



JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON'S SOURCE FOR NEWS

# ARCTIC WARRIOR

July 4, 2014

www.jber.af.mil

Volume 5, No. 26

## New JBER and 673d ABW commander: 'Honored to join the JBER team'



Air Force Col. Brian Bruckbauer receives command of the 673d Air Base Wing and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson from Air Force Lt. Gen. Russell Handy, 11th Air Force commander, during a change of command ceremony at JBER Wednesday. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Robert Barnett)

### Bruckbauer takes command of 673d Air Base Wing, JBER

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Barnett  
673d Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Service members of the 673d Air Base Wing and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson welcomed their new commander during a change of command ceremony at JBER Wednesday.

Air Force Col. Brian Bruckbauer, previously assigned to the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon as the Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, assumed command from Air Force Lt. Gen. Russell Handy, commander of the 11th Air Force.

Bruckbauer has served in the Air Force for more than 22 years prior to taking command of 673d ABW.

"My wife, Stacye, and I are honored to join the JBER team," the new commander said. "We are excited to serve in this great community and to experience Alaska."

The colonel entered the Air Force in 1992 through Air Force ROTC at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn.

Bruckbauer has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from the University of St. Thomas, a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., a Master of Arts degree in National Security Strategic Studies at the College of Naval Command and Staff in Newport, R.I., and a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College in Washington, D.C.

He has served in a variety of joint and air staff positions including chief of Air Traffic Operations at the 722nd Operations Support Squadron at March Air Force Base, Calif.; Airfield Operations Flight commander at the 60th Operations Support Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.; at the Air Force Intern Program, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force in



Air Force Col. John Pepin, 673d Logistics Readiness Group commander, and his command render their first salute to Air Force Col. Brian Bruckbauer during a change-of-command ceremony at JBER Wednesday. Air Force Col. Brian Bruckbauer received command of the 673d Air Base Wing and JBER from Air Force Lt. Gen. Russell Handy during the event. (U.S. Air Force photo/Justin Connaher)

### 673d AIR BASE WING FACT FILE

The 673d Air Base Wing is the host unit for Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson and is responsible for providing expeditionary combat support and the day-to-day operations of the installation to include ensuring timely fire, medical and emergency services; providing deployment and redeployment support for more than 13,000 Soldiers and Airmen; planning, building and sustaining a \$15 billion infrastructure; and other functions necessary to support a base population of more than 40,000.

Washington, D.C.; chief of U.S. Air Force National Airspace System Requirements, Headquarters Air Force Flight Standards Agency at Andrews Air Force Base, Md; aide-de-camp to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force; political-military officer and executive officer to the J5/8 at European Command; and was the Operations Officer for the 56th Operations Support Squadron at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

"I am impressed with the dedication and service of the men and women under my command, and am thankful for the leadership of my predecessors," Bruckbauer said.

He has also served as commander of the

97th Operations Support Squadron at Altus Air Force Base, Okla.; as deputy director of Force Planning for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.; and as commander of the 451st Expeditionary Mission Support Group at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

"This event has been a wonderful welcome to JBER and the 673d Air Base Wing," Bruckbauer said. "To the men and women of this great installation, I am proud and humbled to be a part of this great team. I look forward to serving with you and to the great things we will accomplish together."



### Exercise shows JBER readiness for open house

By Airman 1st Class Tammie Ramsouer  
JBER Public Affairs

Clouds in the sky were heavy with rain on a cold Alaska morning, when suddenly a loud bang echoed from a parking lot and the sound of helpless groans arose from thick smoke covering the ground.

The loud bang was a simulated bomb explosion used to kick off this year's mission assurance exercise, which is organized annually to prepare for any unexpected occurrences during events like the Arctic Thunder Open House.

"The purpose of this exercise is to evaluate our first responders on bad scenarios that could possibly happen in the event of an open house or just day-to-day operations," said Stephen Spealman, 673d Inspector General wing inspection team manager.

These exercises prepare organizations—such as the 673d Medical Group, JBER firefighters and JBER security forces to ensure Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson is equipped to respond to any emergency situation, like a car bombing or aircraft crash, quickly and efficiently.

"Just before an open house, we do mass-casualty exercises to showcase all of our first responders' capabilities and to provide an environment for leadership to control processes on JBER," Spealman said. "Nor-

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### JBER looks to minimize noise impact due to runway closure

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Wes Wright  
JBER Public Affairs

Residents near Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson may notice heightened noise levels, as maintenance activities on the flight line require the temporary closure of the east-to-west runway.

The east-to-west runway is used in more than two-thirds of JBER flights, as it allows for the least noise impact on the greater Anchorage community. However, with the runway closure that began Monday, aircraft must now exclusively utilize the north-south runway, which directs more traffic over Anchorage.

"When it gets to the summer months, we have about four months to do all the annual construction we need to do on the runways to keep them operational," said Air Force Lt. Col. Tony Simmons, 3rd Operations Support Squadron commander. "Typically we try to keep the traffic to a minimum on the north-south runway for that purpose, so that our community partners don't have to deal with the noise."

Runway maintenance will include paving, asphalt repair and barrier overhauls, as well as replacing runway incandescent lights with LED lights.

"These repairs are critical to the struc-

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Airmen fight drunk driving

Three Airmen host driving-under-the-influence awareness party at the Fire Pit in effort to fight drunk driving  
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# Japanese soldiers visit U.S. Army Alaska

By Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Smith  
4/25th IBCT Public Affairs

Leaders with the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force visited paratroopers at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson with the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, during a subject-matter expert exchange event June 24.

Col. Akira Miyazaki, an education and training department chief for the JGSDF, led the team from Japan to observe paratroopers carrying out airborne sustainment training and pathfinder operations. Both forces used their time together to share insight into the way they train and execute various missions and airborne operations.

Army 1st Lt. Branton Miller, a platoon leader with Blackjack Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, served as the guest's escorting officer.

Miller, who is fluent in Japanese and grew up in Tokyo as a child, said the visit from the JGSDF soldiers brought the two nations' airborne communities together to share insights and experiences.

"It's a great opportunity for us," Miller said. "We get to see what the differences are between how we do our airborne operations and the kind of training they do. It's also good to work with them as Pacific partners. We get to learn about their training and their military and the types of training they are interested in doing with us."

In addition to his childhood experiences, Miller, who graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, spent a semester abroad at the JGSDF's National Defense Academy while at West Point.

"They were very kind and very hospitable while I was there, so I'm happy to be here now to help them out and be a part this," Miller said.

Army Staff Sgt. Adam Toland, a jumpmaster with the 1-40th Cavalry who shared some insight into the U.S. Army's airborne training with the team from Japan, said he was honored to host the guests and expand connections in the airborne community.

"It's a real good thing to share different outlooks on the airborne community, like how we share our different techniques and experiences," Toland said. "It's neat to see our similarities too."

