



JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON'S SOURCE FOR NEWS

# ARCTIC WARRIOR

June 5, 2015

www.jber.af.mil

Volume 6, No. 22

## ANGELS OF THE PACIFIC

Six countries send personnel to Papua New Guinea to build ties, capabilities

By 1st Lt. Michael Trent Harrington  
JBER Public Affairs

EASTERN HIGHLANDS PROVINCE, Papua New Guinea — Seventy-two years ago this month, gray banks of low fog split open in the highlands of Papua New Guinea, bursting forth yellow tropical light and the hollow plunk of imperial Japanese artillery.

On Monday, the six-nation team of Pacific Angel 15-4 arrived in the Eastern Highlands Province allied against much longer-established tropical enemies: disaster and disease.

The Pacific Angels – doctors, dentists, plumbers and planners from Papua New Guinea, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines and Indonesia – tumbled out of trucks Monday in Goroka, a town of 20,000 a mile above sea-level, to deliver humanitarian assistance and build disaster relief abilities with the Papua New Guinea Defence Force.

The rumble of Japanese engines still punctuated the background hum of jungle crickets, though now they were Toyotas and Nissans scrambling up mountain roads joining highland villages for the first time. The thunder came only from storm clouds, and “flame of the forest” was just the local name for a scarlet climbing vine.

In a country that ranks 157th on the United Nations Human Development Index and receives nearly U.S. \$1 billion in foreign aid annually, the few hundred thousand dollars dedicated to the crew and equipment of the Pacific Angel Papua New Guinea mission are just a drop of sweat in the fluctuating tide of aid funds to the country’s shores.

Yet the value of the exchanges taking place in tropical medicine, public health and engineering belie the relatively low bottom line. The Pacific Angel approach encourages partner countries to build relationships and make do with the resources available at the nearest highlands hardware store – versus



**U.S. Marine Corps Hospital Corpsman Melissa Irvin, First Dental Battalion dental corpsman, from Camp Pendleton, Calif., carries a box of medical supplies to Unggai Primary School, where medical professionals set up during Pacific Angel in the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea May 29. Efforts undertaken during Pacific Angel help multilateral militaries in the Pacific improve and build relationships across a wide spectrum of civic operations, which bolsters each nation's capacity to respond and support future humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Staff Sgt. Marcus Morris)**

a Lowe’s in California or an Army supply depot in Hawaii.

Pacific Angel is about taking the complexity of managing peacetime in Papua New Guinea and giving it a structure that might withstand worse, said Air Force Lt. Col. Jim Fowler, the Pacific Angel Papua New Guinea mission commander.

Pacific Angel missions to Nepal in 2012 and 2014, for instance, helped more than 9,000 people in that country. More critically, the missions brought together the Nepali, American, Australian and other military and civilian aid agencies who later formed the joint task force that responded to the chaos following the devastating earthquake near Kathmandu six weeks ago.

“Disaster is chaotic enough,” said Lt. Col. Courtney Finkbeiner, a U.S. Air Force nurse and leader of the operation’s medical subject matter expert exchange teams. “All of the [Papua New Guinea] medical profes-

sionals know how to care for patients; we only try to show them how to organize in a crisis.”

The operation helps Papua New Guinea military and civil health groups recognize and cope with the complexity of a disaster, Finkbeiner said, like the typhoons, tsunamis, earthquakes and floods characteristic of the South Pacific.

A litany of American briefings and supply handouts might not resonate in a country where conveniences like freeway-width roads and cross-country shipping can’t be taken for granted, even in the best of times.

Papua New Guinea is located in the Pacific “ring of fire,” at the collision point of several tectonic plates. Earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and floods are a part of life here, which makes disaster relief capabilities vital both to individual countries within the ring and their neighbors.

The PNG National Disaster Centre, first

developed in concert with the U.N. Development Program, now has one of the most active disaster response, mitigation and relief programs in the South Pacific.

“We have to leave our [Western] urge to instantly ‘fix’ everything at home,” said Air Force Col. Joseph Anderson, the Pacific Air Forces command surgeon. “Instead of writing checks for equipment, we’re investing in sustainability.”

The Pacific Angel mission attempts to build relationships, working more with the people of Papua New Guinea’s military and medical teams and less with their gear.

“The time to exchange business cards is not at the scene of a disaster,” Anderson added.

Appreciating that context of mutual reliance and assistance is critical to un-

See ANGELS • A4

## 176th Wing CE squadron deploys in support of Enduring Freedom

By Staff Sgt. Edward Eagerton  
176th Wing Public Affairs

Approximately 26 members of the Alaska Air National Guard’s 176th Civil Engineer Squadron departed from Ted Stevens International Airport Sunday for a six-month deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Before deploying, they will conduct additional training for a month in Texas, said Chief Master Sgt. Keith Wilson, chief of plans and programs with the 176th CES.

Their first stop will be at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where they will participate in the Evasion and Conduct After Capture course, Wilson explained. Afterward, they travel to Fort Bliss, Texas, where they will train for three weeks on combat skills.

The primary mission of the 176th CES will be to support U.S. Central Command with minor construction projects in their area of operations, said Lt. Col. Jack Evans, commander of the squadron.

“This is a unique mission,” said Evans. “Typically, when we deploy, we go to a static location and do maintenance for established facilities. This time, we’re going to be sending guys to eight different countries outside the wire. They will be doing construction projects, instead of maintaining established bases.”

Once at Fort Bliss, the civil engineer personnel will combine with members of other Guard, Reserve and active-duty units to form an approximately 170-member expeditionary civil engineer group.

Evans, who will command the group, noted this deployment is particularly significant for his unit because they will be the lead in a combined group that will be predominantly made up of Guardsmen.

“Fifty-nine percent of us will be Guardsmen, 24 percent Reservists, and 13 percent active duty,” he said.

Senior Airman Amado Cordero, a heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration specialist, is one of the 176th CES members going on this deployment.

Like many Guardsmen, Cordero works full-time in the civilian workforce and performs his part-time Air National Guard career one weekend per month and two weeks per year.

Cordero said his full-time civilian job working in construction closely ties in with his job in the Guard.

“On the civilian side, I stick with construction,” he said. “That’s why HVAC works well for me, because I do a little bit of everything. I do plumbing, insulation, heavy-equipment operation, and structural and electrical work. This



**Tech Sgt. Mark Smith, structures supervisor for the Alaska Air National Guard’s 176th Civil Engineering Squadron, demonstrates welding techniques to two junior Airmen last spring. The three were among 34 Guard members deployed for three weeks to prepare the site to receive a space radar antenna being relocated from the Caribbean island of Antigua. (Air National Guard photo by Capt. John Callahan)**

is all pretty familiar to me.”

Cordero said that he feels driven and enjoys deploying.

“For me, it’s being in uniform and doing this job that I enjoy most,” he said. “Doing this job on either the civilian side or in uniform are two totally different feelings. I feel more of a sense of accomplishment, because I feel like I’m contributing to something greater. I’m looking forward

to this deployment.”

The members of the 176th CES spent the last year training for this deployment, explained Wilson.

“We knew what milestones we had to make to be ready to deploy, and so we planned our training to meet those requirements,” Wilson said. “I’m very proud of these guys. They’ve really come together, got all of their training accomplished, and I’m proud of

their attitudes and their eagerness to serve.”

“I want them to come back safely, first of all,” added Evans, “but I also want them to come back knowledgeable that they’ve done the job they trained to do in civil engineering. We’re also excited that we’re the lead unit. They only pick one Guard unit a year to be the lead and this time, it’s us. It means a lot to our guys.”

