



Flying K

Have you met
Cmdr. Matthew
Perun?

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Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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May 17, 2013

Base libraries kick-off summer reading program

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.
American Forces Press Service

Libraries across the Defense Department will begin offering the fourth annual Summer Reading Program to students on their installations to promote reading fun, a Navy General Library official said.

NAS Kingsville kicked off the local summer reading program May 9, with "Books on Base" and "celebrities" who took time out of their scheduled to read books to the children in attendance. "Books on Base" was attended by more than 100 people. Children received a bag to color and a free book to put in the bag. The event also marked the opening of the "new" library now located at the Captain's Club.

Nilya Carrato, program assistant for the Navy General Library Program, highlighted DoD's Summer Reading Program during an interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel.

"The Summer Reading Program operates on DoD installations worldwide, and it runs, generally, between Memorial Day and Labor Day, although we know school gets out at different times all around the world," she said. "And it's a way for students to have fun reading so they don't go back to school behind the (power) curve."

Carrato used sports as an example of practicing a skill to stay prepared.

"If you play a lot sports, you need to know how to run," Carrato said. "If you want to learn in school, you've got to already have your reading skills. And if you don't practice, you lose them."

Reading is much less of a chore for a child who enjoys it, she added.

"If you don't practice (reading) over the summer, you can go back a few weeks behind your classmates in terms of your reading skills," Carrato said. "And that might not be so bad this year, but by the time they're in sixth grade, they can be a whole year behind their classmates as far as their reading skills, because it does add up over time."

This year's summer reading program theme is a travel theme: "Have Book, Will Travel."

The program will apply throughout the Defense Department, and it will be available at installation libraries and at some child and youth programs during the summer, Carrato said.

"It goes all ages," she added. "Some bases will even do it for adults."

In addition to the travel theme, the program includes incentives for students to participate, Carrato said, such as bookmarks and other prizes, as well as crafts parties. This year, she said, participants can earn a military challenge coin for reading.

In last year's program, Carrato said, Defense Department children put in almost 30 years of reading time.

"We get the reports back from all of the installations around the world about how many minutes their kids read, and how many pages their kids read, and I add it all up," Carrato said. "It's millions of minutes."

Last year's program notched a 30-percent increase over the year before, "which was like a 300-percent increase over the year before that," Carrato said.

"So it will probably be about a 50-percent increase if things keep building," she added. "It's pretty insane. This is the fourth year we've been doing it. It's a lot of fun."

Students can sign up at their local installation library or online.



Summer reading --

Children gather around Capt. Mark McLaughlin, (above) NAS Kingsville commanding officer, as he reads to them during the grand opening of the station's new library (pictured left) and the "Books on Base" program sponsored by the Blue Star Families. More than 100 people attended the May 9 event. Children received a bag to color and a free book to put in the bag, as well as snacks and drinks. McLaughlin was one of several "celebrities" who took time out to read books to the children. The library is now located at the Captain's Club and is open Monday through Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Photo by Jon Gagné)

Waterline Replacement Project Update For the week of 5-20 to 5-31:

Waterline replacement continues along Rosendahl St. from its intersection with Moffett Ave. to Nimitz Ave. Once this work is completed, the contractor will be performing watermain installation along Rosendahl St. from the intersection with Moffett Ave. to the eastern end of Rosendahl at the LOX Farm B3729. Depending on progression, the contractor will be moving into Phase 6 work along Moffett Ave. from Rosendahl St. to the intersection of Hutchins St. During these periods, staged detours will be implemented to minimize roadway closures; however, some may be necessary. Should you have issues with any aspect of this construction please notify the Construction Manager, Gilbert Huff at (361) 516-6043 or by e-mail at gilbert.huff@navy.mil.

From the Bridge



Capt. Mark McLaughlin
Commanding Officer



Greetings Team Kingsville,

As we approach the beginning of summer, I am passing along a message approved by Secretary of Defense Hagel on May 2:

"The summer months are often a high point of our year as we take a well-deserved vacation and spend time with family and friends. The summer allows for an opportunity to relax and refresh. However, many of the activities we pursue during our vacation time put us at risk for accidents that have potentially serious consequences. As you drive to and from vacation destinations, remember that 81 percent of the non-combat fatalities in 2012 total took place over the summer.

"Last summer, 80 service members died in motor vehicle collisions, 27 in 4-wheel vehicles, 47 while riding motorcycles, 4 were pedestrians, and 2 were bicyclists. These fatalities occurred in spite of state laws and Department of Defense (DoD) policies requiring the use of seat belts while in a car and protective gear while riding motorcycles and bicycles.

"An untold number of deaths resulted from fatigue -- deaths preventable by proper trip planning and fatigue management while driving. All military leaders must emphasize how important it is for everyone in our DoD community to follow these simple precautions while traveling on our nation's roads.

