

WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

May 6, 2010



Asian & Pacific American Heritage Month

page 4



Naval Station Ingleside lowers the flag for the last time

page 16
Skipper column, page 2



IG Burnett retires

page 3

NAS Corpus Christi cleans up on Earth Day 2010

from NASCC PW Environmental and Navy Public Affairs

Military members and civilians collected trash, a tire and even an old boat hull as they walked almost all of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi in an Earth Day clean-up April 30.

Overall, about 250 volunteers from NASCC and tenant units turned out for the clean-up.

NASCC Public Works Environmental officials formed them into 10 teams; some left the Bay Club on foot to cover nearby routes, others were bused to more distant start points.

A team of mostly Marines, started as far out as the outer edge of the base on Ocean Drive near the Texas A&M Corpus Christi campus.

In less than three hours, the teams collected 4, 870 pounds – almost 2.5 tons – of trash.

One team had a different mission: Team 10 added or replaced approximately 150 storm water decals in the northeast and southeast quadrants of NAS Corpus Christi.

The decals remind people not to wash pollutants down the storm

drains, which drain into the Bay.

Officially, Earth Day is actually April 22; NASCC leadership pushed the Earth Day clean-up to the last Friday of the month to avoid interfering with training and other missions.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the first Earth Day in 1970.

Sen. Gaylor Nelson is credited with getting the federal government to adopt Earth Day.

On April 16, Commander Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Tim Alexander kicked off the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day by signing a proclamation urging the Navy's Southeast community toward environmental stewardship, environmentally-healthy mission partnerships, and energy conservation.

Earth Day continued on page 7 (right) Lt. Amy Hunt, VT-28, pauses to smell the flowers while collecting trash on Earth Day.

Photo by Bob Torres

More photos on page 12



A runner in the 2009 Beach to Bay Relay Marathon is cooled off by residents of NASCC housing while running the on-base race leg.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Are you ready for Beach to Bay?

by Bob Torres

For the past 34 years, hearts have pounded and runners have nervously awaited the starter's pistol (air horn) for the Beach to Bay Relay Marathon, which has become the largest marathon relay race in the US.

Traditionally, the NAS Corpus Christi Commanding Officer (this year it's Capt. Randy Pierson) starts the race promptly at 7 a.m., on the beach south of Bob Hall Pier.

Runners begin the first of six legs of the relay marathon as they pound the sand running away from the pier.

They make the turn and then hand off to the second leg runner who does a short run in the sand before moving onto pavement for the rest of his or her portion of the race.

Race continued on page 7

Skipper's Column

by Capt. Randy Pierson



Pierson

With mixed emotion, I want to take a moment to recognize the importance of the role of Naval Station Ingleside (NSI).

On April 23, the NSI Reversion Ceremony concluded whereby Capt. B. T. Taylor decommissioned and handed

over the installation to the Ingleside Port Authority.

On April 30, the Navy lowered its NSI flag for the last time and left the base.

Since becoming "operational" in July 1992, Naval Station Ingleside has been the home to a fleet of more than 30 of the Navy's current and former mine countermeasures (MCM) ships, coastal mine hunters and the MCM command and control ship, the USS Inchon.

While first constructed to accommodate a Battle Group, follow-on force structure and Base Realignment and Closure developments led to its evolution to a Mine Warfare Base and, nearly 18 years later, to its own decommissioning.

Most notable have been the great military officers, enlisted, government civilian and contract employees who have guaranteed the mission success of NSI over the years.

It is with great admiration, I thank the final Base Commander, Capt. Taylor, for all his support to NAS Corpus Christi during

his tour.

I would also like to compliment him for his personal and professional commitment to the health, welfare and recreation of NASCC personnel as they transferred countless items of government property to NASCC for the benefit of our Sailors and Civilians.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank all the employees of NSI who have transferred to NASCC with a great work ethic and true desire to make a difference, whether working at a Mine Warfare installation or an Air Station.

South Texas is a very small neighborhood and the successes we enjoy are only through the mutual respect, cooperation and commitment that is enjoyed between us.

Farewell and Following Seas to those departed from Naval Station Ingleside, and to those of you reporting, Welcome!

Farewell, NS Ingleside

Chaplain's Message

by Lt. j.g. Rob Fasnacht, Chaplain

The weather has been in the mid-seventies and sunny, with Corpus Christi winds – it has been really nice to go golfing.

This is not a sport at which I excel, but I do so enjoy delving in.

With the amount of time that I have been playing lately, I paused to ask myself the question, "Is this something I will teach my kids?"

I am currently preaching through the Old Testament Book of Deuteronomy.

The Israelites were implored by God to teach the Ten Commandments to their children.

What important lessons am I teaching my kids? Golf?

My golf game is not good enough that I should be giving any instructions to anyone.

So I must focus on the more important things.

You may ask, "Chaps, what is more important than golf?"

Well, things such as honor, courage, and

commitment.

I want my kids to grow up to be men and women of character.

That way, no matter their profession, I know that they will make a difference in this world.

Yet these lessons of character are more caught than taught.

I must model for my kids what it means to be a man of honor.

I must show my boys what it means to honor a woman. This is done by the way they observe me treating their mother and by them hearing the words that I use when I speak to her.

To model a courageous life means that I must allow my children to see my fears and insecurities.

However, they must also see me push past them until I accomplish my goals.

This requires me to be vulnerable to them.

And to have the character of commitment,

Role model

I must reinforce to my children that they are mine and always loved – regardless if they get an A or F on homework, first or last in a race, or finish cleaning up their room, they are mine because God gave them to me and I will always love them.

I must model to my children my commitment to my wife by honoring our marriage vows, my commitment to my country by paying my taxes, and my commitment to my Corps by dutifully accomplishing all tasks that come my way.

