

ALASKA POST

Home of the Arctic Warriors

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Fort Wainwright, Alaska

February 17, 2012

Defense Department Patient Safety Awards recognizes hospital

Brandy Ostanik, Medical Department Activity-Alaska PAO

The 2011 Department of Defense Patient Safety Awards recognized Bassett Army Community Hospital as the winner in the category of Teamwork Training and Skill Building for an In-Patient Facility based on the emergency department's safety initiative, "Fixing the Unfixable through the Power of TeamSTEPPS."

The DoD Patient Safety Award Recognizes efforts designed to improve the care delivered within the State of the Military Healthcare System. The award identifies those who have shown innovation and commitment to the development of systems and processes that are centered around the needs of the patient. DoD seeks to identify efforts that create an environment where safe, quality care is provided and is the responsibility of all members of the team.

See AWARD on page 2



Staff members at the Bassett Army Community Emergency Department 'huddle' at shift change. Huddles are a part of TeamSTEPPS, a Department of Defense system of team training and communication techniques used to increase patient safety. Due to their implementation of TeamSTEPPS the hospital's emergency department was awarded the 2011 Department of Defense Patient Safety Award at the State of the Military Healthcare System Conference earlier this month. (Photo by Brandy Ostanik, Medical Department Activity-Alaska PAO)

Black History Month: A man's dream and a woman's love

Sgt. Thomas Duval, 1-25th SBCT PAO

Throughout history, African Americans like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks have helped change the way people perceive American heroes. By sharing a dream and standing up for what they believed in, civil rights leaders paved the way for everyone to be treated equal, regardless of color.

During the month of February these men and women are celebrated as part of the nation's Black History Month.



Staff Sgt. Cathy Breedlove, a combat medic assigned to the 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, checks Pfc. Mayra Torres' temperature during a routine check up at the 25th BSB aid station, located on Kandahar Airfield in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, Feb. 8. Breedlove, a Houston, Texas native, was named the 1-25th SBCT's Non commissioned Officer of the Month for February. (Photo by Sgt. Thomas Duval, 1-25th SBCT PAO)

See SERGEANT on page 4

EXTENDED WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Mostly cloudy, East winds to 10 mph. Low -9 High 25	Partly cloudy, East winds to 15 mph. Low 5 High 19	Partly cloudy, Low 5 High 20	Partly cloudy, Low 5 High 25

Aurora forecast is **MODERATE to HIGH** for Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Forecasts courtesy of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Geophysical Institute at University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Arctic Warriors: Reenlistment information

Staff Report, Fort Wainwright PAO

Soldiers with Expiration, Term of Service dates in Fiscal Year 2013, Oct. 1 to Sept. 30, 2013, contact your servicing Career Counselor as soon as possible. Phase two of the established reenlistment window will begin March 1, when qualified Soldiers can reenlist. Servicing Career Counselors can lock Soldiers into options presently; however reenlistments cannot take place until March 1. Soldiers are encouraged to visit the retention office to determine their qualifying status.

The following are points of contact for servicing Career Counselors on Fort Wainwright:

1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Rear Detachment, 353-2219; 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment, 353-0339; 6th Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 353-0390; 472nd Military Police Company and 28th Military Police Detachment, 384-1143; 539th Transportation Company, 65th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company and 9th Army Band, 384-9148.

Editor's Note: There will be more information on Phase two, reenlistments and retention in next week's Alaska Post.

Garrison Commander's Workforce Reshaping "MOCK RIF" Town Hall Meetings

Theater downstairs, Headquarters Building 1555, Gaffney Road

Feb. 22 at 10 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 24 at 1:30 p.m.

Garrison Installation Management Command civilian employees may attend any briefing. For more information, call 353-6780.



Award: Bassett Army Community Hospital wins in safety, patients win in care

Continued from page 1

Vivian Smith, administrative director of the Emergency Department and project manager, accepted the award during the Military Health System Conference Jan. 30 through Feb. 3 in Washington DC. "You could have knocked me over with a feather," Smith said. "I submitted the packet and thought that would be the end of it. I never expected to win."

In March 2011 Smith and her staff were challenged by Western Region Medical Command to devise a fresh way for the team to look at and implement TeamSTEPSS, a Department of Defense system of team training and communication techniques used to increase patient safety within the emergency department.

When the challenge came from WRMC, Bassett's emergency department was already using Team STEPPS, something the department's staff was quick to point out. According to Smith, they were the first department at Bassett to begin using the program, but when the staff started really looking at this challenge they quickly realized

they were only doing bits and pieces, leaving a lot of room for growth. This led Smith to initiate a pre-project in order to get everyone on the same page.

Smith first gathered the innovators - staff most able to grasp new concepts and early adopters - the social leaders who spur concepts into reality from the department. "I wanted to get them on board first so they could assist in getting 100 percent buy-in from the staff," Smith said. "Getting people to complete tasks is easy, but getting them to believe in what they are doing takes work. We wanted to ensure this wasn't just a project, but rather an initiative, and make it our culture, part of everything we do."

