

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON'S SOURCE FOR NEWS

ARCTIC WARRIOR

March 13, 2015

www.jber.af.mil

Volume 6, No. 10

MILITIAMEN: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

Territorial Guard defense of Alaska recalls American Revolution

By David Bedard
JBER Public Affairs

Breed's Hill. June 17, 1775. Peter Brown, a private in the colonial militia, clutched his muzzle-loader close while he surveyed Boston Harbor for enemy activity. Having helped repel two waves of British soldiers, Brown was running critically low on ammunition and didn't think he would survive another assault.

Now reinforced by Royal Marines, British forces would smash through the American-dug redoubt and push out any Colonial threat to British-occupied Boston.

Though beaten, the Americans inflicted twice as many casualties as they had sustained.

In a letter to his mother, Brown recalled how afraid he was during what would become known as the Battle of Bunker Hill. Still, the Westford, Massachusetts native wrote of his determination to continue the fight for his homeland.

"... If we should be call'd again to action I hope to have courage and strength to act my part valiently in defence of our Liberties and Country," Brown's letter related through creative spelling and grammar.

Nearly 170 years later, 12-year-old Sam Herman heard about the Alaska Territorial Guard during an enrollment drive to recruit Alaska Natives in the effort to abate Imperial Japanese operations in the territory.

Like Brown, Herman was compelled to volunteer to protect his home.

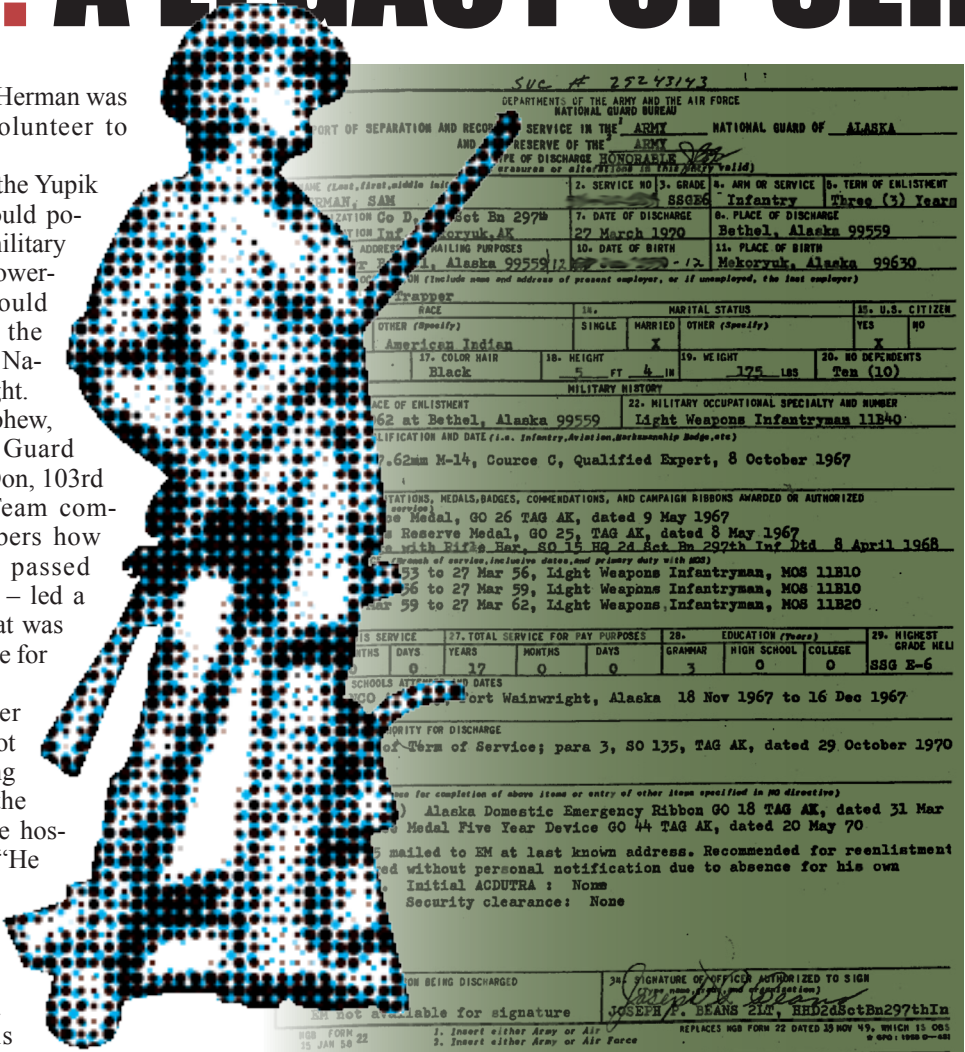
Like Brown, the Yupik boy knew he would potentially fight a military force far more powerful than what could be mustered by the villages. Still, the Native wanted to fight.

Herman's nephew, Army National Guard Lt. Col. Wayne Don, 103rd Civil Support Team commander, remembers how Herman – who passed away in January – led a life of service that was a lifelong example for the officer.

"Into his later years, he spent a lot of time ministering to the sick and the woebegone at the hospital," Don said. "He felt especially called to minister to families who fell on really hard times. It reflects on his character as a Soldier and his desire to serve."

The colonel said, for years, he didn't know any of his relatives had served in the ATG until the self-described World War II buff was reading "Men of the Tundra: Eskimos at War," a book written by ATG architect Army Air Corps Maj. Marvin "Muktuk" Marston.

At the back of the book, Don found the rolls for all of communities Marston had



first-generation military person in his family."

The Guard officer discovered both of his grandfathers served with the ATG, as did just about every one of his uncles.

"Everybody volunteered, even men into their 60s and 70s who didn't miss the opportunity to serve, because it was the right thing to do and their country and community needed them," Don explained. "They all – to a man – answered the call."

Don said Herman had to lie about his age to enroll as a member of the ATG.

Though too young to vote or drink, the young recruit could wield a rifle.

"If you were able, if you could carry a weapon, if you could carry your own weight, then that was the criteria," he said. "[Herman] was drawn to service. I'm sure, at some point, somebody challenged him about his age, but he

was successfully able to argue that."

Don said Mekoryuk Natives were recruited to patrol the east side of Nunivak Island looking for any Japanese activity.

Though the ATG was disbanded in 1947, Herman would continue his service with the Alaska Army National Guard as

See GUARDSMAN • A-3

Spartan first sergeant earns master parachutist badge

65 jumps just one qualification for coveted prize

By Sgt. Eric-James Estrada
4-251BCT Public Affairs

After 18 years of service and multiple combat deployments, a company first sergeant earned the coveted master parachutist badge, the highest-level airborne skills award, at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 6.

The master parachutist badge is awarded to jumpmasters who have conducted 65 jumps from an aircraft, and served on jump status for a minimum of 36 months.

Recipients must also have proven themselves experienced airborne troopers through demonstration of exemplary skills and leadership.

1st Sgt. Herbert Gill, a native of Pulaski, Tennessee, is a jumpmaster and first sergeant for U.S. Army Alaska's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division.

He earned the rare title of "master-rated jumpmaster" after exiting a CH-47 Chinook helicopter flown by B Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment "Sugar Bears," over JBER's Malemute Drop Zone.

"Today was my 65th jump from a CH-47," said Gill. "I was able to get my master wings. So now I'm a master-rated jumpmaster."

The newly-pinned jumpmaster said with this new moniker come many more challenges.

"Every 180 days, I have to make sure I'm pulling duties, touching static lines and getting out there," Gill said. "Checking on [my jumpmaster personnel inspection] sequence – because you know if you don't use it, you lose it."

"I have to constantly open the manuals and see what's changing



First Sgt. Herbert Gill, a jumpmaster and company first sergeant for U.S. Army Alaska's Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, walks off Malemute Drop Zone after performing a proficiency jump from a CH-47 Chinook helicopter flown by B Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment "Sugar Bears," on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson March 6. This was Gill's 65th parachute jump, and the one which earned him the coveted master parachutist badge – the highest award a jumpmaster can receive. (U.S. Army photo/Sgt. Eric-James Estrada)

and what's not changing."

Capt. William Longwell, HHC commander and a Batavia, Illinois native, praised Gill for the accomplishment.

