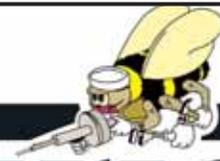


# Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES



Vol. 46 No.14

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

July 30, 2009

## Inside this edition



NMCB 11 Seabees with CJTF Horn of Africa pour concrete into vertical columns at Douda Primary School while building a new cantina.

See page 4



HMI Michael Cleaves of UCT 1 uses an underwater hydraulic tool during a mission in the Middle East.

See page 7



Chiefs and Officers with NMCB 133 recently participated in a week long Khaki Field Training Exercise at Camp Shelby.

See page 13

## Pacific Partnership 2009



U. S. Navy photo by MC2 Joshua Valcarcel/Released

Lt.j.g. Christian Auger of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 and Lt.j.g. Shawn Talley of Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) 1 say good-bye to school-children after playing a game of ball at Koulo Primary School in Tonga during a Pacific Partnership 09 engineering project. Pacific Partnership is a humanitarian mission in the Pacific Fleet area of responsibility. Pacific Partnership is currently in Oceania, and will continue to Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Solomon Islands. The Military Sealift Command dry cargo/ammunition ship USNS Richard E. Byrd (T-AKE 4) serves as the enabling platform for U.S. and partner national military and non-governmental organizations to coordinate humanitarian civic assistance efforts.

## Base decals to be offered at Keesler. . .

Naval Construction Battalion Center Pass and ID staff will be on hand at the Sablich Center at Keesler Air Force Base from 1 to 3 p.m. Aug. 4, 11 and 18 issuing decals to authorized visitors of the Seabee base. This issuance will allow personnel unimpeded access to the base to use the commissary, NEX, barbershop, etc. The documents required for the decal include a valid state drivers license, valid DD form 2 series ID card (active or retired), proof of vehicle ownership or state registration (or legal authorization to operate it) and a valid safety inspection if required by state.

## Seabees around the globe lay foundation for peace, freedom

*From Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs*

Seabees Around the Globe Lay Foundation for Peace. In one of the Navy's largest and most diverse regions more than 2,000 Seabees from the U.S. Naval Construction Force are demonstrating their 'Can Do' spirit.

With compassion and a fierce work ethic, Seabees provide numerous capabilities for military and civilian communities throughout Navy Region Europe, Africa, and Southwest Asia (EURAFSWA).

For 67 years, Seabees have provided humanitarian assistance, infrastructure support and security in support of U.S. military missions. Seabees aid area operations by supplying Navy, Marine Corps, joint and other operational forces with vertical and horizontal construction, amphibious and underwater construction, defense combat capabilities, in addition to tactical and sustainment bridging.

Seabees at shore installations provide critical day-to-day support. Naval Facilities Europe and Southwest Asia Commanding Officer, Capt. Frank

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**NCBC/20SRG**  
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**Public Affairs Officer**  
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**Editor**  
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**Mass Comm. Specialist**  
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 MCG(SCW) Jeffrey J. Pierce  
**Mass Comm. Specialist**  
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 MC2 Michael Lindsey

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**Mass Comm. Specialist**  
 MC2 (SCW) Jeffrey Militzer

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**Public Affairs Officer**  
 Lt. Christopher Holzner  
**Mass Comm. Specialist**  
 MC2(SCW) Michael B. Lavender

**NMCB ONE THIRTY THREE**  
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 Cmdr. Christopher Kurgan  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
 MCC (SW/AW/PI) Ryan C. Delcore

**NCTC Gulfport**  
**Commanding Officer**  
 Cmdr. Stephanie Jones  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
 Chaplain (Lt.) Daniel Spies

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## NCBC DAPAs stay in tune with changes to drug and alcohol instruction

By MC1 (SW) Terry Spain  
**NCBC DAPA**

The days of alcohol waivers have come and gone. On June 4, the Navy's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Policy changed from OP-NAVINST 5350.4C to OP-NAVINST 5350.4D. This newly revised instruction now prevents Sailors from submitting waivers to stay in the Navy.

The instruction states that any Sailor who receives two or more DUI's in their career will be mandatorily processed out of the Navy.

Another major change made with the revised instruction is that the three day Level 1 IM-PACT, which was once considered treatment is now considered training.

These significant changes were made to show how the Navy is taking a proactive stand on its zero tolerance policy toward drug use and alcohol abuse.

"This is a great move, it just shows that the Navy wants the best, and they are making

changes such as this to prove it," said Builder 1st Class (SCW) Ina Baca, Naval Construction Battalion Center / Twentieth Seabee Readiness Group assistant Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor.

Command Dapa's are encouraged to print out the new instruction to become familiar with the new policy. There are several types of alcohol training offered to help combat DUI'S and alcohol related incidents, and all Sailors will have at least one of these training sessions during their career.

NCBC Gulfport gives alcohol and drug training to all Sailors checking onboard the Center during indoctrination as a part of its Prevention Plan.

"We want to reach every Sailor as they check in so that we can remind them of the consequences and keep them informed of the Navy's Alcohol and Drug policy," said Baca.

For more information on OP-NAVINST 5350.4D, visit <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/NADAP/>.

### Good Environmental Stewardship Promotes Healthy Recreation . . .

The Environmental Division at CBC, Gulfport is committed to enabling war fighter readiness in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment. This commitment extends to all activities operating onboard NCBC Gulfport. Each individual, whether military, civilian or private contractor, regardless of rank or grade, is responsible for performing their duties in a manner that protects the environment, prevents pollution and exercises proper stewardship of our natural and cultural resources. More information on EMS is available on the CBC website at [https://www.cnbc.navy.mil/Gulfport/Service\\_Organizations/Environmental/index.htm](https://www.cnbc.navy.mil/Gulfport/Service_Organizations/Environmental/index.htm)

## Sailor's Creed

I am a United States Sailor,  
 I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and I will obey the orders of those appointed over me,  
 I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy and those who have gone before me to defend freedom and democracy around the world,  
 I proudly serve my country's Navy combat team with Honor, Courage and Commitment,  
 I am committed to excellence and the fair treatment of all.

## Skipper's Log

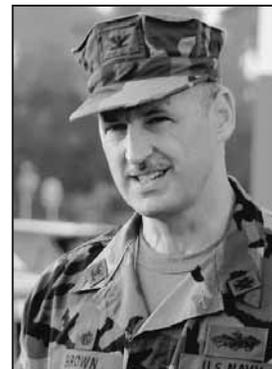
### Random acts

By Capt. Ed Brown  
**CO, CBC/CMDR 20TH SRG**

This week's thoughts were prompted by Charlotte, my Executive Assistant. As we head into the new school year we continue to get great support from you all with our adopted schools. Some of you are tutoring, mentoring and proctoring children here in Gulfport and are focused on helping not just our children but all children in Gulfport and the surrounding areas.

Being a mentor or sponsor to a young child or a volunteer at any community assistance group is a humbling and rewarding experience. We here in Gulfport volunteer and participate in the community as strongly as anywhere. You are all leaders in the community. Being a member of the Armed Forces is more than doing what you are told. You influence, impact and yes, change the world for those you contact.

We have been through many changes here in the past few years. We have grown, become more involved, and become far busier than ever



**Capt. Ed Brown**

expected. We should be proud of what we are becoming and share our passion to be better with others. Random Acts don't have to involve a long commitment (but they can), maybe holding open a door, paying for a cup of coffee for a complete stranger just so they can have a good day, picking up the piece of trash or returning the shopping cart when your heading toward the store so someone else doesn't need to.

Make a memory for someone else, volunteer, get involved, or just hold the door open.

### 2010 Seabee Ball Design/Theme Contest

Show off your creativity and art skills in the 10th annual Seabee Ball theme design contest! Open to Active and Reserve personnel assigned to a unit on board NCBC. Winner to receive two tickets to the 2010 Seabee Ball and a Seabee afghan (retail value \$155). Entries due by close of business, July 31. Submit entries to the 2010 Seabee Ball officer in charge: [robert.c.rutherford@navy.mil](mailto:robert.c.rutherford@navy.mil). Winner announced Aug.14.

### Command Action Line:

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

# NAVFAC awards ARRA contract for solar energy in the Southeast

By NAVFAC SE Public Affairs

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southeast awarded a \$69.3 million American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funded contract on June 29 to Atlantic Contingency Constructors, LLC (a joint venture between Shaw's Environment and Infrastructure Group and AECOM Government Services), of Baton Rouge, La. for a renewable (solar) energy systems at three installations in the Southeast.

"This project will reduce overall recurring utility costs at Naval shore facilities," said Lynwood Taylor, NAVFAC Southeast electrical engineer. "The systems will improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of energy production, delivery and/or utilization systems."

The project modernizes existing facilities by installing integrated photovoltaic, renewable energy systems at sites throughout the Southeast - Florida, Texas and Mississippi.

Facilities identified for the Rooftop Building Integrated Photovoltaic systems are: Naval Air Station (NAS) Key West, Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando, NAS Whiting Field, NAS Pensacola, NSA Panama City, NAS Jacksonville, NAS Meridian, Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, NAS Kingsville, and NAS Corpus Christi.

