

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- Times change, missions change, and concepts change, but Kingsley Airman remain a timeless force of excellence and resilience. The Change of Command ceremony on May 6th, 2012 was a proud representation of this legacy. Lt. Col. Jeff Edwards left command of the 173rd Maintenance Squadron and stepped into the top leadership role for the 114th Fighter Squadron. In his outgoing remarks, Edwards thanked those involved in the ceremony including, Col. Jeff Silver, *(Continued on page 3)*

Above: Lt. Col. Jeff Edwards steps into command of the 114th Fighter Squadron and Lt. Col. Jeff Smith takes over command of the 173rd Maintenance Squadron, May 6th, 2012. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Penny Hamilton)

Fresno F-16s visit Kingsley for 'dissimilar' training

By Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.-

For a few days in May Klamath Falls residents were treated to a different noise than they are used to here in the basin.

The reason: A number of single engine F-16 aircraft flying dissimilar air combat training from the 144th Fighter Wing in Fresno, son, Calif. Unlike the hirs F-15 air superiority fighter these aircraft are smaller and lighter and provide an effective opportunity for both wings' pilots to break out of normal flying scenarios and try something different.

"We came up here to provide dissimilar training for the students," said Capt.

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A 144th Fighter Wing F-16 from Fresno, Calif., sits at the ready during a visit for dissimilar air combat training. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Penny Hamilton)



Open letter by Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy

The United States Air Force is the world's most advanced air, space and cyberspace force. Most of that can be attributed to you -- our outstanding Airmen -- but technology also plays a huge role. Advanced tools help us maintain an advantage over our adversaries. Technology has enabled our continuing success.

However, technology also threatens to cripple us.

As electronic communication becomes more widely used, our face-toface interaction skills are beginning to suffer.

We know how to text, Skype, and FaceTime, but some of us seem reluctant to engage in a meaningful faceto-face conversation.

We value technology because it saves us time, provides conveniences and helps us to be more efficient. But we must also recognize its potential to strip us of critical human connection skills.

This high-tech challenge has a

low-tech solution. We need to strike a balance; we must continue to emphasize the importance of technology – a resource we cannot and will not stop exploiting – and at the same time emphasize the importance and value of analog leadership.

Analog leadership means temporarily putting down the iPads and Android tablets, logging out of Facebook and Twitter, and switching phones to airplane mode to stop the stream of texts coming in and out. It

means shutting off the technology and talking to each other.



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy visits with Airmen from the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing June 17, 2011, at the Afghan air force compound in Kabul, Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Brian E. Christiansen)

Face-to-face. One-on-one.

Real human interaction – yes, for some of us it may be awkward at first, but getting to know each other better is an investment that will yield which we can grow more meaningful relationships. And then we can turn the devices back on and use them for their intended purpose: to augment and add value to our real-life rela-

... it may be awkward at first, but getting to know each other better is an investment that will yield incalculable returns.

- Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy

incalculable returns. Stronger connections will create a foundation on have to understand how to use technology, because without it we are not as well-equipped to do our jobs. However, as human beings, we also have to understand how and when not to use technology, because when distracted by it we are not as wellequipped to relate to others.

tionships. As Airmen, we

Thank you for your service and your continued dedication to duty. I look forward to seeing you face-

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to-face as I travel around our great Air Force.



Command changes for 114th FS and 173rd MXS

(Continued from page 1)

173rd Fighter Wing Commander, and Lt. Col. Matt Andrews, 173rd Maintenance Group Commander for giving him the opportunity to command the 173rd Maintenance Squadron.

Edwards thanked his friends and family to include his wife, Teresa and his children, Matthew, Anna, Andrew, Rachel, Sarah, and James as well as his parents Doug and Patty Edwards.

He congratulated Lt. Col. Jeff Smith who followed his footsteps, stepping into the vacated position of 173rd MXS Commander. He highlighted the proven capabilities of the maintenance squadron as well as the future challenges of sustaining a 30-year-old jet.

