

The NORTHWEST AIRLIFTER

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McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

August 28, 2008

Backpacks, books and buses



McChord kids go back to school,
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Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 73 Low: 52	Hi: 70 Low: 48	Hi: 71 Low: 49

Forecast generated at 7 a.m. Thursday
Courtesy of the 62nd Operations Support Squadron

Countdown to success

Nuclear Surety Inspection	133	days
Rodeo	326	days
Operational Readiness Inspection	424	days

Don't miss it ...

Deployed spouses dinner

The Chapel Support Center hosts a deployed spouses dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. Sept. 8. For more information, call 982-5556.

Your legacy defined

By

Chief Master Sgt. Russell Kuck
62nd Airlift Wing
command chief master sergeant

Recently, I caught myself thinking about my former supervisors and how each one played a part in my development as an Airman and as a chief.

Some were exceptional examples of professionalism, commitment to duty and leadership, like my first one Staff Sgt. Henry Pregnall III, while others filled in the "what not to do" blanks in my leadership style.

Their actions, or lack of action in some cases, formed a lasting impression on me. It is their legacy, or in other words, how they will be remembered as an Airman.

Have no doubt, as supervisors your legacy is currently being written by those who look to you for leadership. They will remember your actions long after they've PCSed, retired or separated from the Air Force.

Will your legacy be that of someone who was fair, consistent and honest, or are you creating an atmosphere of distrust and favoritism in your workcenter?

Over time, will you be remembered as someone more worried about your career than those you're responsible for taking care of?

Finally, when those you supervise find themselves looking back over their career years from now, will they credit their successes to you developing them to be the best Airmen they can be?

This will be your legacy. While your awards and decorations may gather dust over time, your personal sacrifices, commitment to those you supervise and dedication to setting the example as a good Airman will stand the test of time.

The greatest legacy you can leave for future Airmen is intangible — typifying all the best qualities of an Airman. Hooah!

Preparation critical to smooth deployments

By

Maj. Christopher Lavallee
62nd Force Support
Squadron commander

As we continue in the Global War on Terror, the opportunity to deploy is high. As Airmen, all of us can expect that we may have to deploy as part of the AEF structure or on extended TDYs to support our equally heavily-tasked sister services. No matter the type and place of deployment though, there are many things Airmen and their supervisors can do to ensure the success of the deployed mission while taking care of our military members and their families.

A good start for the military member is to ensure that you have all your required deployment training up to date at all times, and when selected for deployment, ensure that you stay current for the duration of your time away from home station.

Your unit training manager, unit deployment manager, supervisors and locally developed checklists can help prepare you for success.

Maintaining currency is critical in items such as Self-Aid and Buddy Care, chemical warfare defense, weapon proficiency, medical clearance

and recurring training required in your AFSC so you can hit the ground running at your deployed location.

The personal affairs of military members and their families are equally important. By having a good plan to care for personal matters, you can reduce stress and worry and help focus on the task at hand.

For married members, having powers of attorney set up for spouses will allow them to take care of personal items while deployed. It's also important to check out the family car, work out finances and get listings of available agencies and phone contacts that will be there for your family. If you're single, plan out what bills will come due during your deployment, either forward your mail or find someone to pick it up for you and find someone to stop by your house or apartment to check on things such as your yard and the overall condition of things.

By establishing a family care plan, ensuring contact numbers are accurate and most importantly following through, items of concern can be addressed and dealt with before they become problems.

Commanders, first sergeants and supervisors also play a very important

role in making a deployment successful for the military member and their family. Contact the deployed family members at least once every two weeks to see how things are going. Let them know that you are available if situations come up that they need help with. Your Phoenix Spouses can also certainly play a large role in contacting family members of those deployed. Continue to include them in squadron functions and most importantly: keep them informed on what agencies are available to provide support.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center, the base legal office and chaplain services are just a few organizations that offer a whole host of support services. Morale calls, free oil changes, activities and support networks are just a few of the offerings that are out there to help take care of our families.

While certainly not all inclusive, the tips above offer a good starting point for your next deployment. A successful deployed experience starts out with proper planning, plenty of follow through to make sure you can execute your planning, and includes lots of information available from helping agencies to reduce the stressors of deployments.

The Sharp Airman ...

Maintains a professional appearance when it comes to wearing apparel carry-alls.

