

ALASKA POST

Home of the Arctic Warriors



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Cavalry troops ruck on through challenges to earn spurs

Sgt. Thomas Duval,
1-25th SBCT PAO

Walking and sometimes running in the footsteps of history's finest cavalry Soldiers, troopers with the 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division tested their intestinal fortitude and grit during a 16-hour "spur ride" Aug. 16 on post.

The "spur ride" is a U.S. Army cavalry tradition dating back more than 200 years.

"Every cavalry unit, whether air or ground, has some form of a spur ride. It's a time-honored tradition that tests the junior leaders and lets them prove how much heart they have to be in that unit," Lt. Col. Eric Krivda, 5-1st commander, said. "This is a great unit that we are in and it's a huge tradition. It's one of the most unique experiences that a Soldier will go through."

There have also been traces of the cavalry tradition that date back to the Middle Ages, when young boys were taken from their families to become tactically proficient by the early stages of manhood. It was only after they proved themselves that these squires would earn their knighthood.

Although the requirements have changed with time, cavalry Soldiers must still prove themselves in a series of soldiering skills to earn a coveted set of silver spurs.



Sgt. George Olsen, cavalry scout with B Troop, 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, takes lead through one of many obstacles he and his fellow Soldiers experienced during their Cavalry Spur Ride event. The spur ride tests and evaluates each Soldier's physical and mental abilities under stress and fatigue. (Photo by Brian Schlumbohm/Fort Wainwright PAO)

"The spur ride really bonds the Soldiers together. Everything they do is part of a team," Krivda said. "The importance of this is to stress them both mentally and physically to prove their proficiency in the skills they are required to per-

form here in the ground cavalry and for them to learn about themselves."

For the 5-1st Soldiers, also known as the "Black Hawks," the challenges began at 2 a.m. on a cold and rainy Alaska morning with an Army physical fitness test and a two-

mile run to the squadron headquarters building where they were faced with a challenge specifically geared toward the Alaskan arctic climate: setting up arctic weather tents - a tent made of thick insulated fabric. To add to the already

demanding obstacles, senior noncommissioned officers previously inducted into the elite group known as the "Order of the Spur," asked questions pertaining to the unit's lineage and rich history. For every wrong answer, the instructors

chose an exercise for the Soldiers to perform.

"It's pretty challenging," Sgt. George Olsen, a cavalry scout with B Troop, 5-1st, said.

"The biggest challenge is just staying motivat-

See SPURS on page 4

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau chief meets with Soldiers, Families



Holly Petraeus, executive director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Office of Servicemember Affairs spoke with members of the local media Aug. 21, before participating in a town hall meeting at the Last Frontier Community Activity Center on Fort Wainwright. Petraeus and Ed Sniffen, assistant Alaska attorney general were here to educate Soldiers and Family members on the resources and assistance available to help them prevent being caught in a bad deal, scam or rip-off, and what they can do if they get involved in such a situation. (Photo by Allen Shaw/Fort Wainwright PAO)

Allen Shaw,
Fort Wainwright PAO

Members of the military have long been a target for businesses that mostly prey on the young, transient population who have a constant paycheck, an accessible supervisor and a need for nice things that seem attainable—especially if it's a good deal. It's also appetizing that if they don't get paid, they can often garnish a Soldier's pay.

"If it seems too good to be true, it is," said Ed Sniffen, assistant to the Alaska Attorney General's Office for Consumer Affairs in Anchorage. "It's not 'usually' too good to be true, it is," he said.

Sniffen spent Tuesday morning at Fort Wainwright with Holly Petraeus, executive director for the United States Government Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Office of Servicemember Affairs. Petraeus and Sniffen met with local media at the Last Frontier Community Activity Center and then participated in a town hall meeting with Soldiers and Family members to discuss the challenges of military life and monetary repercussions spenders often face.

Petraeus said although there are many businesses out there that truly do have an interest in providing benefits to those serving in the military, there are "bad guys" looking for an opportunity

to take advantage of the situation. She said, "There are three main things our office does. First and foremost is providing education so the consumer can make better decisions. We want them to think before they sign that contract, because once they do, it's hard to do anything for them." The CFPB is working closely with the Pentagon toward consumer education for service members because, "they have the boots on the ground."

The second thing she wants people to be aware of is that the CFPB accepts complaints. "Although we just started in January (2012) we have only gotten 2,400 complaints," said Petraeus. "We have been able to recoup more than \$240,000."

She also said it's not always money. In some cases it's just a matter of service issues. "When they can't get help from a financial institution or a response and that institution gets a letter from us, on our letterhead, suddenly they (the institution) return calls."

The third thing Petraeus and the CFPB want Soldiers and Family members to know is that they work closely with federal and state agencies toward consumer protection for the military. "That's why the assistant Attorney General of Alaska is here with me today," she said.

Sniffen pointed out there are

many resources available on post for financial education, counseling and consumer assistance. "There is also help at the state level," he said, "If there are Alaska businesses doing things wrong, we want to know. There is an Alaska Consumer Protection Act in place. We can investigate, we can take action and we can impose fines."

Petraeus also reiterated the fact that the CFPB "Is not only here to educate, but we can also take people to court and punish. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has the teeth to enforce the law," she said.

Other topics covered during the town hall were "red flags" consumers should be aware of, such as: anyone who wants you to wire them money in advance, online pay-day advances or purchasing anything sight-unseen.

Petraeus, who is married to Gen. David Petraeus (Retired), director of the Central Intelligence Agency, spent 37 years as a military spouse and is "well aware of the challenges," is traveling to military installations around the country telling service members and their Families, "I am willing to do whatever I can for them at my office and if they have problems with financial institutions, come to us."

For more information on the CFBC, visit www.consumerfinance.gov.

WEEKEND WEATHER



Friday
Mostly cloudy
Highs in the 60s
Lows: mid-40s
Light winds



Saturday
Cloudy with a chance of rain
Highs around 60
Lows: mid-40s



Sunday
Cloudy with a chance of rain
Highs around 60
Lows around 40

BRIEFS

Military Appreciation Day

Military Appreciation Day is Saturday at Pioneer Park in Fairbanks. There will be a day of entertainment, food, prizes and free mini-golf, train and carousel rides for anyone with a military ID. The park opens at noon, there's never an admission fee and parking is free. More information is online at www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/pioneerpark.

Women's Equality Day Observance

The Women's Equality Day Observance is set for Friday, August 24 at 1:30 p.m. in the Physical Fitness Center (location change). The guest speaker is Dr. M. Kayt Sunwood Ph.D., manager of the Women's Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks. The 9th Army "Arctic Warrior" Band rock group will perform at the celebration. 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment, 16th Combat Aviation Brigade (Alaska) and the Fort Wainwright Equal Opportunity Office are the hosts of the event. The public is welcome to attend.

Nurse's top-notch patient care cause for peer recognition, award



1st Lt. Ashley Bain, a registered nurse assigned to the maternal newborn unit at Bassett Army Community Hospital, comforts two-day-old Alice Hyatt, daughter of Casey and Capt. Jennifer Hyatt of Medical Department Activity-Alaska. Bain was selected as the third quarter recipient of the Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurses last month for demonstrating compassionate professionalism while caring for a high risk patient. (Photo by Brandy Ostanik/Medical Department Activity-Alaska PAO)

Brandy Ostanik,
Medical Department
Activity-Alaska PAO

A nurse assigned to the Maternal Newborn Unit at Bassett Army Community Hospital was named the third quarter recipient of the Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurses last month.