To teach my children these lessons I must be intentional in modeling them – and that requires less time on the golf course and more time in their sight.



Fasnacht

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

Once a week or so, someone will stop by or email some photos to us, asking if we can use them in the Wingspan.

Far too often, we have to say, "No." The problem isn't the composition or subject matter – it's the quality

In general, the more dots per inch – dpi – the more the image will look like reality. Working with our publisher and printer, we've determined that 300 dpi is pretty much the minimum for getting sharp, clear images on newsprint.

The problem is, most photos taken with simple cameras or especially with camera phones do not have sufficient resolution to print at 300 dpi.

A basic rule is, if the image is less than about 1 Meg in size, it probably won't work.

On the right, the photo on top is 300 dpi; the bottom is 72 dpi, typical of a camera phone. See the problem?

It's why we have those big expensive cameras.

'Where's my photo?'



Wingspan

NAS Corpus Christi

"Exceeding Expectations Through
Pride In Performance"

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IG Cheri Burnett retires; more than 27 years federal service

Story and photos by Rod Hafemeister

Cheri Burnett walked into the luncheon, threw her arms up in the air and shouted.

“Forty-eight hours!”

About 40 friends and co-workers were at the potluck luncheon to help Burnett celebrate her retirement after more than 27 years of federal service, including the last four as the Navy Region Southeast Inspector General for the south Texas area.

NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson joked about how, as IG, Burnett was “the person who can get you fired” – but went on to compliment her for her emphasis on finding solutions and ensuring things are done properly.

Her assistant – now replacement – retired Command Master Chief Phil Salcido thanked her for just pushing him out the door to do the job; yet always being there to give advice and help when he asked.

Burnett brought the house down when she surprised him with a “Junior G Man” badge.

Later, Burnett laughed as hard as anyone as old friends told embarrassing stories.

And she choked up some as she opened gifts from her co-workers, including a high-end mixer and attachments that prompted a “Now I have to learn how to cook!” from her.

But her biggest surprise came earlier, when Pierson presented her with the Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

According to the citation, Burnett’s “personal efforts in executing the major functions of the largest regional IG program within Navy Installations Command were outstanding and greatly contributed to the overall success of the Navy Region Southeast IG program.

“Ms. Burnett’s common sense approach, extensive background and experience, and professional reputation were often relied upon as a principal advisor on regional IG matters for our three south Texas installations.

“Regardless of complexity or sensitivity of the issue at hand, she always provided well researched and logical recommendations that often enable prompt resolution.”

Burnett promised to be a phone call away if needed – but also to enjoy drinking coffee in the morning “watching all the rest of you going to work.”

Cheri Burnett holds the certificate and wears the medal for her Meritorious Civilian Service Award, presented to her at her April 29 retirement luncheon. Standing with her are Capt. Randy Pierson, Commanding Officer of NASCC, and Paul Bedsole, Commander Navy Region Southeast Regional Program Director of the Office of the Inspector General.



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May is Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month

May was officially designated in 1992 as Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month.

In May we commemorate as a nation the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States in May 1843 and the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad in May 1869 – constructed largely by Chinese immigrants.

With this year's theme of "Diverse Leadership for a Diverse Workforce," we celebrate the wealth of ideas, traditions and commitment that those of Asian and Pacific Island heritage bring to our Navy.

Today nearly 19,000 uniformed personnel and more than 29,000 civilians of Asian and Pacific American heritage serve in the Navy's Total Force.

Tens of thousands of individuals of Asian and Pacific Island heritage have served with distinction in the Navy and have contributed in significant ways to the Navy's legacy.

Six flag officers, 11 members of the Senior Executive Service, three Rear Admirals (sel.) and 137 Master Chiefs of Asian and Pacific American heritage are currently leading the Navy.

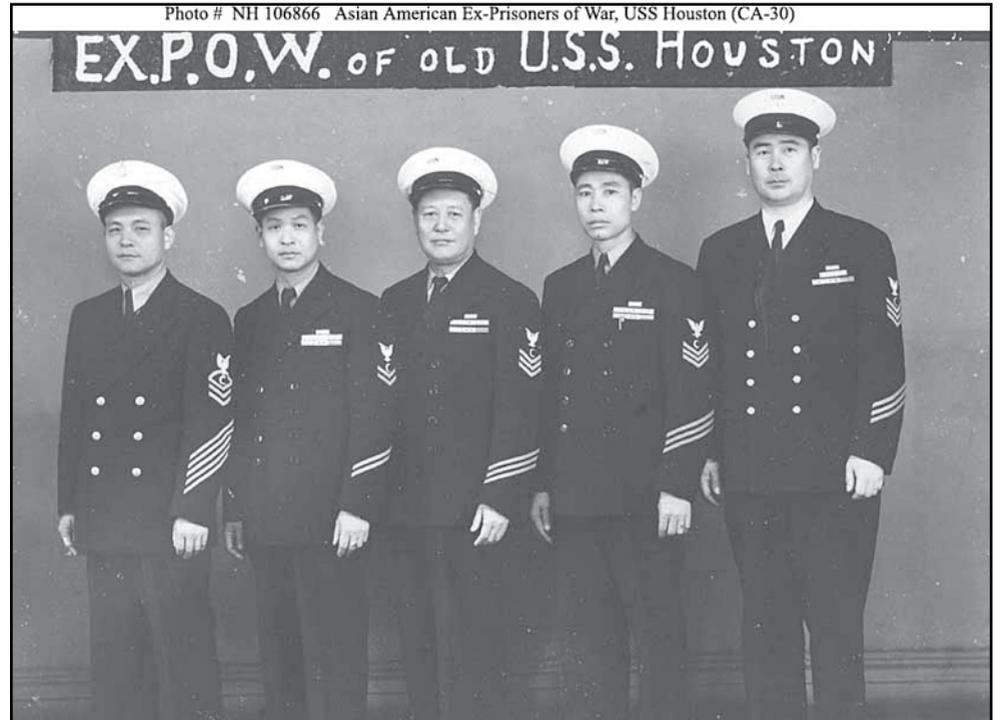
More than 340,000 veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage make up approximately 1.5 percent of the 23 million American veterans.

