



176th Wing • Alaska Air National Guard

eGuardian

April 7, 2022

April 2022 QUARTERLY DRILL

HRE/POSH Training *April 10*

176th Wing Equal Opportunity Program practitioners will be hosting HRE (Human Relations Education) / POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) discussions Sunday April 10 from 10-11 a.m. at the 176th Logistics Readiness Squadron classroom and via Zoom. Unit training managers (UTMs) will schedule overdue members for class in ARCNet and also provide members with the Zoom link. Members may log in individually or participate in group watch parties (one person logs in and projects the class on the screen). Contact Capt. Kimberly Westfall at (907) 428-6664 with any questions.

ARCTIC GUARDIANS WOMEN'S COUNCIL *April 13*

Arctic Guardian Women Warriors,
We have heard you and are excited to deliver this news to you today!

WHO: Female Arctic Guardians of the 176th Wing

WHAT: The roll-out of the **Arctic Guardian Women's Council**

WHERE: The Arctic Warrior Events Center (AWEC) lounge

WHEN: April 13 from 11 a.m. to noon

WHY: To begin the conversation about the unique barriers women face when trying to reach their full potential in the Alaska Air National Guard. Enact change to alleviate those barriers!

Women experience unique barriers to reaching their full potential in the AKANG, and it is essential that every Arctic Guardian has a barrier-free path to do so. Constant vigilance, awareness and response to barriers, both real and perceived, must be part of our regular ops tempo. We realize that these barrier discussions are often sensitive and require an environment of trust and transparency to fully explore things. To that end, this coming drill, the 176th Wing is launching the **Arctic Guardian Women's Council**. This team will lead efforts to guide us on an interactive journey by creating

opportunities to voice challenges, engage our community, and facilitate change.

Here is **a little background** to help orient you to the genesis of this Council:

A recent 176th Wing Defense Organizational Climate Survey indicated the presence of challenge areas specific to the female officer demographic, thus inhibiting their ability to reach their full potential in the AKANG. A sensing session, hosted by the wing commander with the target audience, illuminated the need for further conversation, as all involved left the meeting with a heightened awareness of both the prevalence of issues and barriers to their effective, unimpeded service to the AKANG. Shortly thereafter, the inception of the Arctic Guardian Women's Council was established with a broad goal of continued discovery into the barrier challenges to female service and to explore solutions. During the development stage of this initiative, it was decided that many of the issues and barriers are not limited to the female officer demographic. This inspired the expansion of the scope to include enlisted females.

What can I expect at this event and why should I be interested in joining the Council?

This will be our roll-out at the AVEC, to set the stage for what is to come! From there, we will take the following, four-pronged approach:

- 1. Start the Conversation:** We will do this by facilitating a "brown-bag" lunch series. We will come to you! These lunches will be held at various locations and on multiple occasions to maximize the opportunity for participation. We realize that large, structured forums are rarely conducive to effective conversations regarding challenges to personal success and happiness, and often meet with low attendance. The purpose of this lunch series is to create ease of access for you with the hope of inspiring "community" attendance and, in turn, create a more intimate environment. The lunch series will be led by a facilitator through a loosely guided discussion to encourage conversation and is planned to take place over the course of the next six months.
- 2. Share the Story:** We cannot inspire a culture of equality about the challenges facing a specific group of people if only that group of people is aware and is part of the conversation. Our team will partner with key leaders throughout the wing and use the eGuardian and Wing App to share key stories, insights, and ongoing efforts with the rest of the community.

3. **Shape the Future:** Facilitators will look for hot topics, challenge-trends, and possible action items to help formulate them into problem statements to drive effective solutions.

4. **Secure Success:** Sustained engagement at all levels is key to establishing trust and confidence. We will transition from an initiative to a continuous improvement effort to advance the just cause. We will institutionalize relevant changes while we encourage continued community vigilance of barriers.

