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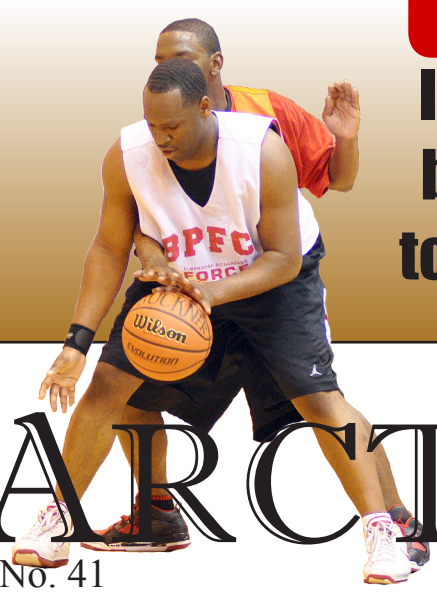

Safety
JBER motorcycle riding ends Saturday
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www.jber.af.mil/news

ARCTIC WARRIOR

Volume 2, No. 41 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson October 14, 2011

SNOW PATROL

773d Civil Engineers prep JBER for winter weather

A 773rd Civil Engineer Squadron plow leads other snow removal equipment down Fighter Drive, before parking at the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson snow barn, Oct. 7. The 773rd CES took snow removal equipment on a tour around base to show residents the machinery they may see during the winter. During inclement weather, call 552-INFO or visit JBER's Facebook for road conditions. Roads are graded from best to worst as green, yellow, red and black. Troops and civilian employees should contact supervisors for reporting information during adverse weather conditions. (U.S. Air Force photo/Johnathon Green)

Pvt. Danny Chen

1-25th SBCT Soldier killed in Afghanistan

USARAK Public Affairs
News release

A Soldier from Fort Wainwright died early Monday evening in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

Pvt. Danny Chen, 19, from New York City, was an infantryman assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division at Fort Wainwright.

Chen entered the Army in January 2011 in New York, completed Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning, Ga. and arrived at Fort Wainwright in May.

Chen deployed to Afghanistan in August as a replacement in the 3rd Bn., 21st Infantry Regiment.

The incident is under investigation.

The next of kin have been notified.

Air Force Master Sgt. Chris Huethmann, 3rd Maintenance Squadron, takes the ATV Instructor certification course, offered by the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Safety Office at Hillberg Ski Area, Sept. 22. ATVs are often used in Alaska to complete missions off paved roads. (U.S. Air Force photo/Steven White)

Riders practice ATV safety, prepare for Alaska missions

By Luke Waack
JBER Public Affairs

The state of Alaska has more than 586,000 square miles of land within its borders and only a handful of paved highways, making air and off-road transportation vital for military members operating in day-to-day missions.

Airmen at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson completed ATV training Sept. 22 which equipped them to not only ride all-terrain vehicles here themselves, but also gives them the certification to train other members of their unit.

"In Alaska, you have so many people riding ATVs and so many people that require ATVs for their official duties that the more people we can get trained, the safer people should be when they go out and actually use them," said Todd Moore, JBER Ground Safety Office, safety and occupational health specialist.

Four days of training culminated with student-instructors teaching brand new ATV riders the basics.

Would-be instructors were required to pass written, riding and teaching tests given by the ATV Safety Institute, an independent contractor.

The training was offered through the JBER Safety Office motorcycle safety program to Airmen from various units, to include seven Airmen from 11th Air Force, 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron, 673d Security Forces

See **ATV** Page A-3

793rd MP Battalion hosts 'Spouses Challenge'

Spouses march in the 793rd Military Police Battalion Spouses Challenge on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Oct. 6. (U.S. Army photo/2d Engineer Brigade)

2nd Engineer Brigade
News release

The sun hadn't risen yet from behind the Alaskan mountains on the crisp October morning.

Weapons were drawn and the troops assembled into a formation outside.

Sgt. David Grosshuesch of the 793rd Military Police Battalion called the group to attention, directed a "right face" then "forward march" and the platoon-sized element began a forced road march wearing full battle rattle.

This would seem like a typical morning for a group of Soldiers, but these were Soldiers' spouses.

The 793rd Military Police Battalion held a spouses day, dubbed the "The Spartan Spouses Challenge" Oct. 6 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The events included a road march, weapons familiarization training, vehicle roll-over drills, a simulated range, a ride in the back of a Light Medium Tactical Vehicle and an obstacle course with a dozen challenges.

"The intent is to bring the spouses of our Soldiers in here, male or female, to understand what their Soldier, husband or wife does on a daily basis," Army Lt. Col. Steve Gabavics, commander of the 793rd MP Battalion, said. "To get to see some of the events that we participate in, to learn a little about the weapons we use, to have some fun more than anything else and get to know each other."

"One of the opportunities in having the spouses here is that I think it coalesces the unit a little bit better, because now you get to have that entire integrity of a family beyond what you would normally have with just the Soldier being involved with battalion," he said.

The spouses jumped right into the action. They got to see and experience firsthand what their Soldiers do at work. Some of the spouses found the events challenging as well.

"The most challenging thing we did today was the obstacle course," said Ruth Banks, whose husband is a captain in the 793rd MP. "It was really hard to get across, but a lot of Soldiers helped me out, so that was great. I think the whole day was challenging and I learned a lot about what my husband does at work. The rollover was very interesting and very difficult to get out of."

Some spouses compared the challenge to a kind of G.I. Jane experience.

"Live the life in your husband's shoes or boots for the day," Nicole Grosshuesch said. "The fun things we get to do is wear the ruck, getting to do roll-over drills and the obstacle course. A lot of different things we don't get to see our husbands getting to do."

The spouses received certificates from Gabavics and Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Epps for their participation.

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Hispanic American Heritage

Retired Airman, Army Corps of Engineers civilian, hosts Alaska's only hispanic radio show, Page A-7

Panetta: DoD must work jointly on budget

By Cheryl Pellerin
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The services must work together to face mounting budget pressures and determine the nation's future military needs, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Wednesday.

Speaking with hundreds of service members at the annual meeting of the Association of the U.S. Army, the secretary entered to a standing ovation and in his remarks praised the men and women of the Army and discussed a range of challenges.

Over 10 years of war, he said, "we've become the best counter-insurgency force in the world and we've also become the most adaptive, the most expeditionary and the most joint force in our country's history."

Panetta said the services have to weather the present budget storms as a team, putting the needs of all before the needs of one.

"We can't do anything less," he added. "The stakes are too high right now, and if we don't tackle these challenges together, we will not be able to see our way clear to remaining the best military in the world."

Tough decisions lie ahead, the secretary said.

"No one really knows exactly what lies ahead in 10 or 20 or 30 years from now," he added, "but one thing we know for sure: this country, our fellow citizens and, indeed, people around the world are going to continue to look to America for leadership and to American military power for partnership and for leadership in the world."

The past 10 years have shaped the Army into the finest fighting force in the world, Panetta said.

Since 9/11, more than 1 million Soldiers have deployed to combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, he said. More than 70,000 Soldiers serve in Afghanistan, nearly 40,000 still serve in Iraq, and thousands more serve around the globe.

"This burden has not come lightly," Panetta said. "More than 4,500 Soldiers have given the last full measure of devotion since 9/11, and another 32,000 Soldiers have been wounded."

From Iraq's city streets to the mountains of Afghanistan, the secretary added, "America's Soldiers – active, Guard, Reserve – have been serving and sacrificing, fighting and dying in order to protect our freedoms, our liberties and our values. That is the enduring story of the American Soldier."

Today's Army is unmatched by any in the world, the secretary said, and yet the military services, and the Army in particular, have reached an important inflection point.

The United States is bringing the war in Iraq to a responsible end, Panetta said, "and that country now has a chance to emerge as a sovereign, stable, self-reliant nation and a positive force for stability in a vital region of the world."

Afghanistan still is a tough fight, he added, but conditions are being set for a responsible transition to Afghan security by the end of 2014.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta delivers remarks at the Association of the U.S. Army's annual meeting and exposition in Washington, D.C., Wednesday. (DoD photo/Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jacob Bailey)

"As we draw down in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Army will gain finally some much-needed strategic breathing space – already, combat deployments are being shortened from 12 months to nine months," the secretary said.

"We must use this time well and wisely," he added, "because as welcome as it is, it comes as we face an extraordinary fiscal pressure on the military, on the Defense (Department) and, for that matter, on the country. This department faces the imperative of cutting more than $450 billion over the next 10 years."

The department is willing to do its part, he said, but "there are some who continue to propose even deeper cuts in defense, arguing that the draconian cuts that are part of this crazy doomsday mechanism called sequester – a $1 trillion cut if it takes effect – somehow won't impact on our national security."

Sequestration would force across-the-board, "salami-slicing" cuts of the worst kind, he said.

