

Training

Training for a new mission

Engineers learn route-clearance for upcoming deployment
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Safety

It's motorcycle time

Be safe on the roads and stay installation-legal with BRC
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ARCTIC WARRIOR

Volume 3, No. 20

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

May 18, 2012



Pfc. Richard L. McNulty III



Sgt. Brian L. Walker

Two killed in Afghanistan

U.S. Army Alaska news release

Two Soldiers supporting Operation Enduring Freedom were killed Sunday in Bowri Tana, Afghanistan.

The Soldiers were assigned to the 425th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, based at JBER.

Sgt. Brian L. Walker, 25, of Lucerne Valley, Calif., and Pfc. Richard L. McNulty III, 22, of Rolla, Mo., were killed when enemy forces attacked their vehicle.

Walker enlisted in 2007 and was on his second deployment to Afghanistan.

McNulty joined the Army in July 2010 and was assigned to JBER in February 2011.



BAM BAM

READY FOR ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN

By Spc. Eric-James Estrada
4-25 ABCT Public Affairs

KHOWST PROVINCE, Afghanistan – For Task Force Spartan paratroopers, working a 12-hour shift, seven days a week to maintain the Kiowa Warrior class helicopter is the norm when it comes to providing air support to the troops on the ground.

The Soldiers of A Troop, 1st Squadron (Air), 17th Cavalry Regiment, Task Force Wolfpack don't take their job of maintaining helicopter equipment lightly, especially in a war zone. The Wolfpack paratroopers work long hard hours to ensure their equipment is mission ready.

"Our job is integral in keeping ground

forces safe out there," said U.S. Army Sgt. Kenneth Higginbotham, an armament, electrical and avionics systems repairer with A Troop, 1-17 Cav. "We keep these guys armed out there doing support, so if anybody calls in they're ready to go at a moment's notice," said the Fayetteville, N.C., native.

Higginbotham explained that as a (15-July) he works on the avionics, electronics and the armament on the aircraft. He said that his team does whatever it takes to fix anything to do with the sight, weapons, or electronics to make sure that their helicopters are mission ready.

Higginbotham also spoke about the civilian support they receive at Forward Operating Base Salerno, stating that they assist the crew chiefs with all the mechanical problems

aircraft may have and making sure they are regularly serviced.

The crew chiefs oversee and maintain more than \$1.5 million worth of tools, test equipment, vehicles, and weapon systems and ensure the correct procedures are followed for the sustaining of an aircraft weapons firing and maintenance records.

"I'm a 58 crew chief. I primarily work with the (OH-58 Kiowa Warrior) making sure everything is ready to go on it," said U.S. Army Sgt. Brandon Sutton, a crew chief with A Troop, 1-17 Cavalry, a native of Dallas. "We have other guys attached to us that help out with avionics and armament issues. We just make sure that the bird's good

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Training up troops: Alaska Guardsmen learn skills



A pararescueman from the Alaska Air National Guard's 212th Rescue Squadron, assists a simulated casualty May 3 to the collection point during Arctic Sentry 2012. (U.S. Army photo/Staff Sgt. Karima Turner)

Paratroopers practice rescues at Malemute

By Army Staff Sgt. Karima Turner
Alaska National Guard

Alaska National Guardsmen performed arctic search and rescue training May 2 through the 9, testing skills and equipment during Operation Ardent Sentry 2012.

Ardent Sentry is an international exercise focused on providing defense support to civil authorities and used to validate existing plans, policies, and procedures, including federal, state and regional response plans. Events took place in Alaska, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas, Connecticut and Nova Scotia.

Here in Alaska as part of the

exercise scenario, Joint Task Force Alaska sent pararescuemen from the Alaska Air National Guard's 212th Rescue Squadron and paratroopers from the Alaska Army National Guard's C Company, 1st Battalion, 297th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade to respond to a major aircraft crash in a remote area of the state with passengers on board.

"This training is really important to make sure that such complicated rescues are successful," said Senior Airman Robert Bowler, 212th Rescue Squadron, Survival Evasion Resistance Escape specialist. "It's a low frequency event,

but it's high risk because of the kind of environment we're operating in and the complex nature of getting equipment and personnel to that kind of remote site."

Upon notification, both the pararescuemen and the paratroopers reported to JBER where a C-17 Globemaster III and C-130 Hercules were standing by loaded with necessary personnel and heavy equipment required for an arctic SAR mission. After a short flight, pararescuemen and paratroopers leapt from the aircraft and arctic SAR equipment was dropped to

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Soldiers learn Command Post of the Future

By Air Force Maj. Guy Hayes
Alaska Air National Guard

Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers are conducting training in interior Alaska through Saturday helping Soldiers prepare for future deployments overseas and provide critical support to residents during a state disaster.

Alaska Army National Guardsmen with the 297th Battlefield Sur-

veillance Brigade travelled north in a convoy to Fort Greely from Camp Denali on JBER to work with coalition forces and 14 agencies while setting up and running the "command post of the future" during a major field exercise.

"We've never done this before; everything we're doing is groundbreaking for the Alaska Army National Guard," said Col. Mike Thompson, commander, 297th

Battlefield Surveillance Brigade. "This exercise allows us to demonstrate we can set up a tactical operations center and test the ability of our staff to get the system up and running, allowing us to monitor the operations in real time."

The command post of the future, or CPOF, is a high-tech command center that helps com-

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Community

Check out the community section for the latest sports, family and recreation news for JBER and the Anchorage Bowl area.



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Grappling for top honors

Soldier, NCO named USARAK's best; move to USARPAC

By Army Staff Sgt. Matthew E. Winstead
U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs

After five days of rigorous testing and performance evaluations, two Soldiers from the Fort Wainwright-based 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, took top honors as the U.S. Army Alaska Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year May 11 at JBER.

Staff Sgt. Jerrell Cronan, of the 184th Military Intelligence Company, Brigade Troops Battalion, 1-25th; and Spc. Jason Beckman of B Company, 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1-25th, narrowly edged the competition after completing 13 different events in the USARAK Arctic Warrior Challenge.

The events of the Warrior Challenge were designed to test the candidates in all facets of basic Soldiering and challenge them both mentally and physically, according to the event's organizers.

The challengers took on events like land navigation in day and night conditions, rifle qualification and stress shoot, hand-to-hand combat and a rigorous obstacle course as well as written evaluations and live events like facing down aggressive role-playing reporters.

"This wasn't like previous challenges where we knew a winner pretty early out," U.S. Army Alaska Command Sgt. Maj. David Turnbull said. "This was a very close competition this year. At any given moment there were just a few points separating the top candidates, making it too close to call until the last minute."

Turnbull said the entire collection of candidates presented a strong and competent showing throughout the week, leaving every single applicant as a potential winner until the end of the competition.

Beckman and Cronan were presented with their awards and given Army Achievement Medals for their outstanding performance at the Warrior Challenge closing ceremony.

"This was simply fantastic," Cronan said. "It was challenging and a good learning



Spc. Jason Beckman, U.S. Army Alaska Soldier of the year, competes in hand-to-hand combat skills May 8 during the 2012 USARAK Arctic Warrior Challenge. (U.S. Army photo/Staff Sgt. Matthew E. Winstead)

experience. I'm looking forward to mentoring my Soldiers back home for the challenge next year."

"This was an excellent refresher for some of the skills we don't always get

to stay on top of," Beckman said. "Some of the things they tested us on I consider use-or-lose skills and it took a minute to knock the dust off. It was definitely challenging."

Beckman and Cronan will move on to

the U.S. Army Pacific Command Soldier and NCO of the Year competition in Hawaii and if selected could compete at the Army-level Soldier and NCO of the Year competition.

Panetta calls for further mitigation of F-22 risks

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — With safety remaining his top concern, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta has ordered the Air Force to take additional steps to mitigate risks to F-22 pilots, George Little, acting assistant secretary of defense for public affairs, said May 15 during a Pentagon news conference.