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Paid

ANCHORAGE  
PUBLISHING  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PSRST-STD  
ECRMSS

Inside	Arctic Warrior Combatives tourney, A-3
Construction season on JBER.....	A-2
New regulations on smoking in public areas .....	A-2
Matters of Faith: Definition of a hero .....	B-2
Where is all your money going? .....	B-5
Coast Guardsmen help kids warm up to safety.....	B-1

Appreciation picnic

ANCHORAGE HOSTS MILITARY APPRECIATION WEEK PICNICS – AND DON'T MISS THE ARCTIC WARRIOR OLYMPICS, PAGE B-1 AND B-6



# New uniforms go on sale at some outlets next month

U.S. Army  
News release

The Army announced Monday the release of the Operational Camouflage Pattern in Soldier uniforms.

The pattern will be available for purchase in select military clothing sales stores beginning, July 1.

Stores will receive the uniforms over a period of six months from July to November, and new Soldiers will receive Operational Camouflage Pattern uniforms beginning in January.

The pattern was selected following the most comprehensive uniform camouflage testing effort ever undertaken by the Army, reflecting the Army’s paramount commitment to force protection.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey encouraged enlisted Soldiers to purchase new uniforms with their annual clothing allowance. “All enlisted Soldiers receive an annual stipend for the purchase of uniforms and accessories. I myself will wait until I am issued my clothing allowance before purchasing a uniform with the Operational Camouflage Pattern.

“I encourage all Soldiers and leaders to do the same by budgeting for a new uniform, belt, boots, and T-shirts as you receive your clothing allowance over the next two to three years,” Dailey said.

The cost of the uniform in the Operational Camouflage Pattern will be similar to the cost of the uniform in the Universal Camouflage Pattern.



## Operational Camouflage Pattern Army Combat Uniform (ACU)

- Soldiers are authorized to wear the Operational Camouflage Pattern ACU starting 1 July 2015. Sales will begin July 2015. Centralized issue for incoming Soldiers will begin January 2016 (2QFY16). Mandatory possession date is 1 October 2019.
- Soldiers are authorized to wear the sand or the Tan 499 T-shirt, sand or Tan 499 belt, and tan or Coyote Brown boots during the transition period which ends 30 SEP 2019.
- Tan 499 T-shirt color: Available starting July 2015.
- Tan 499 belt color: Available starting July 2015.
- Coyote Brown boot color: Available starting August 2015.



**Operational Camouflage Pattern uniforms will be available in select clothing sales stores beginning July 1. The new uniforms have minor design changes in pockets and openings, and the pattern is new. The transition period – until October 2019 – will involve some mix-and-match, which Sgt. Maj. of the Army Dan Dailey has stressed should not be a burden.**

Enlisted Soldiers will continue to receive a clothing allowance to replace their worn uniforms.

Uniforms and equipment in OCP will be available for U.S. Army National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, and Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps during summer 2016.

Soldiers are authorized to mix and match T-shirts, belts, and boots with either the Operation Enduring Freedom Camouflage Pattern or the Operational Camouflage Pattern during the transition period – expected to run through Oct. 1, 2019.

To further ease the change, Soldiers who already have flame-resistant ACUs in the Operational Enduring Freedom camouflage pattern will be authorized to wear them during the transition.

“I have asked noncommissioned officers to ensure their Soldiers understand that during this transition period, several uniforms and variations will be authorized in our formations,” Dailey said. “Presenting a professional appearance is very important to Soldiers. But we will not inconvenience or burden our troops.

“We will still be the most lethal fighting force the world has even known – even if our belts don’t match for the next few years.”

In addition to the camouflage change, the Operational Camouflage Pattern ACUs will incorporate several minor design changes.

These include redesigned shoulder sleeve pockets with a zipper opening, no trouser drawstring, a button on the lower calf pocket, two pen pockets on the sleeve instead of three, and the elimination of the elbow and knee patch hook and loop.

# Don’t light that up: new regulation bans tobacco use in outdoor areas

By Air Force Maj. Michael Skinner  
673d Medical Group

The Air Force has published an update to the Tobacco Free Life policy which will impact personnel on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The new guidance bans tobacco use at all indoor workplaces, Force Support Squadron facilities like clubs, dining establishments, bowling alleys, and installation recreational facilities.

“Recreational facilities” includes places like athletic fields, running tracks, basketball courts, golf courses, and parks.

The rules also apply to electronic smoking devices, commonly referred to as e-cigarettes or vaporizers.

The new regulation, signed by Air Force Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Thomas Travis, notes “tobacco use degrades Air Force readiness, health, and leads to preventable health care costs,” and urges commanders and leaders to promote “tobacco-free living.”

The regulation has been welcomed by leadership.

“We must create a tobacco-free



**New regulations ban smoking, dipping, and the use of e-cigarettes in many public areas on JBER, including golf courses and parks. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Anthony Sanchelli)**

environment as a key component of our overall health prevention efforts,” said Air Force Col.

Teresa Bisnett, commander of the JBER hospital.

Tobacco, as defined by this up-

date, includes all products that may be configured to deliver nicotine, including but not limited to: cigars,

cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, stem pipes, water pipes, hookahs, vaporizers, smokeless products that are chewed, dipped, sniffed, or “vaped”; and any other nicotine-delivery system that the Food and Drug Administration defines as a tobacco product. The definition of tobacco does not include prescription or over-the-counter nicotine replacement therapy approved by the FDA.

Col. John Oh, the chief of health promotion for the Air Force Medical Support Agency, acknowledged the long-term safety of e-cigarettes is currently unknown, but the Air Force will consider changes to its policy on the devices based on scientific evidence and in consultation with government subject matter experts.

“Tobacco-free lifestyle choices promote health, performance and readiness for all Airmen on JBER,” said installation and 673d Air Base Wing Commander Col. Brian Bruckbauer.

The new regulation applies to all military and civilians on JBER.

For more information about the regulation or smoking cessation programs, call 552-5006.

# Civil engineers aim to repair, upgrade as much as possible this summer

By Tech. Sgt. Raymond Mills  
JBER Public Affairs

Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson is currently in the process of repairing and upgrading worn and outdated infrastructure.

Due to weather trends in the Anchorage area, major construction is typically done during the short summer months.

This leads to a great deal of pre-planning and coordination to get projects completed swiftly, efficiently, and with as little disturbance to day-to-day missions as possible.

“A lot of our infrastructure is more than 50 years old,” said Air Force Capt. Ryan Oot, 773d Civil Engineer Squadron operations flight commander. “Things are going to fail occasionally that need to be repaired.”

Active construction includes paving, replacing fire hydrants, fixing drainage issues, and water-line and flightline upgrades.

One particularly noticeable project affecting people is ongoing construction operations near the dorms on Fighter Drive.

“A storm water drain had some issues that created a sinkhole in the street, so we will be replacing a portion of that in-house,” Oot said. “The schedule is to be determined.”

In addition to addressing drainage issues near the dorms, renovations to taxiway Alpha North are on the list to be accomplished.

Oot said the project consists of remov-



**Airmen improve JBER roads April 3. Pothole repair is a never-ending task in Alaska. (U.S. Air Force photo/Alejandro Pena)**

ing and replacing deteriorated asphalt and unsuitable soil before installing new storm drainage and lighting systems. He said the \$6.924 million project will ensure mission readiness.

Although there is a lot of work happening on the operations side, other aspects of the base infrastructure are also being revamped, like road paving and replacing fire hydrants.

“Funding across the board is slim these days,” Oot said. “Our funding for contracted paving projects is primarily focused on the air field. As a result there are some areas

around base that we are not able to get to with contracts, so we are shifting our in-house focus to accomplish [those].”

Although the flightline takes priority as a mission-critical asset, engineer teams are also working to ensure road systems are taken care of.

Oot said there will be some minor paving and painting projects that may result in road closures.

“People have seen our guys out in the evening and on the weekends doing hand painting of the arrows and turn lanes,”

Oot said. “That will continue through the season.”

Weather and finances are not the only factors considered when setting up a CE project.

“We try to minimize [inconvenience to base population] as much as possible,” Oot said. “We definitely take [delays and detours] into account when planning projects.”

CE will always be busy maintaining and keeping up base infrastructure, said Tech. Sgt. Joseph Austin, 773d noncommissioned officer in charge of roads and grounds. “We have a long road ahead, but we love what we do and will remain dedicated to the safety and care of JBER.”

Although they work as swiftly and safely as possible, Oot said the task of completing a project at JBER presents unique challenges to their timelines.

“Being in Alaska can sometimes make it ‘not so easy’ to get materials,” Oot said. “Sometimes things have to be shipped from the Lower 48 and that extends the length of the repair. So please bear with us ... we are doing what we can to get things up and running.”

JBER personnel are encouraged to be patient and pay special attention to their surroundings when near construction sites, as there may be large moving equipment or open holes.

## 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](mailto: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 Chief**  
Maj. Angela Webb (USAF)

**Deputy Public Affairs Chief**  
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 Connaher - photo editor  
Ed Cunningham - webmaster

**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



# FIRST TO FIGHT

By Airman Christopher R. Morales  
JBER Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Alaska Combatives Tournament, sponsored by the Arctic Warrior Combatives Academy, finals are scheduled June 5 at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The tournament, during Military Appreciation Week, is a chance to demonstrate the warrior ethos and show camaraderie between military members.

“The purpose for the USARAK tournament as a whole is to take the Soldiers who wanted to come out here and put them in a stressful situation putting their training to the test,” said Sgt. 1st Class Chad Veagley, AWCA noncommissioned officer in charge. “We have teams from most of the Fort Richardson battalions, and Fort Wainwright came prepared too. It’s going to be a good competition overall.”

Battalions and independent groups were allowed to submit a team of up to two fighters in each weight class. More than 100 fighters will participate.

The bouts are scheduled in brackets of one-on-one fights, and began with a standard rule set progressing into intermediate, and the advanced rule set is saved for the finals.

“The tournament is running real smooth; we haven’t had any hiccups so far,” Veagley said. “The event is going great, we have a real turn-out and a lot of participation.”

Individual fighters compete for medals in each weight class; teams compete for a traveling trophy as incentive for more teams next year.

“We try to push Soldiers not to hesitate and see their own potential in the future. We tell Soldiers at classes ‘if you’re not moving forward, you’re dying.’” said Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Jones, AWCA senior instructor and combatives tournament director. “All those other nice little quotes, we mean it here.”

“It’s interesting to see Soldiers come into the academy so hesitant and by the end of the class we have Soldiers with a completely different mindset, one that pushes fear out of their mind rather than letting fear limit them.” Jones said. “Minus the pain, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.”



**ABOVE:** Spc. Joshua Sager, bottom, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, and Spc. Zakkary Cook of HHC, 17th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, compete in the first day of the 2015 USARAK Combatives Tournament at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Thursday. (U.S. Air Force photos/Justin Connaher)  
**RIGHT:** Army Staff Sgt. Caleb Robels, back, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment, 4-25 IBCT, grapples with Pvt. David Madrid of C Company, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment, 4-25 IBCT.  
**BELOW:** Garrett Hartley, the Brazilian jiu-jitsu coach of the combatives academy at Fort Wainwright, yells encouragement to one of his Soldiers as she competes in the tournament.





From ANGELS • A1

derstanding the aid picture in the South Pacific.

John Donne wrote that “no man is an island.” No country is an island, either, even if its geography consists of lots of them.

In that sense, Finkbeiner said, “if we did Power Points every day, we’d entirely miss what it’s all about, and what life here actually looks like.”

The Pacific Angel approach emphasizes cooperation over one-way instruction, building friendships which lead to cheaper and unexpectedly simple solutions.

“We all have different outlooks,” said Philippine Army Capt. Donald Palmer, a doctor with the Philippines Medical Corps, “but in a situation like Pacific Angel, we have to consult with each other. We take our [national] experiences and turn them into multilateral ability, where each country can help the other.”

In the initial days of the mission, U.S. and Papua New Guinean biomedical equipment technicians – repairmen for sensitive and expensive hospital machines – made the rounds of a military hospital outside Port Moresby, the capital.

A rediscovered screw brought one stalwart machine built in the

1960s back into order. Repairing a single broken switch on another faulty appliance fixed another. The two repairs doubled the number of functioning X-rays in the country.

Buried under paperwork in another office stood a foreign-donated ultrasound machine which the resident radiologist said had sat, unused, for half a decade.

The machine, it turned out, was fine. No one could turn it on because the buttons were labeled in Mandarin. Last week, Papua New Guinean and U.S. technicians knelt side-by-side, punching through a painstaking array of button keys, and finally the machine clicked to life. Now there are English labels.

The ability to look at babies in the womb has breathed new life, such as it were, into the clinic, too.

Thus, missions like Pacific Angel attempt to help local government and international aid agencies respond more quickly to crises within a country’s borders and assume control of recovery more quickly in their wake – enabling them to better use the equipment, training and connections they already have.

A number of the same groups who worked and trained together in previous Pacific Angel and humanitarian assistance missions are together again in the highlands of Papua New Guinea, including the



**A Papua New Guinea Defence Force medic demonstrates emergency breathing tube techniques for other PNGDF medics, doctors and technicians at the Tarauma Barracks Military Hospital May 24 at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. PACANGEL is a U.S. Pacific Command multilateral humanitarian assistance civil military operation, which aims to improve military-to-military partnerships in the Pacific through medical health outreach, civic engineering projects and subject matter exchanges among partner forces. (U.S. Air Force photo/1st Lt. Michael Harrington)**

Guam-based 36th Contingency Response Group – specialists in crisis logistics – along with USAID, engineers and medical teams from all branches of the American and Pacific partner militaries.

For many of the Papua New

Guinea Defence Force members, all the disaster training and activity resonate strongly with their experiences.

“We’ve been through the real things, many times before,” said Papua New Guinea Defence Force

Maj. Wilson Andrews, lead host nation planner for Pacific Angel.

This summer marks the eighth year of Pacific Angel missions. The teams will be training in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief through June 8.



## 240 YEARS STRONG

U.S. Army Alaska Soldiers participate in the Army Birthday Run on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Thursday as the Army marked 240 years of service. In the spring of 1775, recognizing the need to enlist the support of all the colonies, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress appealed to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia to assume authority for the army. Congress voted to “adopt” the Boston troops on June 14. Congress also resolved to form a committee “to bring in a draft of rules and regulations for the government of the Army,” and voted \$2,000,000 to support the forces. George Washington received his appointment as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army the next day, and formally took command at Boston on July 3, 1775. (U.S. Air Force photo/Alejandro Pena)



**Road closures**

Boniface Gate inbound lanes will be closed through July 17 for construction. For information specific to this closure, call 384-3012.

Finletter Avenue will be closed from 5th Street to 9th Street, May 25 through June 15.

Gibson Avenue will be closed until June 12 for sewer line upgrades.

West Sijan Avenue will be closed beginning June 1 for water line maintenance.

For information about any of the closures, call 982-4433.

**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 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 covers loan pre-qualifications, offers and acceptance, inspections, title searches, types of loans, and the closure process to prospective home owners.

For information or to sign up, 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.

**Special victim counselor**

Victims of sexual assault are entitled to legal assistance services.

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.

**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. 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.

It is open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For information, visit [www.documentsservices.dla.mil](http://www.documentsservices.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 across from the log cabin, 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.

**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.

Get the app 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.

**Utilities upgrades**

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

Doyon regrets any inconvenience, and is working to avoid unnecessary interruptions.

Work is expected to continue through 2016.

When work is completed, the installation will see an improvement in overall system reliability.

To minimize impacts, Doyon is working to schedule work that could potentially result in an outage for completion during off-peak periods.

If an outage does occur, utilities electrical crews will act quickly to restore service.

**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).



# Committed to service

## JBER Airman sets goals, reaches them

**NOTE:** This article is a personality feature on one JBER Airman's service and spirituality. While this is not a Chaplain's Corner submission, we remind readers that comments and imagery regarding specific beliefs, practices, or behaviors strictly represent the author and/or subject. They are not intended to imply endorsement by the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Army, the Air Force, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, or the 673d Air Base Wing.

By Airman 1st Class Kyle Johnson  
JBER Public Affairs

Life was going great for Madison Hayes. He snagged a full ROTC scholarship to the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota, he had a 4.0 grade point average, and at 6 feet, 4 inches tall and 215 lbs, he was nothing to shrug off on the NCAA football field.

"I was thinking I'd graduate with no problems," Hayes said. "I'm going to be an officer, and that's what I'm going to do for the rest of my life."

Life rarely stays that smooth for long, and at 19 years old, Hayes would learn the path to success isn't always a straight line.

Shortly after he signed on the dotted line and committed his life to protecting his country and his people, his childhood asthma was brought to light and there was no time to get a waiver. His scholarship was immediately cut off and his future, once so clear and bright, suddenly went dark.

"I was part of ROTC Detachment 410," Hayes said. "That's really what I wanted to do. It turned out that's not really what God wanted me to do."

Hayes hadn't hidden his asthma when he signed up. He wasn't that kind of guy, he said, and even if he was, there would have been little point. Hayes grew up on military bases and went to military doctors his entire life.

Hayes doesn't claim any one location as his hometown. When asked where he's from, he goes through the process every military child is all too familiar with; listing states and countries in a lengthy monologue which only leads to a look of confusion and inexplicable disappointment on the individual who asked.

Instead of claiming a hometown, or trying to, Hayes said he claims the Catholic Archdiocese of the Military as home.

The archdiocese of the military is the Catholic governing body that supervises every Catholic chaplain and ministry service in the military.

It is this organization that Senior Airman Madison Hayes, an airborne missions systems specialist with the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson calls home, and aspires to become a leader in.

"Growing up on a military base, I had a lot of positive influence in my life by the



Senior Airman Madison Hayes, an airborne missions systems specialist with the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron, poses for a portrait at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Anchorage June 2. Hayes was accepted into St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity in Minnesota and is scheduled to begin classes this fall. (U.S. Air Force photo/Alejandro Pena)

chaplaincy," Hayes said. "I feel strongly that I am called to serve God in that capacity."

A quarter of the military identifies themselves as Roman Catholic. There are very few Catholic chaplains available to serve the spiritual needs of these men and women – about 50 in the Air Force, and 88 in the Army.

Because of this, a local clergyman often fills the role of chaplain for Catholics on military bases.

Hayes said he first felt the call to become a priest when he was sixteen.

"The call" is phrase often spoken about in Protestant and Catholic circles. It is used to describe a moment, or process wherein an individual feels God is pulling his heart or desires toward a specific goal.

Hayes describes his own calling toward priesthood as akin to a seed being planted.

More than a decade ago, Hayes had just returned from his confirmation retreat and was attending mass at Ramstein Air Force Base. The priest administering the service asked the congregation if anyone was interested in becoming a priest.

The only two to stand up where Hayes and his brother.

At that moment, Hayes made a statement of intent, a confession to the people around him he was committing himself to a life of celibacy and service to others.

"This is someone who thinks differ-

ently," said U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Maj.) Jesus Navarrete with the 673d Air Base Wing. "He sees things in a different way than others. It's a process, it's taken me over a decade to get here," Hayes said. "I'm going to seminary."

Hayes' family couldn't afford to send him to college outright, so he pursued the ROTC program, and was accepted into the University of St. Thomas, where his success would blur his perspective. "I let my vocation go dormant," Hayes said.

It didn't stay dormant for long though; when he lost the ROTC scholarship, he found himself at a crossroads.

"I took out student loans and decided to finish what I started," Hayes said. "I was in a place where I was lost. I had everything going for me. All of a sudden, I was in a place where I felt like I had nothing."

Instead of returning home as most would do, he quit playing college football and got a job. He worked his way through college, eventually graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Business.

In any other story, this would have been game over, the victory, mission accomplished. But Hayes finished what he started, and found himself at another crossroads, again unsure of where to go.

"I had graduated, I was living at home, I was working a simple job, I had nothing going for me," Hayes said.

"I turned to God and said 'Alright, I give up. Whatever you want, I'll do it. Just give me the strength and show me what it is.' And now I'm here.

"It's crazy how doors started opening."

One of those doors was military enlistment. He enlisted in the Air Force and arrived at his first duty station as an Airman 1st Class with a Bachelor's degree, a year of ROTC experience, and well into his twenties.

"I think God wanted me to have that experience," Hayes said. "If I didn't become enlisted, I wouldn't have met all the mentors that I have now – mentors who have been crucial to my discernment process."

Not long after enlisting, the seed planted in his life at 16 began to show its roots. He became one of the founding members of the Young Adult Catholic group on JBER.

The group addresses the specific spiritual needs of young Catholics in the military and frequently meets for events and fellowship.

"The hope of this small community is to build connections," said Navarrete. "[It's] to help them realize they are important in our community and to develop their faith more."

Hayes began to pursue the long road of becoming a military chaplain.

"The application process took almost a full year to complete. The vocational director of the Archdiocese of Anchorage taught me what the archdiocese is about. He set up a meeting with the archbishop for this archdiocese, where I met with him and told him I want to be a priest," Hayes said. "I filled out my whole life history, my autobiography, my financial history, everything about me. They look into your criminal record, everything. You have to tell them everything."

Throughout this process, Hayes has been working with the archdiocese, the chaplains and the community as well as completing his military duties.

"They look at every part of your life and meet with you several times until they are ready to review their application," Hayes said. "Then they make their recommendation to the archbishop to accept you. Then you are accepted as a seminarian candidate."

After being approved by his home archdiocese, Hayes flew to St. Paul, Minn. to meet with the board of the seminary and applied to be accepted.

After being accepted into the seminary, the military and Archdiocese of Anchorage would co-sponsor him as a seminarian candidate in the eventual hope of having his service in the future.

Hayes has been accepted into St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity in Minnesota and is scheduled to begin classes this fall.

During this six-year process, Hayes will transition into the Air Force Reserve as a 2nd lieutenant, earn a bachelor's degree in philosophy and a master's in divinity.

Eventually, he will be ordained as a Catholic priest and accepted into the Archdiocese of the Military where he will serve as a Catholic chaplain to American Armed Forces.

"You give your whole self to the church. Your self, what you are, in every capacity," Hayes said. "You give 100 percent of yourself, 100 percent of your time," Hayes said.

"I feel like a lot of people who have a military background have a calling to be a priest, because they know what it's like to give 100 percent of yourself already."

"There's no greater love than this to lay down one's life for a friend," Hayes said. "Everybody in the military understands this. They all are willing to lay down their life for their friend."

"A priest is much the same. They lay down their life for the church."

## JBER hosts military appreciation week

By Tech. Sgt. Robert Barnett  
JBER Public Affairs

Service members, families and Department of Defense civilian employees are honored for their services and sacrifices at the 2015 Military Appreciation Picnic on JBER Friday.

The annual picnic takes place at both Cottonwood and Paxton Parks from 11 a.m. to 2 pm. They will feature food, static displays, bounce houses, pony rides, games and more, sponsored by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce and various JBER private organizations.

"It has been three months of planning, working with more than 12 different units and organizations. 17 committee members have worked countless hours coordinating and organizing different aspects of the picnic," said coordinator Air Force Master Sgt. Jason Thomas, 732nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production superintendent, and a native of Youngstown, Ohio. "We hope the military members and their families enjoy the day."

There is a petting zoo at Cottonwood Park, as well as a climbing wall, bounce house and foot-

ball. Paxton Park will include a boxing ring, obstacle course and basketball. Balloon animals and face painting will take place at both parks.

The Arctic Warrior Olympics are also taking place across the installation, including events such as archery, bowling, a canoe race, softball, dodgeball, golf, paintball and more.

Please visit [www.tinyurl.com/p4ruk3](http://www.tinyurl.com/p4ruk3) for information on when and where the Olympic events are taking place throughout the day, or select the events calendar on the far right of JBER's homepage, choose June 5 on the calendar, and select the flyer.

Events also include the 2015 U.S. Army Alaska Combatives Tournament, sponsored by the Arctic Warrior Combatives Academy. Intermediate, semi-finals and finals begin at 9 a.m. at Buckner Physical Fitness Center.

"We're doing this to hone warrior skills, exhibit the warrior ethos and further the warrior's mindset across USARAK," said Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Jones, senior instructor and interim chief of training at the combatives academy, as well as the tournament director, and a native of Dewitt, Nebraska.

"People will watch everything starting from standard bouts on up. Soldiers will compete in their weight class with first place, second place or third place medals for individual weight classes; the team will receive a 2015 Combatives Tournament trophy. This will help people see Soldiers demonstrating their techniques in the crucible of combat showing our superiority in hand-to-hand combat."

For more information about the tournament, please contact the Arctic Warrior Combatives Academy 384-0292 or the Buckner Physical Fitness Center at 384-1308.

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

The picnics are part of Military Appreciation Week, during which various establishments throughout the community offer specials, discounts and other events in support of the military.

"This is the state's largest military appreciation event, bringing together local citizens in an effort to support and celebrate our military community and to say 'thank you' for their sacrifice and commitment for freedom," said Anchorage Chamber of Commerce president



Senior Airman Ricky Jones, assigned to the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron, a native of Thomson, Georgia, screams as he leaps over a mud pit in an effort to avoid being submerged in muddy water as his team loses a tug-of-war battle during the 19th annual Military Appreciation Picnic and Arctic Warrior Olympics on JBER last year. (U.S. Air Force photo/Justin Connahey)

Bruce Bustamante.

"Events like [this] truly demonstrate what it means to be a community and support each other. It's heart-warming to see Anchorage Chamber members come together to thank those who do so much for our country and our community."

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

Anchorage area, representatives said.

"It is awesome to be at a base where the community wants to do something for the military," Thomas said. "Before coming to JBER I hadn't been at a base that would do that, so having the community come in and do something for us is an awesome thing."

**For maps and more information, see page B-6.**



# Definition of a hero; Hollywood has gotten it wrong

Commentary by Tech. Sgt.  
Jamie Abordonado  
673d ABW Chaplain Assistant

What makes a hero? Hollywood paints a picture of perfect skill, a fancy car and of course super powers.

My definition of a hero is much different than those with flashy suits and great hair.

I am a third-generation combat veteran. My grandfather served in the Navy during World War II, and my father served as a Marine in Vietnam.

A hero is more than the sum of his parts.

The ‘suits of armor’ we wear are sometimes worn down by the hours of guard duty at our post in which we protect our brothers and sisters in arms, or others we serve beside.

In accordance with the general order “I will never leave my post unless properly relieved,” we provide this protection through rain, sleet, snow, desert sun – for endless hours, through night and day, until our eyes are twitching with exhaustion.

The hearts in our chests swell with pride when we see an American flag or hear the national anthem.

It also aches for those who served and did not make it back – from where they paid with their lives for our freedoms.

As the Airmen’s Creed states,



The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been guarded around the clock for more than three quarters of a century, specifically since 1937, and since 1948 by members of the 3rd Infantry Regiment's Old Guard, regardless of the weather conditions. (Courtesy photo)

we “defend our country with our lives.”

The ‘sore back and swollen feet’ continue to carry us and our

50-plus pounds of survival gear, because a hero knows to never give up. To do so would cost more mental and spiritual anguish than

our body will ever feel. The Navy Seals have a saying – “your mind will quit a thousand times before your body ever will.”

Our ‘minds’ are bruised by visions of fear for those we are meant to protect. Sometimes they are broken by the determination that we have sometimes to no avail. As the Marine may grunt, “Any clime and place” – the mission continues, marching orders are altered, and a new day begins.

Why would a hero put him or herself through such agony? Would Thor leave for a 12-month battle knowing he would miss his daughter’s first steps? Would Black Widow step onto the tarmac knowing that she might miss the last few days of her warrior grandfather’s life?

I would, and I did.

For me, a hero’s ability to be brave is best described in Isaiah 6:8 – “Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here I am. Send me.’”

The definition of a hero according to Merriam-Webster is “a person who is admired for great or brave acts or fine qualities.”


I would argue this definition would fit Tony Stark perfectly.

But as for me and my military family, a hero is “a person willing to sacrifice life’s overwhelming precious moments with extreme pride to ensure the liberties of all mankind continue in a manner that they would not know the details of such strife, but instead would feel protected in the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

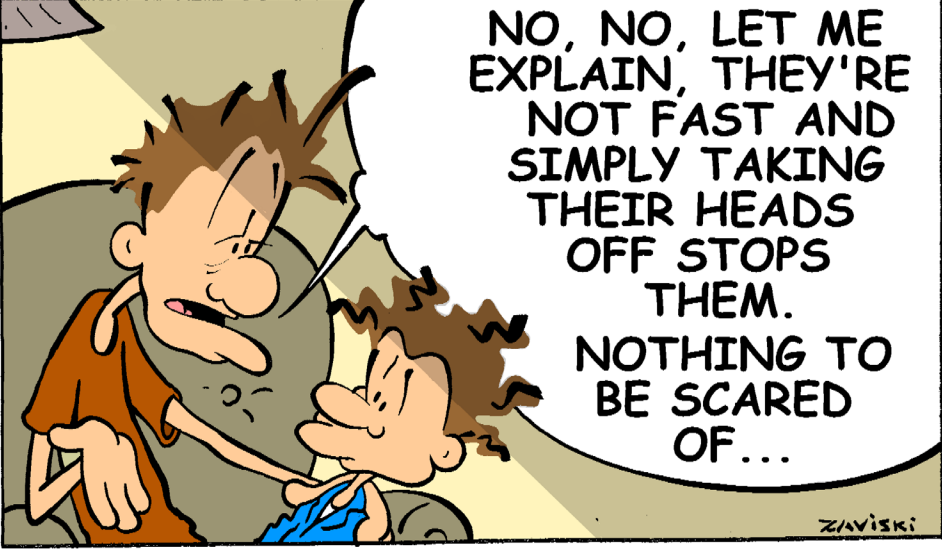
## GUNSTON st.

by ZAVISKI

MOM, I WATCHED A ZOMBIE MOVIE WITH DAD NOW I CAN'T SLEEP...



