



Newslines

Visitor Center

The Visitor Center is set to reopen at the Main Gate 6 a.m. Tuesday. All visitors should proceed to the Main Gate to obtain required passes.

BRAC guidance

Department of Defense personnel may not participate, in their official capacities, in activities of any organization with the purpose of insulating bases from realignment or closure. For more information, call the Public Affairs Office at 895-2019.

Mother's Day Brunch

A Mother's Day Brunch is set for Sunday at Club Shaw. The cost is \$16 for members, \$18 for non-members. For more information or reservations, call 666-3651.

PACT volunteers

Sumter schools are set to participate in Palmetto Achievement Challenge Testing Tuesday through Thursday. Volunteers are needed from 7:30 a.m. to noon each day. The following schools have requested assistance:

Cherryvale Elementary: 494-8200
 Ebenezer Middle: 469-8571/ 3101
 Shaw Heights Elementary: 666-2335, ext. 407
 Hillcrest Middle: 499-3341
 Manchester Middle: 452-5454
 High Hills Elementary: 499-3327

Weekend Weather

Saturday



Partly cloudy
 High: 93
 Low: 64

Sunday



Partly cloudy
 High: 90
 Low: 65

Courtesy of the 20th Operations Support Squadron Weather Flight

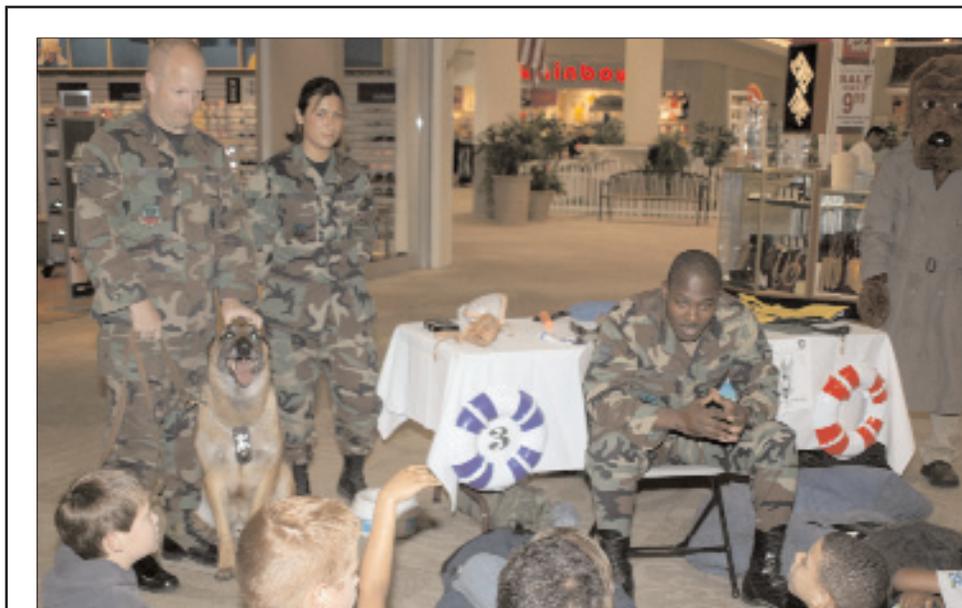


Photo by Airman 1st Class Susan Penning

Kids & K-9s

Members of the 20th Security Forces Squadron, including a military working dog, taught children in the local community animal safety guidelines at the Sumter Mall April 29.

Shaw prepares for HUREVAC

By Staff Sgt. Alicia Prakash
 Editor

Hurricane season is approaching, in preparation Shaw's annual hurricane exercise is scheduled Monday-Wednesday. It is intended to get the wing ready and bring a level of awareness to base personnel.

"It gives us the opportunity to validate and review HUREVAC plans prior to the season," said Capt. Steven Buryanek, 20th Fighter Wing inspections warlord.

South Carolina's hurricane season runs June through October.

During the exercise, personnel are encouraged to think about and prepare for upcoming hurricane conditions, said Master Sgt. Erik Singletary, 20th FW inspections superintendent.

The condition levels are based on a hurricane's intensity which is meas-

ured by wind speeds, storm surge and potential property damage. A hurricane falls into one of five categories.

"Hurricanes are very real threats which we need to prepare for.