The staff met on a regular basis for TeamSTEPSS training. They went over terms and techniques so everyone spoke the same program language. When the team understood what the program was all about and began implementing it on a consistent basis, they tackled an action plan to deal with issues they identified within their department.

"We created an action plan template, called our 'blueprint for success,' and we work

through each issue with the same process," said Smith. "No matter what the issue is we use the TeamSTEPSS foundation, set a goal, gather our tools and then we work out the steps and measure our success."

Since they began the process, the team has worked through many issues that have increased patient safety and overall processes including, pain management, documentation of care and ordering procedures. Smith feels one of the best things to come of the challenge is how the staff now feels empowered to not only identify issues, but to come up with plans to fix them as well. "Some of our biggest issues have been solved with ideas given by a Private First Class and a Specialist," said Smith.

Now that the award is sitting on the shelf, Smith says this is not the end. They are continuing to grow and are sharing their knowledge with other medical treatment facilities looking to implement and reproduce it at their sites. "This is truly part of our culture. We are using the process we created with the TeamSTEPSS model every day. When we have a trauma come in and everything goes perfectly, it's because of TeamSTEPSS."

Ready in Red health fair review

Brandy Ostanik, Medical Department Activity-Alaska PAO

Members of the community had the opportunity to find out all about heart health Saturday during the Ready in Red Health Fair at Bassett Army Community Hospital. Being proactive and having a healthy lifestyle is exactly what the Ready in Red Health Fair was about. Women were encouraged to come and talk with members of the Bassett healthcare team about topics such as birth control, blood pressure, nutrition and other lifestyle factors that can impact wellbeing.

In addition to booths with information about health topics attendees were able to sit in on seminars with topics such as fertility, trends in women's healthcare and nutrition. Fair goers also participated in hula hoop for heart, a jump rope competition and a Zumba class.

Tricare beneficiaries can schedule appointments with their primary health care provider for annual exams and other medical needs by calling 361-4000.



Jazmine Solomon, wife of Spc. Joe Solomon III with Medical Company, Medical Department Activity-Alaska came just to get information on prenatal health and was the winner of the Hula Hoop for Heart competition. Solomon had a little help in the completion; being 6 months pregnant with her first son, "I think my belly helped hold the hula hoop up," Solomon laughed. (Photo by Brandy Ostanik/Medical Department Activity-Alaska PAO)



Teresa Schoen, wife of Capt. Scott Schoen with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division attended the fair with her daughter Tanya, 20. "I wanted to help encourage my daughter to be proactive and take care of her health," said Schoen as they looked at test tubes simulating the amount of fiber found in many popular foods. (Photo by Brandy Ostanik/Medical Department Activity-Alaska PAO)

ALASKA POST

Home of the Arctic Warriors

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The ALASKA POST - Home of the Arctic Warriors

Budget proposal requests smaller, more modern, agile force

Karen Parrish and Lisa Daniel,
American Forces Press Service

The military will reduce its end strength by 5.5 percent over five years, while preserving military pay and benefits for current members and investing in technology and systems to counter future threats, according to Pentagon budget documents released Monday.

The fiscal year 2013 proposal calls for a \$525.4 billion base budget, down \$5.2 billion from the current year, and \$88.5 billion for overseas contingency operations, down \$26.6 billion.

The proposal follows the military strategy guidance President Barack Obama released last month that provides a transition from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to a more agile and flexible military that responds to broad challenges and maintains global superiority while also helping to reduce the national deficit, officials said.

The administration has been working toward a \$487 billion reduction in projected defense spending over the next decade, and the fiscal year 2013 budget proposal calls for \$259 billion in savings in the next five years. Officials said those savings would come from continued efforts at becoming more efficient, reducing overhead and duplication, and slowing the growth of personnel costs.

Defense officials said they followed a three-prong strategy for the budget request: to make disciplined use of resources, to follow strategic military guidance on decisions about force structure and investments, and to ensure the quality of the all-volunteer force while also slowing the growth of pay and benefits.

The proposal calls for \$61 billion in spending cuts through fiscal year 2017 -- a continuation of \$150 billion in proposed budget "efficiencies" in the current budget year -- through reduced overhead and support, as well as improved business practices. It also calls for the department to become audit-ready by 2017.

The plan would increase investments in unmanned aircraft and tactical vehicles, maintain the joint strike fighter, and terminate the C-27 airlift aircraft and new weather satellites.

Also as part of the budget proposal:

The Army would eliminate at least eight brigade combat teams;
The Navy would eliminate seven cruisers and two dock landing ships;
The Marine Corps would eliminate one infantry regiment headquarters, five infantry battalions, one artillery battalion, four tactical air squadrons and one combat logistics battalion;
The Air Force eliminates six combat coded fighter squadrons and one noncombat coded fighter squadron, and 303 aircraft, including 123 combat aircraft, 150 mobility and tanker aircraft and 30 intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft.

