



Members of the 2007 graduating class from Columbia College and Washington State University wait patiently to receive their degrees at the graduation ceremony held at the Base Chapel, Feb. 25.

Columbia College holds graduation

Story and photo by MC1 Igo Wordu, Public Affairs Office

Columbia College, Guantanamo Bay, conferred 32 Associate and 10 Bachelor degrees on students at its annual commencement ceremony held at the Naval Station Chapel on Sunday, Feb. 25.

The ceremony was a joint commencement for Columbia College and Washington State University.

Commander, Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, RADM Harry Harris Jr., was the guest

speaker for the event. He commended the graduates for making concerted efforts in achieving their goals.

MA2 James Isabella spoke on behalf of the graduating class.

“While we all have different stories about how we were able to finish our degrees,” he said, “what we all have in common is that it was a journey filled with hard work, ...and the determination to finish what we have started.”

Mike Randerson, Columbia College vice president for adult higher education, conferred the degrees.

“For more than 30 years Columbia College has helped working adults and military personnel pursue college degrees,” he said. “We’re proud of the accomplishments of our area graduates.”

Columbia College continues to serve military students and working adults in the area since

its establishment in 2004. It provides accredited, affordable degrees for working adults and military students, serving nearly 25,000 students at its 32 Nationwide Campuses, Online Campus, Graduate Studies Program and Day Campus.

“I’m both proud to have finished my degree, and am looking forward to being able to apply these lessons learned in my future endeavors, both here and afterwards,” said Isabella.



Photo by Spc. Jonathan Mullis

Transfer of Authority — *Members of the HHC 92nd, Separate Infantry Brigade Forward of the Puerto Rico National Guard proudly accept their new assignment as the command element of Joint Task Force-Guantanamo. The Puerto Rico National Guard replaces the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 29th Infantry Division of the Maryland National Guard. The transfer of authority took place on Saturday, Feb. 24, at Camp America.*

Stephenie returns to GTMO

Stephenie's Manhattan is returning to Guantanamo Bay. She is offering free facials and massages to active duty women only on Sunday, March 3.

Area women are invited to make appointments to be pumpkin-peeled, waxed, and papaya-masked, March 5 - 9. Treatments will take place at the Windjammer Club, second floor. Stephenie will also use her artistic skills, to apply permanent make-up to brows and eyes. To make an appointment, or for more information, call 2193.



Photo provided by Julie Hall

Yard of the Quarter — *CAPT Mark Leary and Donald Eldridge congratulate Eutiquio and Blossom Neyra on their home's selection as the Center Bargo Neighborhood winner. They live at Center Bargo #1189.*

Coral Reef study

Anyone interested in the health of GTMO's reefs, or the types of fish that swim in the bay, is invited to meet-and-greet three internationally known marine biology experts at the Windjammer, Monday, March 5, at 5 p.m. FMI call 4662.

GUANTANAMO BAY

Gazette

Vol. 64 No. 8

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Family pays last respects to fallen aviator

Story by Stacey Byington, NAVSTA Public Affairs Officer

Forty years ago, on Feb. 27, 1967, LTJG David C. Morehouse, 23, a radar intercept officer in an F4B Phantom jet off the USS Forrestal (CVA 59), lost his life in an aircraft accident off the end of the Leeward airfield. The plane crashed into the sea, near the western boundary line between the station and mainland Cuba. Neither LTJG Morehouse's body nor the plane wreckage has ever been recovered.

This week, members of the Morehouse family and his widow visited Guantanamo Bay to pay their final respects, and to have a wreath-laying ceremony in honor of their family member.

"We are so thankful to the Navy for allowing us to come here," said Jack Morehouse, brother of David. "Shortly after the accident, there was a memorial service in Norfolk (Va.) that we all attended, but it was too soon. This is something I have wanted to do for a long time, but never thought we could get permission to come here."

Jack Morehouse wrote a letter to the Department of the Navy in May 2006 requesting permission to visit the base for the purpose of "meeting with a Chaplain, and to lay a wreath in the bay" commemorating the 40th anniversary of the tragic death of his brother. He asked if his brother's widow and his two sisters could come to the station with him.

Permission was given at the highest levels, and after months of coordination, the four Morehouse family members arrived in GTMO on Feb. 24. They came from across the country — brother Jack from Colorado; Jack's twin sister,



Photo by Stacey Byington

Members of the Morehouse family with Chaplain James Goebel, pay their final respects to LTJG David Morehouse, who died in a tragic aircraft accident at Guantanamo Bay on Feb. 27, 1967. They are, left to right, Jill Lecakes, Merry Chellas, Lyle Morehouse and Jack Morehouse.

