



The Newport

VOL. 112 NO. 19 MAY 11, 2012



Navalog

SERVING COMMANDS AND ACTIVITIES, NEWPORT, R.I.



Marines' air show

Jon Dillworth/U.S. Navy photo

The U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon entertains the crowd with precision exhibition drills using M-1 Grand rifles in Washington Square last Sunday at the conclusion of the 29th annual Aquidneck Island National Police Parade. Also participating in the parade were a marching unit from Officer Training Command (NAVSTA) Newport, Navy Band Northeast's marching band, a patrol cruiser from the NAVSTA Police Department.



Celebrate Asian-Pacific Month

A retired Philippine navy captain will speak at NAVSTA's observance of Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month at Ney Hall. Galley menu features Asian-Pacific lunch.

—Page 2



Navy channels rubber duckies

A river race by 20,000 rubber bathtub ducks tests Naval Station Newport's oil spill containment equipment and techniques.

—Pages 8-9



Cannon carriages rebuilt to specs

A North Kingstown carpenter rebuilds the oak carriages for the two brass cannons outside the Naval War College Museum.

—Pages 12-13



Lisa Rama/U.S. Navy photo

More than 200 attended the Newport County Chamber of Commerce sixth annual awards breakfast last Monday morning at the Officers' Club. The awardees included businesses of which Naval Station Newport has routine dealings, including Newport Biodiesel which recycles the installation's used cooking oil from Ney Hall galley and MWR facilities and won in the Entrepreneur of the Year Category; and Child and Youth Programs of Newport County, which many commands support through various volunteer outreach programs and won in the Nonprofit of the Year category. All awardees gathered at the close of the event for a group photo, above. Naval Station Newport is a non-voting member of the Chamber of Commerce which works closely with the base on many community-wide initiatives including the R.I. Salutes Program which features businesses throughout the state that offer military discounts at their establishments. Visit www.risalutes.com for more information.

NUWC robotics team places fifth in world championship

St. LOUIS, Mo. – FIRST Robotics Competition team 78, AIR Strike, placed fifth among 400 teams at the FRC World Championship on April 26-28.

AIR Strike (which stands for Aquidneck Island Robotics) is composed of 35 high school students in 4-H Clubs from 12 high schools across Rhode Island. The team is sponsored by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division, Newport, the National Defense Education Program, Raytheon Co., BAE Systems, KVH and jpenney.

More than 30,000 students, mentors, spectators and volunteers attended the three-day robotics competition composed of teams made up of high school students partnered with science and technology professionals.

The teams were given six weeks to build a 5-foot tall, 150 pound robot to play the 2012 FRC game, Rebound



Courtesy Phil Green photo

Naval Undersea Warfare Center computer scientist Rick Blight, third from left, poses with key members of FIRST Robotics Competition team 78 and its robot, AIR Strike, during the world robotics championships in St. Louis last month. AIR Strike placed fifth overall.

Rumble. The game is played by two competing alliances. Each alliance consists of three robots trying to score as many foam basketballs into their hoops during the span of 2 minute, 15 second matches.

AIR Strike was in an

alliance with a team from Ambler, Pa., and another from San Jose, Calif. The alliance worked well through the elimination rounds, but it lost to the second-seeded alliance in the division finals, said technical adviser Rick Blight.

Asian-Pacific observance features Philippine officer

By **BOB KREKORIAN**
NAVSTA Public Affairs Staff

Retired Philippine navy Capt. Armando B. Heredia of Middletown will speak at Naval Station Newport's observance of Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month on May 17 at 10 a.m. in Ney Hall galley. The observance is open to anyone with routine base access.



Heredia

A special Asian and Pacific Islander lunch will be on the menu immediately after the observance, served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This meal is open to retired military personnel, DoD civilian employees, and civilian contractors

Statements online for Social Security

The Social Security Administration (SSA) on May 1 announced that workers now can get access to their Social Security statements online.

According to the announcement, the new online statement provides Social Security-eligible workers with secure access to their Social Security earnings and benefits information at www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement

"Our new online Social Security statement is simple, easy to use and provides people with estimates they can use to plan for their retirement," SSA Commissioner Michael

Astrue said in a press statement. Astrue noted that the statement also provides estimates for disability and survivors benefits, and recommended that people check their online statement once a year for financial planning purposes, and to ensure they are getting proper credit for their earnings.

According to the agency, people age 18 and older who wish to retrieve a statement must be able to provide information about themselves that matches information already on file with SSA, and clear an identity check provided by an external authentication service.

that work on base and their guests, as authorized by the Commanding Officer, Naval Station Newport. The charge is \$4.55.

Naval Station Newport's Diversity Committee is sponsoring the event.

Asian and Pacific Ameri-

can Heritage Month began in May 1992 as an expansion of the previously celebrated Asian and Pacific Heritage Week.

The 2012 national theme, "Striving for Excel-

HEREDIA, Page 14

Navalog

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Commanding Officer, Naval Station Newport

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Lt. Steve Gonzalez/U.S. Navy photos

Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year winner, Lt. j.g. Daniel Giller, takes his ship through a simulated channel approach to Bahrain in the Conning Officer Virtual Environment (COVE) trainer during the competition at SWOS.

Top junior shiphander earns honors in SWOS competition



Lt. j.g. Giller receives his award from Rear Adm. John Christenson, president of the Naval War College. At left is runner-up, Lt. j.g. Andrew Groh.