"It would hollow out the force," he said. "It would leave our military deficient in people, in training and (in) equipment, and unable to adapt when the next security challenge comes along."

The same mistake was made after World War I, after World War II, after Korea, after Vietnam and after the collapse of the Soviet Union, he said.

"We must never make that mistake again," Panetta added. "And it will not happen under my watch."

The international security environment is growing in complexity and uncertainty, he said, and the nation and the world must continue to deal with terrorism and the threat of violent extremism.

"My job is to make sure we're ready for that role," the secretary said, "across a complex group of missions, to ensure that our armed forces remain the very best in the world and that our Army remains the finest strategic land force in the world."

The nation's future military will be smaller, but must be able to address such future challenges, which likely will come from "state and nonstate actors arming with high-tech weaponry that is easier both to buy and to operate – weapons that frustrate our traditional advantage and freedom of movement," Panetta said.

"Coming up with new ideas, with new operating principles to defeat these kind of enemies," the secretary said, "is a challenge that I pose to this battle-hardened generation of American Soldiers."

Today's men and women in uniform are as creative and mentally agile on the battlefield as are their contemporaries in high-tech idea labs in Silicon Valley, Panetta said.

"The excellence of our greatest asset, our Soldiers," the secretary added, "gives me confidence that we can craft an Army organized, trained and equipped to prevail in the future."

Army leaders commit to family support

By Elizabeth Collins
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Family programs remain important and their budgets will not be used to fund other initiatives, the secretary and chief of staff of the Army pledged Monday.

Secretary of the Army John McHugh and Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno assured family members and family readiness group leaders who were gathered at the first family forum of the Association of the United States Army annual meeting that family programs remain as important as ever, despite Dept. of Defense budget cuts and drawdowns overseas.

"We don't talk enough about our families, about what we've gone through," Odierno said. "We sometimes don't know the impact it's had on our children, and I do worry about that. What are we doing for our children? Wherever I go, I talk about (how) our children are the strength of our nation, our children are the strength of our Army, and how we help them to get through these numerous deployments and how we help them to cope with issues of missing dad or mom."

Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III sign the Army Family Covenant, Monday, as wounded warrior Sgt. Jeremy Barnhart and his family look on. The Barnhart family was honored as the Association of the United States Army volunteer family of the year. (U.S. Army photo/Elizabeth Collins)

"And of course one of the things that I think we need to take a hard look at – and this won't end the day we come out of Afghanistan – we're going to have a lot of work to do after that as well, because we'll have to continue to deal with family issues, family programs for years to come. We have to ensure that we're invested in them and we have to ensure we understand what those issues are," he said.

And he does understand, Odierno assured the audience. His wife makes sure of it.

Odierno and McHugh said they can't say exactly what will happen until they have an exact budget to work with, but they will have to consider ending underutilized programs, and direct resources at programs that are the most popular and useful.

"I want to make a commitment to you," McHugh said, " to let you know that while we're going to look at ways in which we can do things more efficiently – we owe that to ourselves, we owe it to the taxpayers of this nation – we will try and make decisions as to how you feel what is working and what is not. We may change some things. I'd like to think those changes will be for the better. But we will not make Army family programs the bill payer for other kinds of initiatives. That's a place we've been in the past and it's a place I don't want to help take us back to."

"We've got folks under our jurisdiction who are looking at these things, but we're going to be heavily dependent – and it's not just the family programs, quite honestly, it's a lot of facilities-based initiatives – as to what folks like you think works and what doesn't to keep us absolutely on point," he explained. "We're not going to cut budgets just to cut budgets, but we have put an enormous amount of money – over $1.2 billion – in family programs and we've got to make sure that we're not funding something with a lot of money that you folks either don't know about, are confused about or you don't take advantage of it."

McHugh added that Army family members should also contact their congressional representatives about their concerns, and the need to keep funding family programs.

They then renewed their commitment to Army families by re-signing the Army Family Covenant with Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III.

Small changes can make big differences in energy conservation

Commentary by Air Force
Gen. Donald Hoffman
Air Force News Service

The absolute lifeblood of the modern military is energy.

It allows us to be expeditionary and go anywhere on the globe.

For true energy assurance as an Air Force, we need to be able to find energy solutions and strategies anywhere, even in hostile nations.

At the most basic level, that assurance starts with reducing demand, diversifying supply and changing the culture.

It can seem overwhelming to think about energy in terms of the entire military, so I want to emphasize saving energy at the point of consumption – it all begins at the lowest levels.

Indeed, I believe that conserving resources, and using them judiciously, is a personal responsibility as well as an organizational responsibility. Whether at home or in our professional lives, being good stewards of energy is simply a matter of changing the culture of how individuals and organizations view and use energy.

To initiate this change in culture, some Air Force Materiel Command bases are participating in contests that pit organizations, and even buildings, in a competition against one another to see which has contributed the most to energy savings.

This might translate simply as flipping off light switches and turning off monitors at the end of the day – essentially treating the Air Force's energy consumption as we would our own residences.

As an example of how seemingly small changes can make a big difference, a simple project to detect water leaks has saved Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., approximately 179,000,000 gallons of water annually.

On a more strategic scale, all of our bases are working toward being better stewards of energy through space optimization and facility condition assessments, as well as by forging partnerships with industry to understand how companies organize, prioritize and sustain their facilities.

There is a reason "protect, conserve and consume resources under your control as if they were your own" is one of my leadership principles.

I'm proud of the work AFMC members have done to reduce demand, diversify supply and change the culture, thereby helping the Air Force secure a proactive energy mindset.

The one energy source that I think we can expend freely, as it is 100 percent renewable, is the energy I see daily in the workforce as you collectively and individually think of new and innovative ways to address this challenge.

Thank you for your continued dedication to changing the energy culture.

Alaskan Command/
11th Air Force
Commanding General
Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins (USAF)

U.S. Army Alaska
Commanding General
Maj. Gen. Raymond P. Palumbo (USA)

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
673d Air Base Wing Commander
Col. Robert D. Evans (USAF)

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
673d Air Base Wing Vice Commander
Col. Timothy R. Prior (USA)

ARCTIC WARRIOR

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Combat Sappers practice forced entry operations

By Army Capt. James Kwoun
6th Engineer Battalion

A UH-60 Black Hawk carries supplies for the 6th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne) during Operation Boreal Wolverine, a four-day field training exercise at the Donnelly Training Area. (Army photo/Staff Sgt Jason Epperson)

The 6th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne) completed a four-day field training exercise at the Donnelly Training Area last month in an exercise dubbed Operation Boreal Wolverine.

"This operation was designed to test the collective capabilities of our battalion to provide phased engineer support to forced entry operations," said Army Lt. Col. Marc Hoffmeister, commander of the 6th Engineer Battalion.

"It was a short, but intense, demonstration of our ability to rapidly project combat power, gain forcible entry into a non-permissive environment, and apply the full spectrum of engineer capabilities to expand the lodgment and enable the air landing of follow-on forces," said Hoffmeister.

Weather conditions limited what was air dropped and the airborne assault was ultimately cancelled. Paratroopers landed at Allen Army Airfield and transported to the objective through ground transportation.

From there, the operation continued as planned.

The 23rd Engr. Co. (Sapper) (Airborne) led the initial assault, with the responsibility of seizing an important objective containing the bulk of enemy forces.

The 84th Engineer Support Company (Airborne) also had a significant role during the initial push, providing one platoon to serve as the battalion's reserve force and another platoon to engage and destroy a known enemy position.

After security was established, the operation entered into its next phase.

Elements of the 23rd Engineer Company began clearing a landing strip, looking for natural and man-made obstacles and removing mock land mines.

The 84th ESC repaired damage to the airfield, which was then assessed and deemed capable of receiving aircraft to bring in follow-on forces.

"Within a short period of time, our sappers successfully seized a large objective, destroyed an enemy platoon, cleared the flight landing strip, conducted rapid runway repairs, and began transitioning for the next phase in the operation," said Army Maj. Otis Register, executive officer for the 6th Engineer Battalion.

The next phase of Operation Boreal Wolverine involved building a combat outpost to house, protect, and sustain the increasing flow of additional forces.

The 56th Engineer Company (Vertical) led this phase of the operation, taking on three of the outpost's four construction projects.

"Our assigned mission was to construct a SEA (Southeast Asia) hut, a guard tower and an entry control point," said Army Capt. Melbourne Arledge, 56th Engineer Company commander.

The Vertical Construction Platoon from the Headquarters and Headquarters Company was assigned to construct an observation post on a hill with direct line of sight over the entire objective area.

The 84th ESC cleared the ground to ensure a stable construction surface for all four of the projects.

The company also dispatched continuous convoys to a nearby borough pit to transport gravel to fill HESCO barriers, makeshift barriers of canvas filled with dirt and rock.

To sustain the battalion, the Forward Support Company conducted two supply sling load operations with UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

All of the construction projects were fully complete by the fifth day of the operation.