During their visit to Alaska, Miyazaki



Army Maj. Gen. Michael Shields, commanding general of U.S. Army Alaska, along with Japanese Ground Self-Defense Forces soldiers, led arctic warriors during USARAK's annual Army Birthday Run June 26 outside the perimeter gate of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. The JGSDF service members celebrated the Army's birthday during their week-long visit for a subject-matter exchange event with U.S. Army Soldiers from across Alaska. (U.S. Army photo/Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Smith)

and his team gained insight into the importance of the Spartan Brigade's ability to rapidly deploy in response to contingencies, and the necessity for professional, resilient leaders and paratroopers to execute the brigade's mission.

An example of recent events demonstrating the 4/25's abilities was Talisman Saber 2013, when paratroopers of the Spartan Brigade were airlifted via Air Force C-17 Globemaster III aircraft for a 15-hour non-stop flight to conduct a jump into Australia.

The brigade again demonstrated its forced-entry abilities during Exercise Cobra Gold 2014. The 17-hour, non-stop flight to Thailand featured in-flight refuels and

in-flight parachute rigging to carry out an airfield seizure operation, this time in the interest of a simulated humanitarian relief mission.

A forced-entry insertion north of the Arctic Circle recently showcased the Spartan Brigade's unique ability to operate in an extremely cold environment during Operation Spartan Pegasus, when paratroopers jumped into an area near Deadhorse in response to a simulated downed aircraft recovery mission.

The Spartan Brigade plans to enhance its mission set capabilities while working with the JGSDF in the future as it looks to participate in the upcoming, large-scale bilateral,

Ulchi-Freedom Guardian 2014 exercise.

In addition to visiting the Spartan Brigade, other scheduled events for the team from Japan included a trip to Fort Wainwright, and the Army's Northern Warfare Training Center at the Black Rapids Training Site near Delta Junction.

A highlight of their visit included celebrating the U.S. Army's birthday by participating in U.S. Army Alaska's annual Army Birthday run. They joined USARAK's commanding general, Army Maj. Gen. Michael Shields, for a four-mile esprit de corps run along Anchorage's Glenn Highway and participated in the birthday cake-cutting ceremony.

## USCGC Elderberry: Lighting the passage for 60 years

By Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Grant DeVuyst  
17th District Public Affairs

If 60 years of sea duty is a long time, then 60 years of performing aids to navigation maintenance in Southeast Alaska qualifies as an eternity. Imagine working with wind whipping down the straits and narrows, with snow blowing so thick, visibility is more about what you can feel than what you can see. Picture living separated from the trappings of civilization by bays and rivers and mountains and every other obstacle the Last Frontier can muster.

Tasked with a crucial – if unnoticed – mission to the people who live there, this is the life of the Coast Guard Cutter Elderberry and its crew of eight.

The 65-foot inland buoy tender first made its way through the Inside Passage 60 years ago, and it's been keeping an eye on those waters ever since. Through countless captains and crews, the little black-hulled cutter has held a steady job since 1954: ensuring that mariners in the Wrangell Narrows and Southeast Alaska have reliable aids to navigation.

The Elderberry is homeported in Petersburg, which is situated on the northern tip of Mitkof Island, one of the countless pieces of land making up the expansive Tongass National Forest. It's a corner of the world where the beauty of the landscape is matched only by its ability to turn nasty and stay that way for days.

"It's like working with a postcard background all day long," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Randall Burr, officer-in-charge of the Elderberry.

That postcard is more than a pretty face. It's a marine highway. Ferries, shipping barges, fishing boats and small cruise ships travel up and down the Wrangell Narrows year-round. Mix together a tight waterway and



The official party and visitors attend the commissioning of the Coast Guard Cutter Elderberry and its sister cutter, the Bayberry, in Olympia, Wash., June 28, 1954. The Elderberry and Bayberry are 65-foot inland buoy tenders built to maintain aids to navigation. The Elderberry is homeported at Petersburg and manned by an entirely enlisted crew of eight. (U.S. Coast Guard archived photo)

unpredictable weather and there is potential for disaster. The Elderberry crew works to remedy that problem.

From Coffman Cove on Prince of Wales Island to Auke Bay in Juneau the Elderberry travels, maintaining more than 250 critical aids to navigation. This 175-mile

stretch of water carries traffic that feeds people around the world, delivers supplies and residents to communities and supports an enormous tourism industry.

Without the crew, this watery road wouldn't have signs, lines or lights – for 60 years. The tight-knit, all-enlisted crew sails in the

wake of Coast Guardsmen who watched half of the 20th century come and go alongside their faithful service. The rich history isn't lost on 2014's crew, even the new members.

"The Elderberry has been a part of the Petersburg community since it was commissioned on June

28th, 1954. They even named a local holiday in honor of it," said Seaman Jesse Keiner, a member of the Elderberry's deck department. "To know that so many great Coast Guardsmen have come before me, worked the same buoy deck and poured hard work and sweat into this boat, is very fulfilling."

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/  
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Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/  
673d Air Base Wing Vice Commander  
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Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/  
673d Air Base Wing Command Chief  
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673d Air Base Wing  
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Editorial office and mailing address: JBER Public Affairs, 10480 Sijan Ave., Suite 123, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK 99506; telephone (907) 552-8918.

Send emails about news stories and story submissions to david.bedard.1@us.af.mil.

Deadline for article and photos is 4:30 p.m., Monday, for the week of publication. Articles and photos will be published on a space-available basis and are subject to editing by the Arctic Warrior staff. Submission does not guarantee publication.

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# Into the wilderness

## Mongolian, U.S. troops train survival techniques

By Army Sgt. Edward Eagerton  
134th Public Affairs Detachment

FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA, Mongolia — Survival is more than just instinct, it is a skill honed through rigorous training.

For a platoon of approximately 30 Mongolian Armed Forces service members, led by a training contingent of five Alaska Army National Guardsmen and U.S. Marines, the survival-training course served to create a better understanding of techniques in surviving in the wilderness.

The survival-training course portion of Khaan Quest 2014 began on a cloudy morning, June 21. Khaan Quest is a regularly scheduled, multinational exercise cosponsored by U.S. Army Pacific, and hosted annually by Mongolian Armed Forces. This year's exercise marks the 12th installment of this annual training event.

Now in its second year since being added to the training schedule, the survival course began with a ruck march away from the comfort of hard structures like bunkrooms, bathrooms, and a dining facility. For the next nine days, the participants of the survival course would have to live out of their backpacks, and find what they might need along the way.

"We've taken a Mongolian Armed Forces platoon out to the different environments around Five Hills Training Area here in Mongolia," said Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Colin Oppgaard, a survival lane instructor with the Alaska Army National Guard. "We're training, evaluating and giving them an opportunity to practice various survival skills, including things like shelter building, traps, snares, foraging, hunting, water collection, tactical considerations for hide sites, that sort of thing."

To start the course, the group hiked to the rock walls rising above the grassy plains behind the field training exercise lanes at Five Hills Training Area. Within hours, the rain began to fall and continued to follow them for days.

