



Intervention - Defensive driving course reinforces good choices

by Senior Master Sgt. Ellen L. Hatfield
349th Air Mobility Wing

Twenty-one Airmen completed a defensive driving course at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., each vowing to change one bad driving behavior.

Offered the third Wednesday of every month, 'Alive at 25' is a driver intervention program aimed at the highest risk group of drivers, age 16 to 24. Tech. Sgt. E.V. Boggio, 60th Air Mobility Wing ground safety office, teaches the course from materials and information provided by National Safety Council resources.

One element noticeably absent from this course is long lectures; instead, Sergeant Boggio encourages lively discussion and debate, and a revealing look at the driving behaviors of the class attendees.

With the information at hand — workbooks with driving

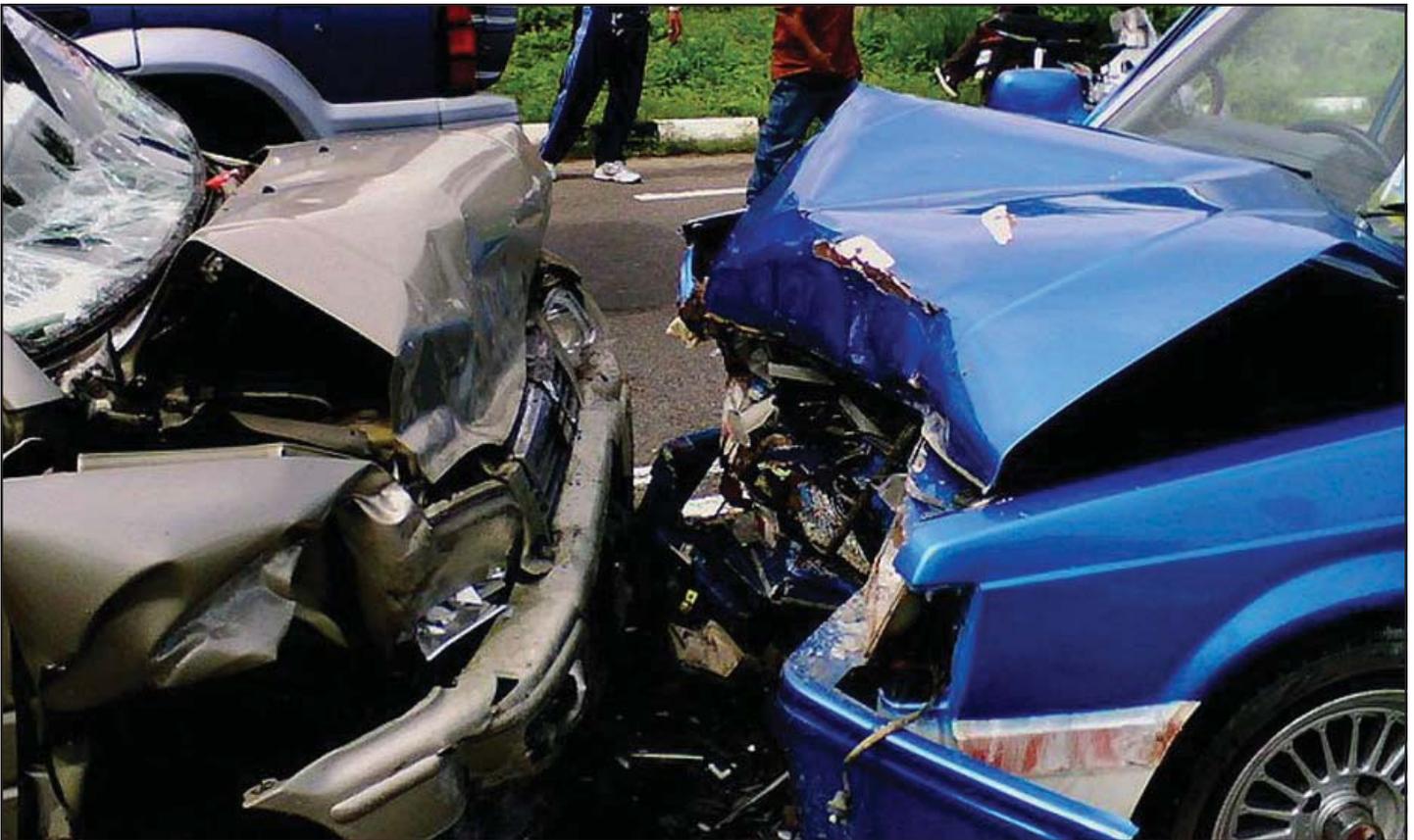
vignettes and exercises, video clips presenting situations, and video testimonials from injured young drivers who made wrong decisions – we set out to make our driving journey safer.