1st Lt. Ashley Bain, who has been assigned as a registered nurse to BACH since July 2010, was anonymously nominated by a fellow nurse on the MNU after she was observed demonstrating compassionate professionalism while caring for a high-risk patient.

"I think about how she cared for the family in such a loving way, as though they were her family members," said the anonymous nurse who nominated Bain. "As nurses we tend to do that, but it's not every day we get to witness that extraordinary level of caring, compassion, advocacy and empathy."

The Daisy Foundation was founded in 1999 by the family of J. Patrick Barnes after he was hospitalized for eight weeks before succumbing to an auto-immune disease. His family created the Daisy Award to express gratitude to nurses for the work they do for patients and their families every day.

Bain, who is expecting her first child, says she loves caring for maternal newborn patients and cannot imagine herself doing anything else.

Army leaders emphasize importance of Anti-terrorism Awareness Month

August marks the Army's third annual observance of Antiterrorism Awareness Month. Antiterrorism awareness is a critical aspect of our profession, both on and off duty, because the threat of terrorist attack against our Nation and our Army is real and ever-present.

Effective antiterrorism measures integrate a multitude of security programs - law enforcement, physical security and operational security - to ensure the continued protection of our installations, standalone facilities and expeditionary forces. The continued protection of our facilities and our people requires the eternal vigilance of every member of our Army Family and the successful integration of the Antiterrorism Principles - Assess, Detect, Warn, Defend and Recover. This year's Antiterrorism Awareness Month will focus on enhancing community awareness by both leveraging the command information program to educate our Army Family on the dangers associated with terrorism and highlighting the iWATCH Army program, which helps us recognize and report suspicious activity.

We encourage all commands to conduct training or sponsor events that emphasize the importance of the community in the protection of our Army. Leaders should promote antiterrorism principles and the significant role Soldiers, civilians and Families play in our own safety. Together, we will safeguard our installations, facilities and - most importantly - the people who continue to answer our Nation's call to service. Army Strong!

Signed:

Raymond F. Chandler
Sergeant Major of the Army

Raymond T. Odierno
General, United States Army Chief of Staff

John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army

With honor



Sgt. Michael Jack, Medical Department Activity-Alaska, salutes for the playing of the bugle call, "taps," during a ceremony to honor all military personnel of all wars who are prisoners of war and missing in action. The POW/MIA ceremony took place at the 13th annual Stand Down for veterans, Aug. 18. Approximately two dozen military and civilian employees from Bassett Army Community Hospital volunteered at the event which offers veterans various services including medical, optical and dental screening with funding for follow-up care. The Stand Down was held at Pioneer Park in Fairbanks, also the location of the Military Appreciation Day this Saturday starting at noon. (photo by Brandy Ostanik/MEDDAC-AK PAO)



Maj. Gen. Michael X. Garrett, commander of U.S. Army Alaska, received a tour of the Fort Wainwright Military Police Station guided by Mr. Maurice Fischer, the Fort Wainwright Director of Emergency Services. (Courtesy photo)

ALASKA POST

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Fort Wainwright Garrison Commander

Col. Ronald M. Johnson

U.S. Army Garrison Fort Wainwright

PAO

Linda Douglass

Command Information Chief

Connie Storch

Editor

Brian Schlumbohm

Staff writers

Trish Muntean

Allen Shaw

Contributors

Ch. (Maj.) Michael Allen, Fort Wainwright Garrison

Sgt. Thomas Duval, 1-2th SBCT PAO

Bob McElroy, U.S. Army Garrison-Pohakuloa PAO

Brandy Ostanik, MEDDAC-AK PAO

Tim Hipps, IMCOM Public Affairs

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The ALASKA POST - Home of the Arctic Warriors

Leadership, standards and discipline

Maj. Gen. Michael X. Garrett,
commanding general, U.S. Army Alaska

I've been serving in the Army for my entire life. My first 22 years I was an Army dependant and for the last 28 years I've been an officer. I've loved every minute of it. When I was a platoon leader as a second lieutenant, my father was my division command sergeant major. When he retired after 35 years of service, he had more time in grade than many command sergeants major had in the Army.

My father was the finest Soldier I've ever known. He taught me what I should expect from noncommissioned officers. Soldiers should be able to look at an NCO and know the standard. The sergeant shouldn't have to say anything; the troops see his actions and know. The biggest difference between our Army and any other in the world is our noncommissioned officers. The NCO corps truly is the backbone of the Army.

The bedrock of any effective military unit is leadership, standards and discipline. These are what I expect from each of you and should be the focus of everything we do. Effective leadership is based in our shared ideals. The character of any Arctic Tough Leader, the core of who we each truly are, must be in harmony with the Army Values. These values describe the professional military ethos and capture the tradi-



Maj. Gen. Michael X. Garrett

tion of our honored institution. Leadership based on loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage is what we owe those we serve, our Soldiers and everyone who has ever fought and died wearing this uniform.

Engaged leaders know and enforce the standards. I don't abide

leaders who ignore deficiencies. If you don't make on-the-spot corrections when you see someone failing to meet the standard, then you just accepted that deficiency as your new standard.

Practicing discipline trains us to be obedient, loyal and respectful while instilling in us the will to win. Discipline is the inner strength to do what is right and to carry out your orders to the very best of your ability. It can be applied to any aspect of your service and in any situation. You show discipline when you push yourself during physical training and when you take pride in wearing the uniform correctly. Being a disciplined leader means you take responsibility for your actions and don't make excuses when you make mistakes. Discipline is enforcing the standards and working every day to become a better leader.

Each of you must practice discipline, especially when it comes to the basics. When I say basics, I mean the fundamentals we all learned during our entry level training. I expect every Soldier to have the discipline to observe military customs and courtesies. Things like going to parade rest when speaking to NCOs and attention when speaking to officers, taking pride in rendering and receiving sharp salutes, and being in the right place at the right time and in the

right uniform. These are all things that every one of us learned how to do, but every day there are troops in our formation who aren't disciplined enough to do them.

One of my objectives is to improve our command by developing leaders who offer purpose, direction and motivation to those they lead. As our Soldiers are mentored and taught by example, they will mature into the leaders of tomorrow. They will then take their accumulated knowledge, skills and experience to follow-on assignments in other commands. These Soldiers turned leaders will help influence and develop the rest of the Army and affect what our institution will become.

Every day I try and give you all my very best effort. That's all I ask of you, that every day you give your best effort to the Army and those you lead. You are all doing a tremendous job and make me proud to be part of this great team. I challenge you to continue training hard and leading from the front. We are blessed to enjoy extraordinary support from our local communities and this great state. This should remind us that the Army is the most respected organization in the U.S. and that we are privileged to serve the citizens of our country by providing for her security. We are the strength of the nation!

Arctic Warriors! Arctic Tough!

'Automatic' commander shifts focus to Soldiers, Families and core competencies

Sgt. Thomas Duval,
1-25th SBCT PAO

For more than 50 years the 2nd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery Regiment has adapted to a wide range of missions, from Panama to Guantanamo Bay to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Having recently returned from a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan, the 2-8th is once again changing its focus and adapting, but this time it's not for an impending war.

Instead, Lt. Col. Thomas Robinson, commander of 2-8th, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, is shifting the battalion's focus to promote strong Families.

"The Army has asked us to be ready to go anytime, anywhere and for me that means training and being good field artillerymen while also ensuring Soldier and Family readiness," Robinson said.

"I am a big supporter of Families. I myself am an Army spouse and right now my Soldier is deployed," he said. "For the guys just coming back from deployment, it's important for me to ensure the guys are getting off at a reasonable hour and that we are affording them time with their families."