End-strength reductions would rise incrementally from a 1.4 percent reduction in fiscal year 2013 to a 5.5 percent reduction in 2017. The breakdown by service would be:

For the Army, a 0.9 percent reduction next year to 1,115,300, going to a 6.8 percent reduction in 2017;
For the Navy, a 1.7 percent reduction next year to 385,000, going to a 3.9 percent reduction in 2017.
For the Marine Corps, a 2 percent reduction next year to 236,900, going to an 8.3 percent reduction in 2017; and
For the Air Force, a 1.9 percent reduction next year, going to a 2.3 percent reduction in 2017.

The budget request includes a 1.7 percent military pay raise, a 4.2 percent average increase in the basic housing allowance, and a 3.4 percent rise in the basic allowance for subsistence.

As part of the plan, the Military Health System would receive \$48.7 billion, down from \$52.8 billion this year. Though there would be some fee increases in TRICARE and pharmacy co-pays for retirees younger than 65, officials said, fees will not increase for active-duty service members, survivors of military members who died on active duty or medically retired service members.

The budget request matches TRICARE military health plan fee increases to retirement



Army Budget Director Maj. Gen. Phillip E. McGhee and Army Budget Deputy Director Barbara L. Bonessa brief reporters on President Barack Obama's fiscal year 2013 defense budget proposal at the Pentagon, Monday. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley/Department of Defense)

pay. Retirees receiving \$22,589 or less would pay \$600 in enrollment fees in 2013, rising to \$893 in 2017. Those receiving retirement pay of \$45,179 or more would pay \$820 in 2013 and \$2,048 in 2017.

The budget request does not change the military retirement system in 2013, but includes a Defense Department request that Congress establish a military retirement commission to determine whether cost-effective changes should be made to the current system.

Defense leaders are fully committed to assisting service members and their families, officials said. The budget request includes \$8.5 billion for family support programs.

The request provides \$1.3 billion in funding for child care space for more than 200,000 children, as well as \$1.4 billion for family support centers and morale, welfare and recreation programs. It also commits \$2.7 billion for the education of more than 61,000 students at DOD Education Activity schools in 12 countries and more than 33,000 students in seven states, Puerto Rico and Guam.

The request includes more than \$50 million to improve public school facilities on military installations.

Military construction funding is set at \$9.1 billion, and family housing at \$1.7 billion.

Under the proposal, the DOD civilian work force will decrease by 1 percent in 2013, and will receive a 0.5-percent pay raise, following a two-year pay freeze.

The budget request also seeks increasing opportunities for flexible work schedules and supports employee leadership development, training and wellness.

The request includes an overall \$88.5 billion for Afghanistan and Iraq, down from \$115.1 billion this year. Funding requirements have dropped in balance with decreased troop levels, officials said. The number of troops in Afghanistan is set to fall from 95,000 in the first quarter of this year to 68,000 by the end of 2013. Funding for Iraq -- \$2.9 billion is requested for 2013 -- provides for equipment reset and DOD's costs for the State Department-led Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq.

Overseas contingency operations costs include \$48.2 billion for operations, \$9.3 billion for equipment reset, and \$5.7 billion for Afghan army and police forces.

The budget request includes \$5.1 billion for

force protection, including body armor and protective gear as well as armored and mine-resistant vehicles. Another \$4.5 billion is planned for military intelligence funding, which includes investments in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets.

The request would invest \$1.4 billion in funding divided among the NATO alliance ground surveillance system, the combatant command exercise and engagement program, the National Guard State Partnership Program and the Security Force Assistance Program.

The request also provides for \$3.8 billion in unmanned air systems, \$3.4 billion for cyber, \$9.7 billion in ballistic missile defense, \$8 billion for space systems, and \$11.9 billion in science and technology, including a \$2.1 billion set-aside for basic research.

Program cuts projected from fiscal year 2013 to fiscal year 2017 total \$75 billion, including \$15.1 billion from the joint strike fighter and \$13.1 billion in reduced shipbuilding.

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Fort Wainwright joins in state and local disaster preparedness exercises

Staff Report, Fort Wainwright PAO

Fort Wainwright held "ICE FOG 02-12" last week, as part of ALASKA SHIELD 2012, a statewide, full scale exercise. Staff response to the exercise scenarios was rated by experts in their fields, including some representing the Pacific Region.

The statewide scenario was built on an extreme cold-weather emergency, projected to last an extended period of time. The situation was said to affect a large portion of Alaska, which caused problems such as lack of power and heat. As part of the exercise, shelters were opened to meet the needs of the public.

The exercise was designed to establish a learning environment for role players to exercise emergency response plans, policies and procedures as they pertain to all hazards incidents, said Russ Ackerman, Fort Wainwright emergency manager.

"The overarching goal of the exercise was to improve Alaska's capability to manage a widespread natural disaster at the local and state level," he said.

Prior to the exercise, the Fort Wainwright community was asked to complete a survey assessing their ability to report to work and their family's readiness during a disaster. A copy of the survey and information on emergency preparedness can be received by contacting Ackerman at 353-9755.