- Backpacks, carry-alls and apparel bags should be carried in the left hand, slung over the left shoulder or worn over both shoulders, as not to interfere with rendering the proper salute.
- Attaché cases should be black only and gym bags should be black

or dark blue.

- Only solid-color black backpacks may be worn with blue uniform combinations, whereas solid-color black, olive drab or woodland camouflage are the only colors authorized with the battle dress uniform.
- Handbags or purses should be plain black leather or vinyl without ornamentation, with or without single-placed silver or gold-colored clasp.
- Umbrellas should be plain black and carried in the left hand

Editor's note: The Sharp Airman is a leadership tool designed to reinforce professionalism of all Airmen.

Professionals of the week

62nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Staff Sgt. Glenn Henthorn

Duty title:
Explosive ordnance disposal journeyman

Duty section:
EOD flight

Hometown:
Spokane, Wash.

Why he's super:

Sergeant Henthorn manages and maintains more than \$1.2 million in specialized EOD and mobility equipment. He recently averted a disaster when contractors excavating in the munitions storage area uncovered a buried rocket warhead. Arriving on scene, Sergeant Henthorn quickly identified the corroded rocket as extremely hazardous and directed immediate steps mitigating the hazard. Sergeant Henthorn is also a master of robotic platform repair and maintains six separate EOD robots at 100 percent operational capability.



Staff Sgt. David Rinard

Duty title:
Fire Protection crew chief

Duty section:
Fire Department

Hometown:
Kelso, Wash.

Why he's tops:

Sergeant Rinard is responsible for an annual budget of \$330,000. He recently managed three service contracts worth more than \$100,000. While deployed, he responded to a fire on a KC-135 Stratotanker, directing his rescue crew to evacuate the aircraft, then facilitated a shutdown of the aircraft ensuring aircrew safety. He also recently identified a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive equipment shortfall and procured a \$16,000 hazmat database correcting a serious response deficiency.



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Back to school time raises safety concerns

By

Airman 1st Class Kirsten Wicker
62nd Airlift Squadron
Public Affairs

It's that time of year again when the weather cools down, the days get shorter and the leaves start to fall from trees. It's time to break out the text books, pencils, notebooks and thinking caps and head back to the classroom. As children head back, base officials want

everyone to remember safety is a key factor during the back-to-school rush.

According to Carter Lake officials, there will be a lot of children walking from base housing areas and crossing the street to the school. Parents are encouraged not to use the Lincoln Boulevard parking lot to drop off their children due to congestion from walkers and drivers in that area before and after school hours. The parking lot is reserved for staff; it is safer to use

the drive-up off of Lincoln in front of the school and be mindful of children walking across the streets and parking lots. Walkers are encouraged to use the new crosswalk located on Walnut Street.

The speed limit in front of Carter Lake is 20 miles per hour and there is a flashing yellow sign warning drivers between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"Slow down and be mindful of children walking and crossing the street to school, being dropped off

or picked up," said Tech. Sgt. Joshua Olearnek, 62nd Security Forces Squadron. "It's going to get busy in and around Carter Lake Elementary school area in base housing as school starts and we'll be keeping an eye to make sure drivers are obeying the speed limit."

The speed limit will be strictly enforced and violators will be ticketed, he said.

There are 390 military family members enrolled at Carter Lake; school begins Sept. 3.

Base officials stress safety over long weekend

By

Tyler Hemstreet
Staff writer

On the eve of the Labor Day weekend and with just a few days remaining in the 101 Critical Days of Summer program, base officials are asking Airmen to continue to keep safety a top priority throughout the final weeks of the campaign, which wraps up Monday.

Last year from July 29 to the end of the campaign, there were 11 safety incidents, compared to just 10 incidents prior to July 29.

The numbers show a possible tendency by Airmen to rush to fit in various recreational activities before the summer and nice weather

comes to an end, said Ken Heath, 62nd Airlift Wing chief of ground safety.

"Some may be getting that itch and rushing to get something done," Mr. Heath said. "The rush can lead to a small lapse of concentration, and that's all it takes for us to have an incident."

So far during this year's campaign there have been just ten incidents compared to 22 at the same time last year.

All of the incidents are categorized as Class C, Mr. Heath said.

A Class C incident is something that causes an Airman to be placed on quarters or convalescent leave.

"Compared to last year, the numbers are very encouraging,"

Mr. Heath said. "We just want people to plan accordingly this weekend."