"In addition to being a critical effort in the scenario, the construction projects will have usefulness for other units conducting training at the Donnelly Training Area," Arledge said.

Although vertical construction operations were the main focus during this phase of the operation, security was still critical.

The combat outpost was attacked with indirect fire by an enemy retaliating for the loss of key terrain, according to the intelligence officer.

The 23rd Engr. Co. established a defensive perimeter around the outpost with concertina wire, defensive fighting positions and interlocking fields of fire.

In addition to the main entry control point being constructed by the 56th Engr. Co., two hasty entry control points were established to secure avenues of approach into the combat outpost.

Five key leader engagements were conducted over two days with Soldiers playing the roles of Afghan tribal elders.

The objective of these meetings was two-fold, according to Register.

"We wanted to teach our platoon leaders the importance of shaping the human terrain in any forced entry operation where the local population is not accustomed to U.S. military presence," Register said.

"Additionally, (key leader engagements) are a practical way to expose our Soldiers to Afghan culture."

On the fourth day of the operation, about 30 Soldiers from the 23rd Engr. Co. conducted an airmobile raid at the Bondsteel Complex, northwest of the Donnelly Training Area, to kill or capture a "high value individual."

The raid, involving explosives breaching in an urban environment, resulted in nine enemy personnel killed and four detainees, all role-played by Soldiers.

Army 1st Lt. Megan Hedman, platoon leader in 84th ESC, was conducting a key leader engagement when she received confirmation that the 23rd Engr. Co. had successfully targeted the high value individual at Bondsteel Complex.

"The success of the airmobile raid at Bondsteel quickly gained the attention of the tribes and demonstrated our military strength," Hedman said.

Hedman's successful key leader engagement was a pivotal moment during the operation, according to Hoffmeister.

"With the enemy network severely degraded following the initial assault and the airmobile raid, the tide had turned," Hoffmeister said. "The Afghan tribes gradually became convinced of our determination to protect them, symbolized by our ongoing construction of the (combat outpost), and our determined pursuit of the enemy."

When all four construction projects were complete, the Arctic Sappers declared the combat outpost to be ready to receive incoming forces.

With that report, the Arctic Sappers began redeployment preparations just in time for a well-deserved weekend.

"I am extremely proud of our sappers," Hoffmeister said. "This was an incredibly complex operation involving multiple lines of effort executed simultaneously that stretched our resources to the limit.

"I can say with absolute confidence that this battalion is ready for any mission requiring the rapid deployment of engineer capabilities as part of a larger infantry task force to seize an objective in a non-permissive environment," Hoffmeister said.

ATV

From Page A-1

Squadron, and the 381st Intelligence Squadron.

In the event of an airplane mishap, security forces would have to provide site security and ATVs would give them increased mobility.

"We'd secure the whole scene, the perimeter and then we would use those machines to bring investigators and so forth to the crash site," said Wayne Brewer, security forces operations officer.

Most ATVs can carry 100 pounds on the front rack and 200 pounds on the back rack and tow up to 1,500 pounds on a trailer or sled.

"Its important to know how to safely ride, especially in Alaska where the terrain is diverse and riding conditions can be unpredictable," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Valerie Queitzsch, 673d SFS, Visitor Control Center, noncommissioned officer-officer-in-charge and instructor-in-training.

Proper safety training for ATV riders is more important than ever, class members explained, because the vehicles have evolved over the years.

"More power, more speed – it used to be, back in the day, that the 250 cc or 400 cc ATV was the big machine," Brewer said. "Now they're coming out with 1,000 cc ATVs."

"You can get on these things and go 60, 70 miles per hour," Brewer continued. "It's imperative that people are out there taking the safety classes."

All of the instructors in training had already taken basic ATV operation courses.

"When you're certifying as an instructor, you have to make sure you know all the aspects of ATV riding safety," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Valerie Ellis, 673d SFS, instructor-in-training.

Ellis and her classmates will train new unit members as they arrive in their respective units to keep ATV skills sharp and ready to support Air Force missions.

ABOVE: Mark Sledge, 673d Wildlife Conservation Enforcement chief, practices teaching ATV safety to a group of students at Hillberg Ski Area, Sept. 22. LEFT: Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Scanlon, 381st Intel Squadron, practices turns on an ATV during the Safety Office training course at Hillberg Ski Area, Sept. 22. FAR LEFT: An instructor-in-training watches his class as they demonstrate proper riding techniques. (U.S. Air Force photos/ Steven White)

Briefs and Announcements

Motorcycle riding on JBER ends

The Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson motorcycle riding season ends Saturday. Motorcycle riding is prohibited through the winter for safety reasons.

For more information call the JBER Safety Office at 552-6850.

Professional military education

The U.S. Army Alaska Sgt. 1st Class Christopher R. Brevard Noncommissioned Officer Academy will graduate Class 01-12, Oct. 21 and Class 13-11 Oct. 29. Both ceremonies will take place at the JBER-Richardson Theater at 10 a.m.

The Air Force Professional Military Education Center will hold a graduation ceremony for NCOA and ALS classes 11-7 at the JBER-Elmendorf Theater, Oct. 28 at 10:45 a.m.

Defense Biometric ID System

All DoD ID card holders are required to enroll into the Defense Biometrics Identification System (DBIDS) on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson to include Active Duty, Reserve, Army National Guardfamily members and retirees.

All personnel are required to be registered by January 2012. Register at the People Center, Building 8517, Room 100 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. or at the main entrance of the JBER hospital. People can also register at the Visitor Control Center which is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Personnel not registered by January 2012 will incur delays at the gate and be forced to the already busy Visitor Control Center to gain access to JBER.

Air Force ID card changes

Due to long wait times for walk-in customers, effective Monday, all military members or Department of Defense civilians will be required to schedule an appointment via the Military Personnel Section Customer Service Appointment website at *https://673fssmpscustomerser.clickbook.net*.

The MPS will only see military members on a walk-in basis if their card is lost, needs to be unlocked, certificates need updating, or it ceases to function.

It is also highly encouraged appointments be made for civilian, dependent, Reserve and retiree ID cards.

Dining facility closure

The Iditarod Dining Facility is closed until December for renovations.

Food service operations will shift to Kenai Dining Hall for three months and shuttles will be available for transportation from the dorms.

The flight line food service Provisions on Demand facility, Building 16710, is open and provides meals for Airmen working on the flight line.

Campus-style dining available

Aramark now offers Airmen the use of meal cards at the Paradise Café, Warehouse Grill and Eagle's Nest.

Not all menu items are available for meal card use. Eligible items will be marked on the facilities' menus.

Travel charge card changes

Effective immediately, personal use of the controlled spend account government travel charge card is not authorized. The CSA card may only be used for expenses related to official government travel.

Payments in excess of overall expenditures placed on the CSA card, after completion of official travel (credit or residual balance), can be obtained by the traveler through electronic transfer to a personal account through Citi's on-line access system or by phone, request check by Citi, a check automatically mailed to cardholder after 60 days of activity, or ATM withdrawal (two percent fee).

Home schooling

Interior Distance Education of Alaska provides home schooling parents with educational tools, high-quality materials, workshops, advice and guidance. The Regional Parent Advisory Committee provides an avenue of communication between parents and the district.

Students must have physically resided in the state and be between the ages of 5 and 19 by Sept. 1, to enroll.

At least 50 percent of the coursework the student takes must be in the core subject areas of English, math, social studies, science, technology or world languages.

For more information about IDEA, contact support staff at the Anchorage office at 562-4332 or visit *www.ideafamilies.org*.

Shred for free

The Better Business Bureau of Alaska is offering free bulk shredding services to Alaska residents, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wells Fargo, 16600 Centerfield Drive, Eagle River.

Drive up and drop off up to three bags of unwanted documents per person. No cardboard or three-ring binders will be accepted. Items will be shredded immediately by Shred Alaska.

Renters insurance

Aurora Military Housing is providing free renter's insurance to tenants of all Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson housing.

The renter's insurance will be provided, at no cost, to all existing and future JBER residents under a blanket policy with Great American Insurance.

For those tenants currently under the Aurora Allstate Policy, conversion to the new policy will be totally transparent and will be taken care of by Aurora.

Aurora will continue to honor its reimbursement arrangement with those tenants who have previously elected renter's insurance coverage by an insurer other than Allstate.

These tenants will be grandfathered under the previous reimbursement option and will continue to receive reimbursements during their stay with Aurora.

The new policy coverage limits are very similar to those previously provided by Aurora and are as follows:

Deductible – $250

Personal Property – $20,000 per loss

Personal Liability – $100,000 per tenant household, per occurrence

Personal Liability/Medical Payments – $1,000 per person/$1,000 per accident

Fire Legal Liability – $100,000 per tenant household, per occurrence.

