

Outer space comes to Shaw's inner spaces

Youth Center children learn about planets, atmosphere and rocket technology



From left, Brandon Davis, Dalton Humphrey, Bryan Charlot and Devin Long assemble their straw-launched mini rockets Nov. 4 as part of the Youth Center's Space Camp. The camp ended with the launch of engine-powered model rockets Nov. 7.



Sasha (left) and Gina Boscoe mold clay models of the planet Saturn. Models were painted with glow-in-the-dark paint. The project was one of five take-home activities.



Photos by Alisea Thomas

Bryan Kinghorn, Science Adventure instructor, teaches children to assemble parachutes that attach to their model rockets. More than 30 children participated in the Space Camp at Shaw's Youth Center Nov. 3 - 7.

Munitions: Load 'em up, move 'em out



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alicia Prakash

Staff Sgt. Tiffanie Mendoza (left), 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron precision-guided munitions crew chief, Senior Airman Cherise Hundley (center) and Airman 1st Class Anthony Medina (right), 20th EMS PGM crew members, cross load an AGM-88 training missile from a trailer in the Munitions Storage Area here. This training item is inspected every 180 days.

By Staff Sgt. Alicia Prakash
Staff writer

Surrounded by metal fencing and secured by a gate guard, the Munitions Storage Area is the protected bomb factory on base. With 200 personnel, this 96-acre area houses the second largest munitions flight in Air Combat Command.

The munitions shop is divided into three sections: materiel, systems and production.

The materiel section of Munitions includes the operation, inspection and storage of munitions on base. This section ensures live bombs, training bombs and trailers are operable and inspected. The MK 82 and the MK 84, both live bombs, are on a five-year inspection cycle if stored outside and a 10-year cycle if stored indoors. The training bombs, though inert, are inspected on the same cycles, said Master Sgt. Allen Alston, 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron materiel superintendent. The equipment used to hold and transport the bombs must also be maintained.

The munitions materiel handling equipment trailers are on 365- and 720-day periodic inspection schedules. The 720-day periodic inspection is

more in-depth than the 365-day; to include changing fluids and components, if needed.

The accountability of munitions is also recorded. Munitions accountability is vital to maintaining positive control of weapons and ensuring they don't fall into the wrong hands -- especially during contingency operations, said 1st Lt. Robert Tackett, 20th EMS munitions flight commander. Air Force Instruction 21-201, Management and Maintenance of Non-nuclear Munitions, directs munitions accountability.

The systems area maintains control of personnel and equipment. Members record what munitions are on base and on the aircraft here. People in the munitions control section of systems track the number of hours a missile has flown, record servicing of the missile from weapons loaders and PGM production and keep a log of fired missiles in an automated database.

A computer system, called the Combat Ammunition Systems-Base, is used here to track all weapons and parts. The 20th EMS also stores some munitions for the 20th Security Forces Squadron, said Tackett.

Munitions are stored according to type or

compatibility in 13 above-ground storage facilities. This storage system reduces the chances of accidental explosions.

In addition to munitions storage, the EMS production section assembles bombs with fuses, bomb bodies, tail fins and arming wire. This shop provides conventional maintenance and delivers munitions to aircraft on Shaw's flightline.

Producing bombs is a key role for munitions, so training is important and it is accomplished with training bombs.

"We have training or practice bombs that are used daily. We average 1,000 practice bombs a month," said Alston.

Though the amount of live munitions produced monthly varies based on the wing's flying schedule, \$257 million of munitions are maintained and supplied at Shaw, said Senior Master Sgt. Harold Carter, 20th EMS munitions flight chief.

All sections work together in the secured Munitions Storage Area and keep bombs under control.

"From the cradle to the grave," said an EMS official, "we must keep track of our munitions."

I've been working on the flightline

Chaplains maintain offices away from chapels

By Adriene M. Dicks
Correspondent

When service members suffer from job or family stress and choose to seek help from a chaplain, they would most often expect the office to be located at a chapel. However, at Shaw, chaplains can also be found on the flightline.

There are two flightline chaplain offices here.



Photo by Adriene M. Dicks

Chandler focuses on the needs of those working on and around the flightline.

Chaplain (Capt.) Cregg Chandler, 20th Fighter Wing chaplain, is located in the 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Phase Dock, Building 1200. He can be reached at **895-3137**. Chaplain (Capt.) Richard Anderson, 20th FW chaplain, maintains an office in the 20th Component Maintenance Squadron, Building 1207, room 21.

A third office is planned for Hangar 1614 in the near future.

Chandler was a part of flightline ministry prior to coming to Shaw and says the program has always had a positive impact.