"You are now the Commander of the 173rd MXS, the most talented maintenance professionals anywhere in the Air National Guard."

Finally, Edwards thanked the men and women of the 173rd MXS. "Thank you for your dedication and hard work. It has been a privilege. I now deeply appreciate the enormous amount of work that goes into getting a jet in the air."

In his remarks as the new commander of the 114th Fighter Squadron, Edwards expressed his gratitude for the opportunity and his excitement to be a part of a great team. He encouraged the fighter squadron to continue to shine and reach new heights of excellence in the face of new challenges.

"The Air National Guard, the Air Force, and our Nation are relying on us to train Eagle Drivers to be better than any other pilots in the world," said Edwards.

Edwards also highlighted the importance of people in accomplishing the mission, noting that our fellow Airmen are our greatest resources. "We



Above: Lt. Col. Jeff Smith's son approaches him during the change of command ceremony, providing a light-hearted moment. **Right:** Smith poses with his family members who attended the ceremony.

Below: Lt. Col. Jeff Edwards poses with his family in front of his jet.

cross the finish line together as a team, not as individuals."

As Smith stepped in as the new commander for the 173rd MXS, he also thanked Silver and Andrews for the opportunity to command, and expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to his family including his wife Lindsay, their two sons Luke and Alex, his parents Dennis and Pat, and his father and mother-in-law Don and Rayna Larson.

Smith congratulated Edwards in a job well done as commander of the Maintenance Squadron.

"You are an outstanding role model and leader and you will be missed," he said.

Next, Smith spoke to the men and women of the 173rd MXS.

"This maintenance organization stands out as the most competent, professional, proud, and missionoriented that I have ever seen," he said.

Smith challenged the Mainte-





nance Squadron to continue their excellence by continuing to look for more efficient and effective methods, by maintaining high ethical standards, and by continuing to go above and beyond with

(Continued on next page)



Joint Forces Reserve Center is open

Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Jefferson Thompson, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. --

Some Kingsley Field members may remember when Security Forces resided in the command building and were moved to an older building to await completion of a new state-ofthe-art facility.

The plans were ready and approved, but due to an ever-changing environment here in the state, funding was alternately tied up or the project was changed a number of times—forestalling it.

Ten years later it's all water under the bridge according to Senior Master Sgt. Mike Shepherd who moved his things from his old office to a brand new office at the beginning of June.

"This place is nice! You may notice that there is air conditioning and it's on," he said with a smile on his face on the first 90-degree day of the 2012 summer.



Master Sgt. Levi Clarey stands in front of his first big job since moving to the new building, organizing one of several equipment shelves.

The old building originally intended as a stop-gap measure didn't have air conditioning and Shepherd mentioned a rumor of central heat but couldn't confirm it.

"This building is very efficient in a lot of ways," he said. "The space is smaller in square feet but we actually use all of it so it feels bigger; the whole building has skylights so I have yet to turn on my office lights and it's well insulated so both heat and AC feel great!"

In fact, the new facility conforms to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver Standards, and meets or exceed the requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

When asked if most of the security forces troops are happy, he replied "absolutely," with emphasis.

"This building has been a long time coming and it's good to finally getting the whole squadron under one roof instead of four separate buildings," said Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Stickel, 173rd Security Forces Manager.

The project represents the first half of a joint forces reserve center concept which will eventually include the Oregon Army National Guard Charlie Troop, 1-82nd Cavalry, Oregon Army National Guard when the funding is made available.

173rd Security Forces members got the green light to start their move June 1. As of today the building is still somewhat empty and Shepherd expects the lion's share of the move to be completed by the July UTA.

The construction fence around the Armed Forces Reserve Center is gone, of course, but it has only moved next door to the now vacant Building 207. Construction crews are set to begin tearing that building down.

173rd Changes of Command

(Continued from previous page)

safety, enjoyment, and pride guiding the way.

"Every day you help provide new pilots and their instructors with safe, operational, and lethal machinery," said Smith. "My hat is off to you, and I am immensely proud to join this organization."