Master Sgt. Erik Singletary
 20th Fighter Wing inspections superintendent

"Hurricanes are very real threats which we need to prepare for," said Sgt. Singletary. "Last year at Langley (Air Force Base, Va.) is a good example."

He said he was at Shaw in 1989 when a hurricane hit.

"I was here during Hugo and have seen what dangers a hurricane can inflict," said Sgt. Singletary.

He said exercise participants will hanger aircraft, perform non-standard parking configurations and identify and determine where high

value assets are sheltered.

For those not participating directly in the HUREVAC, noticeable dif-

ferences on base will include HURECON signs posted at gates, said Sgt.

Singletary.

"This is not only for military members, but civilians as well," said Capt. Buryanek.

The exercise is meant to increase Team Shaw's readiness and effectiveness to deal with a hurricane.

"Hurricanes pose a real and imminent danger," said Sgt. Singletary. "Don't wait until the last minute to prepare."

For more information about hurricane levels and preparation, view **Pages 12 and 13.**



Page 14:
 Need help finding a Mother's Day gift?

Page 21:
 Staying fit benefits mind and body.



“By Law” designation may miss those intended

If you have designated your Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance benefits to be distributed “By Law,” do you know who would receive the insurance proceeds upon your death? Chances are you don't.

Most service members understand the value of leaving up to \$250,000 to their loved ones via their SGLI benefit. Many, however, unknowingly put at risk their intended beneficiaries' ability to collect payment from the policy. By writing “By Law” as the policy's beneficiary, you give up (or “forfeit”) control of the distribution of the proceeds and open the door to claims, disputes and potentially lengthy litigation by third parties claiming to be beneficiaries under the “By Law” distribution scheme.

When you use a “By Law” beneficiary designation on your SGLI policy, a court may end up interpreting the distribution of your benefit using definitions from the SGLI statute and state laws. As these laws vary from state to state, the legal definition of terms like “spouse”, “child”, “parent”, and “next of kin” may not be the same as you intend.

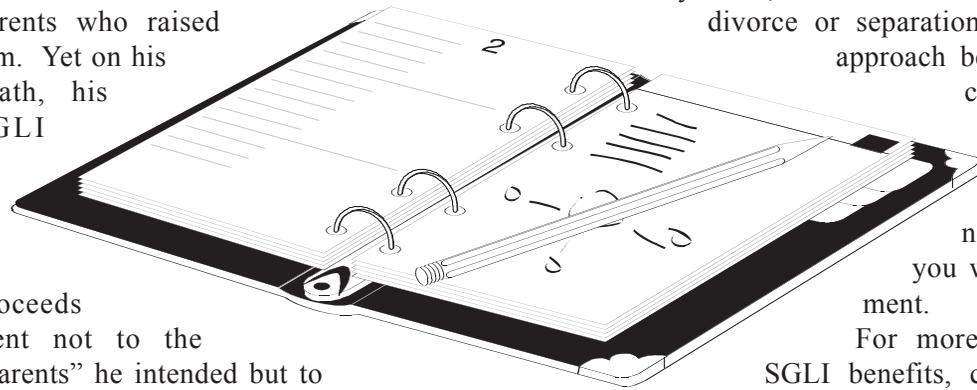
For instance, the term “parent” generally does not include foster parents or stepparents. An actual case of a member who died on active duty with “By Law” as the beneficiary designation for SGLI illustrates this point. For his entire military career, the member had sent monthly allotments to the foster parents who raised him. Yet on his death, his SGLI

proceeds went not to the “parents” he intended but to the natural mother. Without a specific indication of who you intend to be your beneficiary, no one can confidently predict how a “By Law” designation will be distributed.

Don't leave the distribution of this valuable benefit to chance. Take a few minutes to specifically name your intended beneficiaries of your SGLI policy. Review the beneficiaries you have listed regularly—when you PCS, prepare to deploy, or whenever circumstances affecting your family arise, such as a birth, death, marriage, divorce or separation. This responsible approach best ensures the proceeds from your SGLI policy are distributed in a timely manner only to those who you wish to receive payment.

For more information about SGLI benefits, contact the Military Personnel Flight Customer Service desk at **895-1598**.

(Information courtesy of the 20th Fighter Wing Legal Office.)