By **LT. STEVE GONZALEZ**
SWOS Public Affairs Officer

After a two-day competition at the Surface Warfare Officers School Command (SWOS), Lt. j.g. Daniel Giller of the destroyer USS Truxton's (DDG 103) was named the 2011 Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year on April 27.

Giller edged out Lt. j.g. Andrew Groh from the frigate USS Ford (FFG-54) in the final competition that pitted their ship handling skills using the school's Conning Officer

SWOS, Page 14

OTCN plants oak sapling, living reminder of SAAM

By **LT. J.G. C. SILVIA**
SPAR representative OTCN

As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and in conjunction with National Arbor Day, Officer Training Command Newport (OTCN) planted a white oak tree in front of Callaghan Hall during a ceremony dedicated to the prevention of all sexual assault.

The white oak, known for its dense lumber, was used to construct the USS Constitution, earning it a permanent place in U.S. naval history. Like "Old Ironsides," the white oak outside of Callaghan Hall will stand as a living monument reminding students and staff of the Navy's strong and long-lasting commitment to eliminating sexual assault.

The OTCN staff adorned the tree with a teal ribbon to remind onlookers of the victims of sexual assault and to renew their commitment to raising awareness, promoting prevention, and eliminating sexual violence within our Navy.

While addressing the officer students and staff at the ceremony, Capt. Vern Kemper, Commanding Officer, OTCN, said, "Our mission to eliminate sexual violence is a 'marathon'... so it is especially important that we imbue the Navy's newest officers with the right attitudes and provide them



Lt.j.g. Jason Gilmore/U.S. Navy photo

Officer Training Command Newport (OTCN) plants a white oak sapling in front of Callaghan Hall on April 27 to stand as a living monument to the Navy's commitment to eliminating sexual assault. From left are Lt. j.g. Caroline Silvia, OTCN's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) point of contact; Allison Agnello, Naval Station Newport's Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC); and Capt. Vernon Kemper, commanding officer, OTCN.

with the tools they need to make a difference as they join the fleet."

OTCN significantly contributed to the Navy's mis-

sion by providing Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention (SAAM) training to over 630 new naval officers in April.

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NAVSTA presents awards

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Newport awards were presented during morning quarters in Command Headquarters, Building 690, on April 16; and Perry Hall Auditorium, Building 440, on April 20.

Letter of Appreciation

Bob Krekorian
Richard Alexander

Navy League Service Member of the Year Program

MA1 Joseph German (nominee)
NC1 Zeporah Dasher (nominee)
CS1 Kristopher Freyberg (nominee)
MASN Stephanie West (winner)

Geico Military Service Awards

MA1 Shawn Ashurst

Flag Letter of Commendation

MA2 Douglas Paluch

Navy/USMC Achievement Medal

CS1 Christopher Stoots

Letter of Appreciation

RP2 Kenneth Calhoun

Pistol Marksman Ribbon

CS2 Gage Cavallari
CS1 Christopher Stoots



Bob Krekorian/U.S. Navy photo

Commemorating the start of the 100th Command Master Chief/Chief of the Boat (CMC/COB) Class at the Command Leadership School (CLS), Newport, in a cake cutting ceremony May 1 are, from left, Capt. Michael Slotsky, director, Command Leadership School; Navy Total Force, Fleet Master Chief (AW/SW/SCW) Scott Benning; Vice Adm. Scott Van Buskirk, Chief of Naval Personnel; Command Master Chief (SS/DV) Gregory Shaw, Command Master Chief, CLS; and Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Nancy Hollingsworth, Commander, Navy Region Southwest. Attending the special event were members of Class 100, CLS instructors and staff. The two-week CMC/COB resident course trains more than 150 students annually at Naval Station Newport in preparation for their new leadership role, and prepares them for their individual responsibilities as a member of the their command's 'leadership triad.'

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9:00 AM Roman Catholic Mass



Basic training classes help new ombudsmen

EDITOR'S NOTE: Some of the Fleet and Family Support Center workshops and meetings require registration. Call 841-2283. FFSC is closed for the Memorial Day holiday, Monday, May 28.

The Navy family ombudsman is a critical communication link between the Commanding Officer and family members.

The Ombudsman Basic Training workshop, scheduled for May 14-16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Fleet and Family Support Center, provides the basic knowledge and tools necessary to

be an effective representative of the command and an advocate for family members. For more information call FFSC.

Here are some upcoming seminars and workshops:

Thoughts and Feelings Seminar: Worry Control — May 17, 1-3 p.m.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Victim Advocate Training — May 21-24, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Homebuyers' Workshop — Wednesday, May 23, 6-8 p.m.

Communication: Blinded by the Blizzard — Wednesday, May 30, 1-3 p.m. Registration is required.



Ensign Corinne Powers/U.S. Coast Guard photo

CHAIN GANG OF TWO — Seaman Brian Quigley and Seaman Jonathan Nichols perform a 'heat and beat,' a traditional method used to connect two pieces of chain aboard the Coast Guard cutter Willow (WLB 202), homeported at NAVSTA. The men were fastening a chain for an Aid to Navigation (ATON) in Bailey's Mistake, a cove in Maine.

Junior SWO skills bonus faces revision

WASHINGTON — NAVADMIN 156/12 released May 7 announces the fiscal year (FY) 2012 Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) and SWO Continuation Pay (SWOCP) programs with major program changes.