Beginning in 2008, a few pilots experienced hypoxia-like symptoms when flying the aircraft, Little said.

Hypoxia is a deficiency of oxygen. There have been a total of 12 cases of these hypoxia-like symptoms affecting pilots.

Little said the secretary has followed developments in the F-22 closely and has directed the Air Force to expedite the installation

of an automatic backup oxygen system in all of the planes.

In addition, effective immediately, all F-22 flights will remain near potential landing locations to enable quick recovery and landing should a pilot encounter unanticipated physiological conditions during flight, Little said.

Finally, Panetta directed the Air Force to provide him with a monthly progress report as the

service continues the search for the root cause of the problem.

These steps are in addition to the measures the Air Force is already taking to determine the root causes of the hypoxia-like symptoms pilots have experienced.

Panetta made this decision in part due to the reluctance of some pilots to fly the aircraft, Little said.

"Secretary Panetta believes the department must do everything

possible to ensure pilot safety and minimize flight risks," Little said.

The secretary's directions take into account the need for determining the cause of the problem, while still allowing the military to use the unique capabilities provided by the F-22 Raptor.

The aircraft are based in the United States and are now deployed to Southwest Asia, Little said.

As the only fifth-generation aircraft in the world, he added, the plane is the most capable fighter in the air and is necessary to maintain U.S. air dominance.

"Safety is a zero-sum game," Pentagon spokesman Navy Capt. John Kirby said at the news conference.

The automatic backup oxygen system will complete testing by the end of November, with installation in line fighters beginning in December.

Ten Raptors will be retrofitted with this system per month, he said.

Keeping the F-22 fleet flying allows the service to examine the aircraft closely.

"There's a troubleshooting process going on right now," Kirby said. "So the aircraft being in operation assists that process. We believe we've mitigated the risks as much as possible."

But safety is the paramount concern, he said, and if he needs to, the secretary will ground the fleet.

"But right now, he believes ... this is the right course," Kirby said.

The Air Force has been studying the problem since 2008.

"The root cause of hypoxia-like events has not been determined," Little said. "It is possible ... that it could be attributed to the oxygen system in the airplane, thus the installation of a backup system. But it could have other causes, too, and the Air Force is aggressively looking at other factors that could be contributing."



Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta responds to a question from a member of the military press in his office at the Pentagon last year. Panetta has called on the Air Force to further mitigate risks to pilots of the F-22 aircraft. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Tech. Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey)

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ARCTIC WARRIOR

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JBER hosts aviators' annual training

By Spc. Dalton Smith
354th MPAD

Annual training requires a diverse group of individuals to work together to accomplish a successful mission in the military.

The 2nd Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment improves its mission readiness by having their complete battalion with them for training.

This will be the first time the 2-228th Avn. Bn. will have their Headquarters Company, A Company, B Company and C Company together for annual training.

The battalion is to, on order, deploy to a specified theater of operations to conduct fixed wing aviation operations and provide command and control as directed by the land component commander.

"It's an awesome feeling and brings great pride to me," said Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Ladlee, command sergeant major of the 2-228th Avn. Bn., of Newburgh, N.Y.

"To see the unit as a battalion, which to my knowledge has never done a training like this before, to be able to achieve mission readiness during annual training at full-strength," Ladlee said.

The training and operations department of the 2-228th Avn. Bn. had to plan a joint branch training exercise with JBER and the Alaska National Guard to host an annual training exercise big enough for their battalion.

TOP RIGHT: Army Capt. Adam Stanley, with the 2nd Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, of Denver, Colo., walks on the runway to greet pilots returning from a flight at JBER Sunday.

RIGHT: Soldiers with the 2nd Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, prepare themselves for annual training at JBER Monday. This year's annual training exercise was the first time the battalion's four companies – Headquarters and Headquarters Company, A Co., B Co., and C Co. – have trained together. (U.S. Army photo/Spc. Dalton Smith)

"Right now this is like having two battalion-size exercises in one, making it twice as much work" said Capt. Adam Stanley, officer-in-charge of operations of the 2-228th Avn. Bn., of Denver, Colo.

"Because we have the majority of the battalion doing the actual exercise out in the field and the other part controlling all operations

in the tactical operations center."

The battalion will conduct extended combat training and perform flight operations in support of Joint Operational Support Airlift Center and Operational Support Airlift Agency to prepare and refine the battalion level skills needed to respond to humanitarian missions and combat threats.

The three flight companies

will be using eight C-12 Huron and four UC-35 airplanes to carry distinguished visitors and supplies during the training, while headquarters company will support the mission training complex.

Stanley said JBER was chosen because Alaska has a similar austere environment to Afghanistan with its high altitude, unpredictable weather and mountains.

The pilots gain a great deal of experience by flying from their home stations on the east coast up here by itself.

"I want to push the Soldiers of my battalion to the limits to find their breaking point," said Lt. Col. Jami Shawley, commander of the 2-228th Avn. Bn., of Charleston, Mo. "Not to see them fail, but so I know where we need to improve."



Malemute

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assist simulated casualties.

"The Long Range Surveillance Company has a mission to support the 212th Rescue Squadron out of JBER and provide them manpower in the event of an arctic search and rescue," said 1st Sgt. Michael Grunst, C Company, 1st Battalion, 297th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade. "So we coordinated efforts to train together and work in a collaborative environment to respond to a maritime or inland incident in the Arctic Circle. We jumped in with them (212th Rescue Squadron) and set-up a casualty collection point near a notionally crashed C-130 with 30 survivors. From there, we started providing ground support to the pararescuemen by setting up tents, heaters, generators and critical infrastructure so they could concentrate on their task of triaging, treating and evaluating patients for further care."

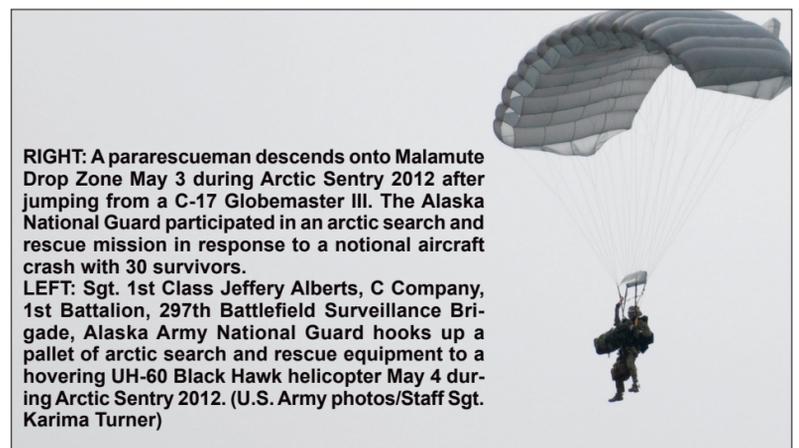
Within a couple of hours of their boots hitting the ground, the pararescuemen had located, triaged and treated all the victims who were scattered through the woods.

"Joint exercises are critical," Grunst said. "When you're in Iraq or Afghanistan or any number of places, you've got Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy, even Coast Guard."

"It's a joint effort, a team effort, and by coordinating and working together, it makes us more efficient when we respond to situations like this in the future."

Upon completion of the arctic SAR portion of the exercise, the pararescuemen prepared all of the equipment to be sling-loaded off the site by an UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter.

"It was a really unique opportunity, it was the first time we've ever sling-loaded an Argo (amphibious all-terrain, off-road vehicle) up here in Alaska," Grunst said. "Figuring out where the tie-down points are, where the strength in the frame is, figuring out the link-count, and making sure the load is balanced, centered and flies correctly are critical to safety. Getting that done, working out the kinks, and watching the communication between the Air Force and Army non-commissioned officers was definitely a wonderful experience; the training is going to help us both in our state and federal missions."



RIGHT: A pararescueman descends onto Malamute Drop Zone May 3 during Arctic Sentry 2012 after jumping from a C-17 Globemaster III. The Alaska National Guard participated in an arctic search and rescue mission in response to a notional aircraft crash with 30 survivors.