There have been no fatalities Air Mobility Command-wide, he said.

While the incidents this year have occurred both on and off duty, Mr. Heath said a large percentage of the injuries could be prevented by simply knowing one's limits and not taking unnecessary risks.

"We want people to play for fun, but play smartly and take the proper precautions," he said.

Those proper precautions include Airmen keeping leadership informed about any high-risk activity they engage in and keeping an open dialogue about it, said Lt. Col. Rodney Lewis, 62nd AW chief of safety.

"Our McChord senior leaders understand that our most valuable resource is our men and women who support the mission," Colonel Lewis said. "Without robust safety programs our overall mission is at risk. The 101 critical days is a program that puts an emphasis on keeping our people safe at one of the most dangerous times in the year. This program has been proven successful throughout the years by teaching our folks how to mitigate risks in their daily activities."

The 12 deaths that have occurred during the campaign Air Force-wide have been attributed to motorcycle or motor vehicle accidents and sports and recreation incidents.





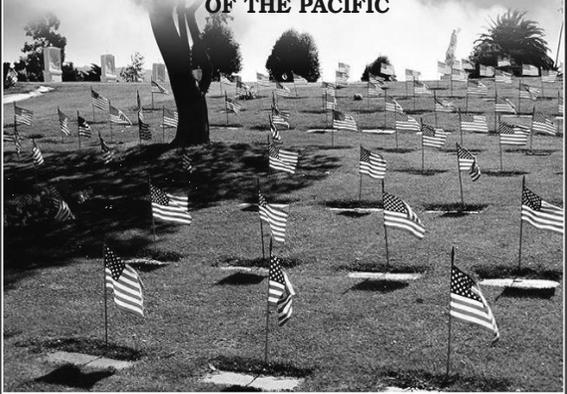
Photo by Abner Guzman

Giving liquid life

Tony Dorsett, a Fort Lewis Armed Services Blood Bank health worker, prepares Airman 1st Class Shantell Kouba, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, for a blood donation Aug. 21 at the Chapel Support Center.

**IN THESE GARDENS ARE RECORDED
THE NAMES OF AMERICANS
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY
AND WHOSE EARTHLY
RESTING PLACE
IS KNOWN ONLY TO GOD.**

**— NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY
OF THE PACIFIC**



National POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 19, 2008



www.dtic.mil/dpms



Deployed spouses dinner

The Chapel Support Center will host a deployed spouses dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. Sept. 8 at the Chapel Support Center. All families with deployed or deploying spouses and temporary duty assignments are encouraged to attend. Those interested in attending must RSVP before Sept. 5 by visiting <https://62aw.mcchord.af.mil/awstaff/hc> from a military computer. For more information, call 982-5556.

CAC security concerns

Recently there was an issue reported concerning the scanning of an active duty members' Common Access Card to receive military discounts. Officials are reminding Airmen to not allow any person in an unofficial government capacity (i.e. commercial businesses, hotel or motel, bank, etc.) to take control of, scan, swipe or photocopy your CAC cards.

2008 Air Force Ball

The 2008 Air Force Ball is Sept. 19 in Hangar 9 and is open to active duty, reserve, DoD civilians, retirees and local civic leaders. Social hour begins at 5 p.m., with dinner served at 5:45 p.m. A classic buffet will be prepared and served by the McChord Clubs and Community Center staff.

The theme for this year's ball, Berlin to Baghdad: A 60-Year Legacy of Victory through Airlift, was organized to recognize how airlift has played a significant role in the war fighting capa-

bilities of our Air Force.

Tickets can be purchased through an electronic pro rata distributed by e-mail from wing executives. Tickets will no longer be available for purchase after Sept. 10. The cost of tickets for E-1 to E-6 and GS-6 and below is \$15; E-7 to O-3, GS equivalent, retirees and civic leaders is \$20; O-4 and above is \$25. Enlisted Airmen should wear semi-formal or mess dress uniform. Officers should wear mess dress. Civilians should wear a civilian equivalent. For more information or to volunteer to help, contact Capt. Samuel Aston at 982-9450 or Master Sgt. Brian Baker at 982-2925.

Fitness center, annex expanded hours

The Fitness Center and Fitness Center Annex are now offering expanded hours of operation. The Fitness Center is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to midnight and weekends and holidays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Fitness Center Annex is open Monday through Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and closed weekends and holidays.