ACC will perform building and lighting efficiency surveys to optimize the performance of



NAVFAC file photo/Released

Naval Construction Battalion Center is one of several installations in the Southeast targeted for installation of Rooftop Building Integrated Photovoltaic (solar) energy systems in June of 2010. The systems may include rooftop, carport and ground-mounted systems, along with solar ventilation and other solar energy systems.

various PV systems that will be designed and constructed. The systems may include rooftop- carport- and ground-mounted systems, as well as solar ventilation preheat and other solar energy systems.

Taylor said "cost savings are [calculated to be] about \$3.5 million per year," based on average energy costs.

The planning and execution phase has begun. Construction is set to begin June 2010 with an expected completion date in June 2011.

ARRA projects are intended to modernize Navy and Marine Corps shore infrastructure, enhance America's energy independence and sustain a steady and robust Maritime Force for decades.

For information on other ARRA projects, or presolicita-

tion notices, go online and visit the Federal Business Opportunities website, [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov). Future announcements will include the word RECOVERY as the first word in the title field prior to the actual title of the notice to identify its association with the act.

Contract vehicles for projects will include stand alone competitive contracts, competitive Multiple Award Contracts, competitive 8(a) and non-competitive 8(a) procurements as authorized under the Small Business Act.

Contractors interested in participating in this work should closely monitor the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website at [www.neco.navy.mil](http://www.neco.navy.mil), which automatically posts on the FedBizOpps website.

# Balfour Beatty Communities strives for 5 in annual survey

From Balfour Beatty Communities

The Annual CEL Housing Survey time is upon NCBC Gulfport once again. In a few weeks, family housing residents will be receiving the CEL Resident Satisfaction Survey. Balfour Beatty Communities encourages residents to fill them out and return them.

By completing and handing surveys in, residents will qualify for two drawings for big prizes.

The survey is part of a performance assessment program. Balfour Beatty Communities ranks "extremely" satisfied and "very good" a passing grade on the survey and any score that is less than this is considered unacceptable.

"We truly strive to exceed our resident's expectations and hope that every resident enjoyed their home and the services that we provided," explained Courtney Collier, Community Manager for Balfour Beatty Communities.

Once residents complete their surveys and seal them in the postage paid envelopes provided, they can simply bring it to the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office and drop it in the authorized locked mailbox. Only CEL employees will open the returned envelopes. Survey results are completely confidential and anonymous.

"The survey allows us to see where we are succeeding and where there is room for improvement," said Collier, "it's important for residents to fill them out honestly."

The survey deadline date is Oct. 7.

**WE WANT YOU**  
to let us know how we are doing!

**Balfour Beatty Communities** It's Annual CEL Housing Survey Time!

## LifeWorks August Schedule of Events

**Aug.10-14:** National Resurrect Romance Week - Stop by the office any time this week and enter your name to win dinner and a movie. Winner announced Aug. 17!  
**Aug. 14:** National Relaxation Day - Drop by the office and pick up your relaxing gift for Saturday which is officially National Relaxation Day. Just kick back and RELAX!

**Aug. 19:** Root Beer Float Day - Stop by the office for a "black cow"!!  
**Aug. 22:** Sand Castle Building Contest - Test your sand castle building skills. Meet at beach for some Fun in the Sun!!  
**Aug. 31:** Yard of Month Awarded- Don't forget to mow your back yard and keep your patio neat and clean. You could be our next winner!!!

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The FOCUS project presents "Returning to

**Routines,"** a workshop for military parents Aug.11 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Mobile Health Clinic (T-3) on board CBC. This workshop focuses on organizing the home and family

to positively affect your children's enjoyment of, and success with, the new school year. Persons interested in attending this FREE workshop can reserve their seat by calling (228) 224-3457.

# CJTF HOA Seabees build cantina for kids

By Staff Sgt. Lesley Waters  
CJTF-Horn of Africa

More than 300 students from Doua de Ecole primary school will no longer have to eat lunch outside under the hot African sun when school begins again, thanks to the Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11.

The Seabees, assigned to Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa, have laid the 2,100-square foot foundation and vertical columns for a new dining facility for the primary school.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Mark Lahey said before Seabees began building the cantina, the students ate their lunches wherever they could outside.

"We are providing a better and more sanitary area for the students to sit down and eat their meals, rather than eating them on the ground," Lahey said.

For most NMCB-11 Seabees, this is their first deployment. The Seabees' commander, Lt. Cmdr. Stephen Legg, said the Seabees are not only providing new facilities for local children, but these projects are also great on-the-job training experiences for the Seabees.

"I am very proud of our Seabees for the work that they

have accomplished this deployment," Legg said. "I'm mostly proud, however, of how they have grown as a team, and how they have grown in the relationships they have formed with the African people."

The Seabees started the project in March when it was much cooler, but Petty Officer 1st Class Jeffrey Dwyer, NMCB-11 project operations mission commander, said even though it is hotter now, the heat hasn't slowed them down or scorched their attitude.

"Seabees is a group that holds great pride and tradition to heart," Dwyer said. "We still remember our forefathers and their accomplishments in the past 66 years throughout the several war campaigns and peacetime. We honor the sacrifices and acknowledge the hardships our brothers and sisters have endured. We know and understand getting the job done is our focus, regardless of the trials and tribulations before us."

NMCB-11 will have poured more than 13,500 man-hours into the project before they finish their time in Djibouti and head back to Gulfport in about a month. They will turn the project, which will be about 50 percent complete, over to NMCB-3,



U.S. Navy photo by Master Sgt. Loren Bonser/Released  
Builder 2nd Class Randall Davis and Builder Constructionman Leslie Keen, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11, work on the construction of a new dining facility at Doua Primary School. NMCB 11 is attached to the Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa and began building this cantina in March. The new facility will provide a more comfortable and sanitary area for the students to eat their meals.

from Port Hueneme, Calif.

NMCB-11 will have completed the site work, concrete footer and foundation, the concrete pad, concrete columns and half-wall concrete masonry unit block. NMCB 3 will complete the overhead tie beam, roof sys-

tem, two CMU block rooms which will be the kitchen and store room, as well as installation of the doors and windows.

"Actions often speak louder than words," Legg said. "So, as we work side-by-side with the Africans through our military-

to-military programs in Uganda and Comoros, or build new school facilities here in Djibouti, our efforts speak volumes to the fact the American people care, and we are here to help Africans find solutions to African problems."

July 30, 2009

Seabee Courier

Celebrate the  
104th Birthday  
of Long Beach  
with a family  
friendly festival

Aug. 8  
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Downtown  
Long Beach

Food, fun, cruise-in,  
arts and crafts,  
entertainment, charity  
bike run, games  
and a special salute  
to the military!

visit:  
[www.longbeachfest.com](http://www.longbeachfest.com)  
for details

## Talkin' Trash



The U.S. population discards each year 16,000,000,000 diapers, 1,600,000,000 pens, 2,000,000,000 razor blades, 220,000,000 car tires, and enough aluminum to rebuild the US commercial air fleet four times over.

Out of every \$10 spent buying things, \$1 (10 percent) goes for packaging that is thrown away. Packaging represents about 65 percent of household trash.

On average, it costs \$30 per ton to recycle trash, \$50 to send it to the landfill, and \$65 - \$75 to incinerate it.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SCW) Gregory N. Juday/Released  
**Culinary Specialist of the galley discuss their morning tasks in front of their 2009 goals at the Colmer Dining Hall on board NCBC, July 17. The Colmer Dining Hall received the Commander Navy Region South East, Five Star accreditation for their outstanding initiative and attention to detail.**

## Galley turns plan for success into reality

By MC2 Gregory N. Juday  
 NCBC Public Affairs

The Colmer Dining Hall earned the Commander Navy Region Southeast Five Star accreditation for 2009. This is the third consecutive year that the Galley has achieved the grueling task of being rated amongst the best galleys in the Navy.

"Setting goals is the key to our success," said Master Chief Culinary Specialist (SCW/SW/AW) Calvin Dukes. "Every year our staff, military and civilian alike, set six goals and make sure we achieve them each year."

On the wall of the galley is a poster with the Colmer Dining Facilities goals listed. The six goals this year were, *Receive Five Star Accreditation, Receive Southeast NEY Nomination, Zero Physical Fitness Assessment Failures, Increase Test Scores by 10 Points - Make Rank, 100 percent Inventory Validity and Be Known for Excellent Customer Service.*

"We met all our goals with the exception of the NEY nomination," said Dukes. "By allowing the galley staff to set their own goals, makes them more accountable."

The Colmer Dining facility continues to improve each day with more Culinary Specialist becoming certified Chef's through the Navy Culinary Certification Program.

"This Program helped make this galley successful," said Dukes. "It not only helped us attain the CNRSE five star accreditation, but helped the Sailors with their advancement exams."

Along with the military staff at the galley, there are 25 civilians who help serve and keep the galley clean.

This team is lead by Mollie Rhodes, Colmer Dining Facility Civilian Supervisor. "Earning such accreditation helps in the civilian community as well," said Rhodes. "It looks great on a resume, when you show that you part of continuing success." "It is an honor to provide customer service to the military, and know that we all can do something to help serve our country."

Next Year the Colmer Dining Hall is shooting for the NEY nomination and will accept nothing less. For additional information on what's going on with NCBC visit <http://www.cnic.navy.mil/gulfport/index.htm>.