The Fort Wainwright emergency operations center was activated and staffed with a representative by each directorate during ICE FOG 02-12. Representatives from Fort Wainwright also acted as liaisons



Fort Wainwright garrison personnel and Soldiers from the 6th Squadron 17th Cavalry Regiment were at the Combined Arms Collective Training Facility Thursday to stage a building collapse as part of the weeklong exercise. The collapse was simulated as part of the all hazards response exercise. About a dozen 6-17th troops acted as role-players during the week-long event which concluded Saturday. Alaska's state, borough, local government and nongovernment personnel also participated in preparedness exercises. (Photo by Trish Muntean/Fort Wainwright PAO)

between Fort Wainwright and civilian agencies participating in ALASKA SHIELD 2012.

Fort Wainwright emergency responders were deployed to simulated emergency situations such as a plane crash and a building collapse to test their capabilities. The fire department's responses to some situations were noted as "strengths" by evaluators. On Saturday, there was a simulated train derailment with hazardous materials spilled.

Mark Stephens was one of many participants during Saturday's drill.

He is a captain with the Anchorage Fire Department, and part of their hazardous materials team. The team is also a level 1 statewide response team. "This is our big opportunity to get together with all the other agencies in Alaska and see how we all work together" he said. "See how our tools work together, how our equipment works together, see how our communications work together."

"Fort Wainwright has been a great host," Stephens said. He noted that it would take a large emergency for

them to have to work together in real life due to the distance between them.

Throughout the week, evaluators identified Fort Wainwright strengths and weakness so participants could learn from the experience. In addition to the performance of emergency responders, the use of social media was identified as a strength, but mass communications needs improvement.

During the outbrief, Fire and Emergency Services' use of a thermal imaging camera at the site of plane crash was identified as the best practice.

Honorable mentions were noted for several participants who were recognized for outstanding performance and excellence, going above and beyond in the roles they played during the exercise: Firefighter Frank Windust, Fort Wainwright Fire Department, Trevor White, Chief, Department of Public Works, Sgt. 1st Class Russell Taylor, Bassett Army Community Hospital, Maj. Adam Cheney, BACH, Maj. Jeffrey Wyatt, BACH, Cheri Weber, Army Community Service, Luke Wetzel (and the Red Cross team), Family Child Care providers Milagroes Bailey, Maria Chavez, Suzette Gray, Kara Palacios, Karia Widerman, Army Community Service staff and volunteers and ACS front desk volunteer Matthew Hampton.

"What was learned as part of ICE FOG 02-12 will better prepare us for real life situations," said Ackerman. "It was a success in that it provided insight into our capabilities."

SERGEANT: Fulfilling a man's dream and a mother's love

Continued from page 1

Helping carry the dream of the African American community, Staff Sgt. Cathy Breedlove, non-commissioned officer in charge of the Brigade Support Medical Company, 25th Brigade Support Battalion, is among the many inspirational African American figures that are celebrated for their contributions on the frontlines of today's military.

Born in Houston, Texas, Cathy Breedlove was raised by her mother, Ester Breedlove, not to 'see black and white' and instead was pushed to be her best even if that meant attending a math and science academy where she was 'only one of six black students in the

entire school.'

"My mother always tried to help me 'flower what I was trying to grow,'" said Breedlove.

Despite being the minority in school, Breedlove said she never saw racism growing up, an example of success she attributes to the famous civil rights leaders that came before her.

As the daughter of a single parent, Breedlove said she often found strength from her mother and grew up wanting to emulate her.

"My mom was always my inspiration," she said. "I would have to say she's right up there with Martin Luther King ... she's not famous but she was always there."

After watching her mom care for the sick and injured as a nurse

and hearing her uncle talk about life in the Army, Cathy said she decided to join the Military as a medical professional.

As a combat medic with the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, deployed in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, Cathy Breedlove spends many of her days training and mentoring fellow medics.

"She's an NCO that upholds the standard bar none," said Pfc. Mayra Torres, a combat medic with the 25th BSB. "Sergeant Breedlove pushes us to be the best and never accepts mediocre work. She doesn't care what color you

are; she always treats everyone with respect and demands the best from them."

In addition to training medics, the 17-year military veteran also spends her time overseeing and upholding the standard of operations for the support battalion's aid station located on Kandahar Airfield.

Through hard work and dedication as a combat medic, Breedlove has displayed the characteristics and lived the values that inspire the soldiers around her to do better Torres said.

In January, she was recognized for setting a sterling example

of leadership by being named the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division NCO of the Month.

As a humble and soft-spoken NCO, she attributes her success in the military to her hard working mother who 'was always there' and to the dream of one man, spoken at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963.

Just a few years from retirement, Breedlove hopes she can serve as an example of success and continue to inspire the people around her.



Staff Sgt. Cathy Breedlove, combat medic assigned to the 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division at Kandahar Airfield in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, Feb. 8. (Photo by Sgt. Thomas Duval/1-25th SCBT PAO)

Pledge to save now – look forward to a financially fit future

Staff Report, Fort Wainwright PAO

The military is big on fitness and that includes financial fitness or readiness. During Military Saves Week Feb. 19 through 26, the Department of Defense and the U.S. Army is focusing on Soldiers, Families, military retirees and civilians and their efforts to achieve optimum, financial fitness.

The Financial Readiness Program at ACS encourages members of the Army family to take the Saver's Pledge as a first step toward a personal commitment to build wealth and reduce debt.