As Brig. Gen. Anthony Stratton mentioned in his previous email to the wing, "We operate in an infinitely changing operational landscape, coupled with dynamic missions and unique individuals. My intent for this council is to create an opportunity for us to tackle existing barriers to female service members in the 176th Wing and to continue the conversations together when new challenges arise." Together, we will empower the women of the 176th Wing!

Our desired outcome is a journey not a target. This initiative is infinitely focused, an iterative process designed to deliver positive and lasting change.

Will you join us in this endeavor? We look forward to being with you! Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions!

* Chief Master Sgt. Brandy Thanos
Brandy.thanos.1@us.af.mil

Col Susie Smith
Suzanne.r.smith2.mil@army.mil

*Please use this email address as primary as Col Smith is a drill-status Guardsman (DSG) and checks her email intermittently. We do not want to miss you!

EVENTS / OPPORTUNITIES

ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION EVENTS

The Alaska National Guard Officer's Association (ANGOA) has worked hard along with Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) to bring Arctic Guardians free fishing licenses, free vehicle

registration, and many other benefits received through our national affiliation with the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS). But we can't do it without you and your membership!

1. We are looking for a vice president-Air for our board and an energetic company-grade officer (CGO) to head up our membership. Interested members can contact Jolund Luther at angoa.ex.dir@gmail.com or Maj. Yutashea Zirkle at yutashea.zirkle.1@us.af.mil
2. ANGOA is offering lifetime digital memberships to CGOs for the extremely low price of \$125 and only \$175 for Field Grades and above. Squadrons with a 100 percent officer membership are eligible for a pizza party for those officers or cash donation to the squadron towards unit activities! Details can be found here: <https://angoa.org/membership-account/membership-levels/>
3. Don't miss out! This year's NGAUS Conference is scheduled for Aug. 26-29 in Columbus, Ohio. It's a great opportunity to hear national level senior leaders speak on the future of the Guard and network with more than 2,000 Army and Air Guard officers from all 50 states, three territories, and the District of Columbia. AGRs are authorized permission leave and technicians are authorized administrative leave to attend with supervisor concurrence. You don't want to miss out! Details can be found here: <https://www.ngaus.org/events/144th-general-conference-exhibition>
To register for the conference, please contact Maj Yutashea Zirkle at yutashea.zirkle.1@us.af.mil
4. The next ANGOA board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, at 5 p.m. Please contact Jolund Luther at angoa.ex.dir@gmail.com for additional details.

THE BRAIN HEALTH PROJECT IS (FINALLY!) A GO!!

176th wing members have access to state-of-the-art, evidence-based, brain fitness/cognitive training by signing up for the Brain Health Project.

Currently 100 members have signed up, and there is space for 100 more wing members.

More intel on the Brain Health Project from the Center for Brain Health, University of Texas, Dallas --- Recruiting video
https://videos.ctfassets.net/n7r832fbv3mz/4z1hi5BGh6RnZGzS18TEAY/29082fa8455fd2f3342da32842835c21/Jz_Mike_MTEC2022_smaller.mp4

You can use the portal link now to enroll and start taking your initial assessment. Your personal information will be solely with the Center of Brain Health researchers. The portal link is: <http://MTEC.thebrainhealthproject.org>

Again, this is an amazing opportunity to improve your overall brain fitness. Evidence based research has shown that one's ability to efficiently/effectively improve their cognitive processes leads to generalized improvements in many areas of life. Although it has taken over a year for the project to start, I am thrilled to take you on this journey alongside me!

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Diann Richardson, LCSW
176 WG Director of Psychological Health
(907) 551-0283
diann.richardson.1@us.af.mil

ONGOING FREE COUNSELING SERVICES

Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC) provide short term non-medical solution-focused counseling to support military families with the challenges of deployments, reintegration, parenting, relationship issues, conflict resolution, anger management and other life issues. They provide free, confidential services on and off military installations, flexible service delivery in non-traditional settings and times. With the exception of child abuse, domestic violence, mandatory reporting, and duty to warn situations, services are confidential.

