

ARCTIC WARRIOR

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHMOND'S SOURCE FOR NEWS

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'They're battling with me': NCO fights cancer

By **SENIOR AIRMAN
JAVIER ALVAREZ**
JBER Public Affairs

(Editor's note: This is a first in a series of articles on Tech. Sgt. Trepanier)

A thin white coat of winter frost blanketed the Anchorage cityscape on Jan. 17, 2017. By 4:30 p.m., the deep purple haze which illuminated the Chugach mountains had all but faded. Outside a local barbershop, the darkness had set in.

Tech. Sgt. Heath Trepanier, a 381st Intelligence Squadron analyst, got three of his five children seated; the barber set to work. He pulled out his phone, called his doctor, and sat down as he was told – it was all he could do to hold his composure.

The cancer had begun an assault on his body, uncontrollably spreading and attacking muscles, fat, blood vessels and any other tissues that surround and protect the organs of his body. Leiomyosarcoma was the official diagnosis.

He had a year. Maybe a little more.

One call turned into four and five as specialist after specialist began the preparation for treatment.

"We've since started grief counseling to try and prepare for the inevitable," Trepanier said. "I have been very open with my kids. It's like a football game – dad can go into overtime a couple times, but I'm never going to win the game."

Before the diagnosis, Trepanier knew there was something wrong; the signs were there.

"I was gaining weight and



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Heath Trepanier, a 381st Intelligence Squadron analyst, holds a family photo, one of his most prized possessions, Aug. 7. Trepanier was diagnosed with leiomyosarcoma on Jan. 17, 2017. He continues to surpass the 12-month survival timeline he was given at that time. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Javier Alvarez)

couldn't get it off no matter how hard I worked out," he said. "I always felt fatigued, always felt tired.

"I found a small lump under my arm, but it was overlooked. It wasn't until I started having pain in my pelvic area that I knew something serious was going on."

His treatments transplanted him from Texas, to Washington and Alaska.

While always on the move, there has been one constant in his life: the love and support of his family, his friends and his Air Force.

Trepanier's hair went missing long before the side effects of his experimental

treatment kicked in.

His skin shines with a slight yellow tint, a possible side effect of the treatment, but warmth follows him at all times, emphasized by his smile – a permanent fixture on his face.

As word spread of his diagnosis an overwhelming amount of support has reached Trepanier.

Through text messages, phone calls and social media posts, well wishes and words of support have been relayed – including one unexpected video call with the Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O. Wright.

Despite his current trials, he remains positive.

"We preach being a wingman or an Airman, but people really showed it, and people who I wouldn't have expected it from," Trepanier said. "We all go through things. Our battles are all different. What I might be going through was made for what I can handle. Divorce, or deployment, those stressors are all made for the individual.

"I never thought in a million years I'd get cancer," he said. "I'm not upset over it. I wouldn't give it to anyone else. I'm glad I have it, and not some 18 or 19 year old Airman. I've lived. I've had the opportunity to deploy and serve my country, have kids, be married. I've had the op-

portunity to do anything and everything I've ever wanted to."

Trepanier is continuing his treatment. He's surpassed the 12 month timeline he was given.

"I'm just a guy who is going through a battle that has his wingman on both sides," Trepanier said. "And they're battling with me. The guys in my unit, my sister squadron, family and friends. I know they're battling with me."

He's become a transient, like many Alaskans, splitting his time between Washington and the Last Frontier.

He's pledged to fight for his life; too many people depend on him. 

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ARCTIC WARRIOR

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Davis takes command of 3rd Wing



Air Force Staff Sgt. Donavan Hall, 525th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron dedicated crew chief, reveals Air Force Col. Robert D. Davis' name on an F-22 Raptor during the 3rd Wing change-of-command ceremony at Hangar 1 on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Aug. 6. The ceremony was officiated by Air Force Lt. Gen. Kenneth S. Wilsbach, commander of Alaskan NORAD Region, Alaskan Command, and 11th Air Force. Arctic warriors, civic leaders, family and friends were present for the ceremony and to bid farewell to Niemi and to welcome Davis and his family back to Alaska. (U.S. Air Force photos/Airman 1st Class Caitlin Russell)

RIGHT: Air Force Col. Christopher Niemi relinquishes the 3rd Wing colors during the wing's change-of-command ceremony Aug. 6, when Air Force Col. Robert Davis took command of the wing. Davis most recently served as the security assistance director in the Office of Security Cooperation in Baghdad, Iraq.