The intent is to reach every military member, family member, DoD employee and civilian of the Fort Wainwright Community and encourage each of us to take the Savers Pledge at www.militarysaves.org, said Monica Teel, Financial Readiness Specialist with Army Community Service.

A Military Saves Class for is set for Wednesday 4:30 p.m. at the Youth Center. Call 361-4391 or 353-HIRE for more information.

An information table will be set up at AAFES and Army Community Service from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Feb 24.

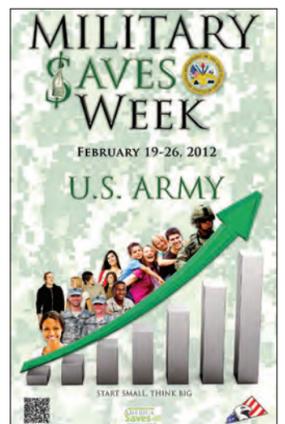
Let's help the Army lead the way by committing to be a Community that Builds Wealth Not

Debt by Setting a Goal, Making a Plan and Saving Automatically!

The theme this year is Set a Goal, Make a Plan and Save Automatically.

Information and media kits are available at www.militarysaves.org. Military Saves is rolling out a QR code for this year's campaign to sign up and take the Savers Pledge via mobile devices in addition to signing up online or visiting a pledge table during the week of Military Saves.

We want to provide hope to our Soldiers and Family members, Teel explained in an email to the Alaska Post, that it is possible to save even in these tough economic times, Financial Readiness can help. Use the ACS Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation program to find strategies to budget, save, liquidate debt and manage individual Soldier and family finances. For more information, visit Financial Readiness, Building 3401 San Tiago Avenue, or call 353-7438.



Civil Force dominates hardwood, takes home the hardware

Allen Shaw, Fort Wainwright PAO

The Fort Wainwright Intramural Basketball League was finally whittled down the two top teams on post battling for the championship Feb. 9 at the Physical Fitness Center. In a game that was a lot closer between the lines than on the scoreboard, Civil Force claimed first place with a 73-58 victory.

Civil Force busted out of the gate dropping four quick buckets when Fox 1-52 broke the ice and realized they were also there to play. Shots started dropping for Eric Hayes (24) of Fox 1-52 as he and teammate Jerry Wesley (20) began closing the gap. But though they tried, Shawn Fletcher (3) of Civil Force controlled the pace driving the lane, popping shots from outside and knocking four long-range jumpers from three-point land. Civil Force held a solid 35-22 lead at the half.

Fox 1-52 sparked a run in the second half as momentum shifted when Hayes who ended the game with 24 points and Wesley dropped in another 13. Civil Force called a strategic time-

out, regrouped and contributions came from a variety of team members. "There were times this season when some of us didn't have the greatest games," said Fletcher, "but we always seemed able to pull in together as a team and take care of business." He said, "This was one of those games that took a total team effort."

Fletcher led Civil Force scoring 23 points, Xavier Johnson (12) scored 15, Charles Fulbright (25) scored 12, Felipe Melendez (15) added 7, David Edmond (1) and Willie Scott (23) had 5 apiece, Mike Filipek (55) had 4 and Jimmy Hart (34) had 2 points.

For more information on Fort Wainwright athletic and sport opportunities contact the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation at 353-7294. "It's the interest and participation in these programs that keep them going," said Rich Pulignani, sports director, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. "The Soldiers, Family members and DoD civilians are always excited about the recreational opportunities we provide."



Eric "Air-ik" Hayes (24) Fox 1-52 elevates to the basket uninterrupted for a full-arm slam-jam during the Fort Wainwright Intramural Basketball championships Feb. 9 at the Physical Fitness Center. Hayes led his team scoring 24 points, but they lost to Civil Force, 73-58. (Photo by Jeff Colvin, DFMWR)



Civil Force was crowned the 2012 Fort Wainwright Intramural Basketball champions Feb. 9 after beating Fox 1-52, 73-58. The Civil Force team that ended the season with the best record overall is (from left) Mike Filipek, Filipe Melendez, Xavier Johnson, David Edmonds and Charles Fulbright. Crouched (left to right) are Willie Scott and Shawn Fletcher. Jimmy Hart is not pictured. (Photo by Jeff Colvin, DFMWR, Fort Wainwright)



Shawn Fletcher (3) from Civil Force drives hard down the court as Jerry Wesley (20) for Fox 1-52 tries to defend his opponent. Fletcher led the scoring for Civil Force with 24 points and a 73-58 victory over Fox 1-52. Wesley scored 12 points for his team. (Photo by Jeff Colvin, DFMWR, Fort Wainwright)

**Army
vs.
Air Force**

**Noon, Saturday
Big Dipper, Fairbanks**

Hockey Week 2012 highlights celebrity games at the Big Dipper Ice Arena

Allen Shaw, Fort Wainwright PAO

One of the major natural commodities found throughout Interior Alaska is ice. It's celebrated as it floats in tasty beverages, it is turned into art by chainsaws and chisels and it is a recreational opportunity for many. Today kicks off Hockey Week in Fairbanks.

