

Secretary of the Air Force visits Eielson Airmen, flies with Aggressors

Senior Airman Isaac Johnson
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson visited with Airmen from 354th Fighter Wing Aug. 10 at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

Wilson spoke to Airmen, civilians and families during a town hall about the new National Defense Strategy and the importance of being prepared for the high-end fight.

“Being able to compete, deter and win in highly contested environments will be a change for all of us,” said Wilson. “For nearly the last 30 years we have been focused on fighting violent extremism in an environment where we controlled the high ground. So we have to reorient our preparation for the future fight.”

During the town hall she conveyed some of the steps that will be taken to prepare the Air Force for the battles of tomorrow.

“We currently have 301 pacing squadrons; these are fighters, bombers, space or cyber squadrons,” said Wilson. “Congress has directed us to submit a report to them next March detailing how many we

need to execute the NDS. Over the coming months you will see the Air Force Chief of Staff and I talking about the force we need.”

While at Eielson, Wilson had the unique opportunity to fly with the 18th Aggressors Squadron and see the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex. The JPARC is one of the largest aerial training ranges in the Department of Defense.

“The airspace in Alaska is like no place else in the world where we can train our pilots, as well as our joint and international partners,” said Col. Benjamin Bishop, 354th Fighter Wing commander. “Showing Secretary Wilson the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex helps her to understand our mission here at Eielson and why interior Alaska is so strategic for our military.”

The secretary also met with civilian leaders from the Fairbanks North Star Borough to discuss how Eielson and their military community collaborate together.

“We greatly value our neighbors and depend on their support to accomplish our mission,” said Bishop.

Wilson also talked about the five major objectives for the



The Honorable Heather A. Wilson, the Secretary of the Air Force, gives a thumbs-up before her flight in an 18th Aggressor Squadron F-16 Fighting Falcon, Aug. 10, 2018, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. Wilson flew with an 18th AGRS pilot over part of the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, which is one of the largest training areas in the Department of Defense. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric M. Fisher, 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

Air Force: restoring readiness of the force, cost effectively modernize, drive innovation, develop exceptional leaders and

strengthening our alliances. “We are still the preeminent air power in the world and no one should have any doubt

of the result of taking on the United States Air Force,” said Wilson. “We are every countries best friend and worst enemy.”

Security and safety, practicing operational security

Capt. David Flickinger
59th Signal Battalion

A thoughtless tap on a touchscreen or a quick click of the mouse can lead to workplace disruption, injury, and even death. The ability to post information, pictures, and videos from anywhere at any time plays a significant role in the security of your co-workers, loved ones, and our nation’s defenders.

It isn’t always easy to know what is and isn’t important. Some examples of critical information include time and locations of unit deployments, security procedures,

and images of damaged equipment. Even posting pictures in uniform or with badges showing can be harmful.

Most posts reveal too much because we want to share our experiences with others, however, an adversary can use the information against us. Think, Type, Post is a social media campaign intended to heighten awareness when using Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other social media applications. This social media campaign can be a helpful tool to vet content before posting.

What may seem to be a harmless post, can be combined



with other shared posts on the internet to give useful information to the adversary. Each post is like a puzzle piece that an adversary can put together to form a dangerous picture. Even a partial picture can be harmful in the wrong hands.

Department of Defense employees as well as their family

See OPSEC on page 3

Hazardous Waste Program helps units comply with environmental laws

Kat Gannon
Hazardous Waste Program manager

The Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division provides environmental guidance and support services to those who live, work, and train on the Installation. One of the Division’s goals is to simplify compliance with complex and changing environmental requirements by implementing technologies that improve readiness, provide a health benefit, and are good for the environment.

The Division’s Compliance Branch has several programs that help Soldiers stay mission ready while complying with environmental requirements. One of those is the Hazardous Waste Program.

See AEROVENT on page 2

President signs National Defense Authorization Act, with 2.6 percent pay raise for troops

David Vergun
Army News Service

President Donald J. Trump signed the fiscal year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act -- which provides for a 2.6 percent pay raise for troops, the highest increase in nine years -- as well as a 3.4 percent increase for basic allowance for subsistence and a 2.9 percent increase for basic allowance for housing.

Trump signed the NDAA Monday at Fort Drum, New York, surrounded by troops from the 10th Mountain Division.