Jill Lecakes, from New York; oldest sister Merry Chellas from Alberta, Canada; and David's widow, Lyle Morehouse, from New Orleans.

They toured the station, spent some time on Leeward's Chapman Beach, the closest they could get to the accident site, and shopped in the NEX.

"Everyone has been so nice to us," said Jill. "This has been so healing. We finally get some closure."

On Tuesday morning, almost exactly 40 years to the minute of LTJG Morehouse's death, in a simple memorial on an MWR pontoon boat at the mouth of bay, the four Morehouse family members paid their last respects to a family member who died in the service of his country. After a few brief remarks by Chaplain James Goebel, and the 23th Psalm, the family members, as

a single unit, tossed a memorial wreath into the bay.

"My brother, Dave, was one of those young men setting out to make their mark on the world in the early 1960s," said Jack. "He lived his short life with great enjoyment and anticipation of what the future held. He was a 'striver,' always reaching for the moon."

Jack said that Dave, or 'Skeeter' as he was known by his family, always wanted to be an aviator. He said the last time he saw his brother was at his brother's wedding. "I attended his wedding to Lyle in November 1966, and noticed a certain maturity of conviction. The last time I saw him was when the newlyweds drove away in his little green MG sports car. We were proud of him for what he accomplished in his 23 years."

David Morehouse died just 19 days before his 24th birthday. He and Lyle had been married less than three months.

"This has been so great," said Lyle, referring to the visit to GTMO. "I never thought the Navy would let us come here. David was so full of life. That's one of the things I remember most about him. He was so full of life."

Jack summed up the visit as the family tossed the wreath into the bay, "Today we honor him on the 40th anniversary of his tragic accident. May he rest in peace."

"We want to thank everyone who had a part in allowing us to come to Guantanamo Bay," said Merry. "This has been so wonderful. Thank you. It is something we will all remember for the rest of our lives."

AACO hosts annual Dinner-Dance

Story and photo by MC1 Igo Wordu, Public Affairs Office

The annual African-American Cultural Organization (AACO) Dinner-Dance is traditionally a formal-attire event. It is an evening set aside to celebrate African-American heritage, and Black History Month.

The Guantanamo Bay community continued the tradition this year at the Windjammer Ballroom, Feb. 24.

RDML Harry Harris Jr., Commander Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, and Army Chaplain Maj. James Evans were the principal speakers. CDR Sylvester Moore, NAVSTA Executive Officer, welcomed everyone to the event on behalf of CAPT Leary, who was off station, and unable to attend. Approximately 200 people attended the event.

In addition to providing an opportunity for the GTMO community to honor history and African-American heritage, the annual dinner-dance is also a time to reflect on past lessons learned and project them on future endeavors. The message theme for this year's event was



Chaplain James Evans is the keynote speaker at the annual AACO Dinner-Dance held at the Windjammer ballroom, Feb. 24.

Unity through Diversity; Strength through Community.'

RDML Harris spoke about the contributions of African-Americans to the nation's history, and the military.

Chaplain Evans was the

keynote speaker. He noted the struggles of African-American throughout history and reflected on how those struggles impact America's social and economic stance in the global front.

"It seems that a unifying

truth is our common experiences," said Evans. "Unity around struggle, but diversity for the solution, the answers are diverse and differ in each community. There is no one solution."

Evans encouraged African-Americans to harness the lessons learned through history and use them as tools of empowerment to strive harder.

He also challenged the GTMO community saying that concerted efforts are needed from all in order to steer the community into a better future.

On behalf of Evans and the AACO, Bernard Harris, organization president, made a monetary donation to Cancer Treatment of America.

"It's a celebration of the many significant accomplishments of African Americans to the United States and abroad," said Harris.

"The Dinner-Dance is a renewal of commitment," he continued. "It's a commitment to work together, to support each other and improve our community."

Peanut butter pulled from commissary shelves

Submitted by LT Jasmine Caines, U.S. Naval Hospital, Guantanamo Bay

The Commissary has pulled from its shelves affected jars of Peter Pan Peanut Butter after a Food and Drug Administration warning that the product may be contaminated with *Salmonella*.

Residents are strongly encouraged to discard all jars of Peter Pan Peanut Butter with product code beginning with 2111.

The recall affects all jars purchased since May 2006.

The health warning was

issued based on a just-released study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention which links 288 cases of foodborne illnesses in 39 states to consumption of Peter Pan Peanut Butter.

Symptoms of foodborne illnesses caused by *Salmonella* include fever, diarrhea and abdominal cramps.

