



WINGSPAN



Vol. 21, No. 5

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

April 23, 2015

Blue Angels ... Arriving!

Despite the unpredictability of Mother Nature last week, we were able to put our best foot forward and open our gates for the “Wings Over South Texas” 2015 Air Show. On the following pages are snapshots of “air show week.”



Far left, volunteers wait for the gates to open Sunday morning.

Left, Navy JROTC students from Laredo, Texas, enjoy touring the static displays on Friday, April 17, as we set up for air show weekend. (Photo by Kiana Allen, CCAD)

Skipper's Column



Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer



It's hard to believe the 2015 Wings Over South Texas Air Show has come and gone. It seems like just yesterday when our Committee started meeting to talk about the acts we would like to showcase, the static displays the community would like to see, and other kinds of entertainment we could provide for every single member of the family.

Saturday's weather did not cooperate with us, and eventually led to an early Air Show cancellation without many acts, including the Blue Angels, getting a chance to fly. In spite of the weather, initial estimates are around 25,000 attendees for that day. We also

received some great feedback on the event in spite of the weather and traffic delays.

Sunday's Air Show was a great success! The weather was better and all acts had a chance to perform. The reviews we've received from the Sunday show have been outstanding, and initial estimates are around 50,000 spectators!

It was an honor to open the gates of NASCC to each and every one of you to bring back the Wings Over South Texas Air Show after four long years. It was also an honor to historically hold the Air Show over the water off the NASCC sea-wall for the first time in over 40 years! This location made for a great show with the opportunity for a much more up-close experience with the Air Show performances. You can be sure this will continue to be our location for future Air Shows at NASCC!

From your feedback, it's great to hear that you appreciated the efforts of our Sailors and Civilians who worked so hard to make this event possible. Thank you to each and every one of you who participated – by

working the Air Show or attending it. We couldn't accomplish what we did without your support.

Please keep the feedback coming on Facebook ("Naval Air Station Corpus Christi" and "Wings Over South Texas Air Show.") We want to know about your experiences, hear your stories, see your photos, and see where we can make it even better next time! The Wings Over South Texas Air Show will be held at NAS Kingsville next April. Then in 2017 it comes back to NASCC! We hope to see you at both events.

Don't forget, the 2015 Wings Over South Texas Air Show kicked off a year-long celebration of events commemorating our 75th anniversary. Seventy-five years ago, NASCC was under construction. It was commissioned March 12, 1941. Throughout this year, we will hold events as part of our observance, culminating in a celebration in March 2016 – not only of NASCC, but of all of those who have "gone before us."

We'll keep you posted!

Chaplain's Message



Hey,
hey, hey!

Lt. Cmdr. Stephen Warne
Command Chaplain

of military culture and mission often create unique opportunities for chaplains that are both exciting and often challenging.

One such unique opportunity presented itself on the Sunday afternoon of the air show. The air crew of the Blue Angels' C-130 called "Fat Albert" was looking for active duty members to ride along during the show. I quickly accepted the offer, along with my chaplain's assistant, RP3 Nicole Schuster. In addition to the unique opportunity of riding this iconic aircraft, I was afforded the honor of being in the cockpit during the air show demonstration. Needless to say, it was awesome! It is experiences such as these that I will recount to others long into retirement.

On a separate note, everyone on board was issued a 'complimentary barf bag' before

take-off. Some fared better than others, but everyone enjoyed the ride. I would like to give special acknowledgment to the air crew of Fat Albert and to the leadership that make these opportunities available.

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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor,

As a Navy veteran, I take special pride in seeing my service excel in complex and dangerous operations around the world.

This past weekend, I saw the Navy team step up in a way some might term less flashy, but it spoke to the heart of our service.

I drove down from Austin with my son to see the "Wings Over South Texas" air show on Saturday and joined thousands of other spectators in staring at the largely plane-less skies for hours, praying for the ceiling to lift. Instead, a front moved in, the base CO made the right call, the show was canceled, and people began moving to their vehicles.

We sat in our car for an hour as the rain obscured our view through the windshield.

When the rain subsided and the view cleared, we began creeping in orderly traffic across the base. Along the way to the

north gate, we saw Sailor after young Sailor standing their posts, soaked to the bone, directing traffic, waving at kids and exemplifying professionalism.