As this limited coverage is provided as part of residency, Aurora encourages residents to examine their needs and independently seek supplemental coverage if necessary.

This is a brief explanation of the coverage; please refer to the policy for precise terms, conditions, coverage's and limitations. A copy of the insurance policy will be available at the Aurora Military Housing office or visit *www.auroramilitaryhousing.com*.

Halloween candy screening

The 732nd Air Mobility Squadron Passenger Terminal will be offering free Halloween candy screening Oct. 31. After trick-or-treating, stop by Building 10364 18th St. For further information call 552-0503 or 552-6733.

Prescription drug 'take back'

The Red Ribbon week campaign will close with the DEA sponsored, prescription-drug take back program on Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The local pick-up points on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson will be manned by the JBER Army Substance Abuse Program and the 673d Medical GroupPharmacy at the Joint Military Mall and Commissary entrances.

Old and no longer used medications can be turned in. Inhalers, liquids, or illicit drugs will not be accepted. This is an opportunity to empty out the medicine cabinet of old medications without polluting our landfills or water supply.

Rental Partnership

The Rental Partnership Program is available to all eligible active-duty members and consists of two options.

The first option, RPP Plus, includes utilities and sometimes cable costs providing an easier budget with a set rental payment year round.

The other option, RPP 5 Percent Below Market, saves the member five percent off the rental fee that other tenants pay however utilities are paid for by the tenant.

Both options are made available with no deposits or fees to the member with the exclusion of pet fees as it may apply.

This program is designed to provide active-duty military personnel, enlisted and officers, accompanied and unaccompanied with affordable off-base housing.

An allotment must be executed under either option of the RPP for the rental payments which is made directly to the landlord resulting in a more trouble free transactions.

See RPP officials at the Capital Asset Management Office, Building 6346, Arctic Warrior Dr., or call at 552-4328 or 552-4374 for further information and assistance regarding this program.

Housing surveys

Surveys are sent to each tenant annually and are a valuable tool for informing base leadership and Aurora Military Housing on satisfaction with the quality of homes and services provided.

The results obtained from these surveys are used to tailor business decisions which are geared toward improving the quality of life desired by Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson housing tenants.

Inputs through the surveys are key to ensuring the right decisions are made.

Please allow Aurora Military Housing and the base leadership to better serve with base housing by taking a few minutes to complete and promptly return the surveys in the supplied envelope upon receipt.

For further questions on the Aurora Tenant Satisfaction Survey, contact Aurora Military Housing at 753-1023, or the Capital Asset Management Office at 552-4312/552-2516.

Military publications available

Visit the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Public Affairs Office, 10480 22nd Ave., Suite 123, for copies of the following official military publications: the 2011 JBER Installation Guide and Phonebook (limited supply), U.S. Air Force Priorities poster series (large and small sizes), and Airman Magazine (2011 almanac issue). City of Anchorage maps are also available.

Call 552-8918 for information.

Veteran DJs Alaskan-Hispanic radio show

By Curt Biberdorf
Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska

Dave Luera, human resources specialist at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District, hosts "Algo Nuevo"– Something New – on KSKA 91.1 FM Anchorage every Sunday night. (U.S. Army photo/Curt Biberdorf)

Dave Luera gives Anchorage "something new" every Sunday night.

The human resources specialist at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District is host of "Algo Nuevo" – Something New – on KSKA 91.1 FM.

The music program on the public radio station plays cumbia, merengue, salsa and other styles of Latin music from 7:45 to 11 p.m.

"I enjoy the program so much that it's probably the best few hours of my week," Luera said, who never thought he would be involved in radio.

Luera, 54, was born and raised in Deming, N.M. Spanish was spoken at home, and English became his second language. In 1977, he enlisted in the Air Force, serving his first 18 years in vehicle maintenance before retraining to become a first sergeant for his last four years.

His final duty station was in Alaska, where he retired in 2001 and settled in Anchorage.

After trying several jobs, he pursued the human resources field and eventually landed a position with the Army's Civilian Personnel Advisory Center for Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

He was assigned to the Alaska District in March 2010.

"It's been awesome," Luera said. "I really enjoy it here."

Although having no radio background or broadcasting ambition, music has always been an active part of his life.

Luera and his brothers learned to play the guitar while growing up, and he played in several bands and made a 45 rpm record with one of them.

He gave up playing in bands, but his music collection flourished. He owns about 400 each of 45 rpm records, LP records and cassette tapes as well as nearly 1,000 CDs and counting.

When KSKA canceled its local Hispanic program in 2007, an unexpected opportunity opened.

Some of his friends told Luera that the show had a limited music selection and encouraged him to contact the station about his variety.

In July that year, he called the station's program director, Bede Trantina, who invited him to the studios at the Alaska Pacific University campus for an audition.

All Luera desired was to lend his music collection, but he agreed to make an audition CD with several songs.

At the tryout, Trantina told him to go past the planned cutoff time.

Twenty minutes stretched to 40 minutes. Afterward, Luera said he thought that was the end of his venture. Puzzled that he listed his experience as "none," the 32-year radio broadcasting veteran was impressed with his announcing skills and music selection.

Three days later, Trantina invited him to start a two-hour program for the upcoming Sunday.

"My head was spinning," Luera said. "Here I was going to present music for a program and now I have to produce it? It was thrilling and nerve-racking. I wanted to prove to myself that I can do it."

He chose the name "Algo Nuevo" because it was a new show. It was a fresh start for Hispanic radio in Anchorage and filled a vacant market niche.

Each edition is recorded during the week, which allows him to listen and critique his performance, Luera said. Extraneous studio noises picked up on the microphone and seconds of dead air were eliminated, but he still finds ways to refine his skills.

"I've learned a lot of little tricks along the way," Luera said.

He spends almost six hours weekly to fill out a playlist, answer email and prepare the studio.

Playlists with the name of the song title, artist name, album title, CD label and duration are archived on the KSKA Web site.

Luera announces first in Spanish and then English, but admits he sometimes "gets carried away" and forgets the English.

During breaks, he mentions the show's sponsors, thanks the audience, and gives "shout outs" to friends and listeners for special occasions and to acknowledge song requests. Listeners are invited to send him email, and he weekly receives about 10 to 15 messages at the station address *algonuevo@alaskapublic.org*.

Many of the notes merely extend greetings, but they sometimes are more memorable. Bands have thanked him for playing their music. Email is the easiest way to request a song, but finding it is not always simple. When a woman requested a song to dedicate to her husband but only knew the band, Luera bought a CD of the artist, listened to it and guessed the right song to play.

"She was so impressed," he said.

Another listener asked if Luera could type and send him the lyrics to one of the songs on the show so that guests could sing it during a family member's 75th birthday party.

With the Internet, people can listen to his show online wherever they are connected.

Last year he received a note from a woman tuning in that he thought was from the Lower 48 but was actually in Nicaragua.

One way the show gains listeners is when they search for an artist's name online find it in the Algo Nueva playlist, he said.

The show's popularity as measured by the DAR.fm podcast service in late September ranks Algo Nuevo No. 3 out of 24 Latin radio shows, topped by stations in Mexico and Canton, N.Y. It ranks No. 35 out of 133 Anchorage radio shows listed on the site.

"If they could only add another zero to my pay," said Luera with a laugh, who is a volunteer. At least the radio show is the least expensive of his hobbies, which include drag racing a car he built on his own and restoring a 1968 Chevrolet Camaro Z28.

Last year Algo Nuevo expanded to 3 hours, 15 minutes, and he said he thinks the show has a future, but his one wish is for an earlier time slot. That would make it easier for more people to experience "something new."

Corps of Engineers completes F-22 facility

By Curt Biberdorf
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska

An F-22 engine roar overhead was a reminder of the 372nd Training Squadron, Detachment 14, mission as the unit officially opened its new facility on the west side of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Sept. 26.

The $6.2 million project, managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District and constructed by Siku Construction LLC, will help ensure Airmen have a level of training befitting the fighter jet, officials said.

"The F-22, and I'm so happy that we're hearing the sounds of them flying today, without outstanding maintainers is a static display," said Air Force Col. Darren Hartford, 3rd Wing vice commander.

Hartford added that the facility provides top-level training to form those "world-class" maintainers to keep them flying.

Although the building looks basic, the project was complicated, said Larry McCallister, Alaska District's director of Program and Project Management.

The building's five fully-automated classrooms are capable of handling new digital training materials with graphics-intensive rather than word-oriented coursework.

Instructors who once used view foils and projectors have transitioned now to a modern audio-visual system and interactive electronic lecterns, said Barry Cossel, Boeing's F-22 training system manager.

Underpinning all of this capability is more than a mile of cable and 500 connections underneath the raised classroom floors.

"It's like going from an F-15 to an F-22. It's that same advance in technology," said Senior Master Sgt. David Nye, detachment chief. "The potential is endless as to what courses we can create and teach."

