



The GUNFIGHTER

Volume 16, Number 18

366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

May 14, 2004

Newsline

Air Force award

Congratulations to TSgt. **Ronald Newpher**, AEFB, who was selected as the Air Force Battlelab Project Officer of the Year in the NCO category.

Scholarship awards

Congratulations to the recipients of the combined enlisted and officers spouses clubs scholarship campaign. Applicants were judged on academic excellence, community involvement, and educational goals. The Billie J. Havard Spouses Scholarship Winners were:

Ms. **Nancy Seroski**, Ms. **Amber Cok**, Ms. **Alexis Deutscher**, Ms. **Erlinda Valerio**, Ms. **Crystal Davila**, Ms. **Sandya Falls** and Ms. **Ann Marie Kenyon**. The First Command Education Foundation High School Scholarship Winner was Ms. **Laura Rush**. The high school academic scholarship winners were Mr. **Andrew Grodi**, Mr. **Eric Conte** and Ms. **Sarrah Benoit**. The vocational scholarship winner was Ms. **Erin Goelze**. The awards were presented at the scholarship ceremony Tuesday at the Gunfighters Club.

FTAC winners

Congratulations to A1C **Micah Hanauer**, 366th Communications Squadron, for being selected as the first term airmen center's Sharp Troop for Class 04-Q.

Congratulations also go to A1C **Linda Pantoja**, 366th Civil Engineer Squadron, for receiving the Class 04-Q Razor Sharp award for excellence in dress and appearance.

Award of excellence

Congratulations to Mr. **James Diefenderfer**, Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab, who was awarded the Crystal Award of Excellence for graphic designs created for the AEFB Ideas Campaign.

IM of the quarter

Congratulations to the 366th Fighter Wing Information Managers of the quarter:

A1C **Marcus Penn**, 366th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; SSgt. **Audrey Lay**, 366th AMXS and MSgt. **James Westhoek**, 366th Operations Group.

Loading competition

The 366th Fighter Wing annual weapons load competition is scheduled for 10 a.m. May 20 in Hangar 208. Crews from all three squadrons will load simultaneously. For more information call SSgt. Harvey Williams at 828-6205.

Case lot sale

A case lot sale is scheduled for today through Sunday at the base commissary. A list of the items carried is located in the store at the front desk. Quantities are limited to cases on hand.

Red Cross events

The Red Cross is hosting a blood drive May 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the community center. They are also looking for summer youth volunteers. For more information about these events call 828-7535 or email at reysan.price@mthome.med.osd.mil.

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Photos by SSgt Kathy Myles

A 366th Fighter Wing jet takes flight Wednesday over looking the 23rd Fighter Squadron jets from Spangdahlem Air Base Germany.

Hawks fly over Gunfighter country

Members of the 23rd Fighter Squadron "Hawks" stationed at Spangdahlem AB, Germany are flying over in Gunfighter country throughout May for training.

This training is in conjunction with Gunfighter's regular flying and the Hawks are being hosted by the 366th Operations Group.

"The objective of the deployment is to accomplish heavy-weight weapons deliveries and low-altitude training that is not available in Germany," said Capt. Jason Cockrum, 23rd FS.

The team of more than 160 Spangdahlem personnel and 12 F-16CJs will fly in sorties with all three Gunfighter squadrons, getting a chance to see local airspace and Gunfighter ranges while here.

"We have received outstanding support from 366th Fighter Wing squadrons," the captain said.

Moving 160 people and the equipment they need to do

their jobs can be difficult and was the most difficult part of they visit so far, according to Capt. Cockrum. This visit is being assisted by units all over base.

"Fuels, contracting, communications, maintenance and billeting have all gone above and beyond to welcome the 'Hawks,'" said Capt. Cockrum.

"As Gunfighters, we are privileged every day to train as an integrated team on the best backyard range in the Air Force," said Col. Dave Goldfein, 366th OG commander.