# Navy Gateway Inns staff gather for awards ceremony

By NCBC Gulfport/Lakeside Lodging Managers

Staff members of Navy Gateway Inns and Suites (NGIS) from both NCBC Gulfport and Lakeside Support Facility gathered July 2, at the Training Hall for the organization's semi-annual awards ceremony. The occasion marked the first time both NGIS operations have come together to celebrate each others accomplishments. Acquired by CBC Gulfport in 2006 with the closure of Naval Station Pascagoula, the 514 bed Lakeside Support Facility supports the lodging needs of Pre-Commissioning Units and ships under construction at Northrop Grumman Ship Systems in Pascagoula.

With guest presenter CBC Gulfport Executive Officer, Cmdr. Steve Fitzgerald and CBC Housing Installation Program Director Charles A. Taylor at the ready, the awards ceremony kicked off with the presentation of numerous Length of Service awards. While



U.S. Navy photo/Released  
**Navy Gateway Inns and Suites staff from NCBC Gulfport and Lakeside Support Facility received awards for excellence during a ceremony at the Training Hall on board the Center July 2.**

high employee turnover is the norm around the Hospitality Industry, both Gulfport and Lakeside Support Facility have been extremely fortunate in retaining quality personnel. Length of Service pins presented ranged from one year of service to 25 years, which was awarded to Mrs. Joe

Ann Calvin of Lakeside. Awards were also presented to NGIS Employees of the Quarter Fanny Crispell (2nd Quarter) and Elaine Towner (3rd Quarter), Gulfport and Marilie Gray (2nd Quarter) and Michelle Andersen

See GATEWAY page 11

## FFSC adds a cherry on top in celebration of 30 years of service to Sailors and their families

From FFSC Gulfport

The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) celebrated three decades of service to Sailors and their families July 20 with an Ice Cream Social.

The first Center opened in Norfolk, Va., July 9, 1979. Prior to the opening, chaplains and spouses of commanding officers handled family issues.

Today, the FFSC continues to deliver a growing number of programs and services focusing on deployment support, crisis response, career support, and counseling for individuals, families and commands.

The "Family Service Center" at CBC Gulfport opened the doors in October of 1979, with a staff of two to assist military members and their families. Currently, the FFSC on the Mississippi Gulf Coast is staffed with 33 personnel

covering Gulfport and facilities at Stennis and in Pascagoula.

In 2001, the name of "Family Service Center" changed to "Fleet and Family Support Center" to emphasize the availability of services to active duty personnel as well as their families.

An impressive list of FFSC services are available to all eligible customers. Programs such as the "Combat Adjustment Program," "Domestic Violence Intervention Program," "Gambler's Anonymous," "Smooth Moves Plus," "Baby Boot Camp," and "Fast-Tracks" are offered. We also provide "Warrior Transition" in Kuwait to units returning from Iraq and Afghanistan as well as support Individual Augmentees and their families through the Individual Deployment Support Specialist team. More information about the services FFSC has to offer is available at:



U.S. Navy photo by Anna Brown/Released  
**Fleet and Family Support Center pulled out all the stops with an Ice Cream Social celebrating its 30 year anniversary July 20.**

[www.nffsp.org](http://www.nffsp.org), or under the "Families" heading of the NCBC Gulfport website at [www.cnic.navy.mil/gulfport](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/gulfport).

# UCT 1 repairs crucial mooring system

By MCC (SCW) Jeffrey J. Pierce  
22 NCR Public Affairs

Underwater Construction Team One (UCT 1) is currently deployed to the Middle East to conduct an inspection and repair of a single point mooring system at a remote air base.

The facility provides emergency accommodations to diverted US aircraft and operates as a forward base for contingency operations in the CENTCOM area of responsibility. The previous Multi Buoy Mooring (MBM) and fuel system was the primary means of supplying aviation fuel, but it has not been fully operational since 2002.

It was determined that a legacy SPMS was the most cost effective, long term solution to offloading bulk fuel on the island. The SPMS installation was completed by UCT 1 in December 2008.

The system meets the international certification standards as determined by the American Bureau of Shipping.

After UCT 1's redeployment from Field Training Exercise Winter Talon at Camp Shelby,

MS in mid-March, personnel departed for this project.

UCT 1 personnel provided supplementary underwater and repair services in support of a successful hydrostatic pump test of the SPMS. These services included the visual inspection of the conduit path, the possible replacement of a variety of hoses, and provide subject-matter experts on the installation and undersea operation of the SPMS system.

"The importance of this project is pretty obvious. Without large amounts of fuel the capability to use this location as a forward operating base is severely limited. They need the fuel, and this system is the only way to deliver it," said Construction Mechanic First Class Adam Cooper.

UCT 1 was also tasked with providing underwater inspection services in support of the bi-annual inspection schedule for the SPMS system. This included the inspection of a top-side buoy for damage and included hardware, lighting, solar panels, and a fog horn. As part of this tasking, UCT 1 was

also asked to conduct a video survey of critical areas of the system, provided live video in support of the inspection, removed anything fouled on any part of the system to ensure that it was fully operational, verified the condition of all system valves, and was prepared to use the diver locator system to accurately track the conduit path and the marking of any identified anomalies.

"This dynamic and challenging underwater construction project supports vital U.S. interests and missions in the CENTCOM AOR. I'm extremely proud of the dedication and professionalism of our Seabee divers, despite the austere conditions," said Lt. Cmdr. Greg Miller, Commanding Officer of UCT 1.

The operation was scheduled to take up to two and half months. Due to the high operational tempo of UCT 1, their work is never done. Some personnel assigned to this project returned to the U.S., while others redeployed to additional operations around the globe.



Official U.S. Navy photo/Released

EA1(SCW/DV) Michael Boettger of Underwater Construction Team 1 goes over all aspects of the upcoming repair of a Single Point Mooring System with the other members of the Unit. The underwater inspection and repair was scheduled to take two and a half months.

Underwater Construction Team 1 is currently recruiting Seabees to become part of the Unit. Interested?

Contact S1/CCC at:  
(757) 462-3986/3988



Home School Network Organizational Meeting . . . July 30, 6 p.m., Fleet and Family Support Center, Bldg. 30

## NMCCB 74: Fit for duty, ready for challenges

By MC2 John Hulle  
NMCCB 74 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 earned the FIRST Naval Construction Division Physical Readiness Excellence Award for the unit's overall scores in the Physical Readiness Test during the spring cycle.

This marks the battalion's fifth consecutive readiness award, which requires an average score above an overall excellence low on the sit-ups, push-ups and mile-and-a-half run.

Lt. j.g. Christopher Waldrop, NMCCB-74 command fitness leader, said with the wide range abilities in a unit, "it's impressive" for everyone to individually complete this goal.

To accomplish those standards a rig-

orous four days a week physical training regime was established.

"No other battalion PT's as much as us," Waldrop boasted. "We are hardcore."

"NMCCB-74 sets a high standard of pride and professionalism in everything we do," said NMCCB-74 Command Master Chief Brian Farrycy.

"I don't think everyone likes to PT," he said, "but I feel better when I do it, that's motivation for me."

As NMCCB-74 prepares for a deployment to Afghanistan later this year, peak physical conditioning is a vital part in keep the unit mission ready.

"It's very important that where we are going, based on a contingency environment, to be in shape," said Farrycy. "Not just for your own health, but it could save a life."



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Gregory N. Juday/Released

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 Seabees conduct their physical training later in the day on board Naval Construction Battalion Center to use the rising heat and humidity of the Gulf Coast to acclimate the battalion to the higher temperatures of Southwest Asia in preparation for their upcoming deployment.

## Cell phone ban . . . 30 day suspension for second offense announced

Most people who drive on board the Naval Construction Battalion Center know there is a ban on the use of hand held cell phones while driving both military and civilian vehicles. Despite the ban, some people still insist on talking on the phone without using a hands free device.

Until now, drivers who were caught using their phone were subject to a 2-point assessment on their base driving record. Officials now realize drivers apparently think using the phone is more important than the assessed points.

To help convince drivers it is not and ensure the safety of the base

populace, people who violate the ban the first time will still be assessed 2-points; however, if there is a second violation, the driver will lose their base driving privileges for 30-days.

This means parking outside the base and walking (and hoping the vehicle is not towed away), taking

a taxi or riding with someone.

The simple way to avoid this is to not make or answer a call on a hand held cell phone while driving. Nearly every phone has caller ID and/or voice mail. If a call is that important, park the vehicle in a safe spot and answer or make the call.



Questions on  
Recycling?  
Call CBC  
Recycling at:  
(228)  
871-4738

# Seabees use LaDRs for career success

By Nikki Noah

Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

The Learning and Development Roadmap for engineering aides is now available to Seabees on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO).

LaDR supports Sailors in the EA rating and is the latest addition in the construction career field section located under Career Management on NKO. Other rating LaDRs available include builder, construction electrician and construction mechanic.

As part of the Enlisted Learning and Development Strategy, LaDRs are a personal tool Sailors can use to progress from recruit to master chief petty officer by road-mapping their entire career.

"This has never been done to the detail and with the energy we are seeing today, and it really takes the guess work out of career progression for our young Seabees," said Master Chief Equipmentman Gregory Serkasevich, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3 Alfa Company chief.

The roadmaps are developed and updated by Naval Education and Training Command learning centers which specialize in training for each of the ratings or career fields.