Unlike many commanders, Robin-

son understands what it's like to be a Soldier and a military spouse.

His wife, Lt. Col. Lori Robinson, is deployed to Afghanistan where she serves as the commander for the 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, based out of Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii.

"I miss the heck out of my wife," he said. "This is the first time we have been away from each other, but we deal with it like any other Family does. We email and call whenever we can."

Although, he admits it's tough, the Stony Point, N.Y., native insists the challenges are a way for him to relate to his Soldiers and their Families.

"Being married and now my Soldier is deployed, I feel like I can relate to the Families more," he said. In addition to improving and strengthening the bonds between the Soldiers and their Families, Robinson is preparing his unit to get back to the "core competencies" that come with being artillerymen.

"Over the last 10 years the mission of field artillery has been in flux," said the Iraq and Afghanistan veteran. "Artillerymen have been asked to do a lot of things other than shooting. For example, in Afghanistan they were conducting convoys and pulling con-

voys security. With the Army changing, we get to focus on straight field artillery training while also maintaining the lessons learned from the skills we learned ... and the guys are excited."

"I want to get back to training and shooting," he said. "The guys are coming and the guys are excited about it. They love to be back on the guns."

With the Alaska winter rapidly approaching, the artillerymen may not be excited for too long, but it's a challenge Lt. Col. Robinson has faced before.

Shortly after completing the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Robinson's first assignment was at Fort Wainwright where he served as the fire support officer for A Company, 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Battery followed by a stint as the executive officer for B Battery, 4th Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment.

"Coming back here where it all started for me is awesome," he said. "I was excited when I found out I was going to be the commander of the 2-8th Field Artillery and believe me, I'm no stranger to the cold."

Prepared for the Alaskan winter and the return of his weapons systems after a very demanding reset process, Robinson said he's looking forward to

his time as commander of the 2-8th.

"We have a solid unit with good leaders and good Soldiers and I'm confident there is no mission they could throw at us that we couldn't accomplish," he said.



Lt. Col. Thomas Robinson

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Fort Wainwright teen joins Pacific teen leaders' green conference

Bob McElroy

U.S. Army Garrison Pohakuloa
Public Affairs

KILAUEA MILITARY CAMP, Hawaii—High school students from several Pacific Region garrisons gathered here from July 18-24 for the annual Pacific Youth Leadership Forum.

The theme for this year's forum was "Renewable Energy-The Power of Youth."

The purpose of the forum was to connect teens from different backgrounds, discuss teen issues, provide leadership opportunities and help them develop their personal skills. Teens from garrisons in Alaska, Hawaii, Japan, Kwajalein and Korea attended.

The forum was open to teenagers 14 to 17 who demonstrated good character and behavior and were active participants in their garrison's youth program. Nearly 30 teens attended this year's forum.

Mark Ryales, the Youth Program Specialist for IMCOM-Pacific Region, said the issues identification sessions were the prime reason the region brings the teens together.

"It starts at the garrisons," Ryales said. "Garrison Youth Councils determine three issues from each of their garrisons and then bring them to the Region Youth Leadership Forum. The forum discusses the issues and determines which are the top five in the Pacific Region; the others go back to the garrisons for resolution."

During their time in Hawaii the teens performed a technology project and a service learning project.

The technology project focused on renewable and sustainable energy projects. The teens visited the Pakini Nui Wind Farms on South Point to learn about wind-generated electricity. They also learned about Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion, a process which uses differences in seawater temperature to generate electricity.

To cap their technology experience the teens had to build a wind turbine and use it to power a water pump.

"The kids designed them; whoever pumped the most water

in 60 seconds won," Ryales said.

The service learning project took place in Hilo where 29 teens joined volunteers from the Hilo Habitat for Humanity for a morning of hard work under a brilliant blue sky and blazing sun.

The project entailed removing screws and nails from used lumber and boards that Hawaii Community College donated, according to Julie Hugo, of Hilo Habitat for Humanity.

Hugo said that Hawaii Community College was renovating and the contractors performing the job could not dump the wood in a landfill. Habitat for Humanity was willing to accept it as a donation. The organization uses the lumber in its homebuilding projects and sells it in its store for about 50 percent less than retail.

Rex Lauer, the co-chair of Hilo Habitat's construction committee, said that if there are no termites, mold or dry rot the used wood is just as good as new.

"It's cured, it can be used for lots of things like benches, table tops," Lauer said.

Before Habitat could reuse or sell the lumber all of the nails, screws and other metal had to be removed from it. Youth Leadership Forum teens helped with that.

"The kids help us by removing screws and nails and then sorting it by size," Hugo said. "They had to build saw horses and we taught them how to use the equipment. Some of them had never held a hammer until today so they love it."

The teens used hammers, electric drills and other tools to remove the hardware from the wood. When they'd removed all of the nails or screws a Habitat staffer inspected the wood and, if clean, told the student to pile it near a container Habitat owns.

One of the teens who helped, John Sholar from U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, said he joined the Youth Leadership Forum to gain leadership experience before college and to give something back to his community.

"This is my first project with Habitat for Humanity," Sholar said. "I think it's awesome we can help people. This



Josh Page from U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, Korea (left) Halley Hine (center) and Angel Ware both from Aliamanu Military Reservation, Oahu were three of the teens who participated in the Pacific Youth Leadership Forum community service project with Hilo Habitat for Humanity in July. (Photo by Bob McElroy/U.S. Army Garrison - Pohakuloa Public Affairs Office)

is direct and hands on. I'm having a good time."

Steven Colon, a high school junior from Schofield Barracks, Oahu also wanted to develop his leadership skills and give back to the community. He discovered another benefit to the forum—meeting new people and making new friends.

"I'm kind of shy and stuck with my group at first but then I got to know the other kids and they were similar to me," Colon said. "They have the same issues and are not so different. I don't want to leave. We've only known each other a few days but I feel like I've known them my entire life."

Kaitlyn Nott, a YLF member from U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, Korea joined the Youth Leadership Forum this year for the same reason as Colon and Sholar.

"I wanted leadership experience before college and I wanted to do something for the community," Nott said. "I want to give back to the community that gave so much to me. I've learned that it's nice to receive but giving back is a

greater experience."

Another teen who participated, Shannon Nolan from Torii Station, Okinawa, said the forum was fun and productive.

I learned a lot of stuff; we worked on issues like being able to transfer credits when we move and the lack of jobs in the PX for teenagers, Nolan said.

Nolan said she hoped to apply her leadership skills and what she learned at the forum to help improve Torii Station.

"Nothing is going to happen unless we do something about it," she said.

Halley Hine from Aliamanu Military Reservation, Oahu said this is the first time she's attended a Youth Leadership Forum. Like her fellow teens she shares a desire to make a difference in her community.

"I saw this as a way to do it," Hine said.

Hine also learned the value of teamwork.

"I got what it means to work as a team, to work with others," she said. "I have a lot in common with the other kids. This has been a wonderful experience."

Lourdes Ramirez, a high school junior from Fort Wainwright, joined the YLF when she saw how much her friend gained from membership.

"I saw the skills she got, the confidence. I wanted to challenge myself and get confidence and skills," Ramirez said. "I feel good inside, I can't wait to tell my mom about this."

After the forum adjourned, Ryales reflected on it and the teens who participated.

"This was a sharp group of kids; they worked hard and played hard. There were no cliques, no conflicts. They worked very well together," Ryales said.