"Some of you will enjoy water activities such as swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving, or water skiing. Sadly, six service members died while participating in water-related activities last summer. It is impor-

tant to follow swimming area rules and to be aware of the hidden dangers inherent in participating in water activities.

"Alcohol is all too often a component in these tragic accidents. Recognize the risks and make good decisions. We all know that alcohol, even in small quantities, impairs our decision-making and is often a significant factor in many accidents. So before taking our first sip, we need to remember never to drink and drive. Plan ahead and always think before acting.

"We all must do everything we can to be safer this summer. Each of us must do our part to keep everyone around us safe

off-duty, as we do on-duty. Fundamental military lessons of working together, exercising leadership, focusing on the mission, and having the courage to say no to a risky situation are all essential to enjoying the summer and returning to your units.

"I want to thank each of you for your service to this nation. You serve so that all Americans can be safe and free. I wish each of you a safe and enjoyable summer." // CHUCK HAGEL//

We will see all of you at the Safety Stand Down on May 24.

Until Next Time~Skipper Mac



In appreciation -- ACC(AW/SW) Curtis Malone gives seven year-old Xavier Catalan a Certificate of Appreciation as his father AC1(AW/SW) Elicio Catalan, left, reenlists in the U.S. Navy on May 10. Catalan's wife Dora and daughter Mileena also received Certificate of Appreciation. Catalan is a native of Tomball, Texas, and has 10 years of service. He has been aboard NAS Kingsville for the past two years. Lt. Shane Dudley, air traffic control facilities officer, was the reenlisting officer. Malone read the oath of reenlistment to Catalan during the ceremony held on the air operations quarterdeck. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick)

Deckplate Leadership



CMDCM(EXW/SW)
Randy Foust
Command Master Chief



Team Kingsville,

I want to thank every military spouse for their continued support of their service member. Thank you for letting us serve. I want to extend a belated Happy Mother's Day to you I hope you were able to enjoy your day and savor being with the whole family recharging their batteries preparing to return to sea duty.

Last week we saw the conclusion of

THREE DUI mast cases. Unbelievable! All three could have been prevented if the members just remembered, "Don't drink and then drive."

Every one of us has a built-in fail safe ... your leading chief petty officer, your chief petty officer. Use them! The chief may be your last choice of shipmates to call because you are fearful of the repercussions. But, I can guarantee your chief will be much happier to help you before you get into a patrol car headed to jail than after you have been released from jail.

Okay, so the chief is the fail safe but we all have each other as a safety net. There is no other community, outside the Navy, that is committed to each other, as you and your shipmates are to each other. This is true for far more than just alcohol. This is true for

hazing, sexual assault, suicide, operational stress control, personal finances, and equal opportunity. These are just a few of the major aspects of our lives.

Our service in the Navy is not a nine-to-five job, it's a way of life. Your responsibility is to be your brother's keeper. DON'T LOOK THE OTHER WAY! Take the time to talk to each other and have the courage to stop bad behavior. Treat others as you would want to be treated! We all deserve courtesy and respect. JUST DO IT! Don't let the few characterize the 95 percent of us that actually do the right things.

Thank you to our Sailors and families that are working so hard to make NAS Kingsville better than they found it!

Stay Safe, Keep Cool and Have Fun!
CMC

Flying K

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This paper is published for people like HN Paul Abril, who has been an x-ray technician at Branch Health Clinic Kingsville since February. Abril is a native of San Diego, Calif., and has 1.5 years of Naval service.

May offers opportunity to honor, celebrate contributions of Asians, Pacific Islanders

The month of May is an opportunity for the nation and Navy to celebrate the contributions of Asian and Pacific Islanders.

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter established Asian and Pacific American Heritage Week. Twelve years later, President George H.W. Bush extended the observance throughout the month of May. This year's theme is "Building Leadership: Embracing Cultural Values an Inclusion."

Sailors of Asian and Pacific heritage comprise an important part of our Navy total force, comprising 6.5 percent of our personnel. Currently there are more than 20,000 active-duty Sailors, 4,000 Reservists, and 18,900 civilians who identify themselves as Asian American or Pacific Islander, including 10 flag officers, nine members of the Senior Executive Service, and 176 master chief petty officers. They are of various nationalities and ancestry including Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Southeast Asian, Asian Indian and Polynesian.

Some notable Asian and Pacific Americans who have served in our Navy include:

Fireman Second Class Telesforo Trinidad, the only Filipino in the U.S. Navy to be awarded the Medal of Honor. In the wake of the Spanish-American War, Trinidad was aboard Armored Cruiser No. 6 when an obstructed tube in one of the ship's boilers gave way, setting off a chain reaction of explosions. Risking his own life and personal safety, Trinidad rescued several cremates and led them to safety. He survived the ordeal and was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Rear Adm. Gordon Pai-ea Chung-Hoon, a Hawaiian born Chinese American, was the first Asian American graduate of the Naval Academy in 1934. He went on to command USS Sigsbee (DD 502) and became the first Asian American flag officer. In 2004, the navy named a guided missile destroyer after him, USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), in recognition of his extraordinary service.