The detachment's 15 instructors can teach 34 of the 40 F-22 maintenance courses at the facility, which is the last in the nation to receive the upgrades, Cossel said.

Students will train on the same flightline system as used in the shop so they will not need to relearn it, he said.

"It's really well done to help them be better trained when they get out to the field," said Cossel. "All the training the students are receiving is probably the best in the military."

Besides the classrooms, two high-bay rooms contain an engine lab with a hoist, and seat and canopy trainer. The trainer will also serve as the fire department's place to practice emergency pilot extraction instead of an F-22.

Students learn how to tear down, build up and troubleshoot in the engine lab. It is set up the same way as the actual shop, unlike the former building, to create a realistic environment easy for students to grasp and remember, Nye said.

An equipment lab is used for advanced wire repair and a future fiber optics course, he said.

All the classrooms and three labs are networked to an internal server providing instructor curriculum as well as student training aids to create a more interactive environment, Nye said.

Other sections of the building are the communications room, instructor offices, storage room, student breakroom and an entryway with a flat-screen monitor for scrolling announcements.

The training building is one of the last F-22 projects the Corps of Engineers has managed the past several years. Most of them are at Fightertown East, but several of them are located on the west side, McAllister said.

Officials tour Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson's newly completed $6.2 million training facility for F-22 maintenance crews to include an engine lab where students will learn advanced wire repair and more. (U.S. Army photo/Curt Biberdorf)

Ten Soldiers from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and Fort Wainwright represented U.S. Army Alaska at the annual Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C. The Army Ten-Miler is produced by the U.S. Army District of Washington, which is located at Fort Lesley J. McNair (U.S. Army photos/Mary M. Rall)

Runners represent USARAK at Army 10-miler

LEFT: Army 2nd Lt. Joon Lee, B Company, 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment, finishes the final leg of the 2011 Army Ten-Miler with a smile Sunday in Washington, D.C. Ten Soldiers from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and Fort Wainwright represented U.S. Army Alaska at the annual Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C.

Sports

Flag football

56th Engineers smack down 307th ITSB to snag post football crown, Page B-4

Sports

Basketball tips off

JBER's intramural basketball season gets underway, Page B-2

www.jber.af.mil/news

COMMUNITY

Volume 2, No. 41 | Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson | October 14, 2011

Water polo splashes into JBER

Staff report
JBER Public Affairs

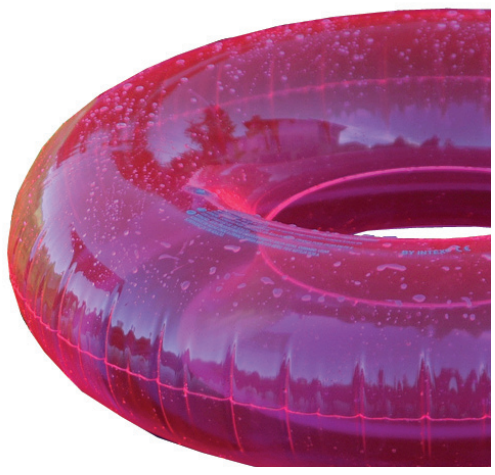
Inner tube water polo season is just getting underway on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, but it's already a hit.

"People enjoy it a lot. We get lots of comments from people who said they didn't expect it to be as fun as it is," said Comptonne Byers, a lifeguard at Buckner Physical Fitness Center.

The season runs through Nov. 23 with matches Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. Buckner PFC hopes to have another season, probably in the spring.

Alaska National Guard player Jarrett Carson takes a shot on goal as Health and Wellness Center goalie Allison Anderson prepares to try to block the shot in the opening match of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson inner tube water polo tournament Oct. 5. The AKNG team beat HAWC 9-5.

ABOVE LEFT: Health and Wellness Center player Jared Thomas looks for a shot at the goal as Alaska National Guard players Michelle Buchanan (11) and Neal Fulsang provide defense.
ABOVE: Alaska National Guard player Neal Fulsang looks to pass the ball in the opening match of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson inner tube water polo tournament. The AKNG team beat HAWC, 9-5.
LEFT: Inner tube water polo competitors scramble to track down a loose ball. (U.S. Air Force photos/John Pennell)



It's Tipoff Time

ABOVE: Johnathan Diaz contests a shot by Bobby Lynch (white jersey) in the opening game of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson pre-season basketball tournament at Buckner Physical Fitness Center Monday night. Lynch played for Headquarters and Headquarters Detchament, 59th Signal Battalion, while Diaz played for Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment. Signal held off a late PFAR comeback to win the game 59-55 and advance in the tournament.
TOP RIGHT: Carmartrus Porter (white jersey) tries to protect the basketball from the HHB, 2-377th PFAR defense in the opening game of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson pre-season basketball tournament at Buckner Physical Fitness Center Monday night. Porter played for Headquarters and Headquarters Detchament, 59th Signal Battalion. (U.S. Air Force photos/John Pennell)

ABOVE CENTER: Bobby Lynch (8) looks to drive past the HHB, 2-377th PFAR defense in the opening game of the JBER pre-season basketball tournament at BPFC Monday. Lynch played for HHD, 59th Signal Battalion.
ABOVE: Danilo Silva (white jersey) and Dustin Patrick fight for a rebound. Silva played for HHD, 59th Signal Battalion, while Patrick played for HHB, 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment.

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The Arctic Chill

384-7619

The Arctic Chill open
Sunday • 8 a.m.
Monday & Thursday • 3 p.m.

Win
- NFL Tickets
- Super Bowl Party Package
- Weekly Prizes
- New Football Menu
- Free Member Breakfast - Sundays • 8 a.m. Non-Member $6.50
- Additional entries available

Call for more info!

Cheer on your team at the Arctic Chill every Sunday and Monday. Join the Club and enjoy Members First Discounts and Football Frenzy Fun. Sign up at the Sustainment Flight, building 8124, JBER-Elmendorf or online at www.afclubs.net

2011 Schedule

WEEK 6		WEEK 7	
Sunday, October 16		Sunday, October 23	
Carolina at Atlanta,	9 a.m.	Seattle at Cleveland,	9 a.m.
Indianapolis at Cincinnati,	9 a.m.	Atlanta at Detroit,	9 a.m.
San Francisco at Detroit,	9 a.m.	Houston at Tennessee,	9 a.m.
St. Louis at Green Bay,	9 a.m.	Denver at Miami,	9 a.m.
Philadelphia at Washington,	9 a.m.	San Diego at NY Jets,	9 a.m.
Buffalo at NY Giants,	9 a.m.	Chicago at Tampa (London),	9 a.m.
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh,	9 a.m.	Washington at Carolina,	9 a.m.
Houston at Baltimore,	12:05 p.m.	Pittsburgh at Arizona,	12:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Oakland,	12:05 p.m.	Kansas City at Oakland,	12:05 p.m.
Dallas at New England,	12:15 p.m.	Green Bay at Minnesota,	12:15 p.m.
N. Orleans at Tampa Bay,	12:15 p.m.	St. Louis at Dallas,	12:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Chicago,	4:20 p.m.	Indianapolis at N. Orleans,	4:20 p.m.
Monday, October 17		Monday, October 24	
Miami at NY Jets,	4:30 p.m.	Baltimore at Jacksonville,	4:30 p.m.

The Chill • Building 655 • 384-7619

BINGO is at

The Arctic Chill

Wednesdays
GAME STARTS 6 P.M.
8 Page Packet • $25
Prizes each week:
$25 - $100 per game
Over $1000 Guaranteed Every Week!
For more information call
384-7619

TEXAS HOLD'EM
at the Chill
Thursday Nights
• 6 p.m.
Weekly Prize Pool
Top 8 Qualify for Final!
Sign up 5 p.m.

Thursdays
GAME STARTS 6 P.M.

Community happenings

Friday and Saturday

Alaska Aces games

The Aces take on the Las Vegas Wranglers at the Sullivan Arena at 7:15 p.m. Bring your cowbell and get your hockey fix.

For information visit *www.alaskaaces.com.*

Saturday

Best of Broadway

The Anchorage Symphony Orchestra presents Tony-award winning soprano Debbie Gravitte and other Tony nominees performing hits from award-winning musicals like "Wicked," "Guys and Dolls," "West Side Story," and more at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

For information, call 263-ARTS or visit *www.myalaskacenter.com.*

Model railroading

The Military Society of Model Railroad Engineers presents Model Train Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in basement Room 35 of Matanuska Hall, 7153 Fighter Drive. Anyone interested in model railroading is invited.

The club regularly meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays with work sessions at 1 p.m. Saturdays in the same room.

For more information, call 552-5234 or 952-4353, visit *www.trainweb.org/msmrre* or email *bjorgan@alaska.net.*

Sunday

Alaska Native film festival

This festival features films by Alaska Native filmmakers and films about Alaska Native life, at the Anchorage Museum from 1 to 6 p.m.