"He's a great [noncommissioned officer] and a great leader within this organization," Longwell said. "He achieved something that not many people are able to achieve on a regular basis."

"To be able to watch him do that – JMPI people and being that true airborne leader – was pretty neat to watch today."

For Gill, the ability to stay on jump status wasn't always there,

as the needs of the Army had to be met.

"I've been on jump status since 1996," Gill said. "I had a break in jumping for about nine years and just fought to get back to it. I just love it."

While Gill has been on jump status for some time now, his experience with airborne operations goes back to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where his father served as a paratrooper.

"I've been watching jumping since I was probably two or three years old," Gill said. "I remember being there on Sicily Drop Zone

with my father."

He was immediately entranced.

"It's just been something I've always wanted to do, and always love doing," he said.

Gill also had some words of encouragement for those Soldiers who are thinking about becoming jumpmasters and those who are striving to get to the master parachutist level.

"Just go do it," Gill said. "Get into school, whether it's Fort Benning [Georgia], Fort Bragg, or one of the [military training teams] that come up here."

"Quit playing around with the

idea, and just go do it."

After nearly 20 years of service, Gill said he still feels he has more to offer the Army and especially the Soldiers.

"There's still stuff that I have to do," he said. "I've still got to stick around, help Soldiers out. I'm not done yet. There's still a lot I can give to the military."

As a testament to his commitment and the faith the Army has in his leadership, Gill will be moving on this September to the next phase in his career – the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas.

POSTAL CUSTOMER

PAID

U.S. Postage

PRSR-STD

ECRWSS

Anchorage Publishing

Inside	Iditarod 2015 gets underway, B-1
Air Force responds to national commission.....	A-2
Army looks to improve cold-weather rations	A-2
Marine analyst visits Spartan brigade	A-3
Matters of Faith: Spring is not just a myth	B-2
Guardian Angels save snowmachiner	B-6

Don't get scammed

Service members can be attractive fodder to fraudsters, Page A-3

FREE MONEY!

SEEMS LEGIT

Air Force responds to national commission, plans changes

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs
News release

WASHINGTON — The Air Force responded to the National Commission on the Structure of the Air Force’s recommendations in a report to Congress March 4.

Of the commission’s 42 recommendations, Air Force officials disagreed with only one and are already in the process of implementing 25, as well as developing plans or pilot programs for another 16.

“The body of work that came out of the commission will help us advance the ball toward an even stronger total force,” said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, “and I’m convinced the future of the Air Force includes a greater reliance on our Guard and Reserve components.”

The disestablishment of the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command was the only point on which the Air Force disagreed with the commission.

Elimination of the AFRC would not result in substantial savings, as nine different major commands would have to assume the responsibilities currently accomplished by the command.

Additionally, the current structure allows the Chief of the Air Force Reserve to manage authorized and appropriated Reserve resources as required by statutory obligations.

Over the last two years, the Air Force has made significant progress toward improving collaboration and cooperation between the

components to strengthen and institutionalize relationships across the total force. All three components have participated in the Air Force’s budgetary discussions and planning from start to finish beginning with the fiscal year 2015 president’s budget. This process enables an integrated approach to maximize capability and capacity in times of increasing fiscal constraints.

Transformation during wartime is difficult, and the Air Force is short of warfighting capacity in nearly all mission areas.

Even though the NCSAF report identified possible cost savings associated with moving approximately 36,000 active Airmen into the reserve component and related savings of roughly \$2 billion, Air Force analysis does not support this concept.

Based on secretary of defense-mandated dwell rates, the Air Force has capacity shortfalls across almost all mission areas, assuming approximately a 12 percent risk to meeting deployment demand and other requirements; shifting the 36,000 to the reserve component would exacerbate this risk to nearly 20 percent. To effectively meet requirements and maintain the active component’s 1-to-2 and reserve component’s 1-to-5 dwell times, the Air Force needs to grow both the active component and the reserve component.

“No one is more invested in total force integration than the Air Force,” said Lt. Gen. James F. Jackson, Chief of Air Force Reserve. “Going forward, there is no doubt

that our Air Force is going to rely more, not less, on our Reserve and National Guard forces. It is essential to leverage our reserve components more effectively in the current global security environment.”

The Air Force has spent the last year thoroughly analyzing 80 percent of Air Force mission-sets and taking a close look at the active component and reserve component balance. Over the course of the next year, the Air Force will continue evaluating the remaining 20 percent of the mission areas, as well as re-look at major mission areas that need further examination.

The overall assessment so far resulted in changes to the Air Force’s fiscal 2016 budget. Nearly 3,000 positions were added to the reserve component’s end strength. The Air Force bought back F-15C Eagles for ANG units; re-established an association with the RQ-4 Global Hawk; made some adjustments in the space positioning, navigation and timing system; and expanded the reserve component in the cyber mission area.

“The evolution of our total force over the years is a great success story, but much of that story has yet to be written,” said General Mark Welsh, the chief of staff of the Air Force. “We need to be as good at the headquarters level as our Airmen are at the operational and tactical levels.

“Those Airmen, who’ve been fighting side-by-side for years, don’t see the difference between an active component member, a Guardsman or a Reservist. And those who

benefit from American airpower really don’t care. They just know that without it ... you lose.”

The NCSAF was established by Congress in 2013 to determine how the Air Force’s structure should be modified to best fill current and future mission requirements, and the commission first presented their findings on Capitol Hill in January 2014. During the same period, the Air Force initiated a comprehensive review of the Air Force total-force enterprise.

Upon completion of the Air Force’s internal review and the commission’s report, the Air Force established the Total-Force Continuum, an organization led by a brigadier general from each component. The TF-C is charged with pursuing legislative, policy, educational, operational and organizational changes to more fully integrate the three components into “One Air Force” and identifying the optimal balance of active, Guard and Reserve across all mission sets.

Subsequent recommendations continuing the Air Force’s efforts at integrating across the components will be presented in future budget proposals.

“One unified Air Force needs to be the way we do business without even thinking about it,” said Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke, III, the director of the Air National Guard. “We are committed to ensuring we evolve in our total-force integration with a synchronized team always ready to deliver unparalleled airpower anywhere in the world.”

Army researchers team up with Norwegian military for nutrition study

By Kelly Field
USARIEM

NATICK, Mass. — The U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, or USARIEM, once again partnered with the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment to study nutrition and physiological responses to cold-weather training.

For the second time in three years, researchers from USARIEM traveled to Norway to study Norwegian soldiers participating in cold-weather training. About 75 Norwegian soldiers, from the 2nd Battalion, Brigade North, Norwegian Army, stationed on Skjold Garrison enrolled in this randomized controlled trial.

“The results of our last study showed that short-term winter training alters nutritional requirements,” said Dr. Stefan Pasiakos, a nutritional physiologist with USARIEM’s Military Nutrition Division. “We observed decrements in several markers of nutritional status, including protein retention, suggesting muscle mass is compromised during short-term military training in the cold.”

Pasiakos said this gave researchers the information they needed to design a targeted nutrition intervention to attenuate those effects in Soldiers participating in a similar winter training program.

The team expected to produce physiological decrements that mirrored those observed in their last study.

“Our primary objective was to determine the efficacy of an optimized recovery food product designed for combat rations,” Pasiakos said. “We were trying to identify ways to effectively use nutrition to promote recovery and resistance to muscle loss during military operational stress.”

Pasiakos said that often, Soldiers can experience severe calorie decrements during training because they either quickly strip down rations and remove food with nutritional value because they do not want to carry the extra weight, or they simply do not have the time to eat all the food they are given.

For example, soldiers threw away about a third of their food rations, causing a severe calorie deficit, throughout training during Pasiakos’ previous study in Norway.

Researchers divided the Soldiers into



Paratroopers with the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, ski across the drop zone during Exercise Spartan Pegasus Feb. 24 at Deadhorse, Alaska, well north of the Arctic Circle. The Army’s research institute has a team in Norway studying how to improve military rations for extreme cold weather. (U.S. Army photo/Staff Sgt. Daniel Love)

three intervention groups, aimed at testing whether supplementing existing rations with a protein or carbohydrate-based snack product would improve these various markers of nutritional status. USARIEM partnered with Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center’s Combat Feeding Directorate to develop and create nearly 5,000 snack products for use in this study.