"Opening this opportunity to our fellow airmen from the 23 FS is absolutely critical to

improving our lethality Air Force wide. Sharing innovative tactics and techniques is central to our continual evolution as Expeditionary Combat leaders...Gunfighters...who forge ideas into airpower!" (*Gunfighter public affairs*)

"The objective of the deployment is to accomplish heavy-weight weapons deliveries and low-altitude training that is not available in Germany."

Capt. Jason Cockrum
23rd Fighter Squadron



Capt. Sean Penrod, 23rd Fighter Squadron, reviews pre-flight checks with SSgt. Daniel Mueller, a maintenance crew chief.

Commander's Hotline

This Hotline is your direct line to me.

It's your opportunity to make Mountain Home AFB a better place to live and work.

I review every response to Hotline questions, but functional experts prepare most responses.

If possible, you should first contact the organization responsible for the problem or function.

Your first sergeants, commanders and agency chiefs want to help, so please let them try.

If you do not know how to proceed or if you have already tried your chain of command, then do not hesitate to contact the Hotline at 828-6262 or CommandersHotline@mountainhome.af.mil.

Not all Hotlines are published, but if you leave your name and phone number or e-mail address, I will make sure you get a reply.



Col. Blair Hansen

Col. Blair Hansen

366th Fighter Wing commander



Photo by SSgt Chris Campbell

Splash down

Col. Cesar Rodriguez gets cooled off after his 390th Fighter Squadron fini-flight May 6.

Secretary, chief send Armed Forces Day message

Editors note: The following is an Armed Forces Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

"Since 1949, America has paid tribute to its men and women in uniform by celebrating Armed Forces Day on the third Saturday in May.

Grateful Americans in every state will hold parades and fly Old Glory to honor those who have worn the uniform either as a Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine.

"It is indeed an important time to be a member of our

nation's Armed Forces and especially to be an Airman. America needs your service today as much, if not more, than any other time in our country's history.

"America's security is a global issue as we continue the fight in the war on terrorism. Our country needs your steadfast devotion to protecting the freedoms we enjoy.

"Today, we serve a grateful nation. From shore to shore, Americans are proud of your professional competence, combat capabilities and unwavering courage to defend our country.

"They have seen firsthand your efforts in the mountains

of Afghanistan and the skies over Iraq and your steadfastness in protecting our homeland. They have reveled with us in your triumphs and cried with us when we lose brothers and sisters in battle.

"You represent the pride and patriotism of the United States. You are the standard for sacrifice, devotion and bravery. We are proud to serve with you.

"On this Armed Forces Day, let's remember those who came before us and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. May God bless all of you and our great nation."

Prepare to get focused: announcing a new NCO organization

By TSgt. Bobby Gale
Focus 56 president

A new Non-Commissioned Officer Organization called *Focus 56* has been established within Mountain Home AFB, Idaho.

The first of its kind on base, the organization will "focus" on junior enlisted members within the ranks of E-5 and E-6, (hence

the "56"). The goal of this group is for NCOs to educate each other while mentoring Airmen.

Focus 56 will spearhead the delivery of Airmen enhancement seminars every month starting in June. NCOs from throughout the wing will teach the seminars.

"By educating each other we develop stronger leaders."

Focus 56 motto

The object is to get everyone "back to the basics" and reinforce the pride in being a member of the greatest Air Force in the world.

Focus 56 Vision Statement: "Non-Commissioned Officers set the standard for discipline, motivation and morale through

parallel mentorship and accountability."

Focus 56 motto: "By educating each other we develop stronger leaders." Education starts with identifying and correcting the problems that exist within our own enlisted ranks so that we can effectively train the leaders of the future.

For more information contact TSgt. Bobby Gale, Focus 56 President at 828-6292 or SSgt. Sara Johnson, secretary at 828-3218.

AADD made 12 saves in May, 107 in 2004

Last DUI:

(As of noon Thursday)

366th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Days without a DUI:

10



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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless indicated.