"All bonuses are continually reviewed to ensure the Navy provides the right incentives to ensure the retention of critical skills to

Navy-wide news

meet Navy mission needs," said Rear Adm. Tony Kurta, director, military personnel plans and policy. "These revisions ensure we have the right mix of incentives to retain the right number of officers with critical skills for mission success."

The FY 12 program eliminates the Senior CSRB for previously designated O5

and O6 billets and combines of the Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) and Surface Warfare Officer Continuation Pay (SWOCP) programs into the Revised Junior CSRB Program.

A review of the unrestricted line community management resulted in decision to eliminate the

CSRB for commander and captain. Any existing eligible contracts received before Oct. 1, 2011 will continue until the anniversary payments are completed.

The new Revised Junior CSRB consolidates SWOCP and Junior CSRB into a single CSRB program providing the same \$75,000 bonus for the same service commitment through two department head tours.

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Announcements

Family resources offered

There will be a Family Resource Awareness Workshop at the Youth Center, Building 1297, on Wednesday, May 16, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Come and learn about what resources are available to military families.

There will be several presenters from Operation Military Kids, Military One-Source, the school liaison officer, Fleet and Family Support Center, Military Family Life consultant, and the community outreach director from Middletown public schools. For more information, call 841-4562

Spouse Club events

The Newport Officers' Spouses' Club will meet at Christie's for a Girl's Night Out on Thursday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m. The last day to register for the event is May 16.

The club will meet at the Newport Storm Brewery for Couples Night Out on Thursday, May 19, 6 p.m.

RSVP at caunsery@yahoo.com or go to www.NewportOSC.org for information.

Free help for smokers

Attention Naval Station Newport (NAVSTA) federal service employees who want to quit tobacco:

The Naval Health Clinic New England pharmacy has free nicotine gum and nicotine patches available to civil servants who work at Naval Station Newport. No prescription is needed.

Visit the Pharmacy and fill out a quick patient screening form for a two week supply of products. This service is not offered to contract employees, volunteers or students.

Vehicle tax exemption

The Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act (SSCRA) exempts non-Rhode Island residents, on active duty, from the state's motor vehicle excise tax.

Any non-resident considering getting a

R.I. license plate, or has already obtained a R.I. plate, should file an application with his R.I. town/city tax assessor's office. The exception is only in force for the period you are permanently assigned to this station.

This is very important because there have been instances where service members assigned to NAVSTA have failed to pay tax bills that have impacted their credit and caused other financial issues. Most R.I. towns/cities have information available on the SSCRA or check with the R.I. Department of Motor Vehicles when registering your vehicles.

Ride your bike to work

The Newport Bike to Work Day and Community Bike Fair will take place at Washington Square, Friday, May 18. The day's events include a bike commuter breakfast, demonstrations and activities throughout the day, a 4 p.m. community

bike ride, and more.

For information and a complete schedule of events go to www.bikeneport.me.

Chapel services resume

Chapel of Hope Sunday services will be held inside the sanctuary this Sunday. Happy Mother's Day to all mothers.

Attention runners/walkers

The NAVSTA Newport running trail that winds around Coddington Point currently has several detours posted because of construction. Please be careful.

See www.facebook.com/NAVSTA-Newport for information.

ID cards for ODS only

The Personnel Support Detachment Newport, ID Card Section, in Building 690 will be servicing only Officer Development School (OTCN) students on May 14 and 15 from 3 to 4 p.m.

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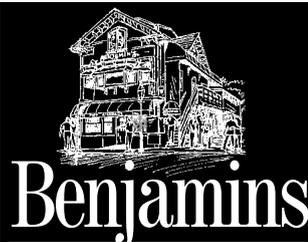
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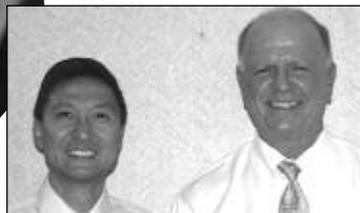
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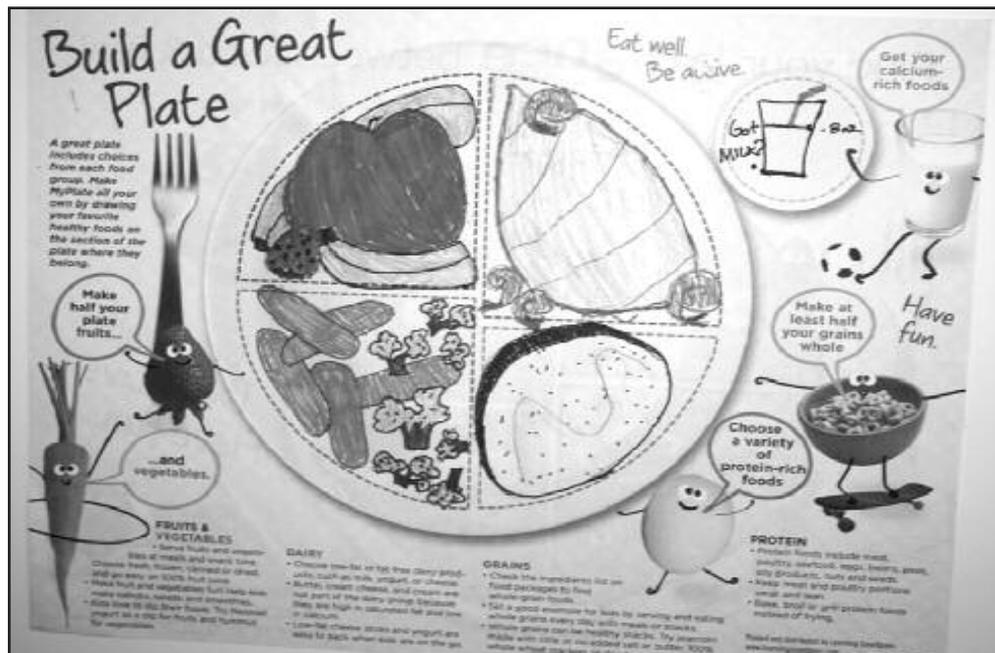
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Newport Commissary/NHCNE