Ryales has been working with the Youth Leadership Forum for the past 11 years, four in the Pacific Region and seven at Fort McPherson, Ga.

"This is collectively the strongest group of leaders I've seen in 11 years; these kids earned the opportunity to come to Hawaii," he said. "And the Big Island was a great location for our technology and service learning project."

Spurs: U.S. Army cavalry tradition still challenges Soldiers

Continued from page 1

ed," the spur candidate added before tucking his head under a small patch of shade.

Just a few hours into the day, spectators could practically feel the Soldiers' pain as the candidates desperately gasped for air and grabbed for water, rushing to the obstacle course to face a variety of wooden beams and rope ladders.

"God only knows when this will end," Sgt. 1st Class Michael

Rasmussen, a platoon sergeant with C Troop, 5-1st, said as he sipped water and looked toward the four miles of loose dirt and rock separating his team from the next phase. "We just grab our stuff and ruck on."

Wet and muddied, Rasmussen and his team navigated through the obstacle course together, ensuring each spur candidate remembered what he was fighting for.

"Our motivation to get through

this is the pride that comes with being in a cavalry unit," Rasmussen, a Minnesota native, said. "It's all about pride."

For the majority of the 12-phase challenge, teamwork played an important role, but events like the gas chamber and land navigation tested the will and mental toughness of each Soldier as an individual.

"At this point they are just wondering when it is going to be over," said Sgt. 1st Class

Joshua Crawford, platoon sergeant for A Troop, 5-1st.

After traveling more than 18 miles in 16 hours, the question of whether or not the pain would end was answered as the first group of cavalry troopers successfully reached the finish line, cementing their places in the history of the 1st Cavalry Regiment.

Of the nearly 60 hopeful Soldiers who embarked on the journey to earn their spurs, 55

successfully completed the challenge and stood proud to receive silver spurs on their boots.

"Not only did they earn their spurs with the oldest cavalry unit, but they earned them on the Last Frontier," Krivda said.

"For these Soldiers to accomplish this task is a rite of passage," 1st Sgt. Shawn Keene said. "These guys are now part of an elite group and it's a tradition to be proud of."



Capt. Christopher Hanes (left), B Troop commander, 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division briefs Capt. Everett McKinney, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 5-1st, 1-25th SCBT, on the cavalry reconnaissance focus lane portion of the cavalry spur ride Aug. 16. This will require the Soldiers to evaluate water crossings by bridge or water. (Photo by Brian Schlumbohm/Fort Wainwright PAO)



Cavalry Soldiers prove themselves in a series of mental and physical tests while being pushed to the edge of exhaustion in order to earn their silver spurs. The Soldier's success comes from his own abilities and skills but finds support and encouragement from his fellow Soldiers and working with a team. (Photo by Brian Schlumbohm/Fort Wainwright PAO)

Sergeant Audie Murphy Club seeking a few good leaders

Trish Muntean, Fort Wainwright PAO

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Farthest North Chapter, an elite private organization for noncommissioned officers, is taking applications for membership. And although its numbers are down (primarily due to PCS moves) not just anyone can join.

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is a private U.S. Army organization for NCOs only, according to the official website. Those NCOs whose leadership achievements and performance merit special recognition may possibly earn the reward of membership.

According to the official website for the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club among other traits members must... "...exemplify leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development, and welfare of Soldiers and concern for families of Soldiers."

Anyone seeking membership must go through an extensive selection process. First and foremost, candidates must display their commitment as leaders and willingness to serve as volunteers. They do this

by receiving a recommendation from a senior leader in their chain of command based on their performance as leaders. They will also be required to attend club functions that involve the community. This recommendation is part of a formatted packet that must be completed and submitted to the unit SAMC representative. Upon completion of the packet, the candidates must pass a series of selection boards at the battalion and brigade level. Once they pass those two boards, they must pass the final selection board. The final selection board will be conducted quarterly and will consist of an APFT, hands-on testing and appearance before a board comprised of SAMC members and senior leaders. If the candidates can meet all those criteria, they will be inducted into the SAMC.

The organization is a well-organized, highly integrated, non-profit private organization which reaches out to the local Fairbanks and military communities, said Staff Sgt. Eddie Barba, president of the local chapter.

"To be a member of the SAMC means you are an NCO that is fully com-



Staff Sgt. Eddie Barba, president of the Farthest North Chapter of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club, was the winner of the U.S. Army Pacific Warrior Challenge for noncommissioned officers in 2010. (File photo by Brian Schlumbohm).

mitted to improving and maintaining the NCO Corps, the US Army and the local community," Barba explained.

We take the responsibilities of being a leader very seriously, he said. The members of our or-

ganization have been identified by their peers and seniors as being the example of professionalism and competence.

Especially important, Barba said, is that a member of the SAMC will go above and beyond

what is considered the standard in all he/she does, especially when it comes to the NCO's two basic responsibilities of "accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers."

Currently there are two chapters at Fort Wainwright. The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Farthest North Chapter which encompasses all units on post with the exception of the Medical Department Activity-Alaska and Dental Activity-Alaska which make up the second chapter.

Master Sgt. LaShan Hayes was a Staff Sgt when she joined in 2002.

"At that point of my career I thought it was only fitting for me to be part of Audie Murphy Club," she said. "There is something about an NCO that is Sgt. Audie Murphy. They are the elite, at the top of everything that they do. It is expected of you, not only by the Soldiers and the NCOs, but the officers too. They expect something different from you."

"You weren't considered a leader unless you were a member of the SAMC," Hayes said, because (Audie Murphy) led, the way Soldiers should be led. Not just thinking of yourself, but

of your Soldiers."

Sgt. Cutter Ragusa is early in his Army career and heard about the organization in basic training. He was happy to hear there was a chapter at Fort Wainwright.

"The main reason being that this is a prestigious club. It is something that sets you apart from other people," he said.

"My main thing is setting an example for the Soldiers that I help train and if it is something I am stepping forward and trying to become part of this elite club, I can help them out," he said. "There is so much I can learn from the NCOs that are part of this organization, they are very helpful; everything I need to be an NCO, it just a great thing that I want to get involved in."

Command Sgt. Major Harry Jeffries has been invited to be the senior advisor to the group. Barba said the Fort Wainwright garrison's command sergeant major's experience makes him an excellent choice for the job and he expects that he will contribute much to the organization.

For more information on the organization, visit their website: <http://www.farthestnorthsamc.com/index.html>.

Military athletes leave marks on London Olympics

Tim Hipps, IMCOM Public Affairs

More than 20 U.S. military athletes, coaches, training partners, family members and support personnel served as sports ambassadors to the world during the London 2012 Olympic Games.

From Olympic Stadium to the Royal Artillery Barracks shooting halls and ranges, to the boxing rings, wrestling mats and fencing strips at London's ExCel Centre and Copper Box, to the waters of the Olympic Aquatics Centre, to the equestrian course at Greenwich Park, to The Mall and Buckingham Palace, Soldiers helped fellow world-class athletes inspire a generation.

"For the thousands of athletes participating at London 2012, the Games represent the culmination of years of dedication, sacrifice and training," said Jacques Rogge, president of the International Olympic Committee, during the opening ceremony at Olympic Stadium on July 27.

"For many competitors, London 2012 will be the highlight of their sporting careers. Some will of course reach the podium and set records along the way. But win or lose, it will be those athletes who compete in a spirit of excellence, friendship and respect that will be an example for us all."

For most of the next 16 days, Soldiers marched alongside, competed with and against, and even slept, ate and drank around the world's greatest athletes in their respective sports. They unquestionably inspired more than one generation.