Silver applauded Edwards and Smith for their history of excellence and success. He also welcomed them both to their new missions.

"Selection for command is evidence that you have demonstrated technical proficiency in your job, displayed leadership in your former positions, and that your supervisors have trust in your ability to lead and manage critical pieces of the Fighter Wing," added Silver.

He went on to emphasize the importance of taking care of people as the most important resource, saying, "Remember that your people do not work for you, you work for your people. If you stay humble and put your people first, you will always be successful."

Both Edwards and Smith begin their new assignments as commanders of highly effective and competent units. They also begin their work as commanders in times of change and challenge. Yet, with the combination of both demonstrated excellence and resilience, the future looks bright.



270th Air Traffic Control Squadron: A dual mission, a vital exercise

Commentary by 2nd Lt. Heather Bashor, 173rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- Kingsley Field consists of a number of excellent and extremely competent units. The 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron exudes such excellence and competency. Not only does the 270th accomplish their daily mission, controlling fixed base air space over Kingsley, they also perform the important mission of maintaining a high level of readiness as a mobile, selfcontained Air Traffic Control System for the Air Force.

To maintain a high level of readiness, the 270th ATCS conducts an annual training exercise. Their mission: To complete a two phase exercise preparing their unit to be ready for deployment within 72 hours of tasking, to maintain the capability to set up operational ATC services within a specified amount of time upon arrival to the deployment location, and to simulate 30 days in theatre of sustained ATC operations. The 270th ATCS conducted their vigorous annual training exercise in June.

The simulated exercise follows the same timeline and breakdown of events inherent to a real-world situation. Phase I ensures all members have all key deployment items accomplished and ready to go. The exercise simulates all aspects of deployment preparations to include deployment briefings and a deployment line.

Capt. Michael Balzotti, the commander of the 270th ATCS stated, "The tasking could come at 9 tonight and in 72 hours we would be ready to go."

And so the exercise follows and within 72 hours, the 270th is ready

to deploy and the exercise moves into an interim "activation exercise." After simulating movement to a bare base deployment location, the 270th begins the process of determining optimal tower position and setting up their equipment. The goal is to have all three pieces of the self-contained



A C-130 from the 152nd Airlift Wing flies over a Mobile Air Traffic Control Tower and support Hummer deployed to Amedee Army Airfield, Herlong, Calif. Exercises like this help pilots and ground crews from the 270th Air Control Squadron train for unusual and deployed maneuvers. (Photo courtesy Tech. Sgt. Laduska Miller)

system set up in a relatively short amount of time.

For example, "In order to receive an outstanding on an inspection, the mobile tower must be set up and operational within 90 minutes of determining an optimal site for the tower," said 2nd Lt. Alex Fugate, the 270th Chief Air Traffic Control Operations. The self-contained system and equipment is called the Deployable Air Traffic Control and Landing System (DATCALS). It includes the MPN-14K RADAR Approach Control, the MSN-7 Tower, and the TRN-26C Tactical Air Control and Navigation Aid as well as all associated sensors and equipment.

To execute the mission, the 270th relies on a team of air traffic controllers, maintainers, and various other career fields each of vital importance. Due to this team effort, the 270th has the capability to operate at a barebase location.

Phase II of the exercise begins

once all three pieces of the system are ready to operate. Phase II simulates 30 days of operations in theatre. Scenarios are thrown at personnel to test their ability to survive and operate.

"Events may include anything from medical incidents, personnel issues, missile attacks, or equipment malfunctions," said Balzotti.

This specialized unit and amazing team is one of only ten ATC squadrons in the ANG." Fugate said. "The Air National Guard has a significant chunk of the overall DATCALS capabilities for the Air Force."

"The Air National Guard has provided 50-percent of the Mobile Air Traffic Control capabilities for the Air Force during the Global War on Terrorism," said Balzotti.

The 270th bears a huge responsibility and a vital mission. They are a group of excellent, intelligent, and well trained Airmen who are an United States Air Force asset. They are a part of an Air Guard Traffic Control legacy which is tried and true.



