



## Newslines

### Zero DUI goal

Col. Philip Ruhlman, 20th Fighter Wing commander, challenges all 20th FW personnel to take care of our own.

When the 20th FW reaches 60 days without a DUI the commander will grant a wing down day.

We have 54 days to go. Make it happen!

### POW/MIA recognition

A ceremony honoring prisoners of war and those missing in action is set for 11 a.m. today at the flagpole by the 9th Air Force Headquarters Building. The inclement weather location is Palmetto Chapel.

A quiet hour is set for 10:45-11:45 a.m. today to honor POW/MIAs.

### Closures

The 20th Communications Squadron will close today for a squadron picnic. For emergencies, call 895-2027 and choose option 1.

The 20th Medical Group will close after 2 p.m. today for training.

### Case lot sale

A case lot sale is going on today through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Commissary.

### Retiree appreciation

A Retiree Appreciation Day is set for Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Center.

The Commissary will be serving complimentary food and drinks from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday to honor Shaw's retirees.

### Luncheon

A Christian Fellowship Luncheon is set for Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Center. The honorable Joseph T. McElveen Jr., Mayor, City of Sumter, will be the guest speaker at the event. For more information, call 895-1408.

# Damages estimated after tornado

By Mrs. Tarsha Storey  
Correspondent

At approximately 10:20 a.m. Sept. 7, a tornado touched down at Shaw, breaking and uprooting numerous trees and damaging property, including six homes in base housing. Mr. Chris Aamold, Civil Engineer Squadron deputy commander, said damages are currently estimated at \$300,000. According to 20th CES officials, most of the damage and clean-up was completed in the first 24 hours.

During the tornado warning, many local parents felt the need to pick their children up from base schools. Ms. Liz Compton, High Hills Elementary School principal, and her staff convinced several parents to take shelter with the children at the school. "When the elementary schools in District 2 experience a tornado warning, they proceed to the hallway," she said. "Once in the hall, the children cover their heads with a book. Teachers and their assistants have the students stay away from windows and any other safety hazards. Parents are



Photo by 1st Lt. Gary Arasin

**20th Civil Engineer Squadron members work to clean up debris after a recent tornado damaged property on base.**

encouraged, in the event of a tornado warning, to seek shelter and trust that school officials will keep their children as safe as possible.

"In severe weather, children will be safer in the school than in a vehicle," said

Ms. Candy Richburg, Shaw Heights Elementary School assistant principal.

In the event of a tornado, a three to five-minute steady tone will sound over the giant voice, alerting all Shaw members to take immediate shelter.

# Shaw continues to fight "DUI menace"

By Col. Philip Ruhlman  
20th Fighter Wing commander

Members of the 20th Fighter Wing:

I was disappointed that last Saturday, our wing had a DUI. A young Airman decided to go to Columbia on Friday night with a friend from another squadron. They had several beers, then the Airman drove a friend back to Shaw. Coming in the gate, the Airman was observed as under the influence and subsequently failed a field sobriety test. His blood alcohol content was measured at .13...well over the legal limit. I was glad nobody was injured on the way home...the airman, nor any innocent bystanders. We were very lucky.

The Airman had been to my commander's call and heard about our Airman Against Drunk Driving program. In fact, the Airman had been given a key tag with the AADD number. Instead, the Airman chose not to use it and instead put lives at significant risk. The Airman bet

on winning and not getting caught. That bet was lost; all that was gained was the chance to live another day.

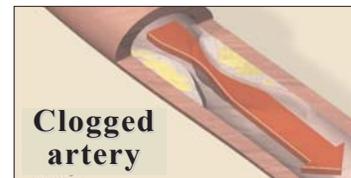
Our wing had gone 27 days without a DUI...almost halfway to our 60-day goal, and longer than we have ever been without a DUI. This means to me that although we failed this time, this goal is reachable and we can do it if we put our minds to it and take care of our own. All it takes is a little planning, a designated driver, or the conscience to not drink before we get behind the wheel. If one's judgment fails, there is always AADD, a friend, or a supervisor that can be called to get a ride home alive. It is so very simple. Don't drink and drive. If we do, we may die, or kill others on our way home.

I know this wing can rid itself of the DUI menace. I am certain if we can go 27 days, we can make it to 60. So, let's reset the goal...lets go for it...lets prove to ourselves we can take care of our own and not drink and drive. 60 days should be easy.



**Page 14:**  
Check out the history behind Shaw.

**Page 23:**  
Find out how to control your cholesterol.



**Clogged artery**

# Questions answered from CC calls

Below are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions during the recent 20th Fighter Wing Commander's Calls. For inquiries about a question not listed below, call the Commander's Connection hotline at 895-4611.