Sgt. Vincent Hancock established himself as a shotgun shooter for the ages by becoming the first Olympic champion in men's skeet to repeat as gold medalist.

Along the way, Hancock, 23, a U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Soldier from Eatonton, Ga., eclipsed his own Olympic records in qualification (123) and final (148) scores, marks he established at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. He struck gold in China with a qualification score of 121 and total of 145.

Four-time Olympic shotgun shooter and Team USA shotgun coach Todd Graves, a former USAMU competitor, said nothing is beyond the realm of possibility for Hancock.

"That's the greatest thing in the world -- two in a row," Graves said. "He shot lights out, seriously, lights out. I told him out there when I hugged him that he's the best I've

ever seen. And I've seen a lot."

"I don't believe that's going to be his last one," Graves added with a wink and a sly grin. "I really don't think that's going to be his last one."

Another member of the Army family, Jamie Gray, won an Olympic gold medal in women's 50-meter rifle 3-positions shooting on Aug. 4 at the Royal Artillery Barracks.

Wife of USAMU Sgt. 1st Class Hank Gray, Jamie, 28, of Phenix City, Ala., set Olympic records in qualification (592) and final (691.9) scores in the event that includes shooting from prone, standing and kneeling positions.

"I just took great shots," she said. "Every shot was a good shot."

Gray also finished fifth in the women's 10-meter air rifle, the first gold-medal event of the London 2012 Olympic Games, on July 28.

It was not all about the Army. Janay DeLoach, daughter of retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. William DeLoach, won a bronze medal in the women's long jump with a leap of 6.89 meters on Aug. 9 at Olympic Stadium.

"My dad's here with me, cheering me on," DeLoach said. "He's been there the whole way through. He's always supported me in all my endeavors."

U.S. Air Force Reserve Capt. Seth Kelsey just missed two chances at winning an Olympic medal in men's epee individual fencing. Kelsey lost his semifinal bout in sudden-death overtime, 6-5, to the fencer who went on to win the gold medal, Venezuela's Ruben Limardo Gascon. Then he dropped another sudden-death decision in the bronze-medal match to Korea's Jinsun Jung, 12-11.

Kelsey's fourth-place finish in the event was one of Team USA's best since Navy officer George Kalnan struck bronze in epee at the 1928 Amsterdam Games. U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program fencer Sgt. Cody Nagengast was in London serving as Kelsey's training partner.

Some tie to U.S. military athletics seemed to appear everywhere in London. One even looped around Team USA men's basketball head coach Mike Krzyzewski, who led a group of NBA stars to another gold medal. It likely was the final game as national coach for "Coach K," known for leading Duke University to four NCAA Championships.

Krzyzewski's coaching career's roots are planted at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., where he coached

from 1975 until 1980, after playing from 1966 to 1969 for legendary coach Bob Knight. Krzyzewski also served in the U.S. Army from 1970 until 1974. With his team's London performance, Krzyzewski joined Henry Iba (1964, 68) as the only coaches to lead Team USA to basketball gold medals in consecutive Olympics.

Returning to active-duty Soldier-Olympians, about half of Team USA's shooting squadron is provided by the U.S. Army. This included head rifle coach Maj. David Johnson, a four-time Olympian from the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program. Johnson said he prefers working with a mix of military and civilian shooters at international competitions.

"I used to compete as an athlete, and I'm a very competitive guy," Johnson said. "I compete vicariously through them, I guess, but I don't like losing. We can do well and I think we should do well. My job is to do everything I can to help make that happen. For me, it's not fun and games here. There has been a tremendous amount of work for the past four years and you try to build on that momentum and execute here."

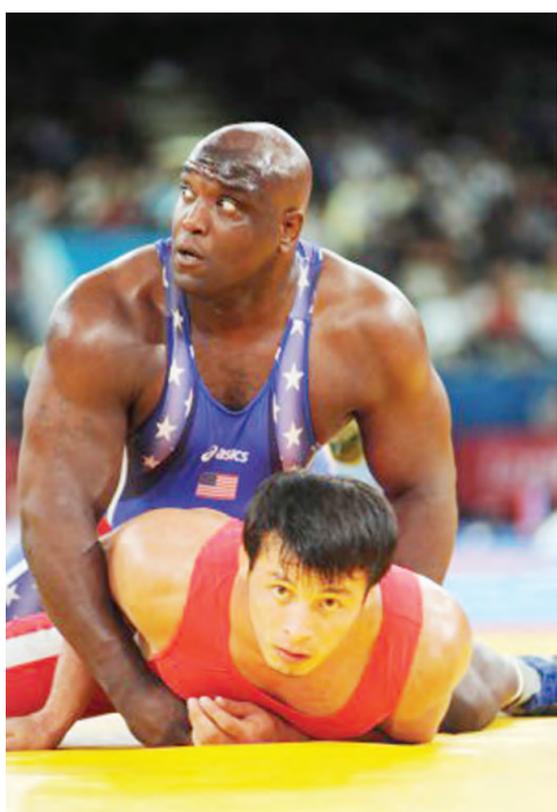
"The support [of USA Shooting] at Fort Benning (Ga.) is critical to the sport. We have Soldiers assigned there who get a chance to go after medals, and that's critical for the sport. I'm a believer as a coach in mixing the civilians and military together because everybody gets stronger."

For Team USA's 20 starts in the London Games' shooting events, a Soldier stepped to the line 13 times.

USAMU Sgt. Michael McPhail and Sgt. 1st Class Eric Uptagrafft finished ninth and 14th respectively in men's 50-meter prone rifle. WCAP Sgt. 1st Class Keith Sanderson was 14th in men's 25-meter rapid-fire pistol. USAMU Sgt. 1st Class Josh Richmond and four-time Olympian Sgt. Glenn Eller were 16th and 22nd respectively in men's double trap.

Four-time Olympian Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker finished 30th in the men's 3-positions rifle event in what likely will be his final Olympics as a competitor. Likewise for WCAP Sgt. 1st Class Daryl Szarenski, a four-time Olympian who finished 28th in the 50-meter free pistol event and 23rd in 10-meter air pistol before retiring from the Army.

"I worked really hard for this



World Class Athlete Program Sgt. 1st Class Dremiel Byers (top) wrestles to a 1-0, 2-0 victory over Muminjon Abdullaev of Uzbekistan in the Olympic men's Greco-Roman 120-kilogram/264.5-pound wrestling tournament Aug. 6, 2012, at ExCel North Arena in London. (Tim Hipps, IMCOM Public Affairs/U.S. Army)

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Friday – 24th

BE AN ANGEL DAY STORY HOUR & CRAFTS, 4 to 5 p.m., Post Library, Bldg. 3700. Call 353-4137.

COSMIC BOWLING, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Nugget Lanes Bowling Center, Bldg. 3702. Call 353-2654.

Saturday -25th

OVERNIGHT FLOAT TRIP, 8 a.m., Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 4050. Cost is \$50. Call 361-6349

BOATER SAFETY CLASS, 1 p.m., Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 4050. Call 361-6349.

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 1 p.m., Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Cost is \$7. Call 353-7294.

CHESS CLUB, 3 – 5 p.m., Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg. 1044. Call 353-7755.

DART TOURNAMENT, 6 p.m., The Warrior Zone, Bldg. 3205. Open to all DoD Cardholder 18 and over. Call 353-1087.

COSMIC BOWLING, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Nugget Lanes Bowling Center, Bldg. 3702. Call 353-2654.