U-2 "Spy planes" sighted at Kingsley Field?

Story by Capt. Ryan Bartholomew, 173rd Fighter Wing Historian



An Air Force U-2 out of Beale AFB, Calif., flies a training mission. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. Rose Reynolds)

KLAMATH FALLS,

Ore. -- During the past few months you may have glanced out at runway 14/32 in the afternoon and seen a U-2s conducting low approaches. Indeed, our relatively quiet 10,000+ ft. runway, our great flying weather and our central location on the west coast make Kingsley an ideal location for flying training not only for our unit but for others.

P-3 Orions from Whidbey Island and F-18 Hornets from west coast bases are also common visitors. Boeing even did a series of tests of their new 787 Dreamliner here last summer.

While it is great to see a variety of aircraft, the P-3s and F-18s rarely garner a second glance. The U-2 is different however. Maybe it's because there are only about 35 U-2s in the Air

Force inventory and seeing one in flight is extremely rare anywhere outside Beale, AFB. Or maybe it's the unique look that grabs our attention for more than just a brief moment.

The U-2 is much more than a unique looking aircraft, it's an aircraft that flies like no other. While it has gone through numerous upgrades since its introduction in 1957, the U-2 takes off and lands like it did 55 years ago.

Between ten and thirty people are needed to launch a U-2, and almost as many are required to land it. Instead of the typical tricycle landing gear, the U-2 uses a bicycle configuration with a forward set of main wheels located just behind the cockpit, and a rear set of main wheels located behind the engine. To maintain balance while taxiing, two auxiliary wheels, called

"pogos" are added for takeoff. These fit into sockets underneath each wing at about mid-span, and fall off during takeoff. The procedure for bringing one down involves a chase car driven by a fellow U-2 pilot and a host of spotters in radio contact. It goes something like this: Slow down, fly down to the deck at around 140 mph. Have chase cars drive on runway, hauling the mail behind you and offering radio advice. Land plane in polite, controlled crash. Don't screw up.

Because of the speeds involved, the chase cars are usually high-performance cars. They wait at the end of the runway, and when the U-2 passes, they burn rubber to keep up, calling out altitude and wing attitude over the radio. When the airplane's main gear is roughly two feet over the runway, the pilot deploys several sets of spoilers and flaps to reduce lift and minimize wing drop, lowers the plane down, slows to a stop while balancing on the two center wheels, and then drops a wingtip to the ground (they have titanium skidplates for this purpose) and stops. The "pogo" wing landing gear that fell off on take-off are then reattached, and the U-2 taxis to its hangar.

While U-2s frequent Kingsley practicing low approaches, due to the specialized equipment and training needed to take-off and land a U-2, it would be impossible for one to land one here....Or would it?

A few years ago at Sentry Eagle a U-2 conducted a demo flight over the airfield. Standing next to me was a man with a long gray beard proudly wearing a Vietnam Veteran hat. He looked over and told me about the U-2 that landed here in the mid 1960s while he was stationed here as part of the Air Police (Security Forces).

I was quick to dismiss this as another improbable myth, but after a quick search of the internet, I certify this Kingsley Legend as "Confirmed".

See the below article for the rest of the story. <u>www.airspacemag.com/</u> <u>military-aviation/Above</u> <u>Beyond_I_Have_a_Flame-</u> <u>out.html_</u>



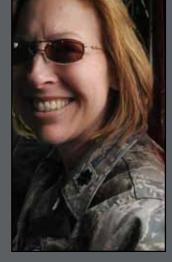
VIGILANT GUARD 2012











Vigilant Guard is a simulated mass casualty exercise that gives local and state emergency responders a chance to integrate with the Air National Guard and the Army National Guard while treating patients from various disaster situations. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Penny J. Hamilton)



Through my eyes: Surviving sexual assault

Story by Airman Daniel B. Blackwell 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C.--

(Editor's note: "This story is a personal account of an actual sexual assault and its aftermath. The names and identities of the individuals involved have been omitted or altered to maintain confidentiality, and all photos are staged illustrations."