Deadlines: All articles intended for publication in *The Gunfighter* must be submitted to the 366th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs Office, 366 Gunfighter Ave., Bldg. 512, Suite 314, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho 83648, by noon Friday. All submissions will be considered for publication based on news value and timeliness. Every article and photograph will be edited for accuracy, clarity, brevity and appropriateness. All articles will be edited to conform with the AP Stylebook and Libel Manual as stipulated in Air Force Instruction 35-101.

Coverage: Coverage of upcoming events should be arranged in advance by calling the public affairs office at 828-6800 or by sending an electronic message to pa.news@mountainhome.af.mil.

Classified Ads: Free classified advertisements of a non-commercial nature are published in *The Gunfighter* on a space-available basis. Free advertising is limited to Air Force people (active and retired), Department of Defense civilian employees and their family members. Ad forms are available in Bldg. 512. Deadline for free classified advertisements is 5 p.m. Monday.

Rack 'em up – Annual Gunfighter winners



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Law Day 2004

Law professor spoke at free breakfast

By SrA. Sergio Aguirre
Gunfighter public affairs

The legal office hosted Law Day 2004 Tuesday in the Gunfighters Club ballroom. As part of the celebration they invited noted legal analyst and law professor Ms. Laurie Levenson to speak at the Law Day breakfast.

"Ms. Levenson has a very busy schedule and we were very happy to have her as our guest speaker," said Capt. Manahan, Gunfighter legal. "We appreciate her willingness to share her experiences and knowledge of the legal system, insight and humor."

Ms. Levenson currently teaches at Loyola Law School and was previously an assistant U.S. Attorney in Los Angeles for eight years.

"I wish more people like myself could experience a visit to Mountain Home. I have had a warm welcome and everyone has been so polite and caring," said Ms. Levenson. "This is my first experience with the military and it has been very positive."

The topic of the speech given by Ms. Levenson was

the effect of media on the legal system. Ms. Levenson has worked as a legal consultant for CBS, NBC, ABC, CNN and NPR and has appeared in more than 6,000 newspaper articles.

More than 40 guests attended the celebration, including 366th Fighter Wing vice commander Col. Ted Thompson, 366th Mission Support Group commander Col. Robert Lemmon and various distinguished visitors from the surrounding area.

After the speech members were given the chance to ask questions regarding media and the role it plays in today's legal system.

"She ended up changing my views on several things such as media in the courtroom," said TSgt. Annette Neely, 726th Air Control Squadron. "She pointed out that the media is an open eye into the legal system and the way it is operated. It's the basis of our justice system."

"I think the question and answer session went well and really demonstrated how knowledgeable she is about the behind-the-scenes details involved in these high-profile cases," said Capt. Manahan. "While still flawed our evolving justice system is the best in the world."



Photos by MSgt. Elise Mathias



Race for the cure

Maj. William Morrison, 366th Mission Support Squadron commander, (center of photo) runs with a grin Saturday. Gunfighters relayed American and wing flags through the 5k Susan G. Korman Race of the Cure in Boise. More than 250 Gunfighters joined the 9,300 Idahoans.

Car show May 22 at Holt Air Park

By Mr. Ron Dillion
366th Services Squadron

The 2nd annual Gunfighter Car Show returns to Holt Air Park May 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. More than 100 custom cars and motorcycles are expected to be on display.

Vehicle owners can register to enter their "custom rides" right up to the morning of the show. More than 30 different classes are available for cars, trucks and motorcycles. Participants receive a T-shirt. This event is open to the public.

Each vehicle that drives on base must have a licensed driver and must stay on the designated route leading to Holt Park. Any deviations from the route may result in ejection from the base.

In conjunction with the car show, the Outlaw Lawn Dragsters (O.L.D.) will hold a competitive meet at Holt Air Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. These highly-modified machines can hit 60 miles per hour in just two seconds and often race and win against drag racing cars in short-course drag races.