After a day of encounters with cheerful, hospitable and helpful Sailors at the show, seeing these folks on the job made me as proud as any diamond formation. That commitment to mission, regardless of the environment or its impact on one's personal comfort is what sets the Navy apart. It was a simple demonstration that our Navy is strong and in good hands in the years to come.

Thank you to everyone who made the air show happen and keep up the great



Cade Barlow, son of Andrew Barlow, enjoys himself, as a "real propeller-head" at the air show. (Courtesy photo)

work. Go Navy.

Andrew Barlow
Austin, Texas

Wingspan

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To advertise in the *Wingspan*, contact *The Port Lavaca Wave* at afrench@plwave.com or (361) 746-4341.

Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

Fifi Kieschnick
Public Affairs Officer



This paper is published for people like BM2 Kenneth Midland, who was one of the Sailors who worked long hours this past weekend to make the "Wings Over South Texas" 2015 Air Show the "best show ever!" Midland is a native of Ft. Walton Beach, Fla., and has 8 years U.S. Navy service. He is currently working in the NASCC Admin Department.



Rehydrating Sunday while walking the show site. Photo reprinted from Facebook submission on the "Wings Over South Texas Air Show" page.



At the Meet the Blues reception Friday night, April 17, Capt. Tom Frosch, commanding officer of the Blue Angels Demonstration Team, signs a photo for 6-year old Torren Coonrod. Coonrod has followed the Blue Angels since the age of three and has high hopes of being a Blue Angel one day. (U.S. Navy photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA)



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Hands on -- Training Squadron 28 recently hosted ROTC students from the Houston Consortium. The purpose of the visit was to give the students a first-hand look at the Chief of Naval Air Training's

Aviation Flight Program, and provide an opportunity to operate the T-6 Texan simulators. (U.S. Navy photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA)

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Congrats -- Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi customer service officer, Jeff Champaign, presents the Captain's Customer Service Award to Lt. Peter Woods, accepting it on behalf of his team at Branch Health Clinic Kingsville. They won 1st Place, FY15 2nd QTR, for 175 submissions and 98 percent overall patient satisfaction. (U.S. Navy photo by Bill W. Love)

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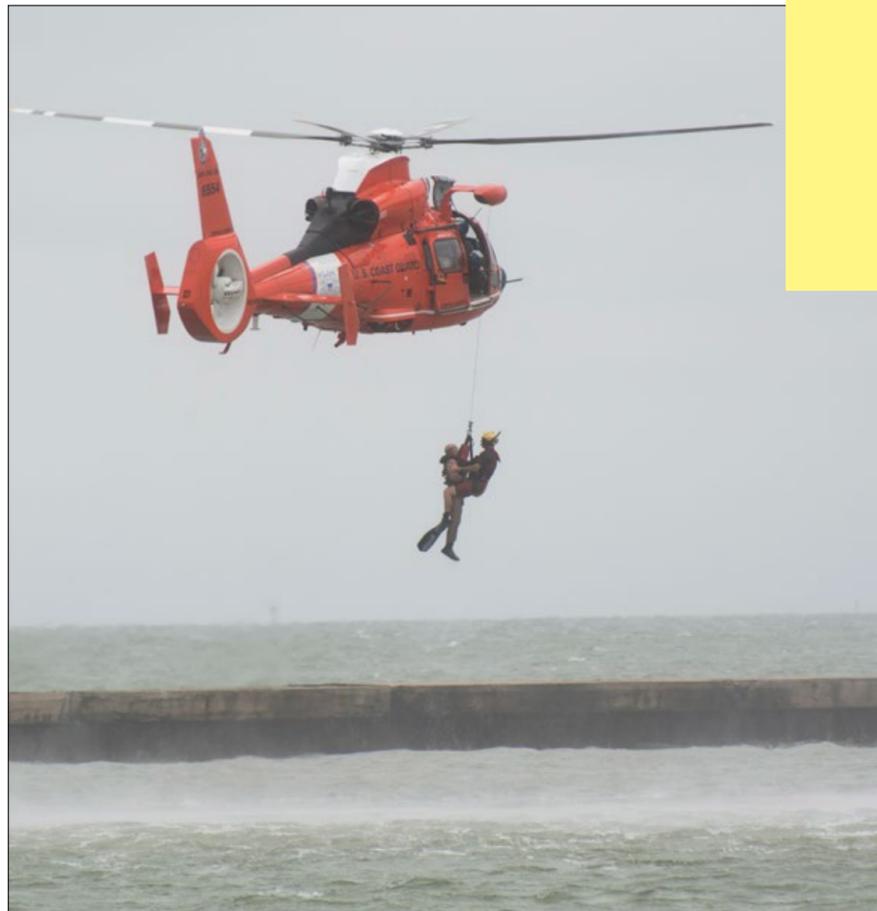
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'Wings Over South Texas' 2015 Air Show

