

American
Red Cross

Together, we can save a life



Shaw branch has volunteer opportunities

Shaw's branch of the American Red Cross is looking for volunteers. All positions at the branch, located in the Family Support Center, are transitioning to volunteer status.

Training will be provided and work hours will be tailored to fit volunteers' schedules.

The American Red Cross affects millions of lives each year. American Red Cross employees and volunteers help keep the public prepared to respond to disasters and personal emergencies. The Red Cross provides training in lifesaving skills such as CPR and first aid, collects and distributes half the nation's blood supply, and helps victims of more than 67,000 disasters annually.

Every day, the American Red Cross helps people in emergencies . . . whether it's half a million victims of a disaster or one sick child

who needs a blood transfusion.

Their work is made possible by people who volunteer. Red Cross "everyday heroes" come from all walks of life. They're all ages.

The Red Cross depends on volunteers, who constitute 97% of its work force, to carry on their humanitarian work.

Every year, the Red Cross is there for military families as well as hurricane, earthquake, and other disaster victims -- including 150 families forced from their homes by fire every day.

More than 175,000 volunteers worked to prevent, prepare for and respond to nearly 64,000 disaster incidents last year.

More than 15 million Americans turn to the Red Cross to learn first aid, CPR, swimming and other health and safety skills.

Half the nation's blood supply, 6 million

pints annually, is collected by more than 190,000 Red Cross volunteers.

Among the emergency services for the men and women of the armed forces is the delivery of urgent family messages -- one every 22 seconds.

There are more than 24,000 volunteers who serve as chairs, members of boards of directors or on advisory boards for local Red Cross units -- chapters, Blood Services regions, and military stations.

Part of the International Red Cross Movement is to ease human suffering on a global scale.

To volunteer or for more information, call the Shaw branch at **895-1251**. (*Information courtesy of American Red Cross. Staff Sgt. Lee Watts contributed to this article.*)



Air Force Birthday Ball Coin Contest

Contest Rules

- Entries must be received by **4 p.m., July 13.**
- The coin will be silver. Cutouts or special coin shapes are allowed.
- Up to five colors are allowed on each side.
- The design must contain the date of event and the words "Shaw Air Force Base" and "Air Force Birthday Ball."
- All submissions must follow the guidelines for use of the Air Force symbol, if used. The guidelines are listed at <http://www.af.mil/airforcestory/usage.asp>.
- Entries must be submitted on official contest forms.
Electronic entries should be submitted to eddy.fournier@shaw.af.mil.
Paper entries may be placed in entry boxes located at the dining facility, Airmen's Center,

Club Shaw, 20th Support Center Building and the 9th Air Force commander's support staff office. Those interested can also submit entries to 1st Lt. Eddy Fournier, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron.

- All rules must be followed or the design will be disqualified.
- The contest is open to all military, civilians and family members at Shaw.
- All entries become the property of the Shaw Air Force Birthday Ball Planning Committee, which will select a winner.
- The winner will receive two free tickets to attend the Shaw 2004 Air Force Birthday Ball, set for Sept. 18.
- For more information, contact 1st. Lt. Eddy Fournier at **895-9623** or 2nd Lt. Rachel Rogers at **895-3522**.

Shaw's sailors

June 22, Boy Scouts from Troop 423, sponsored by Shaw's 20th Communications Squadron, went to summer camp and competed in a raft competition. They won best all-around raft design. The theme of the camp was "Pirates of the Caribbean." (From left to right) Stephen Maggard, Paul Odom, Matt Meldrum and Michael Maggard.



Photo by Mr. Glenn Maggard

Airman's Attic seeks donations

The Airman's Attic is an organization sponsored by the Family Support Center that supplies E-4's and below free items for their home and personal needs.

Anyone who is moving or has a yard sale and doesn't sell all the items is asked to consider donating them to the Airman's Attic. All items are given away at no charge and can be deducted from taxes at the end of the year. For tax deductions, ask one of the volunteers for a donation slip.

Items needed include: clothing, furniture, appliances, toys, books, home decorations, kitchen supplies, linens and other household items.

Donated items can be dropped off at the bins in front of the Airman's Attic located across Highway 441 from the back hospital parking lot (Building 1041 next to the Thrift Shop).

The Airman's Attic is also looking for volunteers.

To make a donation or obtain a donation slip, call Mr. Virgil Lockhart at **494-8481** or **983-5551**. The Airman's Attic is open Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and "All Ranks Day" is the first Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Include grill safety in holiday festivities

By Ms. Adriene M. Dicks
Correspondent

No July 4th celebration would be complete without firing up the grill and throwing on a few steaks, hamburgers and hot dogs. Independence Day barbecues are an American tradition.

As we prepare to celebrate, there are hazards to be aware of and safety precautions to follow this barbecue season.

Though some people may prefer one more than the other, there are dangers related to both gas and charcoal grills.

According to Mr. Shawn Sullivan, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron fire inspector, no grill should be placed where it can tip over or ignite objects above it or be used on balconies or under awnings. He said grills should be at least 10 feet away from any building. A container of water or a water hose should be available to extinguish a fire.