"That night, my whole world

turned upside down," said Airman Samantha Smith, a sexual assault survivor in the U.S. Air Force.

On the night Smith was remembering, she became a victim of sexual assault and took her first of many steps down the road of recovery.

Smith attended a party with people whom she believed to be her close, trusted friends. Her attacker knew her boyfriend and accompa-

nied her to the party that night. Smith dismissed warnings from other close friends about her would-be attacker and his motives for spending time with her.

"I should have noticed the signs, but I was naive," Smith said.

At the party, Smith drank alcohol despite the fact she was underage. She became drunk and chose to leave with the male "friend" whom she assumed she could trust.

After the party, he drove her back to his apartment where she wound up spending the night.

"When I awoke, he was having intercourse with me," Smith said. "I knew what was happening. But I was trapped in my own body, paralyzed by fear. No one can understand that feeling unless they've been there. I couldn't fight back, I couldn't scream, I couldn't move. Soon after, I blacked out."

Smith woke up the next morning at 9 a.m. and the man had already left.

"I wish I could forget, but I can't," she said.

She first confided in her mother, then in her close friend as she felt those were the only two she could and engagement as well as the option of investigation.

"I went to work without telling anyone what happened," she said. "I was watching my back and not talking to anyone. If I did talk, I would sound irate or cry for no reason. I wouldn't go anywhere by myself, because I was scared. Everything was triggering my fear and anger.

"I kept blaming myself for what happened," said Smith. "It's my fault;

> my clothes were too skimpy; I drank too much; why couldn't I fight back?

"That same week I started counseling off base," she said. "I always thought counseling was for crazy people. I thought I could suck it up and handle it on my own, I was wrong. But my counselor really helped get me through."

Because Smith filed an unrestricted

report, she was required to speak with the Office of Special Investigations, which investigates major crimes in the Air Force.

OSI instructed Smith to write down all the details she could remember about her assault. After this they questioned her multiple times about the events that took place during and prior to the assault. The initial process took more than five hours and Smith paid three more visits to OSI in the following weeks.

Air Force legal officials decided to file a complaint under Article 120 Rape and Carnal Knowledge. Shortly after pressing charges, Smith received

(Continued on next page)



trust.

"My friend made me call the sexual assault response coordinator line," she said. "I was so afraid I would get in trouble for underage drinking. I used to think the SARC would record what you say and tell your commander, first sergeant and supervisors. I was wrong, way wrong!

"They explained to me the difference between restricted and unrestricted reports. I ended up doing a restricted report at first, but later decided to do an unrestricted report," she said.

A restricted report must be kept confidential and cannot be investigated or prosecuted. An unrestricted report allows command notification



Surviving Sexual Assault, Cont.

(Continued from previous page)

her physical exam results back, which confirmed her fears.

"I had about three pages of evidence that this assault actually occurred," Smith said. "Most people would find three pages of evidence a victory on their part. I didn't. I felt dirty and disgusting.

"The legal process was long and grueling. I felt like a lab rat, with no privacy or rights," she said.

"Throughout this process, I found out that I was not the first girl he had raped. It made me so mad!

"He assaulted (another) about a year prior to me and got away with it," she said. "Knowing this gave me a little more motivation to bring him to court."

The hearing was scheduled in August, and Smith was given the option not to testify. However, if she refused to testify, she was informed that her case had a high probability of being thrown out.

"That day was so nerve-wracking for me," Smith said. "I had to tell my story again in front of more than 10 people, including my attacker. I could feel his eyes burning through me as I talked about what happened."

One week following the initial hearing, Smith received news that they had enough evidence to forward the case to court-martial.

"I didn't want to testify again," Smith explained. "When you're on the stand, they rip your story to pieces. They try to make you seem like the worst Airman there is, like the scum of the earth.

"But, a week before the court martial was to take place, the Area Defense Counsel representing my attacker met with me and explained they were opting to submit a package" to discharge the attacker under less-than-honorable conditions.