There is the unveiling of the Hockey Week ice carving at the Big Dipper Ice Arena today in Fairbanks, followed by an Ice Dog game tonight. Saturday is billed as the Hockey Extravaganza featuring games at the Big Dipper throughout the day starting at 9:30 a.m. The biggie for military Families is the Army versus Air Force game, also known as the Commanders' Cup, scheduled from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Admission free and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Randy Zarnke, Fairbanks Hockey Hall of Fame president said, "HWIF started in 2005 as Hockey Day in Fairbanks. It was so popular that next year we expanded to Hockey Week in Fairbanks. It's been getting bigger and hopefully better every year."

As one of the many celebrity games Soldiers, Family members and DoD civilians from Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base have competed on the ice since 1996. Zarnke said he has a program from the 2007 game where it was billed the 11th Commanders' Cup.

Jim Fisher, Army team coach and team organizer said, "It's important to me to participate to keep the tradition of the Army-Air Force hockey rivalry. With the

Stryker Brigade deployed, there are a limited number of active duty hockey players remaining on post." Fort Wainwright is one of only two Army Posts with their own ice rink, Fort Bragg is the other. "Fifteen years ago, we had as many as 40 personnel coming to morning practice," he said, "unfortunately I've been unsuccessful at finding folks willing to keep a program active." But an Army team will take the ice and could use the fan support.

Records show that the Army won that first game, but no score was recorded. In 1997 Fort Wainwright won 7-3 and in 1998 won 5-1. The Eielson team won the next four years, 6-5, 6-3, 9-4 and 3-2 respectively. Fort Wainwright came back in 2002 to win 5-3 and again

in 2004 beating the Air Force team 2-0. Eielson bounced back in 2005 with a 5-3 win and in 2006 through 2008 the games were cancelled due to deployments. There was another contest in 2009 when the Air Force team took it into overtime and bested the Army 5-3. Army came back in 2010 and reclaimed the title with a 7-3 victory. Last year's game was also cut-back due to deployments, but a rag-tag group of Fort Wainwrighters - active duty, Family members, retirees and DoD civilians will hit the ice tomorrow with vengeance to represent.

For more information call Zarnke at the Hockey Hall of Fame, 452-6857.

Friday – 17th

SNOW DOGS STORY HOUR and CRAFTS, 4 to 5 p.m., Post Library, Building 3700. Call 353-4137.

SPECIAL STORY HOUR WITH MARY SHIELDS, 4 p.m., Post Library, Building 3700. Call 353-4137.

MACLAREN RIVER LODGE, Feb. 17 through 19. Participants depart from the Outdoor Recreation Center, Building 4050 at 8 a.m. Cost \$300 per person. Participants will drive a snowmachine out to the lodge and will need warm boots, cold weather clothing, hand and foot warmers and a good pair of gloves. Call 361-6349/6350.

Saturday – 18th

GROUP CYCLING CLASS, 10 a.m., Physical Fitness Center, Building 3709. Call 353-7223.

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

KID CRAFTING-“BEVELED GLASS HEART MAGNET,” 10:30 a.m. to noon, Arts and Crafts Center, Building 3727. Open to children ages 4 to 7 and cost is \$5 per person. Must be accompanied by a parent. Call 353-7520.

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM BIRCH HILL TUBING, 12:45 p.m., Birch Hill Ski and Snowboard Area, Building 1172. Open to participants in the EFMP. Cost \$3 for 1 hour, \$5 for 2 hours. Age and height restrictions apply. Activities and events at Birch Hill are subject to change or cancellation, dependent on weather. Call 353-4243.

Sunday – 19th

PROTESTANT SERVICES, 10 a.m., Sunday school, 11 a.m., Sunday Protestant worship, Northern Lights Chapel, Building 3430.

CATHOLIC SERVICES, 11 a.m., Catholic Mass, Southern Lights Chapel, Building 4107.

Tuesday – 21st

GROUP CYCLING CLASS, 6:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Physical Fitness Center, Building 3709. Call 353-7223.

MATH MADNESS ROMP AND STOMP PLAYGROUP, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Building 1044. Call to reserve transportation from IHG hotel (old army lodging). This activity is a partnership with ACS and CYSS. Call 353-7713.

FORT WAINWRIGHT COMMUNITY SAVERS PLEDGE DRIVE, February 21-24, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., AAFES and Army Community Service, Building 3401. Call 353-7438.

MARDI GRAS, 6 p.m., The Warrior Zone, Building 3205. Open to DoD card holders ages 18 and older. Call 353-1087.

Wednesday – 22nd

CATHOLIC ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, noon Southern Lights Chapel Building 4107.

BABY AND ME, 2 to 3:30 p.m., Post Library, Building 3700. Registration is required. Call 353-4137.

Thursday – 23th

PROTESTANT WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL, 9:30 a.m., Northern Lights Chapel, Building 3430. Childcare provided, for more information email wainwright@pwoc.org.

MATH MADNESS ROMP AND STOMP PLAYGROUP, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Building 1044. Call to reserve transportation from IHG hotel (Army Lodging). This activity is a partnership with ACS and CYSS. Call 353-7713.

