



Spc. Paolo Grassi of 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment, was killed May 3 in Anchorage. (Courtesy photo)

1 Geronimo Soldier victim of homicide

U.S. Army Alaska Public Affairs News Release

A U.S. Army Alaska Soldier was the victim of a homicide in Anchorage last weekend.

According to an Anchorage Police Department release, Anchorage police responded to a trailer residence on the 3000 block of Penland Parkway to a report of a stabbing May 3, just after 3:30 a.m.

Police located a deceased male inside the home, later identified as 33-year-old Spc. Paolo Grassi, with multiple stab wounds.

Grassi was born in Varese, Italy, and joined the U.S. Army in Twin Falls, Idaho, in April of 2012.

He graduated from One Station Unit Training and Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia, in July 2012 as an infantryman.

Grassi reported to Alaska in August 2012 where he was assigned to A Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division.

Anchorage Police Department personnel are leading the investigation into Grassi's death.

'PART OF A LEGACY'

Engineer units furl guidons, inactivate

By David Bedard
JBER Public Affairs

The 23d Engineer Company (Airborne), alongside Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 532nd Engineer Battalion, inactivated during a May 1, 2015 ceremony at the Alaska Army National Guard Armory on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Commanders and first sergeants cased guidons, capping storied histories for both units. The guidons will be shipped to the Institute of Heraldry at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, where they will be archived and ready should the units activate in the future.

"This casing ceremony brings with it a flurry of emotions we have all experienced over the past several months," said Lt. Col. Kirt Boston, 532nd Engineer Battalion commander and presiding officer for the ceremony. "The overwhelming emotion that I would like to share with you today is one of thanks – thanks to the numerous Soldiers who have served honorably and professionally in the 532nd Engineer Battalion, the HHC, the 84th [Engineer Support Company], the [23rd] Sapper Company and others."

The 23d Engineer Company was constituted April 3, 1944 as the 1488th Engineer Maintenance Company and was activated May 12, 1944 at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The company served in Japan and France before reactivation at then-Fort Richardson June 30, 1972.

The company was inactivated Sept. 16, 1997 and then reactivated Oct. 16, 2008 at Fort Richardson.

The 23rd Engineer Company served three tours in Afghanistan between 2010 and 2014. During



Sgt. 1st Class Richard Morales, 23rd Engineer Company (Airborne) first sergeant, furls the company guidon, held by Capt. A. Edward Major, 23rd Engineer Company commander, during the company's May 1, 2015 inactivation ceremony at the Alaska Army National Guard Armory on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. Lt. Col. Kirt Boston, 532nd Engineer Battalion commander, presides. (U.S. Air Force photos/ David Bedard)

1st Sgt. Carlos Melvin, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 532nd Engineer Battalion first sergeant, furls the company guidon, held by Capt. Scott Capella, HHC, 532nd Engineer Battalion commander, during the company's May 1, 2015 inactivation ceremony at the Alaska Army National Guard Armory.

their last deployment, the company was stationed out of Operational Base Fenty in Nangarhar Province, carrying out more than 90 combined-arms route-clearance operations and clearing more than

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On Firebirds' wings: JBER sends humanitarian aid to Nepal

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Wes Wright
JBER Public Affairs

Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson sent the installation's first round of humanitarian support to the people of Nepal affected by a recent 7.8 magnitude earthquake in the form of a C-17 Globemaster III and support personnel May 1.

The aircraft, from the 517th Airlift Squadron, carried a K Loader and a tire-changing kit, and first stopped in Guam to pick up a contingency response group before continuing to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Additionally, a C-17 from the 517th AS participating in exercise Balikatan in the Philippines began transferring Marine Corps UH-1Y Venom helicopters to help provide airlift support. More support packages from JBER are on standby to be sent as directed by the Department of State.

"The biggest priority is to get some command and control elements into country," said Maj. Travis Kuenzi, 517th AS assistant director of operations. "Also important is getting helicopters there for vertical airlift due to the crowded airfields and rugged terrain."

Initially, the helicopters will be aiding in search and rescue, Kuenzi said. They will be particularly useful as highways have been hard hit by the earthquake and it is hard to get supplies to the smaller villages.

JBER's efforts will assist Joint Task Force 505, already in place in Nepal. According to Air Force officials, the task force brings a variety of capabilities that will help the government of Nepal recover from

the disaster as quickly as possible. The focus of support includes search and rescue, airborne SAR, medium helicopter lift support, medium-heavy tilt-rotor support, fixed-wing lift support, as well as medical and logistics enablers.

"It's fairly typical from our perspective," Kuenzi said. "We're trained to go anywhere in the world moving pretty much any kind of cargo you would need. We do that every day. The difference here is the urgency of the situation."

JBER officials said JBER service members stand ready and willing to help when called upon as the needs of the people of Nepal become clear and relief efforts are coordinated.

JBER units (mission partners such as the 3rd Wing, 517th AS, U.S. Army Alaska and Alaska Air National Guard) have a long history of support in humanitarian and disaster relief operations, locally and in the far corners of the globe. JBER pilots, crews, maintainers, logistics and medical personnel train every day to be ready to support when called upon.

One of the units ready to assist is the 673d Medical Group.

"We're prepared to support Nepal and its people in any way we can," said Senior



Capt. Matthew Lawton, 517th Airlift Squadron deputy readiness flight commander, and Capt. Brandon Ongna, 517th AS deputy standardization and evaluation flight commander, both C-17 Globemaster III pilots, run through a preflight checklist before departing on a humanitarian mission to Nepal May 1. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Airman Christopher Morales)

Master Sgt. Nicholas Hoff, 673d Medical Support Squadron medical logistics superintendent. "The medical logistics flight has a variety of medical capabilities that can be deployed along with personnel packages. We can take anything from a small deployable clinic that can treat a certain amount of people for 30 days or we can send a critical care team that allows for transport of critically injured personnel in the air."

The 673d MDSS support elements are structured modularly, allowing them to take equipment packages from one installation and pair it with personnel packages from another installation.

"It gives flexibility and a large scope of expandability to whatever the mission

dictates," Hoff said. "There's an almost endless amount of support we can give and my people are very proud and excited to help out the people of Nepal."

The spirit of caring and support was a common theme for personnel involved in the initial support provided to Nepal.

"Even though Alaska is a large community, it's close-knit so it provides some perspective when helping others out all the way across the world," said Staff Sgt. Alyse Denittis, 517th AS C-17 loadmaster. "Someone doesn't have to be physically close to you for you to feel a desire to reach out. It's very rewarding for me. Giving our help when needed, that's what the U.S. Air Force does."

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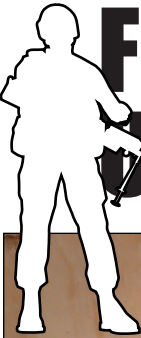
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FINDING USARAK'S BEST WARRIOR



LEFT: Sgt. Joshua Rojo, assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska, slams his attacker against a wall during a combatives event in the USARAK Best Warrior competition April 29. Winners of the USARAK Best Warrior Competition will compete in Hawaii this summer for the chance to advance to the Department of the Army level of competition in the fall to vie for the 2015 Army Soldier and NCO of the Year titles. (U.S. Air Force photos/Justin Connaher)

BELOW LEFT: Spc. Rahjee Hajj, assigned to A Troop, 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st SBCT, carries another Soldier April 29 – just one of the events in the Best Warrior competition.

BELOW: Sgt. Ryan Fountain, a native of Warner Robins, Ga., leads Cpl. Robert Walker, a native of Louisville, Ky., assigned to Delaware Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska, to a firing position during a stress shoot event in the USARAK Best Warrior competition April 28.