More information and photos of air show week will be posted on our Facebook pages "Naval Air Station Corpus Christi" and "Wings Over South Texas Air Show."



Chief of Naval Air Training Rear Adm. Roy Kelley is rescued by the Corpus Christi Sector Coast Guard during a live exercise presented at the "Wings Over South Texas" 2015 Air Show on Sunday, April 18. (U.S. Navy photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA)



Dr. Mark Escamilla prepares to take flight with Blue Angel #7 on Wednesday, April 15.



Mary Carroll High School NJROTC enjoy the air show. (Photo by Kiana Allen, CCAD)



No, I'm not lost! Sixteen-month old MaKennah enjoys spending time at the practice show Friday, April 17. She is the daughter of Camille and Lt. Mark White, an HC-144 pilot with the U.S. Coast Guard. (Photo by Kiana Allen, CCAD)



Photo by Ed Slonaker, CCAD)



Photo by Kim Slonaker



Photo by Ed Slonaker, CCAD)



Photo by Kim Slonaker



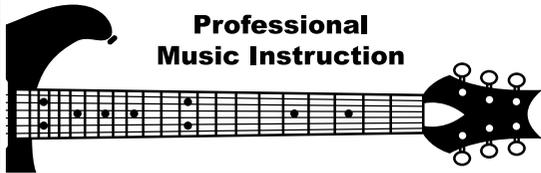
Training Squadron 21, from NAS Kingsville, provided a T-45C static display for the air show. (Photo by Kiana Allen, CCAD)



Photos by Ed Slonaker, CCAD)

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NAVFAC Southeast awards \$15.7M contract to small business, Building 1 to be renovated

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southeast awarded a \$15.7 million firm-fixed-price task order March 31 to GFP - Yates, A Joint Venture small business based in Universal City, Texas for renovation and repairs of Building 1, Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA) Headquarters, at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

"This project will restore Building 1, a very historic facility built in 1941," said NAS Corpus Christi Public Works Officer Cmdr. Amanda Brooks. "New construction was considered in the planning stage for this project, but the analysis showed that new construction would be costlier and a significant historical facility would be lost in the process."

Building 1 was built in 1941 as a semi-permanent four-story wood frame facility. It has undergone numerous changes during its history. In November 2010, the building was analyzed for compliance with life safety, environmental health, accessibility and anti-terrorism force protection requirements. The evaluation indicated that all the primary building systems were in need of minimal to significant restoration.

Additionally, the existing inefficient layout of the building exceeds the Command's requirements and the opportunity to reduce surplus administrative footprint will be missed if the renovation were to not occur.

The task order calls for the renovation of an existing 1940s multi-story, wood frame structure. The project will demolish one wing and the remaining three wings will undergo extensive renovation. Upgrades will be made to the exterior envelope and structure. The interior renovation will fully reconfigure the inside space and all building mechanical, electrical and fire protection systems will be replaced. The utilities infrastructure will be significantly upgraded as well as other site improvements made.

Work is expected to be completed by May 2017.

Small business play a vital role in the American economy – employing half of our country's workforce, creating nearly two out of every three new American jobs, and often being the source of the next great American innovation. NAVFAC Southeast strives to meet its goals building on its success by providing contract opportunities to small businesses.

"This is an example of an exceptional match between the Navy's often unique requirements and the professionalism, craftsmanship and responsiveness that our small business vendors bring to the table," said Nelson Smith, NAVFAC Southeast small business deputy. "Every small business award is a win for the taxpayers, the nation and the Navy."



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Fact or fiction: What do you know about your commissary benefit?