"There is a major element of stress among those who work the flightline," said Chandler. "A flightline chaplain's ministry is a positive outreach because the service members don't have to go anywhere to find us – we are right there."

When working in a chapel, chaplains normally keep the same hours each day, usually 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. However, just as the hours on the flightline are irregular, so are the hours for flightline chaplains.

According to Chandler, flightline chaplains try to be available to the workers for as many hours as possible whenever necessary.

"The hours for the chaplains on the flightline will vary for different reasons," said Chandler. "On occasions when there is night flying or other reasons when there is a lot of activity on the

flightline after hours, I work evenings and nights. I will be in the office Mondays – Thursdays, and my hours for each week will be posted on my office door." Chaplains have a day off during the week as compensation for working Sundays.

In addition to their offices being located with those who fly the jets and keep them flying, the chaplains also go out to the flightline. They visit with those members who may not always be able to get away from their workstations to seek spiritual guidance or just need a word of advice from those experienced at giving it.

According to Chandler, there are times when a particular chaplain is sought for religious or denominational reasons, but the flightline chaplains typically deal with any needs of those who work the flightline.

"The primary duty of the flightline chaplain is to attend to the spiritual, moral and ethical needs of personnel on the flightline – whatever life issues they may need to discuss – just like other chaplains would do for whatever squadrons they are assigned to," said Chandler. "The only difference is we are there to interact with those people every day. We are there to help service members manage their lives and make sure they are ready to complete the mission. We work alongside supervisors, first sergeants and commanders to provide guidance."

Program offers business opportunities to veterans

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- The Veterans Affairs loan program, long known for helping veterans get their own home, is now helping them obtain their own business.

Veterans can now go from "defending the American dream to owning it," said Don DeBolt, president of the International Franchise Association, which sponsors the Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative program.

"It's one way to focus attention on our veterans who are leaving the military and would like to have their own business to operate," he said.

VetFran was introduced in the early 1990s, and officials have worked to attract and educate members

of the armed forces about the opportunities through business ownerships and franchising, DeBolt said. VetFran officials work closely with the VA to offer franchise opportunities for retiring veterans transitioning back into civilian life, he said.

Businesses participating in VetFran have agreed to help veterans acquire franchises by providing "best-deal" programs and financial incentives not otherwise available to other investors, DeBolt said. Veterans can acquire business franchises with down payments of 10 % or less of the initial franchise cost, which can range from \$45,000 to \$150,000.

A wide range of franchises are available, including food services to hotels and the automotive industry. VetFran has 113 companies participating in the program, DeBolt said.

"There is a large menu in franchising. We'd like

to think there is something for everybody," he said, "not only in terms of their skills, their interest and their passions, but also from their pocketbook standpoint."

Veterans can find franchises for a few thousand dollars in initial investment to a few million dollars, DeBolt said.

Veterans must realize owning their own business is a real possibility, he said. But he also suggested before making a decision to own a business, veterans take a personal inventory of their business interests.

"They need to know their skills, what they feel passionate about. They need to know the interests and desires of their families, what their families would be supportive of," he said.

To learn more about franchise opportunities, visit the VA's Web site at www.vetbiz.gov.

The Shaw Spirit survey results

By Staff Sgt. Lee Watts
Internal Information chief

To better serve the Shaw community, *The Shaw Spirit* recently conducted a readership survey.

Thank you to all who participated. We appreciate all the answers and comments provided, and will consider them in making future issues. The majority of comments focused on the ratio of advertisements to stories, the type and placement of advertisements, how and when to submit items to be published, and receiving electronic or hard copies of the paper.

Advertisement Ratio

Multiple comments were made about the amount of advertising. There are two types of Air Force base newspapers, funded and commercial. With funded newspapers, the Air Force pays for the production of the newspaper, and there are no advertisements. Commercial newspapers, such as *The Shaw Spirit*, are produced at no cost to the Air Force by a contracted publisher. The publisher makes profit by selling ads. Air Force instruction 35-101, *Public Affairs Policies and Procedures*, sets the quarterly ratio of ads to 60% and content to 40%.

Type and Placement of Ads

With the emphasis on financial responsibility and not using tobacco products, some readers wonder why ads for these services and products are in the paper. This is because there is nothing illegal about the ad or business. The newspaper contract gives

the Public Affairs Officer the right to pull an advertisement.

But, if a legitimate company buys space, there is no legal reason to pull it.

How and When to Submit Items to be Published

Classified ads are run on a space-available basis and are due by Tuesdays at 2 p.m. To place a classified ad, drop it by *The Shaw Spirit* office in the 20th Fighter Wing Headquarters building or e-mail skaress@ci-camden.com. Classified ads must be resubmitted each week.