For more information call 929-9201.

Monday-Friday

Union lunch and learn

The American Federation of Government Employees Local 1101 and AFGE National are sponsoring a series of lunch and learn meetings through Friday to inform people about the union. Bargaining unit employees only please. For information call 753-7154.

Wednesday

Free Latin dance lessons

The Arctic Chill hosts free dance lessons followed by dancing and Latin music from 7 to 9 p.m.

For information, email *JBER.NOC@elmendorf.af.mil.*

Thursday

Kaha:wi Dance Theatre

The Alaska Junior Theatre presents the Iroquois creation story with music, storytelling, traditional native and contemporary dance at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. Performance begins at 7:30 p.m.

For information, visit *www.akjt.org.*

Oct. 21

Book giveaway

The Mission Support Group hosts a book giveaway for military and their family members at the Airman's Attic parking lot, 8515 Saville Ave., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring a donation or come pick out free books.

For information, call 552-3004.

Fiddler on the Roof

The Alaska Center for the Performing Arts presents this classic musical through Oct. 27. The play starts Oct. 21 at 8 p.m., Oct. 22 at 2 and 8 p.m.; Oct. 23 at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Oct. 24 through 27 at 7:30 p.m.

For information call 263-ARTS.

Family Advocacy presents the Newlywed Game

All couples – dating, newlywed or married for any length of time – are invited to the Military Family Readiness Center from 6 to 8 p.m. to learn about couples' communication skills to improve their relationships. Food and prizes will be provided.

For information call 580-2121 or 384-6717, or call Family Advocacy at 580-5858.

Oct. 22 and 29

Old Town Autumn Fest

The Dorothy G. Page Museum in Wasilla hosts this two-day festival of family fun from 2 to 4 p.m. Oct. 22 with pumpkin carving and decorating contests at the Old School House.

On Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. there will be crafts and games, hay rides, food and a ghost show, and contest winners will be announced as Wasilla celebrates autumn.

For information call 373-9071 or visit *www.cityofwasilla.com/museum.*

Oct. 24

Children's piñata party

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with arts and crafts, snacks, piñata hitting by age group, and a children's Zumba lesson at the Arctic Oasis from 1 to 5 p.m.

All children from 1 to 17 years old are invited.

For information email *JBER.NOC@elmendorf.af.mil.*

Oct. 28

Halloween parade

All children are invited to the JBER hospital from 1 to 3 p.m. for trick-or-treating along a route through the facility. Use the Bear Entrance and have some Halloween fun in a warm, friendly environment.

For information call 580-5674.

Oct. 28 and 29

Trick or Treat Town

Children and adults of all ages can dress up in their best costumes and come to Trick or Treat Town Oct. 28 at 5:30 or 7 p.m. or Oct. 29 at noon, 2, 4, or 6 p.m. at the Alaska Communications Garage at 600 Telephone Ave.

This family-friendly event offers more than 40 "doors" and is a safe, warm environnment for little ghosts and goblins to trick or treat in costume.

For information call 279-0700.

Oct. 29

Rage City Rollergirls

Anchorage's own community roller derby group battles it out again at the Dena'ina Center. Wheels hit the rink at 7 p.m. and the competition goes until 10 p.m.

For more information, call 272-4801 or visit *www.ragecityrollergirls.org.*

Te Vaka Concert

This group of musicians and dancers from around the Polynesian region brings upbeat, positive music with a rich mix of Polynesian ancient culture with the modern world. They play at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m.

For information visit *www.anchorageconcerts.org.*

Oct. 30

Owl-O-Ween party

Meet live owls at the Heritage Museum from 3 until 5 p.m. Bird handlers from the Bird Treatment and Learning Center will explain why owls are a part of Halloween, what they eat and more.

Kids in costume are welcome, and there will be early trick-or-treat goodies.

For information call 265-2834 or visit *wwww.birdtlc.net.*

Nov. 5

Vendors needed for fair

The Country Fair will be hosted Nov. 5 at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Organizers are looking for local vendors selling handcrafted items.

Family readiness groups can earn money for their group by selling items at a food booth, setting up or cleaning up.

For more information, contact *FRSCcountryfair@yahoo.com.*

Nov. 7 through 21

JBER ham radio classes

The Elmendorf Amateur Radio Society hosts classes Monday and Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. for four weeks for those who want to earn a Technician license. Preregistration is required.

For information call 552-2662 or visit *www.kl7air.us.*

Nov. 17

Crafting social

The Elmendorf Officers' Spouses' Organization will host a "Cards for the Troops" crafting social and special silent auction at the Dallas Community Center on JBER from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. There will be a buffet and beverages.

For information visit *www.elmendorfoso.com.*

Nov. 19

Lutefisk and lefse dinner

Discover where vikings got their strength by sampling traditional Norwegian fare at 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. at the Viking Hall. Reservations are recommended.

For information call 349-1613.

Nov. 19 and 20

James McMurtry concert

This solo country acoustic concert features Texas singer-songwriter James McMurtry.

Catch him at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 19 or at Vagabond Blues in Palmer Nov. 20 at 6 p.m.

For information call 263-ARTS or visit *www.whistlingswan.net.*

Chapel services

Catholic Mass

Sunday
9 a.m. – Soldiers' Chapel
10:30 a.m. – Elmendorf Chapel 1
5 p.m. – Soldiers' Chapel

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

Confession

Sunday
4:30 p.m. – Soldiers' Chapel
Monday though Friday
Before/after 11:40 Mass – Soldiers' Chapel

Protestant Sunday Services

Joint Liturgical Service Celebration 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

Ongoing

Thursday Nights at the Fights at Egan Center

Seven boxing matches at the Egan Center begin at 7:30 p.m. every Thursday evening. Tickets are available at the door or in advance through Ticketmaster.

For information call 263-2800.

Planetarium shows

Through 3-D graphics, surround sound and a dome screen, the Anchorage Museum's planetarium offers a fascinating way to learn about astronomy, the solar system and more. The museum is on winter hours.

For more information call 929-9200 or visit *www.anchoragemuseum.org.*

ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Experience JBER Elmendorf-Richardson

PUBLIC RELEASE

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson announces its participation in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program administered by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Meals will be made available to enrolled children at no separate charge without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

Anyone who believes they have been discriminated against should write immediately to the USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington D. C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964.

Sunday & Monday Night Football at the Igloo

Win Alaska Airlines Miles*
• October 31 - 25,000 miles drawing
• December 26 - 25,000 miles drawing
• January 1 - Super Fan wins 50,000 miles
*Enter each week, must be present to win. Log in the most hours watching Sunday and Monday Night Football at the Igloo.
Ask us about bonus entries.
Polar Bowl at 753-7467

CAN YOU MAKE THE CUT?

Family Friendly Event

Chill/Boss Family Friendly Event
PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST
Today, October 14
4 - 6 p.m.
Kashim Glacier Ball Room
Top 10 displayed for voting.
Grand Prize Awarded.
Pumpkins for sale at Kashim or bring your own. Carving supplies will be provided.
Bring the family and have fun! For more information call 384-7619.

Newcomers Orientation
October 19
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fall is here, and winter is around the corner. Learn "How to Survive the Cold" and get rid of cabin fever with "101 Free Things to Do in the Anchorage Area."

Newly arriving Soldiers are required to attend and encouraged to bring their spouses. Learn about Anchorage "Big Wild Life" and other unique and important information.

Free child care is available by calling Child & Youth Central Registration at 384-7483, Building 600, Room A142.

ACS Relocation Readiness Program
Building 600, Room A142
For more information contact
384-1515

Check out the October Alaskan Adventurer or online at *www.elmendorf.richardson.com* for a Polar Bowl coupon and save more!

Quarterback Louie Jaramillo looks to follow his blockers during championship action in the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson intramural flag football tournament Oct. 4 at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center field. Jaramillo and his 56th Engineer Company teammates lost the first championship game to A Company, 307th Integrated Theater Signal Battalion, 13-6, but came back to win the "if necessary" game 14-6. (U.S. Air Force photos/John Pennell)

Champions

56th Engineers take flag football crown

By John Pennell
JBER PAO

Throughout the intramural flag football season, when 56th Engineer Company coach Lou Keemer wanted to scrimmage another team for practice, he could always count on Troy Johnson and his team from A Company, 307th Integrated Theater Signal Battalion to show up.

As the two teams played through the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson tournament on the field by Buckner Physical Fitness Center, it seemed they were destined to meet at least one more time.

The engineers rolled through to the championship game undefeated.

A/307th met them there after overcoming a second-round loss to the 95th Chemical Company team and fighting their way out of the loser's bracket. The signal Soldiers would need two wins to claim the championship.

Keemer said meeting a familiar foe with the title on the line was different.

"It was kind of odd for us," he said. "We had scrimmaged each other so much we knew each other's plays. It was like a game of chess, we had to match each other."