The Newport Commissary and NHCNE Health Promotion Department invite children to 'Color Your Plate.' Starting May 11 pick up a blank My Plate Coloring Sheet at the Commissary in the fruit and vegetable department. Color your plate (No cutout pictures of foods) and bring your colorful plate back to the Commissary between May 14 and 18. There will be five age categories in this friendly competition and each category winner will receive a \$25 Commissary gift card. Plus, as an added bonus on May 18, bring your colorful plate to the Commissary and shop the Case Lot Sale. The Commissary, Ney Hall galley and NHCNE Health Promotion Department will team up to do cooking demonstrations with tasting samples for all.



We all know that what you eat matters. The My Plate guidelines help us choose foods to put on our plates every day: a quarter plate with fruits and vegetables, quarter plate of protein, a quarter plate of grain, and one serving of dairy at every meal. Helpful hints to improve your plate: Add more color to your plate in the form of fruits and vegetables, keep portions small (use a 9-inch plate), bake foods rather than frying them, include low fat dairy products, watch your sodium, limit processed foods and use fresh or frozen instead.

NEX offers college aid via 'A-OK'

The Navy Exchange wants to help its customers pay for their children's college education through its A-OK Student Reward Program.

Four times per school year, four students will be the recipients of a \$5,000, \$3,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 U.S. savings bond, denominations at maturity. The next drawing will be held at the end of May.

Any eligible full-time student that has a B-grade point average equivalent or better, as determined by their school system, may enter the drawing. Eligible students include dependent children of active duty military members, reservists and military retirees enrolled in first through Grade 12. Dependent children without an individual Dependent Identification Card must be accompanied by their sponsor to submit their entry.

Each student may enter only once each grading period and must re-enter with each qualifying report card.

To enter the drawing, stop by NEX with a current report card and have a NEX associate verify the minimum grade average.

Then fill out an entry card and obtain an A-OK ID, which entitles the student to discount coupons for NEX products and services.

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) has been offering students a chance to win a savings bond through its A-OK Student Reward Program since 1997. Since the program began, NEXCOM has awarded \$504,000 in savings bonds with the help of its generous vendor partners.



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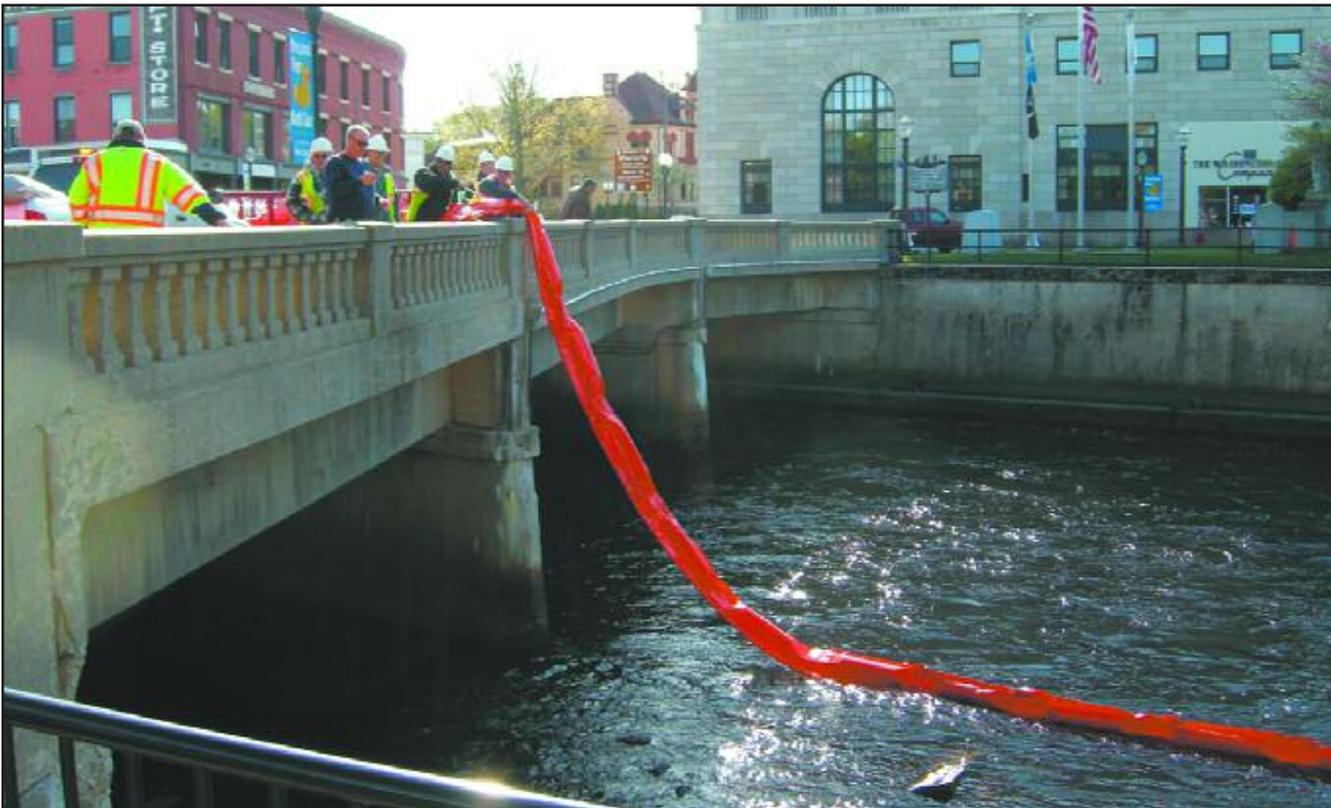
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Mark Reilly/Environmental photos