Visit the Naval History & Heritage Command website: <http://www.history.navy.mil> where the history of Asian and Pacific Americans in the Navy is highlighted.

Photo # NH 106881 Lieutenant Junior Grade Susan Anne Cuddy, USN, with siblings, WWII



Photo # NH 106866 Asian American Ex-Prisoners of War, USS Houston (CA-30)



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Annual NMCRS fund drive brings in \$50,000

by Catherine Kelsey, NMCRS

The 2010 Navy Marine Corps Relief Society fund drive came to a close on April 16, earning just under \$50,000, down from last year's \$56,000.

NMCRS Director at NAS Corpus Christi Tambi Parker said the drive was a success, considering the tough economy and the loss of thousands of personnel from the area with the closing of Naval Station Ingleside and the departure of HM-15.

"The success of the this year's fund drive is a direct result of the ownership and combined efforts of our Navy and Marine Corps team as well the command-appointed program coordinators," Parker said.

"It clearly takes all hands to make this fund drive earn the recognition and support it receives."

This year's theme, "It Takes All Hands," emphasized the importance of Marines and Sailors giving back to take care of themselves as well as their shipmates.

With current events and surrounding uncertainty, any of us can fall victim to dire and unforeseen emergencies, leaving our loved ones to cope with financial hardships.

NMCRS stands ready to help, just as they have in the past.

In 2009, the NAS Corpus Christi NMCRS provided \$436,000 in financial assistance to 600 military families in south Texas.

Worldwide the society distributed more than \$47 million in financial aid to 91,000 clients.

One out of every seven Sailors and/or Marines received assistance from NMCRS.

Since 1904, the NMCRS has supported the active and retired communities of the Naval Service.

The society provides financial assistance and emergency aid to eligible recipients to include Marines, Sailors and their families (both active duty and retired).

It also supports returning wounded warriors and their families, provides visiting nurse services, awards education scholarships and loans and offers a Budget-4-Baby program to expectant families.

NMCRS also operates 28 thrift shop "boutiques" nationwide to provide low-cost nearly new clothing, uniforms and household items to its Marines and Sailors.

Thanks to all who contributed and continue to support of the Navy and Marine Corps Relief mission.



The area NMCRS held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on April 22, recognizing more than 30 volunteers who contributed more than 4,100 hours during the past year. Pictured left to right, bottom row: Kathleen Newman, Ping Villegas, Katherine Stackhouse, Cheryl Mills. Left to right, second row: Heather Callaway, Amy Pincelli, June McCarty, Martha Price. Left to right, top row: Capt. Dave Price, Commodore TW-4; Susan Price, Theresa Hawkinson, Sue Waddingham, NMCRS Director Tambi Parker, Kristi Martin, Rebecca Bennet, Cmdr. Bruce Lankford, NASCC XO.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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Ask Dr. Garcia



Garcia

Q: Our children have all grown up and moved out of the home. How can I reconnect with my husband and have that "purpose" in my life again?

A: Sounds like you're experiencing the *empty nest* syndrome.

There are some key steps to take that may assist you with your dilemma.

Mourn the loss and prepare for change.

When your kids leave home, it's normal to be sad for awhile. Express your concerns, but also reflect on the gift and joys of the parenting experience in its entirety. See your relationships with your children as maturing and entering another wonderful phase.

Work on your marriage.

Now that the children have left home, this is a good time to take a look at your marriage and try to rebuild some intimacy that may have been lost over the last few years.

Get involved.

Maybe there is a church outreach ministry or some type of volunteer work that interests you. Or perhaps there is a golf club or couples bowling team you both would enjoy. Or maybe this is a good time to entertain some old friends.

Mentor and help others.

You might be interested in helping other children or teens in the church or community who could benefit from your mentoring and parenting skills.

Q: Do I need to have a good relationship with my in-laws in order to have a good marriage with my husband?

A: It's normal to want to be accepted by your husband's parents.

But the feeling is just that – a desire and preference – it is not a need.

While some couples think these relationships can be a great blessing, they are by no means mandatory.

When good relations with extended family are not possible, the priority of building a healthy marriage should always be promoted and maintained.

Patience can be a real virtue, as some future crisis in the family may open the door to help and reconciliation.

It is important to take the long view on these matters.

Relationships between in-laws and spouses tend to grow and improve over time, but there can be blocks in the road.

For instance, some parents are quite protective of their child or they have expectations that the spouse may be unable to meet.

In other situations, a spouse may have made a mistake, and while his or her partner has offered forgiveness, the parents may not be so quick to pardon.

The point is, it takes time to establish trust and respect.

A new husband or wife may assume he or she will automatically be loved and accepted by in-laws, but often this is not the case.

Gaining acceptance into a family may take a great effort and time.

Ruben G. Garcia, Ph.D., LMFT is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and co-founder of The Healing Institute. Submit your questions to Dr. Garcia via email at troubadour55@hotmail.com. You can also contact Dr. Garcia at (361) 814-4556.

'About Boating Safety' – June 12

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct an About Boating Safety class on June 12 at CBRAC, 1201 Laguna Shores Road, in Flour Bluff.