ABOVE: Spc. Frederick Huber III, assigned to 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, pulls a weighted sled while competing in an obstacle course April 29.

LEFT: Cpl. Jeremy Rettberg, right, a native of Charlotte, N.C., assigned to B Troop, 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska, sprints between firing points during a stress shoot event in the USARAK Best Warrior competition April 28.

BELOW: Pfc. Randenn Snider, front, assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska, and Pfc. Andrew Rona, assigned to 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, U.S. Army Alaska, compete in a combatives event during the competition April 29.

BELOW LEFT: Full magazines wait for shooters at a range April 28.



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**Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson/
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From **ENGINEERS** • A1

8,500 kilometers of routes throughout four provinces.

“No one was ambushed or hit by an IED following a 23rd Sapper Company sweep,” Boston said. “Impressive, considering that part of the world.”

The 532nd Engineer Battalion was constituted as the 532nd Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment June 20, 1942 at Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

The unit participated in the

Pacific Theater during World War II, culminating in the occupation of Japan. The unit served in the Korean War, transporting the 1st Marine Division during the Inchon Landing.

The battalion inactivated in June 1955 while in Japan.

Due to the scheduled inactivation of 2d Engineer Brigade Headquarters and several of its subordinate units, coupled with the deployment of the brigade headquarters and 17th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

Headquarters, U.S. Army Pacific saw fit to stand up the 532nd Engineer Battalion.

Reactivated as a provisional battalion Jan. 5, 2014, the 532nd Engineer Battalion was quickly organized to undertake inactivation operations.

After a year-and-a-half long effort that will end in July, the unit will have turned in and transferred more than 1,800 pieces of equipment worth in excess of \$143 million as well as relocated more than 1,000 Soldiers to other units

in support of Army restructuring.

HHC also provided the headquarters for 17th CSSB during that battalion headquarters’ deployment.

“All of these tasks were conducted with little fanfare – executed simultaneously, split-based and in some cases under some harsh weather conditions,” Boston said. “[It’s] an amazing accomplishment for a small battalion HHC that had every single staff primary position rotate out at least once – and in some cases multiple times during

a short window.”

Soldiers from both units will either transfer to another installation or join another unit at JBER.

Boston placed the companies’ accomplishments in context.

“You are now part of a legacy and should be justifiably proud knowing that you served honorably and professionally,” he said. “Take the lessons of unit pride, professionalism, your strong work ethic and patriotism with you as you continue your Army careers.

“You are these units’ legacy.”

JBER personnel at Exercise Balikatan help construct schools

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Chris Hubenthal
Defense Media Activity

PALAWAN, Philippines — Philippine, U.S., and Australian forces joined barangay, meaning village in Filipino, communities including San Rafael, Santa Lourdes, and Sabang to turn over brand new school buildings to elementary and high schools during exercise Balikatan 2015 April 28 and 29.

This year marks the 31st iteration of the exercise, an annual Philippine-U.S. bilateral military training exercise and humanitarian civic assistance engagement.

Construction of these BK15 humanitarian civic assistance projects started this past March with Santa Lourdes National High School, Sabang Elementary School, San Rafael High School and San Rafael Elementary School each receiving a two-classroom building.

In addition, each site was able to use excess engineering materials to build things such as a basketball court and a perimeter fence to further improve the school grounds.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Corey Gates of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson’s 773rd Civil Engineer Squadron, a heating, ventilation, air conditioning craftsman, helped construct the classroom facility at San Rafael Elementary School and feels a sense of pride after completing the project.

“When we first got here it was a lot of beams and wood with pieces everywhere,” Gates said. “To come this far and see a finished product through sweat, blood and everything like that with my brothers from the Philippines is amazing. What this building means to the community is beyond any type of expression that we can explain. This idea of these kids being able to have a better future that we and my Filipino brothers provided them is ... there are no words.”



Airmen from the 673d Civil Engineer Group pose with residents of barangay San Rafael in a newly built classroom during exercise Balikatan 2015's San Rafael Elementary School ribbon cutting, in San Rafael, Palawan, Philippines, April 28. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Christopher Hubenthal)

A building marker was unveiled at the end of each ceremony and each classroom was blessed by Armed Forces of the Philippines Father Lt. Col. Bernie E. Lingcong, Western Command command chaplain.

U.S. Marine Maj. Gen. Paul Brier, 4th Marine Division commander, joined AFP leadership and community leaders in San Rafael to cut the ceremony ribbons at their elementary and high school.

Brier also gave his thanks to the barangay of San Rafael for the chance to work shoulder-to-shoulder with the AFP as well as their community.

“We greatly appreciate the opportunity to do this,” Brier said. “We look forward to these opportunities in the future.”

Rex Restar, Barangay San Rafael Parent

Teacher Association president, also shared his appreciation and made a commitment to the AFP, Australian Defence Force, and U.S. forces who enhanced schools in Palawan.

“Let us make a pledge,” Restar said. “We will protect and we will maintain these facilities so that it will serve its purpose and that our children will benefit from these facilities.”

U.S. Navy Capt. James Meyer, commodore of the 30th Naval Construction Regiment and the exercise’s Combined-Joint Civil- Military Operations Task Force commander, said the work the U.S., Philippine, and Australian team accomplished during BK15 will have a long-lasting impact.

“The lives that have been touched will extend well beyond just the people here

today or the first group of students to attend class in the new school house here,” Meyer said. “It will last for generations to come as we continue to celebrate and leave the legacy behind of what these schools and our friendships represent.”

During the ceremonies held in barangay San Rafael, a girl from the elementary school shared her gratitude to everyone who participated in BK15.

“On behalf of the students of the San Rafael Elementary School we give our warmest thanks to BK15 for doing a good job,” she said. “It’s one of our inspirations to help other people.”

Classrooms were also built at Don Joaquin Artuz Memorial Elementary School in Tapaz, Philippines.

Afghan Air University creator honored with Bronze Star medal

By Tech. Sgt. Robert Barnett
JBER Public Affairs

Air Force Master Sgt. Lee Pentimone, like many personnel assigned to the various forward operating bases in Afghanistan, kept his M9 Beretta strapped to his side and his armor within reach. The Taliban attacked randomly – sometimes during the day, sometimes at night – and Pentimone, then the training advisor for the 438th Air Expeditionary Advisory Wing, had to join the others in diving for shelter and arming up when they did. When the attack was over, he had to do his part guarding his immediate area until everything was declared clear.

“We got attacked a lot,” said the 673d Communications Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of radio frequency transmissions at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. “The first attack [I experienced] was a mortar attack in the first couple days. My first reaction was to think this was going to be a long year. Once my base got attacked and I happened to be at the next base over. They had a several-hour firefight with the terrorists. We didn’t lose anybody, thankfully. The Taliban lost all theirs.”

Then he had to try to get back to work; it was normal life for a year-long deployment that would earn him a Bronze Star.

“We’d start getting work done, something would happen and we’d have to duck and cover, wait until it was clear, and then try to get back to work,” he said. “It’s a good recipe for slow progress.”

Pentimone began his career in the Air National Guard, and volunteered to switch to active duty in 2009, becoming a Basic Military Training instructor.

“I did the shadow program and saw what it was all about,” he said. “I told my wife it was what I wanted to do. When she said it was okay, we did it. I’m very lucky; not many people would stick around for that. It’s the best worst job you’ll ever have.”

“When you can see an Airman that was the trouble maker become the best Airman you have, when their parents don’t recognize them and say ‘I don’t know what you did, but it’s amazing’ that gives you that pride,” he said. “I did my four years; it went well and it ended well.”