144th Airlift Squadron takes flight

By **SGT. DAVID BEDARD**
134th PAD

Airmen of the 176th Wing's 249th Airlift Squadron changed their unit affiliation to the 144th Airlift Squadron during a discreet Aug. 4 ceremony at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson when they swapped patches.

The Alaska Air National Guard's 249th AS flies the C-17 Globemaster III cargo aircraft with the active Air Force's 517th Airlift Squadron. The relationship is an active-association total-force integration in which the Guard owns the aircraft, and the active duty provides crews and support Airmen to round out the unit.

The 144th AS has been a part of the Alaska Air National Guard in some form since its founding in 1952, and divested the last of its

eight C-130H Hercules cargo aircraft in March 2017.

"The question came up: What's going to happen to the unit?" said Alaska Air National Guard Tech. Sgt. Colton Nelson, 249th AS training noncommissioned officer and historian for the wing. "The 144th is the founding unit of the Alaska Air National Guard. Is it going to be deactivated? Inactivated? Are they going to get another mission?"

"The answer came from the National Guard Bureau via a change request that the 249th would be deactivated – it was the youngest unit in the Alaska Air National Guard," Nelson continued. "The 144th would then assume the C-17s and the mission."

The 249th AS stood up in 2009 and has always operat-



Senior Master Sgt. Justin Olsen, with the 249th Airlift Squadron, holds both the 144th Airlift Squadron and the 249th Airlift Squadron unit guidons during a discreet patch-changing ceremony at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Aug. 4. Members of the 249th AS changed their unit affiliation to the 144th AS during the event. (U.S. Air National Guard photo/Staff Sgt. Edward Eagerton)

ed the C-17.

"The same really good people remain," Nelson said of the squadron continuity. "It's an image change rather than a structural change. It's still a great, efficient organization."

"We have the best C-17s,"

he elaborated. "We do virtually everything that this airplane can do. We have the coolest mission. It's just a different number (for the unit)."

Nelson said 144th AS Airmen won't soon forget their 249th AS heritage and what

they accomplished in a little less than 10 years.

"What's most likely to be remembered about the 249th is the kind of operation we put together and the skill and expertise we gathered in such a short amount of time," Nelson said. 

There's still time for Combat Cross-Country

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS CRYSTAL JENKINS**
JBER Public Affairs

The Combat Cross Country series 10-mile relay is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. Aug. 24 at Attu Hall on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Historically, the unique series of outdoor competitions – accessible through the Commander's Cup sports program – has been conducted annually from May through August.

“When we started this series it was meant to provide Soldiers a way to have fun competition together and a different type of physical-training outlet,” said Ellis Alston, JBER sports director. “When we became a joint base, we were able to open it to Airmen and other community members to participate.”

The events are open to all active-duty service and community members with access to the base.

Relay teams consist of five individuals.

Competitors must wear a uniform and combat boots and carry a 35-pound rucksack.

“The first competition is a trail run in May; the second event is a mountain run in June, the third is a canoe, run and shoot, and the final event is the 10-mile relay,” Alston said. “Most of the service members who compete tell me they love the variety in challenges the series presents, and the Friday scheduling works out great with work.”

The 10-mile relay run will consist of five-person teams, with each individual running two miles.

In the past these events have seen a substantial turnout; however, in the last two years, participation has decreased.