Naval Station Newport Port Operations (Port Ops) and NAVFAC Newport Base Support Vehicles & Equipment (BSVE) personnel deploy boom off the Pawcatuck River Bridge on the Westerly/Pawcatuck town lines to prepare the race course for the 14th annual Pawcatuck River Duck Race on April 28.

Duck race tests spill containment

By **MARK J. REILLY**
NAVSTA Environmental Division

WESTERLY – On an early, cool and blustery Saturday morning, 20,000 little rubber bathtub ducks safely raced down the Pawcatuck River, thanks to spill response personnel from Naval Station (NAVSTA) Newport.

As in years past, there

was no actual environmental emergency, just a simulation of oil contamination and containment. The goal was to create a narrow channel to funnel the ducks down the river for the 14th annual Greater Westerly Chamber of Commerce Pawcatuck River Duck Race.

DUCKS, Page 9

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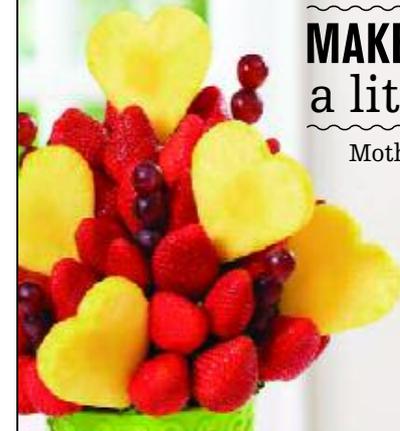
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Ducks

Continued from Page 8

For the past 12 years, a coordinated team from NAVSTA has performed this drill to practice responding to an oil spill offsite. NAVSTA also gets an opportunity to enhance community relations while satisfying one of the two mandatory annual spill equipment deployment exercise requirements.

NAVSTA provided 1,200 feet of response boom, a 19-foot Boston Whaler, and a combination of labor which included six military members and nine DoD civilians.

A massive construction payload dumped the ducks off the Pawcatuck River Bridge on the Westerly and Pawcatuck, Conn., state line into a channel made from 600 feet of parallel oil containment boom.

The slow moving river current gave the ducks just over an 8 minute ride to a special trap at the

end that funnels the winning ducks to the finish line.

NAVSTA participants included:

NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic – Naval Station Newport Environmental Department

Mark Rielly
Arthur Sylvester
Keith Webler
NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic – Naval Station Newport Base Support Vehicles & Equipment, (BSVE)

Jamie Mickle, transportation work leader

Luis Gonzalez, crane operator

Rui Rego, rigger
Jason Williams, rigger

Gary Sousa, crane operator

Harry Zambrano, motor vehicle operator

NAVSTA Port Operations
ICC(SW) Ryan Ratts

BM2(SW) Devlin Skipworth

BM2(SW) Christopher Novitt

IC2(SW) Sebastian Romano

BM3(SW) Brandon Herrera



LEFT: A massive construction payloader dumps 20,000 little rubber bathtub ducks off the Pawcatuck River Bridge into the water for the start of the race.

BELOW: Thousands of unsuccessful ducks that failed to win the race pile up at the shoreline waiting to be scooped up.



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Tickets cost just \$7.25 each (\$1.75 savings) and may be used at the Island Cinemas in Middletown. Tickets to the Jane Pickens Theater in Newport are \$6.75 (\$1.25 savings).

Tickets are \$8.50 each (\$1.75 savings) for Showcase Cinemas, Warwick, for retirees and Department of Defense employees. Active duty must show their ID at the theaters and receive a ticket for \$7.

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All active duty and retired military personnel, reservists and Department of Defense personnel are eligible to participate in the Armed Forces Vacation Club.

The club provides one-week vacations on a space available basis starting at \$349 at locations throughout the world.

For complete information, visit the Armed Forces Vacation Club website at www.afvclub.com (when booking a reservation use installation No. 163) or stop by the Information, Tickets and Travel Office in Building 1255.

Leisure

Aerobics/exercise

(Gym 109, Building 109, 841-3154)

Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fitness Classes: Stop by Gym 109 and pick up the fitness schedule. There are a variety of classes including yoga, cycling, Zumba® and TRX® Suspension Trainer system. Classes are taught at Gym 109 as early as 5:30 a.m. and as late as 6 p.m., and there are classes seven days a week.