By Kevin L. Robinson
DeCA Public Affairs Specialist

What a commissary patron knows about their commissary benefit – how it works, its history and its features – can make all the difference in how they use it.

Just ask Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Stuart M. Allison, the Defense Commissary Agency's senior enlisted advisor to the director. "The best way to use the commissary benefit is to be an informed shopper," Allison said.

So, to help commissary shoppers, here's Allison's quick guide of fact-versus-fiction information:

* The commissary is only authorized for married military members living in on-base housing: Fiction.

* Case lot sales can save patrons upwards of 50 percent: Fact.

* The Defense Commissary Agency isn't connected to its patrons in cyberspace: Fiction.

* DeCA has a rewards card that gives its patrons access to digital coupons: Fact.

* Patrons can only access commissary products in a commissary: Fiction.

* The 5-percent surcharge is a tax: Fiction.

* Military commissaries date back to the 1860s: Fact. Although DeCA was formed in 1991, the modern era of sales commissaries actually began in 1867. It was then that enlisted men received the same at-cost purchasing privileges officers had already enjoyed for four decades. From the start, commissaries were meant to allow the Army to "care for its own." The stores provided wholesome food beyond official rations, and the savings supplemented military pay.

* Baggers are commissary employees: Fiction. Baggers are not commissary employees, and are paid solely by the tips from commissary patrons in exchange for bagging/carry-out services. Baggers are self-employed and work under a license agreement with an installation commander.

"Doing your homework can pay off at the cash register," Allison said. "If you want to save more, boost your commissary knowledge. Tune in to DeCA's social media sites, and check the commissary website for the current sales flyer, ongoing promotions, the lineup of Commissary Value Brands and available digital coupons for your Commissary Rewards Card.

"It's your benefit," he added. "Take the time to understand it and use it."

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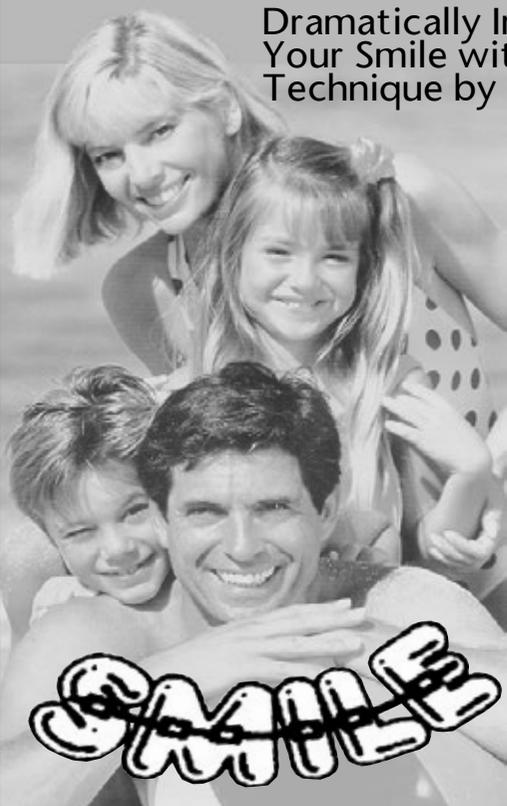
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The DON Wounded Warrior and Veteran Hiring and Support Conference has connected hundreds of employers with skilled and dedicated wounded warriors, veterans and their spouses since 2010.

The 2015 Wounded Warrior and Veteran Hiring and Support Conference, scheduled May 19-20 in San Antonio, is poised to maintain that tradition.

More than 35 companies are registered for the conference career fair on May 20 at the Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade, and there is still time for employers with job openings to participate in this free event.

Business, industry and government leaders can pre-register at www.HireAVet.navy.mil, and may also take advantage of the free resume matching service. Conference organizers are collecting resumes in order to match qualified candidates with the needs of registered companies. Businesses will be able to review pre-selected resumes and conduct in-person or virtual interviews on the day of the career fair. The pre-matching service streamlines the process to make the conference more productive for both employers and job seekers.

Initiated by Juan Garcia III, assistant secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASN (M&RA)), the con-

ference focuses attention on the skills and qualifications of men and women returning home from the longest armed conflict in U.S. history.