Susan Ahn Cuddy, the daughter of one of California's first Korean immigrant families, enlisted in the U.S. military with her two siblings, Ralph and Philip, in 1942. Cuddy was the first Korean American woman in the U.S. military and the first female Navy gunnery officer. She served in the Waves and reached the rank of lieutenant.

Bravo Zulu

NASK personnel recognized

Bravo zulu to the following NAS Kingsville personnel who were recognized recently.

ACC(AW/SW) Dale Wagner was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for his outstanding public service with several community organizations for the past two years.

Through unselfish dedication of his personal time, he set a superb example for military volunteers in Bexar, Nueces and Kleberg counties of



Capt. Mark McLaughlin, NAS Kingsville commanding officer, presents ACC(AW/SW) Dale Wagner with the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for his outstanding public service during a recent All Hands Call.

Texas. Specifically, Wagner volunteered 220 hours establishing, organizing and leading the Fellowship of Oso Creek youth group consisting of 22 middle school and high school aged teenagers during weekly get-togethers.

While serving as a chaperone for the Station Church of Corpus Christi, he devoted 18 hours coordinating and assisting youth in collecting food for the church's support to homeless individuals and families. Wagner devoted more than 48 hours organizing and leading four college-aged chaperones and 12 teenagers through the "Disciple Now" weekend at First Baptist Church in Corpus Christi. He was also hand-selected to mentor six youths at a Christian youth summer camp, investing more than 100 hours supporting the youths' development and activities. He also spent 24 hours coordinating guest speakers, games and activities for local church lock-ins for community youth and 61 hours toward numerous events including teaching Sunday school, chaperoning church activities and assisting with church fundraisers.

ACAR Quade Petsche a letter of appreciation for his volunteer working during the Pensacola Dog Fanciers Association show held in March. He assisted with various events during the dog show which helped make the event successful.



Petsche

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In the Break



Capt. Joe Evans
Commander
Training Air Wing TWO



Greetings NAS Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO,

It has been great to finally get some rain. Being in the aviation business, I'd rather have blue skies, but if we are going to be overcast then we might as well get some moisture out of it. It has been nice to see some green in the "Wild Horse Desert!"

Last week, Coach Drew (Lt.j.g. Drew Schnabel), VT-21 instructor pilot, put together a team of ball-playing aviators to go head-to-head in a baseball "friendship" game with "Team ANGELS," a special needs team coached by Mr. De La Rosa. This was our second annual game with the local young children. We all had a great time enjoying the great American pastime out at Kleberg Park with the children. Thanks to Team ANGELS for inviting us to play and thanks to all the Student Naval Aviators and Instructor Pilots who took time out from flying to play ball with the kids. Special thanks to Lt.j.g. Drew Schnabel and Cmdr. David Smith for organizing and coaching the game.

I also want to pass some Kudos along for another event here on base – "Books on Bases" which kicked off their local event last week. "Books on Bases" is a national program created by Blue Star Families to positively impact the lives of military children through the power of reading. Locally, it brought new, corporate donated children's books to our newly relocated library. The local event was organized by wife Stephanie, Base Librarian Vickie Jacobson, and MWR Director David Haigh. Other volunteers to help make this event for our children such a success included Niki Schoeman, Jeanie Alexander, Roma Garcia and Kendall Matous.

Special thanks to

squadron skippers, Lt.Col. Scott "Shoe" Schoeman and Cmdr. Brian "Helmet" Beck, as well as NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark "Mac" McLaughlin for being guest readers to the children on the event day.

The Wing will be conducting a Safety Stand Down next Friday prior to the Memorial Day weekend. I hope that everyone enjoys the long weekend but please "plan" to make it a safe weekend. Whether you are taking to the road, taking to the water or just taking to your backyard BBQ, give yourself plenty of time, never drink and drive (or swim), and go easy on the lighter fluid. Please do me one more favor as well, stop -- at some point on Monday -- and reflect upon Memorial Day and the people who gave their lives in order to guarantee the freedoms that we so liberally enjoy (especially on our holidays). The list of Memorial Day plankowners is long and distinguished. Take a minute or two to pay your respects and perhaps do one better by attending one of the many Memorial Day ceremonies in your hometown. (Kingsville will be having two and I believe that Bishop will also be having one of their own as well.)

Enjoy a safe week with friends and your community.