"We are really excited about this year's car show," said Ms. Raquel Penn, event director. "We will have more cars on display than ever before and the lawnmower races will help take the event to the next level. They are just incredibly fun to watch."

Adding to the show, the America's Kids Run is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. in the park. This event is for children, ages 5 to 13, and offers running distances of a half-mile to more than two miles.

There is no entry fee and the first 100 registrants receive a free America's Kids Run T-shirt. Pre-registration is available at the community center, youth center or fitness center. Off-base registration is available at the Mountain Home Parks and Recreation office.

"This will be an enjoyable kids run," said Ms. Diana Lawson, run director. "The emphasis is not on winning, but rather on having fun and creating healthy attitudes about exercise and sports. There will be plenty of people on hand to clap and cheer for these young athletes."

For more information on the car show call 828-4590 and for kids run information call 828-2501. If interested in reserving Holt Air Park for events, contact the protocol office at 828-4536.

Briefly

Motorcycle rodeo

The Gunfighter Motorcycle Advisory Council's first ever motorcycle rodeo is May 26 at noon on the north side parking lot of the 726th Air Control Squadron. One- and two-person games will be held as well as a bike show. Booster clubs and fund raising organizations interested in setting up booths should contact MSgt. Ken Loftus at 828-3951 or 794-8092. For more information call MSgt. Martin Clifton at 828-1104 or 724-9661.

LRS problems

Having logistical difficulties? Then contact the 366th Logistics Readiness Squadron customer service office for all logistics concerns. TSgt. Abayoni Tobias or TSgt. Gene Prescott at 828-2942 and 828-6168 can help.

Heritage celebrations

There is an Asian-Pacific American Heritage Committee meeting today at 10 a.m. in the Gunfighters Club Doom lounge to discuss observation events. The Asian-Pacific American Heritage Committee is hosting various events throughout May to include an Expo at the youth center today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A passport youth event at the youth center is scheduled for May 20 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For more information, call the military equal opportunity office at 828-2751.

Visitor's center renovation

The base visitor's center is undergoing a renovation project. During the renovation, restricted area badges will be issued by appointment only. Visitor and contractor passes will be issued from a trailer in the parking lot. For more information, call 828-6098 or 828-6568.

Reveille, retreat, Taps actions

The following actions are required during reveille, retreat and Taps:

Military in uniform: Stand at attention, face flag or music if flag is not visible; salute until music ends.

Military in civilian or athletic clothes: Stand at attention, face the flag or music if flag is not visible; place right hand over heart.

Civilians: Face the flag or music if flag is not visible, and place right hand over heart

People operating or passengers in a vehicle: Everyone on base is required to pull their car over to the side of the road and sit quietly until the music ends.

AAFES holiday hours

The following are the Army and Air Force Exchange Service hours of operation for Memorial Day:

Autopride 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Main store 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Anthony's pizza, Robin Hood and GNC 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Theater 7 p.m.

Laundromat 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Burger King, Military Clothing Sales Store, alteration, laundry/dry cleaning, Moxie, wireless, barber, beauty, flower shops are closed.

Recruiter/MTI team

The Air Education and Training Special Duty Briefing Team will brief special-duty assignment opportunities June 8 in the base theater at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hospital water outage

The 366th Medical Group has a scheduled water outage Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is a possibility that some patients presenting to the emergency room may need to be diverted to another hospital.

Golf course closed

The Sliver Sage golf course will closed Sunday through Tuesday for aeration. The clubhouse and pro shop will be open.

CHC meeting

The next Combined Heritage Counsel meeting is May 25 at 11:30 a.m. in Afterburners.

COMPUSEC: Phishing season never ends don't let them hook you

Ms. Terry Pobst-Martin
366th Communication Squadron

Many people feel they can get away with ignoring some computer security requirements, but what if ignoring COMPUSEC cost you money? Many people have never heard of the term "Phishing" but are aware of scamming spam e-mails that enable crooks to take hundreds or even thousand of dollars from their victims.