LEFT: Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Alberts, C Company, 1st Battalion, 297th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, Alaska Army National Guard hooks up a pallet of arctic search and rescue equipment to a hovering UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter May 4 during Arctic Sentry 2012. (U.S. Army photos/Staff Sgt. Karima Turner)

CPOF

From Page A-1

manders analyze current information from the battlefield and command from anywhere. It's the ultimate in supporting the warfighter, allowing collaboration between all levels of leadership.

"This is the first time we've hooked up all of these tactical computer systems to compose CPOF," Thompson said. "Once we have the system up and running we will be able to go through battle drills and validate our new command post."

Validating the command post is the main

objective for Thompson and will occur during a tactical scenario, which involves troops in the field simulating a stability operations environment and working closely with joint forces to include Canadians, active duty Army, Air Force reservists and state agencies.

"We've turned this into a joint, combined forces environment like troops are used to when they deploy overseas," Thompson said. "The main battle is over in this scenario, and we're supporting the host nation in a stability operations environment, but will be responding to various situations."

Responding to different scenarios, Thompson and his staff have worked closely

to provide experience for his Soldiers, simulating terrorist attacks and bringing in air and ground assets for a live fire exercise.

"It's going to be exciting because we will have a lot of assets that are going to be involved," Thompson said. "We've coordinated a live-fire exercise with an engineer unit firing (mine-clearing line charges) and Kiowas flying in to provide close air support by firing on targets with .50 cal.; it'll be as real as training can get."

In addition to a thorough training experience for his Soldiers to prepare for overseas deployments, Thompson is also quick to highlight how this command post will allow his unit to support Alaska during

emergencies – a critical role of the National Guard.

"This is the only maneuver command post the Alaska Guard has that can deploy to an affected area that might be hit by disaster," Thompson said. "It can be an interagency command post that supports the citizens of Alaska when they need our support the most."

"We just want to bring this all together to provide Soldiers the best training and realistic experience," Thompson said.

"We're raising the bar on training standards while providing a vision for Soldiers of the Alaska Army National Guard of a joint combined arms environment."

FROM HAMMERS TO CLAWS



Spc. James Clark removes a chain after a vehicle recovery during a movement for a simulated route-clearance mission May 10. The 84th Engineer Support Company, 6th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), whose specialty is building, not clearing roadways for convoys. The engineers are reshaping their forces for a route-clearing mission. Their new job is to go out searching for and investigating any roadside bombs or mines so that others may pass through quickly and safely. Clark is a maintainer with the 84th ESC. (U.S. Air Force photos/Staff Sgt. Cynthia Spalding)

Engineers tasked with clearing perilous Afghan roads

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Cynthia Spalding
JBER Public Affairs

DONNELLY TRAINING AREA — Some Soldiers on JBER transitioned from building roads and bridges to clearing roadways of bombs and explosives during training May 10.

Soldiers of the 84th Engineer Support Company, 6th Engineer Battalion have been tasked with a non-standard mission.

The 84th ESC's specialty is in horizontal construction.

This includes anything from making roads to building bridges; however, their next deployment is setting them up for a change in gear — finding and neutralizing improvised explosive devices and other devices that hinder travel through Afghanistan.

They will be the Soldiers who go out searching for and investigating any roadside bombs or mines so that others may pass through quickly and safely.

"The Soldiers are coming along very well with their training," said Army 2nd Lt. Evan Nelson, platoon leader of 3rd Platoon, 84th ESC. "We conducted a company-level field training exercise back in April and that was our crawl phase.

"We hadn't really done a whole lot of route clearance training, so it was a lot of figuring out as we went and when we came out here for Operation Tundra Wolf II, we're definitely where we should be in terms of our training," Nelson said.

"The guys are really starting to pick it up and embrace the challenge ahead of them."

Route clearing is more than just going out and blowing up bombs.

The bombs are not always sitting in wide-open, clearly seen spots; they have to be located, detected and then assessed.

Without training to spot possible explosives or danger zones, the road might be cleared, but the team left in rubble.

"When we deploy we will be con-

ducting route clearance at a very high operations tempo," said Nelson. "That's what we are trying to simulate here; every day we're going out and conducting missions. Yesterday we went on an eight-hour mission, and today we were out again by noon doing another mission.

"This is all just to get us trained up on not only how to conduct a clearance but also get us used to the demanding work

schedule we're going to be on when we get deployed," he said.

This is the first time the 84th has had to switch gears.

The Army, in need of more route-clearing teams, has called on Soldiers in other engineer battalions to do the same thing.

While they are training for their upcoming deployment, their original job, horizontal

construction, will still be their mission once they return home from Afghanistan.

Until then, their primary focus in training will only be route clearance.

"As soon as we return home its back to doing construction until we're tasked again with something new," said Army Capt. David MacPhail, 84th ESC commander. "We're engineers first, but being combat engineers is our mission."



ABOVE: Pfc. Donald Blackburn demonstrates placing a nasopharyngeal tube into the nose of Army 2nd Lt. Blaise Gill to demonstrate its application during the 84th Engineer Support Company, 6th Engineer Battalion's combat lifesaver training May 10. The tube can keep a wounded Soldier breathing until medical help arrives.

LEFT: Spc. Zachary Tabor, right, and Spc. Marcus Mincy load a Talon robot into the lead gun truck during a movement for a simulated route-clearance mission May 10. Loading it into the lead gun truck helps minimize time on the ground for the Soldiers — which can save lives. The 84th Engineer Support Company, 6th Engineer Battalion, has been tasked to reshape their forces for a route-clearing mission in Afghanistan. Tabor and Mincy are both heavy equipment operators with the 84th ESC.



A Talon robot drops simulated plastic explosive on simulated unexploded ordnance during a movement for a simulated route-clearance mission May 10. When placing C-4, depending on the type of munition, the charge must be placed a certain way. The 84th Engineer Support Company, 6th Engineer Battalion, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, whose specialty is not clearing roadways for convoys, has been tasked to reshape their forces for a route-clearing mission.

A route-clearing convoy moves along the roads during a simulated mission May 10 at Donnelly Training Area. Soldiers of the 84th ESC are learning the finer points of removing explosives.

Bam Bam

From Page A-1

to go at all times ready to support all the ground guys whenever they need us."

The pilots of A Troop have every confidence in the work and long hours their maintenance crew puts in to ensure their helicopters are ready to respond to any emergency.

"They work hard every day. The guys out here work 12-hour shifts every day making sure the (aircraft) are ready to go. And they do a good job," said Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jeff Hodnett, an OH-58 pilot with A Troop, 1-17 Cavalry, from Chickamauga, Ga.

Hodnett also expressed his gratefulness for his maintenance crew. "They're a great group of guys and I feel fortunate to work with them," said Hodnett.

Briefs and Announcements

Disposition of effects

Army 2nd Lt. Ray Vickery, 425th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, is authorized to make disposition of personal effects of Staff Sgt. Thomas K. Fogarty, of the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment, as stated in Army Regulation 638-2.

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of the deceased should contact Vickery at (828) 429-6496.

Disposition of effects

Air Force Capt. Truth Finck is authorized to make disposition of personal effects of Senior Airman Clinton Reeves, 703d Logistics Readiness Squadron, as stated in Air Force Instruction 34-244.

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of the deceased should contact Finck at 552-1183.

Increased runway activity

Expect increased traffic light control activity Thursday through June 6 on Arctic Warrior Drive near the airfield. Runway 06/24 will be under repair, so the shorter runway will have more activity. It's important drivers observe traffic-control lights.

Readiness exercise

People who live and work in the neighborhoods around JBER-Elmendorf can expect increased activity on the installation as units will be participating in Exercise Polar Force 12-4 through Wednesday.

The exercise will drive an increase in flying operations, simulated ground attacks, loud-speaker communications, and sirens. Polar Force 12-4 is designed to evaluate the wing's readiness and capability to conduct sustained combat operations under wartime conditions.