The president said the NDAA is the “largest defense spending increase in a generation.”

The NDAA calls for funding that will provide for an additional 4,000 Soldiers. The funding is also expected to replace aging vehicles like Abrams tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and fund the new Joint Light Tactical Vehicle, Trump noted.

He told assembled Soldiers: “You’re not just tough, you’re mountain tough, you’re mountain proud, and you’re mountain strong, ever climbing to glory.”

The 10th Mountain Division has deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan more times than any other division, Trump commented. In fact, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team will be headed to Afghanistan later this year, he said.

Trump recognized several personnel of the 10th Mountain Division, including Ashley Shepherd, wife of 1st Sgt. Ian

Shepherd, who has been doing volunteer work like feeding homeless veterans and supporting Army Families and Gold Star mothers through fundraising.

Also recognized was Spc. Brad Cook, who received a Bronze Star Medal for valor after rescuing an Afghan soldier injured by an IED, despite heavy enemy mortar and small arms fire.

See DEFENSE on page 2

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday

Cloudy with a high of 63 degrees and a low of 49.

Saturday

Partly cloudy with a high of 66 degrees and a low of 44.

Sunday

Partly cloudy with a high of 68 degrees and a low of 51.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY KEEP WATCH FOR KIDS

School has started. Please be aware when approaching or passing school buses during morning and evening hours. Red flashing lights mean stop.

AEROVENT

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Hazardous waste practices are governed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Some often used materials such as used aerosol cans are a regulated hazardous waste and must be managed in accordance with the RCRA from their point of generation to disposal (i.e. cradle to grave). The EPA cited multiple facilities on Fort Wainwright in 2015 for mismanaging spent aerosol cans and a project was developed to eliminate this compliance risk and related penalties.

The Hazardous Waste Program has issued or will issue Aerovent systems to most military and civilian and some contractor unit that use products in aerosol cans. The purpose of the Aerovent system is to manage the spent cans at the unit level in a way that makes it safer and easier for the user, removing the propellant and any product residue in a drum with a filter and a gasket-tight lid. Without the residue in the aerosol cans, they are no longer reactive if placed too close to a heat source. And the newly punctured can is converted to recyclable scrap metal while the liquid residue is captured in the metal drum, protected from heat and sparks. The project has been well received and is in place at over forty facilities on Fort Wainwright right now.

These disposal systems reduce the risk

of personal exposure to toxic vapors, reduce the risk of releases to the environmental, and save money by converting hazardous waste to a recyclable material, preventing necessary fees for hazardous waste disposal. Additional benefits include a reduction in hazardous waste being generated and units having fewer EPA regulations to follow, resulting in more time to be mission ready. This is a win-win situation for all involved

The units that process fewer aerosol cans will receive the Aerovent 1 system, allowing them to puncture one can at a time, while units producing more volume will receive the Aerovent 3 which allows them to puncture 1, 2, or 3 aerosol cans at a time.

Next on the list of projects to be launched from the Hazardous Waste Program is antifreeze recycling at motor pools and additional training to ensure unit personnel fully understand the use of the equipment and the Standard Operating Procedures provided by the Environmental Division.

These projects are undertaken in connection with the settlement of an administrative enforcement action taken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Adherence to these new practices will help ensure future fines are avoided and more funding can be used by the units for training.

MEDDAC Minute

Brandy Ostanik
Medical Department Activity – Alaska, Public Affairs

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency: 911
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

Optimizing your performance and health can be just as challenging as an obstacle course or any special skills qualifying course. It too, can be conquered. Make a plan, write it down, share it with a friend, and you will be more successful in achieving your goals.

A GREAT PLACE TO WORK

MEDDAC-AK has job openings for both clinical and non-clinical positions here at Fort Wainwright. To view job openings go to www.usajobs.gov.

ANIMALS NEED LOVE TOO

The Fort Wainwright Veterinary Treatment Facility is available for wellness visits and basic sick call visits 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. To schedule an appointment or for more information on services, call 361-3013.

BILLING QUESTIONS

The Uniform Business Office located at Bassett ACH is here to assist you with any billing questions you may have. UBO bills patients and insurance accompanies for medical and dental services provided. To ensure your private sector insurance is properly billed, please ensure your information is correct in DEERS and submit your insurance information at your next appointment. For questions regarding billing call 361-5343.

NEED LAB RESULTS?