Best to all,
"Joe Bags" Evans



Stephanie Evans; Capt. Joe Evans, TW-2 commander; Jeanie Alexander, school liaison officer; and Vickie Jacobson, base librarian, all played a role in making the "Books on Bases" a successful event for our children. (Courtesy photo)

Bravo Zulu -- Branch Health Clinic Kingsville and Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi recently received the Navy Surgeon General's Blue H Health Promotions and Wellness Award (Gold Star Level). According to Capt. William Davidson, acting NHCCC commanding officer, this is the fourth award in a row for the Kingsville clinic and the ninth award in a row for NHCCC.

Bowling Leagues

In the Doghouse League Standings as of April 23

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	DNA	93	35
2	Los Leones	80.5	47.5
3	Three J's	70	58
4	Here 4 Beer	69	59
5	Alley Cats	67.5	60.5
6	Three Minds/Gutter	58	70
7	Spare Tires	58	70
8	Ghost	0	0

High Score Game-Men: Richard Kolk Jr., 287; Michael Shipley, 278; Eric Joles, 275.

High Score Series-Men: Rich Kolk Jr., 732; Eric Summers, 682; JD Monroe, 666.

Wednesday Nite Mixed Standings as of May 8

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Big K Rollers	79	49
2	I Can't Believe	68.5	59.5
3	IBowlers	66	62
4	Petes Angels	65.5	62.5
5	Laugh Out Loud	63	65
6	DUH's	61	67
7	Rattlers	56	72
8	Slow Moving	50	78

High Score Game-Men: Eric Joles, 267; Frank Goff, 266; Rodney Malin, 259; JD Monroe, 256; Isaac Vidaurri, 256.

High Score Series-Men: JD Monroe, 673; Frank Goff, 671; Rodney Malin, 671; Joey Soliz, 653.

High Score Game-Women: Shirlie Duffy, 248; Carmen Arevalo, 245; Lucy Clarkson, 219; Kathy Court, 213.

High Score Series-Women: Shirlie Duffy, 612; Carmen Arevalo, 563; Kathy Court, 531; Lucy Clarkson, 526.

NAS Kingsville Religious Services Offered

Sunday

at McFall Memorial Chapel

10:30 a.m. - Family Bible Worship

12:30 p.m. - Catholic Mass

Wednesday

7 p.m. - Officer Christian Fellowship

at Hunter's Cove Community Center

Thursday

11:30 - Luncheon Bible Study in the Chapel

4:30 p.m. - Catholic Choir Practice

5:30 p.m. - Protestant Music/Prayer

6 p.m. - Dinner Fellowship with Bible Study



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Kingsville Elks Lodge invites all Veterans and a guest and Active Military personnel & family to attend a complimentary dinner on May 26th, 2013. Dinner will be served in the hall between 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Please come and let us honor you for your service to our great country. RSVP by May 19th to rswan4558@sbcglobal.net or call Rosie at 361-522-4482. Hope to see you!!



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Have you met ? ...

Cmdr. Matthew "Shank" Perun

Cmdr. Matthew Perun is the new Chief Staff Officer (CSO) for Training Air Wing TWO.

As the CSO, Perun says that his job is to support the TW-2 Commander in accomplishing the mission of winging the best trained Navy and Marine Corps aviators so they can go on to be successful in their Fleet Replacement and Fleet Squadrons. He says he knows that his job is predominantly administrative and involves working with the staff, ensuring staff functions are going smoothly, but "I get to do a little bit of flying," Perun said, "which is nice."

Perun graduated from Texas A&M University in College Station with a degree in business management and was commissioned in the U.S. Navy in December 1993. He completed his primary flight training at Training Squadron 28 at NAS Corpus Christi, and intermediate and advanced training at NAS Meridian, Miss., receiving his Wings of Gold in August 1996.

He comes to TW-2 from the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn., where he served as the Navy's assistant space cadre advisor and (acting) deputy director for Distribution Management, Statistics and Allocation Division.

"I've never been stationed in Kingsville or flown T-45s," he added, stating that he flew T-2s and A-4s at NAS Meridian, for jet training.

"My dad was a flight instructor, flying T-2s. I chose to do my training at Merid-

ian so I could also fly T-2s before they were phased out."

Perun was born in Meridian, but claims Spring, Texas, as his hometown because he says, "We moved around a lot and that's the longest we lived anywhere."

He's currently a geo-bachelor waiting for his wife and their two daughters to arrive after the school year ends before they "move" to Corpus Christi.

Professionally, Perun says his goal is to make TW-2 as successful as possible. Personally, he'd like to be a good flight instructor. "This is my first experience in an orange-and-white aircraft flying the training command," Perun said. "I'd like to be a good flight instructor helping to produce the best qualified pilots possible."

Perun says he likes people who are up-front and direct. "Honesty and integrity are important," he said. "I like people to tell me 'like it is.'"

"And, I like to start meetings on time. I don't like to start meetings late or waste time."