On the mountain, they spent two days learning different techniques in rappelling.



Members of the Mongolian Armed Forces conduct a course in rappelling during Khaan Quest 2014 at Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia, June 21. Khaan Quest is a regularly scheduled, multinational exercise cosponsored by U.S. Army, Pacific, and hosted annually by Mongolian Armed Forces. Khaan Ques is the latest in a continuing series of exercises designed to promote regional peace and security. (U.S. Army National Guard photo/Sgt. Edward Eagerton)

"The first two days were cliff operations," said survival lane instructor Marine Staff Sgt. Gayle Anders, division current operations chief, 3rd Marine Division. "We practiced ascending and descending using ropes, and we practiced different types of techniques to do that."

After two days of practicing rappelling techniques, the platoon of Mongolian Armed Forces and instructors climbed into the mountains, and made their way to a forest, nestled above a valley filled with herds of horses, cows and sheep, grazing slowly across the panoramic scene.

Scattered in small groups throughout the forest, the platoon dug in and built their shelters. Afterward, they set out practicing the skills they had learned in classes taught in prior days. Traps and snares were set in the hills and forest; land navigation techniques were practiced and honed.

"We came down to the forest and we built shelters, practiced fire starting, water procurement and land navigation," Anders said. "Land navigation was my little piece of the puzzle, just getting them to understand how to plot points and trust the compass. At

first when they went out there, they didn't really trust the compass, but then teaching them dead reckoning and how to find the points and pace counts, they came back with four out of five boxes in the majority of the cases."

After four days of living and training in near-unrelenting rain, the clouds broke, and the sun emerged.

On the morning of the sixth day, the group broke up their scattered camps, and met in a clearing near the edge of the woods.

"We just got done with living inside the tree line," Anders said. "It's simulating as much as we could with the forest, a jungle environment. And now we're going to move to the open plains and simulate just being in an open environment and having to survive off of what they're able to forage for there."

The group, loaded with packs almost as large as the individuals carrying them, readied themselves for the hike back up the mountain.

"All the way up," shouted the instructors. The march was on.

With the sun warm on their backs, they hiked up the mountain on a twisting, muddy

trail. At the top, just as the rocky summit emerged from the forest, lay a Mongolian shrine; a pile of rocks called an ovoos. In Mongolian tradition, the passers-by drop a rock on the shrine as they walk three times around it clockwise. This is said to bring the travelers safe travels.

The journey continued down a vast valley, and back into the wide, grassy steppes. Participants sang, laughed, joked, and descended into the valley. From there, the group made their way to a river, where they practiced fishing and river-crossing techniques.

A common perception regarding the Mongolians among the instructors was their professionalism and dedication to learning and exchanging knowledge of field craft was consistent every step of the way.

"The Mongolians are doing really well," Anders said. "They're probably the only foreign military force I've worked with where you're able to tell somebody once and they get it; but not only do they get it, they take it and make it their own."

"It's always a pleasure to see how other people do business and see what we can learn from each other," Oppgaard added.

### From EXERCISE • A-1

mally, we do an aircraft crash because we have flying units during the air show portion of the open house, but we wanted to provide our personnel the opportunity to operate differently than if they were to be called out to an aircraft crash."

The scenario was a simulated improvised explosive device detonating inside a vehicle during the Arctic Thunder Open House. Individuals at the simulated explosion site were evacuated by first responders and treated by medical personnel. After the area was evacuated an explosive ordnance disposal team searched the area for further IEDs.

To make the exercise more realistic, volunteers from different squadrons participated as moulaged victims of the explosion and simulated the injuries ranging from small cuts to severe burns on large portions of their backs.

"Our moulage patients were a scatter of Airmen and Soldiers throughout JBBER," Spealman said. "It took two-plus hours to get all the volunteers moulaged for this exercise."

More than 40 volunteers were moulaged with fake wounds; one of them being Airman Hannah Adams, an administrative assistant with the 773d Logistics Readiness Squadron.

"During the exercise, I was behind the exploded vehicle and received a laceration to my face and a possible broken jaw," Adams said. "This was a very interesting experience, seeing all the first responders doing their thing and how it would possibly run if this were to happen in [the] real world."

The exercise is a command-directed procedure orchestrated by the base's inspector general.



Medical responders tend to simulated victims' wounds during the annual mission-assurance exercise on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson June 26. Victims were triaged on different-colored tarps depending on how severe their injuries were and sent to the hospital shortly after for further treatment. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Tammie Ramsouer)

The Arctic Thunder Open House is a biennial JBBER and 673d Air Base Wing event open to the public and all military members and their families free of charge. The event features aerial demonstrations from different

aircraft types and demonstrations by military personnel of their various missions, equipment and aircraft carry out on JBBER.

"This is helping our leadership prepare their command and control channels to insti-

tute the operations they don't do every day," Spealman said. "This is the first responder's opportunity to showcase their skills and show that they do know what they were trained to do."

### From RUNWAY • A-1

tural integrity of the flightline," said Ned Harshbarger, 673d Civil Engineer Squadron pavement engineer. "Without the annual maintenance on it, we'd have to take it down for even longer periods of time. The safety risks would be exponentially higher."

Harshbarger added JBBER personnel are working quickly to complete the maintenance.

"Our goal is to get it done as soon as is humanly possible. We don't want a long, drawn-out process. Our Airmen and contractors are working very hard, putting in 14-to-16 hour days straight through the weekends."

Simmons pointed to the repairs as critical to ensure JBBER is able to perform its missions.

"Obviously, we have training requirements, because we want to be

ready to go when the nation calls us," Simmons said. "With the speeds that our aircraft take off at, we need to make sure the runways are good to go, because otherwise you're going to have things like blown tires that could cause some pretty serious damage to aircraft."

To help mitigate noise impact to the Anchorage community, the 3rd Wing employs a quiet-hour policy.

"We do have quiet hours, which are typically from about 10:30 p.m. until 6 a.m. during the week, then on the weekends and holidays, it's 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.," Simmons said. "If there are any concerns with the noise, we have a hotline set up: 552-JETS [5387]. Please call that hotline and leave your complaints with them. We take that seriously."

JBBER officials predict the maintenance should be completed by July 18.



Tech Sgt. Joseph Austin, left, and Michael Nicholes perform maintenance on the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson flight line Tuesday. (U.S. Air Force photo/Justin Connaher)

## Utilities upgrades

As part of Doyon Utilities' continuing effort to improve and modernize the utility infrastructure, the organization is engaged in a multi-year project to upgrade the JBER-Richardson electrical distribution system to improve system efficiency, reduce service interruptions, and improve personnel safety.

Unfortunately, this work has recently resulted in an series of short power outages. Doyon Utilities regret any inconvenience this may have caused and are working to avoid unnecessary service interruptions.

Work on this system is expected to continue through 2016. This summer's work is to improve Spartan substation, which controls and regulates the distribution of electricity throughout the installation and in the past has been a single point of failure in the electrical network.