No need to come into Bassett ACH or call into your provider. You can get lab results, schedule medication refills, schedule appointments and more through TRICARE Online. Go to www.tricare.mil to log in or create an account.

WELLNESS CENTER APPOINTMENTS

The Fort Wainwright Wellness Center is open for appointments. With health assessments, nutrition information, stress management services and physical fitness programs beneficiaries will find tools to take small but important steps to a healthier future. To make an appointment or to inquire about services call 361-2234.

ANONYMOUS OR NOT

Sometimes being anonymous is not a good thing. When filling out Interactive Customer Evaluation forms, leaving contact information helps us to better serve our beneficiaries. Many times the issue is something we can easily fix, but without contact information we are not able to remedy the situation. Giving us a name and number allows us to contact the beneficiary and correct the problem on the spot.

SAVE A TRIP TO THE ER

Not sure if you need to come into the emergency room or make an appointment? Beneficiaries can call 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).

DEFENSE

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PASSAGE OF THE FY19 NDAA

An Army press release, dated Aug. 3, praised the congressional passage of the act, leading up to the signing:

“The Department of the Army applauds the swift passage of the [FY19 NDAA], which authorizes a budget that supports the Army’s vision, resources our modernization initiatives and priorities, allows us to continue to increase the readiness and lethality of the force, and postures the Army to meet the requirements of the National Defense Strategy,” the release says.

The \$148 billion portion of the budget will support an increase of active duty end strength by 4,000, support the establishment of Army Futures Command, restore decisive action readiness and improve “our aging equipment fleets,” while “improving hiring practices for childcare services at

military childcare centers and assessing the impacts of permanent changes of station on the employment of military spouses,” the release states.

The funding includes upgrades for AH-64E Apache, UH-60M Black Hawk and CH-47F Chinook helicopters, as well as upgrades to Abrams tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles.

The budget also includes the purchase of hundreds of MSE and Javelin missiles and thousands of 155mm artillery projectiles, much of which will support the missions in Europe.

Of particular note, much of the Army’s \$10.2 billion will be focused on the Army’s six modernization priorities: long-range precision fires, a next generation combat vehicle, future vertical lift, network improvements, air and missile defense, and Soldier lethality, said Davis

S. Welch, deputy director of the Army Budget, when the Army’s budget request was first made public in February.

Secretary of Defense James Mattis weighed in on the NDAA’s passage, as reported in an Aug. 1 Defense Department news release, saying he was grateful for the bipartisan effort that moved the bill through Congress.

“Together, they have demonstrated the deep and abiding bipartisan support our military enjoys,” he said. “It is now our duty to implement these policies responsibly and ensure a culture of performance and accountability.”

While the NDAA was signed, an appropriations bill must also be passed before the Army can move on new budget expenditures.

Weekly Financial Tips: College

Ryki Carlson
Survivor Outreach Services Support Coordinator

With fall arriving, many students are making the transition from high school to college or the military. Adapting to college or even the military life provides lessons, including handling money. Here are some ideas to help make students and new military members more responsible with money.

Understanding your cost of living. Make a list of your mandatory expenses and prioritize them. This includes such items as rent, utilities, transportation, groceries, parking, school supplies, debt repayment, and student activity fees. Mark on a calendar items that do not reoccur monthly, such as oil changes and car registration so these items get included in that month’s budget. Every month does not have the same expenses; ensure you evaluate your budget monthly. Once you identify your needs, you can create a discretionary fund and savings plan for wants. Sites to assist you with budgeting are www.mint.com or www.saveandinvest.org.

Give yourself an allowance. Put yourself on an allowance for things like entertainment, eating out, clothing and vacations (this includes weekend excursions). Make use of your student/military ID to save money on shows, sporting events and transportation. Remember to ask for the discount to help you stay within budget. Use coupons or apps to help you save money.

Organize your receipts. Keep your debit card receipts, bank statements and bills all in one location. An easy way

to do this is with an accordion folder. Organize them by month or expense. Ensure you keep these in a safe place to deter identity theft. Take the time to review your bank statements carefully to identify unknown charges, incorrect amounts, and fees.

Understanding your debt load. Student loans aside, there are other ways to get into debt. Credit card companies target students and young military members, most are inexperienced with unsecured debt. If you choose to get a credit card, understand the terms and conditions. Make note of the payment date, always pay on time, and pay at least the minimum due.