**Q: Dorms 905 and 906 have issues with mold, to the point it's destroying personal property. What is the current plan for folks living in these dorms?**

A: The Quarters Improvement Committee has decided to close these dormitories. A detailed plan is being formulated to address the closure and generate a timeline. As far as the mold issue, a survey is being conducted to determine the extent of the situation. However, continuing to educate residents, increasing facility inspections and increasing maintenance of heating/cooling components will significantly stop the spreading and prevent the development of mold.

**Q: Residents in Dorm 407 have attempted to go to self-help to get materials, such as paint and bug killer, but were turned away. What's the policy on dorm residents getting materials from self-help?**

Dorm residents are not authorized to shop at the self-help store in accordance with Air Force Pamphlet 32-1098, Shaw Supplement 1, paragraph 1.8.5. However, we are looking into the applicability of residents using the housing self help store.

Due to quality problems, damage to rooms/furniture/carpet, and trouble getting rooms back to their

original condition, resident self-help painting was and remains discontinued.

**Q: What is on the books with regards to the lack of parking spots on base?**

Due to newly added anti-terrorism requirements, some parking spots close to buildings have been eliminated. However, there are adequate spots, they may just be farther away.

**Q: Who sets the hours for the BX and Commissary and what is the appropriate avenue to pursue for getting them changed?**

Hours for AAFES facilities are set based on sales. Reports are run and hours are set based on demand for that facility and personnel costs involved if another shift would be required.

**Q: Are we doing anything to recognize the Army National Guard troops when they leave?**

Yes. We are planning an event where we will formally bid them good by, and we are going to review each soldier's performance, and determine their eligibility for a decoration in concert with their respective Army National Guard chain of command.

**Q: Can we ask the state to make improvements to the road that goes from the Frierson Gate to Route 521?**

The road belongs to the State of South Carolina. We can ask them to make improvements but they fall under budget constraints similar to those experienced at Shaw. We will however,

make them aware of the situation.

**Q: How does an Airman get a base house and how long does it take?**

Anyone requesting base housing comes by the housing office and fills out an application. Usually, they are offered a house the same day or within the week. The wait time is never longer than 30 days.

**Q: The road used for fitness testing is sometimes the shortest route available to emergency responders. Is there any kind of warning for people using this road?**

Losano Street is used by emergency vehicles when responding to incidents and our most immediate and effective method of warning runners, walkers and joggers that an emergency response is in progress is the use of lights and sirens. As a reminder, to ensure your ability to hear a warning siren, wearing headphones is prohibited while running, walking, or jogging on Shaw roadways.

**Q: What are the rules on Grab-N-Go for additional persons?**

There is a policy in place that prohibits Essential Station Messing (meal card) customers from eating in and taking out Grab-N-Go meals. However, you are allowed to pay cash for a Grab-N-Go meal for a co-worker. We will address this issue with the dining facility staff. *(Information courtesy of the 20th Mission Support Group, 20th Maintenance Group and other base agencies.)*

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Suicide prevention

The objective when dealing with a potentially-suicidal patient after duty hours is to create a safety plan until the next duty day, when the Life Skills Support Center and Primary Care are open. The most conservative route is to have the member taken to the emergency room, but that's not always necessary.

The first step is to contact the Life Skills on-call provider for consultation at 938-7374. He or she will help establish the least restrictive safety plan by first looking to include the individual's support system and then making follow-up decisions based on the individual's needs. *(Information courtesy of the Life Skills Support Center.)*

### Financial tip

Before you purchase a car, how much can you afford?

Know the total price, the amount of down payment you can afford and the monthly payment you can afford.

No more than 25% of your net income should be allocated toward car expenses. 10% of that amount should go toward maintenance, insurance, operating expenses and taxes.

Always check to see if the budget plan you've created is still working for your family and you are not falling behind on bills, which can ruin your credit and make it nearly impossible to get a car loan. *(Information courtesy of the Family Support Center.)*

### Survivor Benefit Plan

One of the best feelings about retiring from the military service can be knowing you are guaranteed a lifetime income as the result of a successful career.

But what about your spouse and/or children? If you die, what guarantees do they have?

Enrolling in the Survivor Benefit Plan prior to retiring will ensure they will have guaranteed income after your death.

For more information, call an SBP counselor at 895-1592. *(Information courtesy of the Casualty Assistance Office.)*

## 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 an item stolen from inside his base housing residence in the vicinity of Edgewood Ct.

■ Three juveniles were detained for Damage to Government Property near the family advocacy facility.

■ An Airman was apprehended for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol while attempting to gain entry to the installation.

■ Security Forces responded to 14 accidents involving either POVs or GOVs.

