

SEABEE COURIER

Seabees conclude deployment that built global partnerships

By MC1 Brannon Deugan
NMCB 1 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 turned over detachment sites and oversight of construction projects worldwide on board Naval Station Rota, Spain, Feb. 16.

The turnover concluded a seven-month deployment for approximately 750 service members assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 and NMCB 27, and it demonstrated the transfer of au-

thority of deployment sites and projects to NMCB 133.

"I could not be prouder of the work the Seabees from NMCB 1 and 27 have done this deployment," Cmdr. Kemit Spears, NMCB 1 commanding officer. "They have performed brilliantly and without fail ... literally across the world."

NMCB 1 had 23 details that supported 57 different sites across Africa, Europe, Middle East, Central and South America, and in the Pacific.

See **DEPLOYMENT** page 7



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 and NMCB 27 are welcomed home upon their return from a seven month deployment, Feb 19. The battalions supported details in 57 sites across Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Central America and the Pacific. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

Please visit Facebook to view more than 300 homecoming photos

NMCRS Fund Drive kicks off with breakfast at Colmer Dining Facility

Retired Admiral Steve Abbott, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) president, addresses attendees at the NMCRS Active Duty Fund Drive Kickoff Breakfast at Colmer Dining Facility on board Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Feb. 24. The fund drive runs from March 1 to 31 and raises money used by the Society to help Sailors and Marines during their time of need. The NMCRS does not receive any government funding and relies solely upon donor generosity to fulfill its mission.



(U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)



Mark your calendars for Seabee Day

From NCBC
Public Affairs

It's almost time to come out and celebrate the Seabees!

Seabee Day 2016 will take place April 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The day of fun will feature free carnival rides, musical entertainment, food, drink and craft vendors, a wing-eating contest, a car show and military displays.

For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/SeabeeDayGulfport/>

NCBC

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Public Affairs Officer

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Did You Know?

As Commanding Officer of NCBC, I am always interested in hearing ideas about how we can improve. If you have questions or comments about the services we provide, I would like for you to send those to me via the Public Affairs Officer at ncbc_gpt_@navy.mil.

Contact information is not required, but if you would like for someone to get back in touch with you on your comment, please provide a phone number and email address.

Capt. Cheryl Hansen, CO, NCBC Gulfport

Q: Are there any plans to replace McDonalds or bring Starbucks on base?

A: Did you know that the Navy Exchange is working to bring another food chain on board which would be near the NEX? Unfortunately, the process takes longer than anyone would like. In the interim, MWR has contracted a couple of local food trucks to help fill the void. They operate from the Training Hall parking lot during lunch time during the work week (except Thursdays). MWR also plans to open a Starbucks collocated with Informa-

tion, Tickets and Tours in building 365 tentatively around mid-summer.

Q: Will Force Protection Condition (FP-CON) Bravo be lifted anytime soon?

A: Did you know FPCON Bravo was implemented by US Fleet Forces Command based on intelligence assessment of the threat to installations? Unfortunately, due to worldwide security concerns, it is unlikely that FPCON Bravo will be changed any time soon.

Q: Why are there new PFA-standards?

A: Did you know the new Navy policy was implemented to provide everyone (regardless of rank) an opportunity to stay in the Navy longer with a better approach to fitness? Navy leadership understands that not all service members have the same body types, metabolism, etc., and hopes this instruction change will enable a more positive approach to fitness.

Q: Why is there construction at Broad Ave. and 28th Street Gate?

A: Did you know that the base is receiving new Automated Vehicle Gates

(AVG) which are currently under construction and should be operational this spring? Once the AVGs are operational, base leadership will look at different options for entry at Broad Avenue and 28th Street Gate. The AVGs will allow vehicles and personnel to enter and exit the base with their Common Access Card, depending on the FPCON. During heightened security, AVG's operating in the "Automatic Mode" will require a system PIN for access. The base commanding officer will determine at what FPCON this PIN will be used.

NCIS Crime Reduction Program

Sexual Assault Awareness is the focus of this quarter's NCIS Crime Reduction Program. The program will run through April which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The briefing covers sexual assault types, victim reporting and prevention. For more information and/or to schedule a briefing time convenient for your Command, please contact Special Agent Ashley Sippel at 228-822-5460 or email her at ashley.Sippel@ncis.navy.mil.

VITA Tax Center
Building 60 116Z
(Rear of Building, First Floor)



HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Walk-ins are welcome Monday - Thursday
Please bring last year's tax return, W2(s), proof of insurance and tax forms (ex. 1099)
Call: 228-871-2301 early in the day for an appointment which typically begin at 9 a.m.

AUDRA
SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT GROUP
AUDRA means "nobility and strength" in French

You don't have to walk this path alone

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Local 24/7 Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Contact #: 228-596-0697; Your installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator's Contact #: 228-323-4717; Alternate Sexual Assault Response Coordinator's contact # 504-762-0224; Click: www.Safe-Helpline.org; Call: 877-995-5247; Text *55-247 (inside the U.S.); Text *202-470-5546 (outside the U.S.) *Text your location for the nearest support resources.



Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 conducts command physical training on board Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Feb. 17. The training is necessary to help prepare Sailors for the upcoming Physical Readiness Test. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder Constructionman Samantha Opyoke/Released)



Airman Antony Williams, an Air Force student attached to Naval Construction Training Center uses a level on a Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU) on board Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Feb. 19. This step ensures that each block of the CMU is level and meets course standards. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder Constructionman Samantha Opyoke/Released)



Retired Navy Chief Petty Officer Craig Pee has his blood pressure checked by Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Carolanne Hardy, attached to Naval Branch Health Clinic (NBHC) Gulfport at the Fitness Center on board NCBC Gulfport, Feb. 18. The Fitness Center hosted a "Know Your Numbers" blood pressure screening and 1K Walk to raise awareness during American Heart Month. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder Constructionman Samantha Opyoke/Released)

NCBC 2016 Military Saves Week: Build Wealth, Reduce Debt



Capt. Cheryl Hansen, commanding officer Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport is surrounded by representatives of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Navy Federal Credit Union and Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) as she displays the signed proclamation that decrees the start of 2016 Military Saves Week, Feb. 22. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder Constructionman Samantha Opyoke/Released)



Personnel on board NCBC Gulfport gathered in front of the Navy Exchange to witness the official start of 2016 Military Saves Week, Feb. 22. In partnership with the Department of Defense Financial Readiness Campaign, the week is all about promoting good savings habits and encouraging members of the DoD to reduce consumer debt. After taking the pledge to Build Wealth, Not Debt, participants were given an opportunity to take a turn in the Fun Machine Cash Cube, where they could grab for money, coupons and gift cards. Representatives from Navy Federal Credit

Union, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Fleet and Family Support Center, Habitat for Humanity and the USO were on hand to pass out information and other freebies. Free bowls of chili and beverages were also offered to the crowd. Those who would like more information about resources and services offered through Military Saves, can contact their local Fleet and Family Service Center or visit: <http://www.militarysaves.org/>. (U.S. Navy photos by Builder Constructionman Samantha Opyoke and MWR/Released)

Buzz on the Street

By BUCN Samantha Opyoke
NCBC Public Affairs

During the 2016 Military Saves Week kick off, people were asked: "What is the most effective money saving method for you and why?"

"I set up an automatic allotment to pay myself first from each paycheck."



Saudi Rogers
Personal Financial
Education Specialist

"I have a savings account that I can only touch once a year."



Danny Calhan
Operations Manager
Morale, Welfare
and Recreation

"If I go to the Exchange, I will buy all of my groceries at once to prevent future spending."



Molly Devonis
Navy-Marine Corps
Relief Society



DON and Mississippi Power sign lease for solar facility on NCBC Gulfport

From Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment

The Department of the Navy (DON) and Mississippi Power, a subsidiary of Southern Company, announced plans in early February to build a four megawatt (MW) direct current (DC) (three MW alternating current) solar facility at Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport.

The parties signed a real estate outgrant Jan. 28 for 23 acres of base land that will house the facility.

In exchange for the land needed for the project, NCBC Gulfport will receive in-kind consideration in the form of electrical infrastructure upgrades. Once online, the power generated will benefit Mississippi Power customers, including NCBC Gulfport.

Capt. Cheryl M. Hansen, the commanding officer of NCBC Gulfport, commended the agreement.

"NCBC Gulfport plays a critical role in keeping our Seabees trained and deployable at a moment's notice," said Hansen. "This project, coupled with our existing energy programs, will increase the energy security of the installation, which will allow us to operate more effectively during times of crisis."

No stranger to energy efficiency and security efforts, NCBC Gulfport was a recipient of the FY 2015 Secretary of the Navy's Energy and Water Management Award, Small Shore category.

The Mississippi Public Service Commission approved the project in November 2015. Hannah Solar, Mississippi Power's developer, will finance and build the project with power being routed to the Mississippi Power electric grid.

An investor-owned utility company that serves 23 counties in southeastern Mississippi, Mississippi Power provides electricity to NCBC Gulfport. The company expects to break ground on the project early this year and bring the facility online before the end of the calendar year.

"This cost-effective, utility-scale solar energy project once again places Mississippi Power at the forefront of the state's energy economy by adding renewables into the company's portfolio," said Mississippi Power President and CEO Anthony Wilson. "Working together with the Navy and Hannah Solar, this project will have a substantial impact on the amount of electricity generated by renewables in Mississippi. We continue to work closely with our military leaders to help them meet their renewable energy goals."

This project is one of five collaborations between the DON and Southern Company subsidiaries. In the last six months, the parties broke



ground on solar facilities at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay (42 MW DC), Naval Air Station Pensacola (65 MW DC) and Naval Air Station Whiting Field (52 MW DC). Announcement of the fifth project is anticipated this spring. Together, the five projects could produce nearly 200 MW DC.

Renewable energy generation projects improve the DON's energy security, operational capability, strategic flexibility and resource availability.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Gulfport solar project is scheduled for 10 a.m., March 2 at the Training Hall, with a reception to follow at Seabee Heritage Center.

NCBC Security would like to remind you that music cannot be heard more than 25 feet from your vehicle or you will be in violation of base policy

Commissary Value Brands offer patrons extra savings

By Kevin L. Robinson
DeCA public affairs specialist

Since the introduction of Commissary Value Brands in November 2014, patrons like retired Army Master Sgt. James Camm are seeing "orange" when it comes to the program's signature "Value" sign.