There is no need to pre-register; just show up and get fit. They are free for active duty; \$1 for reservists, eligible family members, and retired; and \$2 for Department of Defense personnel.

Call Gym 109 at 841-3154 for more information.

Internet Café (Building 1255, 841-2088)

• Personal computers are available seven days a week to send and receive e-mail, surf the worldwide web, play games — all free. Have a cup of Starbucks coffee at

the Coffee Shop while you're here.

The café is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., weekends and holidays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Special fitness activities

(Gym 109, 841-3154)

• **Passport to Fitness Challenge in celebration of Physical Fitness Month.** Get your passport stamp each time you attend a group exercise class. Some additional challenges will be offered throughout the month to include: 90-minute cycle classes, a Zumba® party, TRX® challenges and more! Completely fill your passport and earn a prize. For more information, call Gym 109 at 841-3154.

• **MWR Ride & Run Nights are every Wednesday at 5 p.m. in May.**

This four-week program is designed to help patrons prepare for NAVSTA Sprint Triathlon on July 29. Rides consist of 20 to 30 minutes of bike riding followed by 20 to 30 minutes of run-

ning. We will increase the intensity level each week based on fitness level and participation.

For more information, call 841-3154.

• **Intramural softball season is here.** The intramural softball coaches and captains meeting will be Tuesday, May 15, at 4:30 p.m. at the Harbor Island Conference Center, Building 684.

This co-ed league is open to active duty, retirees, family members, reservists and DoD employees. No contractors are allowed. Players must be 18 years old and IDs will be checked throughout the season. Season runs from June 4 to Sept. 6.

Games are played Monday through Thursday at Carr Point at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. There is a \$100 (refundable) team forfeit fee and a \$15 DoD fee. Registration packets are available at Gym 109 front desk. Please have packets filled out for the coaches/captains meeting. Double elimination playoffs start Aug. 20. Teams are required to have matching shirts

with numbers by the first game. For more information, call Greg at 841-3420.

Pool 307

(Building 307, 841-6628)

Cornell Swim Academy youth swimming lessons are offered May 21 to June 25. Registration dates are May 14 to 19. The class costs \$70 for five weeks.

No classes on Sundays and holidays.

For more information, email cornellswimacademy@hotmail.com or call Pool 307 at 841-6628.

Liberty Center

(Recreation Center Building 656, 841-3054)

Hours of operation are Monday to Thursday, 4 to 8 p.m.; Friday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 10 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 8 p.m.; and holidays, noon to 6 p.m.

May events

Tonight – Volleyball games outside Liberty Center.

May 12 – Basketball Hall of Fame Trip, sign up early!

May 13 – Texas Hold'em Tournament, with prizes, 6 p.m.

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Special events

Take mom out to brunch

Bring mom to the Officers' Club, Grand Ballroom for a feast at the Mother's Day Brunch, on Sunday, May 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Seating times are available by calling ITT office at 841-3116. The ITT office is open today, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Asian-American observance

All hands are welcome to the Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month observance at Ney Hall Galley, Thursday, May 17, 10 a.m. Guest speaker will be retired Philippine navy Capt. Armado Heredia. Call 841-2023 for information.

Newport Idol finals next week

The Newport Idol finals will be held at the Officers' Club Grand Ballroom on Tuesday, May 15, beginning at 6 p.m. The top 10 competitors will give it their best shot to win this coveted competition.

Be part of the audience and help select the winner. Food and drinks will be available to order, starting at 5:30 p.m. The grand prize is recording time at a professional studio, a CD and a paid booking. For details, call MWR Special Events at 841-3127.

RIBC blood drive today

The Rhode Island Blood Center will sponsor a blood drive at the Navy Federal Credit Union today from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please stop by and donate if you can. Call (401) 621-0155 or email sperez@ribc.org for information.

Change of command slated

The Surface Warfare Officers School (SWOS) will hold change of command ceremonies in the Mullen Auditorium of Weakley Hall on Tuesday, May 15, 10:30 a.m.

Capt. Richard A. Brown is the Prospective Commanding Officer, who will relieve Capt. Neil Parrott.

The guest speaker will be Rear Adm. Clifford Sharpe, Chief Operating Officer, Naval Education and Training Command. Call 841-3596 for information.

Eight Bells Lecture series

The next Eight Bells Lecture will be held at the Naval War College Museum on Thursday, May 17, at noon. Author William F. Althoff will recount the dramatic U.S. Navy ventures in the Arctic during 1958 in his book, *Arctic Mission: North by Airship and Submarine*. This is a readable and informative account of three notable missions to the region: the Nautilus transit, the flight of the USN airship, and the establishment of research station BRAVO. For information or to make a reservation call 841-4052 or visit www.usnwc.edu/museum.

Dedication of war memorial

EXETER — The 88th Army Band and vocalist will join many R.I. dignitaries and veterans groups in officially dedicating the Medal of Honor Memorial in the R.I. Veterans Cemetery in Exeter on Sunday, May 20, at 1 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Upcoming:

May 18 — The Officer Development School of Officer Training Command Newport will hold a graduation ceremony in Kay Hall at 9 a.m. Rear Adm. Donald Gintzig, deputy chief of medical operations will address the graduates. For information call 841-1171.