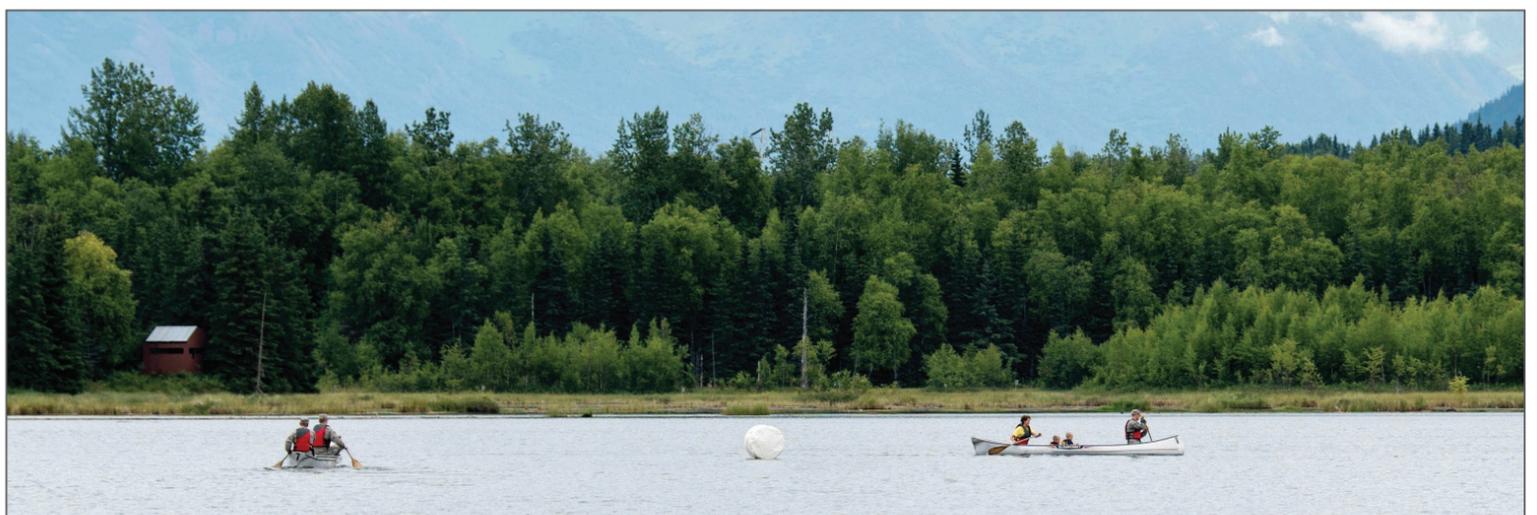
“Since 2015, I have competed every year,” said Tech. Sgt. Paul Hosmanek, 773d Civil Engineer Squadron metal shop noncommissioned officer in charge. “I enjoy sporting events



Tech. Sgt. Josh Evans and Airman 1st Class Alec Cates, both 773rd Civil Engineer Squadron structural journeymen, paddle during the canoe, run and shoot event at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson July 27. The event is the third in the annual Combat Cross-Country series relay. Teams of five competed wearing combat boots and carrying 35-pound rucksacks. (U.S. Air Force photos/Airman 1st Class Crystal A. Jenkins)

LEFT: Airman 1st Class Travis Bittle, a 773rd Civil Engineer Squadron structural journeyman, shoots paintballs at targets during the event.

BELOW: Evans and Cates round the first buoy during the canoe portion of the race.



that are difficult and not just another run down a paved path. It's a good workout and fun when a lot of people compete.”

Event coordinators said they hope more people will

participate, as a lack of involvement could lead to the series being eliminated.

“I continue to participate because being a fit NCO is important to me,” said Hosmanek, who hopes to combat

stereotypes of senior NCOs not focusing on physical readiness.

Registration for the final event is open until Aug. 24 at 1:30 p.m., just before the event's weigh-in and organi-

zational meeting.

For more information about Combat Cross Country or other Commander's Cup sports, contact the JBER sports office at 384-1304/1312. 

Friday

Singles rafting

Single service members are invited to experience the thrill of whitewater rafting with this trip from 5 to 8 p.m., open to ages 10 and older. Transportation and equipment are provided. For information, call 552-2023.

Singles bowling

Single service members can head to the Polar Bowl from 7 p.m. to midnight for an evening of free games and shoes. For information, call 753-7467.

Saturday

Kayak Portage Lake

Explore the edge of Portage Lake from a kayak with this trip from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., open to ages 14 and older. For information, call 552-2023.

Portage River trip

Head out in an inflatable kayak with this trip from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and experience the scenic views and wildlife. For information, call 552-2023.