Residents experiencing these symptoms after consuming peanut butter from potentially contaminated jars

should contact the Primary Care Clinic to schedule an appointment with a provider

Opened and unopened jars of Peter Pan Peanut Butter with product code ending in 2111 can be returned to the Commissary for a full refund.

For more information contact the Preventive Medicine Department at 72990.





Ombudsman Corner

Senora (Sunni) Malone

NAVSTA Ombudsman

Phone - 77957

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Machele Friend

Navy Expeditionary

Guard Battalion

Ombudsman

State-side Liaison

ladygotshuz@cox.net



Captain's Cup basketball league

Men's League standings

<u>Teams</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Fusion Devastators	12	0
Hospital Rams	11	2
Winter's Henchmen	9	3
525 Vigilant Warriors	8	4
Coast Guard	8	4
Devils	6	5
BCO Bandits	6	6
Gangsta	6	6
CBQ Warriors	5	6
Burns & Roe	5	7
Int'l Players	5	7
Prime Projects Int'l PPT	5	7
Maryland Boys	4	8
W.T Sampson's Guys	3	9
Pentad	2	11
Leeward Heat	1	11

JV League standings

<u>Team</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Hawks	4	2
Cavaliers	4	3
Knicks	2	5

League results and standing reflect games played through Feb. 27. Regular schedule for the Captain's Cup will continue for all leagues until March 1 for the JV league; March 6 for the Women's league and March 7 for the Men's league.

Women's League standings

<u>Teams</u>	<u>Win</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Hospital	2	2
W.T. Sampson	2	2
NAVSTA	2	2

Sailor of the Week



**GMSA
Jeffrey Hichborn,
Weapons Dept.**

GTMO is Hichborn's first duty station.

"It was pretty surprising," said GMSA Hichborn after his selection. "It feels good to know that I am doing a good job. I take on a lot of side projects. I am always pushing to do something new. I think showing the initiative really caught my chief's attention."



MWR Youth Soccer League

Begins Saturday March 10. Team registration fee is \$10.

Age groups

4-6

7-9

10-12

March 3 is the last day to register. No draft. Teams will be randomly assigned by MWR Manager's Panel. FMI contact Rachel or Jessica at 2113.

Downtown Lyceum

Friday, March 2

Arthur and the Invisibles

7 p.m., PG, 94 min.

Primeval

9 p.m., R, 94 min.



Arthur and the Invisibles

Genre: Art/Foreign, Kids, Fantasy
 Freddie Highmore, Mia Farrow, Calvin 'Snoop' Dogg, David Bowie
Storyline: Ten-year-old Arthur has a lot on his plate: a real estate developer is about to snap up his grandma's home. Maybe the solution lies in his grandpa's treasure, which is hidden somewhere on the "other side" in the land of the Minimoy. The creatures that inhabit this world are just a tenth of an inch tall and live in perfect harmony with their environment.

Saturday, March 3

Happy N'ever After

7 p.m., PG, 87 min.

Alpha Dog

9 p.m., R, 118 min.

Sunday, March 4

Freedom Writers

7 p.m., PG-13, 123 min.

Monday, March 5

Arthur and the Invisibles

7 p.m., PG, 94 min.

Tuesday, March 6

Code Name: The Cleaner

7 p.m., PG, 91 min.

Wednesday, March 7

Alpha Dog

7 p.m., R, 118 min.

Thursday, March 8

Freedom Writers

7 p.m., PG-13, 123 min.



Alpha Dog

Genre: Drama, Crime/Gangster
 Cast: Justin Timberlake, Bruce Willis, Sharon Stone, Emile Hirsch
Storyline: Johnny is a Los Angeles drug dealer. He owns his home, cars and enjoys partying with his friends. When his friend Jake welves on a debt, Johnny and his boys kidnap Jake's 15-year-old brother Butch and hold him as a marker. Even though Butch has numerous chances to escape, he doesn't. He's enjoying partying with them, losing his virginity and having a good time - until something goes horribly wrong.

MWR Happenings

Windjammer Dinner Theater

Monday, March 5, at 5:30 p.m. Bring the family to the Windjammer Club to enjoy dinner and then watch family oriented G-or PG-rated movies. This Monday, "Adventure of Shark-boy and Lavagirl," begins at 5:30 p.m., and the second movie, "The Prestige," begins at 8 p.m.

John Ondrasik Concert

March 2, 9 p.m. at the Windjammer.

Margot B Concert

March 5, 8 p.m., at the Goat Locker.
 March 7, 9 p.m., at the Windjammer.
 March 8, 8 p.m., at the Bayview Patio.
 March 9, 8 p.m., at Club Survivor.