In his free time, Perun enjoys ice hockey, skiing, fishing, golf, and occasionally running triathalons.

If there's one thing you should know about him, he says, "I'm approachable and I'm really happy to be here. I really love flying and instructing, and I appreciate that I have the opportunity to do both while I'm here."

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O'Neal retires, closes out of 20-year Navy career

By Maryann Shramko

AZ2(AW) Darrell L. O'Neal, a native of Oklahoma City, Okla., celebrated 20 years of Naval service with friends, family and co-workers at a retirement luncheon on April 25, marking the end of a long and prosperous career.

O'Neal entered the Navy as an undesignated airman apprentice and later struck and was advanced to aviation administrationman third class.

"I joined the Navy when I was 23," O'Neal said, "because my daughter had just had surgery and I no longer had insurance. I had recently gotten laid-off and my only concern was for my child's well being."

When asked why he decided to stay Navy O'Neal replied, "It just never seemed like the right time to get out."

During his 20-year career O'Neal served in Fighter Squadron Seven Four and Attack Squadron Seven Five out of Oceana, Va.; Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Seven and Three, both out of Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.; and Attack Fighter Squadron One Four out of Lemoore, Calif. His overseas assignments included Naval Support Activity Diego Garcia, and Barking Sands, Hawaii. O'Neal also served a one-year Individual augmentee tour in Iraq assigned to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Eight Four in support of "Operation Iraqi Freedom."

"The Navy taught me responsibility and helped me to mature more quickly," O'Neal said. "Many of my childhood friends still act like children. As I leave the Navy, I will miss the people and the camaraderie more than anything," he added.

O'Neal's immediate future plans include only one thing at the moment, "Time off to enjoy quality time with my family before I either hit the lottery or I am forced to embark on another career," he said with a smile.



AZ2(AW) Darrell O'Neal receives a shadow box from Admin Officer Maryann Shramko as he retires from a 20-year career with the U.S. Navy. O'Neal celebrated his retirement with friends, family and co-workers at a luncheon held April 25. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick)

NAS Kingsville top Sailors for FY13 second quarter recognized

By FC1(SW) John Sessions
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

NAS Kingsville Commanding officer Capt. Mark McLaughlin recently announced his top Sailors for the second quarter of FY 2013.

MA1(AW/EXW) Daniel J. Girgan, of NAS Kingsville's Security Department, was selected as Sr. Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2013. The 16-year Navy veteran is a native of Kingsville, Ga. He is currently the Watch Commander for Section One and will be the Leading Petty Officer (LPO) of Security's Operations within the next couple of weeks. In his spare time, Girgan coaches a district championship-winning Boys and Girls Club basketball team, "The Monstars." He is also the assistant den leader for Kingsville Cub Scouts Pack 144. Girgan hopes to transfer to a Mobile Security Battalion for his next duty station.

"It feels pretty sweet to be selected (as Sr. Sailor of the Quarter)," Girgan said. "I've never been selected before. It's nice to be a part of a command that is well aware of the good people it has."

When asked what advice he had to give those Sailors going up for the Sailor of the Quarter board, Girgan had this to offer, "Be true to who you are, give your absolute honest opinion when asked for it. The board will see and appreciate your truthfulness."

"MA1 Girgan is a top performer who



Girgan

understands the aspect of his job and how his actions affect junior Sailors," said MAC(SW) William Worthen. "He wears the uniform with pride and I know when he is given a task he will go above and beyond to make sure it is complete."

ET2(SW/AW) Edward Guerrero Jr., of Ground Electronics, was named Junior Sailor of the Quarter. The Pleasanton, Texas, native has more than seven years of Naval



Guerrero

service. He is the work center supervisor for OE-03 Navigational Aids and is the primary TACAN technician. Off duty, he coaches the "Tigers" in the Kingsville Youth Soccer Organization. He also attends Texas A&M University at Kingsville, working toward a bachelor's degree in architectural engineering.

"ET2 Guerrero is a top-rate technician and a blossoming deckplate leader," said



Dunn

ET1(SCW/SW) Dominic Scavo, Ground Electronics LPO. "He consistently sets the example for his peers and is the model for military bearing and character."

ET3 Scott A. Dunn, also from Ground Electronics, was selected as the Blue Jacket of the Quarter.

The native of Umatilla, Fla., has three

see *Sailors* on page 10

Rosales retirement ceremony marks 20-year aviation career

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Lt. Cmdr. Robert Rosales, call sign "Rosey," closed out his 20-year active duty career with an official retirement ceremony at the NAS Kingsville Captain's Club May 5. Training Air Wing TWO Commander Capt. Joe Evans served as the presiding officer for the ceremony that was attended by family members, friends and shipmates.