In an attempt to minimize the impact, JBER officials advise the neighboring community that, during nighttime hours, there will be activity occurring on JBER-Elmendorf, which is normally much quieter. The Soldiers and Airmen of JBER appreciate the community's support as we provide the most realistic training possible for our service members.

People who are not participating in the exercise should make every effort to avoid traveling within the play area, which will be marked by signs on base. All base members and visitors may experience longer than usual delays at services facilities and base gates.

JBER supports and defends United States interests in the Pacific and around the world by providing units capable of worldwide airpower projection and meeting Pacific Command's theater staging and throughput requirements. In short: Global Power, Global Reach, Homeland Defense and Expeditionary Combat Support.

The JBER Twitter feed will

be updated with the most current information. Noise complaints can be called in to 1-800-JET-NOIS (1-800-538-6647).

Assignments briefings

The Outbound Assignments office at the Military Personnel Section will be conducting informational briefings Tuesday at 10 a.m. and Wednesday at 1 p.m. for all enlisted Airmen whose DEROS' are from January 2013 through March 2013.

This briefing will include but will not be limited to information on assignment cycles, retainability requirements and relocation information for dependents going overseas.

The goal is to have an open forum where the office can discuss these topics and answer common questions regarding the assignments process.

We ask only enlisted Airmen who currently do not have assignments on file, with a DEROS between the months of January 2013 through March 2013 attend, as this will be their current assignment selection cycle.

Due to a 60 person limit we ask that Airmen interested in attending the briefing send an RSVP email to Career Development at 673fsscarrerdevelopment@elmendorf.af.mil with their name and the date they would like to attend the briefing no later than 4 p.m. on May 11.

School physicals

The 673d Medical Group is offering physicals for school and sports. Physicals are valid for one year. To schedule an appointment, call 580-2778.

May hospital closures

The 673d Medical Group will close the hospital all day May 25 for a family day, and all day May 28 for Memorial Day.

Public Health closures

Public Health closes the first Thursday of the month from 1 to 4:30 p.m. and the third Thursday of the month from noon to 4:30 p.m. every month. For more information, call 580-4014.

WAPS move

Air Force Weighted Airman Promotion System testing has permanently moved from the People Center to the Air Force Education and Training Center, 4109 Bullard Ave. For more information, email joseph.oneil@elmendorf.af.mil.

Mortgage relief

President Barack Obama announced March 6 steps to provide significant housing relief to thousands of service members and veterans who have faced wrongful foreclosure or been denied a lower interest rate on their mortgages.

Service members and their dependents who believe that their Service Member Civil Relief Act rights have been violated should

contact their servicing legal assistance office – 552-3046 at JBER-Elmendorf office, and 284-0371 for the JBER-Richardson office.

Additionally, information and referral services regarding the mortgage relief plan can be obtained at the JBER Military and Family Readiness Center, 552-4943.

Find housing

Visit the Automated Housing Referral Network at www.ahrn.com to find housing before packing up.

Sponsored by the Department of Defense, the website listings include available community rentals, military housing, shared rentals, temporary lodging and military for sale by owner listings.

Listings include property descriptions, pictures, maps, links to local schools, and contact information.

Service members who would like to rent their homes, sell their homes, or are looking for another service member as a roommate in their current homes, may post an ad free of charge on the site.

For more information, call 552-4439.

Utility allowance changes

The utility allowance has been adjusted for all Phase I (Sunflower – those units on Fairchild Ave., Dallas, Silver Run and Chugach housing areas) metered housing units to reflect decreases or increases in electricity and natural gas rates Aurora pays.

Aurora will continue to read utility meters monthly and provide a statement reflecting actual consumption, quarterly allowance amount and the resulting balance of customer accounts.

As is currently the case, when the credit balance of accounts exceed \$250, Aurora will issue a refund check. If an account reflects a debit balance in excess of \$250, customers are required to make payment to Aurora in the amount of the account balance.

In addition, each account is annually reconciled and adjusted to zero at the end June.

This means during July, customers will either be refunded any accumulated credit or invoiced for any amount owed, regardless of the dollar amount.

For any questions regarding the Utility Program or further information, please contact the Aurora Utility Staff at 375-0508 or Aurora Housing Office at 753-1023.

Motorcycle training

Riders can now start the registration process for the 2012 Contracted Motorcycle Training.

A change from previous years is training is only offered to uniformed service members and Department of Defense civilians who have motorcycle operation listed in their position descriptions.

For information on how to register, call 552-5092.

Home buyer's seminar

The 673d Civil Engineer Squadron Capital Asset Management Office offers a first-time home buyer's seminar two times each month through the Volunteer Realtor Program.

The seminar covers home loan prequalification, negotiations, offer acceptance, inspection, title search, available types of loans, and the closure process as well as many other aspects of interest to a prospective home owner.

If interested in becoming a home owner and wish to attend, please call 552-4439 to be included on the sign-up sheet.

U-Fix-It Store

The U-Fix-it Store is located in Building 706 and is open to all Aurora Military Housing tenants.

Assorted items for maintaining your home may be issued from the U-Fix-It Store.

The items available are subject to change and limits and some may have a cost.

There are also American flag kits, and fire extinguishers available. U-Fix-It work includes all home maintenance activities.

Its purpose is to allow the occupant to make minor improvements and repairs to their home and cut down on the amount of service orders at maintenance.

This allows tenants to do work in their homes themselves, thus improving the appearance of the interior as well as the exterior of the home. There are two stores located on base.

The JBER-Elmendorf location is 6350 Arctic Warrior Drive and it is open 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. (closed for lunch noon to 1 p.m.).

The JBER-Richardson location is Building 706 1st St., open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

A window blind cleaning machine is currently located at the JBER-Elmendorf location.

A "reservation required to use" policy is in place with the priority going to military members PCS-ing. For more information, call 375-5540.

Quartermaster Laundry

The Quartermaster Laundry, located at 726 Quartermaster Road, cleans TA-50 gear for free and is open Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Giant Voice testing

Giant Voice mass notification system testing occurs every Wednesday at noon. If the announcement is difficult to hear or understand, please call 552-3000.

If the announcement is difficult to hear or understand in any base housing area, please contact JBER at [Facebook.com/JBERAK](https://www.facebook.com/JBERAK).

Furnishings management

The Furnishings Management Office offers 90-day loaner furniture for Airmen arriving at or leaving JBER-Elmendorf.

The FMO also has appliances for Airmen residing off base, for longterm use.

Delivery and pick-up is provided for 90-day loaner furniture and appliances. The FMO also has longterm furniture for ranks E-1 through E-5. These items are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The service member is responsible for transport.

Airmen should take a copy of PCS orders to the Government Housing Office at 6346 Arctic Warrior Drive to schedule delivery.

Call 552-2740 for any questions regarding the FMO program. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Soldiers can call 384-0092 for the JBER-Richardson FMO.

Otter Lake fishing

The sport fishery on Otter Lake has been liberalized to allow harvest of 10 rainbow trout per day, 10 in possession, effective until Oct. 1. There continues to be no bag, possession or size limits for northern pike.

For more information call 267-2153.

MiCare registration

MiCare, the online personal health record and secure messaging application, has been available to patients and medical group staff at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson since December.

More than 2,400 patients have already signed up to take advantage of the ability to communicate with their primary care clinicians online. Registered patients also have access to electronic records, allowing them to view and maintain their health records.

The 673d Medical Group is the first Air Force site to test this system.

Once registered, patients have the ability to participate in the study by completing a short series of surveys during the course of the next year. This provides an opportunity for all active-duty, retired and dependent patients to have an impact on shaping the future of Air Force health services.

To register, visit the Military Treatment Facility, where enrollment specialists are available in each primary care clinic.

All beneficiaries who are enrolled in the family health, pediatrics, flight medicine and internal medicine clinics are eligible to participate. Patients need to show a military identification card and provide information, including name, social security number, birthday and email address.