This is a one-day classroom instruction course and covers the basics of boating safely - A great introductory course!

Children (13-17) can obtain their TPW boating operator's permit.

Cost is only \$45 and includes materials, classroom instruction, and hands on demonstrations in class and at the boat ramp.

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Race continued from page 1

The fourth leg is run through the Base – and is probably the most grueling and longest leg.

At almost five miles, this is the hottest part of the run.

“It’s almost flat, but the buildings block the wind so as you begin the last leg on Ocean Drive, still on base, there is very little relief from the heat,” commented a veteran runner of that leg.

“But that’s why I volunteer to run that segment of the race.”

The race began in 1976 to commemorate Armed Forces Day.

This is the 35th anniversary of the run that has now grown to more than 2,000 teams entered in this year’s event.

“Last year we drew 1,980 teams,” said Doug McBee, race coordinator for the event.

“We’ve already surpassed that number and it’s still a week before race day, May 15.”

The race has attracted runners from Kenya, England, Mexico and Canada and is the United States premier and largest relay running event.

For more information or to enter a team, go to <http://www.beachtobayrelay.com>.

Grab some friends, sign up and have a great day of running from the beach to Cole Park – and help celebrate Armed Forces Day!

Earth Day continued from page 1

“As stewards of the earth, our mission must always be performed in a manner that protects the environment, prevents pollution, and protects our natural, historic and cultural resources,” Alexander said.

“The Navy will continue its evolution toward a green fleet and its commitment to a high standard of stewardship. I urge all personnel to conserve energy, protect the environment and participate in your local Earth Day events.”

Elsewhere, the Navy celebrated Earth Day April 22 by showcasing a flight test of the “Green Hornet,” an F/A-18 Super Hornet multirole fighter jet powered by a biofuel blend.

The test, conducted at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., drew hundreds of onlookers, including Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus.

“The alternative fuels test program is a significant milestone in the certification and ultimate operational use of biofuels by the Navy and Marine Corps,” Mabus said. “It’s important to emphasize, especially on Earth Day, the Navy’s commitment to reducing dependence on foreign oil as well as safeguarding our environment. Our Navy, alongside industry, the other services and federal agency partners, will continue to be an early adopter of alternative energy sources.”

The Green Hornet runs on a 50/50 blend of conventional jet fuel and a biofuel that comes from camelina, a hardy U.S.-grown plant that can thrive even in difficult soil. The Navy Fuels Lab at Patuxent River is developing certification standards for a variety of renewable, alternative fuel sources.



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Victor Villarreal retires from NASCC Fire & Emergency Services



Firefighter Victor Villarreal, center, surrounded by family, friends and supervisors at his retirement ceremony in the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi fire station on

April 23. Villarreal retired after more than 27 years of federal service.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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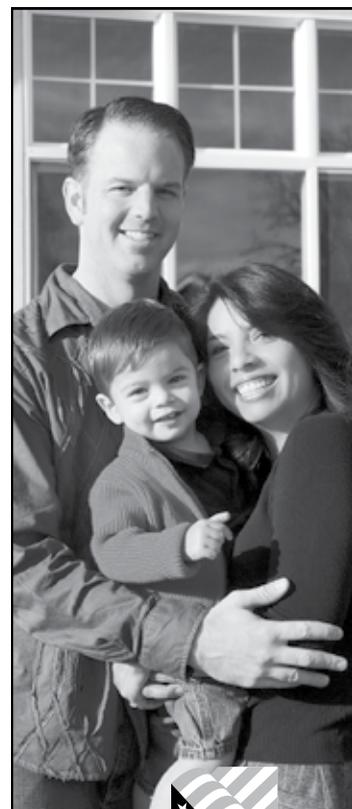
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Lee Harbison retires from Public Works – more than 30 years service



A Public Works Department crew (including his daughter, Christi Meza) gathered to wish Lee Harbison a happy retirement after more than 30 years of civil service. Harbison had served at both NAS Corpus Christi and NS Ingleside prior to his retirement on April 30.

Photo by Bob Torres

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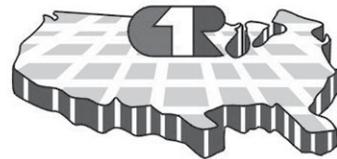
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Why is there always room for Jello?

by Ken Thorne, FFSC

Asking the burning question posed by a popular advertisement in the seventies, the Maharishi Havinagoodtime Vishnuverehere appearing on Saturday Night Live pondered why there was always room for Jell-O.

I still don't know the answer, but I do know we could all use more anyway. And that holds true for a lot of things in our lives, the least of which is knowledge.

When Lora Meza and I are called on to provide individual financial counseling for our young (and sometimes not so young) service members here at NAS Corpus Christi, we are continually amazed at the range of financial knowledge we encounter, from very, very little to professorial.

Why is this? And why do so many of our folks possess just enough knowledge about their financial world to get in trouble with it?

The problem is educational. It doesn't have anything to do with intelligence or genes. We aren't born with an instinctive understanding of money, so how to manage it is by necessity a learning process.

Unfortunately that process has been terribly neglected. In an article about high school financial literacy courses by Associated Press writer Christine Armario, some very sobering statistics emerged.

Describing the prevailing attitude towards personal finance in our schools, John Parfrey, the director of the National Endowment for Financial Education's high school program, said, "For many years, schools relegated personal finance to a home economics course, if they taught it at all. Students picked up the spending patterns of their parents - good and bad."

Jim Hedemark, the executive director of the Rhode Island Jump Start Coalition said, "It was not seen as a necessary life skill, and it was sort of seen as the kind of thing that should probably be learned in the home."

Supporting their opinions in a very significant way is the fact that only 15 states require public high schools to even offer a personal finance course and only 13 of those require one for graduation.