"As you look around, the 'Value' stickers letting you know that here, here's your best value for what you can get out of that product," said Camm, while shopping at the Fort Lee, Virginia, Commissary. "Every time I come there's quality and there's good variety, and I love that."

Quality at a low price is the hallmark of Commissary Value Brands, the Defense Commissary Agency program designed to provide savings on national name brand items comparable to low-cost store brand or private label items in commercial stores.

Through the end of 2015, sales of the products in the value brand lineup have increased 7 percent for

more than \$120 million. On average, these products save patrons about 23 percent when compared to the commercial retail stores' brand and private label items and about 38 percent against national brands.

Over the past 14 months, DeCA's Value Brands lineup has expanded from 300 products and 33 categories to nearly 500 items and 55 categories. Orange-tabbed products include beverages such as coffee, soft drinks and juices; dairy products including several cheeses, butter, canned and powdered milk; lunch meats, canned tuna and salmon; canned and frozen vegetables; canned fruit and soup; hot and cold cereals; bread; dry pasta and rice; pizza and entrees; peanut butter, jelly, honey and condiments; ice cream; cleaning supplies, disposable bags, laundry bleach and paper towels; pet foods; batteries; health and beauty care and more.

To achieve these savings DeCA works with its industry partners every six months to choose products

under Value Brands umbrella that are consistently equal to or lower than comparable store brand and private label products downtown. Products are subtracted or added under the "Value" sign based on price, sales performance and market changes. The current six-month phase began in January 2016.

"We use [Value Brands] – it's good stuff," said Army Maj. Richard Crocker, visiting Fort Lee for a training course. "I found that it compares to higher-priced, name brand stuff."

A list of Value Brands items is on the DeCA website, commissaries.com. Shoppers can simply click on the Value Brands webpage at <http://www.commissaries.com/shopping/value-brands.cfm>. Frequently asked questions and a video of the program are also there. The agency's social media outlets, especially Facebook and Twitter, also identify Value Brand deals.

Both Camm and Crocker agree that Value Brands and other commissary savings programs like Commissary



Rewards Cards help maximize their commissary benefit, and they try to spread the word to those who may not know.

"I would tell people who aren't using the benefit that they're cheating themselves," Camm said. "When you have earned the right [to use commissaries], you should always take advantage of it."

"Those guys who aren't shopping the commissary, I call them knuckleheads," Crocker added. "I tell them they need to go to the commissary, especially if they have kids and a big family. You are wasting your time and money by not going to the commissary."

NMCB 11 Seabees train at Camp Shelby

U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Michael C. Barton/Released



A. Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 lift the rib system of a Modular General Purpose Tent System during field training exercise, Feb. 17.

B. Construction Electrician Constructionman Steven Pallasigui assigned to NMCB 11 looks through a night Vision scope while standing a listening post/observation post watch during the battalion's field training exercise, Feb. 20.

C. Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 evacuate the Forward Operating Base (FOB), "Pipe Wrench" due to tornado and flash flood warnings, Feb. 23.

D. Builder Constructionman Apprentice Trey Coniel and Builder constructionman Hakeem Peirce assigned to NMCB 11 hammer scabs on to a floor joist for the field galley that will accommodate over 200 Seabees during

NMCB 11 field training exercise, Feb. 19.

E. Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 sit in the back of a troop transport truck on their way to the Field Operating Base (FOB), "Pipe Wrench" for NMCB 11 field training exercise, Feb. 15. Upon successful completion of the exercise and final evaluation problem, NMCB 11 will become deployment ready.

Back in Time: Seabee History

Feb. 21

1801: The Philadelphia Navy Yard was established after the second of three land purchases, which established the yard.

1944: 28th Special Naval Construction Battalion (NCB) formed at Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Camp Peary, Magruder, Va.

Feb. 22

1968: EON2 H.H. Aguayo was injured when the tractor in which he was riding hit a mine on Route No. 1, south of Phu Bai, RVN.

Feb. 23

1801: The land for the Brooklyn (New York) Navy Yard was purchased and the yard established on this date.

Feb. 24

1881: The President of the U.S. conferred relative rank on civil engineers and equal precedence to officers of the line in the Navy for the first time. For the fixed number of 10 CEC officers, one had the relative rank of captain, two with relative rank of commander, three with relative rank of lieutenant commander, and four with the relative rank of lieutenant.

1970: Seabee Team 4004 departed Davisville, RI for reassignment to OIC CB-PACDET, RVN and deployment to Xuan Loc, RVN.

Feb. 25

1944: 137th NCB broken up at Advance Base Depot (ABD) Gulfport, MS to



Seabee Team CBMU 301 working at Khe Sanh, Quảng Trị Province, Republic of Vietnam, 1968. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy Seabee Museum)

form CBMU 595, 596, 597, and 598.

25th Special NCB commissioned at NCTC Camp Peary, Magruder, Va., in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI).

Feb. 26

1966: First element of NMCB 3 advance party arrived at Rosemary Point, Chu Lai, RVN to construct a Seabee cantonment.