Become frugal and look for creative ways to save money.

Transportation
Consider carpooling, public transportation, or even biking as a means of transportation.

Food
Make sure you review the local advertisements for sales and look for electronic coupons for the items on your grocery list.

Stay within your budget. Bring lunches, drinks, and snacks from home; this not only helps keep costs down, but will help you monitor what you eat as well.

Get your Wi-Fi for free. Visit www.wififreespot.com to eliminate the extra expense of internet just ensure you have a VPN, which lets you access the web safely and privately by routing your connection through a server and hiding your online actions.

Working out. Use the campus or base facilities to work out instead of paying for a fitness center membership.

Textbooks
Borrow books. Once you know what books you need, see if any of your friends already have them. Check the local library for the books, you can renew them a couple of times and pay late fees if the semester runs long (this is still cheaper than paying hundreds of dollars for books).
Buying on what you need at www.cengagebrain.com. Students can purchase a full electronic college textbook for half the price of a new hard

copy. You can also choose to buy only the chapters you need for a small price.
Buy your textbooks secondhand or online. Check out the following sites to help reduce textbook costs: www.chepesttextbooks.com, www.biblio.com/textbooks, www.directtextbook.com, or www.campusbooks.com. Remember to use discount codes to reduce this expense even further.

ALASKA POST

The Interior Military News Connection

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The Chaplain’s Corner

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Paul Fritts
Fort Greely

Since the emergence of social media and smart phones, words – along with many of the thoughts they represent – are more of a cheap commodity than ever. Many of us have laboriously fluffed our writing assignments in order to meet a minimum (and probably arbitrary) word count. In my own experience, that process has only occasionally resulted in meaningfully shoring up a thesis.

In 1966, French author and philosopher Michel Foucault wrote *The Order of Things: An Archaeology of the Human Sciences* in which he claimed: “Words wander off on their own, without content; they are no longer the mark of things, the profound kinship of language with the world is thus dissolved.” It’s true that words do “wander” off on their own because language is fluid – it’s constantly changing.

I’m less certain that words are “no

longer the mark of things.” I think that words in 2018 probably just mark different things than what the same words did in 1966. Moreover, the kinship between language and the world has, in my opinion, evolved rather than dissolved. Words “without content,” that are no longer tethered to the ideas they are meant to represent, is another way of describing a misrepresentation, or a lie. That remains just as true today.

The advent of cyber bullying has put to rest the childhood maxim of “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.” You may remember that just over a year ago, Michelle Carter was convicted of involuntary manslaughter because she “encouraged” her boyfriend to kill himself via her text messages to him. Words can and do hurt. This may be why the Bible’s sacred words have so much to say about how we use words.

James 3:6 says: “The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts

of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.” A single tweet or careless click of “Reply All” in an email can virtually set the whole course of one’s life, and the lives of others, on fire – especially when the words are without content and the intent of their author is merely to light a fire and take pleasure in watching lives burn.

The Bible gives us a better way: “Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you” (Ephesians 4:31-32). As a Christian, I’m responsible for ensuring that the content of the words I speak and write is loving, truthful, and intended to heal and build others up. May your words also be a powerful force for good.

The Fort Greely Chapel community is open and accessible to everyone in the



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Paul Fritts

Delta Junction/Fort Greely community -- even non-military. We are a traditional, protestant Army chapel service that offers weekly Communion. If you’d like to check us out, please call or text 203-600-9874 or email paul.d.fritts.mil@mail.mil. You can also “Like” our chapel Facebook page by searching “Fort Greely Chapel” or use your web browser to go to <https://www.facebook.com/FGAChapel>.

For God and Country,
Chaplain Fritts

U.S. ARMY GARRISON ALASKA NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Tanana Flats Winter Trail Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact

The Army announces the availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) that analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of a winter trail in the Tanana Flats Training Area (TFTA).

Environmental Impacts were analyzed for two action alternatives: (1) Proposed Action (constructing and operating the winter trail), and (2) the No Action Alternative. The Proposed Action offers a safe and consistent means of accessing the Tanana Flats Training Area during winter months in order to facilitate training missions and logistical support.

The project-specific analysis provided in the EA describes potential environmental impacts from the selection of the Proposed Action.