Granted, there are many public and private schools that offer such courses even though they are not mandated, but when a school district is finding it difficult to schedule and fund even the courses they are required to provide, electives are increasingly hard to justify.

But why should this even be a problem for us? Our parents were all good and capable people determined to send us off into the world with all the knowledge we'd need to get by, or so we thought.

The reality of the situation is that our parent's personal finances were just that, personal.

Sure, we got to see and experience the consequences of their financial decisions simply by where we lived, what we rode around in, and what we were able to have but

Jello continued on page 11

Jello continued from page 10

how all that came about was a pretty closely held secret.

Parents rarely sit down with their children to discuss something they screwed up.

Consider this. About 100 years ago, in my father's youth, Henry Ford rolled out the first mass production automobiles intended for use by the general public. There was only one model for one price, but it did come in any color the customer wanted, so long as the color was black.

Today Ford offers 17 different models of cars, crossovers, SUVs, and trucks, with almost limitless options and that's just in the Ford line itself. We're not talking Lincoln, Mercury, or Volvo.

Now multiply that by the number of companies making cars and the choices are mind boggling. Granted, the last couple of years have narrowed the choices a bit but the fact remains that something as basic as selecting the right car has become vastly more complicated in the past 20 years.

There was a time when the choices for home options were either buy or rent. Now you have a choice of at least 12 different mortgage configurations alone and that doesn't count contracts for deed or reverse mortgages.

Now it seems that every bank in the country has their own special account structures and there is no end to the fees and services. Used to be either a person used cash, wrote a check, or used a credit card. Now we have at least four different types of credit cards and the internet.

And then there's the really big one. The one nobody between 12 and 18 even believes is possible, the "Bigfoot" of financial issues – retirement.

Again, there was a time when typically your entire working life took place in the same building and when you got old enough to retire you collected your company or union pension, filed for social security and that was that.

No longer; our retirement plans are now pretty much of our own making and bad decisions in that aspect will have very dire consequences for the future of the uninformed or misled.

Our financial world has become hugely more complicated and dangerous. And flying into this web at warp speed are millions of utterly unprepared victims, many of whom are standing right next to us.

But fear not good reader. Help is on the way.

Yes, you are a minnow and there are a lot of hungry sharks, but standing right there in front of you is your very own Command Financial Specialist, ready, willing, and able to come to your aid. Get to know that person and take advantage of what they have to offer.

While you're at it write your congress folk and tell them that personal financial education really is as important as knowing when Rome rose and fell.

For more information on personal financial management and how to plan for your future please contact FFSC to speak with personal financial counselors Ken Thorn at 961-1673 or Lora Meza at 961-1127.

You are cordially invited to attend a Day of Remembrance.

Memorial Day

Monday, May 31st

1:00 p.m.



A Memorial Day Service is scheduled for Monday, May 31, 2010 at 1pm at Seaside Memorial Park and Funeral Home, 4357 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi Texas. The following guests/activities will be presented:

Juan Garcia, Assistant Secretary of the Navy

Invocation by Msgr. Richard Shirley

"Snow White" dove release

Bob Jones, Guest Speaker

Young Marines Drill Team

Corpus Christi Corvette Club

Flag display provided by Arnold Leal

U.S. Marines

"Fly Over" by the U.S. Navy

Patriots Band and Honor Guard

Corpus Christi Fire Department Pipe and Drums

Lorissa Chapa (Wicker Recording Artist)

Patriots Guard Riders of South Texas

Corpus Christi Fire Department (Stations 4 & 11)

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The NASCC community honored Earth Day 2010 with a base-wide clean-up on April 30. Teams of Sailors, Marines and Civilians spread out, sometimes picking up simple litter (above left) and other times more significant trash. (above right) A front loader extracts a boat hull along Ocean Drive, while (middle right) Marines collect the more portable trash and (bottom middle) MA1 Ryan Radtke moves a tire to the edge of the road for pickup. (bottom left) Ensigns Lisa Knauff, Trevor Schaff, Adrian Andrade and Michael Matus from TW-4 place decals on storm drains. (bottom right) One of the truckloads of trash collected.

Photos by Rod Hafemeister and Leticia Graves



Buc Days Military Appreciation Night

The Corpus Christi Buccaneer Commission kicked off its annual Buc Days Celebration on April 22 with its Third Annual Military Appreciation Night. A salute to veterans past and present preceded the first night of the Miller Lite PRCA Rodeo with a veteran representing each of the armed services, a Color Guard from Naval Air Station Corpus Christi and the National Anthem sung by Master at Arms Chief Charles Kittle, accompanied by his son, Elijah. Rodeo attendees each received an American Flag upon entering the arena.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

AWARDS and ACHIEVEMENTS

Winging — April 16



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Lt. j.g. Robert Fasnacht, Chaplain; Maj. Anthony Murali, Executive Officer, MATSG 22; Cmdr. Tony Tellado, Executive Officer, VT-31; Lt. Col. Robert Blagg, USAF, Commanding Officer, VT-35; Cmdr. William Hearther, Commanding Officer, VT-31; Capt. James Crabbe, CNATRA Chief of Staff; Capt. Dave Price, Commodore, TW-4.

Ensign Troy Austin Benbow; 2nd Lt. Richard Coleman Callahan, USAF; 2nd Lt. Kyle Bruce Carnahan, USAF; Ensign Lee Edward Cook; 1st Lt. Jeffrey R Day, USMC; Ensign Adam John Letizio; 2nd Lt. Grant Allen Lewis, USAF; 1st Lt. Collin Arthur Lohr, USAF; 1st Lt. Joshua Caleb Mallow, USMC; 2nd Lt. Heather Gayle Pinsky, USAF; 2nd Lt. Jonathan Bruce Rember, USAF; 2nd Lt. Daniel Joseph Samson, USAF; 1st Lt. Aaron Anthony Sanchez, USAF; Lt. j.g. Jerod Allen Taber; 2nd Lt. Clayton Steven Ten Eyck, USAF; 2nd Lt. Kelly Michael Van Gundy, USAF.