"For the Seabees, the staff at the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering (CSFE), Port Hueneme, Calif., works with fleet experts on skill requirements as well as manpower and billet specialists from the community managers at the Bureau of Naval Personnel," said CSFE Command Master John

Mulholland.

"We've worked hard to ensure the latest information for career progression and success is included in the roadmaps. They not only provide the Sailor with hard and fast requirements but also a general career map so Sailors can pick and choose opportunities after consulting with their chiefs at career development boards.

"We recognized long ago that the road to master chief, or whatever your ambition might be, is unique to each person. If we lined up seventy Seabee master chiefs, each would have a slightly different roadmap. Additionally, this provides the Sailor with some potential on-ramp and off-ramp opportunities incorporating sea-shore flow, advanced education vouchers and certifications and qualifications along the way relevant to the civilian sector."

LaDRs are being developed for each of the 82 enlisted rat-

ings in the Navy, and more than 30 LaDRs are currently available. The goal is to have all the enlisted LaDRs completed by April 2010.

"Course numbers and titles, rate training manuals, suggested reading, duty stations, job assignments and special programs are all listed in the LaDR," said Serkasevich.

LaDRs can be referred to and filled out as Sailors progress throughout their careers. For additional guidance, a Sailor may seek the mentorship of senior enlisted leadership.

"My responsibility as a mentor is to be available to my Seabees, providing guidance on an entire host of things, not just Navy matters," said Serkasevich.

One primary benefit of LaDRs is the centralization of all learning and development initiatives. LaDR serves as an umbrella to collect all necessary requirements into one cohesive document.

"The LaDR is an extremely

effective tool in that it takes the guess work out of advancement, job assignments and programs for our Seabees," said Serkasevich.

"It provides a clear path for them to advance to master chief or obtain a commission.

"Sailors are the Navy's best asset," said Serkasevich.

"The LaDR is another tool the Navy provides to assist Sailors. It is a real eye opener to my Seabees when they see that this information exists with such detail."

The Navy provides the LaDR as a complete set of information vital to a Sailor advancing in their career, but it is the Sailor's responsibility to use the LaDR to its full potential.

"The LaDR helps a Sailor achieve their personal and professional goals by outlining specifically what a Seabee needs to complete in order to be successful," said Serkasevich.

As the builders of the Navy, Seabees develop a wide vari-

ety of job skill sets.

"Seabees train and perform in their prescribed rating as well as basic combat and defensive skills in order to protect themselves and what they build," said Serkasevich. "We have specialty organizations which perform disaster recovery missions, bridge erection, chemical biological radiological detection and decontamination, just to name a few. Seabees also provide humanitarian assistance and disaster recovery."

With so many different skills required to be a Seabee, Serkasevich says the LaDR is an imperative tool for Seabees to accomplish their unique Navy mission.

"Everything is all laid out in one spot with tremendous detail; all the Seabee has to do is engage it," said Serkasevich. "I'm not just trying to build a good Sailor, I'm also trying to build a good citizen."

For more on LaDRs, visit <https://www.nko.navy.mil>.

# Navy Lodges now offer guests 'Breakfast to Go'

By Kristine M. Sturkie  
NEXCOM Public Affairs

Navy Lodges guests can now get a light breakfast in the morning thanks to the Navy Lodge Program's new "Breakfast to Go" Program. The breakfast offered will vary depending on the Navy Lodge.

"The 'Breakfast to Go' program has been rolled out to all Navy Lodges in the United States with outstanding response from our guests," said Michael Bockelman, Vice President, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) and Director Navy Lodge Program. "By offering our guests a light breakfast in the morning, we're giving them an even better value for their money."

Guests staying in a Navy Lodge in the United States will be able to pick up a "Breakfast to Go" at the front desk. The breakfast, which consists of a snack/breakfast item and beverage, is available each morn-

ing for every guest staying at the Navy Lodge.

Larger Navy Lodges in the United States, such as San Diego, Calif., and Norfolk, Va., will offer guests a full continental breakfast each day.

"Navy Lodge San Diego has already opened its expanded 'Breakfast to Go' room," said

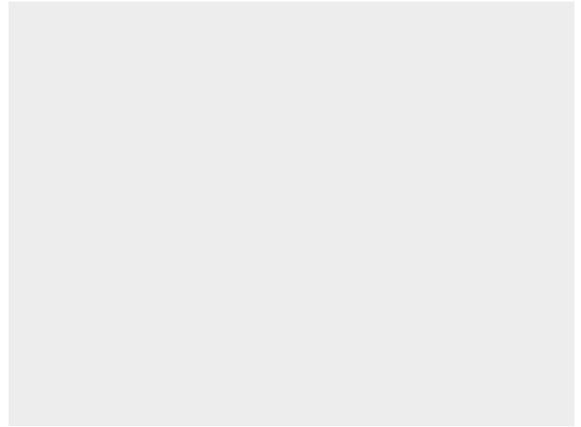
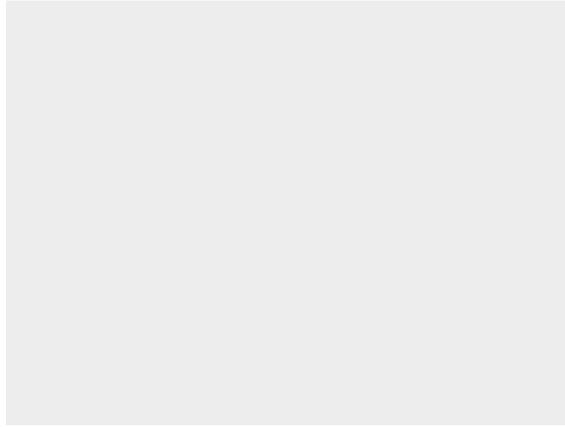
Bockelman. "By offering our guests a continental breakfast in the morning, we estimate a family of four will save about \$150 for a six-night, five-day stay."

Beginning this fall, overseas Navy Lodges plan to give each guest a Welcome Bag. The Welcome Bag will consist of

snacks, breakfast items, bottled water as well as information on the area all in a reusable cloth bag. This expanded program will provide military members on permanent change of station orders food options upon their arrival until they have time to go to the commissary.

Navy Lodge provides official travel accommodations to all Navy and military service members around the world at its 43 locations. Navy Lodges have over sized guest rooms, which offer amenities including queen-sized bed, sofa, a

See **LODGE** page 20



(3rd Quarter) of the Lakeside Support Facility.

American Hotel and Lodging Association Education Institute Hospitality Supervisor certifications were awarded to Daryl Freeman and Angel Olivarez from Gulfport and to Leigh Ann King from Lakeside. Rodney Shelton, Lodging Manager at Lakeside Support Facility, was recognized for earning the Certified Lodging Manager designation. Those who earn these certifications, and maintain them, demonstrate an exceptionally high level of expertise, competence and commitment to the industry.

At the conclusion of the ceremony everyone adjourned to Seabee Lake for a well deserved picnic, highlighted by a dunking booth in which the staff was invited to "Dunk the Manager." Those who had the opportunity to "cool off" in the dunking booth provided a much appreciated comedic element to the picnic.

**Colmer Galley CAC Card Transition . . .** The Colmer Galley is transitioning to the CAC card reader system for authorized patronage at the galley. All troops receiving rations in kind will need to have their credentials updated in order to use the new system. CBC/20SRG personnel who receive RIK should make an appointment with Personnel Support Activity Detachment (PSD) to have the update done at <https://es.cac.navy.mil/signup.pl> if they have not already updated their credentials.

# Transporting your child back to school safely

By NCBC Safety

As summer vacations end, students across the country are readying themselves for the start of a new school year. The new school year offers an opportunity for parents and children to discuss safe behavior and strategies for going to and from school:

Bus safety . . . School bus transportation is safe; much safer than cars. Even so, last year approximately 26 students were killed and another 9,000 were injured in incidents on school buses. Most of these accidents occur when pupils were entering and exiting the bus. Parents should teach their children these safety rules:

- o Have a safe place away from the street and traffic to wait for the bus. Don't play in the street while waiting for the bus.

- o Be aware of the street traffic around you. Drivers are required to follow certain rules of the road, however, not all do. Protect yourself!!

- o Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals its okay to enter.

- o When exiting the bus, walk 10 giant steps away from the bus to keep a safe distance between you and the bus. Remember that the bus driver can see you best when you are away from the bus.

- o Never cross the street or play behind the school bus.

- o Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus.

- o Carry all loose belongings in a bag or backpack. Never reach under the school bus to get anything that has rolled or fallen beneath it.

Car Safety. . . You might have heard that most traffic crashes occur close to home, they do. Seat belts are the best form of

protection for passengers. They can lower your risk of injury by 45 percent. You are four times more likely to be seriously injured if ejected from the car in a crash. Younger kids should be in booster seats while infants should be riding in child safety seats.

Bicycle Safety . . . Approximately 180 children die in bicycle-related incidents each year.

The number one rule to remember is to have your child wear an approved bicycle helmet. The helmet should be comfortable and snug, level on the head, and securely buckled so it doesn't move or fall off during a fall or collision.

Teaching our children to be safe can never start too young. Help your child begin a safe start this new school year.