St. Patty's Day Fishing Tournament

March 16-18, 8 a.m. showtime.
 Entry fee is \$10 in bounds, and \$20 out of bounds. Free T-shirts, trophies, and food. Register at Marina up until showtime. FMI call 2345.

St. Patty's Day 5K Run

March, 17, 6:30 a.m., starts from the base gym. Prizes for best costumes. FMI call 78344 or 77262.

Armed Forces Kid's Run

March, 31, 8 - 11:30 a.m., at the high school track. A pool party will follow at the Windjammer Pool. Come dressed as favorite TV/movie character. Fun games and food for everyone. FMI call Denise at 78344 or Nadine at 77262.

400-lbs. Club

Become a member of the 400-lbs. Club. Women's weight class starts at 125 lbs., and men's weight class starts at 250 lbs. Weight categories are 125, 150, 250, 300, 350 and 400 lbs. Call for an appointment or gym staff will assist. FMI call base gym at 77262, or Marine gym at 78344.

GTMO Shopper

For Sale

(2) New Bose WAVE Radio/CD, brand new, factor sealed. FMI call Dennis at 3418 DWH or 77806 AWH.

(2) Snorkel boots, size 8 and short/med fins, FMI phone 77503 or 90357.

(1) Patio set w/glass top, 2 swivel chairs, 4 standard chairs, \$300. FMI call 77105.

(2) Emily convertible crib, \$90; Cosco Funsport fullsize playpen, navy blue, like new, \$50; Medela double breast pump, 'Pump Style in Advanced' model, \$80. FMI call 84040.

(2) Sony 400 disc DVD player, \$300; Pro-form 495PI treadmill \$300 OBO; baby exersaucer, \$25, baby bathtub, \$5. FMI call 77954.

(2) HP color printer, \$50; 2 sets of snorkeling fins and mask, \$50; Sony digital photo printer, \$65; set of 2.5 Pioneer speakers, set of 6-in. JVC speakers, \$30 for both. FMI call 78277 AWH.

(1) Dell laptop, Windows XP Meida Center, 1G memory, 80G hard drive, wireless, \$900. FMI call Byfield at 90320 or 2631.

(1) End table, coffee table and sofa table, 3 together, glass top w/gold trim on side, \$150 OBO; futon, black, \$75; glider bench, free; kitchen table, black wood top w/gold trim in side and 4 matching chairs, \$75. FMI call 77098.

(1) Queen-sized bedroom set, \$200 OBO; antique dresser, \$50; large-sized dog crate, \$40 OBO; Coach black leather briefcase, \$50; metal 2-drawer filing cabinet, \$10; nordic track, \$50 OBO. FMI call 75744.

(1) Little Tikes cube slides, \$30; small slide, \$15; basketball hoop, \$50; Little Tikes picnic table, \$30; solid pine dining room set w/leaf and 4 chairs, \$100, 2.8-ft. x 5-ft. black and tan rugs, \$30 each or \$50 for both; Total Body Gym w/mat, \$130; stationary bike, \$100; Henderson shorty wetsuit 2mm size XXL, \$60; Leapfrog/LeapPad w/4 cartridges, books, and carrying case, \$60. FMI call 75584.

(1) Crib, natural color, \$100; new crib mattress, \$20; medium size toy box, \$5; crib bumper, Noah's Ark theme, matching lamp shade set, \$25; 2 boys bikes, one chopper style w/some rust, \$15; other is blue bike, \$15; small

black TV-stand w/2 drawers. FMI call 75521.

Vehicles/Boats

(2) Honda Shadow motorcycle, 750cc, good shape, low mileage, runs good, \$1,500. FMI call 4380 DWH or 77716 AWH.

(2) 1992 Buick Lasabre, 4-door, power everything w/automatic transmission, great sound system, runs great, \$2,000 OBO. FMI call Desmond Varner at 79595.

(2) 1989 Volvo 740 GL, 4-door, gold, leather interior, perfect mechanical condition, cold A/C, dealership maintenance records, 127K, \$3,000. FMI call 75634.

(2) 1989 Suzuki Samari, excellent condition, soft top, extra back seat, standard transmission, \$3,500. FMI call 77105.

(1) 1994 Honda Civic EX, black, 2D, automatic, power windows, good AC, good condition, low mileage, interior excellent, reliable, all records, \$4,700 OBO. FMI call 75603.

(1) 2003 Chevy Trailblazer, very good condition. FMI call 75639 or 84039.

(1) 1995 Ford Bronco, AC, news transmission, excellent condition, \$8,500 OBO. FMI call 77663.

(1) 1993 Toyota Camry, \$4,500, excellent condition, AC, sun-roof, fully powered, leather interior. FMI call 79453 or 75520.