Stand-up paddleboarding

Women In the Wilderness invites women 12 and up to Beach Lake from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a stand-up paddleboarding adventure. For information, call 552-2023.

Back to School Bash

The Arctic Oasis celebrates the new school year with this annual event from noon to 2 p.m. with bounce houses, crafts, an information fair and much more. For information, call 552-8529.

Ping Pong tournament

Head to the Warrior Zone and compete to be the best ping pong player starting at

2 p.m. For information, call 384-9006.

Hearts Apart Reconnect

Families of deployed or recently deployed service members are invited to Otter Lake from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for paddling on the lake and fun activities. For information, call 384-1517 or 552-4943.

Sunday

Outdoor rock climb

Singles can take in the scenic Turnagain Arm while climbing the rocks along the Seward Highway from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 552-2023.

**Monday - Thursday
Get Golf Ready**

Adults are invited to the Moose Run Golf Course for this beginner-friendly series from 5 to 6:30 p.m. For information, call 428-0056.

Tuesday

Stand-up paddleboarding

Come to Otter Lake from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and learn the basics of stand-up paddleboarding. Everyone 12 and older can learn the stance and how to get back up when you fall. For information, call 552-2023.

Wednesday

Outdoor rock climb

Singles can take in the scenic Turnagain Arm while climbing the rocks along the Seward Highway from 5 to 9 p.m. For information, call 552-2023.

Summer movie madness

Join the Talkeetna Theater for this free showing of Finding Nemo; doors open at 12:30 p.m. and the film starts at 1. For information, call 552-8529.

LinkedIn 101

Join this class at Building 600's Room A37 from 1 to 3 p.m. and learn the basics of how LinkedIn can help you network. For more information, call 384-1517 or 552-4943.

Mountain biking

Anchorage has great scenery, wildlife, and singletrack trails. Experience them from 5 to 9 p.m. with this trip for ages 14 and older. For information, call 552-2023.

Thursday

Women's biking

Women In the Wilderness hosts this trip from 5 to 9 p.m. check out Anchorage's scenic mountain-biking trails. For information, call 552-2023.

Hillberg ATV ride

Explore your backyard on an ATV with this beginner ride at Hillberg Ski Area from 5 to 7:30 p.m. For information, call 552-2023.

Captain's Class

Want to sail the seas? Join Outdoor Adventure Program and learn to read charts, deal with emergencies, and more from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For information, call 552-2023.

Sept. 17

Recruiting briefing

Special Operations intelligence hosts a selectively manned unit recruiting brief at 10 a.m. at the Arctic Warrior Event Center. For information, call 552-2536 or email DM_Assessment@jdi.socom.mil.

Ongoing

Golf course specials

Wingman golf: Bring a single service member to Moose Run Golf Course and get a free game, cart, and a bucket of balls.

Kids drive free: Military and dependents can get a free bucket of balls daily. Specials run through Aug. 31. For information, call 428-0056.

Chapel services

Catholic Mass

Sunday
9 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Monday and Wednesday
11:30 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel
Tuesday
Noon – JBER hospital chapel
Friday
Noon – JBER hospital chapel

Confession

Confessions are available anytime by appointment or after any mass. Call 552-5762.

Protestant Sunday worship services

Liturgical
9 a.m. – Heritage Chapel
Gospel
9:30 a.m. – Midnight Sun Chapel
Contemporary
11 a.m. – Arctic Warrior Chapel

Religious Education

For schedules, call the Religious Operations Center at 552-5762.

A morning game of hoops



Tech. Sgt. Thomas Woldridge, left, tries to block a shot by Air Force Staff Sgt. Brett Kinnect during an early morning pick-up game of basketball at the Elmendorf-Fitness Center Aug. 9. Both are vehicle operators assigned to the 673d Logistics Readiness Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Justin Connaher)

When you fail, make the best of it

By **ARMY CHAPLAIN (CAPT.)**

JEFF GLOVER

59th Signal Bn. Chaplain

It's that time of year again when moving trucks line the streets. A third of everyone you know is moving on, and it seems new faces are everywhere you look.