A native of Berlin, Md., Rosales graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1993, with a Bachelor of Science degree in computer science. He began his flight training at the Cradle of Naval Aviation, NAS Pensacola, Fla., with aviation indoctrination. He then transferred across Pensacola Bay to NAS Whiting Field in Milton, Fla., for primary flight training with the VT-3 "Red Knights." Upon completing primary training, Rosales reported to VT-23 at NAS Kingsville for intermediate flight training. He completed advanced flight training with VT-7 at NAS Meridian, Miss., in 1994, where he was presented his "Wings of Gold" and selected to fly to the S-3 Viking.

Fleet assignments during his career include a stint with the "Shamrocks" of VS-41 at NAS North Island, Calif., from 1996 to 1997, for 3-S indoctrination, followed by a three-year tour of duty with the VS-30 "Diamondbacks" at NAS Cecil Field, Fla.

In June 2000, Rosales moved on to Sea Control Weapons School Atlantic as an instructor pilot.

In September 2002, Rosales accepted an assignment with Carrier Air Wing TWO, based at NAS Lemoore, Calif. In 2004, he shifted coasts with an assignment with the "Maulers" of VS-32, based at NAS Jacksonville, Fla.

Rosales then came back to Texas, accepting orders to VT-21 from May 2007 to November 2008. He left Kingsville to fill an Individual Augmentee requirement from November 2008 to January 2010, working with the Commander, Military Sealift Command out of Naval Support Activity Diego Garcia.

Rosales returned to Training Air Wing TWO at NAS Kingsville in June 2011.



Lt. Cmdr. Robert Rosales is piped ashore as he retires from the U.S. Navy on May 3. His mother is on his left arm, Laura Daughtry is on his right, and the rest of his family follows them down the red carpet. Pictured left, Capt. Joseph Evans, TW-2 commander, presents Rosales with a shadowbox/humidor which outlines his 20-year career. (Photos by Fifi Kischnick)

Training Air Wing TWO announces civilian employees of the quarter

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Training Air Wing TWO Commander Capt. Joe Evans announced the selections of the Wing's top civilian employees for the 2nd quarter of FY13 last week. Evans presented awards at a ceremony held in the TW-2 Command Suite. Selected were Tara Burney of the Ground Training Department and Jennifer Ramirez, a scheduling and operations technician at VT-21.

"I also am pleased to announce the Training Wing TWO civilians of the Quarter for January through March 2013," said Evans. "Congratulations to Jennifer Ramirez, VT-21, who was selected as the Junior Civilian of the Quarter, and Tara Burney, TW-2, who was selected as the Senior Civilian of the Quarter. We have a lot of great people on our team but Jennifer and Tara have really shined. I am very proud to be on their team."

Burney, the senior civilian of the quarter, is a courseware curriculum coordinator (CCC) for the Ground Training Department and has worked on the air station for 13 years. She started out as a temporary employee while she was finishing her college studies. Then, a curriculum editor job opened on base with Boeing, she applied for the job and was accepted.

Burney has worked a number of jobs aboard the air station since that first job with



Capt. Joseph Evans, TW-2 commander, presents Tara Burney with a certificate for her selection as Senior Civilian of the Quarter. (Courtesy photo)

Boeing. She even left the air station for a short period of time to go to work for the Chief of Naval Air Training at NAS Corpus Christi, but she was "lucky enough to be asked to return" to TW-2 and NAS Kingsville.

"I was a contractor for 11 of 13 years I've worked at NAS Kingsville and have

just recently obtained a civilian position," Burney said. "Right now, as the CCC, I get the fantastic opportunity of helping the pilots with their curriculum and courseware. I get to be in the process of putting it together to ensure that we're training them to the best of our ability. I love that.



Capt. Joseph Evans, TW-2 commander, presents Jennifer Ramirez with a certificate for her selection as Junior Civilian of the Quarter. (Courtesy photo)

"The first time I laid eyes on a training guide the very first day I started I remember looking at it thinking I'm never going to learn this; I have no idea what any of those abbreviations mean. But once I got the hang

see *TW-2* on page 11

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Gift of life -- L-3 Vertex and Rolls-Royce recently sponsored a blood drive aboard NAS Kingsville. The blood drive was motivated by more than just the initial intent to give the gift of continued life for others – the employees offered to have their donations sent to the community of West Texas, to those who had been affected by the fertilizer plant explosion outside of Waco. As a tribute to the first responders who were the first to perish in that explosion, a set of gear was displayed in front of the blood mobile, pictured below. The gear was borrowed from NAS Kingsville's Fire Capt. Corrine Retault, who is temporarily serving an overseas tour of duty. (Courtesy photos)

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Sailors from page 8

years of Naval service. On board NAS Kingsville, Dunn is an AN/GPN-30 Digital Airport Surveillance Radar technician. He also serves as the Junior Enlisted Association public affairs officer. Dunn hopes one day to serve his sea duty in Europe.