Those who have read about any of these scams think they are too smart to fall for any of these scams – they shouldn't count on it.

Phishing is what the Internet security community calls the high-quality spoofing spam e-mails that can be designed well enough to trick even a wary Internet power-user.

It will look professional and will have logos, links and other attributes that can foster belief that it really is from a legitimate company. Often, they appear to be from banks, Internet service providers and even retailers.

According to the Anti-Phishing Working Group, <http://www.antiphishing.org>, up to five percent of recipients may respond to the scam e-mails resulting in financial losses, identity theft and other fraudulent activity.

One of the worst cases was an e-mail professing to be from America Online, an internet service provider. The site linked the unlucky customer to a security statement which led to a professional AOL-like Web page.

The page had a form to fill out with credit card information just like one would see if they were signing up for the service.

This type of professionally executed site fools more than the average Phishing quarry because some criminals are able to scam not just the look of the real site but also the Web address in the address bar.

Many ask how these criminals get away with it. Many would think that a website that has a known web host address could easily be found and shut down. Unfortunately, many of the sites are actually hosted overseas in areas where it's difficult to take legal action.

All is not lost, however. There are ways to help the unsuspecting person from being hooked. According to I Defense, Inc., various companies are developing software to help identify Phishy e-mails.

Furthermore, I Defense says that companies and security analysts are proposing secure digital signatures to be sent with any e-mail that would ask for private or financial information.

This would be similar to the DoD Public Key Infrastructure which is now available on government computers.

One reason for companies to consider using digital signatures is that many informed customers are starting to ignore legitimate e-mail requests for information because they won't trust any e-mail asking for private or financial information.

That's the smart direction to go since every Internet user must look at each e-mail with a degree of skepticism.

Members should note COMPUSEC is just as important at home as it is in the workplace.

"By Law" Designation May Miss Intended Beneficiaries

Capt. Joseph Manahan
Gunfighter legal office

Many service members have designated their insurance benefits be distributed "by law". Yet many are unaware of the impact it has on who receives this benefit.

Most service members understand the value of being able to leave up to \$250,000 to their loved ones via their servicemembers group life insurance 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 step-parents.

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 his natural mother who had abandoned him as a child. 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 change bases, 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.

If you have any questions pertaining to your SGLI benefits, please visit your military personnel flight or a legal assistance attorney.

Gunfighter nurses and technicians celebrate national nurses week

By Capt. Tina Porter
366th Medical Group

"Nursing is the oldest of the arts and the youngest of the professions" according to Brig. Gen. Barbara C. Brannon, the Assistant Air Force Surgeon General For Nursing.

The work of America's 2.7 million registered nurses to save lives and to maintain the health of millions of individuals is the focus of this year's National Nurses Week, celebrated annually May 6 through 12 throughout the United States.

"Nurses: Your Voice, Your Health, Your Life" is the theme for 2004. National Nurses Week opened May 6, the traditional National Nurses Day marked as RN Recognition Day, and ends May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession.

During this week, 366th Medical Group registered nurses and aerospace medical service technicians were honored by leadership luncheons, doctors provided a Saturday morning breakfast, a pizza dinner and culminated with a retreat ceremony Wednesday.

Of the 2.7 million registered nurses 3,711 are Air Force nurses; 2,344 with a bachelor's degree, 1,352 with a mas-

ters degree and 15 with a doctorate.

Gunfighter nurses are supported by aerospace medical service technicians.

All aerospace medical service technicians are nationally registered emergency medical technicians. Some have additional training and certification and are Independent Duty Medical Technicians or Licensed Practical Nurses.

Technicians together with nurses compose the 366th Medical Group nursing staff and are responsible for the well being of active-duty troops, family members and retirees during both peacetime and wartime.

The 366th Medical Group nursing staff is vital in preventing, maintaining and promoting the health of the Gunfighter's 17,200-member

population.

Gunfighter nurses and technicians ensure optimal health and highest combat readiness of the wing.