Feb. 27

1942: ABD Davisville, Rhode Island is estab-

lished as a unit of the Naval Operating Base, R.I. This was the first of four advance base depots established during World War II. Camp Thomas, also at Davisville, was concurrently established.

PSD Gulfport CAC note

Beginning Feb. 1, Common Access Cards (CACs) are being issued from the new DoD Certificate Authorities (CAs) 33 or 34. If a customer receives a new CAC and reports that it does not function properly, verify that the CAC is readable on a RAPIDS workstation. If the CAC is readable, the customer will need to contact his or her system administrator or Service Public Key Infra-

structure (PKI) Help Desk for certificate support and application compatibility questions.

With the new CACs using Certificate Authorities (CAs) 33 or 34, users may experience issues accessing some sites and programs due to not recognizing the new CAs. If customers desire to renew a CAC and they have sufficient time to wait before issuance of that new CAC, please advise the customer that it may be prudent to wait until the IT systems and PKI support for

NMCI/OneNet are updated with the new CAs and delay getting a new CAC if possible.

Resolving IT issues with new Certificate Authorities (CAs) issues is an IT support function, not a function of our DEERS/RAPIDS ID Card offices. NPC DEERS/RAPIDS Project Office and CNIC N6 are aware of the issue. Customers should be referred to their IT support for these issues relating to technical support.

From DEPLOYMENT page 1

Over the deployment, the battalion provided construction readiness operations, exercise-related construction, and mobile outstation support while building partnerships.

"The missions we have supported have spanned the globe and combatant commands, including U.S. Africa Command, U.S. Central Command, U.S. Europe Command, U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Southern Command," said Spears. "We have executed key missions supporting U.S. interests, and our supported units couldn't be happier with our execution."

With the deployment of personnel all over the globe, members of NMCB 1 collectively experienced a large spectrum of challenges.

"Many of our Seabees operated in challenging climates, work environments and locations with unique logistics challenges," said Spears. "In every case, our Seabees never let

obstacles get in their way but overcame them in the proudest tradition and heritage of the Naval Construction Force."

The battalion supported and participated in 11 exercises across Africa, Europe and the Pacific including: Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2015, Saharan Express, Sea Breeze and Trident Juncture 2015.

During Exercise Trident Juncture 2015, NMCB 1 deployed five task-tailored details to provide general engineering and logistical support for Special Operations Command Europe, U.S. Marines Corps Forces Europe and U.S. Naval Forces Europe in various locations throughout Spain and Portugal.

While working with partner and allied nations during exercises, the Seabees completed 55 community relations events with more than 2,750 hours of volunteering. Seabees volunteered to tutor students at a high school in the Republic of Marshall Islands and to support special events, such as a Breast

Cancer awareness run and Special Olympics Bowling event.

Other community relations events included working with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts on projects, and assisted the Rota Animal Welfare League by walking animals and cleaning cages. While being deployed during the holidays, NMCB 1 Seabees spent the holidays volunteering for events, such as Veterans Day ceremonies, haunted houses, trunk or treats, Thanksgiving parties, and going Christmas caroling in Guam.

"Doing community relations does three things for the Seabees," said Lt. Aaron Bell, chaplain and community relations manager for NMCB 1. "It gets Seabees out of the barracks, provides a chance to build relationships with the community and it gets the Seabees' name out there. Everywhere we've volunteered this deployment, the local community can't help but recognize and appreciate us."

Focus on Education

Education Notes

Transitioning to Civilian Life Webinar

A Transitioning to Civilian Life webinar, sponsored by Military OneSource will be presented March 1 at 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (Noon, Local). Whether you've been in the military for four years or 30 years, whether the separation is planned or not, the transition from military to civilian life can be intimidating. Join the webinar to discuss the steps needed to make the shift easier. Register for the webinar online at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1296398248582449409>

safeTALK

Tell. Ask. Listen. Keep Safe! safeTALK will be offered March 24, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., at Seabee Memorial Chapel. Call CREDO Facilitator at 228-871-2454 for more information or to sign up. All Resident Advisors MUST attend safeTALK training.

Navy-wide March Advancement Exams

E6: March 3; E5: March 10; E4: March 17
Location: Building 433; doors open at 6:30 a.m.
No cell phones at exam site

NCBC Gulfport
School Liaison

Officer:

Kevin Byrd

MWR

Location:

Building 352
1706 Bainbridge
Ave.

Phone:

228-871-2117

Email:

kevin.r.byrd@
navy.mil

Three Rivers Elementary looking for military rep

Three Rivers Elementary, located at 13500 Three Rivers Road, Gulfport will be celebrating Dr. Seuss week in March and their Kindergarten Team has planned a career day/community helper unit to emphasize the Dr. Seuss' book, "Oh The Places You Will Go." The school is looking for someone representing the military to speak to the Kindergarten classes about their day to day duties at Career Day.

The career day celebra-

tion will be held from 8 - 9 a.m., March 2. Speakers will begin promptly at 8 a.m. and the classes will rotate through each speaker. The speakers will be expected to provide a 10 minute speech to each class about their job on the Kindergarten grade level.

If you are interested in participating in Career Day, please contact Ms. Boney or Mrs. H. Martin: Three Rivers Elementary School- 228-831-5359 or via email sboney@har-rison.k12.ms.us.

the ZIKA virus

What is it?