The enrollment specialist will enter the information and patients will receive an email which contains a link and instructions for completing the process.

Softball tournament

Soldiers of 98th Maintenance recover from the loser's bracket to claim preseason tourney laurels

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Zen of cooking

Cavalry cook goes the extra mile to bring home-style cooking to Combat Outpost Deysie

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www.jber.af.mil/news

COMMUNITY

Volume 3, No. 20

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

May 18, 2012

SAFETY COURSES FOR TWO WHEELS



Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Golden, front, and Senior Airman Walter Bracy attend a motorcycle training refresher course at JBER May 15. The course is required every three years for Army motorcyclists and every three to five years for Air Force motorcyclists. Golden is a computer support technician for the 176th Air Control Squadron and is from Jackson, Miss. Bracy is a passenger service agent for the 723nd Air Mobility Squadron and is from Ogdensburg, N.Y. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Barnett)

JBER Motorcycle riding season calls for safety training

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Barnett
JBER Public Affairs

The JBER motorcycle riding season has begun.

"People probably started to get the itch for riding motorcycles around the end of March," said Todd Moore, 673d Air Base Wing safety and occupational health specialist. "That's when it started to warm up and the snow started to melt."

He said the unique environment Alaska provides attracts many who enjoy riding motorcycles.

"There are probably about 700 riders on base," Moore said. "So far, to my knowledge, we've only had one rider that has gotten minor injuries this riding season. We've had no fatalities at JBER, which is the goal."

According to the Air Force Safety Center, in fiscal year 2011 the Air Force lost 15 Airmen in motorcycle mishaps and three so far in fiscal year 2012. Most accidents were due to excessive speeds, failure to negotiate a turn, and unfamiliarity with the motorcycle itself.

"Both the Air Force Instruction 29-207, United States Air Force Traffic Safety Program, and the Army regulation 385-10, The Army Safety Program, make it mandatory for motorcycle riders to receive motorcycle safety foundation training before they are able to ride," Moore said. "Army personnel are required to have refresher training every



Army 1st Sgt. Michael Bryant, 6th Engineer Battalion, signals during Basic Riders Course at JBER, May 20, 2010. (U.S. Air Force photo/David Bedard)

three years, and Air Force every three to five years."

In this joint environment, all services are covered, Moore said. JBER offers multiple training opportunities.

"This year, the Air Force has funded the contract for motorcycle safety training," he said. "We're offering three different classes. The Basic Rider Course and BRC 2 are being taught by a local vendor that actually conducts the training. The Air Force has also funded six motorcycle rider courses. Those six classes are being conducted here on JBER's motorcycle range. The Air Force contract covers any uniformed service member to get trained in motorcycle safety."

Moore said the BRC is offered at no cost to motorcyclists or those wishing to learn. The bike and required personal protective equipment are provided for this training session. The course can be used to get the motorcycle endorsement on an Alaska state driver's license; it is the same course that's provided downtown for a fee up to \$275.

He said the BRC-2 course helps riders hone and fine-tune the physical and mental skills needed for survival in traffic. Riders will need to provide the bike and PPE for this class. The training qualifies graduates for insurance premium discounts with some insurers, but most importantly, it may save a life.

"We are also offering the Military Sport Bike Rider's Course for those who ride their sports bikes," Moore said.

MSRC is the next-level training course for military riders who have completed the BRC. Riders provide the bike and protective gear.

"So far this year, to date, we've had 257 take refresher training," he said. "They've applied for it and taken the approval letter to the local company actually providing the training."

Motorcyclists are cautioned loose gravel may still exist on some roads and parking lots.

Motorcycle riding is authorized during the riding season when road conditions are "green."

The registration process is simple. Go to www.militarysafepmv.com and select Elmendorf Richardson. Select the course and date preferred and register for the desired course.

The main thing that is stressed in the courses is safety.

"The training is going really well," said Chuck Swesey, Cape Fox Professional Services, which provides the motorcycle safety courses to JBER. "Motorcycle training is sort of lost because military like to train for the inevitable conflict."

"However, every time you throw your leg over a motorcycle there is the possibility of conflict and I think training is more important for motorcycle training than almost anything else," he said.

For more information about the motorcycle basic safety course and other courses offered on JBER, call the 673d Air Base Wing Ground Safety Office at 384-2383 or 552-3824.

Annual JBER troop relief funds exceed goals

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Barnett
JBER Public Affairs

The campaign runs for the Air Force Assistance Fund and Army Emergency Relief have come to an end and both have exceeded their financial goals. The AFAF campaign ran from March 26 to May 4. The AER campaign ran from March 1 to Tuesday.

"For the AFAF we have raised more than \$108,770," said Air Force 1st Lt. Keith B. Williams, 673d Communications Squadron Deputy Operations Flight commander. "The base goal was \$103,619; this is the first time JBER-Elmendorf has met the goal since 2008."

The AFAF consists of the Air Force Village Foundation, Inc.; the Air Force Aid Society, Inc.; the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay

Foundation; and the Air Force Enlisted Village, Inc.

Their mottos "Be there for an Airman," "Lend a hand to a retiree," "To provide a home," "Build a safety net," and "From enlistment through retirement... taking care of our own" illustrate their purpose and mission.

"For most active duty, the impact will be felt through the Air Force Aid Society," Williams said. "In 2011, AFAS provided \$9 million for emergency assistance such as vehicle expense, emergency travel, funeral expenses, and more."

"They also provided \$6.5 million for education programs such as education grants for college and spouse tuition assistance amongst other scholarship programs," he said. "They also provided \$2.2 million in community programs such as funding childcare, performing

vehicle maintenance or giving 42,000 airmen a free phone card."

For the Army, the AER's theme for the 2012 campaign was "A strong tradition of Soldiers helping Soldiers." The primary objective of the campaign is to "create greater awareness and understanding of AER programs and to provide Soldiers an opportunity to help their fellow Soldiers."

"Although AER is a private non-profit organization," said Salafai Ieremia, Army Emergency Relief officer. "Its exclusive mission is to help Soldiers and their eligible family members who are experiencing financial hardship. AER is also a means to provide education assistance to spouses and dependent children who are seeking their first undergraduate degree."

In 2011, the AER provided \$77.5 million in assistance to more

than 64,000 Soldiers and their families.

"The great thing about AER is we get every dime we put into it spent toward us. We use it, not someone else," said USARAK Chief of Staff Col. William Miller.

Beginning this year, four new categories of assistance were added: family member dental care, basic furniture needs, rental vehicles and replacement vehicles.

"The 2012 JBER-Richardson AER campaign monetary goal was set at \$35,000," Ieremia said. "Soldiers exceeded this goal by collecting a total of \$45,379. These funds are used to support our Soldiers and family members."

Retirees also contributed to this total, he said.

"I would like to thank the Campaign Coordinator, Sgt. 1st Class Fatima Menendez, for the diligent work she put forth in making this

year's campaign a success," he said. "I thank all the team captains and key workers for working hard in exceeding this year's monetary goal. Most of all, I thank all who have donated in making sure that AER continues with the commitment of helping Soldiers and their families who are experiencing financial emergencies."

The contributions enable the respective campaigns to do more to help Soldiers and Airmen.

"Due to the funds raised this year, a few more troops might get a grant to fly home to mourn the loss of a loved one or a Vietnam veteran will have a place to call home," Williams said. "This is just the tip of the iceberg."

To learn more about your Air Force Assistance Fund or Army Emergency Relief, please visit www.afassistancefund.org/ or www.aerhq.org/



Courtesy photo

SAFETY A BIG ISSUE FOR SMALL BOATS

Give your boat a quick inspection before heading out on the water

Coast Guard news release

It doesn't require a 40-foot cabin cruiser to enjoy the nation's many lakes, rivers, and coastal waterways, but those operating small boats to engage in water-related activities do need to be aware of their boat's limitations and behave accordingly.