“The groups were each given their standard combat ration allotment for their training exercise. One group served as the control and received no additional food,” Pasiakos said. “The other groups received their three rations plus, either four carbohydrate or protein-based snacks, like a First Strike Ration bar or a crispy rice bar.

“By providing easily accessible snacks, we were trying to see to what extent we could actually offset the physiological decrements that occur during severe calorie deficit. If we are able to develop a food product that Soldiers like to eat and also promotes re-

covery, this would allow us to make some positive changes to our combat rations,” Pasiakos said.

USARIEM researchers also examined the risk of frostbite on peripheral areas such as the fingers, wrists, calves and toes. Dr. John Castellani, a research physiologist with USARIEM’s Thermal and Mountain Medicine Division, said that these areas are the most susceptible to frostbite, but they are the least understood.

“Currently, we have limited information on finger and toe skin temperatures in the field or in an operational setting,” Castellani said. “The information that we collected is important because it will allow us to build biophysical models that will enable Soldiers to choose the correct cold-weather clothing ensembles as well as evaluate if the Army’s cold-weather doctrine for injury prevention is accurate.

“This study will enable USARIEM to provide Soldiers with practical solutions in

extreme environmental temperatures so that they continue to perform their mission with a low risk of cold injury,” Castellani said.

Both Pasiakos and Castellani said that these types of field studies are extremely important for them as scientists because they provide a level of reality that can not be re-created in the laboratory.

While the information collected during this trip is just beginning to be analyzed, USARIEM researchers say they are excited for the results.

“Typically, field studies give us the most realistic model to test our hypotheses. When military units provide us the opportunity to conduct a study, our mission is to execute strong science without being disruptive to their operations,” Pasiakos said. “USARIEM has a long history of doing just that and, most importantly, it gives us the operationally relevant evidence we need to improve science and, ultimately, warfighter health and performance.”

Budget means another BRAC round needed, Hammack tells Congress

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The assistant secretary of the Army for installations, energy and environment was on Capitol Hill March 3 to discuss the Army’s 2016 construction budget and explain the need for base realignment and closure.

“We need a round of base closure and realignment [BRAC] in 2017,” said Katherine Hammack in testimony before the House Armed Services subcommittee on readiness. “Without a BRAC and the realized cost-savings, the only alternative is to make up for shortages in base funding by increasing risk in readiness.”

Hammack told the committee

the Army believes it can meet the primary missions of the Defense Strategic Guidance of today, but the future has become “tenuous,” because fiscal challenges brought on by the Budget Control Act strain “our ability to bring into balance readiness, modernization and end strength.”

“Even as demand for Army forces is growing, budget cuts are forcing us to reduce end strength and base support to dangerously low levels,” she said. “We face a mismatch between requirements and resources.”

The Army’s military construction request was \$1.6 billion for fiscal year 2016 – a 26-percent increase from FY15, but a 33-percent reduction from FY14 and a 55-percent reduction from FY13,

she said.

“As force structures decline, we must right-size the supporting infrastructure and achieve a balance between the cost of sustaining infrastructure and Army readiness,” she said. “Degraded readiness makes it more difficult for us to provide for the common defense... the [base closure act] increases risk for sending insufficiently trained and underequipped Soldiers into harm’s way and that is not a risk our nation should accept.”

Hammack said the Army had conducted a facility capacity analysis based on its 2013 audited real property data and concluded excess facility capacity will be at 18 percent when the active Army cuts down to 490,000 Soldiers by

the end of 2015.

Two weeks ago, Lt. Gen. Karen Dyson, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army (financial management and comptroller), said by the end of FY16, the active force would move to 475,000 Soldiers.

“As we shrink further, more excess capacity is created,” said Hammack, adding the impact of sequestration in fiscal years 2013 and 2014 created an increasing number of failing facilities and infrastructure.

“Right now seven percent of the Army’s facilities are in failing condition, yet we still have operating units in them,” she said. “Twenty-four percent of Army facilities are in poor condition and the number of failing or poor

increases every year.

Hammack told the committee members that sustainment is the lowest cost method of maintaining a building. If a structure is not sustained properly due to lack of investment, then it falls into restoration and modernization... “Instead of fixing one leak, you have to replace a roof,” she said.

“We saw a nine-percent increase in requirements for restoration and modernization directly due to impacts of underfunding in ‘13 and ‘14 due to sequestration,” she said. Buildings which are not maintained adequately may need to be replaced in the future at a much higher cost, she explained. “So we’re increasing the cost for future generations due to sequestration right now.”

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/ 673d Air Base Wing Commander Col. Brian R. Bruckbauer (USAF)
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/ 673d Air Base Wing Vice Commander Col. William P. Huber (USA)
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/ 673d Air Base Wing Command Chief Command Chief Master Sgt. Garry E. Berry II
Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/ 673d ABW Command Sergeant Major Command Sgt. Maj. Eugene J. Moses

ARCTIC WARRIOR

The *Arctic Warrior* is published by Wick Communications, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Public Affairs Office.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the *Arctic Warrior* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the Department of the Army.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force, the Department of the Army, or Wick Communications of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made

available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

To advertise in the *Arctic Warrior*, please call (907) 561-7737. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the *Arctic Warrior* staff.

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.

JBER Public Affairs Director Maj. Angela Webb (USAF)
Deputy Public Affairs Director 2nd Lt. Michael Harrington (USAF)
Public Affairs Superintendent Senior Master Sgt. Michael Hammond
Arctic Warrior staff David Bedard - senior editor Chris McCann - editor Jeremiah Erickson - community editor Justin Connahee - photo editor Ed Cunningham - webmaster

From **GUARDSMAN** • A-1

an infantry scout beginning in 1953, even before Alaska’s statehood.

Herman moved to Bethel, and then to Anchorage where he worked for the Alaska Railroad.

Following the devastating 1964 earthquake, Herman was activated as part of the state’s response.

Though he wasn’t fighting the British or reporting Imperial Japanese activity, Herman again answered the call to serve his community.

Don said this commitment to community is a common thread between the colonial militias, the ATG and today’s National Guard.

“The Alaska Territorial Guard and the modern-day National Guard both have very similar roots,” Don said. “The modern-day National Guard – as we know it – started out as a militia during the Revolution, and has carried on for years.

“These are examples of the type of organization where someone recognized that the most committed Soldiers and the most committed volunteers are people who live in the area,” he continued. “History has



Alaska Army National Guard Lt. Col. Wayne Don, 107th Civil Support Team commander, holds a photo of his uncle, Sam Herman, who served with the Alaska Territorial Guard during World War II. Herman is pictured during his subsequent service with the Alaska Army National Guard. A statuette of an ATG scout keeps vigil on Wayne's desk. (U.S. Air Force photo/David Bedard)

shown us that this type of Soldier is your best eyes and ears. They’re very committed to a cause that involves their families and their communities.”

Don continues the tradition of serving his local community with the 103rd CST,

a small unit charged with augmenting local and regional terrorism response capabilities in events known or suspected to involve weapons of mass destruction.

Don’s service didn’t go unnoticed by his uncle.

“He always told me he was proud of me, and he always told me how it was important to serve,” he said. “He very much appreciated people who continued to serve, and he had a very special place in his heart for Soldiers, even into advanced age.”

Ensconed on Don’s desk is a small statuette of an ATG scout, keeping vigil with his Springfield rifle.

The figure evokes the Minuteman seen in National Guard insignia. It evokes the long tradition of citizens serving their communities in a military capacity.

Before the Declaration of Independence, Brown served Massachusetts when he stood up to a professional European army.

Today, Don serves Alaska and the United States by keeping 103rd CST ever ready to respond to WMD.

More than seven decades ago, Herman served Nunivak Island by carrying a rifle that was almost too heavy for him. For Don, Herman’s example is one he will never forget.

Marine analyst visits Spartan Brigade to build exchange program

By Sgt. Brian Ragin
4-25IBCT Public Affairs

What seemed to be a normal week at the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, turned out to be a little different as green, beige and black camouflage contrasted sharply with the Army Combat Uniform normally seen around the brigade area.

In the contrasting uniform was Master Gunnery Sgt. Jon Lines, a chief from the intelligence section of the 3rd Marine Division out of Okinawa, Japan.

