shaw Base Exchange manager, are among them.

"All AAFES deployments are voluntary," said Ms. Austin. "I'm proud of the associates. The troops appreciate their dedication. These associates are helping us live the AAFES motto, 'We go where they go.'"

To find out more about AAFES' history and mission or to view recent press releases, visit www.aafes.com/pa/default.

(Information courtesy of AAFES Corporate Communications. Airman 1st Class Susan Penning contributed to this article.)

Poythress retirement

Master Sgt. David Poythress, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron, is retiring after 22 years of service. He and his family have spent four years at Shaw -- two years for this tour and two years for a previous.

The Jackson, Miss., native and his wife, Susan, have two children, Megan and Christopher. After retirement, Sgt. Poythress plans to work very hard at getting green grass to grow in his new yard.

The retirement ceremony is scheduled for today at 3 p.m. at the Community Center.



Volunteer of the Month

Amanda Monceaux

Mrs. Monceaux, wife of Senior Airman Clint Monceaux, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron, volunteers at the Airman's Attic frequently. She says she volunteers because she wants to ensure the facility is ready for those airmen who want to use it. According to Cynthia Briggs, Family Support Center volunteer resource manager, Mrs. Monceaux has become the "go-to" person for the Airman's Attic.

The Shaw Spirit runs announcements for sporting event winners, adult and youth sporting leagues, retirements, award winners and graduates. For more information, call 895-2018 or send an e-mail to spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil.