

NATO provides “eye in the sky” for RED FLAG

2nd Lt. Kitsana Dounglomchan
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs



Aircrew members of a NATO E-3A Component fly over the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex as part of RED FLAG-Alaska 18-1 hosted by Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska May 7, 2018. NATO was one of more than a dozen units from across the globe to participate in the first iteration of RED FLAG-Alaska this year. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla, 354th Fight Wing Public Affairs)

The air war is underway at RED FLAG-Alaska 18-1. But fifty miles southwest and ten thousand feet above the dog fighting, a NATO E-3A Component jet circles in its flight pattern, soaking up signals and squawks about the fluid battle space below and providing friendly forces a watchful “eye in the sky” that extends in every direction for hundreds of miles.

As a NATO unit, Airmen from around the world work the rows of screens and scopes in the middle of the aircraft, their country’s respective flag adorning

their shoulders. Everyone stares intently at their screen, all of them sharing the common goal of identifying and calling out new targets as they appear on the scope. The mission crew is comprised of a surveillance team, a weapons team, and airborne technicians; they are responsible to the tactical director, who is the senior member of the mission crew.

See REDFLAG on page 6

Aviation Battalion presents Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto awards for dedication and excellence



Daniel Nelson
Fort Wainwright Public Affairs

Dani O’Donnell, Fort Wainwright Community Engagement and Media Relations chief, was presented with the Honorable Order of Our Lady of Loreto award May 17, by Lt. Col. Matt Landrum, commander for the 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, for her hard work, dedication and volunteer service.

With her award reading, “Overall, she represents the Army and the Army mission in everything she does and aims to make a difference by ensuring the spouses and all FRG (family readiness group) members are prepared, but have fun. She worked tirelessly over the years to ensure all members of the FRG were included in every event she planned, and deserves credit for boosting awareness and overall morale within the FRGs of 1/25th ARB.” O’Donnell was one of seven recipients of the award presented by the unit.

(Photos by Daniel Nelson, Fort Wainwright Public Affairs)



High water safety

Greg Sanches
Fort Wainwright Installation Safety Office

The National Weather Service has issued a high water advisory for interior rivers through the end of the long Memorial Day weekend.

As you can see the Chena River is already overflowing its banks from the snow melt in the mountains and the stalled weather front that is sitting upon the area.

If you plan on doing boating of any kind this weekend please be aware of debris, large and small floating down the river, and large snags just below the surface. Use extreme caution on or near river banks as it can break away from the high water and fast current.

River water is extremely cold. Should you fall in, the shock of the cold on your system can cause you to inhale water and hypothermia can quickly set in.

Do not go out on the rivers this weekend unless you have to, if you do go follow these precautions:

- Monitor the local news, National Weather Service and Fort Wainwright Facebook page for updates on the advisory.
- Wear a life jacket at all times while on the water no matter what type of craft you are in.
- Ensure the equipment on the boat is in good shape and you have a survival kit should you need it.
- Let someone know your plans, where you are going and when you will be back.

For more information contact Installation Safety at 353-7087/7083 or frequently check in on Fairbanks weather, at <https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?zoneid=AKZ222>.

Fort Greely’s Cold Regions Test Center welcomes new commander



The Cold Regions Test Center held their change of command ceremony where Col. Gina Adam (right) relinquished command to Lt. Col. Loren Todd (left) at the Cold Regions Test Center Bolio Lake Complex May 16. Adam’s next assignment will take her to Fort Detrick, Maryland where she will serve as the Director for the Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center. Todd comes to Alaska from the Pentagon where he served as the Deputy Director of the Army Systems Acquisition Review Council Secretariat. (Photo by Chris Maestas, Fort Greely Public Affairs)



The public is invited to attend the Summer Concert on Fort Wainwright with Kellie Pickler and Waka Flocka Flame, June 1, from 5 to 9 p.m. Special event access will only be through Badger Gate. Installation access will require positive photo identification and proof of vehicle insurance. Patrons are welcome to bring their own folding chairs, and are encouraged to bring cash for food and beverage purchases. Parking will be provided with buses running continuously from the designated parking area on the south side of the airfield to the event location at Chena Bend Golf Course. Please, no pets or outside food and drinks. Visitors should be prepared for random vehicle inspections, as well as bag checks being implemented. A reminder that marijuana, though legal in the State of Alaska, is still illegal, in any form, on federal installations. For more information, <https://wainwright.armymwr.com/calendar/event/summer-concert-kellie-pickler-and-waka-flocka/2276154/27363>.

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday



Partly cloudy with a high of 63 degrees, and a low of 41.

Saturday



Partly cloudy with a high of 64 and a low of 44 degrees.

Sunday



Mostly sunny with a high of 63 degrees and a low of 43.

Nutrition Corner: Food sanitation and grilling safety

Brandy Ostanik
Medical Department Activity – Alaska, Public Affairs

Summer is here and it is a great time to grill your favorite foods! To be sure your family dinners, get-togethers and special events are enjoyable for everyone, food sanitation and grilling safety should be a top priority. Food sanitation is defined as protecting food and ourselves from contamination. Contaminants that can enter food can be physical, such as hair or glass, biological – think bacteria, or chemical contaminants like pesticides or drugs, which can cause illness or serious conditions when ingested. Remembering the acronym FAT TOM that stands for; Food, Acidity, Time, Temperature, Oxygen and Moisture. This will also help you remember the factors that can potentially make your food unsafe for consumption. The following sanitation and grilling

tips will help make sure you are well versed in food safety at your next BBQ! Thaw your meat- Never defrost meat on the counter or the microwave (even if it has a defrost setting). Why? Time and temperature are both food safety components in FAT TOM. Allowing meat to thaw on the counter or in the microwave causes uneven distribution of temperature over time which is prime for the growth of bacteria! Best practice: think ahead and thaw in the refrigerator overnight. Cook to temperature- have a thermometer handy to check that your pork (145°F), ground beef (160°F), chicken (165°F) or seafood (145°) are cooked to the correct internal temperatures. This ensures bacteria and pathogens are killed making the meat safe for consumption. Indirect vs direct heat: With direct heat grilling, food is placed directly over a source of high heat and the grill lid is usually left off. This is ideal for thin cuts

of meat, fillets, kabobs, and vegetables. Indirect heat is used for larger pieces of meat that take longer to cook like roasts, very thick steaks, and whole fish. Flip your food frequently! Why? Cooking meat at a high temperature causes chemicals called HCAs (heterocyclic amines) and PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) to form. Well-done burgers or charred hotdogs may increase your risk of developing pancreatic cancer by up to 60 percent, according to a University of Minnesota study. Flip frequently to reduce HCAs by 75 to 95 percent. **FEATURED RECIPE** Spicy Chipotle Grilled Shrimp Prep time: 15m Ready in: 50m **INGREDIENTS:** 3 gloves garlic, minced 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, chopped 1 lemon, juiced 1 tablespoon olive oil

1 tablespoon paprika 1 teaspoon chopped fresh cilantro 1 teaspoon kosher salt ½ teaspoon cracked black pepper ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper 2 pounds uncooked medium shrimp Wooden or metal skewers **INSTRUCTIONS:** Mix together the garlic, chipotle peppers, lemon juice, olive oil, paprika, cilantro, kosher salt, black pepper, red pepper flakes, and cayenne pepper in a bowl. Stir in the shrimp, and mix well to thoroughly coat. Marinate for 30 minutes in refrigerator. Preheat an outdoor grill for medium-high heat, and lightly oil the grate. Remove the shrimp from the marinade, and discard excess marinade. Thread about 5 shrimp per skewer, and grill on the preheated grill until the shrimp turn pink and opaque in the center, about 2 minutes per side.

MEDDAC Minute

Brandy Ostanik
Medical Department Activity – Alaska, Public Affairs

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

24 Hour Nurse Advice Line: 1-800-874-2273 Opt. 1 Appointment Line: 361-4000 Behavioral Health: 361-6059 Benefits Advisor: 361-5656 Immunizations: 361-5456 Information Desk: 361-5172 Patient Advocate: 361-5291 Pharmacy Refills: 361-5803 Referral Center: 361-1810 Tricare On-Line: www.tricareonline.com Health Net Federal Services: www.tricare-west.com, 1-844-866-9378

PERFORMANCE TRIAD TIP

School is out and the kids are ready to relax for the summer. Don’t let the summer pass in a blur of video games and watching television. Get out. Take a walk, join a sports league, have a family bike ride.

ARMY MEDICINE’S AMBASSADOR PROGRAM Subject matter experts from MEDDAC-AK are available to speak to Family Readiness Groups, units, organizations or clubs. To schedule a speaker on health care topics or programs offered through MEDDAC-AK, call 361-5091.

WALK-IN CLINIC Adult beneficiaries can utilize the Walk-in Clinic Nurse option when needing to be seen for strep throat screening, urinary tract infection screening, pregnancy testing, blood pressure monitoring, suture removal, wart removal and sexually transmitted disease checks. The clinic is open 0730 to 1130 and 1300 to 1530, Monday through Friday. For more information call 361-5833.

SAVE TIME AND TRAVEL WITH SECURE MESSAGING Want instant access to your healthcare team? Request an appointment, check labs, ask questions, get forms filled out and more. Scan the QR link or go to <https://app.relayhealth.com/Patients/Registration.aspx> to register. You will have access to your team within 1 business day.

EYE HEALTH Bassett ACH Optometry Clinic provides services to retirees and dependents. Anyone over the age of three is encouraged to schedule a comprehensive eye exam once a year for optimal eye health. To book an appointment, or for questions, call 361-5212.

TRICARE PHARMACY Tricare Online now offers an enhanced Prescription Refill service. Eligible

beneficiaries, who receive care at a military hospital or clinic, can access all active prescriptions with status information and receive email and text notifications for refill requests. Visit TOL Prescription Refill at www.tricareonline.com.

TRICARE ONLINE REMINDERS TRICARE makes it easy to receive a reminder for upcoming appointments. Beneficiaries who have their cell phone number in their TRICARE profile will receive a reminder text 48 hours and two hours prior to their appointment.

SAVE A TRIP TO THE ER Not sure if you need to come into the emergency room or make an appointment? Beneficiaries can all our Nurse Advice Line to talk to a registered nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week for advice about immediate health care needs. Call 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273.)

TOBACCO CESSATION Ready to quit tobacco? Let our tobacco cessation educators assist you. Classes are offered weekly at Preventive Medicine, in building 4077, for beneficiaries. Upcoming classes include May 19 and May 22, from 9 to 11 a.m. To register, or for more information on class content and future dates, call 361-4148.

SAFELY DISPOSE OF MEDICATIONS Bassett ACH is set to receive your expired or no longer needed medications through our MedSafe program during regular pharmacy hours. The MedSafe box is located inside the main entrance across from the information desk.

NEW SERVICE Did you know you can see a specialist right here at Bassett urinary incontinence, overactive bladder, pelvic organ prolapse and fecal incontinence WITHOUT a referral from your PCM? Call 361-4000, option 4, option 1, option 1 to request an appointment with Dr. Christa Lewis. Symptoms - 1. Stress Urinary Incontinence: leakage of urine with cough/laugh/sneeze/exercise 2. Overactive Bladder: urinary urgency, frequency, urgency incontinence; not being able to make it to the restroom in time 3. Pelvic Organ Prolapse: vaginal bulge/pressure/feeling like sitting on a ball. Noticing vaginal tissue at or beyond the vaginal opening 4. Fecal Incontinence: leakage of stool

FAMILY FUN RUN Join us for a family friendly 5K run/walk, starting at 10 a.m., on June 16 at Bassett Army Community Hospital to celebrate Men’s Health Month. With food trucks, giveaways and bounce house; it’s sure to be a hit with the entire family. Race day registration begins at 9 a.m., or register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/AK/FortWainwright/MensHealth5K>.

Weekly Financial Tips: Social events

Ryki Carlson
Survivor Outreach Services Support Coordinator

With the beginning of summer here, most of us get together with family and friends. Taking some time to plan ahead can keep those events stress free, even if they are impromptu. Whether you are hosting the event or not, planning can help stretch your food budget. Consider having a potluck cookout. If you are hosting the cookout, have everyone bring their favorite dish. This provides your guests with a variety of choices, saves you time, and reduces your expenses. Remember to ask about food allergies. Choose meat wisely. Since meat typically makes up the largest portion of your grocery budget, be selective on which kinds you choose for the main dish. Opt for cheaper cuts of meats and use marinades and rubs. Hamburgers and hot dogs are also a traditional favorite for everyone. Look for manager markdowns on meats nearing the expiration date to save anywhere from 30 to 60 percent then freeze them until your cookout. Make sure you check your grocery apps for additional savings. Make your own marinades and rubs. Pre-made marinades and rubs can be replicated or replaced. Check your pantry and spice rack to see your options. Search online for great recipes to match the ingredients you already have available. Plus as a bonus, you get bragging rights for making your own. Buy what’s on sale. Check your grocery app for sales and coupons. Planning your menu around discounted items will help you save a lot of money on food expenses. Cut your own fruit and veggies. Pre-cut foods like fruit and veggies are convenient and save time, however that convenience comes at a price usually 50 to 75 percent more.

Purchase local and in season foods. When preparing your menu look for recipes that use seasonal ingredients. By choosing food that is in season you get the freshest taste, you’ll also enjoy low prices since stores typically have sales on in-season produce. Don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone either. For instance, consider adding apples, berries, or melons to salad or consider grilling peaches or pears for dessert. Buy in bulk selectively. Purchasing barbecue foods essentials in bulk is often the smart way to save money when hosting a large group. However, not everything bought in large quantities is always the best deal, especially when it comes to perishable items that will spoil if you don’t consume them all. When purchasing in bulk, stick with non-perishables like condiments, canned veggies or even frozen foods. Meats are also a good bulk item since you can freeze the leftovers. Make it a BYOB. Even cheap beer and wine can get expensive when you are purchasing for a large group. Make it a BYOB affair; guests can drink what they like and you can save on alcohol costs. Consider making iced tea and homemade lemonade for kids and non-drinkers. Both of these cost a few cents a serving and a gallon can go long way. With lots of focus on being earth friendly, consider biodegradable products or reusable plates and silverware. You can compost your paper items in your backyard bin after your barbeque to help the environment.

Composting biodegradable plastics along with traditional biodegradable paper products and food wastes can turn into rich humic material, which can improve water and nutrient retention while helping grow healthier plants with less need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

ALASKA POST

The Interior Military News Connection

EDITORIAL STAFF

Garrison Commander
Col. Sean Fisher

Acting PAO/Command Information/Sr. Editor
Brian Schlumbohm

Community Relations/ Media Relations
Dani O’Donnell

Staff Writer/Editor
Daniel Nelson

Staff Writer/New Media
Brady Gross

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Fort Wainwright Police: 353-7535

History Snapshot: Igloo of Lost Souls, 1942

L. Amber Phillippe
Fort Wainwright Landscape
Historian

As part of the defensive buildup of the Alaska Territory a 300 acre parcel of land was withdrawn in 1941 by the military just north of Seward. Seward was targeted as a place of special interest because of its critical importance to the US strategically as it contained the terminus of the railroad, an ice free port, and was an accessible gateway to the rest of the territory year-round. Construction of Fort Raymond, as it became known, began in June 1941 with the stationing of 3,000 troops to the area. Practically overnight the town of Seward, which had previously boasted a modest of population of 949, swelled in size.

For the first six months of its existence Fort Raymond consisted of temporary tents only. Wooden barracks and Quonset huts would eventually be built, but in the meantime Soldiers had to make do with minimal gear and standard canvas tents that caught fire with alarming regularity. As one Soldier recalled, “there was one guy who all he did was patch tents.”

Working in, at times, sub-zero temperatures with little protection from the elements, or slogging through the muddy conditions, in others, the Soldiers at Fort Raymond were



instrumental to the defense of Alaska. Not only through their mission to protect Resurrection Bay and the railroad, but also through their labor. As one of the main access points to the Alaskan Interior, Seward received many of the construction materials slated for the building of Fort Richardson and Ladd Field.

After World War II, Fort Raymond was quickly abandoned and left vacant. For a while it served as a Tuberculosis Sanitarium and then, in 1950, was retaken by the Army and converted into what was then known as the Seward Fishing and Recreation Center before being given its current name; Seward Military Resort.

(Photo courtesy of Levi Ballard)

If you have any stories or photographs to share with the Cultural Resources Management program please call, (907) 361-9329 or email laurel.a.phillippe.ctr@mail.mil.

CIVILIANS

Continued from page 1

One of the great lessons I’ve learned as Commanding General of U.S. Army Installation Management Command is to value the diversity and contributions of Army civilians.

Before taking command of IMCOM and its 50,000 plus cohort of civilian professionals, I had little experience in leading or working alongside them. I was ambivalent about their role in making our Army ready. I had no appreciation for how vital their leadership is to the continuity and success of everything we do. Now, after witnessing the wisdom, dedication, technical expertise and professionalism of Army civilians in a personal way, I feel obliged to champion their service.

After visiting 80 installation communities around the world, I am as familiar with today’s

Army as anyone. It is clear to me that our Army could not do all of what it is expected to do without civilians in nearly every command, in some cases side-by-side in theater.

Civilian professionals provide foundational continuity in times of turbulence; design, test and field our weapon systems; play critical roles in supporting Soldiers and their Families; maintain our training facilities; and myriad other critical tasks that give Soldiers the freedom to focus on warfighting. Army civilians are integral to readiness, and a part of the team I have grown to accurately value and appreciate.

Can we improve the system? You bet, but we should not paint all Army civilians with the same brush based on limited experiences where a small number have made a

bad impression or had a negative impact. Detractors of employing civilians should think through the alternatives. Totally contractors? Have Soldiers do everything? These solutions are often more expensive and can negatively impact Army readiness in serious ways.

Army Civilians are probably the most efficient and effective way to sustain readiness. Their contributions are priceless; our nation simply cannot purchase their level of loyalty and commitment. They are part of the Army’s DNA.

I encourage more Army leaders to learn and understand this important truth sooner than I did.

ST. GEORGE PARISH
AN ANGLICAN CHAPEL COMMUNITY

WE ARE ANNOUNCING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW ANGLICAN PARISH COMMUNITY ON FORT WAINWRIGHT. ST. GEORGE PARISH IS A COMMUNITY OF AUTHENTIC CHRISTIANS FOCUSED ON WORSHIP, DISCIPLESHIP, AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE ANGLICAN TRADITION.

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
BEGINNING JUNE 3, 2018
11:30 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY *
SOUTHERN LIGHTS CHAPEL
(4107 8TH ST. FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA)

PARISH COMMUNITY LUNCH FOLLOWING SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

*PRIVATE CONFESSION IS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO THE SERVICE AND WEEKDAYS BY APPOINTMENT.

WHAT TO EXPECT? ANGLICAN WORSHIP IS ROOTED IN THE ANCIENT TWO-THOUSAND YEAR OLD TRADITIONS OF THE CHURCH. OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AND CALENDAR ARE GUIDED BY THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, THE VERY FIRST TRANSLATION AND ADAPTATION OF THE ANCIENT LITURGIES OF THE CHURCH INTO ENGLISH. OUR MUSIC REFLECTS THE BEST OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH FROM PSALMS AND CHANTS TO CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP. WE ARE A WELCOMING COMMUNITY WHO ARE SEEKING TO SERVE AND HONOR GOD WITH ALL OUR HEARTS, MINDS, AND SPIRITS, AND TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES. WE STRIVE TO GROW DEEPLY IN OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH AND TO BOTH BE TRANSFORMED BY GOD, AND TO BE A TOOL OF GOD’S TRANSFORMATION WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT FR. KENNETH GILLESPIE AT [KENNETH.GILLESPIE@ANGLICANCHAPLAINS.ORG](mailto:kenneth.gillespie@anglicanchaplains.org)

ESTATE NOTICE

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Pfc. Ruben Gonzalez, Alpha Troop, 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division may contact Capt. Coty Calvin, Summary Court Marshal officer, 5-1 CAV, 1-25th SBCT, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703. Contact by phone, at (765) 438-5824, or email, at coty.s.calvin.mil@mail.mil.

**Military
Crisis Line**
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Fort Wainwright Family & MWR

Weekly Events

May 25 – June 1

27

Boater Safety Course

May 27

9 a.m. to Noon, and 1 to 4 p.m.

Looking to use a motorized boat through ODR this summer? Then you'll need to attend the Boater Safety Course!

Outdoor Recreation Center, building 4050
Call 361-6349

28

Financial Readiness for In-Processing Soldiers

May 28

1 to 4:30 p.m.

Learn the skills needed for budgeting, savings, the Thrift Savings Plan and Blended Retirement System. This class is mandatory for all incoming Soldiers.

Army Community Service, building 3401
Call 353-4369

31

Read and Roll

May 31

1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Meet up with the Post Library at the Nugget Lanes Bowling Center for Read and Roll, where we discover the fun in reading, bowling, and pizza from the snack bar!

Nugget Lanes Bowling Center, building 3702
Call 353-2642

1

Youth Sports & Fitness Registration Begins

June 1 through 29

Summer is just getting started, and so is the Youth Sports & Fitness Fall Registration period! The season runs July 30 through September 29, and will include Flag Football, Soccer, Archery, Fat Tire Biking, Cheerleading, and Rock Climbing. The hardest part will be choosing a sport!

Youth Sports & Fitness, building 1045 basement
Call 353-7713

1

USAG Alaska Summer Concert with Kellie Pickler and Waka Flocka

June 1

5 to 9 p.m.

Are you ready for the biggest event of the summer? Come on out for the USAG Alaska Summer Concert with Kellie Pickler and Waka Flocka! We'll have food trucks, yard games, and of course, the main event with Kellie Pickler and Waka Flocka, hosted by comedian Ronnie Jordan.

Visit www.wainwright.armymwr.com for parking and access information to Chena Bend Clubhouse, and to find out how you can attend the after party at the Warrior Zone!

Please note that Fort Wainwright Family and MWR facilities will have updated hours for the holiday weekend.

Summer CONCERT
USAG ALASKA • FORT WAINWRIGHT
June 1, 2018
5-9 pm
HOSTED BY COMEDIAN
★ RONNIE JORDAN ★
Chena Bend Clubhouse & Golf Course
FREE ADMISSION

Sponsors: NISSAN, MAC, SUBWAY, NORTH RIDGE, THE ODOM CORPORATION, SODA LIGHT, and others.

DEEP SEA FISHING CHARTERS

Learn more about the exciting and rewarding fishing charters available through Seward Military Resort at www.wainwright.armymwr.com

Eielson Air Force Base

IN BRIEF

FINANCE TIP

Ensure your travel voucher is completed as soon as possible upon return from a TDY or deployment.

NUTRITIONAL TIP

Set a good example. Focus on each other at the table. Talk about fun and happy things at mealtime. Turn off the television and take phone calls/texts later.

MOTHER’S DAY BREAKFAST

The Yukon Club staff is offering a Mother’s Day Breakfast May 13 from 9 a.m. to noon. Enjoy a delicious breakfast that you don’t have to clean up from! There will be food choices ranging from omelets, breakfast meats, pancakes and more! Children 4 years and younger are free! Cost varies for ages 5 to adult. Please call 377-5219 for more information.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Eielson AFB Library’s Summer Reading Program begins June 7, and will continue through July 28. This program is open to all ages and registration begins June 7. Please call 377-3174 for more information.

OUTDOOR RECREATION SUMMER RESERVATIONS

Book your summer escape with Outdoor Recreation! Bear Lake Family Camp and Birch Lake, and Valdez are now open for summer reservations. Call 377-1232 to make yours! Don’t miss out on the summer fun!

CLEP TEST PREP

Are you preparing to take a CLEP (college level placement test) to earn credits toward your CCAF? The Eielson Library holds CLEP Prep every Wednesday at 10 a.m. You can take a practice test before your real one, with immediate results! Space is limited, so call ahead, or call for questions at 377-3174.

PIANO LESSONS

Piano lessons are available at the Eielson City Center. If you or your child have ever wanted to learn to play piano, now’s your chance! Call 377-2642 for more information and to sign up for lessons.

STORYTIME AT THE LIBRARY

The Eielson library holds story time every Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. for children 5 years old and younger. Come out and enjoy listening to themed story’s read by the Library staff or volunteers! Call 377-3174 for more information.

MEDICAL GROUP OFFERS SLEEP ENHANCEMENT CLASS

The 354th Medical Group provides sleep enhancement education classes on Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. The class is four weeks long and begins the first Tuesday of every month. For any questions or to register for the class, please call 377-6354.

EIELSON CHAPEL SERVICES

The Eielson Air Force Base Chapel team offers a variety of services. Your Chaplain Corps offers Catholic and Protestant worship services each week and our multi-faith worship center can support the needs of other faith groups. For more information, call us at 377-2130.

Catholic Community:

Religious Formation, 9 a.m., Sundays
Catholic Mass, 10:30 a.m., Sundays
Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Protestant Community:

Contemporary Service, 9 a.m., Sundays
Kids Church, 9 a.m., Sundays
AWANA, 4 to 6 p.m., Sundays
Jr./Sr. High Youth Service, 6 p.m., Wednesdays

RED FLAG

Continued from page 1

A bearded German crew member from the weapons team keys the microphone with his foot and relays the details of a nascent threat to a friendly fighter, like an offensive coordinator spotting a hole in the defense. Minutes pass and the radio chatter continues. New targets are being spotted with greater frequency now, the scopes overflowing with enemy aircraft. And then the call happens; the first bogey is down. But this is no time to rejoice, as the air war rages on with increasing ferocity.

What makes the E-3A such a valuable component in the fight? The answer is that it’s able to identify and track aircraft from a long range with the massive radome mounted atop the jet.

Capt. Noel Conrard, an air battle manager, makes this comparison: ”Fighter jets are like looking through a straw, whereas the E-3A is able to gather information like water running through a firehouse.”

The raw signals from the radome get piped into a useable computer interface on the scopes and screens that comprise the mission crew section. With this real time knowledge in hand, the weapons crew is then able to funnel this information down to the fighter jets, providing them enhanced situational awareness of both air and ground threats.

The NATO E-3A mission at RED FLAG-Alaska might sound simple: mitigate the losses of fighter jets from unreported ground and air threats. But the execution of this goal is anything but easy, as it requires the coordinated efforts of a multinational team—15 of the 28 NATO member nations are represented—working in near harmony between the flight deck and mission crew.

The most senior members of the mission crew have been working on the NATO E-3A for 30 years, while the most junior members have been assigned for a year or less. Yet all of these nationalities, backgrounds and experience levels are able to meld their skillsets and cultural idiosyncrasies into a cohesive team, a team that delivers responsive airborne early warning, battle management and command and control to its operational commanders.

“It starts with good training and having everyone working toward a common goal,” said Staff Sgt. Ryan Goll, a radar technician. “Once you’re qualified on that position you know ‘this is my role.’ So it’s a combination of the training and doing we what we do everyday that makes it work seamlessly.”

Maj. Gary Axley, the Deployment Commander for NATO AWACS at RED FLAG-Alaska, attributed the successful multinational environment to old fashioned mission preparation. “We spend a lot of time together in the simulator and training in the air. But exercises like Red Flag really push our situational awareness and ability to react in a high ops tempo.”

Another reason the E-3A is able to provide effective command and control is through their use of “contracts” amongst the aircrew. With such a wide-ranging team at the tactical director’s disposal, “contracts” is how they ensure everyone knows what they’re responsible for in the heat of battle. “These contracts are so we know how to react in certain



Spanish Air Force Master Sgt. Ignacio Martinez, a surveillance operator assigned to NATO Flying Squadron Two based in Geilenkirchen, Germany, monitors surveillance scopes during a training sortie over the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, Alaska May 7, 2018. RED-FLAG Alaska is hosted by Eielson Air Force Base and serves as a platform for training with other U.S. military services as well as international allies and partners. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla)

situations,” said Axley. “Everyone knows what we are doing and when it gets really busy we just know what needs to be done.”

The crew of the E-3A Component flew more than 4,000 miles from their home station in Geilenkirchen, Germany to attend Eielson’s first Red Flag of 2018 and they were pleased with the training scenarios that awaited them.

“We want this integration piece and combined command and control with different assets,” said 1st Lt. Bodo Walle, FA Fighter Allocator. “With our standing tasking in Europe, it’s mainly small aircraft control without having all these assets being integrated. That was our training focus here and our main benefit for participating in Red Flag-Alaska.”

A large part of the NATO E-3A mission is to provide surveillance in eastern Europe, but at RED FLAG-Alaska they are able to fully employ the aircraft’s unique mission sets.

“When we are at home station [training] it’s like a backyard football scrimmage; we just don’t have as many players,” said Conrard. “But at a large force exercise like RED FLAG-Alaska, it’s like playing on a regular sized football field. We execute different tactics and integrate with more assets. It allows the E-3 to be used to the fullest extent of its capabilities.”

RED FLAG-Alaska provides the type of training that is only replicable in real-life combat situations.

“It’s a really good example of the air-to-air component,” said Goll. “Tracking enemy fighters and actually getting our communications gear jammed. This is more than your typical sortie or exercise; Red-Flag is the most realistic training you’re going to get.”

When all of these factors are combined with the sheer square mileage of the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex—which is about the size of Florida—NATO’s E-3A is afforded the opportunity to “train the way you fight” in case they are ever called upon to engage in a real world contingency or operation.

The final piece that allows the aircrew to perform their mission is the high level of camaraderie amongst all of its personnel. “The opportunity to work with our NATO military partners from so many backgrounds is fantastic,” said Capt. Joe Dougherty, an E-3A Pilot. “The thing that makes an assignment is the people and having the chance to work with all the NATO partners is a once in a lifetime experience.”

And after the air boss comes over the radio to conclude the fictitious battle for the morning, the tactical director begins to clear off and dismiss the assigned scopes and sections, powering down the computers as the E-3A makes its way back toward Eielson. A Belgium crew member walks past a U.S. service member, fist bumping him on the way by. “Nice job out there today,” he says, “You did really well.” They exchange a courteous nod and smile.

FORT WAINWRIGHT IN BRIEF

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY SEEDLING GIVEAWAY

Environmental will be giving away FREE seedlings for Arbor Day. There is a limit of 2 seedlings per family. The event is open to all personnel. At the Environmental Division building 3023, May 29, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call 361-9195. Seedlings will be: Late Lilac, Manchurian Crabapple, Rose Tree of China and Saskatoon Serviceberry.

VETERANS CAN SHOP ONLINE EXCHANGE

The Exchange, the Department of Defense’ oldest and largest military retailer opens to all honorably discharged Veterans of all United States Armed Forces: Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard as well as the Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve and National Guard with a lifelong, online military exchange shopping benefit. Find out more, at <https://www.shopmyexchange.com/veterans>.

SEASONAL FIRE HYDRANT FLUSHING

Beginning the week of May 21, Doyon Utilities will begin the seasonal flushing of water mains on Fort Wainwright. Fire hydrants on post will be opened and flushed to scour the pipes and refresh the water distribution systems, insuring quality drinking water for our customers. Flushing will occur daily between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday thru Friday, from May 22 until June 29. Customers may notice some intermittent discoloration in the water which is not harmful and should clear up quickly during the flushing process. If you have any questions regarding this schedule or problems with the water service that doesn’t clear up, call 455-1571. Doyon Utilities would like feedback on its performance of utility-related services. Take a moment to tell us about you experience with Doyon Utilities by completing the Customer Outreach Survey found at <http://doyonutilities.com>.

Celebrate National Trails Day in Denali National Park, June 2

Katherine Belcher
Public Information Officer Denali National Park and Preserve

Have you ever wondered how much work goes into maintaining trails in Denali National Park? Join us in celebrating National Trails Day and working on the trail system near the Riley Creek Day Use Area and the Triple Lakes Trail.

Volunteers will assist the trail crew lop, cut and haul brush and perform routine maintenance. Volunteers may choose from a variety of projects ranging from easy to difficult, depending on skill and comfort levels. This is a great opportunity to learn how trails are built and maintained in a sub-arctic environment and enjoy a beautiful area that provides habitat for a variety of wildlife. Participants should expect a moderate hike between two and four miles over uneven terrain.

The trail crew will meet volunteers. June 2, 9 a.m. at the Riley Creek Day Use Area, located near the park entrance. Participants should bring a daypack with water, lunch, snacks and clothing layers, including rain gear. The NPS will provide tools and safety equipment. Volunteers should return to the parking lot by 2 p.m.

Every volunteer will receive thank-you gifts and each adult will receive a bus voucher for a future bus ride into the park. Volunteers who need to stay

overnight may request a wall tent in the park’s administrative camp or a campsite in Riley Creek Campground. To request overnight accommodations, or for additional event details, contact the Denali National Park Volunteer Office at 907-683-9504.

National Trails Day is the kickoff for a variety of volunteer events scheduled in the park this summer. The “Dandelion Demolition” to dig up invasive exotic plants will be June 23 and “Need for Seed” (collecting native seeds for future restoration projects) will be August 11.

The Denali Visitor Center is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can obtain information by calling 907-683-9532 or online at www.nps.gov/dena.



(Photo courtesy, Denali National Park and Preserve)

Pacific General’s visits Alaska, Eielson AFB



U.S. Air Force Gen. Terrance O’Shaughnessy, Pacific Air Forces commander, coins Staff Sgt. Brenard Beamon, a public health technician assigned to the 354th Medical Group, during a commander’s call at Eielson Air Force Base (AFB), Alaska May 11, 2018. During the visit, O’Shaughnessy spoke about the state of the Pacific theatre and how Eielson AFB fits into the PACAF and Pacific Command missions. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Isaac Johnson)

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