NO, NO, LET ME EXPLAIN, THEY'RE NOT FAST AND SIMPLY TAKING THEIR HEADS OFF STOPS THEM. NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF...





**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.

**THROUGH JULY 17  
Summer reading program**

The JBER library hosts a music-themed summer reading program “Read To The Rhythm” through July 17. The program is open to all ages.

To register, call 384-1640.

**FRIDAY  
Annual picnic, Arctic Warrior Olympics**

The annual Military Appreciation Picnics – at Paxton Park on JBER-Elmendorf and Cottonwood Park on JBER-Richardson – feature military static displays, bouncy houses and more as well as food and drink from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The annual Arctic Warrior Olympics offers 20 competitive events, from bike races to Texas Hold ‘em, at various times.

For information on Olympic events, call 552-4265 or 552-3458.

**Youth center bowling club**

Kennecott Youth Center members enjoy an afternoon of bowling from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. for one low price.

For information, call 552-2266.

**Youth movie night**

Youth ages 9 to 12, ready to get out of the house for an evening of movies and fun?

Head to the Two Rivers Youth Center from 5 to 7 p.m. for youth movie night.

For information, call 384-1508.

**‘Summer’s Here’ lock-in**

JBER Youth Program members ages 9 to 12, enjoy an all-night party to kick off summer at the Kennecott Youth Center from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Snacks and breakfast will be served.

For information, call 552-2266.

**SATURDAY  
Hatcher Pass ATV trip**

Head to Hatcher Pass 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.

**Portage Lake kayak trip**

Paddle along glacial icebergs on beautiful Portage Lake.

Trip departs the JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center at 8 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. All kayaking gear provided; bring warm clothing and lunch.

This trip is part of the RecOn program, which provides discounted trips to service and family members.

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

**Gold panning in Girdwood**

Try your hand at a favorite Alaskan pastime – pan for gold in Girdwood. This free trip, open to all service members, departs from the Warrior Zone at 8:30 a.m.

Bring comfortable shoes and money for lunch. Sign up early; only 14 slots are available.

To sign up or for more information, call 384-9023.

**MONDAY  
Paddle board class**

Looking for some new outdoor skills? Learn the ins and outs of stand-up paddle boarding in Alaska with this training course offered by the Outdoor Adventure Program at Otter Lake from 5 to 7 p.m.

For information or to register, call 552-4599 or 2023.

**TUESDAY  
Russian River fishing class**

The Russian River opens for sockeye salmon fishing June 11.

Get a jump on the action and learn about regulations, the best gear, and proper techniques from the experts at the Outdoor Adventure Program through this free class from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center.

For information or to register, call 552-4599 or 2023.

**Family fun golf clinic**

Learn another way to enjoy Alaska’s midnight sun. Bring your family out to Moose Run Golf Course from 5 to 6 p.m. for a free golf clinic.

Open to ages 6 and up; golf clubs will be provided.

To sign up, call 428-0056.

**WEDNESDAY  
Daddy and me ceramics**

Take advantage of 25 percent savings on pick-and-paint ceramics activities with Dad from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Polar Express Arts and Crafts Center.

For information, call 384-3717.

**ATV safety course**

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.

**Mountain biking**

Let the experts at the Outdoor Adventure Program lead you on an exciting mountain biking outing through Kincaid Park from 5 to 8 p.m. There are beginner through advanced single-track trails to challenge riders of all skill levels. Sign up at JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center.

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

**THURSDAY  
Parent Advisory Board**

Calling all parents of JBER Youth Program members. Join the 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 to 12:30 p.m.

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

**Outdoor rock climbing**

Climbing the walls this summer already? Channel that energy into an outdoor rock-climbing trip with the Outdoor Adventure Program staff on the cliffs along the Seward highway. All climbing gear is provided. This trip is part of the RecOn program, which provides discounted trips to service and family members.

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

**JUNE 12  
Hillberg challenge**

The Hillberg challenge is a 4-mile trail race that takes place at noon starting in the Hillberg Ski Area parking lot. T-shirts will be given out to the first 30 participants and prizes awarded for first and second place male and female race finishers.

For information, call 552-5353.

**JBER Combat Cross-Country**

Get your five-person team together for the JBER Combat Cross Country Series mountain run. Race starts at 2 p.m. at Arctic Valley. Participants must be in

military uniform, combat boots and carry a minimum of 35 pounds in a rucksack. Sign ups are from 1 to 1:30 p.m. with weigh-ins and an organization meeting from 1:30 to 2 p.m.

For information, call 384-1301.

**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.

**JUNE 13  
Glacier ice climb**

Get up close and personal with the Matanuska Glacier on this guided tour from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Trip departs from the JBER-Elmendorf Outdoor Recreation Center. Climbing gear and transportation will be provided; bring weather-appropriate clothing and lunch.

This trip for ages 12 and older is part of the RecOn program, which provides discounted trips to service and family members.

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

**THROUGH JUNE 14  
Stars/Stripes Summer Fest**

The 673d Force Support Squadron presents the Stars and Stripes Summer Fest at the Buckner sports fields on JBER-Richardson Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Attractions include free carnival rides, a petting zoo, face painting, balloon twisting, various performances and food booths with a car and bike show on Sunday.

For information, call 552-3766.

**THROUGH JUNE 22  
Slam’n Salm’n Derby**

Anglers of all ages try for the biggest salmon out of Ship Creek in downtown Anchorage. There are prizes galore – and some winning fish weigh more than 40 pounds.

For information, visit [shipcreeksalmonderby.com](http://shipcreeksalmonderby.com).

**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 avail-

## 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.

able through Army Community Service or Army Emergency Relief, at 384-7478.

**Neon bowling**

All military E-4 and below receive a 10 percent discount every Friday night 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.

## 673d FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON



**OAP PRESENTS**

### FREE CLASSES

Backpacking 101: June 5, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
Russian River Fishing Class: June 9, 5 - 6 p.m.  
Bear Awareness: June 12, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Call 552.4599/2023 to sign up for more information or come by Bldg. 7301.

MUST REGISTER WITHIN 30 DAYS PRIOR TO CLASS DATE



### RESILIENCY THROUGH RECREATION

OPEN FOR ALL SERVICE MEMBERS & DEPENDENTS

Kayak Trip\* Rock Climb\*

June 6: Portage Lake Kayak Trip, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$25 June 11: Outdoor Rock Climbing, 5 - 9 p.m. \$10

\*Disclaimer: Trips can only be booked 30 days prior. Please call 552.4599/2023/3812 for more information.

OPEN FOR ALL SINGLE SERVICE MEMBERS

Gold Panning in Girdwood

June 6: FREE Event. Depart from the Warrior Zone at 8:30 a.m. 14 slots available.

Transportation provided. Bring money for lunch & wear comfortable clothes.

Please call 384.9023 for more information.

SINGLE AIRMAN



## CLIMB & RIDE



### TRIPS

Hatcher Pass ATV Trip: June 6  
- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
- \$150  
Mountain Bike Kincaid Park: June 10  
- 5 - 8 p.m.  
- \$35  
ATV Safety Course: June 10  
- 5 - 9 p.m.  
- \$50 w/our ATV or \$5 w/your ATV

Call 552-4599/2023 to sign up or for more information. Minimum and maximum sign up numbers apply to all trips and classes.