-  Zika is a viral infection spread by mosquito bites
-  Zika virus infections in pregnant women have been linked to infants with birth defects
-  Zika virus infections have been reported in South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean.
-  No vaccine is available/no treatment is available

What should I do?

-  Avoid mosquito bites
 -  Use bug repellants containing DEET, picaridin, or IR3535
 -  Wear long sleeves/long pants
 -  Wear light-colored clothing
 -  Ensure window screens are intact
 -  Eliminate standing water
 -  Avoid peak hours - mosquitoes that spread Zika virus bite mostly by day

Where can I learn more?

-  Naval Branch Health Clinic Gulfport point of contact:
HN B. Masse at: brian.d.masse.mil@mail.mil
-  Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center Zika virus information:
www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/program-and-policy-support/Pages/Topics-in-Preventive-Medicine.aspx
-  CDC Zika virus webpage: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html>

Duties of NCBC School Liaison Officer

Naval Construction Battalion Center School Liaison Officer (SLO) Kevin Byrd, serves as a link between parents, educators and the command so military-connected children make a smooth school transition. There are seven core components of the SLO program:

1. School Transition Support
2. Deployment Support
3. Special Education System Navigation
4. Communications: Command, Educator, Community, Parents
5. Partnerships In Education (PIE)
6. Home School Support
7. Post-Secondary Preparation

Register to Vote!

- To register to vote, visit FVAP.gov now to complete a registration application and request your absentee ballots for the presidential preference primaries (P) and State primaries (S). It only takes a few quick steps to make sure your vote is counted no matter where you are in the world. To register and request your ballots, complete the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) using the FPCA online assistant (fvap.gov/military-voter/registration-ballots), or fill out the PDF (fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Forms/fpca2013.pdf), or pick up a hardcopy version from your Voting Assistance Officer or nearest U.S. Embassy or Consular Office. The Voting Officer for NCBC Gulfport is Lt. Zach Guthrie, Building 1, Room 225, 228-871-3460/2890.

'The Meat & Potatoes of Life'

By Lisa Smith Molinari
Special Contributor

The fix is in ... Pet Care 101

I told the folks at the local dog park that they wouldn't be seeing Moby, our 1-year-old yellow Lab, for a couple of weeks. When I explained why, the men in the group collectively cringed and hitched their knees together.

The appointment was first thing Monday morning.

Moby loped out of our front door into the crisp morning air just like he always does, his stout wagging tail on one end and a big sloppy smile on the other. I opened the minivan's rear door, and Moby jumped right in. He probably thought we were driving to the beach to chase balls and eat dead fish, or to the commissary so he could sneak into the front seat and stare at the entrance waiting for me to come back out so we could go chase balls again.



But instead, we took a longer trip, 25 minutes northward. I pulled into the closest available parking space at the veterinary clinic, hopped out and opened the back door.

"Hey Lil' Buddy! C'mon, this is going to be fun!"

Moby has never been the sharpest tool in the shed. In fact, he's a bit of a block head, but even he knew something was up. He was hesitant to jump out, wondering why I had left the balls in the car. When I tugged at his collar, he pulled back, causing all his neck flub to bunch up around his face.

Finally, Moby noticed that the air outside the minivan was a veritable a cornucopia of odors, so he jumped out to investigate. There were years' worth of animal pheromones, territorial markings, and nervous involuntary spillage in that parking lot. On my way to the clinic door, the leash stopped with a jolt while Moby sniffed, then licked, then marked a tuft of dead grass peeking through a crack in the asphalt.

Let him have his fun, poor guy.

In the waiting room, Moby wasn't sure if he should hide or jump for joy. On one hand, there



were lots of fun-looking dogs and people in there, and even one small hissy thing that made a peculiar yowling sound. (Moby had never seen a cat before.) But on the other hand, there were unfamiliar smells in that waiting room, like medicine ... and disinfectant ... and fear.

Before Moby's block head could figure it all out, the veterinarian's assistant was leading him away. I watched his tail wag as he looked up at her, and knew that he thought he was going somewhere to chase balls.

Oh, the irony.

Several hours later, Moby was back in the minivan, stunned at having been robbed of his virility, and wondering why there was a ridiculous cone around his head.

The physical pain in his nether regions was a mere annoyance compared to

the humiliation of the cone. It soon became the bane of his existence. He knocked lamps over, he spilled his water, and the neighbors laughed at his pitiful state.

Worst of all, it got in the way of chasing balls.

At the end of the week, when Moby had accepted the fact that he would be wearing that blasted cone the rest of his life, it suddenly cracked and fell off while he was rolling in the snow. Moby stared at the cone a moment, not sure if he should be sad at losing another appendage, or happy to be rid of it. Instinct took over, and Moby pounced onto the cone, grabbing and shaking it with all his might.

Killing the cone restored Moby's faith in his lingering masculinity, and as he trotted back to the house with his head held high, I could almost hear him say, "Nothing will ever get between me and my balls again."