# NMCB 133s chiefs, officers set the tone at Khaki FTX

By MCC (SW) Ryan C. Delcore  
 NMCB 133 Public Affairs

The chiefs and officers of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 completed their Khaki Field Training Exercise (FTX) in order to develop their tactical skills, improve teamwork and build camaraderie.

The leadership of NMCB 133 did everything during their one week FTX that will be expected of their troops.

A lot is demanded from the junior troops of a battalion. The FTX rekindled NMCB 133's leadership's appreciation for what their Seabees accomplish day in and day out. The khaki leadership attended one week of in-class courses to familiarize themselves with weapons, first aid, communications, land navigation and other skills that are useful in a tactical environment before going to Camp Shelby, Miss. for their FTX.

Many of the khaki leadership had not dug a fighting position or gone on patrol for quite a while. The FTX was a great opportunity to hone their skills while completing these tasks. Setting a good pace while digging with an entrenching tool, rotating out to stand armed security while your partner dug and drinking enough water to stay hydrated were some of the intricacies involved in setting up a good six by four foot wide by five foot deep fighting position.

Each chief and officer had

the opportunity to go on a day patrol and a night patrol during the FTX. Keeping your ears open, your mouth shut and your head on a swivel was the only way to spot aggressors while moving from checkpoint to checkpoint. Getting the aggressor in your sights and firing the first well placed shot was the best signal to let your squad know you were being attacked. Keeping eyes looking over a 360 degree radius at all times while moving could also help save lives.

The instructors from Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport's 20<sup>th</sup> Seabee Readiness Group did a great job at making sure the khaki leadership of NMCB 133 were prepared to pass on the many life-saving skills they practiced to their junior troops. A lot of hard work and even more planning is involved in a FTX. Days covered in mud, sand and sweat from head to toe, where the lemon poppy seed cake in your MRE is the highlight of the day are worth it to gain the knowledge and skills needed to help troops save their lives and complete the battalion's mission with minimal casualties.

"It was great training that we can bring back to the junior troops - anything to add tools to the toolbox," said Chief Builder (Seabee Combat Warfare) James Mason of NMCB 133's Charlie Company.

NMCB 133 is getting ready for their battalion FTX this



U.S. Navy photos by MCC (SW) Ryan C. Delcore/Released

Above: Chief Builders Scott Bernard and Joshua Kolenda from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 carry concertina wire to their squad's fighting positions during training on Camp Shelby, Miss. as part of NMCB 133's week long Khaki Field Training Exercise.

Left: Chief Builder Troy Wright fires an M-4 at aggressors while providing fire support for members of his convoy during convoy operations training during FTX.

summer. It will be the hottest month of summer, but they are not going to let that slow their exercise down. The Runnin'

Roos' have been going on a tactical march in full battle gear every Thursday morning for the past few weeks.

The annual FTX will get the battalion the training they need when they go on deployment next year.

## Seabee takes oath on decommissioned battleship

By MC2 (SCW) Michael B. Lavender  
 NMCB 7 Public Affairs

A Seabee from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 reenlisted July 10, in a place considered unusual by many 'dirt Sailors.'

Steelworker 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (SCW) Mary A. Edwards, a fire team leader in NMCB 7, reenlisted onboard the decommissioned battleship, USS Alabama in Mobile, Ala.

USS Alabama, the third vessel to bear the name, is a South Dakota class battleship.

According to the Navy Historical Center, her keel

was laid down Feb. 1, 1940 at the Norfolk Va. Navy Yards. She was commissioned on Aug. 16, 1942 and saw action in several operations throughout World War II earning nine battle stars for her service.

She was struck from the Naval Vessel Register on June 1, 1962 and in 1964, was awarded to the state of Alabama as a memorial for the men and women who served in World War II.

"I thought my reenlistment aboard the Alabama would be a lot better than doing it in front of our battalion building at the flagpole," said Edwards. "It felt like it had much more Navy tradition surrounding it. Originally, I wanted to reenlist on the now decommissioned USS John F. Kennedy. I was an undesignated airman on her before I became a Seabee, but since the ship is in Virginia, I decided to hold my reenlistment on the Alabama."

Planning the reenlistment took a month of planning and coordination.

"It wasn't that hard to accomplish," said Edwards.

"I made the reservation with the museum and then periodically contacted them to ensure my reservation was kept. The only other obstacles were coordinating transportation and ensuring my request to reenlist was approved."

The reenlistment was held on the fantail of the once mighty battleship, with the ceremony lasting about 20 minutes, and was attended by family and the reenlisting officer.

"It was a unique experience, said Edwards. "It felt pretty cool to be reenlisting on such a historic ship and it's definitely not something you see done very often in the Seabee community. Further adding to the historic atmosphere, there was a submarine and several aircraft from that era as well. My father served in the Navy and he was really proud of my decision to reenlist."

Edwards reenlisted for six years and is transferring from NMCB 7 to NMCB 11, for an additional sea duty tour before going on to a shore command.

# NCTC Beach Patrol

U.S. Army Engineer Soldier students from Naval Construction Training Center participate in a beach clean up in Biloxi sponsored by The Institute for Marine Mammal Studies July 18. They were a part of a group of about 50 Soldiers and Sailors who joined the community effort to make the beach a safe and inviting attraction.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Daniel Spies/Released



## Women motivate women at annual multi-service leadership symposium

By EAC (SCW) Majellen Quezon  
NMCB 133 Public Affairs

More than 600 women and a handful of men from the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard attended the 22nd Annual "Women's Leadership Symposium" in Washington D.C. June 18 and 19. They came together to honor women in the sea services, make new friends, gain professional networking opportunities and valuable mentorship. The conference was sponsored by the Navy in order to encourage Sailors to gain valuable insights about the expanding roles women have in the service and gain leadership knowledge.

Nine women leaders from various tenants on Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport were among those in attendance and were met by their counterparts from Port Hueneme, Calif. and other Naval Construction

Force units across the nation.

The conference provided many interesting topics and discussions affecting female service members, such as an increase in operational positions, the growing balance between professional and personal life and childcare services. The various topics of discussions included leadership challenges faced by women who served during Operation Enduring Freedom in Iraq and in Afghanistan. Other topics covered conflict management and overcoming stigmas of female mentorship.

Vice Adm. Mark E. Ferguson gave an Office of Naval Personnel update on women's policy and success strategies for childcare.

The women discussed the obstacles and challenges they face daily and the steps they take to overcome them.

Those in attendance got valuable insights on the leadership

roles women have in the Navy.

In his speech, Ferguson challenged women and wanted every woman to focus on "what is possible?" Not, "how to fix the problem." Guest speaker Deedee Myers, a political analyst, commentator and lecturer on women's issues, encouraged all women to take credit for their great number of accomplishments and to practice professional networking as a powerful tool in making common cause across the globe. Senior ranking participants echoed professional mentoring to ensure women in the service achieve their full potential as leaders.

The symposium focused on the benefits of having a mentor and stressed that one must think about the following questions when choosing a mentor: Who inspires me? Who is a leader I would like to emulate? Then simply ask that person if she or he would consider

being your mentor. The symposium also brought out the idea that mentorship has benefitted many women in the past and will continue to benefit women in the future.

"It was refreshing to find out that most of the women I met had many of the same concerns that I do as a female in the Navy . . . it was awesome meeting Marine Capt. Vernice Armour - the first female combat pilot and also Construction Mechanic 1st Class (SCW/DV) Elisia Correa - the second female and only African American female Underwater Construction Team member," said Steelworker 1st Class (SCW) Jeanie Cooper of NMCB 133. "CM1 Correa is the only active female in the UCT today. It was also really cool to meet the first female commanding officer of a construction battalion who was also the first female of the Civil Engineer Corps

to be selected as rear admiral - Rear Adm.(SEL) Katherine Gregory. Gregory commanded NMCB 133 from 1997 to 1999," said Cooper.

Gregory inspired many Sailors as she shared the many experiences and challenges she had throughout her career. During the Seabee enlisted community group discussion with Force Master Chief Terry Holdcraft about women in the Seabees, many realized the tremendous support and effort put forth by women currently serving and those who came before them. The female service members of yesteryear ensured that the women who followed would be given special considerations on frequently occurring concerns through various programs and policies that cover pregnancy, abuse, sexual assault and harassment and equal opportunity.



## Information Ticket and Tours (ITT)

o Now in . . . 2009 New Orleans Saints tickets! Hurry by to pick yours up today! They won't last long! All tickets \$35! Also available: Three reserved parking spaces in the Superdome parking garage for \$27.50 each! For more info or availability, stop by the ITT Office, or call 228-871-2231/2126.

o ITT now has Ship Island Excursion tickets available for purchase! Adults, \$21, Child, \$13. To purchase yours, stop by the ITT Office, Bldg. 352!

o Now available . . . discounted Big Kahuna Water Park tickets located in Destin, Fla.