They are assigned to the expeditionary medical support package and two air transportable clinics.

A total of 725 Air Force nurses and 1,603 aerospace medical service technicians are currently de-

ployed to 24 EMEDS, supporting operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and have treated more than 171,000 people. Recently several of our Gunfighter medics returned from deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Traditionally, National Nurses Week is devoted to highlighting the diverse ways in which registered nurses, the largest health care profession, are working to improve health care.

From bedside nursing in hospitals and long-term care facilities to the halls of research institutions, state legislatures, and Congress, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the expanding health care needs of American society.

Hardly anyone really likes to go to the doctor, but most would agree that one factor can make a visit to the doctor's office much less stressful: the presence of a caring, calming professional nursing staff.

Nurses practically define the concept of patient care-in both senses of the word "patient." So it's only fitting that one week each year, the rest of us have a chance to show nurses and aerospace medical service technicians how much we care for them.



Driving safety is duty, part of daily life for everyone on base

By SrA. Sergio Aguirre
Gunfighter public affairs

Many city, state and government officials find themselves trying to combat a growing problem: driving safety.

Many people may go for years or sometimes their entire lives without ever being involved in a vehicle accident, but the reality is driving fatalities are up. Gunfighters should be aware of this fact and remember to practice safe driving habits at all times.

Idaho continues to be well above the national average for driving under the influence fatalities and has more than twice the number of some states.

However, driving under the influence fatalities account for 34 percent of Idaho highway deaths. This leaves 66 percent of deaths to drivers not practicing safe driving habits while sober according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

One way drivers can be safe is to implement better driving habits. Acknowledging other drivers for their driving habits is a good way to stay in tune with personal driving environments. Drivers should extend courtesies such as moving over to allow others to pass, proper signaling and ensuring safe following distances. Members should also acknowledge other drivers who extend this courtesy to them. Drivers share the road together and by treating other drivers respectfully, road safety and situational awareness is increased.

Tailgating is a road safety issue. Years ago driver's education courses taught a one-second-per-10-mph rule

thereby allowing a safe cushion for reaction to the car in front. Automobiles have come a long way and so has tire technology since then, but the rule was taught for a reason. To better avoid a fatal situation or to avoid causing one, leave a cushion of time to increase safety. A minimum of one-car length per 10 mph should be implemented according to most instructors. By having the time to react to the situation in front of them, drivers may be able to avoid the accident all together.

Signaling is a courtesy to other drivers who share the road. By signaling properly and respectfully, Gunfighters can avoid potential road hazards such as road rage, abrupt or unsafe lane changes and distractions.

Concentrating on the task at hand is crucial to maintaining a safe driving experience. Cell phones, small talk, make-up, shaving, beverages, eating and other tasks not associated with driving should be avoided.

Research has shown that these actions increase the likelihood of vehicle accidents significantly and some states have taken steps to ban the use of cell phones while driving. Again drivers should focus on driving to maintain the situational awareness necessary to spot potential accidents.

Accidents such as multi-car pile-ups are caused by many unsafe driving habits.

Tailgating, inattentive drivers and speeding play a role in the cause of 30-plus car pile-ups. These accidents are also more probable in dense traffic zones and around road construction projects.

Speed is a universal factor in all road fatalities. Whether under the influence or sober, speeding raises the consequences of even the smallest of driving errors. With the

trend of larger vehicles growing daily, drivers have more responsibility while driving. A two-ton sport utility vehicle does not stop, turn or accelerate like a normal mid-size sedan. As such, drivers need to learn and understand the capabilities of their vehicles and know their limits. Larger vehicles need more time to stop and accelerate. This presents a spatial relationship change for a driver used to driving a smaller sedan or sports coupe.

Education is a key weapon in the fight against driver fatalities. Drivers who know their vehicle, have situational awareness and are attentive have a better chance of recognizing and avoiding fatal situations. Gunfighters should review proper driving habits and take driving refresher courses when available.