Extention granted for BAH for nutrition program eligibility

By Col. Richard C. Howell

Headquarters Air Combat Command Civil Engineer Deputy

A provision excluding basic allowance for housing from being considered income for privatized housing residents in determining eligibility for child nutrition programs has been extended through June 30. The previous extension was March 31.

Pres. George W. Bush signed a law allowing children of Armed Service members living in privatized military housing to continue receiving free or reduced-price meals at school if they meet eligibility requirements.

The extension of this exclusion means many people who currently qualify for assistance under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Summer Food Service Program will continue to do so. It is not known at this time if the exclusion will be extended past June 30.

For more information about BAH, call the Finance Customer Service Office at **895-4904**.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alicia Prakash

Hands off

Personnel are advised not to remove cones and barricades in parking lots and in other areas on base. They are set in place for reasons of security or construction.

AIR FORCE
Integrity - Service - Excellence



20th SFS celebrates National Police Week

By Staff Sgt. Lee Watts
Internal Information chief

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as "Police Week". Every year since, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, D. C., to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

On the right is a list of how Shaw's protectors are celebrating the day.

The first official memorial service took place on May 15, 1982. On that date, approximately 125 people gathered in Senate Park to honor 91 law enforcement officers. During the past 22 years more than 3,000 law

enforcement officers from around the nation have been honored.

Members of Shaw's 20th Security Forces Squadron said their duty gives them a sense of satisfaction.

Capt. Greg Woosley, 20th Security Forces Squadron operations officer – "I've been in the Security Forces career field for nearly 19 years. We are often held to a higher standard. Helping people continues to be the most rewarding part of my job."

Staff Sgt. John Diefenbach, 20th SFS Investigations section agreed with the pride Capt. Woosley's expressed in the job.

"In Security Forces, you know you're accomplishing something important. This job really makes you feel valued and gives you a sense of responsibility," said Sgt. Diefenbach.

Schedule of events:

Monday at 7 a.m. -- Prayer breakfast at the dining facility

Tuesday at 3 p.m. -- Kid Care ID at the Child Development Center

Wednesday at 1 p.m. -- Golf tournament at Carolina Lakes

Thursday at 8:30 a.m. -- Sumter/Shaw Law Enforcement fun shoot at the Sumter Range

Friday at 5 p.m. -- Retreat Ceremony at the base flagpole

Saturday at 11 a.m. -- Sumter Mall 5-K Fun Run

2 - 6 p.m. -- Static Display at the Sumter Mall with all local police departments, Kid Care ID, face painting booth, weapons display by the combat arms training something

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 was apprehended for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol while attempting to gain entry to the installation through the Main Gate.

■ An Airman and his son were involved in a physical altercation in base housing.

■ A Soldier reported a window broken in the 5000 Area Shoppette while the store was closed.

■ An AAFES store detective reported three

unknown individuals shoplifting shoes from the Main Exchange.

■ An Airman was arrested off base for indecent exposure.

■ Security Forces responded to four accidents involving POVs and GOVs.

■ There were 19 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

Article 111 of the UCMJ allows the Air Force to charge an individual for driving drunk or for having a blood-alcohol content of 0.08 or higher.

If an individual smells of alcohol, drives erratically and fails the field sobriety tests, he can still be charged with drunk driving, even if his BAC is lower than 0.08. By the same token, an individual can be driving just fine, but if their BAC is 0.08 or higher, he can be charged.

All Airmen should know it is illegal to consume alcohol under the age of 21. If a member is caught drinking alcohol under 21, it constitutes dereliction of duty, chargeable under Article 92 of the UCMJ.

Question Corner

Question: When was the first aircraft crash?

Answer to last week's question: The F-16A has one seat and the F-16B is a two-seater.

Last week's winners: Senior Airman Cecil Anderson, 28th Operational Weather 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.



DUI/DWI Statistics

Last incident:	5 days	Punishment: Members, receiving a DUI/DWI must report to the wing commander the following duty day in full service dress. They will be accompanied by their supervisor, 1st sergeant and squadron commander.
Last unit::	20th LRS	
2004 total:	20	
2003 total:	28	

(As of Wednesday)

AADD
Past week's saves: 29

Shaw's Airmen Against Drunk Driving offer free, confidential rides back to base for members who are intoxicated. For a ride, call **983-9722**.