■ There were 22 traffic tickets issued during the week.

For emergencies, call 911. Direct routine questions and non-emergency concerns to the 20th SFS at 895-3670. If you have information about any crime, call the 20th Security Forces Investigations section at 895-3600.

**S** **Question:** What was Shaw's original mission, when the base opened in 1941? **T**

**P** **Answer to last week's question:** Shaw scored eight "best practices" during the recent unit compliance inspection. **r**

**r** **Last week's winner:** Airman 1st Class Jacob Rillo, 28th Operational Weather Squadron **v**

**i** The first person to e-mail the correct answer to *The Shaw Spirit* at [spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil](mailto:spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil) will receive a free smoothie from the Fitness Center. **i**

**t** **a**

### DUI/DWI Statistics

**Last incident:** 6 days

**Last unit:** 20th AMXS

**2004 total:** 32

**2003 total:** 28

## Members stay in the Blue

The following Team Shaw members re-enlisted during the month of August:

### Senior master sergeant

James McConnell, 609th Air Communications Squadron

### Master sergeants

Todd Biggs, 20th Component Maintenance Squadron; Deen Burgess, 20th CMS; Bryan Castelow, 20th CMS; James Dixon, 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron; Daniel Moore II, 20th EMS; Brian O'Conner, 609th Air Support Squadron

### Technical sergeants

Virgil Williams, 20th Communications Squadron; Robert Lee Jr., 20th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; William McGrew, 20th EMS; Connie Munizza, 20th Comptroller Squadron; Matthew Parker, 337th Recruiting Squadron

### Staff sergeants

Noe Abad, 20th CS; Torey Barnes, 20th Fighter Wing; Latoya Bowen, 609th ACOMS; Antoine Brown, 20th Logistics Readiness

Squadron; Jason Cargo, 609th Air Intelligence Squadron; Bradley Clear, 20th CMS; Varian Gibbs, 20th Security Forces Squadron; Shirley McAdams, 20th Services Squadron; Lafe Moore, 20th LRS; Clinton Noland, 20th AMXS; Kenneth Nunnally, 609th ACOMS; Lorence Parker, 609th Air Intelligence Squadron; Leticia Simrell, 20th Medical Operations; Johnny Smith Jr., 20th Civil Engineer Squadron; Natika Washington, 20th SFS; Andree Wright, 609th AIS

### Senior airmen

Dorothy Barron, 609th AIS; John Beck, 20th AMXS; Stephen Cartwright, 20th CMS; Ismael Fierro, 20th SFS; Nighthawk Fitzpatrick, 28th Operations Weather Squadron; Kristina Furley, 20th LRS; Jeromie Harris, 20th CMS; Carolyn Hendrix, 20th EMS; Julia Jackson, 20th LRS; James Jessie, 20th CMS; Robert Rocha Jr., 20th EMS; Javier Romero, 20th SVS; Ricky Scott Jr., 20th MDOS; Adonica Simpkins, 20th CES

## Spring retirement

Master Sgt. Kenneth Spering, U.S. Central Command Air Forces, is retiring after more than 22 years of service. He and his family have been at Shaw 16 years.

The Middletown, N.J., native and his wife, Cheryl, have two daughters, Meghan and Paige. After retirement, Sgt. Spering plans to work for the Department of Defense.

"Master Sgt. Spering has been a valuable member of the Air Force and of Team Shaw. His dedication and hard work will be missed," said Col. Philip Ruhlman, 20th Fighter Wing Commander.

The retirement ceremony is set for Sept. 24 at 2:30 p.m. in the Conference Center.

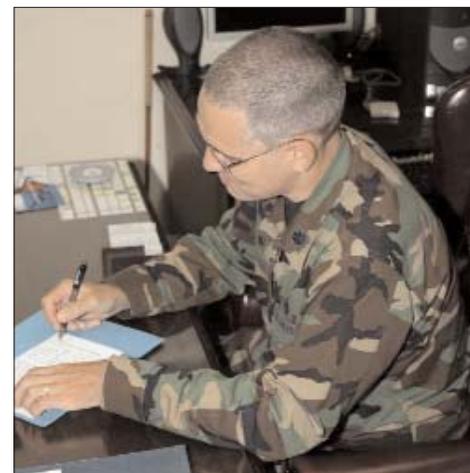


Photo by Mrs. Tarsha Storey

## Hair today, gone tomorrow

Lt. Col. Michael McDaniel, 20th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, recently held true to his promise he would shave his head if the squadron made it 100 days DUI-free.

*The Shaw Spirit* runs announcements for new babies. To announce yours, call 895-2018 or send an e-mail to [editor@shaw.af.mil](mailto:editor@shaw.af.mil).