Every year, millions of homeless dogs and cats are needlessly euthanized due to the overpopulation crisis in the US. Spaying and neutering is the best way to control overpopulation. Although Army Public Health Command suspended routine surger-

ies at all military base vet clinics in 2014, affordable spaying/neutering programs are available on the economy for anyone who needs them. At www.humanesociety.org, you can use a spay/neuter widget to find low cost services within 50 miles of your zip code. Furthermore, the site has a list of hundreds of organizations across the US that offer financial aid for pet care and surgeries. And if you need pet fostering while on deployment, reputable organizations such as dogsondeployment.org, guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org, and pactforanimals.org offer long-term fostering. Give your milpets the good care they deserve.

*A 21-year Navy spouse, Lisa and her family are currently stationed in Newport, RI. Her self-syndicated columns appear on her blog, www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com, and she recently co-authored *Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life*. Follow Lisa @MolinariWrites."*

Energy Savings

Look for the blue and white Energy Star label on compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) or light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs. They use up to 75 percent less energy than standard incandescent bulbs.



Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline:

Due to limited IG resources throughout the Southeast Region, all Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline work will now be handled by the Region. To report Fraud, Waste and Abuse, contact the Region at: Toll Free 1-877-657-9851, Comm: 904-542-4979, DSN 942-4979, FAX: 904-542-5587, Email: CNRSE_HOTLINE@navy.mil.

NCBC Helping Hands

VETERAN NEEDS ASSISTANCE - An elderly veteran is in need of a few minor home repairs. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Carol Keyes at 228-832-5250.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF MS GULF COAST - Volunteers are needed to help with spring cleaning of a Habitat for Humanity warehouse. Point of contact is Angela Thomas, 228-678-9100, ext. 1010.

MISSISSIPPI CITY CEMETERY - Volunteers are needed to rake/spruce up the Mississippi City Cemetery located south of Pass Road and Washington Ave. Point of contact to volunteer is Chuck McKinley, 228-326-4006 or by email cmckinley@cableone.net.

PERSHING SQUARE PROJECT - Volunteers are needed to prepare an installation site consisting of two 4 foot by 10 foot squares on each side of a walkway and install engraved pavers honoring our living and deceased veterans of World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Middle East who served in the Military, preserving our freedom. The pavers are to be installed in the Spring of 2016 at the site of the World War I Monument in front of the Mary C. O'Keefe Cultural Center located at 1600 Government St., Ocean Springs. Point of contact is Richard Eckert Sr., American Legion Post 42, Ocean Springs: 228-875-5233 or email: reckert11@cableone.net.

ST. MARTIN EAST ELEMENTARY - St. Martin East Elementary, 7508 Rose Farm Road, Ocean Springs is asking for volunteers to assist with an outdoor deck project on the school campus. Help is needed with engineering/design work, drawings, advice on construction and skilled labor. Point of contact is Principal Whitehead, 228-875-3204.

GULFPORT SCHOOLS NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS - The Gulfport Battalion of Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC) is looking for adult volunteers willing to help the area's youth succeed in life. NSCC is a non-profit, nautically oriented, youth training and education organization which is run by the Navy League with support from the United States Navy. Although a great plus, no prior military experience is required; all we need are adults who are passionate about mentoring America's youth. Point of contact is Lt. Cmdr. Thomas O. Klomps, NSCC, at Region63@juno.com or 850-890-6792.

USS ALABAMA ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELP - The Navy is looking for volunteers with construction expertise for a rewarding experience. The battleship USS Alabama anchored in Mobile Bay needs help from individuals that can work with wood, steel, and concrete for work aboard ship and around the grounds. Point of contact is Owen Miller, 251-433-2703 or cell 251-767-0157.

DISABILITY CONNECTION - Disability Connection provides support to individuals with disabilities, including military veterans. Volunteers are needed to build ramps and provide home inspections for needed material lists. Point of contact is Ms. O'Keefe, 228-604-4020 or office@disabilityconnection.org.

COAST SALVATION ARMY - Volunteers are needed for various projects throughout the year. Point of contact is Shawna_Tatge@uss.salvationarmy.org.

HELP SENIORS AND DISABLED CITIZENS - Harrison County RSVP needs retired plumbers, electricians, carpenters, skilled and unskilled laborers to join a team of handymen/women. Point of contact is Mag Holland, 228-896-0412.

NAVY-MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY - The NMCRS Thrift Store is experiencing a severe shortage of volunteers. Call 228-871-2610 to volunteer.

USO GULF COAST - The USO Gulf Coast is seeking passionate volunteers to give their service at the USO Gulf Coast located on board NCBC Gulfport. Our lounge volunteers primarily serve as host insuring guests sign in, offer snacks and beverages, sign out computers and gaming equipment. We do require that all volunteers go through mentor shadowing training which usually lasts 2 hours. The ideal applicant would display excellent people and customer service skills and be able to commit to one weekly, three to five hour shift. If you are someone with a heart to serve please visit: www.USOVolunteer.org and register today.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME - Volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of activities at AFRH. Please contact volunteer coordinator Jennifer Briley at 228-897-4417 or jennifer.briley@afrh.gov to find out more information.

FEED MY SHEEP - Feed My Sheep, 2615 19th Street in Gulfport is looking for volunteers to help feed the homeless who are in need of a hot meal. Point of contact to volunteer is Christina Lipke, 228-731-4883.

Join the Chapel of Choice for the Ecumenical Good Friday Service
March 25, 11 a.m.