MUST REGISTER WITHIN 30 DAYS PRIOR TO CLASS DATE



673d Force Support Squadron Presents

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 552.3766

## STARS & STRIPES SUMMER FEST

HELD AT BUCKNER FIELDS

JUNE 13 • 11 A.M. - 8 P.M.

JUNE 14 • 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

8TH ANNUAL CAR & BIKE SHOW WILL BE ON JUNE 13

PERFORMANCES  
BEER GARDEN  
PETTING ZOO  
RED = FREE  
BLUE = PURCHASE

BALLOON TWISTING  
CARNIVAL GAMES  
FACE PAINTING  
MUSIC  
FOOD BOOTHS  
CARNIVAL RIDES

JUNE 1 - 5: PACAF Juniors Golf Program

**TUESDAYS:**

**After 3 p.m.** Family Golf  
FREE bucket of balls, hot dog, chips & fountain drink with 9 Hole purchase!  
**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.** FREE Family Fun Golf Clinic (equipment provided; for 6 yrs. old & up)

**MONDAY / WEDNESDAY / FRIDAY:**  
Beginner - Advanced Clinics

907.428.0056

2700 Arctic Valley Rd.  
[www.mooserungolfcourse.com](http://www.mooserungolfcourse.com)



### GET GOLF READY

WANT TO LEARN HOW TO GOLF?  
Give us FIVE days & we'll give you a sport for a lifetime!

**PACKAGES**

- \$99** - 5 Lessons - Beginner Clinic (open to all adults)
- \$149** - 5 Lessons - Beginner Clinic
  - FREE Set of Golf Clubs, Bag & Putter (while supplies last)
  - 3 rounds of Golf on the Hills Course! (only open to Military, Retirees, DOD Civilians & Dependents)

» Get comfortable with the game through a series of beginner friendly lessons.

» Meet new people in a casual golf setting.

» Enjoy the outdoors & get in shape!

All lessons are held at Moose Run Golf Course's driving range.

907-428-0056  
27000 Arctic Valley Road  
JBER-Richardson  
/mooserungolfcourse.com  
[www.mooserungolfcourse.com](http://www.mooserungolfcourse.com)



Stop by and see us!

[www.facebook.com/JBER673FSS](http://www.facebook.com/JBER673FSS)

[www.elmendorf-richardson.com](http://www.elmendorf-richardson.com)



## FSS/MWR events & activities



**APRIL 29**

A daughter, Madelyn Grace Gove, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces at 7:55 a.m. to Allison Marie Gove and Army Staff Sgt. David Michael Gove of the 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment.

**MAY 1**

A son, Brayden Michael Barros, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 12 ounces at 12:21 a.m. to Sunja Ashley Madsen and Army Staff Sgt. Justin Michael Barros of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

**MAY 2**

A daughter, Emma Joy Armstrong, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces at 10:09 a.m. to Jessica Armstrong and Spc. Adam Armstrong of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

**MAY 3**

A daughter, Vanessa Ryleigh Heinz, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces at 2:48 p.m. to Air Force Staff Sgt. Casey Lynn Heinz of the 3rd Maintenance Operations Squadron and

Air Force Staff Sgt. Michael Lawrence Heinz of the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron.

**MAY 4**

A daughter, Aryn Tiffany Allen, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces at 5:57 p.m. to Cierra Lyn Allen and Pfc. Aaron Alexander Allen of the 725th Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne).

**MAY 6**

A daughter, Lola Mae Eklund, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 12 ounces at 11:05 a.m. to Maria Giuseppina Eklund and Army 1st Lt. Wallace Lee Eklund of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 501st Infantry Regiment.

**MAY 10**

A daughter, Violet Aurora Baker, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces at 10:19 a.m. to Summer Nicole Baker and Army 2nd Lt. Garrett Conlan Baker of the 6th Brigade Engineer Battalion (Airborne).

**MAY 12**

A daughter, Micka Lola Toshi,

was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 4:19 a.m. to Senior Airman Brittany Sue Galloway of the 3rd Munitions Squadron and Justin Kenneth Richard Toshi.

**MAY 15**

A son, Jack Hagan Johnson, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 10:10 a.m. to Tricia Ann Johnson and Marine Maj. Lee Andrew Johnson of the Inspector-instructor Detachment, Military Police Company D, 4th Law Enforcement Battalion.

**MAY 16**

A daughter, Chloe Elise Honkala, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces at 7:28 a.m. to Bethany Joy Price and Air Force Staff Sgt. Adam Keith Honkala of the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron.

**MAY 17**

A son, Logan Lee Hammer, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 9:26 a.m. to Aloria Deandrea Hammer and Army Staff Sgt. Samuel Walter Hammer of the 3rd Battalion (Airborne),

509th Infantry Regiment.

**MAY 18**

A daughter, Ava Nikole Sisounong, was born 22 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 7 ounces at 5:11 p.m. to Sabrina Sisounong and Pfc. Jeffrey Sisounong of the 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment.

**MAY 19**

A daughter, Scarlett Rose Anderson, was born 19 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 1 ounce at 5:12 p.m. to Savannah Rae Anderson and Sgt. Cory Gene Anderson of the 6th Brigade Engineer Battalion (Airborne).

**MAY 20**

A daughter, Graycen Monroe Sanchez, was born 19 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces at 12:49 a.m. to Kira Danae Sanchez and Tech. Sgt. Christopher Ryan Sanchez of the 773d Logistics Readiness Squadron.

A daughter, Harper Gracie Baldwin, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces at 11:47 a.m. to Elyse Evelyn Baldwin and Senior Airman Kyle Sean Bald-

win of the 3rd Operations Support Squadron.

**MAY 21**

A son, Emmott Christopher Bradley, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds at 4:42 p.m. to Nicole Ashley Bradley and Sgt. 1st Class Michael James Bradley of the 2nd Battalion, 377th Parachute Field Artillery Regiment.

**MAY 26**

A son, Kayden Thomas Sawyer, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 1 ounces at 1:15 p.m. to Spc. Drenna Elyce Sawyer of the 725th Brigade Support Battalion (Airborne).

A son, Dean Conner Watkins, was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces at 2:44 p.m. to Michelle Ann Watkins and Air Force Capt. Dustin Curtis Watkins of the 517th Airlift Squadron.

A son, Declan John McManus, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces at 8:27 p.m. to Carolyn McManus and Air Force Maj. Brian McManus of the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron.

## Sitka students warm up to cold water safety

By U.S. Coast Guard District 17 Public Affairs

SITKA — Since 2007, an average of 50 drownings have occurred every year in Alaska. This is the highest rate of drownings in the country.

To make a change, Sitka School District partners annually with Alaska Marine Safety Education Association, Air Station Sitka rescue swimmers and Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team Sitka personnel to host a cold water safety program.

The program started more than 20 years ago and targeted third-grade students. The program has since expanded to educate first-, third-, fifth-, seventh- and ninth-graders, and now impacts more than 500 students per year.

Lessons range from classroom presentations, which explain life jackets and immersion suits, to outdoor training, which emphasizes building shelters and surviving on a beach.

Each age group learns survival techniques that are tailored to their learning abilities. Coast Guard rescue swimmers play a major role in third-grade lessons.

The training starts in the controlled pool

environments, where rescue swimmers teach kids how to put on a survival suit, stay in a group, enter a life raft and climb in a rescue basket.

Last week, Sitka third graders put on survival suits and tested their knowledge in 46-degree water. The students gained a firsthand experience and an appreciation for survival suits.

Petty Officer 1st Class Chris Belisle is one of the six rescue swimmers at the air station and has volunteered more than 30 hours to teaching the kids.