As his four-year assignment in BMT ended, Pentimone was deployed to Afghanistan.

“I went over there as an advisor,” he said. “I started out working in the Afghan Air University, and I actually created their Officer Candidate School. There were tons of complications daily.”

One of the complications included finding the right students.

“The cadets had to be tested and vetted to be accepted into the academy, to make sure the Taliban or similar didn’t get into it,” he said. “We had to test them on English. A hundred of those were supposed to become pilots, and in order to become a pilot they had to speak a certain amount of English. We had to test more than 2,000 people – it took us like two months, three or four hours in the morning and three or four hours in the afternoon, to do that testing. That was probably the worst.”

He found the officers were used to doing most tasks themselves, from turning wrenches to flying,

while the enlisted troops primarily did administrative and security duties.

“By doing OCS, we were giving their NCOs and airmen more responsibilities,” he said. “[The officers] were happy to learn the leadership stuff, but they didn’t want to give up what they had. You’d have a general who had flown all his life, and he didn’t want to give that up.”

They weren’t happy about leading an NCO to turn wrenches instead of doing it themselves, he said.

“That was very challenging. I advised a lieutenant colonel directly who said ‘this is never going to work’ but through those six months he got things ironed out and made it work.”



Air Force Master Sgt. Lee Pentimone receives a Bronze Star medal from Lt. Gen. Russell Handy at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson April 28. Pentimone earned the medal for his service during a year-long deployment in Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Robert Barnett)

Pentimone said his BMT instructor experience was likely part of why he was picked for the assignment.

“Being able to read people – to understand the different personalities and cultures – that’s what you do [in BMT] all the time,” he said. “You have to take all those personalities and cultures, put them all together, and still come out to the end goal. It was the same thing with the Afghans. You could see that division in them, and you’d have to figure out how to get them to accomplish tasks.”

Pentimone completed his work with Afghan Air University after spending half of his year there.

“I hope I helped them; I know I changed the lives of the Afghans that I worked with,” he said. “The

last six months I was the communications superintendent for the wing. I also advised the general in charge of the communications for the Air Force in that area. I got to use my past knowledge saying this is what you need and this is how to do it.”

He then became the communications superintendent for the remainder of the year.

“There were very few of us and we were in charge of maybe 300 [computers],” he said. “Almost every location had it and we had to maintain it. It was pretty interesting to try to keep up. I had communications equipment in the convoys that went out, so I usually tried to go with them, or at least make sure their gear was good to go. Being a BMTI, I was used to the fast pace, always having something to do.”

Now assigned to JBER, Pentimone has been awarded a Bronze Star for his service in Afghanistan.

“He’s a pretty impressive guy,” said Air Force Lt. Gen. Russell Handy, 11th Air Force commander. “[He had] exceptional service in a combat zone at great personal risk. The first six months he was there, he helped stand up the Afghanistan Air University. We used to think that sort of duty was not dangerous – not anymore. Anything you do in that [area of responsibility] is extremely dangerous.”

“I think it was definitely worth going,” Pentimone said. “There’s so much that happens there; you’re a huge family. I’ve made some great contacts and friends. I’m glad that a general said I was worthy of [this medal], that makes me proud knowing I did my job well.”

JBER aircraft join more than 200 others at Great Alaska Aviation Gathering

By Maj. Carla Gleason
477th Fighter Group public affairs

Planes, planes and, well, more planes. An F-22 Raptor and a C-17 Globemaster from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson joined more than 200 other aircraft at the annual Great Alaska Aviation Gathering May 2 and 3 at the Ted Stevens International Airport.

“It’s a great opportunity for us to kind of show off what we do the public,” said Maj. David “Chappy” Balmer, an Air Force Reserve pilot from the 302nd Fighter Squadron who flew the Raptor in from JBER following a short training sortie. “I think [people will]

get a great perspective of how these planes compare to the other aircraft out here,” said Balmer.

“This tradeshow is the Alaska Airmen’s Association’s largest community outreach program, and it provides us an opportunity to educate the public about the crucial role aviation plays in Alaska and its importance to the state’s economy,” said Dee Hanson, executive director of the AAA.

Total force Airmen came together to showcase JBER’s varied missions.

Security forces members, maintainers, pilots and others from the Alaska Air National Guard, 3rd Wing, and the 477th Fighter Group, as well as recruiters from

each component, participated in the show to talk about the Air Force and its contribution to the community.

“I think it’s important to Alaska that we’re here because it gives members of the community, especially the youth here, job prospects and a way to give back,” said Tech. Sgt. Justin Klein, 477th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron flightline expeditor. “We all live here in the community and we work together to make it a better place.”

JBER showcased some of that operational prowess during the gathering.

“A lot of work goes on behind these planes,” said Klein. “Hundreds of maintainers and support staff work around the clock

to ensure the aircraft are operational and ready to go.”

“People who come out will get to talk to some of the people that get to put hands on these planes every day, working on them, maintaining them, deploying with them, day to day operations,” said Klein.

It was the eighteenth annual aviation gathering in Anchorage and, though budget constraints kept the military from participating over the past couple of years, it marked the eighth year JBER has participated.

The show, sponsored by the Alaska Airman Association, attracts more than 23,000 pilots and aviation enthusiasts from around the world.

Disposition of effects

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Sean Hitchcock, 38th Troop Command, is authorized to make disposition of personal effects of Sgt. Dakota Volkman of Joint Forces Headquarters, Alaska Army National Guard, as stated in Army Regulation 638-2.

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of the deceased should contact Hitchcock at 428-6297.

Disposition of effects

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jean Simon, D Company, 6th Brigade Engineer Battalion (Airborne), is authorized to make disposition of personal effects of Pvt. David H. Lean, D Co., 6th BEB. as stated in Army Regulation 638-2.

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of the deceased should contact Simon at 382-4136.

Gold Rush Inn closure

The Gold Rush Inn dining facility will be closed until June 15, due to USARAK block leave. Dining facilities will consolidate support at the Wilderness Inn.

JBER recreational access

The Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson recreational permit fee costs \$10 for active duty, military-affiliated and civilian personnel. Senior citizens 60 years of age and older, and those disabled 50 percent or more as documented by the Department of Veterans Affairs, will see a \$5 rate per year.

Users must sign in and sign out using the iSportsman system, using computers, kiosks at the visitors centers, or by phone.

For more information, visit the website or call 552-2439 or 384-6224.

Home buying seminar

Volunteer realtors and mortgage lenders present an hour-long home buying seminar every Wednesday at either the JBER-Elmendorf or JBER-Richardson Housing Management Offices from 1 to 2 p.m.

These seminars are intended to support those interested in purchasing a home by explaining

the buying and selling process in the Anchorage and Mat-Su areas. The seminar will cover home loan pre-qualifications, offers and acceptances, inspections, title searches, types of loans available and the closure process as well as many other points of interest to prospective home owners.

For more information or to sign up for the seminars, contact the management office. For the JBER-Elmendorf HMO, call 552-4312, or visit Bldg. 6346 Arctic Warrior Drive.

For the JBER-Richardson office, call 552-3088, or visit Bldg. 600, Room 104.

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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.

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.

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For 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, allowing occupants 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 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 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.

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

For information, call 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.

Provider Drive closure

Civil engineers are repaving Provider Drive between the Exchange and JBER hospital through Aug. 15.

Housing will have one-lane access to Wilkins Ave. The detour uses Westover Avenue, Grady Highway and Zeamer Avenue.

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/ltsywzr>.