"I agreed with it," she said. "As long as I didn't have to see him anymore, I was happy. The Area Defense Counsel then sent the request up the chain of command where it was later approved.

"The day I was told he was be-



ing discharged, I cried tears of joy," she said. "I had a weight lifted off my shoulders. Justice had been served.

"I received a letter of reprimand for underage drinking, which was deserved on my part," she said. "I was blessed not to have received anything worse.

"The LOR gave me more motivation to do better for me, and the Air Force," Smith said.

"To this day I still have flashbacks, night terrors and memories," she said. "It doesn't get any easier. I'm still judged by this. Sadly, I'm known as the girl who cried rape.

"I'm not the rape victim you see on 'Law and Order," Smith explained. "I'm an average Airman who's been through hell and back. "But more importantly, if you're a victim of rape, please come forward to the SARC. The sooner the better," she said.

According to statistics provided by the Department of Defense, about 73 percent of rapes are perpetrated by an individual the victim knows. Also, more than 50 percent of all rape and sexual assault incidents were reported to have occurred within one mile of the victim's home, or at the residence

of a family member or friend.

As recorded by the DOD, 17.7 million American women have been victims of an attempted or completed rape. Of all attempted and completed rapes, about 54 percent are not reported to the police, based on the statistical average over the past five years.

From research provided by the DOD, there are many effects that can manifest in a victims life after an assault has occurred. Complications

can range from, but are not limited to, substance abuse, sleeping and eating disorders, self-harm, flashbacks, suicide or post-traumatic stress disorder to name a few.

Out of every 100 rapes, 46 are reported to the authorities, 12 lead to an arrest, nine are prosecuted, five lead to a felony conviction, three may spend only one day in jail while the other 97 walk free, as recorded by the DOD.

If you would like more information on sexual assault and sexual assault awareness, please visit Rainn. org. This is a Department of Defensesponsored website dedicated to the education, prevention and awareness of sexually based assaults and offenses.



The road to resilience: Factors and strategies

Story courtesy American Psychological Association

A combination of factors contributes to resilience. Many studies show that the primary factor in resilience is having caring and supportive relationships within and outside the family. Relationships that create love and trust, provide role models, and offer encouragement and reassurance help bolster a person's resilience.

Several additional factors are associated with resilience, including: The capacity to make realistic plans and take steps to carry them out; a positive view of yourself and confidence in your strengths and abilities; skills in communication and problem solving; the capacity to manage strong feelings and impulses. All of these are factors that people can develop in themselves.

Some ways to build resilience may be appropriate to consider in developing your personal strategy. Make connections. Good relationships with close family members, friends, or others are important. Accepting help and support from those who care about you and will listen to you strengthens resilience. Some people find that being active in civic groups, faith-based organizations, or other local groups provides social support and can help with reclaiming hope. Assisting others in their time of need also can benefit the helper.

Avoid seeing crises as insurmountable problems. You can't change the fact that highly stressful events happen, but you can change how you interpret and respond to these events. Try looking beyond the present to how future circumstances may be a little better. Note any subtle ways in which you might already feel somewhat better as you deal with difficult situations.

Accept that change is a part of living. Accepting circumstances that cannot be changed can help you focus

on circumstances that you can alter.

Move toward your goals. Do something regularly -- even if it seems like a small accomplishment -- that enables you to move toward your goals. Instead of focusing on tasks that seem unachievable, ask yourself, "What's one thing I know I can accomplish today that helps me move in the direction I want to go?"

Take decisive actions. Act on

adverse situations as much as you can. Take decisive actions, rather than detaching completely from problems and stresses and wishing they would just go away.

Look for opportunities for selfdiscovery. People often learn something about themselves and may find that they have grown in some respect as a result of their struggle with loss. Many people who have experienced tragedies and hardship have reported better relationships, greater sense of strength even while feeling vulnerable, increased sense of self-worth, a more developed spirituality, and heightened appreciation for life.