According to the NSC, there are 193,300,000 licensed drivers in the United States. Of these, 14 percent are in the 16-24 age group. Of 21,300,000 drivers involved in crashes, 27.5 percent were in the 16-24 age group.

When asked for reasons why they think people in their age group are at such high risk, their list included: inattention, text messaging, tail-gating, inappropriate merging, outside distractions, other drivers (if we could only clear the roads!), bad drivers, slow drivers, lack of use of directional signals and “rubber-necking.”

The perception among the drivers in this class was that speed is safer; many attendees felt older, slower drivers were more

(See Actions on next Page)



Courtesy photo

Actions...

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dangerous than speeders on the freeway.

The 16-24 age group has the highest violation rates in the categories of speeding; driving while alcohol/drug impaired; ignoring traffic controls; improper passing; not yielding right-of-way and illegal turning.

From frank discussion among the students in the class, the general consensus was that young drivers had more of these type of violations due to inexperience, thrill seeking, poor planning, risk taking, impatience, poor time management and wanting to party and have fun as factors.

Drivers know all the risks. They listened to the statistics and discussed driving behavior and what they can do smarter. In the end, why do they forget all of it once they slide behind the wheel?

According to my new young friends around the classroom; they feel indestructible and invincible; they think they know everything; they think they're quicker and more skillful in youth. And they just want to get where they are going.

"In every vehicle mishap, there are actually three collisions," said Sergeant Boggio. The room was still and you could hear the wheels turning in heads as we tried to figure that one out.

"There is the collision with a fixed object (like another car, a tree or wall); the collision of your body hitting the steering wheel or something else, and the collision of your heart hitting your ribcage," he said.

That's a lot of pain, we thought.

Think of the time lost: recovery time from injuries, time to attend mandatory defensive driving courses, time for regret and psychological counseling; time in jail, time to contemplate how it could have been done differently.

Think of the money lost: the car repairs; insurance rates going up; hospital bills; court costs and fines, loss of wages.

As Airmen, the consequences are greater. Your career could be jeopardized by your poor decision.

According to Sergeant Boggio, the base commander can revoke your

driving privileges both on and off base. You could sink your entire Air Force career.

Think about it. What one bad driving behavior are you going to change today?



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'VECTOR' in the home stretch

We are now in the home stretch to our upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection. Only one more dress rehearsal before the final show in October 2009. As we focus and capitalize on every tool in our arsenal to execute our mission, I am reminded of the aeronautical term "VECTOR." This is an appropriate term to consider since vectors indicate both direction and strength. The direction or our targeted goal is to successfully win the ORI war at Alpena without injuring anyone or bending any metal. And the strength is in our partnering with our active duty team members to jointly succeed in the ORI. In examining the word "VECTOR" the letters encompass several areas we can explore to assist us in our execution of the mission.

V – Vision: Our vision is clear - to provide the world's best mutual support to the Air Force and our joint partners—flying and fighting as *An Unrivaled Wingman*.

E – Excellence: One of our core

values. We have an excellent team ready for the challenge.

C – Character: Our character is defined by our distinctive moral beliefs, ethical strengths and clear values. Leadership is about character, what you are, not what you do. It is those with leadership character who will contribute to others in powerful ways.

T – Teamwork: We have formed an excellent team with our active duty partners and will succeed only with teamwork. *One team, one fight!*

O – Organization: Our organization's mission is each individual's mission. As you perform each task you are assigned, no matter how large or small, the organization will benefit by how you respond.

R – Readiness: We owe it to our nation to be combat ready and effective in our expeditionary support to the war fighter. This ORI is an inspection of our wartime readiness.

"VECTOR" demands the best from each of us! Please keep in mind that this ORI is not an exercise, it is an



By Col. Barrett Broussard
349th Vice Commander

inspection! The AMC IG is here to "inspect" our wartime readiness. Although there are simulations in the scenario, we need to treat each aspect of the scenario with realism. Everyone needs to have a sense of urgency, but keep it safe. Don't lean so far forward that you fall on your face. Positive attitude, professionalism and pride will be key factors in our success. Be the utmost professional with everyone you come in contact with, co-workers and inspectors alike. I like the term "kill'em with kindness!" As you perform the mission, let your pride in our organization, in your team, and in your profession shine through!

Godspeed at Alpena!

Be thankful for the Wingmen in your life

by Chaplain (Col.) Lyle E.
"Von" Seggern
349th Air Mobility Wing

I believe we need to be so thankful for the Wingmen around us. I believe we should strive to make sure we never take a Wingman for granted. Could you do everything the mission requires on your own? Please, let us all take time to acknowledge the Wingmen around us, both civilian and military, who keep the Air Force flying to victory! And please don't forget to honor their families too!