Quartermaster Laundry

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

Taking a breath after more than 50 years of service

By Airman 1st Class
Tammie Ramsouer
JBER Public Affairs

An alarm buzzes early in the morning, and a retired Air Force noncommissioned officer reaches over and turns it off; it is the beginning of one of his last days as an instructor for AFJROTC.

After retiring from the Air Force in early 1990, retired Chief Master Sgt. Morris Pickel accepted a job as the aerospace science instructor at the oldest Junior ROTC program in the state of Alaska in July of that same year. But he would not have gotten the job without his military background and education.

“After 30 years’ experience in the military and with my extensive military career background, the program organizers decided I was the best candidate to hire,” Pickel said.

Alaska was a state Pickel had never lived in before he accepted the job. After telling his wife ‘Let’s have one last big adventure,’ he traveled with his family to the Last Frontier on a five-year plan that has turned into 25 years and a permanent home.

“Being an instructor and the opportunity to mold teenagers’ minds as well as passing on some of my experiences is rewarding,” Pickel said.

In his late teens, Chief Pickel

made the decision to voluntarily join the military in 1960.

“I joined because I wanted to travel around the world,” Pickel said. “When I decided I wanted to join the military, I looked at the Army, [but] they do too much camping out for me, the Marines were too gung-ho and the Navy were around too much water for me to handle. The Air Force looked like it would be a decent job, so I joined.”

At the beginning of his career, Pickel was a Morse-intercept operator.

“At the time I had that job, it was all code,” Pickel said. “My unit and I would sit and listen to airwaves for any information, just as the National Security Agency does today. We would transcribe it onto a typewriter, but I wasn’t fast enough to fully become a human computer, so to say.”

Pickel took an opportunity to retrain and become an airborne weapons mechanic.

“I happened to be a weapons specialist, at the time President [John] Kennedy was in office, and started the Air Force Commandos,” he said.

In 1961, Kennedy ordered the military to start training airborne warfare specialists, a career field Pickel decided to be a part of.

“I raised my hand and said it sounded like fun,” Chief Pickel said. “I was young and dumb, and



Retired Chief Master Sgt. Morris Pickel, Air Force junior ROTC aerospace science instructor, stands next to an AFJROTC drill trophy case at West Anchorage High School April 29. Pickel has spent more than 50 years combined in active duty service and as an AFJROTC instructor. His assignment as an AFJROTC instructor was only a five-year contract, but Pickel stayed for more than 20 years. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Tammie Ramsouer)

willing to do anything at that time. It provided me with the opportunity to go through Air Force survival schools and special training to prepare for what I would be doing later in my career.”

A weapons mechanic checks and tests weapons release and gun systems on various military aircraft.

Pickel spent the next 10 years as an aerial weapons mechanic and helicopter gunner with the 1st, 605th, 24th, 20th and 415th special operations squadrons.

His career led him to multiple deployments throughout the world during times of peace and war. His most memorable time was in Southeast Asia.

“I had missions to Vietnam, which lasted about three years,” Pickel said. “I had 350 combat missions there as a crew member on UH-1P Iroquios helicopters, in which I was extremely lucky.”

During Pickel’s time as a helicopter crew member, his team was shot down three times but only a few survived.

“At that time, we lost about 75 percent of our crews and helicopters within our organization,” Pickel said. “We had 20 helicopters and lost 15. Someone was riding on my shoulder at that time.”

After his time in Vietnam, he became a part of the 405th Air Expeditionary Wing at what is known today as Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Ohio, as a crew member on C-130 Hercules and AC-119K Stinger gunship aircraft.

“I came back from a routine evaluation mission one day, and I decided it wasn’t for me anymore,” he said. “I was on my 12th time of trying to get my annual certification on a Fairchild C-119 Flying Boxcar; we landed but it was horrendous. We didn’t know if we were going to land or crash. As soon as we landed, I kissed the ground and I cross-trained as soon as I possibly could.”

His next 20 years were spent as a professional military education instructor and boom operator on KC-135 Stratotanker and KC-10 Extender aircraft. After his retirement, he joined the AFJROTC program in Alaska, hoping to change his students’ outlook on life.

“As an instructor for JROTC, I teach discipline, leadership and followership to the students,” Pickel said. “I see a big change; from these kids disrespecting others to making their beds at home and becoming good citizens when they graduate. Once these kids move on from school, I see them from time to time and I get to see as an instructor what I did to help them in the real world.”

A previous student of Chief Pickel’s, Marine Sgt. Jacobus Blignaut, U.S. Marine Corps Military Entrance Processing Station liaison, had the idea of going to college just like any other high school student.

“I was born and raised in South Africa,” Blignaut said. “When I moved here I didn’t know much about the U.S. military. I joined AFJROTC because a friend of

mine wanted me to do it with him.”

Blignaut said he didn’t know what to expect going through the course.

“My mentality going into AFJROTC, it was just another class to go through in high school,” he said. “After meeting Chief Pickel for the first time, I wanted to be just like him.”

Once Blignaut was opened to a world of opportunity, he intended to make a life-changing decision.

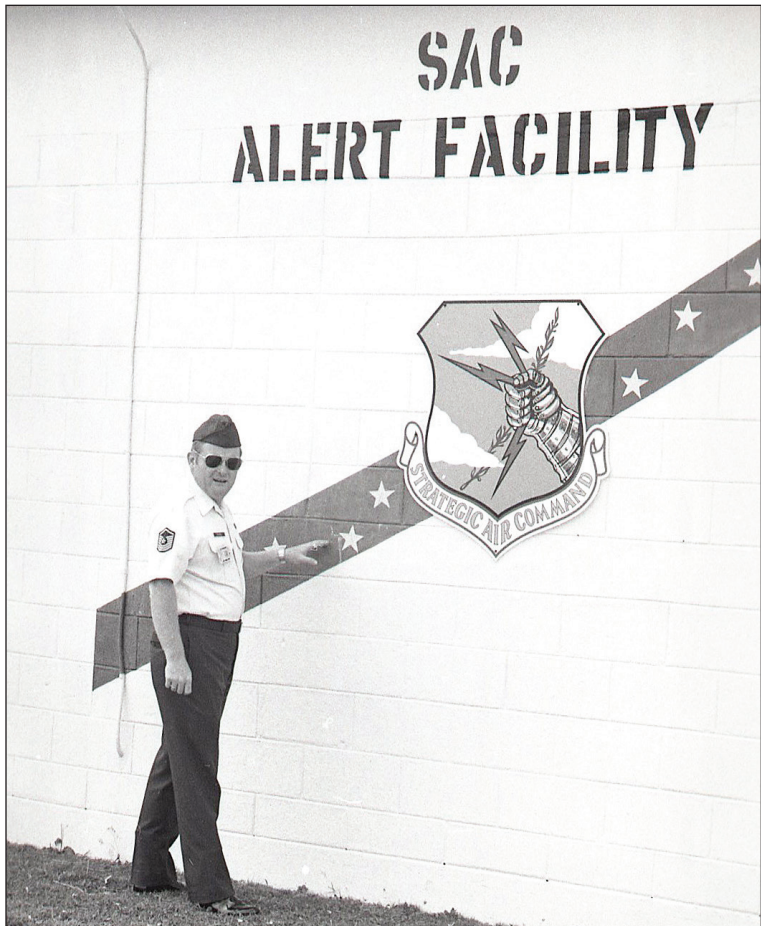
“Chief opened my eyes to a whole other world,” Blignaut said. “I joined the Marine Corps because it fit my personality better. I believe going through the AFJROTC course with chief as my instructor, it prepared me and helped me become the Marine I am today. The life lessons and leadership skills he gave me have helped me become very successful in my current military career.”

Blignaut is one of the many graduating AFJROTC students who have joined the military after graduating from the course.