Nurture a positive view of yourself. Developing confidence in your ability to solve problems and trusting your instincts helps build resilience.

Keep things in perspective. Even when facing very painful events, try to consider the stressful situation in a broader context and keep a long-term perspective. Avoid blowing the event out of proportion.

Maintain a hopeful outlook. An optimistic outlook enables you to expect that good things will happen in your life. Try visualizing what you want, rather than worrying about what you fear.

Take care of yourself. Engage in activities that you enjoy and find relaxing. Exercise regularly.

Additional ways of strengthening resilience may be helpful. For example, some people write about their deepest thoughts and feelings related to trauma or other stressful events in their life. Meditation and spiritual practices help some people build connections and restore hope.

The key is to identify ways that are likely to work well for you as part of your own personal strategy for fostering resilience.

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Major General Carl Skinner visits 173rd Fighter Wing

Major General Carl Skinner, Mobilizations Assistant to the Commander, Air Education and Training Command, sits in the F-15 cockpit trainer during egress training, prior to his flight in an F-15 Eagle at Kingsley Field, Klamath Falls, Ore. June 8, 2012. Skinner visited Kingsley Field to tour the facilities and witness the 173rd Fighter Wing's training mission first hand. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shirar)

Team Kingsley fundraiser helps DRK foundation

TEAM KINGSLEY

173FW OREGON AIR GUARD

Letter by Master Sgt. Jason Witts, Fundraiser Coordinator

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the Team Kingsley t-shirt fundraiser. These t-shirts promote team unity and pride here on our

base and throughout the state. They represent our unique culture here at Kingslev and serve as an emblem of our esprit de corps when we wear them in our community and elsewhere. As I write this we have active duty pilots at RAF Lakenheath, England, and

Kadena AB, Japan, wearing them and representing the 173rd Fighter Wing.

But more importantly the proceeds from this t-shirt support the David R. Kingsley Foundation which directly helps members of our base when they are in need. The foundation can purchase an emergency airline ticket, pay an overdue electric bill, or stand ready for other unknown needs. Every aspect of this fundraiser supports

the wingman con-

cept. Thanks to an interconnected unit, this fundraiser has touched the lives of not only current full time and part time members but also retired Team Kingsley members. In addition, our full time civilian core has joined and supported this fundraiser. With everyone's

help I am proud to say we raised \$950 for the DRK fund. These funds will go directly to the needs of our team members here at 173rd Fighter Wing. Once again, thank you very much, and have a great Air Guard day!

DACT Visit (Continued from page 1)

Matt Eslow, 144th Fighter Wing F-16 Pilot. "And to get some continuous training for ourselves to keep our currencies up. We typically train against ourselves, so it's great to see the abilities of different aircraft and what their capabilities are. And also train ourselves to something different than what we are constantly looking for in a visual arena."

The DACT was also a way for these airmen to gain familiarity with the F-15 mission as plans are in place to transfer the F-15 mission from the Montana Air National Guard to the Fresno unit.

"For the students to see something different when they get to a merge, you know it doesn't have two tails, got the single tail, provides them the opportunity to understand those capabilities that they are going to be working with in the future as well," said Major Richard Giampietri, 173rd Fighter Wing F-15 Pilot

However, in a new development the Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta has directed that aircraft transfers are on hold pending expected legislation authored by Senators Max Baucus and John Tester of Montana blocking transfer of all aircraft through the end of fiscal year 2013.

Panetta states that the issue will be addressed in fiscal year 2014, so the aircraft presumably will move then. In the meantime both visiting and local pilots say it was great training and they enjoyed the opportunity to showcase Kingsley Field hospitality.



Commentary by Senior Airman Shawn Blodgett, 173rd Fighter Wing Junior Enlisted Council President

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. -- The 173rd Fighter Wing Junior Enlisted Council (JENC) recently held its second 5K Run to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project as well as help underprivileged kids in the Klamath Falls community purchase school supplies, June 30, 2012.