3D BUTTERFLY PAPER ART CLASS, 1 to 3 p.m., Arts & Crafts Center, Building 3727. Cost is \$20 and includes materials. Call 353-7520.

BOUNCY HUT NIGHT, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Building 1044. Call 353-7755. (ages 4-12 with parent).

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

Friday – 24th

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM BOWLING, 6 to 7 p.m. Nugget Lanes Bowling Center, Building 3702. Open to participants in the EFMP. Cost is \$2.25 per game, shoes included. Call 353-4243.

TOOTH FAIRY STORY HOUR AND CRAFTS, 4 to 5 p.m., Post Library, Building 3700. Call 353-4137.

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

SCHOLARSHIPS

The deadline for Fort Wainwright Community Spouses' Club scholarship applications is approaching. One way the CSC helps support our local Army Families is through its charitable scholarship program. Award recipients must be accepted to an accredited institution for the upcoming school year (2012-2013) and are selected by a blind review process in the following four categories: high school student jointly enrolled in college courses, graduating high school senior, full-time college student and adult continuing education.

Typically awards range up to \$1,000. Interested applicants may download an application from the Fort Wainwright CSC web site: www.wainwrightcsc.org or pick up a paper copy application at the Fort Wainwright Education Center.

Applications must be postmarked by March 14. For more information, contact scholarship@wainwrightcsc.org

The Defense Commissary Agency Scholarships for Military Children Program is offering \$1,500 to qualified applicants. Applications are available through Wednesday.

For more information, contact Loriann McDonald, commissary director, at 353-7310, a school guidance counselor or visit the websites at www.militaryscholar.org or www.commissaries.com.

FAIRBANKS EVENTS

Sports and Outdoors

Hockey Week, a community wide celebration of hockey, Feb. 17 through 26. Various times and venues, prices vary per event. For more information call 452-6857.

Iron Dog snowmachine race, longest snowmachine race in the world. Starts Feb. 19, at the Chena River. Various times, free. Go to www.irondog.org for expected finish times and viewing.

Winter skating party, Feb. 25 starting at noon at Creamer's Field. Free - skating on frozen pond and hot drinks at the visitors' center. Go to www.creamersfield.org for more information.

North Pole Championship sled dog races. Feb. 25 and 26, all day at North Pole's, Morningside Park. Got to www.sleddog.org for more information.

Tired Iron, Feb 25 and 26, all day at the Chena River at Cushman Street - races for older model snowmachines. See www.fairbankstirediron.org for more information.

World Ice Art Championships, Feb. 28 thru March, all day at the Ice Park on Phillips Field Road. Fees vary, go to www.icealaska.com for more information.

Arts and Theater

Chamber music recital featuring; violinist, violist, cellist and pianist. 8 p.m., Feb. 23 at the Davis Concert Hall on the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Prices vary, see www.fairbankssymphony.org for more information.

Community Band performances on Feb. 25, 7 p.m. in the Alaska Centennial Center for the Performing Arts at Pioneer Park. Free, go to www.communityband.org for more information.

Farthest North Jewish film festival, Feb 25-Mar 4, all day at the Congregation Or Hatzafon, fees vary. Call 452-1002 for more information.

Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 26, 4 p.m. at the Davis Concert Hall on the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Prices vary, see www.fairbankssymphony.org for more information.

"Picasso at the Lapin Agile", this weekend at the Riverfront Theater, prices vary, military discount available. See www.fairbanksdrama.org for more information.

FOOD FOR SOLDIERS, FAMILIES

The F.O.O.D. program invites Family members of deployed Soldiers and recently returned Soldiers and their Families to an evening where we cook for you. The twice-monthly event takes place Sunday starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Southern Lights Chapel, Building 4107. Volunteers are encouraged to arrive at 3 p.m. This meal will be hosted by Youth of the Chapel. For more information call 361-4463.

CHILD FIND SCREENINGS

Exceptional Family Member Program and the Alaska Early Intervention Program have partnered together to bring Child Find Screenings to Fort Wainwright. Parents concerned about their child's development are encouraged to attend (For children birth-36 months). Screenings include vision and hearing for infants to 36-months. All Families are encouraged to participate. Screenings are for all Families that have concerns.

March 6, Child Development Center I, Building 4024

8:30 a.m. to noon: appointments only
1 to 4 p.m.: walk-ins welcome

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call the Alaska Early Intervention Program at 456-4003, ext 0.