NCO wins while continuing quest for knowledge

By Ms. Adriene M. Dicks
Correspondent

Continuing the learning process has long been considered a part of becoming an expert in your field. The constant quest for knowledge in her field and beyond has helped one 20th Mission Support Squadron member win an Air Combat Command-level award.

Staff Sgt. Misty Crooks, 20th MSS NCO in charge of the commander's support staff, was recently named ACC's 2003 Outstanding U.S. Air Force Personnel Manager of the Year. She won the same award while stationed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., in 2001.

In nominating her for the award, Lt. Col. Barbara Jorgensen, 20th MSS commander, described Sgt. Crooks as a peerless leader and high-impact NCO.

"Sgt. Crooks is an outstanding performer who strives for perfection in all she does. She's eager to learn and aggressively tackles anything you send her way," said Col. Jorgensen.

Sgt. Crooks has been at Shaw two years, while here she says she has learned more about working in the personnel office than ever before, from those she works with and her supervisor, Col. Jorgensen.

"We all need each other to succeed, and they def-

initely helped me in winning this award," said Sgt. Crooks. "I have learned something from everyone in the office, especially from my supervisor. She is a walking book of knowledge and, for me, a mentor before a commander."

Sgt. Crooks said she has put much of what she has learned to use in her first experience as a supervisor. She believes that while she offers one-on-one guidance and training to her troop, she also learns from her to be better at her job.

The award period was Oct. 1, 2002 – Sept. 30, 2003. Some of Sgt. Crooks' accomplishments include: directing the transfer of 23 wing personnel to new units during the wing reorganization, revising the TDY out-processing checklist to correct 40 discrepancies, and revitalizing the sponsor program by appointing and training 20 new sponsors.

Sgt. Crooks said it was a surprise to learn she had won an ACC-level award, but it was most gratifying to hear of it at base level.

"When you win at base level, you know the recognition is coming from your peers and people who really know you," said Sgt. Crooks. "It lets you

know your supervisors and others you work with think you are capable and worthy."

In her spare time, Sgt. Crooks enjoys spending time with her husband, Staff Sgt. Stephen Crooks, 20th Contracting Squadron, and daughter, Laura,

working out and decorating her home. She also finds time to give back to the Shaw community. During the award period, she took on the job of head coach for youth soccer so the season would not be cancelled. She also organized a potluck for 100 Team Shaw members, volunteered 12 hours of gift wrapping time to the American Red Cross, and executed the first-ever unit bowling challenge with 70 bowlers.

When it comes to the future for Sgt. Crooks, Col. Jorgensen said, "There is no limit."

In the near future, Sgt. Crooks will take on another job and another learning experience by becoming one of Shaw's airman leadership school instructors.

Col. Jorgensen said, "She's smart, persistent, involved and energized. It will be a great time to sit back and watch her shine."



Wiegand retirement

Master Sgt. Michael Wiegand, 20th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is retiring after 20 years of service. He and his family have been at Shaw two years.

The Pittsburgh native has one son, Brian. After retirement, he plans to work as a financial advisor for a major brokerage firm.

The ceremony is scheduled for May 14 at 10 a.m. in the Conference Center.

Clark retirement

Tech. Sgt. Dale Clark, 20th Maintenance Group, is retiring after 20 years of service. He has been at Shaw 11 years.

After retirement, the Hendersonville, N.C., native plans to remain in the local area to continue his education.

The ceremony is scheduled for May 14 at 2 p.m. in the Conference Center.

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.



Volunteer of the Month

Erin Christensen

Mrs. Christensen, wife of Staff Sgt. Justin Christensen, volunteers with the 20th Services Squadron Services Information Management Systems office three times a week. She said she volunteers to help Team Shaw and gain hands on experience with computers. "What I learn here can't be taught in a classroom setting," said Mrs. Christensen. "And I get to meet new people and help out a very busy office."

In her own words: "Life isn't measured by the breaths you take but by the moments that take your breath away"

Officer's Training School selectees

The following Shaw personnel have been selected for Officer's Training School:

- Tech. Sgt. Allyn Swavely, 372nd Training Squadron
- Tech. Sgt. Richard Wheeler, 338th Training Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Christopher Yates, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron

2004 Iris Festival

The Iris Festival is set for May 27 - 30. The main area is Sumter's Swan Lake - Iris Gardens but events will be held at locations throughout the city. For more information, call **436-2640** or log onto www.irisfestival.org.