This EA demonstrates that the Proposed Action would not significantly impact the environment and supports a FNSI. Consequently, an environmental impact statement is not needed.

Copies of the EA and Draft FNSI are available for review beginning on July 18, 2018, which marks the beginning of a 30-day public comment period. The EA and Draft FNSI are also available for review at the Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, AK as well,

at <https://www.wainwright.army.mil/index.php/about/environmental/nationalenvironmental-policy-act-nepa>.

Written comments on the EA and Draft FNSI must be received no later than August 18, 2018.

Please submit comments to Mr. Matthew Sprau, Directorate of Public Works, Attn: IMFW-PWE (Sprau), 1046 Marks Road, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, 99703, fax: (907) 361-9867; or by email: matthew.h.sprau.civ@mail.mil.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Mr. Brian Schlumbohm, Public Affairs Office, 1060 Gaffney Road, 5900, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703; telephone (907) 353-6779, email: brian.w.schlumbohm.civ@mail.mil.

20th
Year

*Please bring:
Veteran ID, DD214
VA Card, ETC...

*If attending the VA
Claims Clinic, please
bring your medical
records.

Saturday Services

Medical, Dental and
Optometry screening.
VA Claims Clinic.
Blood tests. Legal, Tax,
VA Benefits, VOC Rehab,
Employment, Housing, Acupuncture,
Massage, Hair Cuts,
Door Prizes, Entertainment,
and MORE!

★★★

STAND DOWN

★★★

Friday Aug 17

Clothing Distribution
1pm to 6pm
Homeless,
Close to Homeless
Veterans Only

Saturday Aug 18

Free Information
and Services
7:30am to 3pm
Open to all Veterans
Breakfast & Lunch

Located at the Pioneer Park Civic Center

Call 479. 7940 for questions or information.

OPSEC

Continued from page 1

members are considered targets of opportunity by information predators. It is never safe to assume that the information you share will only be used for good. If you would not send the information on a post card, don’t post the information on the internet.

Even friends or acquaintances can abuse the information that you share. It is important to consider who

your information is for before posting a comment or speaking in an open environment. Ensuring that only those who need to know can get to the information you share is another way to practice good security. This can be accomplished by sending a private message rather than posting public information.

Preventing adversaries from gathering important information, can be as simple as choosing not to talk about a topic. Other steps include not discussing critical information in public places,

on personal cell phones, and in personal e-mails. Many mobile phones and tablets automatically geotag posts and images. This feature is often referred to as a location based service and can be turned off in the device or application settings.

To access location settings on the Facebook app select the menu button on the top right, the button is represented by three horizontal lines stacked on top of each other. Then tap Settings & Privacy followed by selecting the Settings button. Scroll down and open Location.

On this page you will be able to customize your locations settings for Facebook.

The army offers several resources to inform and guide you in proper use of critical information. The Army Social Media page at www.army.mil/socialmedia has many helpful tips with additional links to policy.

While the mantra loose lips sink ships seems archaic, the phrase is possibly more relevant than it has ever been. The information you post can be seen within seconds

by anyone with access to the internet and therefore it is even more important to secure your knowledge.

RED FLAG-Alaska 18-3 commences



Royal Canadian Air Force CF-18 Hornets sit on the flight line during Red Flag-Alaska 18-3, August 9, 2018, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. RF-A takes place in the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex, which is one of the largest aerial training ranges in the world with approximately 65,000 square miles of airspace. (Photo by Airman Aaron Guerrisky, 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

Airman Aaron Guerrisky
354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

RED FLAG-Alaska 18-3, a Pacific Air Forces-sponsored exercise designed to provide realistic training in a simulated combat environment begins Aug. 9 and continues through Aug. 24, 2018.

Flight operations will be located over the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex. The JPARC has a total airspace of more than 67,000 square miles over Alaska and a portion of Western Canadian airspace. “For Red Flag-Alaska 18-3, we have participants from some of our closest allies, Australia, Great Britain and Canada,” said Col. Shawn Anger, the 354th Fighter Wing vice commander.

