



Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

Vol. 47 No. 2

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

January 28, 2010

NMCB 7 Air Det postpones Rota tasking for Haiti relief

By Rob Mims
NCBC Public Affairs Officer

More than 80 Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 homeported at the Naval Construction Battalion Center here began departing Jan. 26 on board Air Force C-17 aircraft to support relief operations in Haiti after a 7.0 earthquake devastated the city of Port Au Prince.

"The Seabees from NMCB 7 are eager to get boots on the ground in Haiti to start performing their assigned mission, said Cmdr. Jayson Mitchell, commanding officer of NMCB 7. "They've refined their plans over the past week and are poised to make an immediate and positive impact on a dire situation."

This flight is the first of four aircraft which will be loaded with personnel headed to Haiti to clear a path for aid coming into the country. The Seabees will join up with some 25 pieces of heavy equipment from U.S. Navy Maritime Prepositioning Ship USNS 1st Lt. Jack Lummus (T-AK 3011).



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 prepare civil engineer support equipment for shipment to Haiti. The unit, which is also preparing for a scheduled deployment in February, is sending an Air Det. of more than 80 Seabees to support relief operations in Haiti after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Gregory N. Juday/Released)

"NMCB 7 has been tasked with rapid deployment of a

See Air Det page 8

CNO speaks in Afghanistan

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead addresses the questions and concerns of Seabees assigned to the 30th Naval Construction Regiment, Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCB) 22 and 74 during an all hands call at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. Roughead addressed the President's strategy and the importance of general engineering support provided by Naval Construction Force units in Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Ernesto Hernandez Fonte/Released)

See UPLIFT page 12



GTMO Seabees lend hands to Operation Unified Response

By MC3 Leona Mynes
Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs

Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 25, who are currently deployed to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, graded a hill Jan. 21 on the Guantanamo airfield to allow large aircraft unobstructed movement when navigating the runways.

The project resulted from a

747 airplane being unable to turn around at the end of the flight line before its scheduled take-off. The plane was carrying pallets of Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) that were being delivered to Haiti in support of Operation Unified Response.

When the aircraft attempted to turn, a 180-foot by 200-foot hill blocked its way.

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VITA volunteers stand ready to help military with tax preparation

Provided by NCBC VITA

The NCBC Gulfport Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site opened for business Jan. 15.

The site is located inside the Fleet and Family Support Center (Building 30). Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. VITA is closed on federal holidays.

The VITA site is open to all active duty service members and their dependants and is free of charge. Anyone who desires tax assistance but does not meet the above criteria can stop by the VITA office for a list of other VITA sites in the community.

In order to best serve those most in need of tax assistance the site will initially be open only to taxpayers who qualify to file a 1040EZ return. This policy will remain in effect until Feb. 8. On Feb.8, the site will open to service members who need assistance with tax preparation.

Customers should keep in mind that the site is not a full-service tax office. The VITA volunteers cannot prepare any business returns (Schedule C's), returns involving rental properties, or returns with complex Schedule D's for capital gains from the buying and selling of stocks and bonds.

As the site is intended to primarily serve junior active duty service members and their families, certain taxpayers may be referred to professional preparers based on income and complexity of tax return.

Active duty service members are also encouraged to use the free tax filing service at www.militaryonesource.com.

VITA services are provided by appointment only. Customers should prepare for appointments by bringing relevant documents such as social security cards, dependant identification cards for all family members, W-2's, 1099's, 1098's, checkbooks (for direct deposit of refund), applicable receipts for Schedule A and adjustment items. A copy of last year's tax return is also helpful.

If your filing status is Married Filing Jointly, both taxpayers must be present to "sign" the return OR present a signed Power of Attorney for taxes.

Due to space limitation, only the service member and the spouse will be allowed to be present during the preparation of taxes.

Those who wish to make an appointment or who have questions about the VITA program can call Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Michelle Eckstein at 228- 871-4264 or 228-871-4257.