He said he truly believes in the invaluable hands-on training.

“The kids might be the ones that help the adults realize the scope of the emergency and initiate putting on the survival suits before it’s too late,” said Belisle.

The reality of the cold water hit home with most of the third-graders.

Sometimes the weather can be deceptively warm, but things can change quickly, and once a person enters the water time is limited.

The students gained knowledge about the dangers that can arise in Alaska and the skills to decrease incidents on the water, and they will be back again next year.



Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Chris Belisle, a rescue swimmer from Air Station Sitka, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Kevin Walters, a crew member at Aids to Navigation Team Sitka, help students into a life raft during a cold-water safety program in Sitka, May 14. Coast Guard members partner with Alaska Marine Safety Education Association and the Sitka School District annually to teach students about cold-water survival. (U.S. Coast Guard photo/Lt. Jason Condon)



# Do you know where your finances are going?

By Senior Airman Tammie Ramsouer  
JBER Public Affairs

It’s a sunny Friday afternoon and a service member just got paid. What is the first thing he is likely to do? Spend it or save it?

For those who could use some assistance with this common decision point, a program on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson highlights reliable ways to manage and understand finances.

The 673d Force Support Squadron provides a monthly finance seminar in Building 600 on JBER-Richardson, and at the Log Cabin on JBER-Elmendorf.

The seminars are open to all service members, and first-term Airmen and Soldiers receive this information at the outset of their service here.

According to Army Regulation 608-1, it is a mandatory class for first-term Soldiers within 60 days of their arrival at JBER.

First-term Airmen receive the same information during a one-week course at the First Term Airmen Center soon after arrival.

“First-term service members do not make much money,” said Martin Rivera, 673d FSS financial counselor.

“There are quite a few things they can become financially involved with, such as buying a new car, and [thus find] themselves in financial trouble with large payments.”

If service members become overwhelmed with their finances and do not seek help, the issue can escalate to their chain of command, Rivera said, adding that financial issues left unchecked might have career implications – including a general discharge from the military for failure to adapt.

During the seminar, Rivera covers topics such as car buying, credit reports and scores, investment strategies and other useful tools to enhance or maintain financial stability.

This type of training can easily help not only single service members, but families too, get on track to start a good lifestyle, according to recent attendees.

“We have some financial goals we want to accomplish while we are here in Alaska,” said Lacey Jones, wife of a paratrooper Spc. Dillon Jones, assigned to the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry Regiment.

“I have student loan debt that has accumulated and some medical bills that need to be paid off, so I wanted to come to this seminar to figure out how we could budget better. We are both still pretty young so it would be nice to start saving early,” said Mrs. Jones.

For her husband, this seminar has been something he has been familiar with in the past.

“I have gone through this seminar before when I was a first-term Soldier with the Iowa Army National Guard in 2012,” Dillon Jones said.

“As a new active-duty Soldier I had a choice to go to the seminar since I had done it before. I decided I would so I could refresh my memory of the briefing.”

After going through the seminar, the couple has a new outlook on how to proceed with their finances.

“The most helpful portion of the seminar was finding out different ways of investing our money,” Lacey said.

“I don’t have a job right now, so we are just budgeting based off my husband’s paycheck, but I think we will start with a Thrift Savings Plan once I do start earning an income.”

In addition to classes, Rivera provides one-on-one ap-



**Saving money doesn’t always mean going to a bank from time to time, it can sometimes be helpful to take the change out of your pocket and put it into a piggy bank or a spare jar in your home. (Air Force photo illustration/ Senior Airman Tammie Ramsouer)**

pointments with service members to help them make a plan if they feel they are in too tight a budget.

“When I do one-on-one counseling with service members who have been here for two to three years, they are surprised at how their finances have changed,” Rivera said.

“This is why I believe it is important to give them this information from the beginning to have a solid understanding of what finances can do to your life.”

Rivera said he plans to continue helping as many people as he can.

“This information is critical for their lives,” Rivera said. “I just want them to understand what they do financially will affect them long-term later in life.”

For more information about the financial seminar and counseling sessions offered by the 673d FSS, call 384-7687 or 552-0630.



**Cottonwood Park**

**Entrance**

**Exit**

**Parking**

**Port-a-Potty**

**1. Police Explorer**  
**2. Earthquake Trailer**  
**3. EOD Demos**  
**4. Ambulance**  
**5. FLA Staging**

**1. Sierra Mickens**  
**2. Face Painting**  
**3. Crazy Hair**

**Port-a-Potty**

**Port-a-Potty**

**2 Temper Tents**

**Water Buffalo**

**Food Area**

**Refree Truck**

**KFAT 92.9 FM**

**0 60 120 180 m.**

**Paxton Park**

- TEMPER TENTS
- PORT-A-POTTY
- HANDICAP-POTTY
- WATER BUFFALO
- PETTING ZOO
- EVENT BOOTHS
- BOUNCIES
- BARRIER/CONES

E-9 & O-6 Softball

Tug-a-War

Volleyball

Port-a-Potty

Water Buffalo

Parking

Children's Area

DV Parking

TACP Display

Reef Truck

Food Area

Children's Area

Petting Zoo

Stage

Boy Scouts

Olympics location

The Wolf 96.3 FM

K-9/EOD DEMO

Smoke House

Ambulance

2 Fire Trucks

Vehicle Static Display

CARSWELL

UNNAMED

DOOLITTLE

05130

05104

77715A

77715B

05081

10TH

ARCtic WARRIOR

05120

1st ST

1 inch = 150 feet

S

W

N

E

**Opening ceremony:** 8 a.m. at Paxton Park.

**Picnic:** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Paxton and Cottonwood parks.

**Golf tournament:** 6 a.m. to noon at Moose Run Golf Course.

**Softball:** 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Paxton and Cottonwood parks.

**Archery tournament:** Sign up, 7 a.m.; competition, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Black Sheep Bowmen Archery Range.

**5 Kilometer family fun run:** 8 a.m. at Paxton Park.

**Functional fitness challenge:** Sign up and warm up, 8 to 8:55 a.m.; competition, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Hangar 5.

**Skeet shoot:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the JBER-Richardson Trap and Skeet Range.

**Road bike race:** 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., start and finish at the Frontier Theater.

**Bowling:** Sign up, 8:30 a.m.; competition, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Polar Bowl.

**Mountain bike race:** 8:30 a.m. to noon; at the Warrior Zone.

**Three on three basketball:** 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; start and finish at Dena'ina Road.

**Dodgeball:** 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Elmendorf Fitness Center.

**Volleyball:** 9 to 11 a.m. at Paxton and Cottonwood parks.

**Raquetball:** 9 a.m. to noon at the Elmendorf Fitness Center.

**Canoe race:** 9 a.m. to noon at Otter Lake.

**Boot hockey:** 9 a.m. to noon at the Buckner Physical Fitness Center outdoor skating rink.

**Paintball shoot-out:** 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Arctic Warrior Extreme paintball course.

**Texas Hold 'Em:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Warrior Zone.

**Home-run derby:** 10 a.m. at Paxton Park.

**Tug-of-war:** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the JBER-Elmendorf PME Center.

**E-9 vs. O-6 softball game:** 12:30 p.m. at Paxton Park.

**Trophy presentations:** 2 p.m. at Paxton and Cottonwood parks.

For additional information on each event, visit [www.tinyurl.com/p4ruk3](http://www.tinyurl.com/p4ruk3)

**NOTE:** As per recent update to Air Force Instruction 40-102, the use of tobacco is prohibited all all installation athletic fields, running tracks, basketball courts, golf courses and parks.