According to the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, more than 500 fires occur each year due to the incorrect use of gas grills, and about 20 people are injured as a result of gas grill fires and explosions. Mr. Sullivan said the chances of a fire or explosion occurring are greater if a grill has not been used for a long period of time or if a gas container has just been refilled and reattached.

These chances can be reduced if users:

- Check tubes for cracks or tears that may allow gas to leak out.

- Check tubes for blockage from insects or food grease. Blockage can be removed by cleaning the tubes with a pipe cleaner to push it out through the main part of the burner.

- Move gas hoses away from hot surfaces or materials. A heat shield may also be installed for added protection.

- Keep lighted cigarettes, matches or open flames away from a leaking grill.

- Always follow the instructions that come with a grill.

Although considered safer by many, the use of charcoal grills can be dangerous if users are not careful. When burned, charcoal produces carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can reach toxic levels in enclosed spaces. The CPSC reported 30 people are killed and 100 injured each year due to carbon monoxide fumes from charcoal grills used inside.

According to Mr. Sullivan, another mistake charcoal grill users make is attempting to make the fire bigger after it's already started. Users also make the mistake of choosing gasoline to do so.

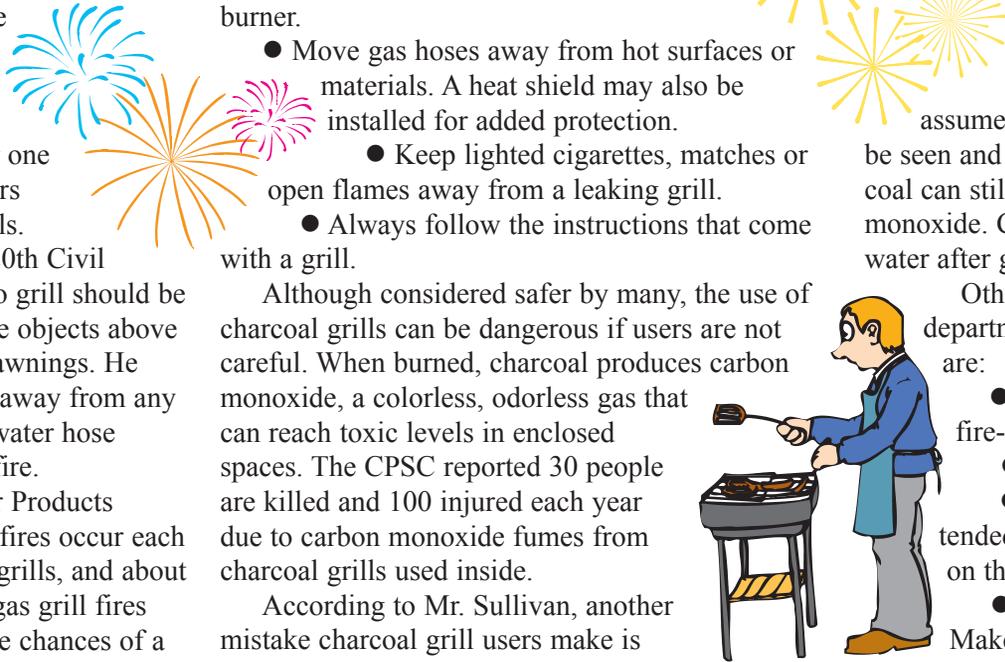
"Never use gasoline to start or freshen a fire. It is explosive and much too dangerous to use on grills," said Mr. Sullivan. "Also be careful with charcoal lighter fluid. Use on coals only before the fire is lit. If you try to make a fire bigger by adding more fluid, the heat from the coals can ignite the stream of liquid and burn back into the can, causing it to explode in your hands."

Once grilling is complete, don't assume the coals are cold because no fire can be seen and no smoke is being produced. The charcoal can still be burning and producing carbon monoxide. Coals should be soaked thoroughly with water after grilling.

Other safety tips offered by the Shaw fire department and CPSC for the barbecue season are:

- Use long-handled barbecue tools and fire-retardant mitts.
- Be aware of the wind blowing sparks.
- Never leave children or pets unattended near a hot grill. Children may climb on the grill to see what is cooking.
- Have a phone and first aid kit nearby. Make sure the first aid kit is stocked with updated products for outdoor activities.

- Call **911** if it appears a situation may get out of control.





Spirit Spotlight



Airman 1st Class Kenny Gallardo



Organization: 609th Air Intelligence Squadron

Duty title: Theater ballistic missile/ weapons of mass destruction analyst

Job duties: Research and produce intelligence briefings and maintain up-to-date folders on intelligence information

Hometown: El Paso, Texas

Time in service: One year and 10 months

Family: Wife, Andrea and son, Byron

Off-duty interests: Spending time with family, watching movies and playing softball

Words I live by: "The wise man in the storm prays to God, not for safety from danger, but for deliverance from fear. It is the storm within that endangers him, not the storm without." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Senior Airman Geletha Darter



Organization: 20th Fighter Wing Manpower and Organization Office

Duty title: Information manager

Job duties: Workgroup management and administrative support

Hometown: Pittsburg, Calif.

Time in service: Four years

Family: Husband, Senior Airman Michael Darter, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron

Off-duty interests: Shopping, watching television and spending time with my husband

Words I live by: "Life is full of challenges and learning experiences, and what doesn't kill you will make you stronger."