"It feels good to be selected as Blue Jacket of the Quarter," Dunn said, "I am

thankful that my chiefs and first classes that put me up for it."

Scavo also spoke highly of Dunn. "ET3 Dunn consistently exhibits a 'Can Do' attitude and is the 'go to guy' for his RADAR work center. His contribution and dedication to the community are unparalleled."

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Kingsville planning July 4th celebration

Due to budgetary restraints, NAS Kingsville will not be holding a 4th of July celebration on board the air station this year. Instead, the air station will join forces with the city of Kingsville and Kleberg County for a community-wide celebration.

Events are being planned to kick-off with an official flag raising ceremony in downtown Kingsville, followed by a number of events and activities in the downtown area that include the city's annual Children's Bicycle and Pet Parade, music, entertainment and special events.

NAS Kingsville leadership will be participating in the flag raising ceremony, with Capt. Chris Misner, Capt. Joe Evans and the NAS Kingsville Color Guard taking part. Other speakers planned include Kleberg County Judge Juan Escobar, Kingsville Mayor Sam Fugate, and Kingsville Economic Development Counsel executive director Dick Messbarger.

The Kingsville Visitor's Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce are spearheading the planning committee. Downtown events will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., followed by the annual Kingsville Symphony's salute to veterans at Jones Auditorium on the Texas A&M University-Kingsville campus at 3 p.m. The highlight of this annual concert is a video fireworks display in the auditorium.

Following the concert, the focus will shift to the TAMUK softball field for the annual city versus NAS Kingsville softball

challenge, where city and county officials square off against the leadership team from the air station. This is the rubber match of the series, which is currently tied 1-1.

NAS Kingsville School Liaison Officer Jeanie Alexander will be coaching the air station team for her third consecutive year. After losing the opening game in the series in 2011, Alexander's squad came back strong last year to claim the victory. She is hoping for a similar outcome this time around.

Among the leaders expected to participate for the NAS Kingsville Kings are Capt. Joe Evans and Cmdr. Matt Perun from Training Air Wing TWO, Cmdr. Brian Beck and Cmdr. Charles Stahl from VT-21, Lt. Col. Scott Schoeman and Cmdr. Natesh Rao from VT-22, and Lt. Cmdr. Russ Braden of the Branch Health Clinic. A number of NAS Kingsville department heads will also be participating.

Alice Byers, executive director of the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce is taking the reigns for the city team. Her team roster is still being compiled, but she says she'll be reaching out to all levels of city and county leadership to field her team.

All events planned for the 4th of July are free of charge, with the exception of the concert at Jones Auditorium. We'll have more detailed information of all the events being planned in a following issue of the *Flying K*.

TW-2 from page 9

of it, I loved it."

Burney added that she remembers her first boss telling her that if she learned the curriculum part of the job that it would be the most beneficial, since that what drives the entire program. She says he was right and she's so glad that she did.

"I love working with everyone at NAS Kingsville," Burney stated. "I've met some of the best people in the entire world working here. Most of the friends I've made I still keep in touch with, and I get postcards from all over the world and I get to keep in touch with some of the finest men and women on this Earth. I'm truly blessed!"

"Tara is a total team player for Training Air wing TWO," said Ground Training Officer Forrest Patton. "She interacts exceptionally well with our contractors and civil service personnel, and she's extremely helpful and courteous to the students and flight instructors, helping them with questions and problems they may encounter with the course curriculum."

Ramirez, the junior civilian of the quarter, is a schedules technician for VT-21. She was nominated by her command for her innovative use of regulations and her tenacious work ethic that ensured that all schedules met the 95 percent accomplishment standard. Her close monitoring of how instructor pilots were scheduled led the squadron to complete 250 more events and 750 sorties than required compared to 2012 statistics, all while managing a smaller

student load which serves as a direct reflection of the increased efficiency of the VT-21 scheduling team.

"Ms. Ramirez is a model GS employee and the results of her efforts are felt way beyond the squadron level," said VT-21 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Brian Beck. "She is the face of the VT-21 schedules team when anyone contacts the squadron. She has evolved and grown from working within her position description requirements and the simulator schedule, to having a full understanding and input into all aspects of VT-21's daily events scheduling and execution."

Ramirez worked directly with the Ground Training Department and the operations team to develop and improve the two-week simulator forecasting tool. Her inputs led to an increase in the Wing's ability to accurately forecast simulator need as well as anticipate periods of high demand due to ground school and lecture requirements. She consistently forecast simulators to within three events per day, a 45 percent increase in scheduling accuracy over or under scheduling for 12-13 events per week.

With everything that she does for VT-21 and the Wing, Ramirez admits she is a part of a team.