Statistically, more than 80 percent of all boating fatalities occur in boats less than 26 feet in length, often the result of capsizing or falls overboard. In many cases, a contributing factor is one or a combination of the Coast Guard's Big Four: excessive speed, reckless operation, operator inattention/inexperience, and boating under the influence.

However, other factors point to hazards particular to smaller craft. In small, open-constructed boats, the wave-size-to-boat ratio is much less than on a larger boat, and a small boat will fill with water more quickly if washed over by a large wave, or even a small one.

Transoms and helm station areas are wide open and the boats have smaller and fewer bilge pumps. Also, decks are not watertight, and water can enter and damage

the control cables, leaving the boat stranded.

Even empty, such boats have little to no freeboard – the distance between the rail or top edge of the boat and the waterline – and even less when fully loaded with occupants, food, and gear. It's easy to overload these vessels unintentionally, and an overloaded boat is more likely to capsize, even in relatively calm waters.

Therefore, keep in mind your boat's maximum load capacity. On most mono-hull boats up to 20 feet long, this information can be found on the capacity plate, permanently affixed to the hull by the manufacturer. It notes the maximum horsepower rating and maximum load weight at which the boat can safely operate.

If a capacity plate isn't present, one easy formula for calculating the maximum load for a mono-hull boat is to multiply the boat's length times its width and divide by 15. As such, a 6-foot wide, 18-foot boat can carry up to seven people safely.

To make capsizing even less likely, be sure the load is distributed evenly to keep the boat balanced. Standing for any reason in small boats, even changing seating positions, can raise the center of gravity and

make the boat less stable. The same is true for sitting on the gunwales or seat backs, or on a pedestal seat while underway. A raised center of gravity means a wave, wake, or sudden turn can result in a person falling overboard.

For safety's sake, complete a pre-departure checklist prior to launch to make certain your boat is in good working order and has all the necessary safety equipment on board. And, big boat or small, be sure to check the weather report and waterway conditions, bearing in mind that conditions considered safe for a 40-foot boat might be unsafe for one half that size.

Small boats are a lot of fun and important to many water-related activities. Take a moment to do a 15-minute inspection before launch, watch your load, and mind the Big Four. Make sure that all of your small boat journeys are safe ones.

To make sure your small boat is "seaworthy" and that all essentials are on board, set aside 15 minutes for a quick inspection before launch.

• Check the operating condition of your boat: motor, steering, battery, hoses, clamps, bilge pumps, wiring, fuel tanks, lines, float

switches, and lights.

• Make sure you have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket of correct size and type for you and every passenger (and, on the water, make sure they are worn, not just stowed).

• If your boat is greater than 16-feet in length, be sure you also have a Coast Guard approved throwable flotation device – i.e. buoyant cushion, ring buoy or horseshoe buoy (kayaks and canoes are exempted from this requirement).

• Check for other safety equipment appropriate to the size of your boat and the area where it will be operating; for example, flashlight, tool kit, first-aid kit and sunscreen, paddles, oars, binoculars, anchor and anchor line, fire extinguisher, spare battery, visual distress signals, charts of the local area and a VHF-FM marine radio.

• Check the capacity plate (if affixed to the hull) or calculate the maximum load to make sure you don't overload the boat with passengers and gear.

To rent boats at JBER Outdoor Recreation, an online boat safety course certificate is required. The course can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/d7q6mby>

FSS EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

OPEN HOUSES



NEW GOLFER'S OPEN HOUSE
MAY 19 · 1 - 5 P.M.
MOOSE RUN GOLF COURSE
27000 ARCTIC VALLEY ROAD · 428-0056



JBER ELMENDORF OUTDOOR REC. OPEN HOUSE
MAY 19 · 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.
SUMMER RENTAL ITEMS & ADVENTURE PROGRAMS
OUTDOOR REC ELMENDORF
BLDG. 7301 · 552-2023



OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM CUSTOMER OPEN HOUSE
MAY 19 · 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
TALK TO TRIP GUIDES, GET INFO, AND GRILLED FOOD!
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM
BLDG. 7301 · 552-4599



VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE
MAY 23 · 5 - 8 P.M.
WE NEED WHITE WATER RAFTING, ATV TRAIL, AND SEA KAYAK VOLUNTEER GUIDES!
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM
BLDG. 7301

FUN FREEBIES FOR EVERYONE



MARVELOUS MOSAICS
MAY 19 · NOON - 2 P.M.
MAKE AND TAKE A MOSAIC HOME TODAY!
FOR AGES 14 AND OLDER
JBER CONSOLIDATED LIBRARY
BLDG. 7 · 384-1640



FREE MOVIE & POPCORN
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS CHIPWRECKED
MAY 18 · 6 P.M.
ARCTIC OASIS
BLDG. 9497 · 552-8529



FREE TEN MINUTE GOLF LESSONS!
MAY 20 · 1 - 5 P.M.
MOOSE RUN GOLF COURSE
2700 ARCTIC VALLEY ROAD · 428-0056

The Zen of cooking at COP Deysie

By Army Staff Sgt. Jason Epperson
Task Force Spartan Public Affairs

So the game is about to come on TV and you pick up the phone to order pizza and wings for you and your friends. You have about five different flavors of wings to choose from.

Almost 7,000 miles away from home, on a tiny Army outpost in the mountains of Paktia province, Afghanistan, you have a choice of 10 different wings. The only problem is, they don't deliver.

At Combat Outpost Deysie, the cooks get creative daily and take no shortcuts when it comes to feeding the platoon of paratroopers and civilian contractors on the isolated outpost.

Sgt. Colin Goldson, the food service non-commissioned officer in charge, attached to C Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, said he has 10 different flavors of wings he prepares from scratch and serves on Wednesday nights.

"When I first did it, I started off with seven," Goldson, a native of Landover, Md., said. "Then I just started creating flavors. The Coca-Cola was one that just came into my head. I said, 'You know what? Coca-Cola Wings. That just sounds so good.' So I literally got eight cans of Coke, put it in a pot with a little brown sugar and added some corn starch as my thickening agent and baste the wings in it. I let it bake for a little bit and it just took off."

Another popular flavor among the hungry paratroopers is the MEDEVAC wings.

"MEDEVAC wings are so hot, you need a nine-line MEDEVAC just to get you out of here," Goldson's grin widened. "The aid station can't help you after these wings."

Goldson is a powerhouse of limitless energy. He is near completing his master's degree in psychology. He plays several musical instruments including the violin and guitar. His outlook on food service is almost religious.

Goldson is full of Zen-like food philosophies and is happy to share his insight.

His trademark saying is "It's not the knowledge you have that makes you a better person. It's how you utilize the knowledge to get rid of the ignorance."

"My philosophical approach to food services is this: These Soldiers deserve the best," Goldson said. "If I can bring the homeliness here and make the Soldiers more at ease and comfortable when they come to chow, I'm going to go above and beyond and do whatever I can possibly to make them happy. Whether my cooks agree with my philosophy or not, I'm going to demand that from them."

"The last man that eats will get what the first man got," Goldson said. "That's food



Sgt. Colin Goldson, food service non-commissioned officer in charge, attached to C Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment and native of Landover, Md., thickens the sauce for macaroni and cheese May 5 at Combat Outpost Deysie. (U.S. Army photo/Staff Sgt. Jason Epperson)

service. That's not going above and beyond. That's just taking care of the Soldier."

Goldson said it was his grandmother's influence that sparked his interest in cooking at the age of 7.

"I had that grandmother that instilled a lot of values and doing the right things," Goldson said. "Just watching her and how she seasoned up food and brought life to the home with food. My home setting as a child was about everybody getting together on Sunday. It was one big party, but it was the love of cooking that drew me and enticed me to take it up on a professional level."

Since joining the Army, Goldson went to Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Va., and was first assigned to Fort Bragg, N.C., after graduating Airborne school.

He has been stationed overseas in Korea and Germany, where he excelled in cooking foreign cuisine. He was also a culinary instructor at Fort Eustis, Va., where he passed his knowledge on to new Soldiers.