New Housing Office hours

The McChord Housing Office has revised its hours of operation. Walk-in hours are now 1 to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointment hours are 8 to 11 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For community housing assistance, call 982-5517, and for military housing assistance, call 982-5516.



Faith and Worship Programs

For more information, call the chapel support center at 982-5556.

The following chapel program takes place at the base chapel support center, Bldg. 746, unless otherwise noted:

Adult Bible study is from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Catholic Services:

All Catholic services are in chapel two.

Saturday: 4 p.m. Confession

5 p.m. Mass

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Mass

11 a.m. Mass

Protestant Services:

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Liturgical worship: Chapel one

9:45 a.m. Sunday school for all ages at the chapel support center

11 a.m. Traditional worship: Chapel one

11 a.m. Contemporary service: Chapel support center

Jewish Services:

Friday: 6 p.m. Fort Lewis chapel every 1st, 3rd and 5th at the corner of 12th Street and Liggett Avenue 967-6590

Orthodox Activities:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Nicholas Church, 15th Street and Yakima Avenue, Tacoma

Other services:

Orthodox Christian Community, Cascade Chapel, Fort Lewis

Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Pre-Communion prayers

9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Confession is by appointment only. Call Father John Anderson at 967-1717 or 906-6843 or e-mail father.anderson@us.army.mil.

Schedule of worship services



McChord leads the way

Operation Purple Camp



Photos by Abner Guzman

Mr. Josh Boisvert, camp director and 62nd Force Support Squadron member, briefs campers before they deploy for the night.



Shauna Binkowski, 16, of Fort Lewis points to a photo of her father on the camp's Wall of Honor. Binkowski's father is an Army warrant officer assigned to Fort Lewis.



New friends gather around camper Jordan Brian to sign his cast during camp.



Leah Poje, 18, a McChord family member, runs away from other campers during a game of pursuit. During the week campers were encouraged to use the outdoors as an opportunity to exercise and have fun.

Military children from DoD installations all over Washington flock to Operation Purple Camp for a week of outdoor fun and friendship

BY
Airman 1st Class
Kirsten Wicker

62nd Airlift Wing
Public Affairs

More than 100 children of military parents participated in Operation Purple Camp Aug. 18-22 at Island Lake Camp in Central Kitsap on the Key Peninsula. Approximately 50 were children of McChord's hard-working military personnel.

The camp served as a week-long home to teenagers who have a parent deployed, one who just returned home or one preparing to deploy. This is the third year McChord directed the free camp with support from Fort Lewis, Naval Base Kitsap, The Sierra Club and the local 4-H chapter.

"OPC is about team building, communication and understanding," said Mr. Josh Boisvert, 62nd Force Support Squadron and Purple Camp's director. "We do this to provide a support network where these kids can find common ground with each other through their military link."

McChord's energetic teenagers took advantage of the opportunity to get outside and have fun, playing games, swimming, boating, making arts and crafts and tackling a high-ropes course. They even had a chance to "deploy", spending a night out under the stars, eating Meals Ready to Eat and white water rafting.

"At first I was pretty skeptical about coming here," said camper Molly Clavenna, 14, a McChord family member. "Now that I'm here I'm glad because everyone is in the same situation as me and it helps a lot to have other people your age who know what you are going through."

Children's common deployment worries are that something will happen to their parent, that the parent won't come back as the same person who left, or that they themselves will change, said Kathleen Moakler of the National Military Family Association in Washington, D.C. who visited the camp one of the days.

There are also challenges of new roles and responsibilities, and disappointment when milestones can't be shared, she said.

But that's something the OPC staff confronts head-on, Mr. Boisvert said. "Our goal is to give them the tools to deal with it, have fun and send them home with positive new experiences under their belt," he said.

Kraig Looney, 15, is from Lake Stevens. "His stepfather deploys soon for his second Army Reserve tour in Iraq." He'll have to become the man of the house. He said he's "kinda, sorta, not really" looking forward to that.

"Trying to organize the whole thing's going to be tough," Kraig said. "Of course you're stressed out and worried, but you have to work through it."

This year, there will be 100 weeks of Operation Purple camps held in 62 locations across the nation. "Operation Purple Camp began with 12 camps organized across the country to bring kids together from all the branches of the armed services."



Airman 1st Class Ana Leal-Morales, a camp counselor and 62nd FSS member, instructs campers on the rules of an outdoor game.