Lines hopes to provide insight, experience and knowledge as part of an ongoing exchange between intelligence professionals from the two branches.

“He’s here basically conducting a site survey to see how we operate as a unit,” said Army Master Sgt. Jason Roach, an intelligence analyst with the brigade’s Headquarters and Headquarters Company, and Lines’ main liaison with the Spartan Brigade. “We here want to afford him every opportunity to experience everything our unit has to offer and what all types of operations we conduct on a day-to-day basis.”

“We’re trying to formalize the

relationship and keep contact,” Lines said. “We do the analyst exchange, then we will always have a foot in each other’s camp to better support each other and understand how each service operates. That’s what we are building.”

Roach and Lines spent countless hours together going through Roach’s daily schedule, and mentored younger Soldiers during a noncommissioned-officer development program briefing March 4.

“This week he’s been here trying to establish an exchange for his analysts to come here and work at our brigade,” Roach explained, noting the Spartans will also be sending intelligence personnel to the 3rd Marine Division.

The trip to Alaska provided Lines an opportunity to do what Spartans do best; he participated in a jump with Roach March 5.

Lines said he hadn’t jumped since 1986, but after Basic Airborne Refresher training at the Airborne Sustainment Training Area on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, he was ready to jump again.

“My first jump in 29 years!” Lines said. “My last jump was with the 82nd Airborne Division, with the 3rd Battalion, 73rd Armor.”



Master Gunnery Sgt. Jon Lines (right), an intelligence chief with the 3rd Marine Division out of Okinawa, Japan, prepares for a jump at JBER March 5. Lines visited the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, to build an exchange program. (U.S. Army photo/Sgt. Eric-James Estrada)

The refresher training helped Lines make a successful, injury-free jump out of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter.

“It brought back a lot of memories,” Lines said. “I was amazed about what I did remember – and watching some of the new kids fresh out of Airborne School kind of boosted my confidence.”

“People have to be well trained

and rely on muscle memory to get through it,” Roach said. “So that refresher training we go through basically brings back that muscle memory we all develop in Airborne School, no matter if it was 10 years ago, 20 years ago.”

Working together – whether in the sky or filing a report – builds bridges.

Lines said if more elements

of his division take part in the exchange program, it will further benefit both services.

“When the units work together, it will build a bigger understanding of all operations,” he said.

For his part, Roach will soon travel to Okinawa, where he will visit the Marines and learn about their operations in a site survey of his own.

Coast Guardsman honored as health services technician of the year

By PA1 Shawn Eggert
17th CGD Public Affairs

It’s no secret the U.S. Coast Guard is devoted to rescuing others from harm, but even within an organization filled with lifesavers, there are those who make the health and well-being of others their number one priority. Every year, the Coast Guard honors a select few members from among its health service technicians for outstanding performance and dedication.

This year, the 17th District and Air Station Sitka are proud to count the Coast Guard’s Clinic Health Services Technician of the Year for 2014 from among their own.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Mya Dejakanul reported to Air Station Sitka in June of 2012 and soon gained the trust of health care beneficiaries, medical providers, her fellow corpsmen, the community

of Sitka and her command.

As the unit’s Health Benefits Advisor and Outpatient Department Supervisor, Dejakanul was charged with the management of daily clinical operations and became the go-to person for all urgent and routine sick-call patients.

“I’ve always been interested in medicine,” Dejakanul said. “My mom is a nurse so I grew up hearing medical terms and helping my mom bandage up our dogs and horses. As a non-rate, I was able to attend school and worked as the unit’s EMT at a very busy small boat station. My name was already on the health service technician’s [‘A’ school] list at that point, but that solidified my choice.”

Dejakanul eventually became the lead aviation mission specialist for Air Station Sitka, and was responsible for orchestrating complex medical drills on the unit’s training schedule.

Additionally, she logged 58 flight hours and provided patient care during nine medevac missions saving nine lives.

During one incident involving a patient received from a remote civilian clinic, Dejanakul quickly recognized the elderly man suffered from an unstable hip fracture that hadn’t been treated. During the medevac, she expertly splinted the pelvis, greatly decreasing the man’s pain and reducing the possibility of a bleed out.

“We were really proud to nominate Petty Officer Dejakanul for this award,” said Chief Petty Officer Matthew Reines, Air Station Sitka’s clinic administrator. “She strives to improve herself and encourages others around her to make similar strides in expanding their professional development.”

“She’s always looking for projects that will contribute positively to the unit as well as the Coast

Guard,” Petty Officer 1st Class James Allen, Air Station Sitka’s clinic supervisor added.

When she isn’t tending to her shipmates or standing watch at the air station’s clinic, Dejakanul takes care of her community.

Throughout 2014, she selflessly devoted more than 130 hours to the Sitka Fire Department, participating in emergency medical drills, training and monthly meetings and responding to medical emergencies within the community.

She also volunteered 36 hours with the Sitka Community School “Girls on the Run,” a five-month program intended to increase health and physical fitness, self esteem, communication and team building for elementary school-aged girls.

Dejaknul organized a unit-wide food drive, collecting more than 2,000 pounds of nonperishable food donations for the Sitkans

against Family Violence Women’s Shelter and the Salvation Army, and she devoted many hours assisting the Southeast Regional Emergency Medical Services training department by proctoring practical exams for EMT-I and EMT-II courses.

Dejakanul’s determined pursuit of individual and professional excellence, coupled with her passion for the Coast Guard mission, clearly set her apart from her peers resulting in her selection as Clinic Health Service Technician of the Year.

Whether shipmate or community member, those who have benefited from her care would likely agree.

“It feels amazing to be selected [for the award],” said Dejakanul. “I personally know a lot of great HSs in the Coast Guard and I’m so honored to have been selected from among them.”

Don’t be victimized by online scammers: service members at increased risk

JBER Public Affairs
Staff Report

Cybercrime is the fastestgrowing and most dynamic area of crime. Ever-increasing reliance on technology allows criminals to operate with virtual impunity across a range of criminal activities and jurisdictions.

Although the types of crimes are not new (theft, fraud, extortion, drug proliferation and sex-based exploitation), the technology provides criminals an unprecedented range of targets and operational capability, and a reduced risk of capture and prosecution.

In 2013, cybercriminals defrauded the U.S. public of more than \$780 million through online scams ranging in complexity from simple fraud schemes to complex hacking scams, according to the 2013 Internet Crime Report by the FBI.

In the past few years, there have been numerous online scams in which criminals either directly targeted military personnel or used actual and fictitious information about military members to defraud the public.

These scams are all designed to extort information or money from victims by exploiting public trust in the U.S. military.

Military photos and information are used to create emotional appeal as well as credibility.

The military ties also give scammers a “reason” to solicit money that would normally make the request seem suspicious.

Two of the most common scenarios are sale scams and the Nigerian letter scams.

The Sale scam

The sale scam begins with an offer of

goods well below their market price, most frequently carried out on a sale site. Most of these involve vehicles.

One of the most common techniques: the scammer advertises a vehicle for sale at a price too good to be true, and describes the vehicle in broad terms.

The victim answers the ad, and is soon contacted by the seller, who claims to be a service member. The scammer claims his unit is being deployed and he must sell the vehicle at a loss due to time constraints.

The seller doesn’t have time for the potential buyer to visit for a test drive – and conveniently, the vehicle is usually in another state. It’s no problem, the scammer says; the military will ship the vehicle free.

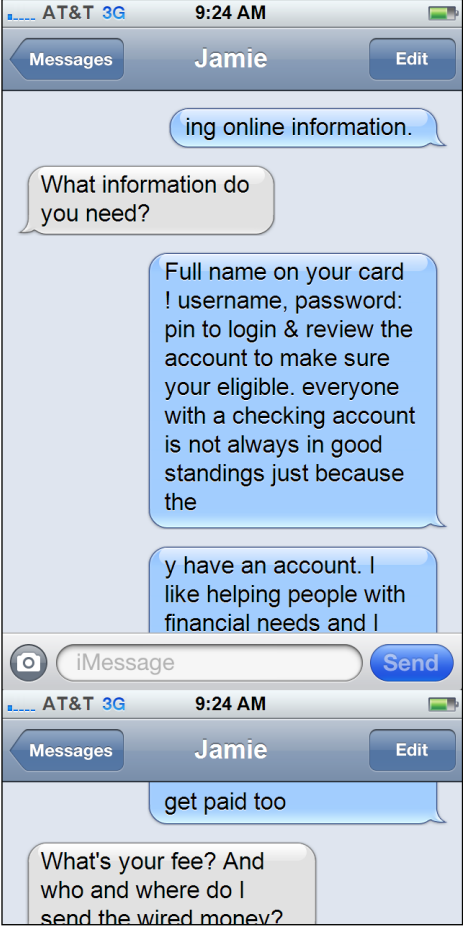
Often, the scammer insists the transaction take place quickly. The buyer must wire money or transfer funds using a money card and then provide the code.