Goldson doesn't take all the credit for the buzz about COP Deysie's DFAC.

"I can't do it alone without the Soldiers' input on the menus that I implement here," Goldson pointed out. "I'm always about being creative and getting ideas from Soldiers. I can't do it without my cooks either. You're only as strong as your weakest link. I instill the training in them every day. I'm very happy with what my cooks do with their attitude and approach to food services."

Despite his years of cooking experience and knowledge, Goldson remains humble.

"I'm still learning. I even learn from my Pfc. He has a lot of good ideas too. You learn from everybody," he said.

Pfc. Jeremy Gomes, a food service specialist attached to C Troop, has known Goldson for a little more than a year.

"He was one of my AIT instructors," Gomes, a native of Mesa, Ariz., said. "I showed up in Alaska and there he was, so now I'm out here working with him."

Gomes said working with Goldson during the deployment has been rewarding.

"I have a lot more respect for my job now," Gomes said. "Working with him, he's taught me a lot. He always talks about having a standard, but it's more than just a standard, it's going that extra distance for these guys who are out there every day and having something good to eat."

Goldson said he prefers to prepare meals from scratch as opposed to pre-made canned items.

"Most of the sauces that I make are all from scratch," Goldson says. "I very rarely use canned items. Ninety percent of my cooking is repetitive of the creativeness in what I do. When I first came into the Army I was (taught) to make everything from scratch such as biscuits, doughnuts, French toast, coffee or gravy. I like to make everything from scratch."

Goldson's team has drawn the attention of the former Combined Joint Task Force senior enlisted advisor, Command Sgt. Major Isaia Vimoto, who served with the 1st Cavalry Division.

The 1st Cavalry Division command sergeant major even brought a cook down from Bagram Air Field to spend the day with Goldson and see how he prepares meals, Goldson said.

"I'm very passionate about what I do for the Army and I'm very serious about my craft, because it is a craft for me," Goldson said. "I like to take it to the next level."

For now, Goldson plans to make the Army his career and he said the future has many different possibilities. He even hinted he might even open up an international cuisine restaurant in Virginia some day.

The paratroopers on the COP look forward to the meals his team cooks, but also respect Goldson as a person and non-commissioned officer.

"He makes the COP what it is," said Sgt. Chad Garcia, a native of Bakersfield, Calif., and team leader assigned to 3rd Platoon, C Troop. "It's not just his cooking, but him being him."

"You fill combat troops' stomachs with good food and put smiles on these faces, it makes these patrols a hell of a lot easier," Garcia said. "Coming back knowing that we have him cooking for us is definitely something to look forward to."

FSS EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

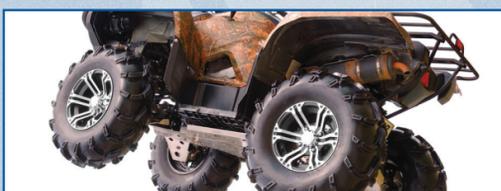


OAP KENAI KING SALMON FISHING TRIP
MAY 25 • 8 A.M. - 7 P.M.
\$140 INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION AND 4 HOURS OF GUIDED DRIFT BOAT FISHING.
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM
BLDG. 7301 • 552-4599



FLY FISHING

INTRO TO FLY CASTING
MAY 21 • 5 - 7 P.M. • \$15
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM
BLDG. 7301 • 552-4599



ATV SAFETY COURSE
MAY 25 • 1 - 5 P.M. • \$50
COST OF CLASS WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE FIRST GUIDED TOUR ATTENDED.
JBER RICHARDSON OUTDOOR REC
BLDG. 7301
384-1475



SEWARD JBER RECREATION CAMP
OPENING MAY 23
JUST IN TIME FOR SEWARD'S COMBAT FISHING & MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY
MAY 23 - JUNE 30
50% OFF SUNDAY-THURSDAY RESERVATIONS
AUGUST 11 - 19
SHOW US YOUR SEWARD SILVER SALMON DERBY TICKET AND RECEIVE 25% OFF YOUR STAY
552-5526

SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF/RICHARDSON IS PARTICIPATING IN THE SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN BEGINNING MAY 18, 2012. BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MEALS WILL BE FREE OF CHARGE TO ALL CHILDREN 18 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER.

MEALS WILL BE SERVED AT FOUR DIFFERENT LOCATIONS:
ILLA SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM (36100 GRADY ST/JBER RICHARDSON)
TWO RIVERS YOUTH CENTER (BLDG 297, 6TH ST/JBER RICHARDSON)
KETCHIKAN SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM (7163 11TH ST/JBER ELMENDORF)
KENNECOTT YOUTH CENTER (6104 CARSWELL AVE/JBER ELMENDORF)

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TIMES OF MEALS CALL: SUE LONG (384-2283) IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE POLICY, THIS INSTITUTION IS PROHIBITED FROM DISCRIMINATING ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, OR DISABILITY. TO FILE A COMPLAINT OF DISCRIMINATION, WRITE USDA, DIRECTOR OF CIVIL RIGHTS, 1400 INDEPENDENCE AVE., SW, WASHINGTON D.C. 20250-9410 OR CALL (800) 795-3272 OR (202) 720-6382 (TTY)





Raul Falciola, E Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne) 40th Cavalry Regiment, drives the softball to left field against the 98th Maintenance Company Saturday.

Softball tourney kicks off outdoor sports season

98th Maintenance power surge leads team from loser's bracket to pre-season diamond crown

PAO staff report

After losing to E Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, 17-11, to drop into the loser's bracket of the JBER-Richardson pre-season softball tournament Saturday, 98th Maintenance Company's bats came alive.

The 98th offense scored 70 runs in their final three games, while their opponents managed only 17.

First they trounced the 95th Chemical Company, 20-10 on Buckner Physical Fitness Center's softball field 2, ending the game after five innings due to a quirk in the tournament's rules.

To speed play, any team leading by at least 20 runs after the third inning, 15 runs after the fourth inning or at least 10 runs after the fifth inning was declared the winner.

The victory advanced the 98th

to a championship rematch against E Troop, while 95th finished the tournament in third place.

The maintenance Soldiers quickly jumped out front with an 11-run first inning, then cruised to a 15-0 four-inning victory to force a second championship game.

The 98th offense surged to a 20-2 edge in the third inning of the second game, but E Troop fought back to stave off elimination with 5 runs in the fourth inning to make the score 20-7 and avoid the 15-run rule.

The maintenance Soldiers opened the floodgates in the top of the fifth inning, pushing another 15 runs across the plate and taking a 35-7 lead.

When E Troop failed to score in their half of the inning, 98th Maintenance were declared winners by the tournament's 10-run rule.



Marcos Juarez, 95th Chemical Company third baseman, tags Taylor Berry, 98th Chemical Company, out in the third-place game Saturday. The 98th Maintenance team won the game, 20-10 to advance to the championship against E Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment.



ABOVE: E Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment pitcher Mitchell Gehle tosses an offering toward the plate in the second championship game Saturday at Buckner Physical Fitness Center's softball field 3.

LEFT: E Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment third baseman Steven Mendez chases a ground ball against the 98th Maintenance Company in the second championship game Saturday.

FAR LEFT: Dustin Baldwin, 98th Maintenance Company shortstop, chases a popup to end the second championship game Saturday. The 98th Maintenance team crushed E Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment in back-to-back championship games to win the tournament.

ABOVE LEFT: Taylor Berry, 98th Maintenance Company second baseman, makes the turn to complete a 6-5-3 double play in the second championship game. Berry and his 98th Maintenance Company teammates scored 70 runs in their final three games to come from the loser's bracket and win the JBER-Richardson pre-season softball tournament Saturday at Buckner Physical Fitness Center. (U.S. Air Force photos/John Pennell)

Troops, families get free pass to national parks

By Lisa Daniel
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Service members and their families will be able to enter all of America's national parks free of charge for a year under an initiative announced Tuesday.