Sunday -26th

STILES CREEK ATV RUN, 8 a.m., Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 4050. Cost is \$75. Call 361-6349.

Monday – 27th

ROMP AND STOMP PLAYGROUP: GREAT OUTDOORS, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg. 1044. Call 353-7372.

GROUP CYCLING CLASS, noon, Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Call 353-7223.

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 6 p.m., Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Cost is \$7. Call 353-7294.

Tuesday – 28th

FAMILY READINESS GROUP TRAINING, 9:30 -11:30 a.m., Post Library, Bldg 3700. Call 353-4227.

HOOR OF POWER GROUP STRENGTH CLASS, noon, Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Call 353-7223.

Wednesday -29th

GROUP CYCLING CLASS, noon, Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Call 353-7223.

BOOT CAMP, 5 p.m., Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Call 353-7223.

Thursday – 30th

ROMP AND STOMP PLAYGROUP: GREAT OUTDOORS, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Bldg. 1044. Call 353-7372.

HOOR OF POWER GROUP STRENGTH CLASS, noon, Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Call 353-7223.

ZUMBA FITNESS CLASS, 6 p.m., Physical Fitness Center, Bldg. 3709. Cost is \$7. Call 353-7294.

Friday – 31st

FREE BOWLING, 7 – 10 p.m., Nugget Lanes Bowling Center, Bldg 3702. 353-2654.

VALDEZ SILVER SALMON- 3 DAYS, 8 a.m., Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 4050. Cost is \$275. Call 361-6349.

COSMIC BOWLING, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Nugget Lanes Bowling Center, Bldg. 3702. Call 353-2654.

Vacation Bible School - sharing fun times and faith



Erin Smith, director of Vacation Bible School conducted at Northern Lights Chapel, poses next to some of her artistic creations used to unleash "Panda-monium" which helped more than 55 children discover that God is Wild About Them. With the help of other chapel volunteers, children participated in physical activities, sang songs, made crafts, and learned some of the great faith stories from the Bible, including Elijah calling down fire from Heaven and Jonah and the whale. (Chaplain (Maj.) Michael I. Allen, Fort Wainwright)

Chaplain (Maj.) Michael I. Allen, Garrison chaplain

Discover, explore and live.

Vacation Bible School is part of the Fort Wainwright command Master Religious Program which is designed to help Soldiers and Family members discover their faith, explore their faith and live out their faith.

In addition to the fun and knowledge gained, the VBS group was challenged to bring durable food goods to assist the ASYMCA and Fairbanks Food Bank.

You are encouraged to come and be part of the Fort Wainwright Community of Faith. We have three worship services which all begin at 11 a.m. each Sunday. Protestant Services are at Northern Lights Chapel located at the corner of Rhineland and Luzon streets. Catholic services are held at Southern Lights Chapel at the corner of 8th and Neely streets. Our Gospel congregation meets on the third floor of Bassett Army Community Hospital.

The garrison chaplain can be reached at 353-9825 weekdays and after hours the duty chaplain can be reached at 831-9054.

LEGAL NOTICES**ESTATE NOTICE**

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Pvt. Jawuan Collins, 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, may contact 1Lt. Andrew S. Chung, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-24th Inf. Bn., Fort Wainwright, Alaska, 99703, or call 353-3786 or e-mail andrew.s.chung.mil@mail.mil.

ESTATE NOTICE

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Spc. Marvin K. Scott of 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment, 16th Combat Aviation Brigade (Alaska), contact Capt. Cody Blair, 1-52nd, 2088 Montgomery Road, Fort Wainwright, Alaska 99703 or call 353-9075.

ESTATE NOTICE

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Spc. Ethan Martin of C Troop, 1st Squadron (Airborne), 40th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, may contact 2nd Lt. Daniel Mullins, E Troop, 1-40th, 4-25th, 724 Postal Service Loop, 8400 Fort Richardson, AK 99505, or call (907) 384-1862.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES

An information session for high school students and their parents will be offered by The U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the UAF Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Battalion, Aug. 26 at 3 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at Monroe Catholic High School at 615 Monroe Street, Fairbanks. The briefing will cover the opportunities available to qualified candidates to further their education and become an Army Officer. Topics include qualification standards, the admissions and scholarship processes, and timelines. An explanation of the programs differences and what a cadet would experience will be provided.

This is the only time this joint briefing will be conducted in the Fairbanks area. For more information, or to RSVP, please email fairbanksarmyofficer@gmail.com

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ESTHER BARBER
& STYLES
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ARE YOU A
VICTIM OF
OR WITNESS
TO SPOUSE
ABUSE?
CHILD ABUSE?
CALL 388-2260
NO NAME REQUIRED

HUNTING RESOURCES, RESTRICTIONS

It's hunting season. For information about hunting on Army lands, check out www.fortwainwright.army.mil. Links to regulations, updated maps and information about obtaining a Recreational Access Permit is all available online. A RAP is needed for hunting, fishing, hiking and other recreational use of Army training lands. With RAP in hand, automated check-in is available online and by phone. In-person check-in is permitted at forts Wainwright and Greely. For more information, call 361-9686.

DENTAL ASSISTANT TRAINING

The American Red Cross is accepting applications for the yearlong training beginning January 2013.

* Applicants must be 18 years of age or older

* A spouse or other military Family member

* Application due date: Sept. 28.

* Must be able to complete the training which takes place from Jan. 2 through June 2013. Graduation is set for June 13, 2013.

* All pre requirements must be completed by 16 October 2012

There is no out-of-pocket cost to the students except for their time and commitment to the program. The program consists of 650 hours of classroom and clinical training weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information or to pick up an application please contact the American Red Cross at 1024 Apple Street, or call 353-7234 weekdays.

COMMISSARY SALE

The Defense Commissary Association case lot sale is set for Thursday and Aug. 31. Soldiers and Families may save 30 percent or more on bulk item purchases. For more information visit www.commissaries.com.

ANTITERRORISM RESOURCES

August marks Antiterrorism Awareness Month. The Army's antiterrorism (AT) program protects personnel, information, property and facilities in all locations and situations against terrorist activities. The purpose of AT Awareness Month is to instill Army-wide heightened awareness and vigilance to prevent and protect Army communities from acts of terrorism. To prepare for long-term protection from terrorist activities, the Army must embed AT awareness, training, leader development and education across the force. That level of awareness and vigilance is our most certain defense against terrorists. For more information, visit www.myarmyonesource.com.

VACATION GIVEAWAY

The Great Getaways Vacation Sweepstakes continues through Aug. 31. Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons have an opportunity to win one of four all-inclusive Great Getaways vacation packages to one of four Armed Forces Recreation Centers: Dragon Hill Lodge & Resort, Hale Koa Hotel, Shades of Green and Edelweiss Lodge & Resort. For more information or to enter, visit www.AFRCresorts.com.

COLLEGE-BOUND OPPORTUNITIES

An information session for high school students and their parents will be offered by The U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the University of Alaska Fairbanks Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps Battalion, Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at Monroe Catholic High School at 615 Monroe Street, Fairbanks. The briefing will cover the opportunities available to qualified candidates to further their education and become an Army Officer. Topics include qualification standards, the admissions and scholarship processes, and timelines. An explanation of the programs differences and what a cadet would experience will be provided. Students who have open admissions files will have the opportunity to conduct an interview with each representative. This is the only time this joint briefing will be conducted in the Fairbanks area. Potential candidates should meet the following criteria: US citizen; unmarried; neither pregnant or with a legal obligation to care for a child; demonstrated strong leadership potential; physically fit; and strong academic performance. Confirmation of attendance is appreciated but not required. For more information, or to RSVP, please email fairbanksarmyofficer@gmail.com.