May 18-19 — Newport Commissary case lot sale

May 19 — Armed Forces Day. See next Friday's *Newport Navalog* for a complete schedule of events surrounding this celebration

May 19 — The Bristol Veterans Home is holding a grounds clean-up and volunteers are welcome. See next Friday's *Newport Navalog* and NAVSTA Facebook for more details.

May 25 — Rhode Island Statehouse Garden of Heroes Memorial Day Service outside the State House, Providence, 10 a.m.

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POOL 307	CLOSED	6-8 a.m., 10:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m., 3-6 p.m., HOLIDAYS CLOSED	6-8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., -1:30 p.m., 3-6 p.m.	6-8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., -1:30 p.m., 3-6 p.m.	6-8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., -1:30 p.m., 3-6 p.m.	10:30 a.m., -1:30 p.m., 3-6 p.m.	8 a.m.-1 p.m.
BOWLING CENTER	1-8 p.m.	11 a.m.-8 p.m. HOLIDAYS 12-6	11 a.m.-8 p.m.	11 a.m.-8 p.m.	11 a.m.-8 p.m.	11 a.m.-10 p.m.	1-11 p.m.
LIBERTY CENTER	12-8 p.m.	4-8 p.m. HOLIDAYS 12-6	4-8 p.m.	4-8 p.m.	4-8 p.m.	4-10 p.m.	12-10 p.m.

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NAVFAC Midlant Public Works Department crew lowers one of two 800-pound 1852 Dahlgren howitzers to their new wood carriages in front of the Naval War College Museum recently. The new carriages were reconstructed to original specifications by carpenter Richard 'Schooner' McPherson, far right, of North Kingstown. From left are Rui Rego, rigger; Jason Williams, rigger; Jamie Mickle, work leader; and Bob Cembrola, museum curator.

Greg Kohlweiss/U.S. Navy photo

Brass cannons take aim on new rebuilt carriages

Courtesy, The Newport Daily News

When Richard "Schooner" McPherson saw the deplorable state of the wood carriages under the two Dahlgren howitzers in front of the Naval War College Museum, he knew he wanted to be part of the effort to restore them.

"There aren't many of these guns left," McPherson said while standing over his work in progress in the museum basement recently. "They've got a lot of history on those things."

Museum officials said they believe the cannons, designed by Lt. John A. Dahlgren in 1852, were taken off the Spanish cruiser Reina Mercedes in 1912 when it left Newport after a seven-year stay as a train-

ing ship.

Scuttled in the Battle of Santiago in July 1898 in an attempt to block the harbor, the Spanish warship was raised by the U.S. Navy at the end of the Spanish-American War and brought to America where it was restored.

Although McPherson, a carpenter for nearly 40 years, lifted the first tool on the project in January, he has worked for most of the past year getting ready for it.

One of the first things he did was track down Dahlgren's original blueprints for the howitzer at the National Archives so he could see exactly how the cannon carriage was sup-

CANNONS, Page 13



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Cannons

Continued from Page 12

posed to work. In the 100 years the cannons have been on sentinel in front of the museum, the wooden carriages have been restored several times, but each time alterations were made—some perhaps in the name of cutting costs, others for expediency. By the time McPherson dismantled the rotting carriages, there had been substantial changes to the original design.

For instance, Dahlgren configured the howitzers to move and swivel, but since they were longer in use, the carriages had been transformed into static bases.

All that changed.

Missing pieces of hardware were re-forged at the Navy foundry in Boston. Bronze and copper fittings that didn't mirror original hardware was replaced. McPherson crafted new



NWC Museum photo

The former cannon carriages are shown in 2006 on Dewey Field before restoration.

copper rivets using exact specifications outlined in the Navy manual on the subject. Five layers of laminated white oak will help keep the new carriages from "hogging" or sagging under the weight of the 800 pound artillery, he said.

McPherson was very particular about the wood he used. On one day he drove

to a lumber yard in western Rhode Island to find just the right oak to complete his work. There couldn't be any knots. The grain had to be just right. Thickness and width also were considered.

When he finished the project this spring he predicted no one would be able to tell the new carriages aren't the same as the

old carriages, he said. NAV-FAC Midlant Naval Station Newport Public Works crew lowered the cannon on to their new carriages last month.

"If you get a chance like this you don't get it very often. You might as well make it as accurate as you can," said McPherson of North Kingstown when he began the project last winter. "It's going to look pretty much like the day it came out of the factory. I want it to be just right."

In his spare moments, McPherson even went out to scrape black paint off the brass plates holding the howitzer to the carriage so they can be restored to a like-new luster.

"This is unique," he said. "Just the history of it. I mean, who doesn't like old cannons?"



Newport Daily News photo

Carpenter Richard "Schooner" McPherson works on one of two new carriages for the cannons.

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The Aft Lookout:



NWC Museum AQRchives photo

Government Landing in Newport, shown in this May 14, 1936, photo, was purchased in 1903, extended in 1913, and from 1907 until it was demolished during the construction of America's Cup Avenue was the Newport terminal for the Navy ferry to the Torpedo Station on Goat Island. Additionally, it was used as a landing for officers' boats (Fleet Landing was used for enlisted liberty parties). The Newport Harbor Hotel and Marina is currently located on the site.

Shiphandler

Continued from Page 3

Virtual Environment (COVE) simulator.