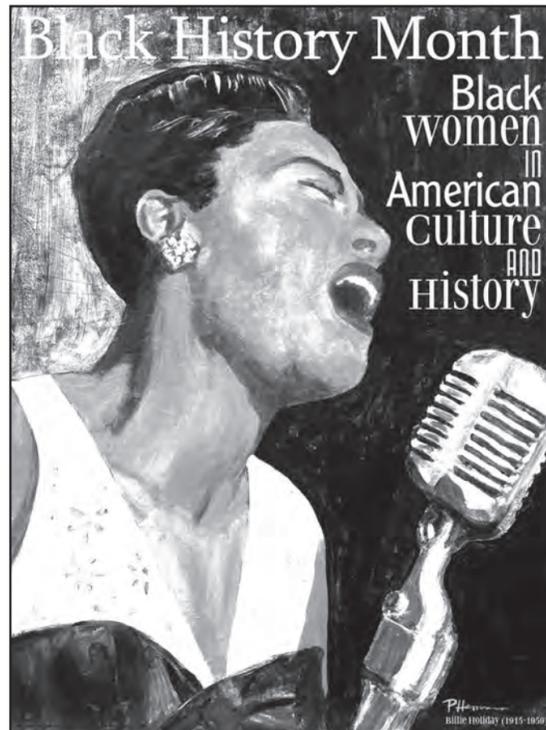
ARMY DISASTER SYSTEM

The Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (ADPAAS) is the Army's personnel accountability tool used in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. This web-based system is found at <https://adpaas.army.mil/> to account for Active Duty, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, DoD Civilians, NAF employees, overseas DOD contractors (to include Hawaii and Alaska) and family members.

NEWCOMER'S ORIENTATION

I'm in Alaska - now what? Learn to master living in the heart of Alaska at the Newcomer's Orientation, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday at the Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Building 1044. Some topics to be covered: Pet care, summer and winter activities, cultural awareness, wildlife safety and more. Civilian attire is recommended and spouses are highly encouraged to attend. For more information and to register, call 353-4227.

Black History Month Observance



The 6th Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment and Fort Wainwright Equal Opportunity Office will host this year's Black History Month Observance at the Physical Fitness Center, Building 3709, on Feb. 24; starting at 1:30 p.m. Wendy Dominique from Government Travel Service will be the featured guest speaker. For more information call Sgt. 1st Class Elliot Hardee at 353-9264.

HOCKEY WEEK IN FAIRBANKS

Interior Alaska's annual mid-winter celebration of the fastest sport on ice begins with the Hockey Week in Fairbanks Extravaganza. This carnival atmosphere hockey event starts Saturday at 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Big Dipper. Admission is free and many prizes will be awarded throughout the day.

Tournament Schedules for Hockey Week:

Kendall Classic Mite Tournament, Feb. 18, Red Runner Ice Puppy Tournament, Feb. 19, Tier I U-16 Midget State Tournament, Feb. 18 through 20, Pacific District Tournaments for Girls, Feb. 23 through 26.

For more information, contact Randy Zarnke at 452-6857.

CLIMATE SURVEY

Your insight is an essential ingredient for making improvements throughout the garrison. The Installation Management Command - Pacific Command Climate Survey is now available online for employees to present honest and direct opinions of the garrison work and management environments. To access the survey, please go to: <http://tiny.cc/t7rji>.

You know you are at the right site when the questions asked are about your organization, recognition and rewards, involvement, management, training and development, working conditions, and EEO.

For non-CAC cardholders or those without routine access to a computer, a hard copy of the Command Climate Survey can be obtained from your director. To turn in hard copies; Turn in to a central POC identified by your chain of command, send it through distribution using the address: ATTN: PIAO, 1060 Gaffney Road, 6000, drop off in ICE boxes, call Nancy Bahr for pick up or visit her office in person to deliver your survey at Building 1555, Room 101A or fax to PAIO at 353-6848. Employees without CAC or no computer access may complete the survey on a

computer at their worksite at \\ak\paio\IMP-CC\IMPC-CC.xsn

An employee with CAC access will need to log you into the computer but will

not need to log in to the site. For more information or concerns contact Nancy Bahr at 353-7629 or Andy McDonough at 353-9746.

SOLDIERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

The purpose of the Soldiers Against Drunk Driving program is to prevent Soldiers from drinking and driving. If a Soldier has had at least two drinks, they run the risk of getting a DUI and should call a friend, a taxi or SADD volunteer to drive them home.

Soldiers can call SADD at 353-6610 to be picked up and driven back to post. Pick-up hours are 11:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and training holidays. Volunteers in the SADD program can be Soldiers, DoD cardholders or spouses. Civilian attire is authorized for Soldiers during volunteer times and Transportation Motor Pool is provided, located in Building 3419. Soldiers participating in the program qualify for day passes after accumulating measured amounts of volunteer hours. A three day pass for 50 hours, a four day pass after 80 hours and a four day pass plus eligibility to be awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, worth 10 points towards promotion which helps with Staff Sgt. and Sgt. 1st Class selection after completing 150 hours of volunteer service.

To volunteer call, (573) 680-6085 or (805) 878-4971.

PROTESTANT WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL

Presents their last First Friday of the deployment season: "Flashback Fiesta", March 2, 6:30 p.m. at the Northern Lights Chapel. Join women of the Fort Wainwright community as we flashback through the deployment year and celebrate all our accomplishments. Great food, pinatas, a slide show, free childcare and more. School age children can enjoy laser tag at the Last Frontier Community Activity Center, Building 1044, with drop off beginning at 6 p.m. Preschool and younger childcare available at Northern Lights. Please feed all children before dropping off. Email wainwright@pwoc.org for more information.