“Additionally we have almost all of our joint partners with participants from the U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Corps.” Since its start as COPE THUNDER in 1976, thousands of people from all four branches of the U.S. Military have participated in RF-A. “RF-A is a truly unique opportunity where participants from across the U.S. military branches and allied

services get a chance to learn from each other while also training our newest wingmen for combat,” said Maj. Nicholas Haussler, the 353rd Combat Training Squadron director of operations. More than 100 aircraft will be based at and fly from Eielson Air Force Base and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

Weekly Events

August 17 – 24

18 **Chena River Full-Day Float**
August 18
10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

We make floating the Chena River convenient for you! Whether you want to raft, kayak, or canoe down the Chena River, Outdoor Recreation will be waiting for you at your take-out point. Check out a watercraft from ODR and we'll shuttle you up to the Nordale Road put-in. From there, take your time floating back to ODR's landing area.

Outdoor Recreation Center, building 4050
Call 361-6349, reservations recommended

20 **POUND Fitness Class**
August 20
5:15 to 6 p.m.

Channel your inner rockstar with this full body cardio-jam session inspired by the infectious, energizing, and sweat-dripping fun of playing the drums.

Physical Fitness Center, building 3709
Call 353-7223

20 **Youth Sports Winter Season Registration**
August 20
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Get your kids involved in the sports and fitness world! During the winter season, Youth Sports & Fitness offers basketball, swimming, cheer, wrestling, s well as Pee Wee cheer and basketball. Register through Parent Central Services.

Parent Central Services, building 1049 #2
Call 353-7713, registration required

23 **B.O.S.S. Life Skills: Vehicle Winterization**
August 23
1 to 3 p.m.

Having your vehicle winterized is a necessity in Interior Alaska. You can do it yourself with just a few pointers.

This class will focus on the additional parts that need to be installed in order to ensure that your vehicle runs properly in the cold winter months. Must be a B.O.S.S. eligible Solder to participate, and must register ahead of time.

Automotive Skills Center, building 3730
Call 353-7648, registration required

24 **Valdez for Silvers**
August 24 through 26

Head to Valdez for some amazing Silver Salmon fishing. Silvers are not only fun to catch, but also make for a delicious meal!

Outdoor Recreation Center, building 4050
Call 361-6349, reservations required

ARMY
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STREET FIGHTER V

SATURDAY

AUGUST 25, 1 PM

FORT WAINWRIGHT
WARRIOR ZONE

REGISTER AT THE WARRIOR ZONE

AUGUST 24, 12 PM - 3 PM

AUGUST 25, 9 AM - 12 PM

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ACTIVE DUTY SOLDIERS

For more information, visit wainwright.armymwr.com

CATCH THE ACTION ONLINE VIA OUR  CHANNEL: ARMY ENTERTAINMENT
#ArmyEsports





MWR Sports & Fitness presents

COLOR DASH 5K

Sprint and splash through the colors of the rainbow at this year's Color Dash 5k Fun Run. Register at the PFC or Melaven Fitness Center.



iWATCH
ARMY

iREPORT

i KEEP US SAFE



"I watch my community."

A Simple Observation

A Single Report can lead to actions that may STOP a terrorist attack

THINK ABOUT THE POWER OF THAT. THE POWER OF iWATCH.

See Something Say Something



Always Ready, Always Alert
Because someone is depending on you



<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/605757>

Fifth Army Inter-American Relations



Fort Greely hosted the Fifth Army Inter-American Relations Program Aug. 7, with the goal of enhancing Army to Army relations with Mexico. Officers with the Mexican military received an unclassified overview of the Ground Based Midcourse Defense program, a Missile Defense Complex tour and lunch with the leaders and Soldiers of Fort Greely. FIARP provided an opportunity to exchange ideas while improving efforts to confront common threats of strategic implications working toward a stronger defense of North America. (Photos by Chris Maestas, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Greely Public Affairs)



Leah Epser visits Bassett Army Community Hospital, Fort Wainwright



Maj. Arielle Dietz, officer in charge of the maternal newborn unit for Medical Department Activity – Alaska, briefs Leah Epser, the spouse to the 23rd Secretary of the Army on Bassett Army Community Hospital's training simulators for obstetric emergencies during a visit Aug. 7. The simulators, used monthly, ensure staff throughout the facility are prepared for medical emergencies involving both the laboring mother and infant. Mrs. Epser's visit to the facility focused on providing medical care to family members at Forts Wainwright and Greely Army Medical Home and Joint Base Elmendorf Army Medical Home. (Brandy Ostanik, Medical Department Activity – Alaska Public Affairs)

Building a digital defense against Travel Scams

Beth Anne Steele
Federal Bureau of Investigation

It is that travel-filled time of year again folks. Whether you are behind the curveball and trying to squeeze in some last minute summer vacations or completely on top of it and already planning for fall and winter trips, everyone is always on the lookout for a good deal at a great price. However, scam artists know this and will try to take advantage of it as much as they can.