We had 72 people participate this year up 20 participants from last year's inaugural event.

The run was terrific and included participants from Kingsley Field and the local community.

Greg Christensen crossed the finish line first at 19:07 and Susie Waugh was the first woman to cross the line.

Runners voiced their support for our troops and for the programs supported by the run.

"I chose to participate because, number one, I wholeheartedly support the Wounded Warrior Program; my husband and I are monthly contributors," said Johanna Applegate, a run participant.

The Wounded Warrior Project's (WWP) purpose is to raise awareness and to enlist public aid for the needs of our injured servicemembers. WWP aims to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of our injured service members.

Applegate also enjoyed the run itself.

"I loved the course," she said. "It was easy to navigate, well marked with no hazards, but it was challenging at times—and yes, I definitely plan to participate again next year!"

The run is sponsored by the Kingsley Field Junior Enlisted Council which represents the junior Airmen of the 173rd Fighter Wing.

Our mission is to provide leader-



Seventy-two participants leave the starting line at the 2nd Junior Enlisted Council Benefit run in Klamath Falls, Ore., June 30, 2012. (Photo courtesy Senior Airman Amanda Blodgett)

ship, professional development and morale building opportunities to all members of the wing. We strive to exceed the physical fitness requirements necessary for deployment and we make it a point to show appreciation to our community by volunteering countless hours to a wide variety of civilian organizations.

I would like to thank our volunteers that helped make this event happen.

Senior Master Sgt. Jerod Taylor, Tech. Sgt. Rene Dubois, Tech. Sgt. Elizabeth Flogerzi, Tech. Sgt. Tia Williams, Tech Sgt. Michael Burt, Staff Sgt. Paul Grabke, Staff Sgt. George Nanni, Staff Sgt. Jennifer Hall, Senior Airman Gordon Dahl, Senior Airman Jenny Clemens, and of course my lovely wife, Senior Airman Amanda Blodgett.

If you would like more information about the JENC or on next year's run, please contact me, Senior Airman Shawn Blodgett at (541) 885-6686 or shawn.blodgett@ang.af.mil.



The first runner to cross the line set a blistering pace, Greg Christensen finished in 19:07 followed by the first female finisher Suzie Waugh. (Photo courtesy Senior Airman Amanda Blodgett)



Announcements

Recent Promotions!

MSgt Robert J. Broyhill MSgt Mark S. Draper MSgt Peter C. Hall MSgt Nathan Norgre MSgt Jennifer D. Shirar MSgt Michael C. Vasko MSgt James Whaling, Jr. SrA Shawn E. Blodgett SrA Shey M. Haack SrA Nathaniel Janssen SrA Ryan J. Miller SrA Corinne L. Schultz

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Questions? Call 885-6370

Retiree Corner

Retirees and their families who need information or assistance with a "Retiree Issue" are encouraged to contact the Oregon National Guard Retiree Service Office. (Air & Army)

> Located at Room 231, Anderson Readiness Center 3225 State Street, Salem OR 97309

Office Hours 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Every Tuesday Phone: (503) 584-2891 E-mail: NGOR.J1.RSO@ng.army.mil Web site: www.orng-smfs.org

Welcome to Kingsley Field

Maj Michael B. Hiatt Maj Chad R. James Maj Kedric J. Osborne SSgt Jesse G. Devette SrA Ryan K. Kaber SrA Ryan A. W. Rosso A1C Alex D. Huntsman A1C Jarrod A. Lial A1C Angela M. Mcgill A1C Steven B. Perry A1C Joshua R. Scruggs





173d Fighter Wing SARC, Lt Col Martin Balakas Call: (541) 885-6198 or (541) 205-2305

You are not alone







Members of the 173rd Fighter Wing ESGR Civic Leader tour stand before a Kingsley Field F-15 recently "mothballed" at the "Boneyard" at Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Ariz., May 3. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by. Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Shirar)

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Wing Public Affairs Officer: 2nd Lt. Heather Bashor

State Public Affairs Officer: Capt. Stephen S. Bomar