Rau named NHCCC Junior Officer of 2009

Lt. Roxanne M. Rau, Medical Service Corps, (right) received a command plaque after being awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (second award) for meritorious service while serving as patient administration department head, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi from January 2009 to December 2009. Rau's leadership led to her selection as the command's 2009 Junior Officer of the Year. Capt. Kevin T. Kalanta, Dental Corps, executive officer at NHCCC, presented the awards April 22. Rau has also served as decedent affairs officer.

Photo by Bill Love, NHCCC PAO



BEST BITES DINING GUIDE

Welcome Paratroopers AND SUPPORTERS

June 11-13, 2010

The 28th Annual Southwest Memorial Airborne Days Convention
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For More Information call 361-443-4040 or visit: www.southtexasairborne.com




Healthy Red Potato Salad

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 lbs red potatoes, organic if possible | 2 stalks celery |
| 1/4 cup Dijon or Dusseldorf mustard | 2 tsp capers |
| 1/4 cup dry white vermouth | 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley |
| 1/4 cup white wine vinegar | Chopped fresh dill to taste |
| 2 tbsp quality extra-virgin olive oil | 1/2 lb. steamed green beans, cut in |
| 1 yellow onion | 1-inch pieces (optional) |



Boil potatoes in their skins, covered, just until they can be easily pierced with a sharp knife. Meanwhile, prepare dressing in a jar, combining mustard, vermouth, vinegar, olive oil, salt and pepper to taste; shake well. Drain potatoes, let cool enough to handle, then peel and cut into thick slices. Place in a large bowl. Pour dressing over the potatoes while they are warm, tossing well. Add chopped onion, sliced celery, capers, finely chopped parsley, dill and, if you like, other chopped vegetables (red bell pepper, radish). Correct seasoning. Chill until served. Optional, toss in lightly cooked fresh green beans as a good last-minute addition. 6 Servings.

May 1 to May 8



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What's Happening

by Tina Konwerski

Sponsorship Opportunities. South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind is excited to announce our first ever "Birdies for the Blind" Friday, November 5, 2010 at the Gabe Lozano Municipal Golf Course! There are numerous sponsorships to choose from starting with our "Ace" Sponsor (our title sponsorship level) all the way to "Tee/Green Signage" sponsorship. It's all for a good cause and all to help your neighbors who are blind or visually impaired. For more information about sponsorships, contributing an auction item or signing up your 4 person team (\$400 per team), contact Jennifer at 361-883-6553 ext. 152.

Dolphin Training - May 17, 10:30am at Texas State Aquarium, Corpus Christi - Immerse yourself in the world of dolphin training. Learn how our trainers interact with our dolphins during this informative and entertaining presentation.

Gulf Coast Humane Society annual Golf tournament fundraiser. @ Corpus Christi Country Club Friday, May 21st. Teams and hole sponsors desperately needed! Contact gchs31@yahoo.com for info!

Disabled American Veterans E.G. Perales Chapter 150 5th Annual Memorial Day Bar-B-Que Brisket Plate with all the trimmings fund raiser on Memorial Day, Monday May 31, 2010 from 12PM-3PM at V.F.W. Post 2397 4441 Ayers Street C.C. TX Donations are \$6.00 per plate. Contact 225-4831 or 779-6456 for more information.

Continuing through Friday, May 28 THE ART OF EGGERY will be on display at the John E. Conner Museum, Kingsville, TX See San Antonio artist Janie Arteaga's work with decorating a variety of eggs a variety of ways is featured. The Conner Museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through



BEST BITES DINING GUIDE

What's Happening continued

Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Admission is free. For more information, call 361-593-2810.

27th Annual World of Water Celebration – Saturday, May 22nd – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History – FREE FAMILY ADMISSION. Fun for the entire family with science experiments, games, prizes and music. Meet Toby Globy, the environmental mascot and Curby the recycling robot.

Saturday, May 22nd Ingleside Fire Corps. Run/Walk - Live Oak Park, registration starts at 6 am – Race starts at 7 am fmi <http://www.ingleside-firecorps.org>

May 28, 2010 – Bastrop SP – Moonlight Hike – Find out what it is like to be a creature of the night. Join a naturalist to call for owls, watch for bats, listen for toads and experience the park's trails after dark. Wear walking shoes and bring water, insect repellent and a flashlight for this mile-long hike. Meet at the kiosk by the playground. 8:30-9:30 PM (512) 237-2241.

May 2010 – Goose Island SP – Pier Fishing with a Ranger – Every Sunday. Bring your rod and reel and join us on the fishing pier to learn the tackle and techniques of fishing in the Texas bays. Loaner fishing tackle will be provided for the first 10 participants. Accessible for the mobility impaired. 10-11 AM (361) 729-2858.

May 2010 – Goose Island SP – The Big Tree – Every Saturday. Join us at the Big Tree on 12th Street for a hands-on experience with this 1,000-year-old coastal live oak. Learn about natural disasters and human impacts it survived over its lifetime and learn of some of the challenges it still faces. Get inside the fence and take pictures of one of the oldest trees in Texas. Accessible for the mobility impaired. 4-5 PM (361) 729-2858.