If you are like me, you are constantly getting calls and emails from people telling you that you are

the “lucky winner” of an all-expense paid for vacation. Although the offer is tempting, don’t fall for it! How often do you hear of people actually getting their entire trip paid for by a random stranger? Not that often, because it is yet another scam with expensive strings attached. So before you book that discounted hotel room or flight reservation, be sure to keep these travel tips from our friends at the Federal Trade Commission in mind:

Just say no to the robocalls. If you answer your phone to another automated message, just hang up and ignore it. Most robocalls are illegal. If you get one of these unwanted calls, report it to FTC.

Be vigilant to unexpected emails and text messages. Similar to the automated calls, many scam artists will send you fake deals through both email and text. Remember, if the offer is too good to be true, it probably is. Ignore and delete the messages.

Research a company before booking with them. If you do decide to use an agency that offers cheaper deals, be sure to do your research. Look up reviews and ratings to see if other customers were satisfied with the services that they received.

Know the cancellation policy. Before booking, take time to ask about the company’s refund policies for flight reservations, car rentals, and hotel

bookings. Get these policies in writing.

Pay with credit card. If you have gone through all of these steps and feel good about booking with the company, use your credit card to pay. This will give you more protection than paying with cash, check, or a debit card. If you end up not getting what you paid for, this will enable you to dispute the charges with your credit card company.

If you have been victimized by an online scam or any other cyber fraud, be sure to report it to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov or call your local FBI office.

New Army credentialing assistance program to be tested this fall

Sean Kimmons
Army News Service

A new Army Credentialing Assistance Program is set to begin a one-year limited user test in Texas this fall before a projected rollout to the entire service in fiscal year 2020.

The program, which has similar rates and eligibility as tuition assistance, will provide Soldiers up to \$4,000 each year to pay for credentials that will prepare them for life after the military.

When fully implemented, the program will allow Soldiers to choose from more than 1,600 credentials currently offered on the Army’s Credentialing Opportunities Online website.

Many of those credentials offer promotion points and are recognized by civilian industry, including jobs in healthcare, plumbing, information technology and aviation repair.

“It better prepares our Soldiers for the marketplace,” said Col. Sam Whitehurst, director of the Army’s Soldier for Life program. “Whether the emphasis in the marketplace is on an educational degree or whether a certificate or license, this program is going to ensure our Soldiers are well-rounded as they enter the civilian workforce.”

The assistance program builds on the Army’s Credentialing Program, which was created in 2015. While that program only authorized Soldiers to take credentials in areas related to their military occupational specialty, the new program eliminates that requirement.

“If an infantryman is interested in transiting into the health industry after they get out of the Army, there are some professional entry-level credentials that they can start to work on while they’re still in,” said Maj. Sean McEwen, director of Soldier for Life education and training.

In the initial test, every Soldier stationed at Fort Hood, in addition to Army National Guard and Selected Reserve Soldiers who serve in Texas, will be able to choose from nearly 30 different credentials.

“It’s truly going to be supportive of the total Army here in Texas,” said Michael Engen, the education services officer at Fort Hood.



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Some credentials being offered in the limited user test will include certifications to become a computer systems security analyst, personal trainer, or emergency medical technician.

As the first step in implementing the program, the test will validate how the program is administered and forecast future demand and requirements.

Due to its large population and community partnerships, Fort Hood was chosen to be the first installation for the test, and officials said the pilot program may include other posts in the future.

Historically, about a quarter of Fort Hood’s 40,000-Soldier force uses tuition assistance and/or pursues higher education.

“I’m really optimistic that we’re going to have a more significant portion of our community more actively engaged with their personal professional development because of the credentialing assistance program,” Engen said.

When the test officially launches Sept. 6, many Soldiers stationed in Texas will be able to speak with education officials and register for courses. The courses cannot start until Oct. 1 and will be subject to availability and funding, Engen said.