Seabee Memorial Chapel

What's happening at the chapel?

Sunday

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. - Protestant Service
11 a.m. - Children's Church



Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Praise Break (20 minutes of praise and worship through music)
11:30 a.m. - Men's Bible Study
Noon - 1 p.m. - Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible Study

Please visit the Seabee Memorial Chapel Facebook page for updates on chapel events at: <https://www.facebook.com/ncbcchapel>. We may be reached by email at gulfportchapel.fct@navy.mil or by phone at 228-871-2454.

NCBC Command Chaplain: Lt. Cmdr. Ammie Davis

Sunday

9 a.m. - Mass
10 a.m. - CCD Class

Monday, Tuesday & Friday

11:15 a.m. - Mass

Thursday

5 p.m. - Holy Hour
6 p.m. - Mass
6:30 p.m. - Fellowship



FEB 26 - MAR 3



It's ALWAYS a great time for camping with an A-liner!

ONLY \$35/day
(plus \$17.50 deposit)



Take a tour & make reservations today!



Call 228-871-2127 or stop in at Community Recreation Outdoor Rental Center



LUNCH TIME LEARNING

March 4th & 18th 12pm

FREE FOOD!
AT ITT
Navy MWR DIGITAL library

What is it? How do I use it?
OPEN TO ALL HANDS

Bunny Hop 5K Challenge

March 18th 6:45 AM

WIN PRIZES!

Three Water-based Stations: Ending with a HOP into the Pool!



Free for All Hands
Call the Fitness Center at 228-871-2600 for details

MWR Program Telephone Numbers

Facility Name	Phone	Facility Name	Phone
Anchors and Eagles	871-4607	MWR Admin	871-2538
Auto Skills Center	871-2804	Outdoor Recreation	871-2127
The Hive	871-4009	School Liaison	871-2117
Fitness Center	871-2668	Shields RV Park	871-5435
Aquatics	871-2668	The Grill	871-2494
Child Development	871-2323	Youth Activities	871-2251
Seabee Cinema	871-3299	Liberty Center	871-4684
ITT	871-2231		

SLOPPY JOSE
Flavors from south of the border with the zing of jalapenos served with choice of fries or potato chips a refreshing mountain soda

ONLY \$6.00!

GRILL

LIBERTY
MARINE CHRISTIANITY CENTER
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

2/26 - 6 p.m., Reel Therapy, Free for All Active Duty & Reserve!
2/26 - 6 p.m., Military Save Week: Tricycle Races, 1st Place Prize
2/27 - 6 p.m., Monster Jam, 31B
2/29 - 5:30 p.m., Marvel Movie Marathon: Avengers Age of Ultron, Free Popcorn
3/1 - 6 p.m., Tournament Tuesday: Pool Tournament, 1st Place Prize
3/2 - 6 p.m., Watercolor Workshop, Free
3/3 - 6 p.m., Reel Therapy, Free for All Active Duty & Reserve!
Call 228-871-4684 for more information

Food Trucks are Here!

Taste Budz
Monday & Wednesday

BBQ WORLD
Tuesday & Friday

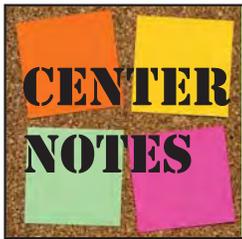
Training Hall Parking Lot
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

SEABEE CINEMA

Regular movie showings
Friday Sunday of every week!

Showing this weekend: *North of the Border* (PG), *Kung Fu Panda* (PG), *15 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi* (PG-13), *The Finest Hours* (PG-13)

For more information, call the 24-hour Movie Hotline at 228-871-3299 for show times
Pick up our NEW MOVIE SCHEDULE TODAY!



SUPPORT
NMCB 1 Family Readiness Group (FRG) invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Monday of every month at the Youth Activities Center, building 335. Meetings are from 6 - 8 p.m. Children are

welcome and baby sitting is provided during deployment.

NMCB 11 FRG invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the last Monday of every month at 6 p.m. The meetings are held at the Youth Activities Center on board NCBC Gulfport. Children are always welcomed and child care is provided at no cost. Please join us for fun, food, and to meet and socialize with other NMCB 11 families and friends. For more information, please contact us at nmcb11frg@gmail.com or like us on our Facebook page, NMCB 11 FRG. **NMCB 133 FRG** invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Activities Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information, contact FRG President Jaime Royal at 317-730-4064 or email NMCB133fsg@gmail.com Log on to the FRG site, <http://www.wix.com/NMCB133FSG/133frg>.

FOCUS - Families Overcoming Under Stress provides resiliency training to service members and their families by teaching practical skills to help meet the challenges of military life, including how to communicate and solve problems effectively and to successfully set goals together. Confidential and free with family-friendly hours, contact FOCUS today! Call 228- 822-5736 or email Gulfport@focusproject.org **Gulfport Officer's Spouse Club** is a social organization that has FUN while helping our community. We meet monthly and have special interest groups for almost everyone! For more information, email goscgulfport@gmail.com or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/gosc.gulfport>. We hope to see YOU soon!