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Farewell, Naval Station Ingleside



(above) Naval Station Ingleside Sailors lower the national ensign for the final time aboard Naval Station Ingleside on April 30. (center) Capt. Leland "BT" Taylor, Commanding Officer, gathered the approximately 60 military, civilian and contractor personnel still on board the station in the Headquarters Building courtyard to witness the event. Naval Station Ingleside closed April 30, with the land reverting to the Port of Corpus Christi Authority as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure commission. The Naval Station opened July 6, 1992, and was the 'Mine Warfare Center of Excellence' supporting the entire mine warfare fleet and nearly 3,500 personnel. (bottom left) Taylor presents the national ensign to Mike Carrell, Chairman of the Port of Corpus Christi. (bottom right) MA3(SW) Christopher Mize makes the final entry into the Petty Officer of the Watch logbook, prior to turning it over to the command duty officer

Photos by Fifi Kieschnick, NSI PAO



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Have fun, but be safe when grilling

by NASCC Fire & Emergency

With summer fast approaching, NAS Corpus Christi Fire & Emergency Services urges safety when you do your outdoor grilling.

Each year, gas-fueled and charcoal grills are involved in thousands of home structure fires and home outdoor fires, according to National Fire Protection Association.

Gas-fueled grills present a higher fire risk than charcoal grills. Nearly half of home outdoor gas grill fires and almost one-third of home gas grill structure fires are due to leaks and breaks in the equipment.

The two leading causes for charcoal grill home structure fires are combustible materials, including the home itself, that are too close to the grill, and unattended cooking.

Selecting a safe location outside the home for grilling is important. Almost half of all home structure charcoal grill fires and one-third of the gas grill fires began on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch.

If you have any further questions about outdoor grilling or fire safety in general drop us email at: NAS_CC_FD_fireprevention@navy.mil

Gas grill safety tips: www.nfpa.org/gallery/grill_safety/slideshow.html



A Sunday BBQ that went very wrong, causing a fire that destroyed six homes and damaged 12 more.

Cooking meats to proper temperatures is critical to ensuring food is safe. The best way to determine if a food has reached a high enough temperature is to use a thermometer inserted into the middle or thickest part of the food.

Harmful bacteria thrive when their environment is warm. Foods should be kept either cool (below 40 degrees F) or hot (above 140 degrees F) to prevent bacteria from growing and multiplying.

To make sure your food stays safe, it shouldn't remain in the danger zone (between 40 and 140 degrees F) for more than two hours and only one hour in temperatures above 90 F. If you have leftovers, put them in the refrigerator or be prepared to keep them on ice in a cooler.



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MN2 Baynard reenlists, cashes in



Mineman 2nd Class Dana Baynard (left) is all smiles as he receives an oversized mockup of his selective reenlistment bonus check for more than \$38,000 from NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson. Baynard reenlisted April 28 for six years and a new assignment in Japan. Photo by Rod Hafemeister

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: 1995 Blue Wave 16.5' boat, Super tunnel, composite, no wood, custom leaning post seat, newer 90 HP, great boat, in sale lot @NASCC, \$4,500, 774-1344.

FOR SALE: 4br/2.5ba/2 car gar. 2-story house, 2400+ sq.ft, southside CC, tile floors, br's & laundry upstairs, huge mstr bath, nice yard, MUST SEE! \$199,500/OBO pls call 361-834-0189(Sarah).

FOR SALE: Rainbow Playset for Sale \$ 1100. Originally paid \$3200. 703-220-8300.

FOR SALE: Old Towne Discovery 164 (16') canoe. Also paddles and life jackets. \$300 OBO. Dave or Susan Price at 361-949-0404.

FOR SALE: 2002 Excursion, V-10 w/ 96k miles, new tires, new brakes, bug screen, door covers, 3 seats, Exclence condition; \$14K or make offer; 361-288-6646.

FOR SALE: 2010 Raptor 300MP 5th Wheel Toy Hauler by Keystone. Double slide out 35'5" with 10' garage and a 36" door to the garage from the living area. It's a wide body with 102" width and welded aluminum construction. The Raptor has more standard features than any other Toy Hauler on the market. \$42,750. Contact Bill. 361.813.7668.

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Maj. Karl Bohn, USMC, retires



Marine Lt. Col. Nathan Cook presents Maj. Karl Bohn (right) his award certificate for a Meritorious Commendation Medal during Bohn's retirement ceremony at the Naval Clinic Auditorium, April 16. Bohn had recently served at the Marine Air Training Support Group-22 here before his last assignment at CNATRA prior to his retirement.

Photo by Bob Torres

CLASSIFIED

GOLF Clubs - Left-handed Kunnan irons. All slices, mis-hits, missed balls taken out of clubs by current owner. Excellent condition. \$75. Taylor made driver - used once \$125. Dunlop driver, \$50. Nike Sumo Sasquatch driver, \$100. Assortment of clubs and bag - \$70. Please call 774-7104 to see clubs. Great buys. Golfer discovered - he's right-handed..

NEED A FOREVER HOME: Two black full grown cats need a new home ASAP. This couple took them in when they just showed up at their house, they had them both fixed and current on shots. Moving and can't take the cats with them. Both cats are black, they are litter trained when inside & love the outdoors. The shelters are full, she is runn...ing out of options. Please contact Kay: beachykeen48@yahoo.com or call her 361.230.9836

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ANNOUNCEMENT

SINTON: 05/14 Free Veterans Briefing:

The Texas Veterans Land Board & Texas Veterans Commission will be hosting a Free Benefits Fair. Exhibitors include:

- Texas Veterans Land Board: Housing Loan Program, Land Loan Program, Home improvement Loan Program, State Veterans Homes and State Veterans Cemeteries.
- Texas Veterans Commission: Counselors to assist with disability and pension claims, employment services and educational benefits.
- Department of Veterans Affairs: Representatives to assist with federal entitlements.
- Small Business Administration: Representatives to assist veterans with business opportunities.