The pass — the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Annual Pass, which normally costs \$80 — will become available to service members and their dependents on Armed Forces Day Saturday.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar made the announcement this morning, along with National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, at a ceremony at Colonial National Historical Park in Yorktown, Va., the site of the last major battle of the Revolutionary War. The area surrounding the park hosts installations from all the military services, including the world's largest naval base.

The passes allow the holder and passengers in a single private vehicle access to some 2,000 sites that charge per vehicle. At sites where entrance fees are charged per person, it covers the pass owner and three adults age 16 and older.

The National Park Service estimates giving away the passes to service members and their families will result in a revenue loss between \$2 million and \$6 million, but Jarvis said that won't cause a significant impact on the agency, which collects about \$150 million in fees each year.

Military personnel can get the passes at any national park or wildlife refuge that charges an entrance fee by showing their military ID. Family members also will be able to obtain their own pass, even if the service member is deployed or if they are traveling separately.

The pass will be accepted at National



A lynx takes a break in Denali National Park. (National Park Service photo/Ken Conger)

Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps sites that charge entrance or standard amenity fees.

The free pass will be made available for activated members of the National Guard and reserves, but not for military veterans or retirees, whom Jarvis said have other opportunities for free or reduced admission, such as the National Park Service's "Access Pass" or a seniors pass for those 62 and older.

Jarvis, a 40-year Park Service employee,

said that while the free passes are a first, they are representative of the parks' history with the military, which dates back to the Buffalo Soldiers' battles with Native Americans in the mid-1800s and the recruitment of former military members to serve as park rangers under the first NPS director, Stephen T. Mather. The Park Service maintains many military historical sites from Gettysburg to Pearl Harbor, and in World War II even closed some parks, such as Mount Rainier in Washington state, to all but active military members, he said.

Right after World War II, the Park

Service invested heavily in infrastructure to prepare the parks for returning service members, Jarvis said. Today's generation of warriors also deserves a deep connection to the parks, he said.

"From my perspective, it is incredibly important to return this group of returning military members to their national parks," Jarvis said. "Nothing is more core to the American experience than the national parks. These are places for quiet and contemplation and to reconnect to the American experience. And we don't want there to be any barriers to that."

Community happenings

SATURDAY Annual Torch Run

The annual Law Enforcement Torch Run supporting the Special Olympics starts at West High at 10 a.m. with registration at 9 a.m. All are welcome to run or walk the 3K course, and food and music will be provided with registration.

For information call 552-3421.

MAY 28 Memorial Day Ceremony

The Korean War Veterans Association will host a Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Flag Pole at 9th Ave. and I Street beginning at 3 p.m. World War II veterans are especially invited to commemorate the attack on Dutch Harbor.

For information, call 274-3218.

JUNE 1 Festival of Flowers

Kick off the Alaskan summer with the Festival of Flowers in downtown Anchorage. Flower sales and auctions, educational seminars, live music, face-painting and stilt-walkers are on tap to bring in the summertime in style.

Spend all day in Town Square park, or visit www.anchoragedowntown.org to choose an event.

JUNE 2 THROUGH 10 Three Barons Ren Faire

The Three Barons invite all to enter their realm for revelry and merriment. Living chess, circuses, puppets, magic shows and fairy tales make for fun-filled times for the whole family.

Visit June 2, 3, 9 and 10 from noon until 8 p.m. at Tozier Track.

For more information visit www.3barons.org.

JUNE 7 THROUGH 18 Slam'n Salm'n Derby

Ship Creek is just feet away

from downtown hotels, but the fish can top 40 pounds.

There are many classes and prizes in this annual derby, so you don't need to land the biggest fish to reel in great prizes.

For information, visit www.shipcreeksalmonderby.com.

JUNE 8 Military Appreciation picnic and olympics

Paxton Park and Buckner Physical Fitness Center host concurrent military appreciation picnics. Arctic Warrior Olympics will take place at Paxton Park beginning at 8 a.m.

For information call 580-0213 or 552-0503 for the olympics; for picnic information call 551-8739 or 552-7352.

For a schedule of events and Arctic Warrior Olympics registration information, visit <http://tinyurl.com/73e3zkl>

JUNE 9 Potter Marsh discovery

Discover Potter Marsh and some of Alaska's wildlife at Anchorage's most popular wildlife viewing area from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This family friendly event on National Get Outdoors Day includes nature-related games and prizes, invertebrate sampling, birding stations along the boardwalk, captive birds from the Bird Treatment and Learning Center, educational animals from the Alaska Zoo, kid-friendly archery range, fly-fishing practice area, release of a rehabilitated bald eagle and more.

Run for women

Alaska women pound the pavement to raise funds for breast cancer research and awareness, with 1 and 5-mile runs beginning at Sullivan Arena.

Registration and bib pick up is from 6:45 to 8:15 a.m. The 1-mile run begins at 8:30 a.m., and the 5-mile run begins at 8:45 a.m.

JUNE 22 Army Birthday Ball

All ranks are welcomed to this Army ball at the Hilton starting at 6 p.m. Lt. Gen. Michael Ferriter will speak.

For information or tickets, contact unit representative or call 384-2067.

ONGOING Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help organize games and activities for children, and to set up and tear down equipment at the Military Appreciation Picnic June 8 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To volunteer, call 552-3598 or 552-7456.

Volunteers needed

Volunteer referees are needed for the CrossFit Games during the Arctic Warrior Olympics June 8.

If you want to be a referee or participate in the games, call 552-2629.

Sing-along at the zoo

Pre-school aged children can explore the world of animals through music with musician Annie Reeves.

Children can sing along with the guitar, or play with the musical instruments for kids. Sing-alongs are at 10:30 a.m. Mondays at the coffee shop greenhouse.

For information email klarson@alaskazoo.org.

Wired Cafe for Airmen

The Wired Cafe is located at

7076 Fighter Dr., between Polaris and Yukla dormitories.

The cafe has wireless Internet and programs throughout the week for single Airmen living in the dorms. There are free meals Fridays at 6 p.m.

For information, call 552-4422.

Model railroading

The Military Society of Model Railroad Engineers meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 1 p.m. Saturdays in basement Room 35 of Matanuska Hall, 7153 Fighter Drive.

Anyone interested in model railroading is invited.

For information, call 552-5234, visit www.trainweb.org/msmrrre or email bjorgan@alaska.net.

Motorcycle training

The Basic Rider Course, Basic Rider Course 2 and Military Sport-bike Rider Course are now accepting applications.

All military personnel and those civilians who use motorcycles as a duty requirement need to be certified.

To register, visit www.militarysafepmv.com and select Elmendorf-Richardson, or contact the JBER Safety office at 552-5092 or 552-6850.

Road Warriors running

Want to get out and run?

Military and civilian alike are welcome to train regularly with the group and get involved with monthly running, biking and swimming events with the Road Warriors.

For more information, check the Road Warriors (Alaska) Facebook page or call 384-7733 or 552-1361.

Chapel services

Catholic Mass

Sunday

9 a.m. — Soldiers' Chapel
10:30 a.m. — Elmendorf Chapel 1

Monday through Friday

11:40 a.m. — Soldiers' Chapel
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday
11:30 a.m. — Elmendorf Chapel Center
Thursday
11:30 a.m. — Hospital Chapel

Confession

Saturday

6 p.m. — Soldiers' Chapel
Monday through Friday
Before/after 11:40 Mass — Soldiers' Chapel

Protestant Sunday Services

Joint Liturgical Service
9 a.m. — Elmendorf Chapel 2
Traditional Service
9 a.m. — Elmendorf Chapel 1
Contemporary Protestant Service
11 a.m. — Soldiers' Chapel
Gospel Service
Noon — Elmendorf Chapel 1
Contemporary Protestant Service
5 p.m. — Elmendorf Chapel 1

Buddhist

Soka Gakkai Goshu
7 p.m., first Friday of the month — Chapel Center (10427 Kuter Ave.)