“These kids are looking for a family, something to join and be a part of,” Pickel said. “I tell the parents of my cadets, if you are not engaging your student, someone or something else will and you may not like what it may result into being.”

This is Chief Pickel’s last school year as an instructor for the West High School JROTC program.

“It was supposed to be a five-year plan, but now it’s been 25 years, and I wouldn’t change it for anything,” Pickel said.



Then-Senior Master Sgt. Morris Pickel stands by the Strategic Air Command seal in Okinawa, Japan, in 1981. (Courtesy Photo)

Command sergeant major targets education

By Airman 1st Class Kyle Johnson
JBER Public Affairs

The Soldier takes aim and aligns his iron sights with his target. All distractions are blurred as he examines his goal with the intensity of an individual determined to succeed. The crack of gunfire penetrates the empty firing range. He’s rewarded with the thump of another hit. The next target is 50 meters out, just as its predecessor.

The range spans his entire life, pocked with goals 50 meters apart. Each goal is a step in a journey toward a bigger prize: success.

“I always advise Soldiers to set their goals in 50 meter increments,” said Command Sergeant Major Eugene J. Moses, the Army’s chief enlisted advisor on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. “Each target is the goal you want to achieve. After you achieve it, [aim] farther down.”

Setting short-term goals allows individuals to make consistent progress toward a larger goal without losing motivation due to slow progress.

Deployments, field training, and changes of station are just some of the unique responsibilities a military service member needs to juggle with their personal life while pursuing an education.

“The most difficult obstacle I’ve overcome would be achieving personal goals that compete with professional goals [for my time],” Moses said. “Trying to get a degree, go to in-residence classes and online classes, being a father, a husband, a Soldier; it’s been challenging.”

After 30 years as a combat engineer in the Army, Moses walked across the stage with approximately 40 other college graduates from a variety of different schools and accepted his diploma for a Bachelor’s of Science degree in business administration – four years after actually graduating.

The road to a better education may not be easy or short, but Moses persevered. He said it was definitely worth it, and strongly encourages other service members to do

the same.

“Stay on track,” Moses said. “Don’t lose your focus, don’t lose your drive.”

Moses actually graduated from college in 2011, but his graduation ceremony was delayed due to his responsibilities as a Soldier and NCO. Shortly after graduating, Moses deployed to Afghanistan and then received orders to a new installation.

Life crept in and for four years, Moses did not have the opportunity to formally be acknowledged for his years of work.

After accepting his ceremonial diploma, Moses took his place with the professors, congratulating each new graduate as they walked across the stage. When the last graduate finished his moment of glory, he resumed his position amongst the graduates in front of the stage.

“When I came in as a private, I said these are the goals I want to accomplish by the time I get out,” Moses said. “When you aspire to do something personally, you set the bar at a certain level.

“When you start to see progress, you think, ‘This is manageable. I can do this.’”

The military has a diverse toolkit of options for service members to pursue education, both while they are in the service and after separation.

The education centers have counselors dedicated to making sure service members can take full advantage of those options.

That education is not limited to degree programs either; there are several programs that offer financial assistance to pursue skill-related certifications as well.

“You don’t want to do 20 years and not have an education to show for it,” Moses said. “The military gives you the ability to do that; jump on it.”

Moses said the discipline and structure Soldiers are taught can be valuable tools in pursuing a degree. They can utilize Army values to succeed in their personal development and, eventually, civilian employment.

“Soldiers are taught discipline and structure,” Moses said. “If you apply that to your education, it’ll take you further than



After accepting his own diploma, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Command Sgt. Maj. Eugene Moses takes his place alongside base and school leadership to congratulate service members who have finished a step in their own educational journey. Moses accepted his diploma four years after his actual graduation date due to work responsibilities and deployments. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Kyle Johnson)

you may think.”

Moses uses the 50-meter target analogy to stress setting goals. He said the satisfaction each target brings is the driving motivation needed to move on.

Now, with 30 years of service to his

country, Moses aligns his sights on a new target.

“I would like to do something in the non-profit area,” Moses said.

Crack.

Thump.

Ministering through the ordinary, extraordinary

Commentary by Air Force Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Patrick Travers, 477th Fighter Group Chaplain

I was very fortunate as a young man to have wonderful educational opportunities at Georgetown University in international relations and Harvard University in law.

These were made possible by the love and support of my dad, a retired Air Force senior master sergeant, and my late mom, who cared for the six of us children through all the transitions of my dad’s military career. For more than 20 years after my dad retired in 1968, I had little contact at all with the military, graduating from college just as the draft was ending.

After graduating from law school, I worked for more than a decade as an attorney, I became very active in the Catholic Church, and began years of discernment about the possibility of becoming a priest. Eventually, I decided to give it a try, and entered the seminary in 1988.

While in the seminary, I discovered many of the spiritual issues I was addressing had their roots in my military family background. For example, the hesitation I experienced in making close friendships seemed to be rooted in the frequent moves we made while I was growing up: if I made a friend, I knew either they or I would probably be gone within two years in a world that as yet had no Internet or Facebook.

At the age of 39, I entered the Air Force Chaplain Candidate Program in Europe, since I was studying theology and canon law at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and ministered at a number of bases in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Turkey. This ministry was so fulfilling that, with the permission of the Bishop of Juneau, I continued as an Air Force Reserve chaplain after my ordination in 1994.

Priestly ministry in the military has much in common with that in civilian life, particularly in the celebration of sacraments, preaching, and counseling. Of course, fulfilling all the special requirements of being in the military can be quite different from life in a civilian parish, and my parishioners sometime express wonderment when I’m getting ready for a physical fitness test or taking an Air War College course.

For me, the best part of being an Air Force Reservist has been the opportunity to meet and minister to wonderful people who are making tremendous sacrifices on behalf of others – with whom I have much



Air Force Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Patrick Travers, 477th Fighter Group chaplain, conducts a Catholic Mass at the local parish on JBER. Travers entered the Air Force Chaplain Candidate Program at the age of 39 while studying theology and canon law at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Dana Rosso)

in common and whom I would, for the most part, not have had the opportunity to work with in civilian life. The opportunity to make God present to them in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of their lives, including those that are most distressing and tragic, is something tremendously precious to me.

I think the most challenging experience that I’ve had in the Air

Force was the first few weeks of my deployment to Kirkuk, Iraq, in the summer of 2004. It was my first experience in a combat zone, and I knew things were going to be different when our C-17 into Kirkuk began the steep zig-zag of its combat approach. There had been a major rocket attack on the base right before our arrival, and much more was expected as the time approached for the handover of sovereignty to the new Iraqi government. Indeed, such attacks were a regular occurrence. The fact that they were “undirected” fire meant that their destinations were very random, and we all were in quite immediate danger as a result of them. In addition, as the only Catholic chaplain in the area, I made Humvee trips “outside the wire” to the forward operating bases with Catholic troops. It was quite sobering to discover a bridge we regularly used had come to be known as “The IED Bridge”!

The fear and anxiety I experienced could well have affected my ability to minister to Army and Air Force troops who faced much greater dangers than I. In the end, it was prayer that made the differ-

ence. I acknowledged the danger and my lack of control over it, and turned it all over to God, knowing whatever happened to me would be in his service, and a manifestation of his will and of the purpose of my life and ministry.

While the dangers continued throughout the 100 days of my deployment and required constant precautions, the fear dissipated, and I was able to help others experience the presence of God in the face of death, destruction, and confusion.

I think almost every aspect of my civilian ministry has been affected in good ways by my military ministry, and vice versa. The core functions of priestly ministry in the Catholic Church are similar regardless of the setting, and the variety of settings and situations I get to experience have, I believe, enriched my ability to serve others as well as my personal life.