Navy Wives Clubs of America, Inc., is interested in reestablishing a club in the local area. If you are interested in joining an organization that promotes the health and welfare of any enlisted member of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, please

contact Darlene Carpenter at 228-342-2271 or Tina O'Shields, 228-357-0513. Visit www.navywivesclubsof-america.org for more information on NWCA.

NMCRS - The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop is located in building 29 on Snead Street. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers, and child care and mileage are reimbursed. Retail hours of operation are Tuesday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome. Visit the NMCRS offices at the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 30, suite 103 or call 228-871-2610 to find out how to become a part of the NMCRS volunteer team!

Gamblers Anonymous The Fleet and Family Support Center offers GA meetings every Thursday at 11 a.m. GA is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other. All meetings are confidential and facilitated by GA. Come to a meeting or call Jim Soriano at 228-871-3000.

TRAINING

Naval Sea Cadets

The Gulfport branch of the Naval Sea Cadets are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nationwide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 1, 2nd floor conference room. Point of contact is Lt. Cmdr. Thomas O. Klomps, NSCC, at Region63@juno.com or 850-890-6792.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association is always looking for new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m., at the Fitness Center classroom. For more information, contact Association president, CE1 Daniel Shaver, 228-871-2145.

NCBC Multi-Cultural Diversity Committee is seeking members. Meetings are held weekly on Wednesdays at noon at the ECS, building 122 in the second floor conference room. Contact MCDC President, PS2 Handley at natashia.handley@navy.mil or Vice President, BUCN Miller at tariqah.miller@navy.mil for info.

VFW Post 3937 Long Beach - Open Monday - Thursday, noon - 8 p.m., Friday, noon to 10 p.m., Saturday, 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. Steak Night is every Friday, 5 - 8 p.m., and breakfast is available every Saturday, 7 - 10 a.m. VFW meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome.

Contact Post 3937 at 228-863-8602 for details.

Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW 3937 Long Beach now VFW Auxiliary - Ladies Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars 3937 Long Beach, Miss., now invites men to join. The Auxiliary is now the **VFW Auxiliary**. Our organization supports veterans, their families and current service members. We help in VA Hospitals, have voices in Legislation, help promote patriotism in our youth, offer scholarships to youth, teachers, and members. Members must be directly related to a veteran who has served in a foreign war. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at 213 Klondyke Road, Long Beach, MS Contact Carol Fetters, President at 228-832-4893 or email cfetters@cableone.net for more information.

VFW Post 4526 Orange Grove is open daily from Noon to 10 p.m. and located at 15206 Dedeaux Road, Orange Grove. Meetings are the second Saturday of the month at 1 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call 228-832-0017 for info.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. To become a member or for links to historical sites, visit: <http://nmcb62alumni.org>.

D.A.V. - Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 5 invites Veterans and future Veterans to monthly meetings held the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Call Service Officer, Silva Royer at 228-324-1888 to find out more information.

Navy Seabee Veterans of America (NSVA)

Island X-1, Gulfport is always happy to welcome new members. You do not have to be retired to be a member. If interested, contact Eugene Cowhick at eugene.cowhick@navy.mil or 228-871-3877. Please join us on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 5 building, 2600 23rd Ave., Gulfport, for the monthly Island X-1 business meeting and see what we're all about. For more information, visit www.nsva.org.

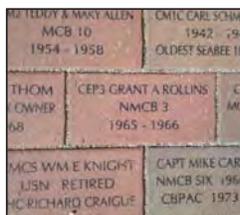
HERITAGE

The Seabee Gift Store is located in the Seabee Heritage Center Training Hall, building 446. Hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, books and DVD's. Contact them at www.seabee-museumstore.org or call the gift store at 228-871-4779. The gift store is closed weekends and federal holidays.

Buy a Brick for the Gulfport Seabee Heritage Center Memorial Plaza

Show your support for those who gave of themselves in the U.S. Navy Seabees with a commemorative brick at the new Seabee Memorial Plaza. The Plaza will be built at the east end of the Seabee Heritage Center in Gulfport and will serve as the new entrance to the Seabee Heritage Center. The Memorial Plaza will have over 10,000 paving bricks available for engraving. Customize your brick with your own special message. It can be a tribute to a former or current Seabee, a Seabee unit, your own service or any other appropriate text. Cost of each brick is \$125. If two or more bricks are ordered, placement together can be

arranged, if requested. The first bricks will be placed when the Memorial Plaza is completed in 2017 and will be unveiled at an event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the creation of the Seabees. Subsequent placements will be made once a year. For more information and to order a brick, visit: <http://www.seabeehf.org/museum/buy-a-brick-for-the-gulfport-seabee-heritage-center-memorial-plaza/> or contact the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation at 228-865-0480 or via email at info@seabeehf.org.



GULF COAST USO
 901 CBC 3rd Street
 Building 114
 228-575-5224

Free services:
 FAX, Send and Receive:
 228-575-5225, Copies,
 United Through Reading program, Computers with web cams, Internet/email access, X-Box

Office hours:
 Monday - Friday
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.



SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING ... Report suspicious activity which is defined as any observed behavior that could indicate terrorism or terrorism-related crime. Public safety is everyone's responsibility. If you see suspicious activity, report it to local law enforcement. Call 228-871-2361 or 911.

NCBC Public Affairs

228-871-3664



Inside the Gate:
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