"It was clear that both these officers knew their ships," said Rear Adm. John Christenson, Naval War College president and surface warfare designated officer, who presented the award.

"They understood forces that affect a ship and demonstrated exceptional knowledge, mariner skills and confidence. Congratulations to both of these fine officers on their outstanding performance. They have bright futures."

The competition is an annual event. The two competitors spent the first day of the competition honing their skills on the COVE simulator. The COVE simulator provides surface

warfare officer students a state of the art navigation-and-shiphandling trainer to teach and measure student abilities. These trainers can emulate each of the U.S. Navy's homeports in addition to most routine port of call around the world such as Bahrain and Guam.

These stations consist of a virtual reality (VR) helmet and three 50 inch displays that allow the student a 360-degree view of their surroundings. Using a state of the art voice recognition system, students can give commands to the virtual helmsmen which are repeated back by the computer.

"Shiphandling proficiency is an essential skill in our surface warfare officers," said Capt. Neil Parrott, Sur-

face Warfare Officers School commanding officer. "The success of these two outstanding surface warriors during this entire process has distinguished them among the best in the Navy"

Following a "Rules of the Road" exam which measured their knowledge of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, the competitors alternated shiphandling scenarios in the COVE simulator. A panel of senior Naval Officers with almost a century of combined surface warfare experience judged the finals between Groh and Giller.

This year's judges included: Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Chief of Staff, Capt. Roy Kitchner; Commander,

Naval Surface Force Atlantic, Chief of Staff, Capt. Matt Beaver; and Director of Naval Shiphandling and Seamanship at Surface Warfare Officers School, retired Navy Capt. Bud Weeks.

The shiphandling competition consisted of executing different ship handling techniques on their own ship class. Utilizing the COVE Simulator, the finalists were observed getting underway from and going alongside a pier and transiting a channel.

Giller will be presented The Admiral's Trophy which is given to the Shiphandler of the Year in a formal awards ceremony at the Surface Navy Association National Symposium in Washington, DC.

Heredia

Continued from Page 2

lence in Leadership, Diversity, and Inclusion," focuses on increasing appreciation and understanding of the contributions of Asian and Pacific Americans to our nation.

Heredia is president of the Filipino-American Association of Newport County and a board member of the Newport Council for International Visitors. He is a member of the local Lingkod Timog organization that sponsors medical relief missions to southern Philippines poor.

Heredia is a 1967 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He graduated from the Naval Command College at the Naval War College in 1986 and was a member of the Strategy and Policy Department there from 1987 to 1990.

While in the Philippine navy from 1967-1988 he served as director, plans and programs office, personnel division, Armed Forces of the Philippines; director, Naval Officers School Center; and director, Navy Computer Center.

He holds a certificate of advanced studies in the humanities, Salve Regina University, 1997, and a master's degree in business and computer systems management.

Heredia is a recipient of the first John M. Olin Foundation Senior Fellow, Strategic Studies Project, awarded by the Naval War College Foundation, Newport, 1987-1990.

The lunch menu consists of Asian stir-fry soup; roasted pork loin, chicken adobo, mushroom and pepper griddle rice (meatless entrée), steamed jasmine rice, angel hair Filipino style with shrimp, oriental stir-fry vegetables, green beans Lyonnais, and Asian shrimp salad.

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Lt. Carlos Diaz/U.S. Navy photo

Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS) students and staff, plus some dependents, volunteer April 28 to clean the redoubt at the 19th century Fort Adams fortifications at Fort Adams State Park. The project has been an ongoing one for several months, said Lt. Carlos M. Diaz, NSCS public affairs officer. Ensign Wesley Singer, on the ladder, receives cut timber from Chief Logistics Specialist Joseph Pritchett, right. The fort was first used from 1799 to 1824 spanning the War of 1812.



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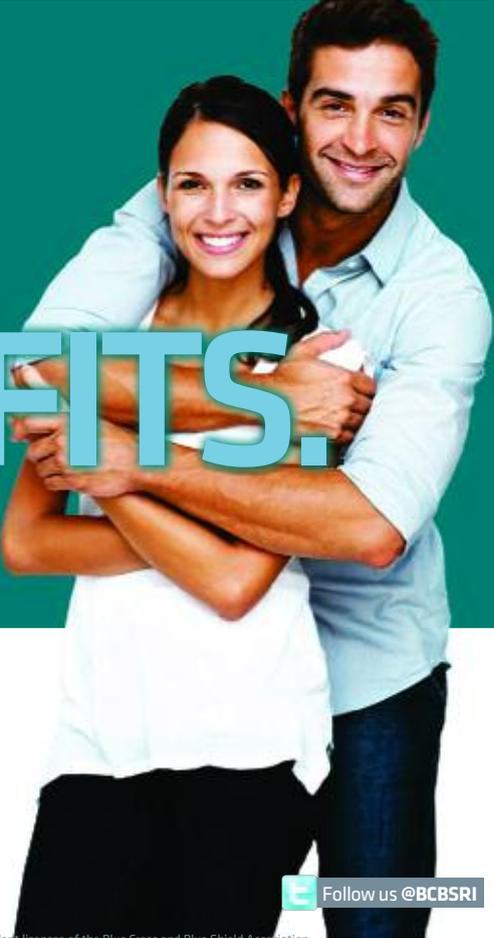
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