To minimize impacts, Doyon is working closely with installation officials to schedule work that could potentially result in an outage for completion during off-peak periods. If another outage does occur, utilities electrical crews will act quickly to restore service.

When work is completed on the substation this summer, the installation will see an improvement in overall system redundancy and reliability.

## 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 number of service orders.

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., Tuesday 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 through 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.

## JBER Bargain Shop

The JBER-Elmendorf Bargain Shop, located in building 8515 Saville off of 20th Street, is open Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignments are accepted Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, please call 753-6134.

## Veterinary hours

Though the Veterinary Treatment Facility primarily works on military working dogs, the facility also provides services for pets of active duty service members, retirees, National Guard and Reserve service members on active orders (greater than 30 days), and their dependents.

The VTF is capable of providing care for most routine services, including vaccination and sick call.

The VTF is open Monday through Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information and to make an appointment, call 384-2865.

## Richardson Thrift Shop

The JBER-Richardson Thrift Shop, located in building 724, Quartermaster Drive, is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and first and third Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Consignments are accepted Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For more information, call the Thrift Shop at 384-7000.

## JBER's Attic

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson's Attic, located in building 8515 off of 20th Street, is open on Tuesdays for paygrades E-1 to E-4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays for paygrades E-1 to E-6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the first Saturday of the month for all paygrades from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call the Attic at 552-5878.

## Priority placement

The Priority Placement Program and Executive Order 13473 provide non-competitive appointment for spouses of active duty service members, including full-time National Guard and Reservists, who are relocating to accompany their service member during a permanent change of station.

The program allows spouses to register for Department of Defense positions and to be considered for jobs offered internally. Spouses are matched against potential positions, which meet their qualifications and preferences.

Job placement will vary with each individual. The spouse remains eligible for a maximum of two years from the date of the PCS orders and are in the program for one year.

Military spouses who have never filled a federal position can now register for PPP. This program was previously limited to spouses on a current federal appointment or those who formerly had a federal position.

Military spouses can register at the Civilian Personnel Office at JBER-Elmendorf or the personnel office at JBER-Richardson. The JBER point of contact is Brenda Yaw at 552-9203.

## 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 2011.

Patients can 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.

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.

## Article 139 claims

A Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 139 claim is a claim against any service member for willfully damaging or wrongfully taking property while the service member is not on duty. Claimants are eligible to file an Article 139 claim whether they are civilian or military, a business, a charity, a State or local government.

Claims covered by Article 139 are:

- Claims for damage to property inflicted intentionally, knowingly, purposefully, and without a justifiable excuse.

- Claims for property wrongfully taken. A wrongful taking in an unauthorized taking or withholding of property not involving

a breach of a fiduciary or contractual relationship, with the intent to deprive the owner of the property temporarily or permanently.

Claims not covered by Article 139 are:

- Claims resulting from negligent acts such as normal "fender-benders" or other such accidents;
- Claims for personal injury or death;

- Claims resulting from acts or omissions of military personnel acting within the scope of their employment (these may be payable as a tort claim);

- Claims resulting from the conduct of Reserve Component personnel who are not subject to the UCMJ at the time of the offense;

- Subrogation claims. That is a claim where your insurance company pays you and then seeks reimbursement;

- Claims for theft of services.

Claimants should submit claims within 90 days of the incident from which the claim arose unless there is good cause for the delay.

Your claim must be presented either orally or in writing. If presented orally, the claim must be reduced to a signed writing within 10 days after oral presentation.

Claims should be filed by branch of service. For claims against Army members, contact the Army claims office in Bldg. 600, Suite 313, at 384-0330. For claims against Air Force members, contact the JBER claims office in the People Center, Suite 330 at 552-3048.

Claims relating to members of any other branch may be made at the Army claims office and will be forwarded to the proper service.

## JBER MyBaseGuide

Stay informed on where to find schools, places of worship, places to live, local services, day-care providers, auto mechanics, veterinarians and more.

Browse a wide range of area services, get phone numbers, and download the mobile application for iOS or Android at <http://tinyurl.com/ltsywr>.

# AMING FUN



**ABOVE:** Josh Leavitt, 109th Transportation Company, a native of Lewiston, Idaho, releases an arrow at the JBER archery range during the Arctic Warrior Olympics June 27.

**RIGHT:** Ricky Jones, 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron, a native of Thomson, Ga., leaps over a mud pit as his team loses a tug-of-war to the 109th Transportation Company team.

**BELOW RIGHT:** Anthony Rivera, 3rd Maintenance Squadron, a native of Hartford, Conn., leaps to make a lay-up in a basketball tournament.

**BOTTOM:** Ryan Bradford, the 517th Airlift Squadron director of staff, fires at the base skeet range.

**SECOND FROM BELOW:** Paige Hoag, 3rd Maintenance Squadron, a native of Richmond, Mich., leads her team in a tug-of-war against the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photos/Justin Connaher)

**BELOW:** Alaska Military Youth Academy cadets receive plates at the picnic. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Omari Bernard)



## Picnics offer festivities, food for service members, families, civilian employees

By Air Force Staff Sgt. William Banton  
JBER Public Affairs

Service members, families and civilian employees were honored at the annual Military Appreciation picnics on JBER June 27. Sponsored by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, the picnics featured food, static displays, bounce houses, pony rides and games.

"This is the culmination of our whole military appreciation week," said Van Sanders, membership engagement coordinator at the ACC. "We are really excited to sponsor

this event because we get to interact with everyone in the military at all levels."

The day's activities were a chance for service members to get out and enjoy some time with their families, away from work.

"This picnic means a whole lot to me because the community's coming together, they're putting it on, there's free food for us," said Sgt. 1st Class Stephan Ledbetter, a platoon sergeant with the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment. "It's a really good deal, especially for families, and just for us getting to have a good break

from all the chaos that ensues in our job."

The Chamber's Military Appreciation Week is designed to give local businesses and community leaders an opportunity to show support to service members in the Anchorage area, representatives said.

"We've been putting this event on for about 20 years," said George Vakalis, Anchorage city manager, Chamber of Commerce military committee chair, and retired Soldier. "It's done very enthusiastically by the committee. I think this is a very supportive community of our military."

The ACC has been supporting the mili-

tary in Anchorage since 1915, Valkalis said.

"It was the military that helped establish Anchorage way back and put a lot of the infrastructure in [Anchorage]," Valkalis said. "It's only fitting that the community be as supportive as they can."

"It is awesome to be at a base where the community wants to do something for the military," said Air Force Master Sgt. Valicia Bannarbie, co-chair for the picnic. "Before coming to JBER I hadn't been at a base that would do that, so having the community to come in and do something for us is an awesome thing."

## However you found it, use your faith to build resilience

Commentary by Air Force Chaplain (Capt.) Roland Reitz  
673d ABW Chaplain

July 15 is Saint Vladimir's Day. Saint Vladimir is not quite as well-known as other saints, like Saint Valentine, Saint Patrick or Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus).