In response to COVID-19, MFLCs are providing services via secure, encrypted video teleconference.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, call Husch Hathorne-Cantil at 907-382-1407. Appointments are available within 24-48 hours.

MILITARY ONESOURCE RESOURCES

Did you know that Military OneSource is bigger than a 24/7/365 toll free number? The program offers more than just free non-medical counseling. It also provides assistance for the deployment readiness cycle. Military OneSource is a Department of Defense funded program that aids eligible service and family members with building resiliency; both within the military culture and on the homefront. To help strengthen one's resiliency skillset, Military OneSource offers many activities that you and your family members can partake in. For example:

MWR Digital Library:

- Ancestry.com Library Edition - unlock the story of your family using more than 8,000 resources.
- Consumer Reports – are you looking to make a purchase? Use this online library to access 1,000+ ratings, reviews, expert buying advice, product comparisons, consumer user reviews and product video clips.
- EBSCO Audiobooks - more than 2,000 audiobooks in different subjects and categories available for free download.
- Mango Languages - check out this digital language learning program for learners of all levels, with courses in more than 70 different foreign languages, 21 English language courses, and 44 specialty courses.
- Morningstar Investment Research Center - find information and advice on mutual funds, stocks, exchange-traded funds, and market returns. Track investments, access daily market news and commentary, view snapshots on investments, and interact on the research center forums.
- PressReader Digital Newspapers - unlimited digital access to more than 7,000 newspapers from 120 countries in more than 60 different languages. These newspapers are provided in full-color, full-page format, and appear on your screen exactly as they appear on the news stand, many providing instant translation and audio.

- Stingray Qello Concerts - enjoy more than 1700 live moments in music history with the world's largest collection of full-length concerts and music documentaries streamed on-demand to just about any digital device. From the 1920s to today's hottest artists, Qello Concerts spans more than 30 genres, from classical to rock, reggae to country.
- Small Business Builder - helps patrons interested in planning and optimizing their businesses or nonprofits. Built for aspiring entrepreneurs and those with existing small businesses, it provides a step-by-step process supported by a rich variety of recognized tools that enable users to produce complete business plans and other documents essential for gaining access to capital and growing their enterprise.
- Universal Class - over 500 online courses to aid with personal and professional interests: including FREE CEUs, plus online books, movies and music for all ages. Over 40 different references to use.
- Weiss Financial Ratings - Enjoy access to financial literacy tools on retirement planning, home and mortgage, insurance strategies, and saving for your child's education.
- Chill Drills: An overview of four simple drills to help reverse the symptoms of stress. These drills can help slow your heart rate, lower your blood pressure and reduce the level of stress hormones in your body. By doing these drills regularly, you can lower your baseline stress level and be better prepared to deal with stress in the future. Order yours online (free shipping) or download to your smartphone.
- MilTax - free tax services, which provides easy-to-use software that is designed specifically for the military community and is available mid-January through mid-October. MilTax also offers free consultations with experts trained to help military members and their families take command of their taxes.

Many other resources are located online with just a click of the mouse or online chat with a trained consultant to provide more guidance with your ideal topic. See: www.militaryonesource.mil.

AIRMAN SAFETY APP

If there was a way to anonymously and quickly make safety reports on your phone, would you use it? There's an app for that. The Aviation Safety Action Program (ASAP) a voluntary, identity-protected means of reporting safety issues that increase the risk to Aviation, Occupational, or Weapons Safety. The goal of the program is to prevent future mishaps and strengthen a culture of safe, effective mission accomplishment. The two ways to submit an ASAP report are on the website (<https://asap.safety.af.mil>) or the smartphone app "Airmen Safety App." Contact: your friendly safety office (551-7604, 176wg.se.176wg@us.af.mil)

UPCOMING AWS DAYS

The 176th Wing is essentially shut down for business on the upcoming Alternate Work Schedule days. RDs (rescheduled drills) and AT days should not be scheduled for these times. The full AWS calendar can be found on the new Wing SharePoint in the Resource Library.