Most of these points would raise red flags – but the emotional appeal of a deploying service member and the apparent plausibility of the scenario can cause people to fall victim to the scam. Once the money is wired or the card is sent, it’s too late to recoup the thousands of dollars lost.

Nigerian Letter scam

Another ever-popular scam is the “Nigerian letter” scam, a form of advance-fee fraud. The letter promises big profits in exchange for help moving a large sum of money.

Claiming to be a government official, business person or the surviving spouse of a former government leader, the criminal offers to transfer millions of dollars into



A scam text message. (Illustration)

victim’s bank account in exchange for a small fee.

All the scammer really wants is the victim’s bank account information – to transfer money out of their account.

Card Popping

Last year, banks began investigating a type of fraud called card-popping – the high-tech version of fake-check scams.

Scammers use social media to solicit members’ participation, promising money in exchange for bank account information like login name, debit card number, PIN and other sensitive information.

Some scammers claim they need to cash a check but can’t access their own account; others don’t explain their intentions.

The result is the same, however: they access your account and deposit a “check” – the hefty sum they promised you.

They then withdraw money – their deposit and plenty more – before the “check” is discovered to be fake.

In addition to risking identity theft and losing money, those who fall for the scam may face criminal charges, because the account holder is responsible for any money withdrawn from a bank, regardless who wrote the bad check.

Military personnel should be aware of what they post to social media accounts and other online venues – for operational security reasons, but also because criminals can find an abundance of information from official websites, news articles and social networking sites. Service members should remain vigilant to minimize and protect their Internet footprint.

For more information about current scams, visit the Better Business Bureau’s site at www.bbb.org/council/bbb-scam-stopper/, the FBI’s scams site at www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud, or the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

Motorcycle briefings

All military members who ride, and civilians who ride a motorcycle for their official duties, must attend a pre-season motorcycle safety briefing.

The JBER-Elmendorf (Talkeetna) Theater hosts a briefing March 31 at 9 a.m.; the JBER-Richardson (Frontier) Theater hosts a briefing April 1 at 9 a.m.

For information, contact your unit safety representative or the JBER Safety Office at 552-6850.

Air Force dining changes

Due to rising costs and perceived abuse, the Air Force Food and Beverage Program Office has instituted additional guidelines at the Iditarod DFAC, Provisions On Demand, and “campus dining” locations.

JBER-Richardson DFACs are not impacted.

Customers are authorized three meals daily, but portions have been defined to maintain program viability.

Restrictions include one entrée per serving — one steak, one sandwich, or one pasta dish; seconds are limited to dine-in customers; and only two beverages and two snack items like chips or cookies may be taken per meal period.

Shift workers may take two meals in one visit; they will be rung as two separate transactions and count as two of the daily meals.

Transactions are monitored and tracked daily.

For more information, contact the Food Program Office at 552-0379.

Special victim counselor

Victims of sexual assault are entitled to legal assistance services.

Army Capt. Callin Kerr provides special victim counseling services at Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Communication is protected by attorney-client privilege.

The SVC ensures the victim’s rights, as outlined in the Crimes Victim Act, are protected.

Those rights include being treated with fairness and respect; being reasonably protected from the accused offender; being notified of court proceedings; being present at all public court proceedings related to the offense; being able to confer with the prosecutor; receiving available restitution; and receiving information about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the offender.

Eligible clients include all active duty military of all branches of service, mobilized Reserve Component members, retirees (and the dependents of these sponsors) who make a restricted or unrestricted report for sexual assault.

For more information, call 353-6507.

JBER tax centers open

Active duty members, Reservists, retirees, and their family members can receive free tax return assistance and preparation at JBER’s tax centers.

Volunteers are trained to prepare 1040 EZ and 1040 tax returns, and can provide advice on military specific issues, such as combat zone benefits and the effect of the Earned Income Credit. Volunteers also are also trained to deal with the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend.

All tax returns done through the centers are forwarded electronically to the IRS, and taxpayers can receive their refunds in as little as one week.

The JBER-Richardson Tax Center is located on the third floor of Building 600 and will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m.

The JBER-Elmendorf Tax Center is located on the first floor of the People Center, Building 8517 and will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday 8 a.m. to noon.

Walk-in service is available, but customers having an appointment take precedence.

Taxpayers will need proof of identity (military ID); social security cards and birth dates for all dependents; last year’s federal income tax return; wage and earning statements from W-2s, W-2Gs, and 1099-Rs; interest and dividend statements; bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit; amounts paid to day care providers; and day care providers’ tax identification numbers.

Appointments can be made by calling the JBER-R tax center at 384-1040 or JBER-E tax center at 552-5839.

Customers can also contact a unit tax advisor, who may be able to complete tax returns at the workplace and forward it to the tax center.

Provider Drive closure

Civil Engineers are repaving Provider Drive between the Exchange and JBER Hospital through

Aug. 15. Local housing will have one-lane access to Wilkins Ave.

The detour uses Westover Avenue, Grady Highway and Zeamer Avenue.

Rental Partnership Program

The Rental Partnership Program provides active-duty personnel with affordable off-base housing and consists of two options.

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

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

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

An allotment must be executed through a Housing Management Office under either option of the RPP for the rental payments.

Visit the JBER-Elmendorf HMO, Bldg. 6346, or call 552-4328. Or visit the JBER-Richardson HMO in Bldg. 600, Room 104 or call 384-3088.

DLA Document Services

Defense Logistics Agency Document Services duplicates and prints documents.

Document Services documents including black and white, color, large format, photographic prints, engineering drawings, sensitive materials, technical manuals and training materials. They also handle the design, printing and distribution of business cards, letterhead, invitations and programs.

Document Services’ Equipment Management Solutions Program provides networked multifunctional devices that print, scan, copy and fax. Production facilities offer scanning and conversion services for all types of documents.

They also offer Document Automation and Content Services, a service for building digital libraries of content with online access.

Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information visit www.documentservices.dla.mil, visit the office at 984 Warehouse Street, or call 384-2901.

U-Fix-It Store

The JBER U-Fix-it Stores are open to all Aurora Military Housing tenants. Assorted items for maintaining your home may be issued from the U-Fix-It Store.

Availability is subject to change and limits; 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 on base.

The JBER-Elmendorf location is 6350 Arctic Warrior Drive and is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, closed from 1 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch, 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 at 338 Hoonah Ave., open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and closed from 1 to 1:30 p.m. for lunch.

A blind-cleaning machine is available at the JBER-E location.

A “reservation required to use” policy is in place with the priority going to military members PCSing. 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 information, call 753-6134.

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.

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 be considered for jobs offered internally.

Spouses are matched with positions based on their qualifications and preferences.

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.

Military spouses can register at the Civilian Personnel Office at JBER-Elmendorf or the personnel office at JBER-Richardson.

For information, contact Brenda Yaw at 552-9203.

Furnishing Management

The Furnishings Management Office offers 90-day loaner furniture. Appliances may be issued for the duration of the service member’s tour. FMO delivers as far as Peters Creek or Rabbit Creek; service members must make special arrangements beyond these areas.

When requesting furniture, service members must provide a copy of their reporting orders.

For JBER-Elmendorf, visit the Capital Asset Management Office at Building 6436, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or call 552-2740.

For JBER-Richardson, visit the Housing Management Office at Building 600, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or call 384-2576.

Giant Voice testing

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

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

MiCare registration

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

Patients can communicate with their primary care clinicians online, and view and maintain their health records. 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 ID 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.