Vladimir ruled Russia from about 980 until 1014; understandably many Americans probably are not familiar with him.

He is a saint because he is credited with bringing Christianity to Russia.

His own spiritual journey is more involved than becoming a saint for bringing Christianity to Russia would indicate.

He was not a Christian as a young man. On the contrary, he began his rule known for barbarism and immorality.

Around age 30, he became interested in spirituality and religion.

In 987, he sent envoys across the known world to learn about religions and bring back a report.

One religion forbade the consumption of alcohol and Vladimir proclaimed that "drinking was the joy of Russia" and his people, the Kievan Rus, could not go without this pleasure.

The religion that forbade alcohol was eliminated.

Some religions did not allow the consumption of pork, and that was also unacceptable to Vladimir.

He was attracted to the religious worship

of the capitol of Byzantium, Constantinople – Orthodox Christianity.

He saw political advantages – and military advantages – in forming an alliance with Constantinople. He also fell in love with a Byzantine princess, Anna.

However, it was unheard of for a Byzantine princess to marry a barbarian.

So Vladimir converted to Christianity, married Anna, and invited Christian missionaries into Kiev, Russia.

For his efforts in spreading the Orthodox faith, eventually he was canonized a saint.

This story brings up the serious question of why Vladimir really chose Christianity, and why he Christianized Russia.

His religious decision may have been influenced by politics.

His faith may have been inspired by the types of worship he heard about from his envoys.

Or he may have chosen this particular spiritual path because of the person he wanted to marry.

If his choice of faith was the last one, it would not be the last time someone found their way to faith because of a romantic relationship.

Perhaps Vladimir's faith journey involved all of those factors and many more events long lost to history.

In the 21st century, people choose their spiritual paths because of what seems to be politically correct, the reports of others, prohibitions or permissions for eating or drinking, or because of relationships.



A Russian Orthodox icon of Saint Vladimir. (Courtesy photo)

The religious and spiritual marketplace today offers far more options than the religious marketplace of the 10th century.

Today there are still the religions Vladimir encountered.

There are also Eastern religions he didn't know about, new religious movements clamoring for followers, atheist and agnostic movements, and science itself asking for people's faith.

In what or whom do you place your faith? What does spirituality look like for you?

For many people, faith, spirituality, and religion are significant factors in their resiliency.

One's spirituality helps provide meaning and purpose in life; it often helps offer hope.

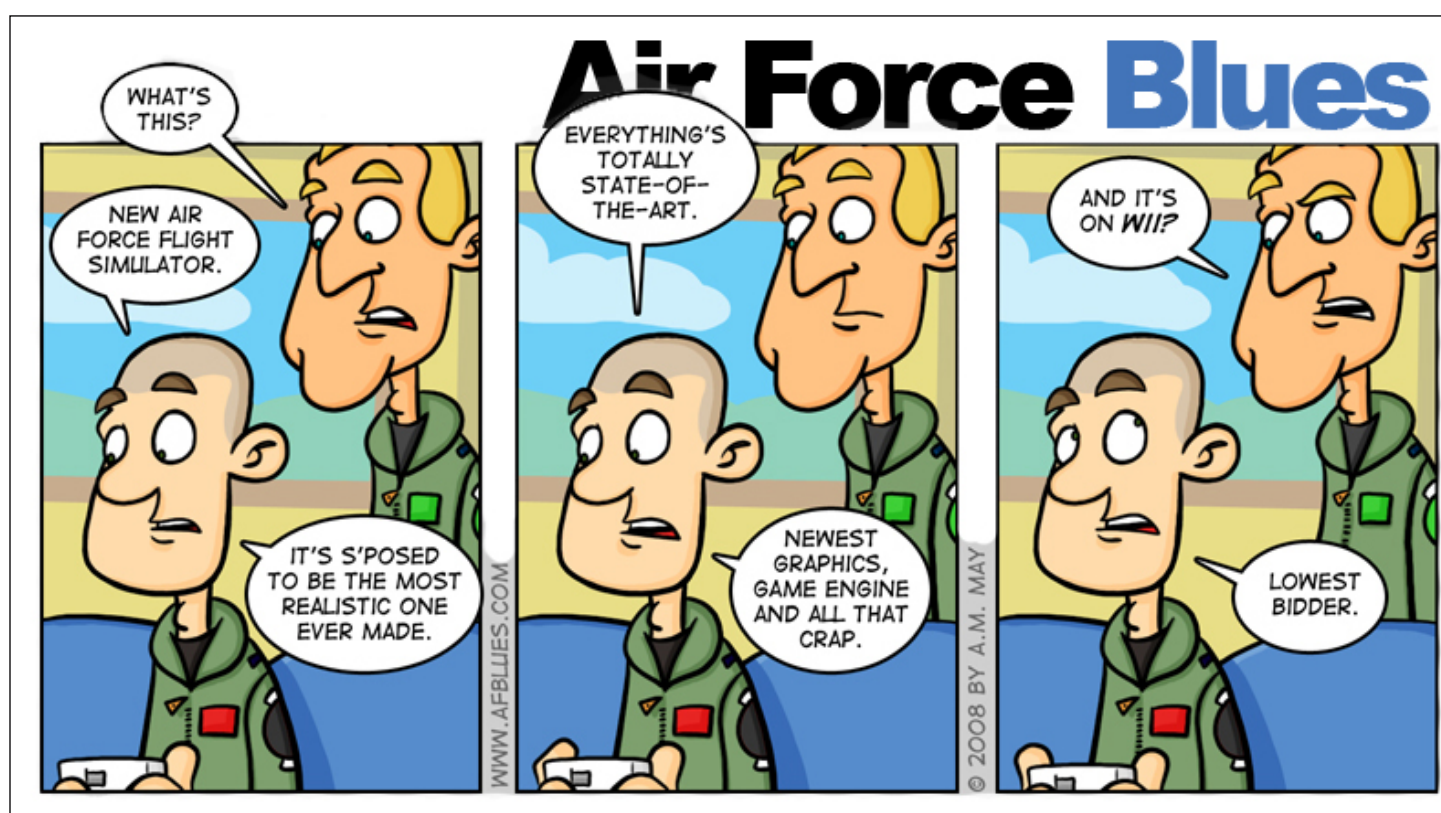
Spirituality helps people envision a better future – sometimes a better eternal future.

Spirituality, faith and religion help people cope with current discouragement and current difficulties because through faith people see positive outcomes.

Know why you have the faith – if any – you have.

Know what your spirituality is, and what it means to you. However you came to it, know it and own it.

Practice the disciplines of your faith and spirituality, whatever they may be, to continue to build your resiliency.



## FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

<http://www.elmendorf-richardson.com>

Did you know.... You can view the JBER673FSS facebook page even if you don't have a facebook account? Stop by and see us! [www.facebook.com/JBER673FSS](http://www.facebook.com/JBER673FSS)

Hill & Creek Courses at MOOSE RUN GOLF COURSE - ALASKA - A Family Friendly course to learn to play!