Johnson said the familiarity didn't give him any reason to make major adjustments to his playbook.

"I kept the same basic game plan; we're faster than them," he explained. "I threw in a couple more trick plays, however, it didn't really affect us.

"We scrimmaged them like five times and beat them four of the scrimmages, so why would I change my entire game plan if I can keep beating you in the scrimmage?"

A/307th scored first in the first championship game, but failed on their extra point attempt. The engineers responded with a touchdown and extra point to take a 7-6 edge into halftime.

The signal Soldiers started the second half with a scoring run by quarterback Gerald Brayboy and an extra point pass from Brayboy to Jamell McKinney to retake the lead at 13-6 with 6:16 to play in the game.

A/307th's defense withstood two more 56th Engineer possessions without allowing a score, and held on to force the "if necessary" championship game.

Keemer said his players rallied between the two games with determination to succeed.

"A lot of the guys on the team, they've been up here for two years," he explained. "So they were here in '09 when we made it to the game right before the championship game, and again last year the game right before the championship game.

"We didn't come this far to lose again. We knew in order to win the championship we had to win once and to lose it we had to get beat twice, and we weren't going to let that happen," Keemer said.

The engineer coach said he decided to go back to his team's strength in the second game.

"Pretty much all year nobody's been able to stop our run game," he said. "We learned from the first game that they couldn't stop the run, so I told them to run the ball until they stopped us.

"Our run got stopped toward the end, and so we just started throwing the lobs up to our big guys and just let them make the plays."

Early on it was defense that earned points for the engineers, as Durrell Hurst intercepted a Brayboy pass and returned it for a touchdown. An extra point pass from quarterback Louie Jaramillo to Okeefee Robinson gave the engineers a 7-0 edge.

A/307th couldn't move the ball against the engineer defense and turned the ball over on downs on their next possession. Another Jaramillo touchdown pass and extra point gave the engineers a 14-0 lead going into halftime.

Brayboy opened the second half quickly moving the signal team down the field before tossing another scoring pass. The extra point attempt was thwarted, leaving A/307th with a 14-6 deficit.

The engineers took possession with just under six minutes to play and proceeded to pound the signal Soldiers with a series of runs by Xavier Chance to grind down the clock and hold on for a final 14-6 win and the 2011 flag football championship.

Johnson said the season had proven to be a good one for his A/307th team and predicted a rematch for next season.

"I had fun coaching my guys," he said. "This is the first time they actually went to a championship, and most of my guys are coming back; so we'll win it next year."

Andrew Gaskins (black jersey) goes step-for-step for the 56th Engineers in defending A/307th ITSB's Jamell McKinney at the goal line.

ABOVE: A/307th ITSB's Zeraan Hill looks for daylight between 56th Engineer defenders German Laboy (18) and Gerald Dixon in the "if necessary" championship game of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson intramural flag football tournament Oct. 4 at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center field. ITSB won the first championship game 13-6, forcing the second game. The engineers fought back to win the second game, and the title, 14-6.

LEFT: Xavier Chance weaves through a crowd of A/307th ITSB defenders for the 56th Engineer Company in the first championship game Oct. 4 at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center field. The engineers lost the first championship game to A/307th ITSB, 13-6, but came back to win the "if necessary" game 14-6.

Chaplain's Corner: Who is my neighbor, anyway?

Commentary by Army Chaplain
(Capt.) Kevin Hovan
793rd MP Battalion

Perhaps you've noticed a certain chill in the air. The termination dust is already visible, and it will soon be creeping down the mountains to blanket us in the white stuff until break-up, several months away.

If you look outside early enough these days, you'll see frost on the grass.

I'm sure those of us who enjoy snowmachining and those who don't enjoy mowing the lawn are eagerly awaiting the day that the snow arrives.

Others of us just see it as extra work, dreading those mornings of someone from every household on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in the driveway conducting snow shovel physical training.

If nothing else, snow shovel PT at least gives us the opportunity to meet our neighbors.

Which brings up an interesting question: Who is my neighbor? Is our neighbor just that family to the left or right of our home?

Many of us are familiar with the parable of the Good Samaritan.

It is common enough that many states have "Good Samaritan" laws on the books to protect well-intentioned helpers from lawsuits.

The short story on the parable is that a man was beaten and left for dead.

Two people, who would be expected to "act neighborly" and help the man, noticed him but walked by.

A third person, who would not be expected to help the man, cared for him and went out of his way to ensure the man was well cared for.

This is probably the most well-known of Jesus' parables.

The question, "Who is my neighbor?" was asked by someone who wanted to justify his actions, but what he learned was that even those people that he despised were considered by God to be his neighbors.

And this lesson is true for us today as well. It's not just those families in homes to our right and left that are our neighbors.

It's not those families in our subdivision. It's not those who live on the JBER-E side or JBER-R side of this installation.

I am not a neighbor to only those who agree with my religious beliefs, political viewpoints, or worldview.

I am called to be neighborly to those I get along with, but also to those who I don't connect with quite as well on a personal level.

The parable of the Good Samaritan, morphed into today's story, could just as easily read "the Good Soldier or Airman." It could offer the same lesson if it was titled "the Good Democrat," "the Good Republican," or even "the Good Tea-Partier."

The same doctrine could be pressed whether it was called "the Good Muslim," "the Good Christian," "the Good Buddhist," or any religion you choose to add. The same lesson for humanity applies. It matters how we treat those around us!

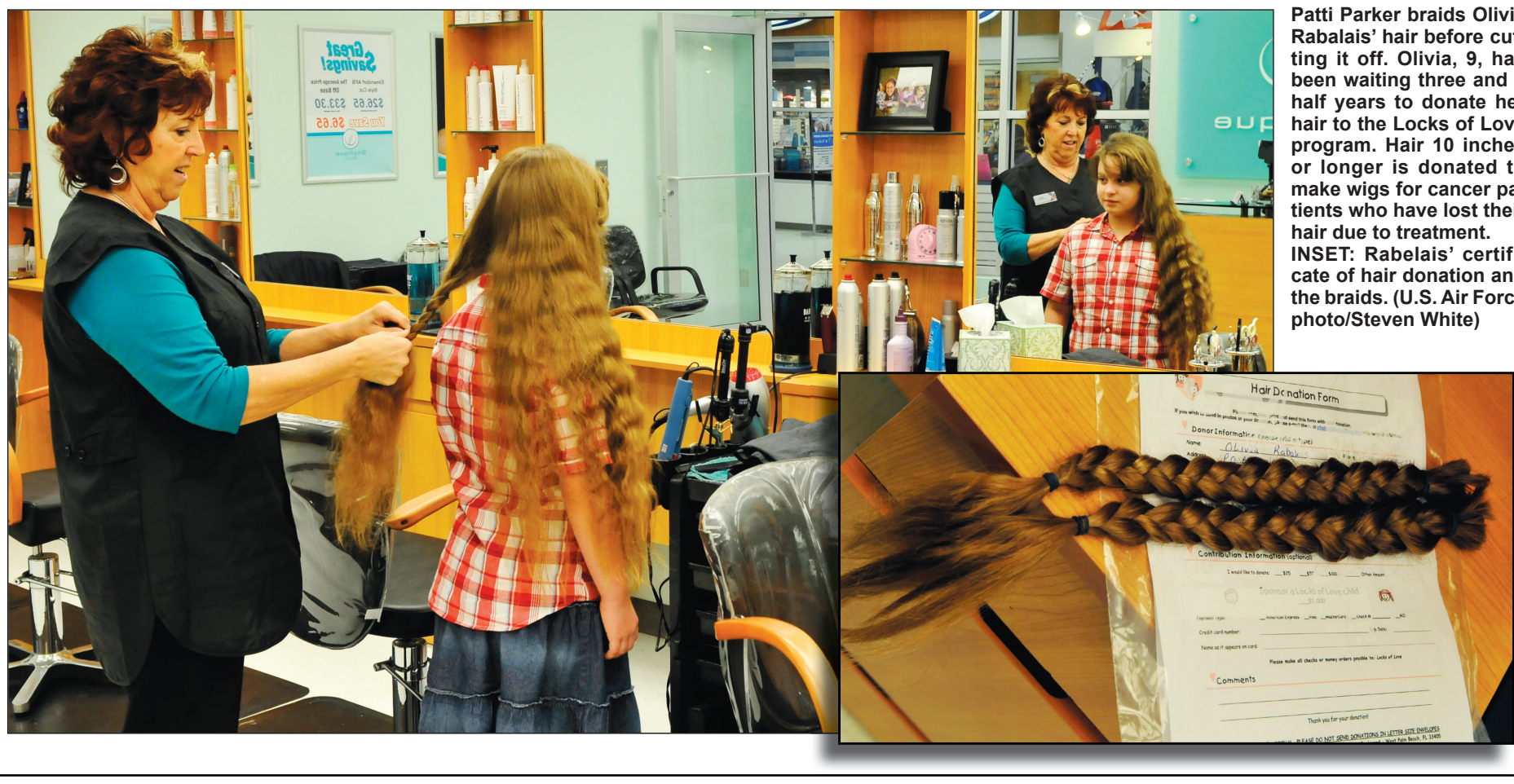
So it won't be long before we get to engage in snow shovel PT.