"These Americans have displayed incomparable resilience and are ready to take on the opportunity that only you can provide - a job," Garcia said. "Our nation has a moral obligation to assist those who served our country in finding meaningful employment opportunities."

Candidates make good impression Hiring managers attending DON's career fair last year in Raleigh, North Carolina, said they were impressed with the job candidates.

"The wounded warrior and veteran candidates that I met with had a wealth of proven leadership and technical skills that are critical for today's job market," said Gary Kurtz, assistant commander for corporate operations and total force strategy and management, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). "Almost all of the candidates I met with not only had a college degree, many had dual or advanced degrees, including Ph.D.s. These are highly educated and motivated people who are looking to grow careers and be key contributors to the companies and business that hire them."

Recruiters from Naval Sea Systems ___ see **Recruit** on following page



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WINGSPAN
February 19, 2015
Vol. 21, No. 2
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

Wings Over South Texas Air Show - April 18-19
Blue Angels return to NAS Corpus Christi for spring air show

from NASCC public Affairs
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi is gearing up for its first air show in four years - and everyone is invited!
The Navy's Blue Angels and "Fat Albert Airlines" are headlining the "Wings Over South Texas" air show on Saturday and Sunday, April 18-19.
Other highlights of the two-day event, include demonstrations by the Golden Knights, the U.S. Army Parachute Team.
Military and civilian acts are filling out the card to include: the U.S. Air Force's F-22 Raptor; Rob Holland in his MXS-RH; Randy Ball in his MGS-17F; Paul Fata in his Great Lakes Bi-plane, and more plus static displays of aircraft.
Air Show continued on page 3

February is Black History Month
page 4

Pilot for a Day "Doodlebug" Bity
page 7

Military Saves Week Feb. 23-28
page 8

DoD website now includes Corpus Christi and Kingsville
page 7

Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield 2015 exercise tests responses to active shooters, gate runners and more
by Rod Hafemeister
Gunshots shattered the workday routine in the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi headquarters building Feb. 3.
Office workers dashed to exits, hid under desks or barricaded their doors as the gunman stalked the halls, brandishing an assault rifle and shouting, "Where's that captain!"
But not an actual threat - it was a red rubber assault rifle and blanks from a pistol.
It was all part of an extensive "active shooter" exercise that tested everything from the immediate reactions of workers to security and emergency medical responses and even the post-event counseling for victims and emergency personnel.
Red cloths indicated wounded victims in the gunman's wake as security forces responded to emergency calls and conducted the dangerous job of searching for gunmen and clearing the building.
Exercise continued on page 5

The Navy's Blue Angels perform at the 2011 air show on board Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. They will be headlining the 2015 show on April 18-19.
Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Security forces search the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi headquarters building for an "active shooter" during an exercise Feb. 3. The exercise was part of the Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2015 exercise, an annual exercise conducted on naval installations throughout the United States to test anti-terrorism and force protection procedures Feb. 2-13.
Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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Bravo Zulu



**Have you met
NAS Corpus Christi's
Air Traffic
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AC3 Raymond MacDonald

AC3 Raymond MacDonald is the Air Traffic Controller of the Quarter, Second Quarter, for Fiscal Year 2015. Macdonald has been qualified at three NASCC towers and has provided the safe expeditious control of 10,376 incident-free flight

operations as a Navy Outlying field Watch Supervisor, of which only three third class petty officers aboard NASCC are currently qualified as. Macdonald is also assistant training petty officer for the Blue Crew Watch Team. As ATPO, he maintains the records for 23 Sailors and continues to record the 1,185 training hours carried out by these shipmates.

What drives him to succeed as an air traffic controller?

"What drives my success is my desire to go above and beyond what is expected of me for my family and my country," says MacDonald. With days that start long before the sun peaks over the horizon, and nights that carry on long after his fellow Sailors have gone to sleep, Macdonald stands the watch. (Photo and story by AC3 Nicholas Duffy)

Recruit from previous page

Command (NAVSEA) said they appreciated the ability to interview several candidates in one location.

"This career fair was very effective for us, especially since Wounded Warrior Battalion East arranged transportation for wounded warriors from Camp Lejeune and the Army's Warrior Transition Command did the same for wounded warriors from Fort Bragg and Joint Base Langley-Eustis," said Jenna Sarafin, who manned the NAVSEA job fair booth.