I also believe there is a Wingman who is with us 24/7. He is my Friend. He is my Good Wingman, my Great Wingman:



An Air Force 23rd Psalm
by Chaplain Lyle E. "Von" Seggern
The Lord is my Wingman,
all my checklists are complete.
He makes me take crew rest,
He directs me to the dining hall,
He energizes my soul.
He guides me in living all the core
values,
for His Name's sake.
Even though I fly into the
combat zone,
I fear no missile attack,
For You are my pilot,
Your radar and Your weapons they comfort me.
You prepare a runway before me in enemy territory.
You soothe me with a warm shower and a soft bunk;
my benefits are increasing.
Surely Heaven or home will soon be mine,
and I will PCS
to Paradise Air Force Base
forever.
Amen.



Wing food drive kicks-off - you 'can' make a difference

by Staff Sgt. Michael W. Pierce
349th Air Mobility Wing

The 349th Air Mobility Wing Chaplain Corps is beginning the 2009 Annual Food Drive earlier this year with the hopes of making our largest holiday donation ever. The plan is that we will be collecting food between September A-Flight and December B-Flight.

Did you realize that if every member of our Wing brought in just one can to donate we would have approximately 3,000 pounds of food to donate to Mission Solano? So, if everyone brought two cans - well you do the math and you can see that with a little effort we could make a huge difference. One extra can of food each time you go shopping would only add about one dollar or less to your grocery bill. Another way to donate is by going through your cabinets and pantry to see what you probably won't need or by rotating the foods in emergency preparedness kits before it is expired.

Last year's wing efforts



collected 4,230 pounds of food for Mission Solano - a great collection to help out in our local community.

As you should know from past food drives, collection bins are in public areas of the wing's buildings. Bins should, with final approvals, be in place by September A-Flight.

If you would like to track your unit's donations in case your unit is interested in some friendly competition this year: a bin holds approximately 200 pounds of canned foods or a bin with half cans and half dry goods, such as pasta or rice, holds around 100 pounds.

The most needed and requested food items by local food banks are cereal, oatmeal, pasta, tomato sauce, beans, canned meats, as well as canned fruits and vegetables. These items supply ingredients for a balanced meal and are given to those in need, as well as used for meals prepared and served at food bank locations. Although, cereal and other dry goods do not have the weight of canned items, even with a healthy competition, don't lose sight of the real goal - those types



of items are vitally needed.

The wing chaplain's office will keep information on the 2009 Food Drive continuously updated on the Chaplain SharePoint page which you can access from your office computer.

We thank you in advance for the generosity of all of you who help our community each and every year. For more information or questions, please contact the wing chaplain's office at 707-424-0308 or email me, Staff Sgt. Michael W. Pierce at michael.pierce-02@travis.af.mil.

Fit to Fight: congratulations go out to those who achieved a score of 100 on annual fitness evaluation

349th Operation Group
Lt. Col. David Knolmayer

79th Air Refueling Squadron
Lt. Col. Scott Wienker

301st Airlift Squadron
Lt. Col. Pete Ching
Maj. Lucas Haak
Maj. Anne Lueck
Maj. Jon Wilson
Capt. Gordon Roman

349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Lt. Col. Anita Fligge
Lt. Col. Nancy Mikulin
Maj. Deborah O'Jones
1st. Lt. Milaela Rogstad
Senior Airman Jared Boothe
Senior Airman Rubin Rivera

349th Operation Support Flight

Lt. Col. Robert Kalteis
Maj. Alexander Salogub
Master Sgt. Terri Russick
Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Stern

349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Lt. Col. Dana Howard
Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Norris
Tech. Sgt. Craig Waliser

349th Air Mobility Operations Flight
Capt. Marc A. Launey

749th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Maj. Michael Sovitsky
Tech. Sgt. Kristoffer Berrien
Staff Sgt. Scott Sherman

Staff Sgt. Darnell Bailey
Staff Sgt. Francisco Solares

45th Aerial Port Squadron
Master Sgt. Jeannette Louie
Airman 1st Class
Shannon Decker

82nd Aerial Port Squadron
Airman 1st Class
Miguel VargasServin
Senior Airman
Arthur Basa
Staff Sgt. Shawn Gore
Master Sgt. Stephen Langone



349th Memorial Affairs Squadron
SrA Carlos Cortez
SSgt Francisco Ulloa

How has the economic downturn affected you and your family?

Question asked and photos
by Senior Master Sgt. Ellen L. Hatfield
349th Public Affairs



Master Sgt. Wende Gallagher,
349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

“I have been very lucky. I got activated for base operations support, so I’m making good money, and the drop in the housing market made it possible for me to buy a new home.”

“We lost part of our income, as I’m a nurse, and I don’t get as many shifts as I’d like.”