**RED, WHITE, & BLUE TOURNAMENT**  
July 4, 2014

Beginner & Advanced Junior Camps  
Monday Night Nine & Dine  
Women's Golf Clinics  
Tai Chi Family Clinics  
Tuesday's Family Nights

Independence Day Sale July 4!  
Everything in the Golf Shop is 10% off.

[WWW.MOOSERUNGOLF COURSE.COM](http://WWW.MOOSERUNGOLF COURSE.COM)  
MOOSERUNGOLF COURSE

CALL FOR MORE INFO. // 428-0056

**Eagleglen Fitness Park** Have you checked out the fitness Park?

The Eagleglen Fitness Park is now open for all DoD cardholders and dependents to enjoy. Currently, the fitness park has two trails marked for walking, running or biking. The 1.5-mile and 5-kilometer courses are clearly marked for easy reference. The Force Support Squadron is in the process of adding picnic tables, frisbee golf, and other items to make the park enjoyable. The park is also a great location to do individual or unit runs/PT.

Please make sure you adhere to the Eagleglen Fitness Park **RULES** that are posted in order to make the park enjoyable for all patrons. These include:

<p><b>PLEASE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreate at your own risk and remember "SAFETY FIRST."</li> <li>Keep pets leashed at all times and clean-up after them.</li> <li>Beware of and never feed wildlife.</li> <li>Use trails for foot and bike traffic.</li> <li>Limit golf play to the driving range only (driving range will not be open until mid-June).</li> <li>Depart the area at sunset (closed during hours of darkness).</li> </ul>	<p><b>PLEASE DO NOT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use any type of firearm on this complex (to include paintball or airsoft guns).</li> <li>Operate motor vehicles anywhere on this complex.</li> <li>Start any open fires.</li> <li>Bring or consume alcoholic beverages.</li> <li>Enter any waterways or ponds.</li> <li>Remain overnight.</li> <li>Hunt or fish.</li> <li>Litter.</li> </ul>
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If you have any questions, please contact the Mission Support Group at 552-3004.

**ATTENTION!**  
All Service Members & Dependents!

**REC\*ON**  
FEED YOUR RUSH

Our REC ON program is back! If you are a Service Member or dependent, you are entitled discounted rates on some of our activities! Check with our staff to see dates and times for these available activities!

ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM

Call 552-4599/2023 for more information

**FRIDAY**

**Independence Day events**  
Eagle River and Chugiak host a community-wide Independence Day celebration and the first official July 4 fireworks show. Events begin at 6:30 p.m. at Lions Park. For information, visit [cer.org](http://cer.org).

**Mount Marathon Race**  
It started as a bet between two locals sometime before 1915: could a person run to the top of the mountain and back in an hour? The halfway point is 3,022 feet above sea level. Can you break the record? For information, visit [mmr.seward.com](http://mmr.seward.com).

**July 4th parade and festival**  
Anchorage celebrates America's birthday in style with a pancake breakfast, downtown parade, a picnic, and much more. Festivities begin at 9 a.m. downtown and culminate with fireworks at night. For information, visit [anchorage.downtown.org](http://anchorage.downtown.org).

**THROUGH SUNDAY**

**Girdwood Forest Fair**  
The annual fair at the Alyeska Fairgrounds features handcrafted items, exotic foods, and entertainers from all over Alaska – plus a parade. Festivities run Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; the parade is at 10 a.m. Saturday. For information, visit [girdwoodforestfair.com](http://girdwoodforestfair.com).

**TUESDAY**

**Youth floor hockey**  
Rainy outside? Kids too energetic? The Salvation Army Community Center hosts floor hockey for youth 8 to 12-ish from 2 to 3 p.m. All equipment is provided; bring a water bottle, shorts, and friends. For information, call 375-3583.

**WEDNESDAY**

**Flag Day Barbeque**  
AK Child and Family hosts this family-friendly barbeque with music, games, food, and much more at Service High School. For information, visit [www.akchild.org](http://www.akchild.org).

**WEDNESDAY THROUGH JULY 13**  
**Bear Paw Festival**  
The annual Chugiak-Eagle River Bear Paw Festival is a summer staple.

Whether your thing is the Xtratuf-and-hard-hat boogie, the carnival rides, or parades, you'll be entertained. For information, visit [bearpawfestival.org](http://bearpawfestival.org).

**JULY 11**

**Teddy Bear Picnic**  
A full day of old-fashioned picnic games starts at the Eagle River Commons at 11 a.m. The signature event is the Lunch Box Derby – build a racecar of vegetables, toothpicks and rubber bands, and bamboo skewers. There will also be a magician, The Rotten Sneaker Competitions, and more. For information, visit [bearpawfestival.org](http://bearpawfestival.org).

**JULY 13**

**Stories at the Cemetery**  
Learn about Anchorage history with this self-guided tour. Costumed actors stand at the gravesite of their character and tell their story. Stories begin at 6 p.m.; pick up a map at the John Bagoy gate. For information, call 274-7122 or 343-6814.

**JULY 19**

**Salmon Daze**  
It may be Alaska's most valuable resource – so celebrate salmon in downtown Anchorage from noon 'til 6 p.m. Crafts, art and plenty of salmon are on tap. For information, visit [anchorage.downtown.org](http://anchorage.downtown.org).

**JULY 25**

**Live After Five downtown**  
The Air Force Band of the Pacific is back in town for the Arctic Thunder Open House – and they will be in Town Square Park from 5 to 8 p.m. for a free outdoor concert as part of the Live After Five series. For information, call 270-5650 or visit [anchorage.downtown.org](http://anchorage.downtown.org).

**JULY 26**

**Crow Pass Crossing**  
The Crow Pass Crossing is one of the toughest backcountry races in Alaska – 24 miles from

the trailhead in Girdwood over the rocky Crow Pass to the Eagle River Nature Center. For information, call 786-1325.

**JULY 26 AND 27**

**Arctic Thunder open house**  
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson hosts the biannual open house, this year featuring the Air Force Thunderbirds and civilian aerial acts. The event also offers displays and demonstrations of military aircraft and equipment as well as joint military demonstrations. For more information, visit [www.jber.af.mil/arcticthunder](http://www.jber.af.mil/arcticthunder).

**JULY 31**

**Manifesting Love**  
This workshop helps you break down barriers you may have, reduce fears, and meet other singles in an interactive environment. Workshop begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Alaska Center for Spiritual Living. For information call 522-0940.

**AUGUST 9 AND 10**

**Blueberry and music fest**  
Alyeska Resort celebrates the lush blueberry season with this family-oriented outdoor event. Arts and crafts booths, musicians, and all the blueberry concoctions you can imagine or try are on deck – plus, there are many blueberry patches in the area. Stake out your own. For information visit [alyeska-resort.com](http://alyeska-resort.com) or call (800) 880-3880.