"I love the people I work for and work with," Ramirez said. "I really like the interaction with all the students, instructors and other civilian employees. And, I feel grateful and honored to be selected as Civilian of the Quarter."

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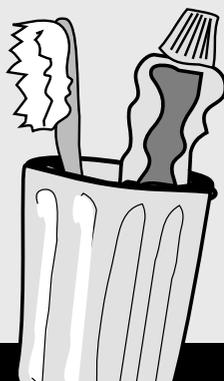
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Navy accepting STA-21 applications

The Seaman-to-Admiral (STA-21) commissioning program, which provides an opportunity for qualified Sailors to receive college educations and Navy commissions, is soliciting applications for fiscal year 2014, as announced in NAVADMIN 102/13 recently.

The deadline for submitting application packages is July 1.

"We are proud of the STA-21 program and the amazing Sailors who receive their commissions through it," said Rear Adm. Dee Mewbourne, commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC). "STA-21 officer candidates and their families benefit from the educational opportunity afforded them at our nation's premier universities. Completing their degree in 36 months, they remain on active duty with full pay and allowances and the Navy pays up to \$10,000 per year in support of their tuition, fees and books. STA-21 is truly an investment in Sailors as it shapes our officer corps of the future."

Application packages must be post-marked on or before the July 1 deadline date. Early submission is preferred, as this will allow feedback to the Sailor for submission of missing or illegible documents. The deadline for submission of additional documentation to an applicant's package is August 1.

Before earning their degrees, STA-21 applicants must attend the Naval Science Institute (NSI) course at Officer Training Command (OTC), Naval Station Newport, R.I., prior to beginning college studies at an NROTC-affiliated college or university.

STA-21/NSI is an eight-week course of intense officer preparation and indoctrination. Course enrollment is timed to allow college entrance during summer or fall semesters/quarters after selection.

"I assessed what I could do in my rate as a Machinist's Mate compared to what I could do as an officer and I felt I could contribute the most to the Navy by joining the officer ranks," said Officer Candidate and former MM3 Joseph Page, 21, from Indianapolis.

Page, who came from Nuclear Prototype School in Charleston, S. C., plans on attending the Citadel Military College in Charleston and then join the Navy's submarine community.

"This has been a great learning experience for me," said Page. I haven't been out in the fleet yet but STA-21 and NSI has been a great place to gather information from those in my class that came from the fleet. I received a lot of valuable input from my classmates and received a feel for what I'll need to do once I get to the fleet as an officer."

Both Page and ET3 and Officer Candidate Brianna Smith, 22, from Erie, Pa., were put in charge of their class of 50 officer candidates.

"It was an amazing opportunity and has been a great experience and will help

prepare us for what's to come," said Smith. "You get your college education while learning about leadership roles."

Smith plans to attend North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C., and then looks to be a Nuclear Warfare Officer on a ship or submarine out of Naval Station Norfolk, Va. Smith also attended Nuclear Prototype School but in Ballston Spa, N. Y., before attending STA-21/NSI in Newport.

The STA-21 program benefits Sailors as well as the Navy. The average candidate has at least two years and in most cases more than four years of observed performance which assists in the process of selecting the most qualified Sailors to receive a commission.

Additionally, STA-21 candidates are on average older than most midshipmen, bringing a maturity directly reflected in the more than 90 percent completion rate STA-21 program candidates boast. Many Sailors involved in the STA-21 program already have some college credit, and some candidates finish ahead of the three years allotted to earn a degree.

"Students reporting for NSI should expect an intense academic program," said Lt. Jason Gilmore, assistant operations officer and head of this year's STA-21/NSI class. "In eight short weeks they will complete six curriculum modules. It would be easy for students to fall behind if they don't arrive ready to hit the books. Our intent at NSI is not only to provide these students with a solid basis in Naval Science, but to also establish a foundation of good study habits in an intense academic environment. In the STA-21 program, as it is in many competitive selection processes, it is often a candidate's extra efforts which can result in selection."

Lt. Justin Neff, a division officer and NSI instructor at OTC, called the STA-21 program "an awesome opportunity for motivated Sailors who are looking to get an education, and advance their career."

Neff was in one of the first STA-21 classes at OTC Newport in March 2003 and commissioned after graduating from Old Dominion University in May 2006. Neff was a Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Electrical) 1st Class when he applied for STA-21.

Reporting seniors who feel they have a Sailor with the potential to be selected by STA-21 should comment on their leadership skills and potential in their performance evaluations early in their career. These comments are highly regarded by the boards, even in junior Sailors who's time on board, time in grade or peer ranking will not allow their evaluations to be fully consistent with the comments.

Selectees will be announced by a NAVADMIN in October 2013.

Questions should be directed to the NSTC Officer Development directorate at (850) 452-9563. For more information, visit <https://www.sta-21.navy.mil>. (By *Naval Service Training Command Public Affairs*)



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