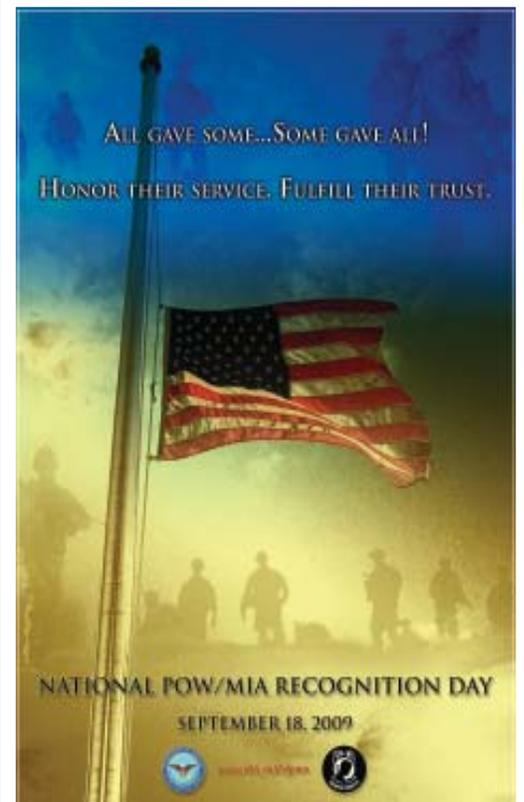


Capt. Jennifer Leonard,
349th Medical Squadron



Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Barney,
349th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

“It’s tough. I left active duty and joined the Reserve, and at that time, expected I could find a job. Instead, I’ve had to file for unemployment, so we’ve curtailed most activities just to make ends meet and put food on the table for our kids. But I have a degree in health sciences, and I’m looking hard. I’ve signed my name hundreds of times for job applications!”



UNIT VACANCIES

AFSC AFSC Title Grade # AFSC AFSC Title Rank #

For more information about these vacancies, go to <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/MainMenu.asp>.

PROMOTIONS



Senior Master Sergeant

John C. Breitenbach, 945th AMXS
Daniel P. Garcia, 55th APS



Staff Sergeant

Joshua M. Anderson, 312th AS
Keola C. Baclayon, 749th AMXS
Roland J. Blankenship, 749th AMXS
Chassey L. Buenviaje, 349th AMDS
Sunshine I. Colobong, 349th MDS
Matthew D. Ferguson, 945th AMXS
Dustin W. Goodwin, 55th APS
Sergio E. Hernandez, 349th AMXS
Jerico M. Ipapo, 349th MXS
Autumn R. Ohlendorf, 349th AMXS
MaryKathleen C. Olaes, 45th APS
Shane E. Ramirez, 945th AMXS
Robert A. Reay, 749th AMXS
George P. Rodriguez, 349th MXS
James J. Rogers, 349th SFS
Travis M. Silvius, 55th APS



Master Sergeant

Stanley A. Bembo, 45th APS
Domex Lobo, 45th APS



Technical Sergeant

Justin C. Ahlquist, 749th AMXS
Aaron A. Almendarez, 749th AMXS
Camilla J. Asuncion, 301st AS
Jesus A. Calderon, 349th AMOF
Michael A. Cox, 349th CES
James H. Dekoster, 349th AMXS
Ferminia Docena, 349th AMXS
Richard A. Green, Jr., 349th AES
Chia Yi Hsu, 349th AMXS
Jesse J. Huber, 349th AMDS
Hilda G. Maurera, 945th AMXS
Brian K. Payne, 349th MXS
Vicente O. Rosario, 349th MAS
Shawn D. Ruth, 349th MOF



Senior Airman

Daniel M. Butler, 749th AMXS

(Promotions effective August 1, 2009)

Operational Readiness Exercise/Inspection tips

- Attitude: A good attitude will make all the difference.
- Effective communication between shifts is a must.
- Ensure your weapon is pointed towards the ground. This will help reduce the contaminants that settle into the barrel.
- Leaders in the “field” need to up-channeling information to the ICC. The ICC leadership is there to help correct problems and allocate scarce resources to critical tasks.
- Utilize deployed leadership.
- Cohesion and teamwork between wings — remember we are all on the same team.
- When deploying and also when redeploying work methodically and most of all SAFELY.
- Time is always a factor.
- Safety compliance is paramount: use gloves in pallet building; no speeding; use your spotters; and always, always check for FOD.



349th Maintenance Group Quarterly Award Winners 4th Quarter

Senior NCO Category:
Master Sgt. Oscar Rodriguez
349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

NCO Category:
Tech. Sgt. Joseph Conklin
349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Airman Category:
Senior Airman Keola Baclayon
749th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

349th Maintenance Group Annual Award Winners

Senior NCO Category:
Master Sgt. Nono Westfall
349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

NCO Category:
Tech. Sgt. Joseph Conklin
349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Airman Category:
Senior Airman Keola Baclayon
749th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