**AUGUST 16**

**Dog Days of Summer**  
Peratrovich Park (at E Street) hosts this dog-themed party with a "stupid pet tricks" contest, demonstrations, canine-related products and much more. Bring your fuzzy pal or pals from noon to 4 p.m. For information, call 279-5650.

**ONGOING**

**Music in the Park**  
Every Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m., Peratrovich Park hosts a musical performance. Get out of the office and enjoy music in the open air. If it's raining, concerts may be cancelled; for up-to-date information, visit [facebook.com/Anchor-](http://facebook.com/Anchor-)

[ageDowntownPartnership](http://ageDowntownPartnership).

**AER scholarships**

Army Emergency Relief is taking applications for scholarships. Scholarships are available for children, spouses and other dependents of active, retired and deceased Soldiers. Applications and instructions are available at [aerhq.org](http://aerhq.org). For information, call 384-7478.

**Protestant Women of the Chapel meetings**

Women are invited to meet with the Protestant Women of the Chapel. Bible study happens Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Soldiers' Chapel on JBER-Richardson. For information, email [jber.ak.pwoc@gmail.com](mailto:jber.ak.pwoc@gmail.com) or call 384-1461.

**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 552-4353, visit [www.trainweb.org/msmrr](http://www.trainweb.org/msmrr) or email [bjorgan@alaska.net](mailto:bjorgan@alaska.net).

**Borealis Toastmasters**

Conquer your fear of public speaking with Toastmasters. This safe, friendly club helps build confidence through speeches, feedback and listening in a supportive environment. Meetings are Thursdays in Room 146 of the BP building from 7 to 8 p.m. For information, call 575-7470.

**Wired Cafe for Airmen**

The Wired Cafe at 7076 Fighter Drive has wireless Internet access and programs for Airmen in the dorms. There are free meals Fridays at 6 p.m. For information, call 552-4422.

**Storytime for Toddlers**

Pre-school-aged children can join zoo staff for stories about an animal species, followed by meeting animals, starting at 10:30 a.m. Mondays at the coffee shop. For information, email [camp@alaskazoo.org](mailto:camp@alaskazoo.org).

## Chapel services

**Catholic Mass**

**Sunday**  
8:30 a.m. – Soldiers' Chapel  
11:30 a.m. – Chapel 1

**Monday through Friday**  
11:40 a.m. – Soldiers' Chapel

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday**  
11:30 a.m. – Chapel 1

**Thursday**  
11:30 a.m. – Hospital Chapel

**Confession**

30 minutes before Mass at the chapel in which Mass is being celebrated, or anytime by appointment. Call 552-5762 or 384-5907

**Religious Education**

For religious education summer schedule, please call the Religious Operations Center at 552-5762.

**Protestant Sunday Services**

**Liturgical Service**  
9 a.m. – Chapel 2

**Gospel Service**  
9:30 a.m. – Chapel 1

**Community Service**  
10:30 a.m. – Chapel 2

**Collective Service**  
11 a.m. – Soldiers' Chapel

**Contemporary Service**  
5 p.m. – Chapel 1

**Religious Education**

For summer religious education schedule, please call the Religious Operations Center at 552-5762.

# events & activities



Check out the May Alaskan Adventurer

**OTTER FEST 2014** JULY 5  
NOON - 5 P.M.

Early Sign-ups recommended  
Otter Lake • 384-6245  
Check-in at 11:15 a.m.  
No entry fee  
Prizes will be given to the winners!  
Bottled water will be provided.  
Life jackets must be worn on the lake.

**Events**

- Family Paddle Boat Race - 12:30 p.m.
  - Kid's Kayak Race - 1:30 p.m.
  - Adult & Kid Canoe Race - 2 p.m.
  - Stand Up Paddle Board (SUP) Race - 2:30 p.m.
  - Cardboard Boat Race - 3:15 p.m.
  - PacRaft Polo - 4 p.m.
- All Races will be on a pre-set course marked off by buoys. First to complete the course wins!

Call for more information, 384-6245.  
Like our Facebook page for updates! [www.facebook.com/otterlakejber](http://www.facebook.com/otterlakejber)

**KIDS COLORING**  
**BOUNCY HOUSES**  
**FOOD & DRINKS**

**SUMO SUITS**  
**FREE SUP RENTALS FOR KIDS**  
**INFLATABLE JOUSTING**

**NOTICE**  
**New JBER Lodging rates effective 1 October 2014**

- Visiting Quarters - \$60.00
- Visiting Airman Quarters - \$44.00
- Temporary Lodging Facilities (TLF) - \$63.00
- Large Temporary Lodging Facilities (LTLF) - \$70.00
- Business Suites - \$69.00-\$75.00

**CHALLENGE YOURSELF**

**CROSS COUNTRY COMBAT SERIES**  
**CANOE | RUN | SHOOT**

Location: Otter Lake  
Sign-up deadline July 11, 1 - 1:30 p.m.  
Weigh-in / Org. meeting July 11, 1:30 - 2 p.m.  
Competition July 11, 2 p.m.  
Team make-up: 5 pers. w/ 35-lb ruck, ACUs & combat boots  
Call 384-1308 for more information.  
Buckner Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 690

**ECO CHALLENGE**  
**RUN | BIKE | KAYAK | HIKE**

Location: Hillberg  
Run 4.4 miles, bike 9 miles, kayak 0.5 mile, hike 4 miles with weighted ruck.  
Sign-ups  
• Team (2 - 4 people) at the JBER-E Fitness Ctr. starting July 8  
• Individuals July 11, 11 a.m. at Hillberg Must 18 or older.  
Race July 11, Noon  
Call 552-5353 for more information.  
Elmendorf Fitness Center, Bldg. 9510

Ask us about our swim lessons!  
Call Centers for details.

# Birth Announcements

B-4 ARCTIC WARRIOR

July 4, 2014

## June 9

A daughter, Izzy Lula Herndon, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces at 9:25 a.m. to Kerri Lu Herndon and Sgt. Charles Lawrence Herndon of the 23rd Engineer Company.

## June 10

A daughter, Amelia Hope Mraz, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 12 ounces at 4:16 p.m. to Maddison Paige Mraz and Airman 1st Class Jacob Mraz of the 3rd Maintenance Squadron.

A daughter, Anabell Kinley Severs, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces at 3:21 p.m. to Beth Severs and Tech. Sgt. Robert Severs of the 3rd Maintenance Group.

## June 15

A daughter, Olivia Michele Henegar, was born 19 inches long and weighing 5 pounds, 14 ounces at 7 a.m. to Vanessa

Vleteria Henegar and Sgt. Timothy Scott Henegar Jr. of the 425th Brigade Special Troops Battalion (Airborne).

## June 16

A daughter, Ahmanni Janiyah Darrington, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 15 ounces at 12:04 p.m. to Pfc. Javanni S. Darrington of the 725th Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne) and Clifford Earl Darrington Jr.