TOOLS FOR CHILD'S SUCCESS

Preparing for the Journey: Giving Your Young Child a Head Start on the Road to Academic Success - Parent Conference is a course for parents of children birth through age 5. The process of building a foundation for reading and language begins at birth. Parents of children from birth to five years of age will come together to explore facts about early learning and to develop a plan to build literacy, science, and math activities into the fun activities that they do around the house with their young children. Kindergarten readiness will also be addressed. Participants will receive the Military Child Education Coalition book, "Chart Your Course: Preparing for the Journey," along with

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GALLO'S MEXICAN RESTAURAN
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other early literacy resources. The process of building a foundation for reading and language begins at birth. Parents of children from birth to five years of age will come together to explore facts about early learning and to develop a plan to build literacy, science, and math activities into the fun activities that they do around the house with their young children. The free class is offered by the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC). The class is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon Sept. 12. Register for the free session online at www.planetreg.com/E72619392408320.

ENLISTED TO OFFICER

Active duty, Reserve, and National Guard Soldiers interested in becoming Army officers are invited to attend a briefing Monday at 9:30 a.m. at the Pvt. Joseph P. Martinez Combined Arms Collective Training Facility, Building 2296 Montgomery Road. Representatives from the United States Military Academy at West Point and the University of Alaska Fairbanks Army ROTC Battalion will explain each program's qualification standards, admissions and scholarship processes, timelines and benefits. Sign up by email is encouraged but not required. For more information, email fairbanksarmyofficer@gmail.com.

OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED

Open burning is not permitted on Fort Wainwright property. Campfires, use of portable fire pits and outdoor fireplaces are prohibited in all areas including housing. For more information, call the fire safety inspector, Sarah Chapman, at 353-9140.

SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

Chart Your Course for Success in High School and Beyond Seminar for parents and their middle and high school students which will focus on a suggested curriculum that will insure both an on-time graduation (despite multiple school transitions) and a competitive resume for college applications. Research indicates that planning for post-high school education needs to begin in middle school. The college application process, admissions portfolios, and financial aid will be addressed. Participants will receive a Chart Your Course kit which includes a planning guide, a calendar outlining college admission and financial aid tasks and an interactive DVD. The free class is offered by the Military Child Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) in September. Evening class is open to parents and their teens. Register at www.planetreg.com/E72619392408320.

TWO-MINUTE WARNING

All units and organizations on post are required to develop a fire evacuation plan, including assembly and occupant accountability procedures. Complete evacuation of structure within two minutes. Evacuation plans should include Soldiers and civilians assembly in a designated area for 100 percent accountability of personnel. Questions? Contact your unit safety officer, Fort Wainwright Safety at 353-7079 or Emergency Services at 353-7889.

ALASKAN ADVENTURES FOR LESS

Whether biking or kayaking in Denali National Park, rafting the Nenana River or relaxing on a Segway tour in town, check with the staff at Outdoor Recreation for discount ticket rates, save money. Call 361-6349.

VALDEZ MILITARY RECREATION

Tent camping and on-site camp trailers with electricity are available for DoD cardholders in Fort Greely's Family and MWR campground in Valdez. The recreation site also offers showers, fishing charters, biking and camping equipment. Some facilities and services are open to the public. Call (907) 873-4311 for more information.

DIVORCE BRIEFING

Questions and concerns about divorce are addressed at weekly briefings offered by the Legal Assistance Office Tuesdays at 9 a.m. The divorce briefing is available to military members and spouses and is located in Building 1562 on the corner of Gaffney and Freeman Roads. For more information about legal services or an appointment, call 353-6534.

PREVENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Help for abused and neglected children is available locally and through a toll-free hotline. The 24-hour

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SWEET ADELINES
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Child help National Child Abuse Hotline at (800) 4A-CHILD and on post, call Army Community Service at 353-7317. If you suspect a child is being hurt or neglected, contact the local police. Tips and resources are available for parents, educators, caregivers and volunteers at www.myarmyonesource.com.

MILITARY CHILD, FAMILY THERAPY

Family members of active and retired military can consult the Child and Family Assistance Center for assistance with youth and Family issues. Individual and group therapy is available. Referrals are not required. For more information or an appointment, call 361-6284 or 361-6059.

VOTING ASSISTANCE

Alaskans in the Interior will have the opportunity to vote again Aug. 28. The Voting Assistance Program officer is available if anyone has questions or needs assistance with voter registration, call 353-7624 or check out the installation's voting agency webpage for general voting information at www.wainwright.army.mil/armyVote/default.asp.

PRE-RETIREMENT BRIEFING

A monthly summary of retirement benefits for those who are one to two years from retirement, presented by the Army Career and Alumni Program. To schedule Survivor Benefit Plan or SBP counseling and to register for the pre-retirement briefing call 353-2099.

ARCTIC RIDE WRAP UP

The Directorate of Family and Welfare, Morale and Recreation partnered with the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Saturday for the Arctic Wolves Last Blast of 2012 motorcycle ride. The ride was open to the public. "We had 130 drivers and about 50 riders participate," said Megan Brown, FMWR special events coordinator. "It kicked off at noon at the Last Frontier Community Activity Center and the route included Little Richards Diner, The Knotty Shop, Outpost Alaska, Skinny Dicks and Thunder Road with the finish line at the Warrior Zone." Brown said, "Everyone had a really great time and with it being the last ride of the season we added more Soldiers and Fairbanks community members. It was a really great day and the weather cooperated." Photos are available online at www.flickr.com/ftwainwrightfmwr/.

HOLLY DAYS AHEAD

The time to reserve table space for the 30th annual Holly Days Bazaar is now. This is a unique event as all of our vendors sell only handcrafted items. A wide variety of artisans and crafters attend this event every year. There are 92 spaces available and applications will be taken until spaces are filled. The registration is online at www.wainwrightcsc.org or on Facebook; look for the 30th annual Holly Days Bazaar. For more information about the bazaar, email 30thhollydaysbazaar@gmail.com or call Katrina Sczesny, (210) 701-9968.

FOR FAITH, FELLOWSHIP

Protestant Women of the Chapel Fall semester starts this month. PWOC Fall Kickoff begins Thursday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Northern Lights Chapel. Join fellow ladies of the Fort Wainwright community for some great food and fellowship. Childcare and Home-school room is available. Evening Bible Study will start in September. Check us out on Facebook by searching Fort Wainwright PWOC. For more information, email wainwright@pwoc.org.

OFFICIAL INFORMATION

Fort Wainwright's official Facebook page for installation news such as road closures and reporting status is www.facebook.com/FortWainwrightPAO. The unofficial page will no longer be updated. Like us on Facebook.

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The Alaska Post spotlight is on Krista Greenleaf

Trish Muntean,
Fort Wainwright PAO

If you had told Krista Greenleaf back in 2007 she would be living in Alaska, she probably would have laughed and said there was no way that was ever going to happen. But when her husband was offered a job here and jumped on the opportunity, she decided that if she wanted to stay married she had better start packing.

After she got through the first few winters she decided it really wasn't all that bad and through the long difficult winter months she realizes that if nothing else, she has summer to look forward to.

While waiting for summer and sunshine, Greenleaf works at the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security as a Plans and Operations specialist.