Under the program, Soldiers can receive up to \$4,000 annually in combined tuition assistance and credentialing assistance, according to Human Resources Command. The funds can go toward academic, vocational, and technical type courses that

lead to a credential or license, and/or the exam Soldiers may need to complete.

Since it does not have the same limitations as tuition assistance, credentialing assistance has more flexibility on what it can pay for. That could include course registration and other academic fees, as well as associated learning materials. Even “boot camp” pre-certification training may be covered by the program, Engen said.

Each year, over 25,000 Soldiers already take advantage of credentials offered by the Training and Doctrine Command and the Medical Command. The assistance program looks to add to that success, and perhaps, attract people to the Army.

“We’re going to see a growth in professional readiness for a lot of our skilled MOSs,” McEwen said. “We also expect this is going to be a tool to help us recruit and retain talent. People are going to identify the Army as an organization that values skilled and trained professionals.”

And if Soldiers do decide to get out and pursue a civilian career, they will be ready.

“When you look at this program, it really demonstrates the Army’s commitment to being a Soldier for Life,” Whitehurst said. “We ensure our Soldiers are prepared to fight and win our nation’s wars while they serve. But through this program, we invest in their futures so that they become productive and successful veterans.”

Family, child and youth services

Staff Report
Child & Youth Services

Army Child & Youth Services recognizes the challenges of our Soldiers and their Families, and helps Army Families meet their parental challenges and maintain their mission readiness through Department of Defense certified and nationally accredited programs and services.

Children must be registered to receive services on the installation. Registration is free, and childcare costs are based on Total Family Income. Registration is completed at:

PARENT CENTRAL SERVICES
Building 1049 Chena Road #2, (907) 353- 7713
Email: usarmy.wainwright.imcom.list.dfmwr-cyss-pcs@mail.mil

Serves children ages 4 weeks to 18 years

One-stop location to register for hourly care, part/ full day care, preschool programs (age 4 by Sep 1), records transfer, parent education classes, babysitter training, and referral services for Families. Includes CYS Parent Advisory Board, non-traditional outreach services, and Kids on Site program.

Visit MilitaryChildCare.com for care options, services, and to waitlist for full-day or part-day programs.

FAMILY CHILD CARE
Building 1049 Chena Road #1, (907) 353- 6266

Serves children ages 4 weeks to 8 years

Certified providers provide child care in their homes, which meet safety, fire and health standards. Providers undergo professional training in infant/child CPR, first aid, child guidance techniques and developmentally appropriate activities, and follow USDA food program nutritional guidelines.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER 1
Building 4024 600th Street, (907) 361- 4190

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER 2
Building 4176 600th Street, (907) 361- 9056

Both Child Development Center locations serve children ages 6 weeks through 5 years; fees based on Total Family Income. Developmentally appropriate learning center for children to learn through play and exploration. Full-day, part-day, and hourly care options available. Follows USDA food program nutritional guidelines. Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

SCHOOL AGE CENTER
Building 4166 Neely Road, (907) 361- 7394

Serves children in grades pre-kindergarten through 6; fees based on Total Family Income. Services include

before and after school care; full, part-day and hourly care. Programming activities inspire curiosity, promote collaboration and encourage critical thinking through Five Service Areas: Education Support & Career Exploration; Character and Leadership Development; Health, Wellness and Life Skills; Sports, Fitness and Recreation; and The Arts. 4H, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and CHARACTER COUNTS!, affiliates, and follows USDA food program nutritional guidelines. Accredited by the Council on Accreditation.

YOUTH CENTER
Building 4109 Neely Road, (907) 361- 5437

Serves Youth in grades 6 through 12. Accessible, affordable, quality program options include technology, and the Five Service Areas: Character and Leadership Development; Education Support and Career Development; Health, Wellness, and Life Skills; Sports, Fitness, and Recreation; and The Arts. 4H, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and CHARACTER COUNTS!, affiliates, and follows USDA food program nutritional guidelines

YOUTH SPORTS & FITNESS
Building 1045 Gaffney Road, (907) 353- 7482


Serves children ages 3 to 18 years. Developmentally appropriate team and individual physical sports, competitions, skill building clinics, and nutrition and health classes to develop life-long healthy habits; provided by trained CYS employees and volunteer coaches. 4-H, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and CHARACTER COUNTS!, affiliates. Accredited by the National Alliance of Youth Sports.

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For more information, contact Army Community Service at (907) 361-3454

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