Unseasonably warm weather and a complete lack of snowfall couldn't impede the ceremonial start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Anchorage March 7. The municipality had squirreled away tons of previous winter precipitation and hauled more than 300 truckloads of slushy snow to line the streets and allow the show to happen in spite of Mother Nature. (Courtesy photos/John Pennell)

Iditarod 2015

Saturday marks ceremonial start in Anchorage despite lack of snow



Benjamin Harper, from Wasilla, Alaska, drives his team from 4th Avenue onto Cordova Street during the ceremonial start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Anchorage.



Musher Paul Gebhardt's team speeds down Cordova Street during the ceremonial start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Anchorage on Saturday.



Musher Hugh Neff, from Tok and his team cross 5th Avenue as they head out of a snowless Anchorage on Cordova Street. Competitors in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race traveled through the streets and trails of Anchorage for the ceremonial start on Saturday.

Expectant hope buds with the approach of spring

By Army Chaplain (Maj.) Will Harrison
JBER chaplain

With an exceptionally warm winter this year, many of us are already in the thick of preparation for spring and summer activities. The doldrums of winter have been mild and we feel the light increase daily.

The annual cycle of birth and death is preparing to begin again as the sun rises higher and new life begins to break through. We can feel the expectation in our own lives and growing sense of hope with each passing day.

Throughout the history of the world, religions have recognized this cycle of life and death that is marked in the seasons. Groups have identified and worshiped deities based on this cycle and spiritual myths have been woven to explain and celebrate this yearly pattern that we move through.

It is the myth of the creating god bringing life to the world, then dying to nourish the world and rising to new life, bringing the creation with it.

This myth exists in ancient African, Middle Eastern, Asian, Nordic, North American, and European religions. It is something that we all can sense and see in the world around us. That connection to the earth draws many people to worship in and through this myth.

Even Christians participate in this – though in a significantly different manner.

Christianity claims that this is not merely myth, but rather that the myth is a reminder – a type, a preparation – of reality.

Christians believe this myth we see all around us actually happened, and that the cycle of life is reflective of God’s actions in and through Jesus Christ on behalf of the creation. As C.S. Lewis said, Jesus is the myth made real.

It is in Jesus Christ, Christians say, that the creator brought about the world and filled it with life. It was for the love of this world that Jesus died, and through his death and resurrection the world can be brought to new life.

It is no mistake the highest Christian holy day, Easter, takes place in the spring.

It is a recognition by Christians that new life comes through Jesus Christ’s resurrection.

That this new life does away with the barren deadness



Early tree blossoms bring a promise of spring. (U.S. Air National Guard photo/Master Sgt. Kurt Skoglund)

that marks our lives apart from our creator. It is both the culmination of God’s efforts to stop the advance of death and the initiation of a life lived in a new created order.

For many people, the cold barrenness of winter, even a mild one, is reflective of their own inner barren deadness and they see no spring coming in the months ahead. It is difficult

to live without hope and without the prospect of new life.

If that is you, consider looking at the ways in which billions of people throughout the world have addressed the barrenness of their own soul.

Patterns help us; myths bring meaning and power to our lives. And myths that are more than myth, that are real, can change a life to bring the

inner warmth and life of a new birth in the soul.

And for those who have that spring, and feel the budding hope of new life, consider those around you. It is very easy to get wrapped up in our own experiences and our own preparations for the activities ahead. Look at those around you who may not be able to share your joy and expectant hope.



Recreation area closures

Due to the lack of adequate snowfall, the Fit-to-Fight Cross Country Ski program and the Buckner Physical Fitness Center ice rink have been closed until further notice.

The JBER Force Support Squadron will continually monitor weather conditions and will re-open facilities and programs if conditions improve.

**THROUGH SUNDAY
Anchorage boat show**

The Anchorage Boat Show is the Alaskan boater's one-stop-shop to get ready for the 2015 boating and fishing season.

Admission is free for children 12 and under, seniors and active military. Enjoy informative outdoors seminars, food and refreshments.

For information, visit [anchor-
ageboatshow.com](http://anchor-ageboatshow.com)

**THROUGH MARCH 27
Neon Bowling**

All military E-4 and below receive a 10 percent discount every Friday night during March from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Polar Bowl.

Gather your friends, bowl in the neon lights while enjoying today's top music hits.

For information, call 753-7467.

**FRIDAY
Youth Center events**

Youth, head to H2O Oasis from 1 to 4 p.m. for a day of aquatic adventures. Trip departs from the Kennecott Youth Center.

Youth, enjoy a movie night starting at 5 p.m. at the Two Rivers Youth Center.

Teens, get your golf swing on at Putter's Wild from 6 to 8 p.m. for some 3D putting action. Trip departs from the Two Rivers Youth Center.

Teens, enjoy movies from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Two Rivers Youth Center.

For information, call the Kennecott or the Two Rivers youth centers at 552-2266 or 384-1508.

**THROUGH MARCH 15
Spring break at Hillberg**

With colder nights recently, the snow base on the ski hill has maintained an acceptable level.

The hill will be open as through-out spring break as planned from noon to 8 p.m. each day.

For information, call 552-4838 or visit [facebook.com/hillberg-skiarea](https://www.facebook.com/hillberg-skiarea).

SATURDAY

Youth bowling tourney

Bring your kids out to the Polar Bowl for a 9-pin-no-tap tournament from 1 to 3 p.m.

Every participant will be entered into a drawing for a gift card at the Pro Shop.

For information, call 753-7467.

Madden tournament

Think you've got gaming skills? Enter a Madden football tournament starting at 2 p.m. at the Warrior Zone.

To sign up, call 384-9006.

UFC fight night

Come watch the fight starting at 3 p.m. at the 907 Sports Bar & Grill.

An Alaskan Fighting Championship fighter will be present to commemorate the event and to sign autographs.

For information, call 384-7619.

St. Patrick's Day bowling

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a Lucky Shamrock strike tourney at the Polar Bowl. Sign-ups start at 6 p.m.

Or, enjoy a Luck o' the Irish Party from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Wear something green for a chance to win prizes.

For information, call 753-7467.

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
Dog Sledding**

Ever wanted to try your hand at mushing? Come out to Hillberg Ski Area between noon and 5 p.m. for sled dog rides, a uniquely arctic experience.

For information, call 753-7467.

**TUESDAY
Three-point shoot-out**

Sign up deadline is Monday at the Elmendorf Fitness Center for the St. Patrick's Day three-point contest starting at 6 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for first place male and female participants. Must be 13 or older to enter.

For information, call 552-5353.

**MARCH 20
Parents Night Out**

Parents, need a date night? Let the professional staff at the Juneau Child Development Center care for your children from 6 to 10 p.m.

For more information, call central registration at 384-7483.

Open Mic Night

Take the stage and show off your talent at the Fire Pit from 6 to 8 p.m. Stop in to see what's new.

For information, call 384-7619.

**MARCH 21 AND 28
Baseball and softball clinic**

Children ages nine and older and coaches planning to participate in the upcoming Anchorage Military Community Little League baseball and softball season are encouraged to attend.

For information and event times, call 552-2266; 384-1508 or visit <http://tinyurl.com/q7hnlrt>.

**MARCH 21
Give Parents A Break**

Newly arrived or have a deployed spouse and need child care for a few hours? The Katmai Child Development Center and Ketchikan School Age Program host this program from 1 to 5 p.m.

For information, call 552-5113.

Craft and tea

Are you a fan of the popular Downton Abbey series? This free, adult only event from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the JBER library is your opportunity to enjoy a Downton-era craft program with high tea included.

For information, call 384-1640.

**MARCH 23 THROUGH 27
TAP seminar**

The Transition Assistance Program Goals, Plans and Success seminar takes place Mon. through Fri. from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Air Force Transition Center.

Call 552-6619 to register.

**MARCH 27
Free Movie Night**

Come see Penguins of Madagascar at the Talkeetna Theater. Doors open at 6 p.m. for a 6:30 p.m. movie start. Enjoy cheap, cash-only concessions; popcorn, candy, drinks, nachos and more.

For information, call 552-8529.

**APRIL 2 THROUGH 5
Alaska Sportsman Show**

The Sullivan Arena and Ben Boeke Arena host this annual event, which offers demonstrations, clinics, activities for kids, ranges and much more. If you're looking for outdoor gear, this is the place to be.

Free shuttle service is provided from the University Center and Northway malls.