Sarafin said NAVSEA was able to connect a wounded warrior stationed at Camp Lejeune with a NAVSEA recruiter from Washington state, where he will be relocating once he is medically retired.

Employers are also encouraged to register for the May 19 general session, when employers, human resources professionals, hiring managers and military leaders will discuss the benefits, challenges and resolutions to hiring and retaining wounded warriors and veterans. There will also be opportunities to develop relationships between the private sector and military transition commands as well as network and share knowledge. Several wounded warriors and veterans will share their perspectives during a panel discussion.

Department of the Navy, USO partnership
This year, the conference received an added boost from the DON's partnership with the USO, a leading nonprofit that has supported American troops since 1941.

"The USO is excited to support the Department of the Navy's Wounded Warrior and Veteran Career Fair," said USO CEO and President J.D. Crouch II. "An event like this is important because it helps bridge the workforce gap by connecting troops with viable civilian job opportunities from some of today's top industry leaders."

"The USO has a long and storied history of supporting our military and their families," Garcia added. "The Department of the Navy is proud to partner with them for the annual Wounded Warrior and Veteran Hiring and Support Conference on May 20."

The Wounded Warrior and Veteran Hiring and Support Conference is sponsored by the assistant secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs and co-hosted by NAVAIR, NAVSEA, and Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command. DON's Office of Civilian Human Resources, Navy Safe Harbor and Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment are supporting the conference. The USO is providing information technology support.

For general conference and registration information, contact the conference management team at nssc_wwarriorhiring@navy.mil.

Media interested in attending the conference should contact Andrea Watters at (301) 342-7326 or andrea.watters@navy.mil. (From DON Office of Civilian Human Resources)

Would you like to play a part in planning the Naval Air Station's 75th anniversary celebration?
If so, e-mail nascc-pao@navy.mil.

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WINGSPAN

Vol. 23, No. 2 Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas February 18, 2015

Black History Month
'CENTURY OF BLACK LIFE, HISTORY, & CULTURE'
 February is Black History Month
 page 4

Wings Over South Texas Air Show - April 18-19
Blue Angels return to NAS Corpus Christi for spring air show
 from NASIC Public Affairs
 Naval Air Station Corpus Christi is gearing up for its first air show in four years - and everyone is invited!
 The Navy's Blue Angels and "Fat Albert Airlines" are headlining the "Wings Over South Texas" air show on Saturday and Sunday, April 18-19.
 Other highlights of the two-day event, include demonstrations by the Golden Knights, the U.S. Army Parachute Team.
 Military and civilian acts are filling out the card to include: the U.S. Air Force's F-22 Raptor, Rob Harland in his MXS-810, Randy Bull in his MG-17, Paul Fata in his Great Lakes Bi-plane, and more - plus static displays of aircraft.
 Air Show continued on page 3

Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield 2015 exercise tests responses to active shooters, gate runners and more
 by Rod McManister
 Gunshots shattered the workday routine in the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi headquarters building Feb. 3.
 Other workers dashed to exits, hid under desks or barricaded their doors as the gunman stalked the halls, brandishing an assault rifle and shouting, "Where's that captain?"
 But not an actual threat - it was a red rubber assault rifle and blanks from a pistol.
 It was all part of an extensive "active shooter" exercise that tested everything from the immediate reactions of workers to security and emergency medical responses and even the post-event counseling for victims and emergency personnel.
 Red cloths indicated wounded victims as the gunman's wake as security forces responded to emergency calls and conducted the dangerous job of searching for gunmen and clearing the building.
 Security forces search the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi headquarters building for an "active shooter" during an exercise Feb. 3. The exercise was part of the Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2015 exercise, an annual exercise conducted on naval installations throughout the United States to test anti-terrorism and force protection procedures Feb. 2-13.
 Photo by Rod McManister
 Exercise continued on page 5

Pilot for a Day "Doodlebug" Bily
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AMERICA Saves
 Since Small, Texas, Inc.
 Military Saves Week Feb. 23-28
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MILITARY CHILDCARE.COM
 DoD website now includes Corpus Christi and Kingsville
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For more information, Contact: **Ashley Kontnier** at **361-552-9788** or **afrench@plwave.com**