As noted in the Timeline illustration below, story ideas need to be in no later than the Thursday prior to the week of publication. Each issue is planned weeks in advance, and submitted items are run based on their newsworthiness, timeliness and available space.

If there is an event happening on a Friday and the newspaper is notified Tuesday, readers will not be able to hear about it in that Friday's issue. This is because the space for that edition is already allotted. The sooner an idea or story is submitted, the better chance it has to run in a timely manner.

Electronic-Paper Copies

The Shaw Spirit is available online at shaw.af.mil/shawspirit.

The distribution of the base paper is reviewed annually. If your unit is receiving too many or not enough copies of *The Shaw Spirit*, contact the editor at 895-2018.

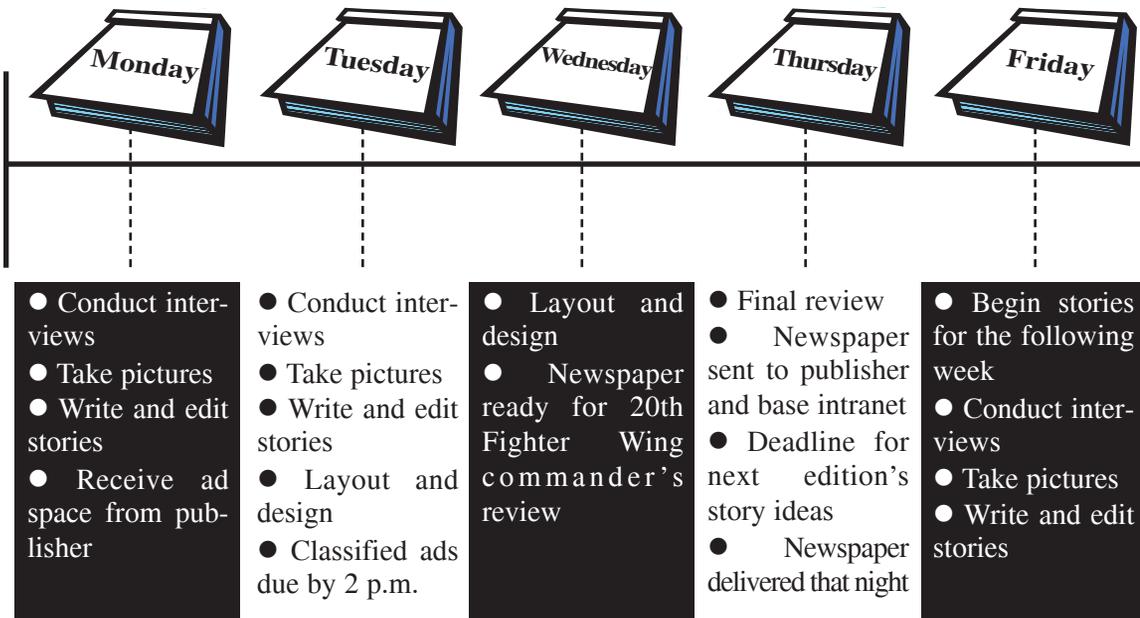


Shaw units head for cover

Staff members of *The Shaw Spirit* don't know about every event happening on base -- unless someone notifies them. If your unit has an event or specific achievement you'd like to see covered, get approval from your chain of command to contact *The Shaw Spirit*. Call us at 895-2018 or e-mail the editor at spirit.editor@shaw.af.mil.

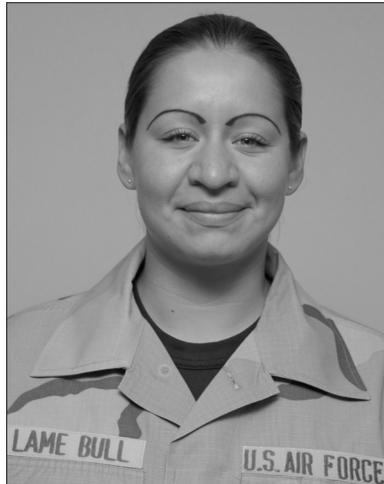
We are always looking for photos of Team Shaw. Submit photos the same way as stories, and include identification of everyone in the photo.

Timeline





Spirit Spotlight



Senior Airman Bonnie Lame Bull

Organization: 609th Combat Operations Squadron

Duty title: Defensive duty technician

Hometown: Seattle

Time in service: Three years

Off-duty interests: Pursuing a commission and going to the gym

Words I live by: "The future depends on what we do in the present."

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.