For information, visit greatalaskasportsmanshow.com.

**THROUGH EASTER
Catholic Lenten services**

Stations of the Cross are celebrated every Friday at 6 p.m. in the Arctic Warrior Chapel followed

by a short meditation and meatless soup, bread and salad meal.

Lenten reconciliation service is Mar. 24 at 6 p.m. in the Arctic Warrior Chapel. Several priests will be available for the sacrament.

Palm Sunday Masses are Mar. 29 at 8:30 a.m. in the Arctic Warrior Chapel and 11:30 a.m. in the Midnight Sun Chapel.

Holy Thursday Mass is April 2 at 7 p.m. in the Arctic Warrior Chapel; adoration to follow.

Good Friday service will be hosted April 3 at 7 p.m. in the Midnight Sun Chapel.

Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil is April 4 at 7 p.m. in the Arctic Warrior Chapel.

Easter Sunday Masses are April 5 at 8:30 a.m. in the Arctic Warrior Chapel and 11:30 a.m. in the Midnight Sun Chapel.

**ONGOING
CDCs promote literacy**

Parents are encouraged to partner with CDC staff in the promotion of literacy. There will be reading competitions within each classroom.

Please see your child's CDC staff for further information.

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. Submission deadline is May 1.

For information, call 384-7478.

Wired Cafe for Airmen

The Wired Cafe at 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.

Protestant Women of the Chapel meetings

Women are invited to meet with the Protestant Women of the Chapel. Bible studies are Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at the Arctic Warrior Chapel, JBER-Richardson.

For more information, email jber.ak.pwoc@gmail.com or call 384-1461.

Model railroading

The Military Society of Model Railroad Engineers meets at 7 p.m. Tues. and 1 p.m. Sat. in the basement of Matanuska Hall, Room 35. Anyone interested in model railroading is invited.

Chapel services

Catholic Mass

Sunday

8:30 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel

11:30 a.m. – Midnight Sun Chapel

Monday and Wednesday

11:40 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel

Tuesday and Friday

11:30 a.m. – Midnight Sun Chapel

Thursday

12:00 p.m. – Hospital Chapel

Confession

Confessions are available anytime by appointment. Call 552-5762.

Protestant Sunday Services

Liturgical Service

9 a.m. – Heritage Chapel

Gospel Service

9:30 a.m. – Midnight Sun Chapel

Community Service

10:30 a.m. – Heritage Chapel

Collective Service

11 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel

Chapel Next

5 p.m. – Chaplain Family Life Center

Jewish Services

Erev Shabbat Service

(First Friday of each month)

5 p.m. – Heritage Chapel

Call 384-0456 or 552-5762

Religious Education

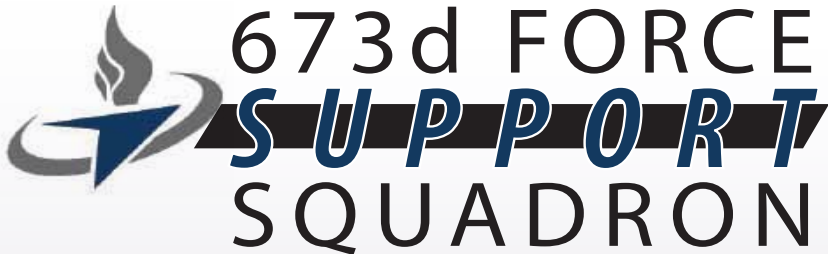
For religious education schedules, please call the Religious Operations Center at 552-5762 or 384-1461.

For information, call 552-4353, or visit trainweb.org/msmrre.

Storytime for Toddlers

Pre-school-aged children can join zoo staff for stories about an animal, followed by meeting animals featured in the story, starting at 10:30 a.m. Mondays at the coffee shop.

For information, email camp@alaskazoo.org.



MWR events & activities



907 SPORTS BAR & GRILL
JBER, AK

FREE For Club Members (FSS Benefit Card Holders*)
\$5 for Non-Members

Ask your server about the FSS Benefit Card!

UFC FIGHT NIGHT

MARCH 14 | DOORS OPEN AT 3 P.M.

Broadcast begins at 3:30 p.m. Main Event begins at 6 p.m.

AFC Fighter will be present to commentate & will be available for autographs.
Call for more information: 384.7619

Hillberg Lake

Dog Sled Rides

March 14 & 15

Noon - 5 p.m.

\$10 for Adults
\$5 for 13 years & under
Get tickets inside Hillberg Lodge

Hillberg Ski Area Bldg. 23400 | 552-4838

PLAY

Bldg. 655 | 384-9006
CALL TO SIGN UP OR SIGN UP AT THE WARRIOR ZONE

MARCH 14 • 2 P.M.

MADDEN NFL TOURNAMENT

OPEN MIC

MARCH 20 | 6 - 8 P.M.

BLDG. 9387 | 384.7619

St. Patrick's Day Luck O' the Irish Party at the Polar Bowl

March 14

5 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Lucky Leprechaun Specials!

Wear something green for your chance to win prizes!

7176 Fighter Dr., 753-7467 (PINS)

Polar Bowl Lucky Shamrock Strike Tournament

March 14 | 6:30 p.m.

Sign up at 6 p.m.
\$15 per person CASH ONLY!
Every 3rd, 6th, & 9th frame is an automatic strike!
Polar Bowl, 7176 Fighter Dr., 753-7467 (PINS)

MARKETING TIDBITS

FSS = MWR

The Alaskan Adventurer was born in 2010 when Elmendorf AFB and Ft. Richardson merged to become JBER. The first edition of the magazine, affectionately called the AA, premiered in April. Now, approximately five years later, we are looking to change the name of our magazine and website again to better match the new sense of community and cooperation that was created with the joining of the two bases. In addition to the name change, our loyal readers will also notice content change on the cover of the magazine as well as inside the magazine. Your Marketing Office will strive to use more active and current pictures of the JBER.



FSS Alaskan Adventurer | April 2010 - March 2015

Please take the time to vote for the new name of our magazine and website via:
*www.elmendorf-richardson.com
*www.facebook.com/673FSS
*www.instagram.com/673FSS
*In person at some of our upcoming FSS events

We will randomly award a \$20 FSS gift card to one voter through each voting option, as well as one voter per event. The last day to vote for a prize, will be May 16.

The new magazine name will be revealed at a special unveiling on June 13, and will appear in print for the first time in our July issue.



July 2015

We have 4 names selected for you to choose from:
JBER TODAY,
JBER LIFE
JBER NOW
JBER Living

Join us in our efforts to bring a new and updated image to our magazine. We will be out at Hillberg Ski Area for the Spring Meltdown, March 28 & 29, the Youth Programs and Arctic Oasis Community Center Spring Fling joint event, April 4, and the Youth Programs/Fitness Center's AAFKR Color Run 5K, May 16, gathering your votes. Stop by, visit with us and see what all we have planned for 2015!



ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON
FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON
<http://www.elmendorf-richardson.com>



Stop by and see us!
www.facebook.com/JBER673FSS

FSS = MWR

The “first lady” of the Air Force

Esther Blake paved the way for women in the Air Force

By Dr. Robert Kane
Air Force News Service

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. — The women of today’s Air Force can look back with pride to Staff Sgt. Esther McGowin Blake.

“We consider her the first lady of the Air Force,” said William Chivalette, the curator of the Enlisted Heritage Hall at Gunter Annex here. “She raised her right hand to enlist in the U.S. Air Force on the first minute of the first hour of the first day, July 8, 1948, that women could join the United States Air Force, created nine months before on September 17, 1947.”

Less than a month before, on June 12, 1948, then-President Harry S. Truman signed the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act (Public Law 625-80), which authorized women to serve as regular members of the U.S. armed forces.

Born on July 7, 1897, in Escambia, Alabama, Blake served as a civilian employee of the Army Air Forces Air Service Command at the Miami Air Depot in Miami, now a part of the Miami International Airport, after World War II started.

In March 1944, she enlisted in the Women’s Army Corps after the War Department notified her that her oldest son, 1st Lt. Julius Blake, a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot in England, had been shot down over Belgium and was reported missing. He remained “missing in action” for nine months.