One factor to remember is that even the practice of safe driving habits does not protect members from being involved in an accident. Members should always wear their seat belts. This one step has been proven to reduce the chances of death significantly and is military law.

"In the majority of the accidents we have investigated the usage of seat belts has always been positive. The only accidents we have investigated and found that members did not use them were fatalities," said TSgt. Robert Foster, Gunfighter safety.

"If I could say one thing to Gunfighters it would be to slow down and buckle up."

By keeping their driving skills sharp and ready, Gunfighters will be better prepared to not become a statistic. To learn more about driving safety or to sign up for an instructional course call ground safety at 828-1805. There are still 27 slots open for safety's next class.

Got a comment? Put it on ICE

Online system allows customers to evaluate base services

By Ms. Patricia Playle
366th Services Squadron

There's never been an easier way to express opinions about base services and products.

The Interactive Customer Evaluation system at Mountain Home AFB is a Web-based customer feedback system that allows customers get in touch with each services facility manager with the click of a mouse.

It also enables customers to fill out the comment questionnaire from the comfort of their home or office.

"The whole goal of this program is to improve our customer service," said Mr.

Ron Dillon, services marketing director. "The comments go directly to the facility manager and flight chief."

Once a customer completes the survey, the system sends near real-time comments, suggestions, complaints or compliments directly to the appropriate product or services provider manager. Additionally, the system calculates customer services ratings each week and reports trend data to management.

Only the manager and flight chief have access to the customer's comments. Comments are confidential, but remember to include your name and contact information

if you want a reply.

"We have asked the facility managers to respond within 72 hours," said Mr. Dillon.

Managers will use the feedback to continuously review and improve the services offered. The services squadron wants to provide the highest quality service possible.

ICE began as a joint project sponsored by the quality management office in Washington, D.C., U.S. European Command and the Army's 6th Area Support Group in Stuttgart, Germany.

There are many benefits with the new computerized customer input system.

"The use of new technology provides

answers to questions faster than ever and reduces paper," said Lt. Col. Glenn Winkler, 366th Services Squadron commander. "All of our customer input used to be received through paper comment cards and ICE offers another, paperless means of submitting comments."

"For those who prefer paper and pen, customers at Mountain Home AFB may still rate our services with the paper satisfaction cards available at all our facilities."

To access the information on Mountain Home AFB facilities, go to www.MHAFBservices.com and click on the ICE logo, or visit their website at <http://ice.disa.mil>.

For questions regarding the ICE system, contact Ms. Summer Purcell at 828-4574.



Photo by SSgt Chris Campbell

Got cake?

Col. Blair Hansen, 366th Fighter Wing commander, opens the Asian American Pacific heritage ceremony May 7 in Liberty Chapel.

Family child care children learn that fitness can be fun

By Ms. Summer Purcell
366th Services Squadron

Family child care homes participated with children across the United States exercising simultaneously May 5.

All children exercising simultaneously is a national project that has schools and daycares from 50 states participate.

In 1989, a physical education teacher in

New Jersey started Project ACES to promote physical education during May also known as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. The teacher had no idea it would grow so quickly into a worldwide event.

The first Wednesday in May each year millions of children all over the globe exercise together at the same time as part of Project ACES.

"I thought it would be a lot of fun for the

FCC providers to represent Idaho in this project.

"We had relay races, an obstacle course of hurdles, a ground ladder, hopscotch rings, jump ropes, balls, a gymnastics mat and various games and music," said Ms. Greta Raney, base family child care coordinator.

Right: Ms. Sara Foster assists a child during a race held at the base soccer fields as part of All Children Exercising Simultaneously observance May 5.



Air Force photos

Loving hands

Above: Ms. Aileen Kong, an infant one room provider, comforts Dawson Laun while he watches a mobile spin. Right: Ms. Jo Powell, a toddler two provider, checks on one of her charges during nap-time at the child development center Wednesday.