I hope, as a result of reading my story, others will be encouraged to explore changing their lives in the ways that call them at any stage of life. Where I am now is very different from where I thought I would be in my twenties, and the difference has been full of surprises and disruptions, but also immense rewards. I also hope readers will feel encouraged to explore the spiritual aspect of their lives, as I did, and to discover new and unexpected possibilities for themselves and those whom they love.



Community Happenings

May 8, 2015

ARCTIC WARRIOR

B-3

FRIDAY

Gold Rush Inn closure

In support of current USARAK training exercises and block leave, the dining facilities on JBER-Richardson will consolidate support to the Wilderness Inn until June 15.

Spouse appreciation day

In celebration of military spouses, the JBER Force Support Squadron invites spouses to join them at the Joint Military Mall for give-aways and cookies.

For more info, call 552-4943 or 384-1517

Kayak safety training

Interested in kayaking the Alaska wilderness? The Buckner Physical Fitness Center hosts a kayak safety course (required to rent kayaks from ODR) from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Open to ages eight and older. There are only 20 slots available, register early.

To register or for more information, call 384-1301.

SATURDAY

Jim Creek ATV trip

Head to Jim Creek on a guided ATV tour from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sign up at JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center. Helmet and transportation will be provided; bring weather-appropriate clothing and lunch.

To sign up or for more information, call 552-4599 or 552-2023.

Patriot Pet contest

Bring your pets to the Joint Military Mall from noon to 3 p.m. for a chance to fetch prizes in the Patriot Pet contest.

There will be prizes for the best-dressed pet, pet-and-owner look alike, and best trick.

For information, call 552-4222.

SUNDAY

Mother's golf shop specials

Does your mom golf? Swing in to the Moose Run golf shop from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. where she can receive 10 percent off gear to help tee her up for the season.

For information, call 428-0056.

Mother's Day bowling

Having trouble deciding what to do for Mother's Day? Take Mom bowling at the Polar Bowl from 1 to 8 p.m. for 10 percent off bowling and a special gift just for her.

For information, call 753-7467.

Mom and Me ceramics

Take advantage of 25 percent savings on pick-and-paint ceramics

activities with mom from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Polar Express Arts and Crafts Center.

For information, call 384-3717.

Bear Aware at the Zoo

Bears are waking up, and just like anyone, they're cranky and hungry. Join the Alaska Zoo to learn about what attracts bears and how to thwart their attempts for your trash through hands-on activities and games. Moms visit free in honor of Mothers' Day.

For information, visit alaska-zoo.org or call 341-6463.

MONDAY

Fly casting class

Want to take up the sport of fly-fishing? Head over to the JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center from 5 to 6 p.m. for a free class on the basics of fly-casting.

To sign up or for information, call 552-4599 or 552-2023.

Backpacking 101

Ready to take-on hiking in the Alaska back-country? The JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center hosts a free course covering the basics of backpacking in the Last Frontier from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

To sign up or for more information, call 552-4599 or 552-2023.

WEDNESDAY

FSS/MWR warehouse sale

Get geared up for summer. The Force Support Squadron and the Morale, Welfare and Recreation program are liquidating excess equipment in Building 800, door 13 on JBER-Richardson from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. From outdoors, camping and fishing gear to sporting goods, furniture and tools, their loss is your gain.

ATV safety class

Certified ATV Safety Institute instructors host an ATV Riders Course from 5 to 9 p.m. at the JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center. Course completion is required to operate personally owned ATVs on the installation's trail system.

To sign up or for more information, call 552-4599 or 552-2023.

THURSDAY

Parent Advisory Board

For all parents of JBER Youth Program members. Join the Youth Parent Advisory Board to stay informed about what's going on and where the programs are headed. Meeting will take place in Bldg.

600, Room B170 from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, call 552-2266 or 384-1508.

Bear Awareness

Join the Outdoor Recreation staff at the JBER-Elmendorf ORC from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. to learn how to stay safe while recreating in bear country.

For information, call 552-4599, 552-2023 or 552-3812.

MAY 15

End-of-school barbeque

Youth Center members, celebrate end-of-school barbeque from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Kennecott Youth Center or 5 to 6 p.m. at the Two Rivers Youth Center.

For information, call 552-2266 or 384-1508.

Parents night out

Newly arrived or have a deployed spouse and need child care for a few hours? Let the professional staff at the Juneau Child Development Center care for your children from 6 to 10 p.m. Open to all active duty families.

To pre-register, call 384-7330.

Longfellow's WHALE Tales safety presentation

The American Red Cross developed Longfellow's WHALE Tales course is taught to raise children's awareness of safe behavior in, on and around the water. This free course, open to children ages 5 to 12 is hosted at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center pool from 6:30 to 7 p.m. Only 30 slots are available.

For information or to register, call 384-1301.

Kayak roll class

Designed for experienced kayakers, the roll class teaches how to roll right-side-up without exiting the kayak. The class takes place from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Elmendorf Fitness Center pool.

To sign-up, call 552-2023 or 3812.

MAY 16

Retiree appreciation day

In honor of military retirees, the 29th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day will kick off at 10 a.m. at the Frontier Theater on JBER-Richardson. Events throughout the day will include an opening ceremony, questions for the commander, lunch at the Wilderness Inn, a health and wellness fair, I.D. card renewal, a vintage firearms shoot and dinner

at the Wilderness Inn.

For more information and a detailed event schedule, visit jber.af.mil/akretiree/.

Armed Forces Kids run

The Armed Forces Kids color run takes place in front of the Warrior Zone with warm ups starting at 10 a.m. The race begins at 11 a.m. followed by a burger burn at noon.

For information, call 552-2266 and to register, visit americaskidsrun.org.

MAY 26 THROUGH 29

Vacation Bible School

From May 26 at 9 a.m. to noon and for the remainder of the week, the JBER Chapel hosts Vacation Bible School for kids in kindergarten through sixth grade at the Arctic Warrior Chapel.

This year's theme, 'Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power' promises to be mountains of fun. To register a child or to volunteer, visit <http://tiny.cc/cajjxx>.

For more information, call 552-5762.

ONGOING

Financial counseling

Does more than 25 percent of your pay go to bills? Are you making only minimum payments, or taking out new loans to pay off old ones? Are you having frequent family arguments over money?

Do you really need that new TV, watch or cup of fancy coffee?

Financial counseling is available through Army Community Service or Army Emergency Relief, at 384-7478.

Help for homebuyers

JBER Volunteer Realtors and Mortgage Lenders present an hour-long home buying seminar every Wednesday alternating between the JBER-Elmendorf or JBER-Richardson Housing Management Offices from 1300 to 1400.

These seminars are intended to support service members interested in purchasing a home by explaining the buying and selling process in the Anchorage, Eagle River and Wasilla/Palmer areas.

For more information or to sign up, contact either HMO office; JBER-Elmendorf at 552-4312 or JBER-Richardson at 384-3088.

Protestant Women of the Chapel meetings

Women are invited to meet with the Protestant Women of the Chapel. Bible studies are Tuesdays

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.

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.

Pre-school Story Time

Pre-school-aged children can join library staff for exciting stories, every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the JBER library. For information, call 384-1640.

673d FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

ATV TRIP

Jim Creek ATV Trip

May 9

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

\$150

Sign up at 552-4599/2023

Outdoor Adventure Program, bldg. 7301, 552-4599/2023



facebook.com/OAP673FSS

MAY 10

MOTHER'S DAY SPECIALS

MOOSE RUN GOLF COURSE • 27000 Arctic Valley Rd., 428-0056

10 % off in the Golf Shop for all Mothers!