(2) 1997 golf cart, excellent condition, 2 complete sets of golf clubs, golf balls, battery charger, 4 extra tires on rims, locker storage, \$1,500. FMI call 4148 or 75607.

(2) Johnson 25-hp outboard motor, 6-gallon fuel tank w/hose, \$500. FMI call 84040.

Employment

(1) Human Resources Office announces the following vacancies: Internal Firefighter, PS-0081-03/04/05/06/07, closes March 3; Medical Records Technician, GS-0675-05, closes March 6; Medical Support Assitant, GS-0679-06, closes March 6; Housing Manager, GS-1173-05/07/09, closes March 6; Budget Technician, GS-0561-06, closes Dec. 28.

(2) Satellite Communication Systems, Inc. is seeking a full-time cashier. Please submit resume to SCSI office or email scsi@nsgtmo.com.

(2) Pottery instructor and artist are needed to conduct pottery and art classes for the GTMO community. FMI call Lisa at 74795 or 84569.

(2) The Navy Lodge has one part-time opening for Front Desk Clerk. Flexible hours. Please submit application in person to the Navy Lodge Manager. FMI call 3103, 77970 or 3526.

Announcements

(2) The Cycle 195 Navy Advancement Exam will be held from 8 a.m. - noon, at Denich Gym. The schedule is as follows; E-5: March 8; and E-4: March 18. Participants are required to show their military ID and be in the uniform-of-the-day. FMI call PS1(SW) Riego at 4494.

(2) GTMO Girl Scouts and Treasures and Trivia are having a bagsale on March 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All proceeds will go to the GTMO Girl Scouts Father-Daughter dance. FMI call Jen at 77624.

(2) The Fleet and family Support will offer an 'Assertiveness Class' March 6, 9-10:30 a.m., and a 'Parenting Class' March 7 and March 14, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. FMI call 4141.

(1) The Seabee Ball Committee will be hosting car wash, March 3, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. There will also be a silent auction at the NEX Atrium, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Items include meals, photos, Pampered Chef items, a photo session, and an Ensign. All proceeds go to benefit the Seabee Ball.

(1) W.T. Sampson Schools would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Million-minute readathon. We are

millionaires. We have exceeded our goal for reading by 32,739 minutes. Forms collected from the NEX and library indicate that we were not alone in this effort. We are fortunate that MWR is on board with our final celebration. Thanks to everyone for your efforts to document that we are indeed rich with readers.

(1) Conch Season is closed March, April, and May. Taking of starfish is prohibited at all times. Report violations to 4105 or VHS Channel 12.

(1) There will be a free diving seminar featuring the owner of J.B.L. Spearguns, March 2, 7:30 p.m., at Reef Raiders. Win a free speargun. FMI call Ocean Enterprises at 75336.

(1) There will be a VA representative on station March 14-16, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. FMI or to schedule an appointment, call 4141.

Wanted

(2) Seeking pianist who knows how to read sheet music for solo accompaniment. FMI call 78277 AWH.

(1) Coaches for Youth Soccer. Please register by March 3. FMI call Rachel or Jessica.

Lost/Found

(1) Red Nintendo DS lost at KFC, had dog game in it. Offering reward. FMI call 75687.

Yard Sales

March 3 — Carribean Circle, #36C, 8 - 11 a.m.

March 3 — Caravella Point, #4A, 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Thanks for your support

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for all the support that I received from the GTMO community after my recent family emergency.

I cannot emphasize enough how much your assistance enabled me to get through this trying period. My family and I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

For lack of better words, I would like to send a big 'Thank You' to all for your support.

Sincerely,
YNC(SW) GinaMarie Doherty

Ship visit — *The USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG-60) steams into Guantanamo Bay on Feb. 22. The ship and its crew made a brief port visit. This is the first U.S. Navy vessel to visit GTMO in 2007. The Davis spent a few hours in port before returning to its homeport of Jacksonville, FL.*

Photo by MC1 Igo Wordu



GTMO Happenings



Photo by MC2(AW) Honey Nixon

Mardi Gras — *Valeria Vlaskovic enjoys her time during MWR's Mardi Gras celebration, Feb. 23, at the Bayview. Participants enjoyed cheese grits, muffelata, and various New Orleans style cuisine, including the traditional king's cake.*



Photo by Marianne Mabbitt

Puppet Theater — *Library aide, Kenisha Stewart, Jina Rose Hillman, and Caitlin Marie Painter show off the Library Puppet Theater.*



Photo by MC2(AW) Honey Nixon

More Mardi Gras — *Eric Nikkel and MA2 Mary Saxton throw beads and prizes out to the crowd.*