That also means it's the time of year when evaluations are being written, when leaders are taking a critical look at each one of their subordinates' performance and making observations and decisions that can permanently change the course of his or her military career.

Sometimes, those assessments go very well.

But other times, they don't.

If you have been in the military for any length of time, chances are you have received some unfavorable feedback from your superiors.

You may have failed a board, been passed over for a career-advancing opportunity, or sat through a disappointing counseling.

It can be tempting, in those moments, to feel like a failure.

You may feel isolated and even ashamed. Fear for the future, depression, and hopelessness can follow, especially if you believe your leadership has not evaluated you fairly or you feel unable to thrive in your current position.

The reality is we all fail sometimes and our superiors notice. Maybe we find ourselves in a job that highlights all of our weaknesses and very few of our strengths.

Failure is common to everyone; it is how you handle failure that sets you apart and demonstrates your true character to others. When you fail – and you will – remember these things.

First, your failure does not define you. It just means you're human. Your value is not in how you perform, but in who you are.

As a member of God's creation, you have infinite worth that goes far beyond anything you could ever do.

At the end of the very worst day, you can still rest in knowing that he made you, he knows you, and he cares about you.

Second, if you have failed in an area, own it. Don't take offense at an honest evaluation.

Apologize when appropriate, make amends where you can, and then forgive yourself.

Third, it's okay to grieve lost opportunities, but then move on.

There is so much more to life than the thing you've failed to attain, whether it's a military promotion, acceptance into a school, career advancement, or even an unblemished reputation.

Take a moment to remind yourself of the big picture. Take a walk outside in God's beautiful creation, hug a friend, pet your dog. Life is good, even when your evaluation isn't.

Fourth, learn to see your failings as an opportunity for growth. A supervisor's review of your performance can give you great insight into areas of your life that can be improved.

Review what others say about you and take a good look at yourself.

Can you identify areas where you can make positive changes? Make a

list of ways you can do better next time. One of the best ways to overcome failure is by doing something about it.

Fifth, be transparent. One of the hardest things to do when you've messed up is to talk about it. Shame tells you to hide your failure, when one of the most therapeutic things you can do is be open about it.

Chances are, you will find encouragement and support when you stop hiding.

You may even discover that your disappointments are the very things God uses to encourage someone else who is going through his or her own difficulty.

Finally, get help. When you experience deep failure or disappointment, it can be very difficult to dig out by yourself.

You don't have to do it alone.

Your chaplain, who is likely well-acquainted with failure, or another friend can help.

Talk to someone who can help you see how to get back up again and be stronger for it. 

Main Pharmacy hours

The main JBER pharmacy, on the first floor of the JBER hospital near the Bear entrance, is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The pharmacy at the Exchange is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays for civilian prescriptions and refills, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for refills only.

Special victim counselor

The victims of sexual assault are entitled to legal assistance services. Communication is protected by attorney-client privilege. The SVC ensures the victim's rights are protected. These include being treated with fairness and respect; being reasonably protected from the accused offender; being notified of court proceedings; being present at all public court proceedings related to the offense; being able to confer with the prosecutor; receiving restitution; and receiving information about the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment and offender re-

lease. Eligible clients include active duty of all branches of service, mobilized Reserve Component members, retirees (and dependents of these) who report sexual assault. For information, call 353-6507.

iSportsman enrollment

Anyone choosing to recreate in JBER training areas must obtain an iSportsman permit and sign in and out using the iSportsman system prior to recreating.

A pass costs \$10; \$5 for those 60 and older and disabled persons. Passholders may also need an installation access pass. For information, visit isportsman.jber.net, or call 552-8609 or 384-6224.

Reserve 'Scroll'

Officers wanting to transition to the Air Force Reserve must have their commission transferred to a list called "the Scroll" and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

The process averages 120 days, but can take longer, and must be approved before

participating in the Reserve, which may mean a break in service. Even if you're unsure about transitioning to the Air Force Reserve, the process can be initiated. For information, call 552-3595.

Pothole repair

The 773d Civil Engineer Squadron encourages all Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson personnel to report potholes. For holes in housing areas, contact Aurora Housing at 753-1051. Other requests will be tracked by 773d CES. Note the location, including cross-streets or building numbers. Then email 773ces.ceoh.potholerepair@us.af.mil or call 552-2994 or 552-2995. Include contact information in case crews need to follow up.