Adult:\$30.50, Child: \$26.75. Stop by the ITT Office located in Bldg. 352 today to purchase your tickets!

o Base-wide Yard Sale - Sept. 19 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on the Grinder. For a \$10 booth purchase you get your choice of either two tables and two chairs or a 10 X 10 canopy. For \$15, you can get both. To sign up or for more info, stop by the ITT Office, Bldg. 352, or call 228-871-2231/2126. (Rain date will be Sept. 26).

o Let's get ready to go to the Orlando Theme Parks one more time! ITT is taking a trip Oct. 9 -12! This is a great opportunity to take advantage of your free military tickets and discounted family/friends for all of the parks! Trip includes round-trip deluxe motor coach transportation and three night's accommodations at the Radisson World Gate Resort. Tickets can be purchased separately. It's not too early to sign up! Payment plans available. Sign-up deadline is Oct. 1, with final payment due by Oct. 5! For more information, or to sign up, stop by the ITT Office located in Bldg. 352, or call 228-871-2231/2126!

o Universal Studios/Islands of

Adventure in Orlando is offering a free 2-Park Unlimited ticket good for up to seven consecutive days to military members. In addition, you can purchase an unlimited quantity of the 2-Park Unlimited ticket for \$89 to give to your family/friends. Hurry, though, as these tickets expire Dec. 18! Need help with lodging? ITT can help with that, too! For more info, or to get your tickets, stop by the ITT Office, Bldg. 352, or call 228-871-2231/2126!

o Disney Military Salute: FREE 5-Day Park Hopper with Water Park package to all military members! Additional specially priced tickets available for up to five family/friends! Hurry . . . don't miss out . . . offer expires Dec. 31! Your ITT Office can help you with all of your lodging needs as well! For more info, stop by the ITT Office, Bldg. 352, or call 228-871-2231/2126.

o ITT has partnered with Vision Tours in offering a trip to the Talladega race Nov. 1. Cost is \$160/per person and this includes round trip transportation, race ticket and post-race BBQ. Pick-up is 3 a.m. at Crossroads Mall (by Barnes & Noble), returning approximately midnight! To sign up and pay stop by the ITT Office, Bldg. 352 or call 228-871-2231/2126!

o Attention race fans . . . that time of year will once again be upon us! Yes, the 52nd running of the Daytona 500 is quickly approaching! Join ITT on our third annual "running," Feb. 13-15. Trip will include round-trip deluxe motor coach transportation and two night's hotel accommodations at the Radisson World Gate Resort. Race tickets may be purchased separately. Stop by the ITT Office, Bldg. 352, or call 871-2231/2126 for more info and pricing!

## Liberty Center

o Mobile Bay Bears Game July 31, FREE -depart Liberty at 5:15 p.m.

o July 31 is the last day to sign up for Panama City Trip - only \$55!!

o Trip to Edgewater Mall on Aug. 3, FREE - depart Liberty at

5:30 p.m.

o Trip to the Batting Cages Aug. 5. Pay there for your time! FREE transportation, depart Liberty at 5:15 p.m.

o TNA Wrestling at the Miss. Coast Coliseum Aug. 7, ONLY \$25. Depart Liberty at 6:30 p.m.

o Pool Party at Community Pool Aug. 8. Shuttles to and from 6 - 9 p.m. FREE!!

o Ship Island Excursion Aug. 9. Depart Liberty at 11:15 a.m., ONLY \$16

o Aug. 10 - National S'mores Day is Aug. 10, stop by beginning at 5 p.m. for your free s'mores until supplies last.

o 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament is Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. with prizes for 1st place team!

## Fitness Center

o Cheer your favorite 3 on 3 Basketball team on every Monday/Wednesday and your favorite Softball team on Tuesday/Thursday.

o Come and welcome our new Aerobic Instructor Josanne Paden on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Join Josanne in some new and exciting ways to get into shape including cycle, dance/zumba, kickboxing, high/low circuits, step, floor exercise, and new music. We are looking for your input on what you would like to do!

## Youth Activity Center

### o Thank You to Summer Counselors in Training and Teen Volunteers

With the assistance of all camp counselors and volunteers the Summer Youth Program was a huge success and will remain a memorable time for each of the children's lives that have been touched! Counselors in Training for the Summer Camp 2009 Program are as follows: Molly Proffitt, Alley Cuevas, Jarrod Valley, Connor Stetcher, Joshua Lonchair, Stanley Nickeo. The Teen Volunteers were: Jaylen Gilbert, Tony Destefano, Jordan Bard, J'Borah Nicke, and Quadejha Gray.

### o 3 & 4 Year Old PASSERS Soccer League Registration Going On Now!

Is your 3-4 year-old ready to learn the basics of soccer and have some FUN? Then this is



U.S. Navy photo/Released

Fiddler Natalie Stovall entertains guests at the Liberty Shrimp Boil July 19 on board Naval Construction Battalion Center.

## Great food, entertainment featured at Liberty Shrimp Boil

By Grace Phillips  
Liberty Center Assistant Coordinator

What does 175 pounds of free shrimp, the music styling's of fiddler Natalie Stovall and a weather-perfect day all add up to? The Liberty Shrimp Boil held July 19!

As it was discovered that crawfish are out of season, the staff turned to shrimp and perhaps made for a more appetizing event. When the boil began our numbers were small but as the smell of boiled shrimp wafted throughout the barracks, the crowd progressively grew to a mass of about 275 active duty military with eager stomachs!

Amazingly, some of the Sailors had never before eaten a shrimp and therefore required a "Shrimp Eating 101" crash course and quickly became engrossed.

Before our featured performer took the stage there was a Boil rit-

ual that had to be observed - a Watermelon Eating Contest! Each contestant had to finish close to an eighth of a watermelon and with some elbowing and a bit of unfair play the winners were determined after about two minutes. The first, second and third place winners all received prizes which they can still easily use during the remainder of the summer including a beach chair, cooler, and I-Pod boom box.

As Natalie Stovall took the stage, the fun really began. Patrons enjoyed the remainder of the shrimp while she sang and fiddled her way through covers of Shania Twain, The Rolling Stones, Aerosmith, Bonnie Rait and Charlie Daniels as well as some original tracks from her album "Late Night Confessions." The patrons thoroughly enjoyed the shrimp, watermelon contest, and entertainment; watch the calendar for the next big Liberty event!

the program for you! Registration begins Aug. 1 and ends Aug. 31. The fee is only \$35 per child, which includes a T-shirt, participation trophy and end of season banquet. Please call Ms. Sabrina at 871-2251 for more details. First Coaches Meeting is Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. First Parent Meeting is Sept. 10 at 6 p.m.

o Me & Mommy Program is back! Come to the Youth Activ-

ities Center each Tuesday starting Aug. 11 from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. to meet other parents and create lasting relationships; all while helping your child master new skills and have fun! At each session, the children will enjoy crafts, songs, story time and movement activities. Please call Ms. Jennifer at 228-871-2251 for more information. Remember, this class is FREE for children 5 and under.

# Focus on Education

## Sailors explore options as Post 9/11 GI Bill start date approaches

By MCC (SW) Maria Yager  
Navy Personnel Command  
Public Affairs

The Navy released guidance and transferability policy July 13 for Sailors who wish to use Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to pay for their family member's college education.

Transferability under the Post 9/11 GI Bill is a recruiting and retention tool. While a Sailor may be eligible for education benefits provided by the Post 9/11 GI Bill, generally the option to transfer a Sailor's unused benefits to a family member requires an additional service commitment in the armed forces, according to NAVADMIN 203/09.

"I think a lot of people are excited to have the opportunity to transfer benefits. The NAVADMIN lists a lot of information addressing eligibility and service obligation requirements so if you are interested in transferring your benefits, start there first," said Kathy Wardlaw, the Navy's GI Bill program manager.

Under the Post 9/11 GI Bill, which goes into effect August 1, qualifying Sailors may elect to transfer all or a portion of their benefits to a spouse or child enrolled in Defense Eligibility Enrollment System and eligible for benefits. For transferability, Sailors must have served at least six years in the armed forces and agree to serve an additional four years, in most cases.

The NAVADMIN outlines exceptions to the additional four-year service obligation, which includes Sailors currently eligible for retirement within four years of the Post 9/11 GI Bill start date.

"It's a huge step in the right di-



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Terry Spain/Released  
**Robert Bailey, a veterans Benefits Coordinator for the Biloxi Veterans Hospital, briefs active duty Sailors and retirees on the new Post 9/11 GI Bill, onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center July 14. The new GI Bill takes effect Aug. 1.**

rection for Sailors to be able to transfer their GI Bill benefits. Upon my retirement, my son will be quickly approaching college years. Being able to transfer my GI Bill to him will take a load off of our wallet," said Yeoman 1st Class (SW) Shontay Bond, assigned to Navy Recruiting Command.

The basic steps for transferring benefits are:

- Talk with the chain of command or career counselor to determine service obligation.
- Ensure the required service obligation is reflected in the Electronic Service Record at <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil/>.
- Request to transfer benefits at the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) Web site [www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/). This step may only be completed while in the armed forces (active duty or selected Reserves).
- Check the DMDC Web site application status. Once approved, visit Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Web site to the Veterans Online Application

<http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp>. Follow the instructions to create user name and password. After account is created, select "Create New Form" from drop-down and choose VA Form 22-1990e.

- VA will verify eligibility and provide a certificate of eligibility to the family member designated to receive the benefits.

- Family members will take the certificate of eligibility to the college and complete appropriate documentation to receive Post 9/11 benefits.

"The number one reason for rejected applications is the lack of sufficient obligated service or Page 13 not reflecting in a Sailor's electronic service record. Sailors should verify the information is there before applying for transferability," said Wardlaw.

Additional information including a checklist and frequently asked questions sheet is available at the Navy Personnel Command Web site at [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil).