April: 14

May: 6, 20, 27

June 17

ALASKA NEWS

ARCTIC GUARDIANS CONDUCT OPERATIONS ON ARCTIC SEA ICE

By David Bedard | 176th Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — During a routine flight deep in the Alaska Interior, a small jetliner crashes with a dozen passengers.

All survive the harrowing incident without serious injury, but now they're facing subzero temperatures with the sprawling and towering Alaska Range separating them from rapid rescue by a 210th Rescue Squadron HH-60G Pave Hawk and other military helicopters.

Help is on the way in the form of a 211th Rescue Squadron HC-130J Combat King II carrying the Arctic Sustainment Package (ASP) that, when dropped

with a Guardian Angel team from the 212th Rescue Squadron, provides the crew and passengers of the crashed jetliner a critical lifeline.

The theoretical situation illustrates how the 176th Wing's ASP could be used to provide winter shelter to the crew of a large military aircraft or the passengers of a civilian aircraft if they crash at a remote site far from rotary-wing rescue assets.

On March 14, the 211th RQS airdropped the ASP at a temporary ice camp established on a sheet of ice in the Arctic Ocean, known as an ice floe, to support testing submarine systems and other arctic research initiatives during the U.S. Navy's Ice Exercise 2022.

Alaska Air National Guard Master Sgt. Benjamin Westveer, a survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) specialist with the 176th Operations Support Squadron, explained what the ASP provides the joint force.

"The Arctic Sustainment Package is a self-contained package that is good for 28 survivors for seven days," he said. "That includes the manpower that goes with, which includes the Guardian Angel weapon system — pararescue, combat rescue officers, SERE — that will deploy with the ASP. It has everything from cold-weather clothing, sleeping bags, tents, a heater, a generator, food, water and ways to make more water."

Westveer explained the deployment of the ASP to the sea ice is a personnel-recovery vignette of Arctic Edge 2022 that interfaced with ICEX. Arctic Edge 22 is a U.S. North Command exercise scheduled every two years and demonstrates U.S. and allied commitment to mutual strategic interest in the Arctic.

When the exercise is over, Westveer said his team of SERE and aircrew flight equipment specialists will spend six months in man days repackaging the ASP and preparing it for its next mission. The ASP includes everything from tracked amphibious all-terrain vehicles to tent shelters to stoves and generators.

The camp used to support ICEX, named Ice Camp Queenfish, served as a temporary command center for conducting operations and research in the Arctic region. The camp consisted of shelters, a command center and infrastructure to safely house and support more than 60 personnel at any one time.

Westveer reiterated the importance of the ASP in preserving life and limb of personnel who suddenly find themselves isolated in the Arctic's harsh winter

conditions, with ICEX giving the 176th Wing a unique opportunity to validate the package and exercise with it.

"ICEX gives us a unique experience getting the ASP on the ice cap," he said. "If an event like this happened, it would take time to get helicopters there depending on all of the weather pieces. This allows us to run ahead with fixed-wing aircraft and employ the ASP until we get rescue vehicles there."

The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Pasadena (SSN 752), and the Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Illinois (SSN 786) participated in the exercise with both breaching the ice near Camp Queenfish.

Alaska Air National Guardsmen of 176th Logistics Readiness Squadron worked with 144th Airlift Squadron Feb. 23 to transport the Navy's camp equipment on a 144th AS C-17 Globemaster III to Deadhorse on the northern shelf of Alaska.

U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Richard Seif, commander of the Navy's Undersea Warfighting Development Center and ICEX's ranking officer, underlined the importance of the exercises as the world increasingly looks to the Arctic.

"The Arctic region can be unforgiving and challenging like no other place on Earth," Seif said. "It's also changing and becoming more active with maritime activity. ICEX 2022 provides the Navy an opportunity to increase capability and readiness in this unique environment and to continue establishing best practices we can share with partners and allies who share the U.S.' goal of a free and peaceful Arctic."

ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD RAISES AWARENESS THROUGH SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

By Spc. Grace Nechanicky | Alaska National Guard Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — The Alaska National Guard kicked off April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month March 30 with a proclamation signing and remarks by Maj. Gen. Torrence Saxe, adjutant general and commissioner for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

The Alaska National Guard recognizes SAAPM as part of a Department of Defense-wide focus on raising awareness of sexual harassment and sexual assault, prevention methods, and appropriate care and responses.

"We're here to help facilitate the care and wellness for victims of sexual assault, and also bring awareness and educate on prevention methods," said Ashley Shelton, the sexual assault response coordinator for the Alaska National Guard. "We want to prevent these things from happening, but should they happen, we want to make sure we can provide the appropriate care and response to individuals who need it."

During the month of April, the AKNG Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program will be hosting Teal Tuesdays, where individuals are encouraged to wear teal to bring awareness to sexual violence and show support of survivors. In addition to periodic breakfast training sessions, the program will also feature Denim Day, where people are encouraged to wear denim, an event that stems from a 1998 Italian Supreme Court rape conviction that was overturned because the victim wore tight jeans.

DoD's 2022 SAAPM theme is "STEP FORWARD. Prevent. Report. Advocate," and is "a call to action for individuals at all levels of the Department to use their personal strength to advance positive change in preventing sexual violence."

Shelton explained that it is critical that all individuals do their part in each of these steps, as well as creating an environment that is comfortable for victims to come forward.

"That advocate piece is even bigger than just me and our other victim advocates," she said. "Everybody needs to take an opportunity to advocate for the program to their Soldiers, Airmen, and their peers."

At the event, Saxe signed the proclamation for a renewed commitment to protect Guard members, mission partners and the local community.

"If you can look forward and understand that this isn't a program, it's a culture, then you can eradicate it [sexual assault] from the ranks," said Saxe. "That doesn't just include people who have done the act but those who condone the act and don't step forward to correct the act. That's my challenge to myself, that's my challenge to the organization, to make sure that, yes, we talk the talk, but we walk the walk."

Shelton agreed on the importance of everyone taking an active, daily role in the program.

"Everybody should know that our leadership does understand this program, they do support this program, and they will be there for their Soldiers and Airmen should they need to utilize the program in the future," said Shelton.

Saxe concluded the ceremony with a call to action for all members of the Alaska National Guard.

“Let’s go forward as a state, as the Alaska National Guard and be that shining example,” he said. “Every single person, regardless of rank or title, is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect. If we do that than our operational mission is going to be all the more successful.”

THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION: ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD HOSTS ARCTIC INTEREST COUNCIL

By Capt. David Bedard | Alaska National Guard Public Affairs

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — When delegates of the National Guard Arctic Interest Council representing six states visited the arctic city of Kotzebue March 29, they witnessed a still-frozen landscape showing few signs of spring besides the sun still hanging in the sky at 9 p.m., previewing the coming summer’s midnight sun.

Taking a bus tour of the community, the group stopped at the seawall and seized the unique opportunity to snap photos of the Chukchi Sea, covered in snowpack and frozen solid for as far as the eye could see and beyond.

The city provided a host venue for the NG-AIC with representation from the Alaska, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire and North Dakota National Guards as well as the Northwest Arctic Borough, Kotzebue city, NANA Arctic Regional Corporation, Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation and the Maniilaq Association.

According to the NG-AIC charter, the council stood up in 2017 to provide a forum of representatives and subject matter experts from states with arctic interests, capabilities and resources that include the following objectives:

- Establish and codify the National Guard’s place as a premier force provider for the Arctic.
- Serve as a channel of communications for shared situational awareness on Arctic topics and activities.
- Conduct joint integrated planning for the Arctic for National Guard stakeholders.
- Develop arctic expertise and knowledge for the National Guard in order to facilitate responses to senior leader or organizational requests for information with respect to the Arctic.

- Coordinate with Department of Defense, interagency and international partners and act as the National Guard representative to their arctic planning/working groups.
- Identify gaps and pursue potential sourcing solutions. Advocate and pursue future capabilities and funding.
- Conduct joint integrated arctic exercise planning for the National Guard.