ARTS & CRAFTS • Bldg. 755, 384-3717

"Mom & Me" 25% off Pick & Paint Ceramics!

Ceramics start at \$10 per piece, includes glazes & shop fees.

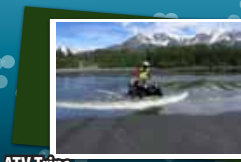
POLAR BOWL • 7176 Fighter Dr., 753-4767 (PINS)

10 % off bowling & a special gift for the Moms!

2015 May 16

Sign up at:
www.americaskidsrun.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



ATV Trips



Backpacking 101



Bear Awareness



Kayak Roll Class

- May 13**
• ATV Safety Class: 5 - 9 p.m.
w/our ATV: \$50 | w/your ATV: \$5
- May 15**
• Kayak Roll Class: 7 - 9 p.m. | \$35
- May 9**
• Jim Creek ATV Trip: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | \$150
- May 11**
• Fly Casting Class: 5 - 6 p.m. | FREE
• Backpacking 101: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. | FREE
- May 14 & 28**
• Bear Awareness: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. | FREE

At the JBER Elmendorf ORC, Bldg. 7301
Call 552.4599/2023/3812 for more information.

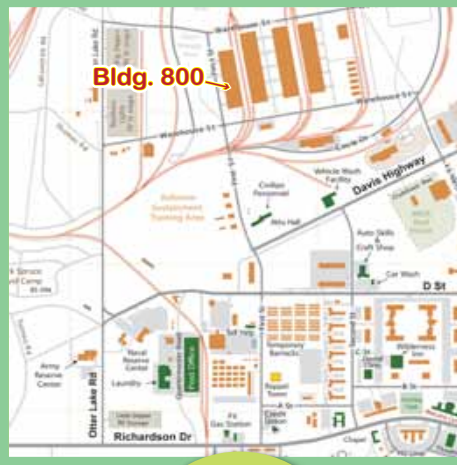
FSS/MWR WAREHOUSE SALE

May 13

10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Liquidating:

- Sporting Equipment
- Camping Gear
- Computer Equipment
- Furniture
- Tools



Bldg. 800
JBER-R
Door 13

Cash/Credit Card Accepted



Stop by and see us!

www.facebook.com/JBER673FSS

www.elmendorf-richardson.com



FSS/MWR events & activities

Birth Announcements

ARCTIC WARRIOR

May 8, 2015 **B-4**

MARCH 26

A son, Lyric James Hunter, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces at 3:27 a.m. to Eva M. Bacigalupo and Air Force Staff Sgt. Brandon J. Hunter of the 673d Force Support Squadron.

A son, Harrison Wilder Gotschall, was born 20 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce at 4:10 a.m. to Ashley Nicole Gotschall and Army Staff Sgt. Daniel Allan of the Christopher R. Brevard Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

A daughter, Olivia Grace Sutton, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds at 12:40 p.m. to Kelsey Rae Sutton and Senior Airman Mark Hamilton Sutton, Jr. of the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

MARCH 28

A daughter, Liliana Maesa-Lea Fernandez, was born 19 inches long and weighing 5 pounds, 3 ounces at 3:23 a.m. to Adiba Barazi Fernandez and Senior Airman Matthew Alexander Fernandez of the 773d Civil Engineer Squadron.

MARCH 30

A son, Ian Matthew Neeley, was born 18.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 1 ounce at 9:15 a.m. to Andrea Christine Neeley and Tech. Sgt. Brian Michael Neeley of the 3rd Maintenance Squadron.

A son, Rylan Lucas McEneaney, was born 20 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces at 2:47 p.m. to Amber Dee McEneaney and Senior Airman James Timothy McEneaney of the 673d Aerospace Medical Squadron.

APRIL 3

A daughter, Tesslin Monroe Johnson, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces at 12:46 a.m. to Adriel Helen Johnson and Air Force Capt. Jeremiah Jason Johnson of the 211th

Rescue Squadron.

A son, Mason Aaron Glenn, was born 22 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 6:30 p.m. to Caroline Desjeans

and Tech. Sgt. Cody Andrew Glenn of the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

A son, Keeton Michael Patterson, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces at 9:28 p.m. to Taylor Cruz Patterson and Airman 1st Class Samuel John Patterson, Jr. of the 3rd Munitions Squadron.

APRIL 4

A son, Jacob Paul Burke, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 13 ounces at 2:50 p.m. to Jessica Samantha Burke and Air Force Staff Sgt. Justin Paul Burke of the 3rd Operations Group.

APRIL 6

A daughter, Oakleigh Graecyn Phelps, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 5 pounds, 13 ounces at 7:48 a.m. to Cynthia Louise Phelps and Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. James Ainsley Phelps of 176th Maintenance Squadron.

A daughter, Beverly Shea Reynolds, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces at 7:21 p.m. to Shauna Ann Reynolds and Spc. Justin Nile Reynolds of the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment.

APRIL 9

A son, Brighton Andrew Bennett, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce at 5:44 p.m. to Erica Jaymes Bennett and Senior Airman Anthony Michael Bennett of 773d Civil Engineer Squadron.

APRIL 10

A son, Paxton John Sullivan, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces at 6:35 p.m.

to Sarah A. Sullivan and Senior Airman Seth P. Sullivan of 3rd Maintenance Squadron.

APRIL 13

A son, Trent Thomas Long, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces at 8:04 a.m. to April R. Long and Sgt. Michael A. Long of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

APRIL 14

A daughter, Sophie Mae McCorkhill, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds at 10:56 p.m. to Christina Michelle McCorkhill and Senior Airman Darren Michael McCorkhill of the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

APRIL 15

A daughter, Kate Marie Morris, was born 22 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces at 2:58 p.m. to Sgt. Jenna Marie Morris of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, U.S. Army Alaska, and Anthony William Morris.

APRIL 16

A daughter, Sadie Love Johnson, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces at 11:33 a.m. to Kandace Dawn Johnson and Sgt. James Allen Johnson of the 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment.

A daughter, Phoebe Vasquez, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 3:55 p.m. to Luz M. Vasquez and Army Staff Sgt. Gregory F. Vasquez of the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment.

APRIL 17

A daughter, Aurora Rose Irick, was born 21 inches long and

weighing 8 pounds, 1 ounce at 8:06 p.m. to Bethany Shervon Irick and Cpl. Christopher DeWayne Irick of the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment.

APRIL 18

A daughter, Alexis Anne Marchant, was born 22 inches long and weighing 9 pounds, 2 ounces at 4:26 a.m. to Spc. Allyson Dawn Diel of the Alaska Army National Guard and Spc. Brandon Michael Marchant of the 6th Brigade Engineer Battalion (Airborne).

APRIL 19

A daughter, Paisley Marie Arthur, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces at 10:14 p.m. to Jessica Elizabeth Arthur and Spc. Nathan Shea Arthur of the 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment.

APRIL 20

A son, Liam Gabriel Atkinson, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces at 12:39 p.m. to Emily Anne Atkinson and Senior Airman Gabriel Paul Atkinson of the 673d Medical Support Squadron.

A son, Kayden Williams McDonald, was born 22 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces at 4:49 p.m. to Nichole Rachelle McDonald and Steven Barry Williams.

APRIL 22

A daughter, Alora Lynn Cross, was born 19 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces at 1:21 a.m. to Melaney Sue Cross and Army Staff Sgt. Benjamin Christopher Cross of the 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment.