Michael F. Bonnell, the chief of Plans and Operations for DPTMS explained that her primary responsibility is to develop operational plans that focus on the support of garrison community events and ceremonies that support Soldiers and their Families (such as STOMP). Additionally, she is responsible for the execution of the monthly Community Action Council (CAC), compiling slides and information, putting together the folders, flyers and pamphlets.

Basically, Greenleaf is involved in one way or another in about everything

that happens here at Fort Wainwright, from deployment to redeployment, changes of commands, farewells and awards ceremonies in addition to the duties listed above.

Her supervisors have nothing but good things to say about her.

"Krista used to be very shy, but not anymore," said Felicia Jackson, director of DPTMS.

"Krista problem-solves with a holistic view," she said. "She is dependable, articulate and can handle multiple tasks simultaneously. These are precious skills that all directors want their employees to have, especially with the current resource constraint that we are all facing at this time."

Bonnell said that Greenleaf is "dependable, dedicated and versatile."

"I believe the best way to describe Krista is via the acronym PRIDE," he said.

"Professional Results In Daily Effort," Bonnell said. "Krista is without doubt a stalwart member in all endeavors assigned to the DPTMS team. She truly signifies the 'T' in teamwork."

Greenleaf serves the Soldier with a true understanding of the mission, as she herself was on active duty (a military police officer) and is now a captain in the Army reserves. She chose this particular career field in the Army because she thought it would be a good starting place for pursuing a job with the Federal Bureau



As part of her duties as a plans and operations specialist for the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, Krista Greenleaf spends a large part of her day on the phone. As a DPTMS team member, Greenleaf is involved in one way or another in just about everything that happens here at Fort Wainwright, from deployments to troop returns, to exercise planning to ceremonies and awards. (Photo by Trish Muntean/Fort Wainwright Public Affairs)

of Investigations.

"Growing up I always wanted to be a criminal profiler for the FBI," she said. "I read a lot of true crime books, loved (the TV show) CSI and I got a degree in criminal justice."

Greenleaf went as far as testing with the FBI and made it through two phases of their process, but stopped pursuing it after having her son be-

cause she didn't want to have to move every few years, which is common for FBI personnel.

"I still would like to do something in criminal investigations, but I don't know if I will get the opportunity," she said.

Her life is not all work and no play. She is married to Ken Greenleaf, the Operations chief for the Fort Wainwright po-

lice department, and they have a two and one-half year old son, Nathaniel Eric. Her son's middle name is after her brother, who died in 2009. Greenleaf considers him to be her hero.

"My brother was (and still is) a big part of my life and who I am today," she said.

He did the best he could with whatever he had and was the best at

it, she said, which motivates her to do the same.

She said if she could change anything about her life, it would be to have a clone since her life is so busy.

Greenleaf is known and loved for her sense of humor even when overwhelmed by the challenges of her job, the joys of parenting a toddler and lack of free time.

Olympics: U.S. military - sports ambassadors in London games

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one and I had much higher expectations," Szarenski said. "It didn't work out. I'm going sailing."

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Sandra Uptagrafft, wife of Eric Uptagrafft, finished 28th in both the women's 25-meter sport pistol and the 10-meter air pistol at the Royal Ar-

tillery Barracks.

The U.S. Marine Corps supplied the only military men's boxer on Team USA for the London Games, the first Olympics in which the U.S. has competed without winning a men's boxing medal. Sgt. Jamel Herring lost 19-9 to Kazakhstan's Daniyar Yeleussinov in the first round of lightweight competition at the ExCel Centre on July 31.

Although the U.S. men's boxers left England with no medals, the U.S. women medaled in two of the three weight classes as women's boxing made its Olympic debut in London.

Under the tutelage of Team USA and former WCAP head boxing coach Basheer Abdullah, WCAP coach Sgt. 1st Class Charles Leverette and trainer Sgt. Joseph Guzman helped lead 17-year-old Claressa Shields of Flint, Mich., to the first Olympic women's middleweight boxing gold medal. They also worked with Houston's Marlen Esparza, who took the inaugural Olympic bronze in the women's flyweight division.

"Being around all the coaches, they work together as a team,"

Shields said. "One coach might have an idea, and then they give each other ideas and then just put it together to come up with one. Coach Lev just stayed on me to stay focused. He made sure that I stayed out of trouble and he made sure that I always stayed calm."

"He don't even call me by my first name. He calls me 'Baby Girl.' When we worked in the gym, he was always working with me on the bag, saying, 'Show me something spectacular.' And I was just ripping on the bag."

"I've been to three training camps with coach Basheer Abdullah, and I learned a lot each time. Coach Guzman, he don't say much. He's like a quiet storm, but he knows what we're talking about. He had me ripping to the body and coming up to the head. He made sure that I was stepping around and keeping my hands up. Coach Guz is a real cool guy. As a matter of fact, all of them made me laugh a lot."

Much like the USAMU in shooting, WCAP provided three of Team USA's seven Greco-Roman wrestlers in London. Spc. Justin Lester (1-2) finished eighth in

the 66-kilogram division and Sgt. Spenser Mango (1-2) finished ninth at 55 kilograms, as did Sgt. 1st Class Dremiel Byers (1-1) at 120 kilos. WCAP Spc. Aaron Sieracki also was in London serving as Lester's training partner.

"Man, the whole three days, it was just a tough tournament," said retired Army Sgt. 1st Class Shon Lewis, who leads the WCAP wrestling squad and was one of Team USA's Greco-Roman coaches in London. "There were 20-man brackets with 20 countries, and I think 16 countries are going to leave with medals, so that lets you know how deep it is and how tough it is."

"We were just a step behind and just couldn't get our rhythm. Mango, Byers and Lester all got past their first match, but then in the second one, it just seemed like we couldn't find our timing, we couldn't get our groove, and we just got beat. It's the Olympics, though. You've got to bring your 'A' game."

Lester said he'll still take something from the Olympic experience.

"Just being in this atmosphere," he said. "Being around 10,000 other athletes that have the same goal as you: they want to be a gold medalist. The experience is something you'll never



U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit shotgun shooter Sgt. Vincent Hancock set an Olympic record in skeet qualification with a score of 123 at the Royal Artillery Barracks in London. Hancock eclipsed his own mark of 121 set in Beijing in 2008. With 25 shots remaining in the final, Hancock held a one-bird lead over Denmark's Anders Golding and was two shots ahead of Russia's Valeriy Shomin and Nasser Al-Attiya of Qatar. Hancock, 23, of Eatonton, Ga., eclipsed his own records set at the 2008 Beijing Games for both qualification (123) and total (148) scores. He struck gold in China with a qualification score of 121 and total of 145. (Tim Hipsps, IMCOM Public Affairs)

get anywhere else."

WCAP gt. 1st Class John Nunn finished 43rd in the men's 50-kilometer race walk with a personal-best time of 4 hours, 3 minutes and 28 seconds. He also made an appearance on NBC's "Today Show," which was filming in London.

Nunn, 34, of Evansville, Ind., taught television personalities Al Roker, Matt Lauer and Ryan Seacrest, among others, the basics of racewalking. Byers also appeared on the "Today Show" and let the broadcasters feel the power of an Olympic Greco-Roman heavy-

weight wrestler.

WCAP Spc. Dennis Bowsher concluded the Soldiers' competitions with a 34th-place finish (out of 36) in men's modern pentathlon, a one-day test of fencing, swimming, equestrian show jumping, and cross-country running combined with laser-pistol shooting on Aug. 11.

"I didn't win a medal today, but I was here to at least have a chance at a medal," said Bowsher, 29, a Dallas native stationed at Fort Carson, Colo. "Only 36 people in the world can say that."

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