## Fall Registration going on now at MGCCC

The Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College is gearing up for the Fall 2009 semester. First session courses begin Aug. 17 and end Sept. 23. Classes meet from 5 - 8:15 p.m. First session courses include World Civilization I, Physical Science I, English Composition I, Intermediate Algebra, and General Psychology.

Public Speaking I will be offered as weekend classes and run Oct. 23 - 25; Nov. 6-8, and Nov. 20 - 22. The classes are scheduled to meet on Friday from 5 - 8:15 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Second session courses begin on Oct. 26 and end Dec. 7. Courses include World Civilization II, Physical Science II, College Algebra, English Composition II, and Art Appreciation.

The MGCCC office is located at the NCBC in the Moreell Building 60 on the second floor in room 227, and offers one-stop shopping for those who are interested in attending the college. Students are able to apply, register, pay fees and pick up their books all in the same office. Counseling and advisement services are available to assist students in the selection of their classes. Students may also receive assistance in attending any of the other campuses or centers. Courses are offered to non-military personnel, active duty, civil service and dependents of the military.

For more information, call Alrie' Poillion at 228 865 0675 or email [alrie.poillion@mgccc.edu](mailto:alrie.poillion@mgccc.edu).

## Sales Tax Holiday Notice

### Just in time for Back to School Shopping

A sales tax holiday will run throughout Mississippi, July 31 - Aug. 1. The holiday, just in time for back-to-school shoppers, means buyers won't have to pay the regular 7 percent Mississippi sales tax on purchases of clothes and shoes that individually cost less than \$100.

For more information on the holiday, see [www.mstc.state.ms.us](http://www.mstc.state.ms.us).

## Academic Achievement



U.S. Navy photo/Released

**Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Patricia Alexander, with Naval Construction Battalion Center, is presented her Certified Chef De Cuisine degree from First Coast Technical College by Dr. Alex Carter July 7.**

A Home School Network Organizational Meeting will take place July 30 at 6 p.m. in the large classroom of the Fleet and Family Support Center, Bldg. 30. For more information, contact School Liaison Officer Kevin Byrd at 228 871-2117.

# HEY, MONEYCHIC!

## Hey, MoneyChic:

I've been in the Navy for about ten years. With this much time invested, I've definitely made the decision to "stay in."

Now that I've got a family to provide for, I watch every penny. One added burden to our family budget is repaying my student loans I had from before joining the Navy. It seems like I'll be paying on them forever. Do you have any salvation for me?

## MoneyChic says:

Actually I've got some great salvation news for you. Check out the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. This program offers loan forgiveness after 10 years of public service employment. Serving in the military qualifies as

public service!

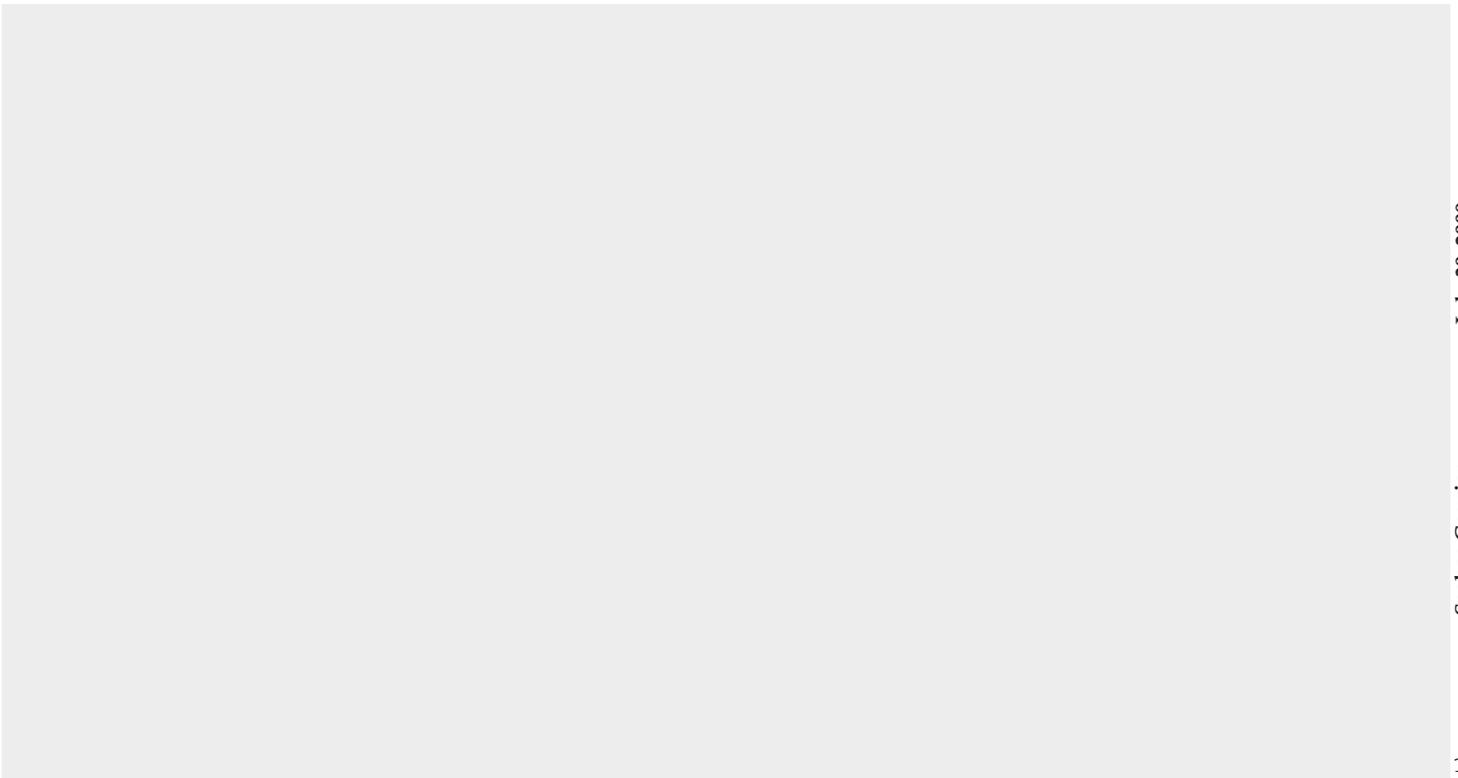
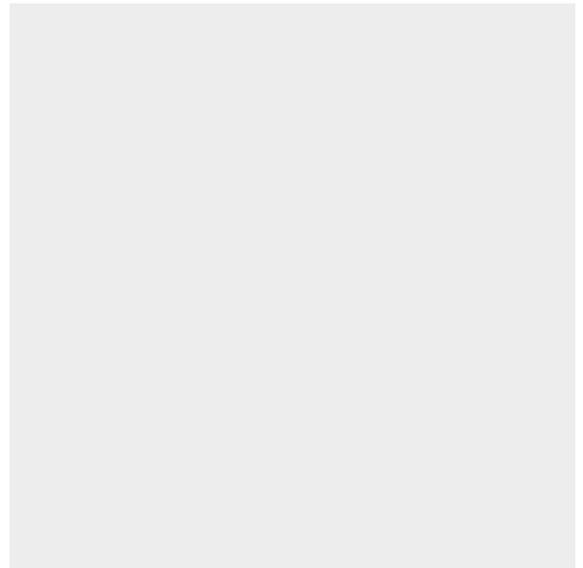
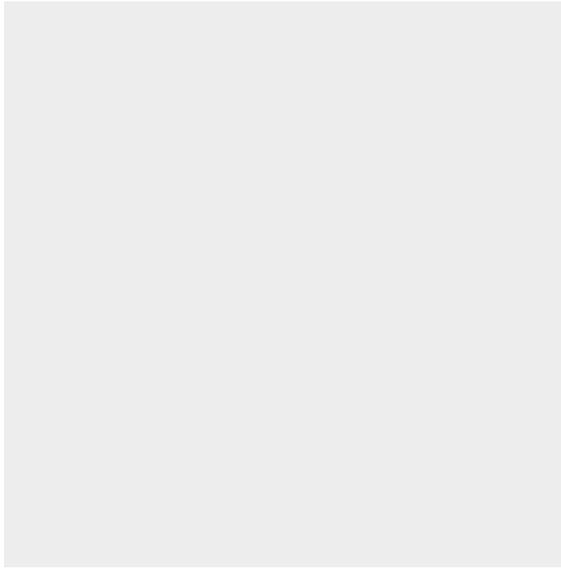
To qualify for the loan forgiveness, you must make monthly loan payments for ten years (120 payments) while working full time in public service.

Most students borrow federal student loans from one of two major federal student loan programs. To see if your loans are eligible, check out [www.nslds.ed.gov](http://www.nslds.ed.gov).

For more information about the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, visit [www.equaljusticeworks.org/resources/student-debt-relief](http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/resources/student-debt-relief).

This may just erase the remaining student loan debt that you have and free up some room in your family budget.

Not a bad perk for serving your country.



### Tired of waiting for info to come to you?

Visit the links below to 'BEE in the KNOW!