Her younger son, 1st Lt. Thomas Blake, who flew a B-25 Mitchell bomber in Italy, later said that his mother joined the Women’s Army

Corps hoping to free a Soldier from clerical work to fight, thus speeding the end of the war.

“If I can do this,” Blake said, “my efforts will be worthwhile.”

While Thomas was also shot down after 50 combat missions, Blake saw both of her sons return home by the end of the war with only minor wounds and many decorations.

During the war, Blake served at several bases throughout the U.S., including one year in Alaska near the Aleutians and in the Yukon territory. She separated from the Army in November 1945 and returned to her civil service job in Miami. However, heeding a recall for women in the military services, she reenlisted in the Army in April 1947. The Army assigned her to Fort McPherson near Atlanta.

The Air Force became a separate military service on Sept. 17, 1947. After the enactment of the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act on June 12, 1948, the Air Force within a month established the Women in the Air Force as a separate organization to oversee the training and administration of WAF.

At the time, Congress had limited the number of women in the Air Force to 300 officers and 4,000 enlisted members, assigned primarily to clerical and medical career fields. The Air Force inactivated the WAF in June 1976.

At the first available opportunity to return to her roots, Blake transferred from the Army to the Air Force on July 8, 1948, minutes after the start of the first duty day for the WAF, along with 11 other women at Fort McPherson.

She remained on active duty with the Air Force until 1954, when she separated because of a disability and went to work as a civil servant at the Veterans Administration Regional Headquarters in Montgomery, Alabama.

Blake died on Oct. 17, 1979, at the age of 82, at the Veterans Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama, among fellow veterans.

On Oct. 1, 1987, the Air Force named one of the student dormitories at the Air Force Senior NCO Academy at Gunter Annex



A widow with two sons who served during World War II, Staff Sgt. Esther Blake is known as the “first woman of the Air Force.” She paved the way for female enlistees and showed that patriotism is not defined by one’s gender. (Photo courtesy Air Force Heritage Research Institute)

in her honor. “In singling out and recognizing in such a special way one of your own, you pay respect and tribute not only to Air Force Staff Sgt. Esther McGowin Blake, you honor all of us who knew and loved her and who were privileged to share her life,” her son Thomas said at the dedication ceremony.

“It’s never easy being the first.

The trail that Esther Blake blazed made it possible for other women to follow,” said Chief Master Sgt. Timothy Horn, the Air University command chief. “Her success opened the doors to allow future women the opportunity to serve with pride. Our Air Force is emphatically better for her efforts.”

Today, nearly 20 percent of the

active-duty members of the Air Force are women and they serve in 99 percent of the available career fields, including as security forces members and combat pilots.

“Staff sergeant Blake’s spirit of service to country and duty to the Air Force lives on in the women of today’s Air Force.”



Tesha Mulkey, 673d Force Support Squadron library technician, reads to children during Dr. Seuss week at the Consolidated Library March 3. The Consolidated Library offers many storytelling and crafting programs with a new theme each week for children and parents. Mulkey began working as one of the two storytellers in 2011. (Air Force photo/Airman Christopher R. Morales)

Story time at the library

By Airman 1st Class Tammie Ramsouer
JBER Public Affairs

The children’s section of the library is normally a quiet atmosphere brimming with books and their imaginary tales of dreams, curiosity and mystery.

The silence is broken when storytellers read a special tale to young children, teleporting their minds to a world of imagination.

The storytelling program is one of the many weekly events the Consolidated Library offers to children and parents on Joint

Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

One teller provides the gift of imagination through her words, telling children of the many different and unique stories the library supplies to its patrons.

Tesha Mulkey, 673d Force Support Squadron library technician, didn’t get there in one day.

Mulkey began working at the library in 2011 and was offered the position of telling stories to children.

“Storytelling was a duty that was passed around to all the staff here in the library,” she said. “I thought it would be a good opportunity.”

The new experience with storytelling was nerve wracking at first, she said. Mulkey gained confidence through practice reading to her friends’ children.

“I did story time and crafts with them and jumped right in,” she said. “I just had to think how to engage children on a level that wasn’t serious.”

During story time, she engages her audience through her voice and by using visual interpretations for the visual learners.

“I like to interact with my audience by asking the silly questions about the story I’m reading to them,” Mulkey said. “You just have to remember they are little people

and they like to have fun. I think story time allows your silliness to come out and be comfortable with yourself.”

Mulkey said she wouldn’t be where she is today without some childhood inspiration.

“My earliest memory of reading was reading Nancy Drew books starting in the 6th grade,” she said. “I read every Nancy Drew book I could get my hands on. Those books are what really engaged me to read and I haven’t stopped reading since.”

Out of all the perks to being a storyteller, the native of Alaska said giving children the gift of exploring their imagination is the job’s biggest reward.

“I think if you are a reader, it helps to spread the enthusiasm,” she said. “Books are a gateway to your imagination. When someone reads a story, maybe the reader pictures the story differently than what the author wrote it to be.”

After story time, the children can participate in a craft related to the book Mulkey read to them.

“A lot of the children will do many different things with the craft after the story,” Mulkey said. “One day, I had a little girl make her craft by the way she interpreted the story I read to her just by using her imagination.”

Alishia Salyer, one regular attendee, said her 5-year-old son Josiah is most interested in the crafts.

“I really like to color,” Josiah said. “That is my favorite part.”

Salyer has been bringing her children to the storytelling sessions regularly since they were 2 years old.

“My kids get extremely excited when I tell them its library day,” Salyer said. “The program really got them interested and engaged more with reading and the library, even though we were readers too before coming to story time.”

The avid reading family heard about story time when they signed up for a library card.

“When my family and I first got here, the library gave us quite a bit of information about all the events they host and provide to the installation community,” Salyer said.

At the end of the day, all Mulkey hopes for is children to have opened their minds and imaginations to the world of reading.

“I think story time here at the library will encourage these children to read or ask their parent to read to them,” Mulkey said.

For more information about the storytelling program, contact the Consolidated Library at 384-1640.

Alaska Air Guardsmen rescue snowmachiner

By Sgt. Marisa Lindsay
Alaska National Guard
Public Affairs

Airmen with the Alaska Air National Guard’s 210th, 211th and 212th Rescue Squadrons rescued a 65-year-old man who was injured while snowmachining near the Tanana River, approximately 24 miles southwest of Fairbanks, March 8.

Alaska State Troopers notified the Alaska Rescue Coordination Center around 10 p.m. Saturday after Troopers relayed a cellphone call from the distressed.

According to the RCC, Alaska State Troopers and LifeMed were unable to execute the mission because of the terrain and time restrictions.

The rough terrain and remote location of the individual made the situation a good candidate for the Alaska National Guard’s unique hoisting and air-refueling capabilities.

The Alaska Air National Guard’s 176th Wing accepted the mission and launched an HC-130 “King” refueling aircraft from the 211th Rescue Squadron and an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter from the 210th Rescue Squadron. Each had on board a team of Guardian Angel rescue personnel from the 212th Rescue Squadron, from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Because of the poor visibility and the lack of a GPS locating device, the snowmachiners used a fire and flashlight in order to signal the helicopter.

“The HH-60 helicopter had to try multiple routes to get through the passes due to low ceilings and poor visibility,” said Lt. Col. John Morse, deputy director for the 11th Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, Alaska Air National Guard. “The helicopter had to be refueled by the HC-130 a few times in flight before the team was able to find the survivor, hoist him to safety and get him to a medical facility.”

The man was stabilized and hoisted onto the helicopter before being transported and arriving at the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital at 8:30 a.m. Sunday.

“It’s important that people realize how important having a



An Alaska Air National Guard HH-60 Pave Hawk from the 210th Rescue Squadron conducts a training flight near JBER in February of 2013. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Bernie Kale)

personal locator beacon is with the extreme weather and terrain that’s experienced in Alaska,” Morse said. “Have a trip plan, let someone know where you are going and when you’ll be back and be prepared to spend multiple days out in the elements in the event your machine breaks down or you get lost.”

The members of the 210th, 211th, and 212th Rescue Squadrons were awarded with one save for the mission.



Alaska Air National Guard Staff Sgt. Jheren Svoboda, a flight engineer with the 210th Rescue Squadron, prepares to hoist a combat rescue officer out of an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter during a training mission near Mount Susitna Dec. 16. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Balinda O’Neal)