## June 17

A son, Jacob Duane Keller, was born 20.25 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces at 4:10 p.m. to Katherine Marie Keller and Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason Duane Keller of the 703d Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

A son, Tidus Luka Velasquez, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 7:47 a.m. to LaTisha D. Velasquez and Sgt. Maurilio Velasquez

of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

## June 18

A son, Elijah Louis Halla, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces at 7:21 p.m. to Air National Guard Staff Sgt. N. Alicia Halla of the 176th Wing and Michael David Halla.

A daughter, Hannah Marie Nelson, was born 18 inches long and weighing 5 pounds, 3 ounces at 3:50 p.m. to Megan Elizabeth Nelson and retired specialist Eric Matthew Nelson.

## June 20

A daughter, Claire Alyse Tanney, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces at 4:05 p.m. to Air Force Staff Sgt. Krystal Lea Tanney of the 673d Surgical Squadron and Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Joseph Tanney of the 353rd Combat Training Squadron.

## June 21

A daughter, Charity Mae Holt, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces at 2:41 p.m. to Julie Ann Holt and Tech. Sgt. Kyle Steven Holt of the 381st Intelligence Squadron.

A son, Kaleo Landon Zapatka, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 4 ounces at 3:06 p.m. to Janie Lee Zapatka and Army 1st Lt. David John Zapatka of the 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division.

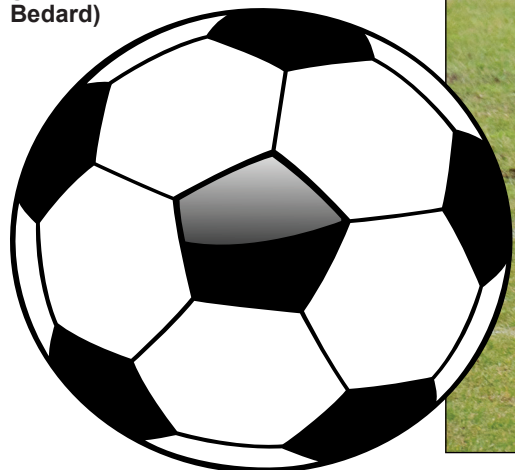
## June 22

A son, Milo Gregory Almeida-Romero, was born 19.25 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces at 8:39 a.m. to Sgt. Sarah Romero Almeida of the Alaska Army National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters and Sgt. Wilfred Markgregory Almeida-Quinones of the 207th Engineer Support Platoon.

# CAVALRY CLOSEOUT



**CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT:** Josh Boguslofski, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, attempts to get past 95th Chemical Company goalkeeper Arnulfo Uranga June 26 at Buckner Field. Soldiers of 1-40th Cavalry defeated 95th Chemical 5-0. Boguslofski is a native of Stowe, Vt.; Uranga is a native of Vancouver, Wash. Goalkeeper William Pickering, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, keeps a lid on the goal. Pickering is a native of Warwick, R.I. Carlos Galeano, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, advances toward the 95th Chemical Company goal. Galeano is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y. Douglas Shultz, a native of Noblesville, Ind., who serves with the 95th Chemical Company, secures a shin guard. (U.S. Air Force photos/David Bedard)



## Airmen host DUI-awareness party at JBER Fire Pit

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Blake Mize  
JBER Public Affairs

In an effort to quell a recent uptick in driving-under-the-influence arrests over the holiday weekend, and to boost morale among peers, three Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Airmen hosted a DUI-awareness party at The Fire Pit here June 27.

Senior Airmen Daniel Krueger and Shaquona Malone, 673d Medical Support Squadron, and Airman 1st Class David Ree, 673d Medical Group, organized the event because they noticed a problem within their dormitory community that needed to be addressed.

"We saw that we were having a lot of underage drinking and DUIs, so we wanted to help prevent that by providing [dorm residents] a place to come to have fun on base," Malone said. "We were really interested in doing it because a couple of our friends, unfortunately, received DUIs and underage drinking [violations] and, as a result, they're no longer here."

"So that's what motivated us to find all the resources that were needed to make this happen."

Another part of the event's purpose

was to introduce Airmen to the Fire Pit, the newly-renovated lounge and bar located inside JBER's Arctic Warrior Event Center on Kuter Avenue, which is open to all ranks.

The 673d Force Support Squadron hosts many events at the Fire Pit, including karaoke and dance contests.

It is an option for those who live on base to have a place to meet up with friends and coworkers while staying within walking distance of the dorms.

The event organizers also discussed some other activities they would like to participate in as a group.

"Sometimes being in the dorms is lonely for some Airmen, sometimes they're isolated," Malone said. "So we try to help each other out the best we can."

Additionally, the event was aimed at informing the Airmen of the perils of DUIs and underage drinking and offer suggestions as to how to avoid them.

Airman 1st Class Roselyn Gregorio, 673d MDG, shared her cautionary tale of being caught driving with a blood alcohol concentration over the legal limit shortly after arriving to JBER earlier this year.

She was demoted and lost her base

driving privileges, but is grateful for being retained in the Air Force.

"You don't have to do it to learn from it," Gregorio said. "Learn from me. Don't make the same mistake that I did. Don't drink and drive. It's not worth it."

There are several options for JBER service members to get rides after they've had a few.

Towing services, taxis and designated drivers are all possibilities and many establishments even offer complimentary taxis for those who have indulged.

There is also Joint Base Against Drunk Driving, which is composed of volunteers who are available to pick up Airmen and Soldiers on weekend nights.

"Always have a plan," said Senior Airman Amanda Ward, 673d Security Forces Squadron. "This base has so many different ways to get home if you're drinking."

Ward added that as a last resort, service members should call those in their chain of command, or a supervisor, to pick them up before driving drunk.

She said although they may not be thrilled – and the ride home may not be fun – it would be preferable to a DUI and the consequences that come with it.

Ward said the BAC limit on JBER is .05 percent, not .08 as it is off-base in the U.S.

According to [www.drivinglaws.org](http://www.drivinglaws.org), it would take only about four drinks over a two-hour period for a 180-pound male to reach a BAC of .05 percent and only two drinks over the span of an hour for a 125-pound female to do so.

A "drink" is a 12-ounce beer, a five-ounce glass of wine or a 1.5-ounce shot of hard liquor.

If you drink over the holiday or weekend, do so responsibly – your career is at stake.

To contact JBADD, call 384-RIDE (7433) or 552-HOME (4663).

The service operates from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. Fridays, Saturdays and other installation holidays.

JBADD is always in need of volunteer drivers.

To volunteer, go to the Warrior Zone (Building 655 on the Richardson side of JBER) at about 10:45 p.m. weekend nights. At least 10 male and female volunteers are needed for each shift; visit the JBER JBADD Facebook page, or email [raymond.gressler@us.af.mil](mailto:raymond.gressler@us.af.mil).

Volunteers get free fountain drinks at the Arctic Chill, and discounts on food.