Perhaps the whole neighborly concept can start right in your community during those early morning shoveling sessions.

Maybe, as you finish shoveling your driveway, you can set aside whatever differences you have with your neighbor and help with their driveway, too.

Of course, that may be a simple gesture in being neighborly…but the greatest of journeys begin with one step.

Taking 'service before self' seriously



Patti Parker braids Olivia Rabalais' hair before cutting it off. Olivia, 9, has been waiting three and a half years to donate her hair to the Locks of Love program. Hair 10 inches or longer is donated to make wigs for cancer patients who have lost their hair due to treatment. INSET: Rabelais' certificate of hair donation and the braids. (U.S. Air Force photo/Steven White)

Children can be affected by conflict between couples, too

Commentary by Verna Loosli
Resiliency Element coordinator

In the old days, it was thought that a young child did not understand, or hear or see and feel conflict that existed in their environment.

We wanted to believe that young children were unaffected when parents had arguments and fights.

It was probably wishful thinking, as we know conflict is inevitable in a couple's relationship.

However, with the advances in brain scans and new and exciting information about the brain, we now know that young children are impacted by conflict in their environment and, even though they cannot understand it in a cognitive or thinking sense, they are stressed.

The brain of a young child is like a mental blueprint for new experiences, like walking, talking, and basic functions.

The younger they are, the more sponge-like the brain is.

The brain in a young child is soaking up so much information.

A child, therefore, is very vulnerable to chronic exposure to conflict such as yelling and fighting in their home.

Many children simply zone out or "check out" of their environment when they are stressed.

Other children develop a sense of responsibility for what goes on around them – even though they are not able to change it.

Chaos and uncertainty result in a state of fear.

That fear can result in a difficulty to bond and attach to others. It can create a lifelong legacy of mental health problems and behavioral issues that require help to overcome.

Parents need to "get off the roller coaster."

A child is going to absorb the internal state of the parents.

They learn to cope with stress by how their parent copes with stress. An older child needs to talk about their feelings.

Children also need to be told it is not their responsibility to protect or help their parents deal with their stress.

Children need support from trusted adults outside of their families such as neighbors, teacher, or parents' friends.

We can take the conflict we have with our spouse or partner away from our children.

Conflict can often be postponed until there is privacy to discuss it.

It is OK for parents to go to a room and close the door for a short period of time (assuming the children are safe when not in eyesight).

It may be necessary to say something about what just occurred, for example, "Your father and I had to discuss a problem."

Let the child know it was not about them.

Not all conflict in a relationship can be resolved.

However, we show our children how to cope and regulate our emotions by example.

Remember that children's developing brains are mirroring what they see and experience.

If you want more information on the effects of family conflict on children, or if you would like to learn couples' communication skills, coping or stress management skills, there is help available.

We have couples' communication classes as well as 1-hour stress or anger management classes, plus 4- and 6-hour series on these topics throughout the year.

Please call the Resiliency Element at 384-2932 or 384-2999 to sign up for a class.

Editor's note: This is part of our coverage of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Births

Sept. 25

A daughter, Hailey Rae Henderson, was born 19.25 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 4 ounces, at 10:47 p.m. to Rachel L. Henderson and Air Force Staff Sgt. F. Law Henderson IV of the 176th Comptroller Flight.

Sept. 26

A daughter, Jazlynn Elise Everett, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces, at 12:09 p.m. to Rashanna Jeta Everett and Pfc. Christopher Jerome Everett of the 95th Chemical Company.

A daughter, Preslie Ann Mills, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces, at 10:23 p.m. to Spc. Cory Ann Mills of U.S. Army Medical Activity and Ronald Clay Mills.

Sept. 27

A son, Louie Rey Jaramillo Jr., was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, at 10:11 a.m. to Laura Marie Jarmillo and Spc. Louie Rey Jaramillo of the 56th Engineer Company.

A daughter, Haydin Elizabeth Schwan, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces at 9:34 p.m. to Lillian Ashley Schwan and Army Staff Sgt. Eric Justin Schwan of 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment.

A daughter, Caroline Blair Van Zandt, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 10 ounces at 7:01 p.m. to Virginia Crews Van Zandt and Army Capt. Tyler Blair Van Zandt of the 6th Engineer Battalion.

A son, Carter Paul Wiles, was born 20.75 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces at 7:42 a.m. to Tonya Lynn Wiles and Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Keith Wiles of the 84th Engineer Company.

Sept. 28

A daughter, Winter Grace Rowan Miller, was born 21 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces at 6:50 p.m. to Donyalle Shawna Miller and Army Sgt. Kyle Adams Miller of the 545th Military Police Company.

Sept. 29

A son, Brennon Andrew Johnston, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 10.5 ounces at 1:30 p.m. to Airman 1st Class Alicia Lauren Johnston of the 381st Intelligence Squadron and Jessie Ray Johnston.

A daughter, Amarina Kaye Schmitt, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces at 7:02 a.m. to Angeleque Rae Schmitt and Army Spc. Jaime Lee Schmitt of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

Oct. 1

A son, Raiden Bryce Lim, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 14 ounces at 1:58 a.m. to Air Force Staff Sgt. Carol Shaniece Lim of the 673d Medical Operations Squadron and Louie Martin Sancio Lim.

A daughter, London Rose Pumphrey, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces at 3:42 a.m. to E. Rose Saeny and Spc. Matthew Scot Pumphrey of the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division.

A son, Anthony James Gonzales, was born 20.25 inches long and weighing 7 pounds 3 ounces at 4:08 p.m. to Lisa D. Gonzales and Senior Airman Marc C. Gonzales of the 381st Intelligence Squadron.

Oct. 2

A daughter, Ashlynn Margaret Shelton, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces at 5:48 a.m. to Carolynn Margaret Shelton and Airman 1st Class Duane Edmond Shelton of the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Oct. 3

A daughter, Zoey Annabella Smith, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces at 4:44 p.m. to Candis Ann Smith and Army Sgt. Dillon Lee Smith of B Company, 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment.

Oct. 4

A son, Carson Timothy Lockhart, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces at 11 a.m. to Kayla Lyn Lewis and Sgt. Paul Albert Lockhart of Company E, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

A daughter, Nina Jade Pelley, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce at 11:48 a.m. to Army 1st Lt. Michelle Denise Rizzo-Pelley of the 793rd Military Police Battalion and Charles Lee Pelley.

Oct. 5

A son, Westen Lee Bryant, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces at 3:12 a.m. to Elizabeth Jolene Bryant and Spc. Ethan Lee Bryant of the 4th Quartermaster Detachment (Airborne).

A son, Siaosi Tayamo Lefano, was born 24.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces at 5:58 p.m. to Ario Sina Lefano and Army Staff Sgt. Enele Lefano of Company A, Warrior Transition Battalion.

A son, Roman Breon Felts, was born 20.87 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces at 5:22 a.m. to Alyssa Shental Feltsand Spc. Geoffrey Breon Felts of the 545th Military Policy Company.

A daughter, Emma Lee Reed, was born 20.75 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces at 3:34 a.m. to Tanda Lynn Reed and Spc. Stephen Ray Reed of 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

Oct. 6

A daughter, McKinley Kay Snipes, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 9 pounds, 1 ounce at 3:27 p.m. to Air Force Capt. Amanda Kay Snipes of the 673d Air Base Wing Judge Advocate and Evan Tyler Snipes.

Oct. 7

A son, Lucas Daniel Coulter, was born 19 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 10 ounces at 5:11 p.m. and a son, Sebastian Alejandro Coulter was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds 9 ounces at 5:12 p.m. to Alenjandra Maria Coulter and Army Capt. Daniel Thomas Coulter of the 725th Brigade Support Battalion.

Oct. 8

A daughter, Kaylee Elizabeth Smith, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds 13 ounces at 10:05 a.m. to Army Capt. Sara Elizabeth Smith of the 2nd Engineer Brigade and Clayton Jeffrey Smith.

A son, Bakaray Tremaine Wells Jr., was born 18.75 inches long and weighing 6 pounds 10 ounces at 8:57 p.m. to Chardinique Benjamin Wells and Senior Airman Bakaray Tremaine Wells Sr. of the 673d Civil Engineer Group.

Oct. 9

A son, Terrance Micheal Newton Jr., was born 20 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces at 6:40 p.m. to Spc. Amanda Ann Newton of the 95th Chemical Company and Terrance Micheal Newton.