Member states include Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Army National Guard Col. Matthew Schell, Alaska National Guard strategic advisor to the adjutant general, explained how other state National Guards have a stake in the council and why it was important they visit an arctic community.

"We have these other northern-tier states that recognize there is an interest in understanding our capabilities and capabilities gaps in cold regions, mountainous regions and polar regions," Schell said. "To build that caucus, we invited members of the Arctic Interest Council to Alaska, and we thought that getting them north of the Arctic Circle to a real arctic community would be valuable for them to understand the operational challenges."

Army National Guard Col. Brock Larson, North Dakota National Guard director of Strategic Plans and Policy, said he found great value for his state's understanding of the Arctic.

"Each state has its strengths and weaknesses that fit into this council," he said. "Coming up here and seeing Kotzebue's challenges and opportunities, and being able to link them with our state's capabilities is really helpful."

People and Partnerships – The keys to Arctic Operational Success

Maj. Gen. Torrence W. Saxe, the Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard and Commissioner, Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, said while understanding the material challenges of weather, distance and infrastructure, people are the key to implementing an effective arctic strategy.

Saxe said Kotzebue, referred to as the "gateway to the Arctic," is an important hub community serving villages throughout the borough.

"We want to get back in this area of Alaska in greater numbers, and we want to do it quickly," he said. "Kotzebue is a critical hub armory, and we need a

significant number of soldiers in this area of the state.”

Saxe and the council delegation toured Kotzebue’s National Guard armory and a state-owned hangar, which is shared by the U.S. Coast Guard for search and rescue operations. The partnership provides critical coverage beyond military bases clustered in Southcentral, Interior and Southeast Alaska.

Saxe said community members are essential partners for understanding how to successfully operate in the region.

“There is recognition in our arctic strategies of the traditional and inherited knowledge that you all have and will help us better operate in the Arctic,” he said to several of Kotzebue’s community leaders. “The Department of Defense Arctic Strategy, and the Army and Air Force Arctic Strategies identify that partnering with local communities help us understand how to survive and meet our mission objectives in the most austere conditions. Learning about your culture and meeting with all of you is the beginning of this effort.”

Saxe said it’s important to continually work with community members to prepare for disaster response. In addition to operating with civic leaders, the general said it would be beneficial to have more Alaska National Guard members in the community who can provide their expertise during an earthquake, flood or fire. Local knowledge is vitally important to mission success.

“We don’t want to introduce ourselves in a crisis, and established relationships matter,” Saxe said.

Climate change, key infrastructure and critical resources

A key concern voiced during the Kotzebue meeting is the effects of climate change.

A half-mile sea wall constructed for \$34 million buttresses Kotzebue against catastrophic soil erosion due to rising sea levels affecting so many of Alaska’s coastal communities. Pete Schaeffer, Kotzebue Tribal Council chairman, credits the wall with protecting Kotzebue from the effects of more frequent and increasingly powerful winter storms.

Schaeffer highlighted how critical subsistence hunting is to the region’s people, citing they have been doing it for more than 11,000 years to feed their families.

"Up until about 100 years ago, we were pretty much a totally independent people that relied on each other and did all of our hunting with rather primitive tools no different than people with Native heritage throughout the state," he said before explaining how rifles and all-terrain vehicles changed the hunt. "One of the things that hasn't changed is the spirit of our people that still relate to that independence that existed a long time ago."

Reliant on annual patterns observed over thousands of years, subsistence hunting is under threat as climate change disrupts game animal migration.

"When I was a young man in the 1950s and 60s, the ocean almost always froze by the middle of September," Schaeffer said. "Now, in September and October we have monsoon season, and it rains a lot. This year, it finally froze in December, though sometimes it's late November."

According to the NG-AIC charter, the ill effects of climate change make for commercial opportunities but also create significant operational challenges. The National Guard is uniquely situated to lead the way in overcoming those challenges.