DLA Document Services

Defense Logistics Agency Document Services duplicates and prints documents, including color, large-format photographic prints, engineering drawings, sensitive materials, technical manuals

and training materials.

They design, print and distribute business cards, letterhead, invitations and programs, and provide devices to print, scan, copy and fax.

They also offer Document Automation and Content Services, for building digital libraries. The facility is open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For information, visit documentservices.dla.mil, visit the office at 984 Warehouse Street, or call 384-2901.

OTC pharmacy counter

The pharmacy at the JBER hospital has over-the-counter medication for DoD beneficiaries from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday. Flyers and those on personnel reliability program status, pregnant, or under the age of 2 are not eligible.

The clinic offers pain relievers; cough, cold and allergy medications and nasal sprays; ointments; constipation and diarrhea medications, and others. For information, visit www.facebook.com/JBERPharmacy.

[com/JBERPharmacy](http://www.facebook.com/JBERPharmacy).

Priority placement

The Priority Placement Program and Executive Order 13473 provide appointment for spouses of active-duty service members, including full-time National Guard and Reservists, who are relocating to accompany their service member.

Spouses can register for Department of Defense positions and be considered for jobs offered internally. Spouses are matched with jobs based on qualifications and preferences, are eligible for up to two years from the date of the PCS orders, and are in the program for a year. Register at either personnel office, or call 552-7588.

ASYMCA Bargain shop

The ASYMCA Bargain Shop, 8515 Saville Ave. on JBER-E, is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For information, call 753-6134.

Big changes to GI Bill, including transfers, take effect

By **SENIOR AIRMAN
CURT BEACH**
JBER Public Affairs

The Department of Defense issued a fundamental change July 12 to its policy on the transfer of Post-9/11 GI Bill educational benefits.

Effective one year from the date of the change, eligibility to transfer benefits will be limited to service members with less than 16 years of total active duty or selected reserve service.

Previously, there were no restrictions on when a service member could transfer educational benefits. The provision requiring a service member to have at least six years' service to a transfer benefits remains unchanged.

"After a thorough review of the policy, we saw a need to focus on retention in a time of increased growth of the armed forces," said Stephanie Miller, director of accessions policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. "This change con-

tinues to allow career service members who earned this benefit to share it with their family members while they continue to serve."

This change is an important step to preserve transferability as a retention incentive, she added.

If service members fail to fulfill their service obligation because of a "force shaping" event, the change will allow them to retain their eligibility to transfer education benefits.

All approvals for transferability continue to require a four-year commitment in the armed forces and, more importantly, the member must be eligible to be retained for four years from the date they make the transfer.

The policy affects service members in the uniformed services, which includes the U.S. Coast Guard, as well as the commissioned members of the U.S. Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Additionally, the Veterans Educational Assistance Act, also known as the "Forever GI Bill," has brought significant changes.

Beginning Aug. 1:

Entitlement charges for licensing and certification exams and national tests under the Post-9/11 GI Bill will be prorated based on the actual amount of the fee charged for the test. This lowers the entitlement charge to benefits.

The new law decreases the amount of entitlement under the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program from 45 to 36 months.

Veterans who transferred entitlement to a dependent can now designate a new dependent if the original dependent dies. If the veteran dies, a dependent who received transferred entitlement can now designate a new eligible dependent of the veteran to transfer any of the dependent's remaining entitlement.

The Department of Vet-

erans Affairs must make available to educational institutions information about the amount of assistance to which a beneficiary is entitled. A beneficiary may elect not to provide the information to an educational institution.

The VA will prorate the monthly housing allowance under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Currently, those who leave active duty can't receive their housing allowance until the beginning of the next full month. Now, the student will receive housing payments effective the day of discharge.

The monthly housing allowance will be calculated based on the zip code of the campus where the student physically attends classes, rather than the location of the school where the student is enrolled.

The VA will develop a pilot program to provide veterans the opportunity to enroll in high-technology education programs that VA determines

provides training and skills sought by employers in a relevant field or industry.