A son, Jaylen Daniel Javier, was born 19 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 15 ounces at 1:36 a.m. to Jennie

Elizabeth Javier and Pfc. Jarvis Ezelle Morgan of 725th Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne).

A daughter, Landry Dianne Queen, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces at 8:44 p.m. to Ansley Taylor Queen and Air Force Staff Sgt. Bryan Douglas Queen of the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron.

APRIL 23

A daughter, Elaina Serenity McQueen, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 8:10 p.m. to Kara Lynn McQueen and Spc. William Gage McQueen of the 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment.

APRIL 24

A daughter, Mora Jane Carroll, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces at 4:12 p.m. to Air Force Maj. Erica C.A. Carroll of the 176th Operational Support Squadron and Air Force Maj. Brian P. Carroll of the 211th Rescue Squadron.

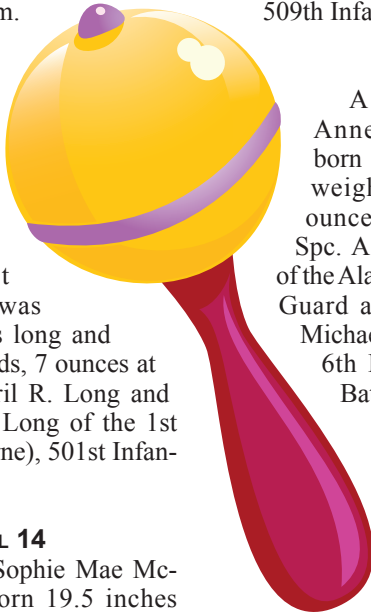
A son, Quinn Timothy Kirby, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces at 8:21 p.m. to Caroline Jane Kirby and Air Force Maj. Matthew Timothy Kirby of 212th Rescue Squadron.

APRIL 28

A son, Bryson Avery Musgrave, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 5 ounces at 3:44 p.m. to Army National Guard Spc. Amanda Kay Baxter of the 297th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, Alaska Army National Guard, and Thomas Nathan Musgrave.

APRIL 30

A daughter, Blayke Palmerose Espiritu Goodlin, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces at 11:33 a.m. to Sgt. Brandymay Fagarang Goodlin and Army Staff Sgt. Donald Adam Goodlin both of the 725th Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne).



Hustle, hit and never quit

Combined Army, Air Force team takes intramural volleyball championship

CLOCKWISE: Champions of the intramural volleyball championship pose next to their trophy at Buckner Physical Fitness Center on JBER April 30. The team, composed of Army and Air Force players, played 16 games with 16 victories. (U.S. Air Force Photos/Airman 1st Class Kyle Johnson)

Air Force 1st Lt. Richard Kim, a contract specialist with the 673d Contracting Squadron, and Chicago, Illinois native, shuts down an attempted volley from an opposing team at the intramural volleyball championship game.

Army 1st Lt. Agaalofa Tauane, a native of American Samoa and executive officer for H Company, 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Division, spikes the volleyball over the block of a player from the opposing team at the intramural volleyball championship game. Tauane's team secured victory, maintained their undefeated record, and grabbed the trophy.



Military policeman lives to serve others

By Tech. Sgt. Raymond Mills
JBER Public Affairs

The desire to lead and help others has always come naturally to Sgt. Caleb Morrison, traffic collision investigator with the 545th Military Police Detachment on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

As a prior construction worker, Morrison maintained a seasonal work schedule, but needed a more stable job to provide for his wife and four children. As a solution, his wife suggested he enlist.

“My wife actually suggested I join the U.S. Army,” Morrison said. “It was a surprise, as I wasn’t expecting that.”

After some thought and consideration, Morrison took a cue from his older brother, who was a civilian police officer. In 2008, just shy of his 31st birthday, he enlisted in the Army as a military policeman.

After completing Basic Combat Training, Morrison attended the Military Police Basic and Advanced Individual Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

“Basic and advanced individual training wasn’t quite as hard as I thought it would be, but one of the benefits of being an older guy is that my drill sergeants realized that I was older than most of them, so most of the time I didn’t get all the crappy details, and they treated me with a level of respect that was commensurate with my age,” Morrison said.

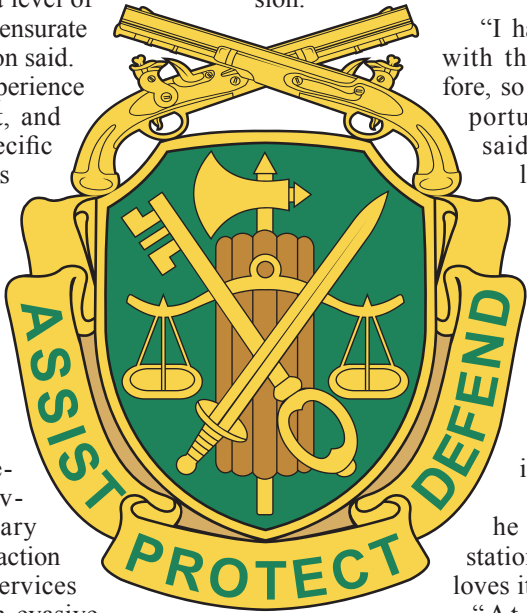
“Obviously life experience plays a big part of it, and when it comes to specific duties I am sometimes selected because of my maturity level and experience.”

Although he has a few years on his peers, Morrison doesn’t seem to be slowing down anytime soon.

Morrison was selected to attend several additional military schools, like special reaction training, protective services training, antiterrorism evasive driver training, master fitness trainer, and traffic collision investigation courses.

Military policemen may encounter a variety of volatile situations that must be

“It’s very rewarding to me to be that person who can assist in a time of need.”



resolved, sometimes without immediate backup.

Morrison faced one such incident when he responded to a domestic violence call.

“An individual equipped with firearms was threatening to kill his wife and children, and thankfully we were able to get there in time to prevent that,” Morrison said. “That was the best and worst day at the same time, because it could have gotten worse, but it ended well.”

Responding to such incidents can take an emotional toll.

Soldiers work in teams, and MPs are no different. Every Soldier has a battle buddy they can count on, whether for professional or emotional support.

“I have a great detachment that I work with,” Morrison said.

“Unfortunately I don’t get to see lot of them because we work shift work, which is a downfall but we have a great support group here.”

Nowadays, Morrison spends most days conducting routine duties or training fellow Soldiers and Airmen.

Morrison said working with the Air Force on a joint installation has its own unique challenges. For instance, the forms are different, which means MPs must learn Air Force practices as part of the joint mission.

“I had never worked with the Air Force before, so it’s a unique opportunity,” Morrison said. “They have a lot of great guys over there, and I enjoy working with them. Being stationed at a joint base definitely has its challenges, but I can see a bright future with it so far.”

Morrison said he reenlisted to be stationed at JBER and loves it here.

“At one point, I thought about separating from the Army and coming back as a civilian law enforcement counterpart, but I decided against that and want to make the military



Sgt. Caleb Morrison, a traffic collision investigator with the 545th Military Police Detachment, monitors a vehicle inspection checkpoint April 30 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. The Random Antiterrorism Measures Program is designed to be used at all threat condition levels to increase physical security awareness throughout an installation. The program usually includes searches of privately owned vehicles at access control points or other high-traffic areas on an installation. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Raymond Mills)

a career,” he said.

Morrison remains dedicated to the mission and people he serves.

“I like being a resource people can rely on, who’s there 24 hours a day, seven days a week,” Morrison said. “Anytime somebody picks up that phone, or waves you down, there is always someone there that can assist them with whatever their need is.

“It’s very rewarding to me to be that person who can assist in a time of need.”