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/gulfport/index.htm>

<http://www.facebook.com/seabee.center.gulfport>

<http://www.twitter.com/SeabeeCenter>

# Community Notes

## SUPPORT

### Family Readiness Groups

**NMCB 1 FRG** invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Monday of every month at the Youth Activity Center, building 335. A potluck dinner is served at 6 p.m., followed by a 6:30 p.m. meeting. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided during deployment. For more information, contact FRG President Angela Sourwine, (228) 323-0036 or FRG Vice President Rashelle Geddis, (228) 224-1475 or e-mail [nmcbonefrg@gmail.com](mailto:nmcbonefrg@gmail.com).

**NMCB 7 FRG** welcomes friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. To receive FRG information, send an e-mail to [nmcb7frg@gmail.com](mailto:nmcb7frg@gmail.com) or contact FRG President Deanna Salter at (228) 206-0377.

**NMCB 74 FRG** welcomes all friends and family members to join the NMCB 74 FRG. Meetings are the third Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the Fleet and Family Support Center. Bring a covered dish to take part in a potluck dinner.

**NMCB 11 FRG** welcomes all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC), building 113. For more information contact FRG President Liz Stocking at (717) 491-2900 or Vice President Sarah Edwards at (336) 215-2211 or email [nmcb11frg@gmail.com](mailto:nmcb11frg@gmail.com). Visit the ombudsman and FRG website at <http://nmcb11.webs.com>.

**NMCB 133 FRG** invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information contact FRG President Kelli Clarke at (727) 504-4408 or e-mail [hansonk154@yahoo.com](mailto:hansonk154@yahoo.com). To receive updates, log on to the FRG website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb133fsg/>.

### Naval Officer's Spouse Club

The Naval Officer's Spouse

Club holds monthly meetings the fourth Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the building 1 conference room. For more information contact [noscgulfport@yahoo.com](mailto:noscgulfport@yahoo.com).

### Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

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

### Gamblers Anonymous

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

**Retired Activities Office** is located in the Fleet and Family Support Center and staffed entirely by volunteers for the retired military community. RAO's services are free and are intended to assist customers in obtaining their entitled rights, benefits, and privileges as a retiree, dependent, or survivor of a military service member. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to noon. Call for an appointment at (228) 871-3000 ext. 35 or just drop in.

### TRAINING

**COMPASS** is a team of trained seasoned military spouses mentoring other Navy spouses. Classes are intimate and informative. The 12 hour, three-day course is offered the last week of the month (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the CBC Chapel Fellowship Hall. The course and child care are FREE! Please R.S.V.P. (228) 871-3000 ext. 7444 Ask for COMPASS!

**Naval Sea Cadets** - Gulfport branch are recruiting youth

ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nation-wide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 60, room 105. For more information contact Lt.j.g. Bowling at (228) 313-9035 or [coachcb@yahoo.com](mailto:coachcb@yahoo.com); or AGC Enrique Acosta-Gonzalez at (228) 871-3787 or [enrique.acosta@navy.mil](mailto:enrique.acosta@navy.mil).

### SOCIAL

**Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association** is seeking new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 3 p.m. at CVC's Beehive, building 352. Call MC1 Terry Spain at 871-3663 or EO1 Denise Demontagnac at (228) 871-2970 for more information.

**VFW Post 3937** Long Beach is open Monday - Thursday from noon until 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from noon until 10 p.m., Sunday from noon until 7 p.m. The first Friday of every month is Seafood night, the remaining Fridays are Steak night. Weekend breakfast is served from 7 - 10 a.m. on Saturdays. VFW meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Post Commander Bill North at (228) 863-8602.

**VFW Post 4526** Orange Grove is open daily from noon to 10 p.m. and located at 15206 Dedeaux Road, Orange Grove. VFW meetings are held the first Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. Old and new members alike are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call Post Commander Bill McNicholas at (228) 832-0017 or Sr. Vice Commander Ben Barker at (228) 832-3798 for more information.

### HERITAGE

**The Seabee Gift Store** is in the new Training Hall, building 446 and is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., phone (228) 871-4779. The shop has several command exhibits, as well as a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, DVD's and books. Gift store proceeds support the construction of the new museum in Port Hueneme, Calif. The Web address is [www.seabeeuseumstore.org/shop/index.php](http://www.seabeeuseumstore.org/shop/index.php)

**NCBC Key Custodian Training . . .** Personnel who have not submitted their key custodian and sub-custodian letters are encouraged to submit them to the Physical Security Division. More information on the Key Custodian Program can be obtained at the NCBC Gulfport website: [https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/Program/Public Safety/Key and Lock Program](https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/Program/Public%20Safety/Key%20and%20Lock%20Program).

#### From GLOBE page 1

Aucremanne, said the tasks they perform are vital to installations supporting the boots on the ground.

"Over three hundred Seabees are assigned to the public works departments across the EURAFSWA area of responsibility," said Aucremanne. "They are fully integrated with a mission to provide facility operations and maintenance support to the installation and tenant commands within their area."

Aucremanne added that the Seabees' ability to provide a unique blend of technical and expeditionary skills to respond to any tasking inside the fence line or down range are what make this naval force so special.

Region EURAFSWA is made up of six installations, four located in Europe - including Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples, Italy, Naval Station Rota, Spain, Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, and NSA Souda Bay, Crete - one in Southwest Asia, NSA Bahrain; and one expeditionary facility in Djibouti, Camp Lemonier.

"Seabees in the region provide construction and engineering capabilities in direct support of the naval components' operational objectives, increasing infrastructure support for maritime safety and security," said Naval Construction Force liaison officer for U.S. Naval Forces 6th Fleet Capt. Steven Wolfe.

In addition to shore installation support, Seabees also work in forward-deployed, expeditionary environments. Earlier this year, a detachment from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 embarked aboard USS Nashville (LPD 13) as part of African Partnership Station APS 2009.

During their 130-day deployment around Africa, NMCB 11 performed numerous humani-

tarian civil assistance projects in Cameroon, Gabon, Ghana and Senegal. Projects included repairs and renovations to schools, hospitals, piers and roads leading to water sources.

"Humanitarian civil affairs projects like the ones performed during APS 2009 are vital to building strong relationships with partner nation militaries and local communities throughout the region," said Wolfe.

Along with community projects in Western Africa, Seabees provide support for combat and contingency operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait. In these areas, Seabees provide and maintain infrastructure support for Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force members and assist with security and other operations.

"For decades, the Seabees have been involved in supporting the Navy and Marine Corps team with quality construction and engineering in austere environments," said Wolfe. "I am proud to continue this tradition and have always been proud to be affiliated with the men and women who always demonstrate the 'Can Do' spirit of the Seabees."

Whether deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, helping develop infrastructure at Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, or maintaining the infrastructure at Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy, the men and women of the Naval Construction Force all continue the proud tradition Seabees have held since World War II.

To honor this commitment to excellence, 2009 has been designated as 'Year of the Seabee/Civil Engineer Corps' to commemorate Naval Construction Forces. To find out more information about Year of the Seabee/Civil Engineer Corps or the history of Seabees log onto <https://www.seabee.navy.mil>.

From **LODGE** page 11

desk with a computer hookup and task lighting. Free local calls, coffee and newspapers as well as convenient on-base parking are also available. All Navy Lodge rooms are air-conditioned, have cable TV with Showtime, a DVD/CD player, direct-dial telephone service and a kitchenette complete with microwave and utensils. Navy Lodges also feature housekeeping service, vending machines, video rental service and guest laundry facilities as well as handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms.

To receive a Navy Lodge directory or to make a reservation, call 1-800-NAVY-INN, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Or make a reservation online at [www.navy-lodg.com](http://www.navy-lodg.com), which gives a listing of each Navy Lodge location complete with directions and phone numbers.

For other military lodging options go to [www.dodlodging.com](http://www.dodlodging.com).

**Armed Services Blood Drive . . .**

There will be an Armed Services Blood Drive Aug. 6 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Seabee Heritage Center. Everyone is encouraged to come out to donate.



**Gulf Coast USO**  
3001 6th St., Bldg. 306, (228) 575-5224  
Snacks/Drinks, United Through  
Reading Program;  
Computers (4), with web cams, Email Access,  
Yahoo, Hotmail, X-Box  
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,  
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., (Closed Sundays)



# Seabee Memorial Chapel

## Services:

**Protestant: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday, 11 a.m. Divine Worship**

**Catholic: Sunday, 9:30 a.m.,  
Family Choir Mass  
Sunday, 10:40 a.m., Religion Education**

**Monday- Thursday, 11:30 a.m.,  
Daily Mass**

**Gospel Service: Sunday, 8 a.m.**

**Center Chaplains:  
Cmdr. Macgregor McClellan,  
Protestant Chaplain  
Lt. Leticia P.J. Rouser,  
Protestant Chaplain**

**For more information concerning  
other faith groups, call the chapel  
office at (228) 871-2454**

**Navy  
Seabee  
Veterans  
of  
America**

**63rd  
National  
Convention and  
All Seabee  
Reunion  
Oct. 12-16  
Gulfport, Miss.**

**Sponsored by the  
Gulfport, Miss.  
Island X1 Navy  
Seabee Veterans  
of America  
Visit our website  
at:  
[www.NSVAGulf-  
port.org](http://www.NSVAGulfport.org); or email  
questions to:  
[allseabee-  
reunion@  
cableone.net](mailto:allseabee-<br/>reunion@<br/>cableone.net)**