Service members and honorably discharged veterans awarded a Purple Heart on or after Sept. 11, 2001, will be entitled to GI Bill benefits at the 100-percent benefit level for up to 36 months.

The law authorizes Guard and Reserve members under 10 U.S. Code 12304a and 12304b to receive Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

The time a Reservist was ordered to active duty to receive medical care, be medically evaluated for disability, or complete a DoD health care study on or after Sept. 11, 2001, now counts as active duty toward eligibility.

Recipients of the Fry Scholarship and Purple Heart may use the Yellow Ribbon Program.

To learn more about GI Bill benefits, visit www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/ForeverGIBill.asp, or call (888) 442-4551. 

July 1

A daughter, Roxana Claire Murray, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces at 7:28 a.m. to Parveen Shamsi Murray and Air Force Maj. Todd W. Murray of the 703d Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

July 4

A son, Gianni Vincent Albino, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds at 8:34 p.m. to Kristi M. Albino and Sgt. Rhian P. Albino of the 95th Chemical Company.

July 5

A daughter, Estella Anniston Smith, was born 19 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 13 ounces at 8:34 a.m. to Kimberly A. Smith and Air Force Staff Sgt. Bryan A. Smith of the 3rd Munitions Squadron.

July 7

A son, Landyn Avhram-Lee Frost, was born 22 inches long and weighing 8 pounds to Chantel L. Frost and Air Force Staff Sgt. Steven T. Frost of the 3rd Maintenance Group.

A son, Emerson Ryan Holcomb, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces at noon to Hannah E.

Holcomb and Senior Airman Matthew R. Holcomb of the 3rd Maintenance Squadron.

July 8

A daughter, Finley Augustine Dunn, was born 22 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 11 ounces at 12:31 a.m. to Kimberly S. Dunn and Air Force Capt. Charles L. Dunn of the 673d Medical Operations Squadron.

July 9

A daughter, Ellian McKayla Slaton, was born 19.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces at 11:36 a.m. to Tech. Sgt. Kasama M. Slaton of the 673d Inpatient Squadron and Tech. Sgt. Joshua C. Slaton of the 673d Medical Support Squadron.

July 11

A daughter, Lana Videll Rios, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces at 4:44 p.m. to Kira L. Rios and Air Force Staff Sgt. Roberto Rios of the 673d Communications Squadron.

July 12

A daughter, Addilyn Jayde Pomelow, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds at 8:50 a.m. to Samantha A.

Schoaf and David J. Pomelow.

July 16

A son, Henry John Penczek, was born 21 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces at 2:49 p.m. to Hannah M. Penczek and Air Force Staff Sgt. Evan J. Penczek of the 673d Security Forces Squadron.

July 20

A daughter, Brooklyn Jannah Irvin, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces at 8:13 a.m. to Air Force Staff Sgt. Winisha A. Irvin of the 673d Comptroller Squadron and Derrick K. Irvin.

July 22

A daughter, Abigail Elise Mercado-Rivera, was born 21 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces at 6:23 p.m. to Air Force Staff Sgt. Belinda Emily Ann Mercado-Rivera of the 301st Intelligence Squadron and Yadiel Mercado-Rivera.

A son, Theodore James Jackson, was born 20 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 2 ounces at 10:53 a.m. to Airman Natalie F. Machuca of the 673d Security Forces Squadron and Jeremy Jackson.

July 23

A son, Braeden Robert Knoph, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces at 3:37 p.m. to Chelsea K. Knoph and Sgt. Samuel J. Knoph of the 4th Quartermaster Company.

July 24

A daughter, Irene Carol Slagle, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces at 4:47 a.m. to Tech. Sgt. Elizabeth K. Slagle of the 144th Airlift Squadron and Tech. Sgt. Neal R. Slagle of the 3rd Maintenance Squadron.

July 26

A daughter, Hannah Grace Undiener, was born 20 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces at 8:22 a.m. to Melody A. Undiener and Air Force Staff Sgt. Johnathan M. Undiener of the 732nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

July 27

A son, Cody James Barratt Jr., was born 21.5 inches long and weighing 9 pounds, 2 ounces at 11:32 p.m. to Kacee L. Barratt and Army Staff Sgt. Cody J. Barratt of the 549th Military Working Dog Detachment.