"Ice-free sea routes are increasingly becoming available and great reserves of previously unreachable oil, gas, and mineral deposits are progressively becoming available for development," the charter reads. "As human activity increases in the region, the likelihood and possible severity of man-made disasters or incidents also increases. The National Guard shares a rich history of arctic operations and experience; and possesses unique capabilities in both equipment and personnel in the arctic environment."

Schell said the DoD acknowledges the strategic value of military bases and units staged across Alaska, and he highlighted the value of the state's output of critical resources citing the Northwest Arctic Borough's Red Dog mine. According to the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, the mine is the world's largest producer of zinc.

"I talk to people in the DoD about the value of Alaska," Schell said. "They look at Alaska as an aircraft carrier. It's about force projection. We want the brigades in Anchorage and Fairbanks to fight the away game, and we want the F-35 [Lightning IIs] and F-22 [Raptors] to do Agile Combat Employment. Let's look at the strategic value of Alaska not just as a force-projection platform, but as a resource for the nation."

Schell explained how the governor's office asked the Alaska National Guard to provide input for arctic strategy to the National Security Council. He said the input went beyond immediate military matters.

"It's centered around redundancy and resiliency because we looked at it as not just an opportunity to talk from a military perspective, but from a sense of giving the governor the best military advice and also, as the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, we talked about big things like the deep-water port and rail through Canada," Schell said.

Saxe said the doctrine generated from the council's collaboration and foresight will be far reaching.

"What you're working on is historic," he said to the council. "This is not just Alaska. We are stronger working together. This is about the 54 [states and territories] not just about one state, and I appreciate all the military expertise being brought to the table to discuss and implement this ground-breaking strategy."

Saxe concluded the meeting with Kotzebue leadership by explaining the importance of Alaska's critical civil-military relationship.

"The military doesn't exist to serve itself," he said. "The military, especially the National Guard, has to be a part of the community, and we are here to serve and protect you."

RSD SCHEDULE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR REGULARLY SCHEDULED DRILL WEEKENDS

May: 14, 15

June: 4, 5

July: 30, 31

WEEKEND DINING FACILITY HOURS

The Iditarod (Elmendorf) Dining Facility will be closed on Saturday August 1, as renovations are to be completed.

On Saturday members will be encouraged to have lunch at the Wilderness in (Bldg. 647 Ft Richardson).

The Wilderness Inn serves "brunch" from 1000-1400 on the weekend.

The Army DFAC will honor the provided ESM roster and not charge DSGs for their meal.

If anyone gets turned away on the Army side please contact MSgt Franz Deters 907-903-5545

If AGRs or officers wish to eat on the Army side, a flat rate of \$5.65 will apply.

On Sunday the Iditarod will be open again for business (normal hours).

There will not be POD support for the flight line over the weekend (located near F-22 hangers)

Normal Hours:

BREAKFAST: 0630-0830

GRAB-N-GO: 0900-1030

LUNCH: 1030-1330

GRAB-N-GO: 1330-1630

DINNER: 1630-1830

MIDNIGHT: 2300-0100

GATE HOURS

For latest gate hours, visit <https://www.jber.jb.mil/Units/673abw/673SFS/>

POINTS OF INTEREST

176th Wing

Website: <http://www.176wg.ang.af.mil/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/176thWing>

Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/176thwing>

Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/176wg/>

DVIDs: <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/176WPA>

SharePoint (requires CAC):

<https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/12468/Pages/176%20Wing.aspx>

Alaska National Guard

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/AKNationalGuard>

Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/alaskanationalguard>

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/alaskanationalguard>

Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/NationalGuardAlaska>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/AKNationalGuard>

JBER

Website: <http://www.jber.jb.mil/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JBERAK>

Newspaper: <http://www.dvidshub.net/publication/397/arctic-warrior>

Fulltime Job Opportunities:

<http://dmva.alaska.gov/employment.htm>

HRO – Alaska National Guard:

<http://dmva.alaska.gov/HRO>

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