The fair will be held at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds Civic Center on 219 W 5th Street in Sinton, TX from 10 am—2pm. For more information, call James Hill or Dolores Hinojosa at 361-364-9304 or Toni McCurdy at 361-728-4063.

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Senior Chief Cooley retires



Mineman Senior Chief (Surface Warfare) Michael Cooley is 'piped ashore' for the last time at his April 21 retirement ceremony at the Bay Club aboard NASCC. Cooley's final assignment was with Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group.
Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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Chief Acox retires on the Lex



Mineman Chief (Surface Warfare) Robert Acox is 'piped ashore' for the last time at his April 22 retirement ceremony aboard the USS Lexington. Acox's final assignment was with Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group.

Photo by Bob Torres

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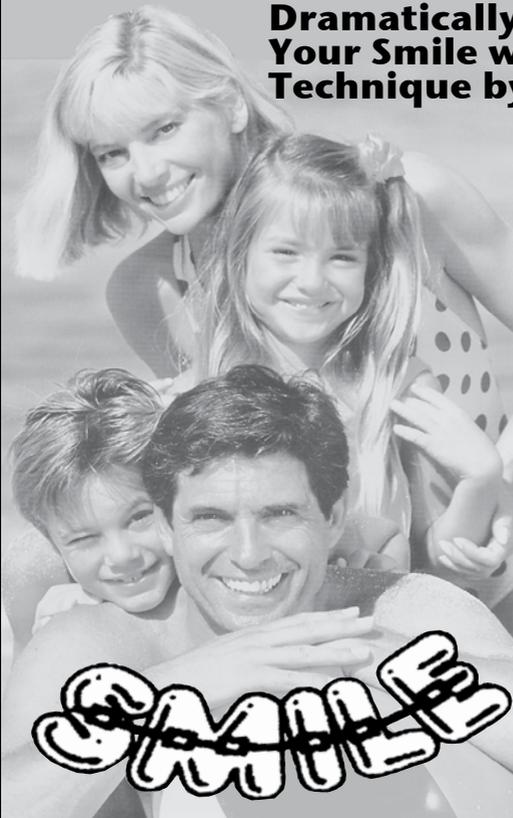
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May is Motorcycle Awareness Month

by Dan Miller, Motorcycle Safety Instructor

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month, a reminder that as the weather warms, more motorcycles are likely to be on the road.

So while you are out, driving about, ask yourself, "How many motorcycles have I seen today?"

Remember to always look twice, because motorcycles are everywhere.

And please, think of a motorcyclist as a human being, not just a motorcycle.

That rider could be a doctor, a dentist, your neighbor down the street or somebody's dad or mother, sister or brother.

When it comes to motorcycles, there's no such thing as a minor fender bender. A motorcycle will never win against a car and a rider will almost always suffer injuries.

We all share the road, so please, do your part to make it safer for them and they'll do the same to make it safer for all of us to share the road together.

On behalf of the motorcycling community, thank you and happy trails. Remember to be safe out there.

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UGH! TIME TO DRIVE TO WORK.
I'M SICK OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION.
I'M SICK OF PARKING HASSLES.
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Bill now rides his motorcycle to work. He's doing it because he knows his bike is a practical vehicle and not just a toy for weekends. He's having a good time, too! Motorcycles take far less space than four-wheel vehicles when traveling and when parked. In addition to having a smaller 'footprint' than an automobile, motorcycles are more nimble and maneuverable, and these attributes speed traffic flow.

Riding to work or to school on Ride To Work Day can demonstrate that motorcycling is a social good and that riders are from all occupations. You will help change public attitudes about motorcycling in ways that benefit all enthusiasts.

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Ready for Forever Homes



8 adorable kittens born February 26th who have been raised around children and dogs. All cute and cuddly. Will require a spay/neuter agreement upon adoption. Litter trained.



Radar is a 1 1/2 yr old male rat terrier saved one day before he was scheduled to be gassed. He is a ball of energy who would do best with another active dog big or small. He is crate trained and loves to cuddle. Radar weighs 13 lbs.



This beautiful girl needs a Forever Home. Please call 361-883-3500 during the day or 361-994-8128 evenings. If no answer, please leave a message. She is up to date on shots and spayed. She is a brown with black saddle German Shepherd of show quality, well mannered and affectionate with a great disposition. She will require a big back yard or large piece of property.

Winston is a 6 months old male. Curious, active and adorable, this Shepherd Husky mix loves to play with other dogs. Loyal and eager to please, this pup will make a great companion. Crate trained and non-food aggressive. Winston is high energy as most puppies are which includes some chewing. However, dog chews and activity make him too tired for negative behaviors. Winston has a moderate to high activity level.



Raddie is a black and white 12 lb 4-5 yr old rat terrier.



He is neutered, UTD on shots and HW negative. This tiny guy is a born leader of dogs and a natural born lover to his owners. Loves attention and never turns away a warm bed. Active and curious, Raddie likes to be near people. Raddie lacks some traditional dog skills like leash training and when not to "mount". Crate and house

trained, Raddie will make a life long member to any family. Activity Level: Moderate.

Dodger is a 2 yr old male chihuahua mix. He is a VERY sweet boy who loves to play and then cuddle in your lap. At his foster home he sleeps in bed with his 3 yr old human sister. Dodger is great in car rides and pretty good on a leash. Dodger can jump high and you may find him sleeping on your kitchen table at times. He will sleep in a crate if needed but would rather be in or next to your bed. He is mostly potty trained. Dodger would be great as an only dog or with a playmate. He could fit into almost any type of home.



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