A son, Brooks Fischer Colburn, was born 19 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces at 4:37 a.m. to Michelle E. Colburn and Air Force Staff Sgt. Aaron B. Colburn of the 773d Civil Engineer Squadron.

A son, Nicholas Sebastian Orozco, was born 19 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 4 ounces at 4:28 p.m. to Mirna L. Chavarin-Trevino and Chief Warrant Officer 2 William X. Orozco of the 6th Brigade Engineer Battalion (Airborne).

July 29

A daughter, Brynlee Reagan Brewer, was born 20 inches long and weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces at 5:44 a.m. to Air National Guard Maj. Christen N. Brewer of the 176th Operations Support Squadron and Air National Guard Maj. Jeremiah L. Brewer of the 211th Rescue Squadron.

July 30

A son, Walker Brett Price, was born 20.5 inches long and weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces at 1:16 a.m. to Morgan Blevins Price and Air Force Capt. Brett H. Price of the 673d Inpatient Squadron.

SUPER SQUAD: MARINES BATTLE IT OUT



U.S. Marines assigned to Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment load their M16 A4 rifle magazines with 5.56 mm ball ammunition before conducting a live-fire marksmanship event during the 4th Marine Division Super Squad Competition at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Aug. 6. During the multi-day competition, squads from 1st and 3rd Battalions, 23rd Marine Regiment and 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, exercised their technical and tactical proficiencies by competing in events that highlighted offensive and defensive operations, patrolling techniques, combat marksmanship, physical endurance and small-unit leadership. (U.S. Air Force photo/Alejandro Peña)



A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, competing in the 4th Marine Division Annual Rifle Squad Competition, climbs a rope at the obstacle course at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson August 3. The competition evaluates 14-man infantry squads throughout an extensive field and live-fire evolution. (U.S. Air Force photo/Jamal Wilson)



A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, applies camouflage face paint Aug. 3 during the Super Squad Competition. (U.S. Air Force photo/Jamal Wilson) RIGHT: Marines with 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, engage simulated opposing forces Aug. 4 (U.S. Air Force photo/Alejandro Peña)



BELOW: A Marine loads a magazine Aug. 6. An Alaska Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter with the 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation Regiment, leaves the landing zone after transporting Marines with the 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, Aug. 6. (U.S. Air Force photo/Alejandro Peña)



703d AMXS nabs softball trophy

By **AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
CAITLIN RUSSELL**
JBER Public Affairs

This year's softball season ended Aug. 5 with the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron intramural softball team claiming the championship title at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Ten teams competed in a 10-game regular season, followed by a playoff series.

The 703rd AMXS charged into the championship with an unblemished 4-0 record for the season.

The championship pitted the maintainers against the Airmen of the 3rd Munitions Squadron.

Ultimately, the 703rd AMXS claimed the trophy after defeating the 3rd MUNS 9-6.

"Our strategy throughout the tournament was to play everybody and have a good time," said Kenneth Tra-

vis, 703rd AMXS flightline expeditor. "This win was made even better because our commander just retired after playing intramural softball for 29 years."

"It was an emotional win for me and the best way to end the season," said former AMXS commander Ron Thomas, who retired as a colonel. "My favorite moment was in the third inning when we took the lead, and I knew we had the win."

The season featured more than 200 games played with approximately 600 participants.

"Overall, this season was great. It's been awesome to see family, friends and coworkers come together and have fun," said Katherine Hunt, the 673d Force Support Squadron sports director. "This season is also unique because the top two teams have the opportunity to play in the men's state



Airmen with the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 3rd Munitions Squadron intramural softball teams play the championship game at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Aug. 6. The 703rd AMXS defeated the 3rd MUNS team, with a score of 9-6. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Caitlin Russell)

tournament on Aug. 18."

With softball season over, intramural basketball is slat-

ed to begin in October.

For more information about intramural sports op-

portunities, contact the 673d FSS sports directors at 384-1312 or 384-1304. 