Skipper's Log

The future is the result of today

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

If you believe that this moment in time is a result of all previous experiences, why would you ever stress over times past? This doesn't mean that you shouldn't be sorry for, or be concerned over past mistakes, but primarily that you need to learn and continue forward.

A close personal friend once told me of an incident that happened in their life 50 years ago. As a young adult they moved away from home. While they were gone, something horrible happened to a family member. Their recurring thought was that if they had only stayed home vice moving away, the event wouldn't have happened. My friend didn't cause the event, but felt guilt over not being there. This stayed with them for 50 years. I agreed that it was entirely possible that they may have prevented the event, however, without the experience of being away, would they have gotten married, raised their children, had the life they experienced over the past 50 years?

Ultimately, the answer to that is no. They may have married the same person, but maybe later. They may have had children but they would be different children.

The life you live is the culmination of the moments in time that



Capt. Ed Brown

shape that life. My question to my friend was whether they would give up all the joy and happiness with their children, with their spouse, with their grandchildren, to go back and change the past. They were floored; "of course not, my family has been my life" . . . They needed to stop worrying about the past.

As you have read in past articles, I am firmly convinced that we are responsible for the decisions we make, actions (and inaction) in our day. Plan, set goals, chart a course, make your decisions to stay this course. Once the moment is past, learn, correct and re-engage. Every moment is affected by decisions we make today and lessons we learn.

The joy in the future only comes as a result of today.

NCBC new "No Tobacco Use" policy . . .

Effective immediately tobacco use (including smokeless) is prohibited on all life and fitness, child and youth, medical clinic, Navy Exchange, and Commissary properties. This includes the facilities, walkways and parking lots. There will be designated areas behind the Commissary and east of the new Single Sailor Center for patrons and employees to use. There will be no use within 50 feet from air intakes and commonly used building entry ways/egresses. A map and more information will follow in future issues of the Seabee Courier and posted on the NCBC Website.

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.

In Commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr.



Guest speaker, Gulfport attorney Warren L. Conway, speaks to Military and Civilian guests at the annual MLK commemoration hosted by the NCBC Diversity Committee. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2(SCW) Gregory N. Juday/Released)

Remember! Celebrate! Act!

By MC2 Gregory N. Juday
NCBC Public Affairs

In commemoration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport's Diversity Committee held a celebration at the Training Hall, Jan. 12.

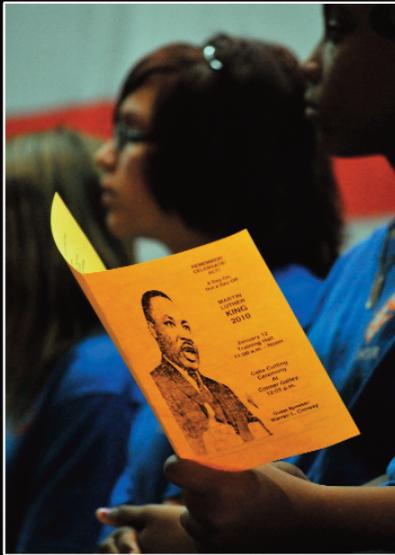
With musical accompaniment by the Gulfport Central Middle School Choir, Janice Thibodeaux, a Balfour Beatty Community employee and her daughter sang the National Anthem. Guest speaker Gulfport attorney Warren L. Conway spoke of days gone by and reminded us all why we were there.

Conway spoke of the Civil Rights struggle and how the children of today do not have to worry about what water fountain they can drink out of, where they have to sit on the bus, or what restaurant they are allowed to dine at because of Dr. King's dream.

Conway also pointed to the crowd at the ceremony and said that 40 years ago you never would have seen the diversity that you see today, and that Dr. King would be proud of how far we have come, and how we continue to grow as a diverse community.

Naval Construction Battalion Center Commanding Officer Capt. Ed Brown, presented Conway with an official NCBC commemorative plaque. Immediately after the celebration a ceremonial cake cutting was held at the Colmer Dining Facility.

Dr. King's dream of a day when people from all races and nations can sit at a table as brothers and sisters and find ways of transforming their differences into assets is becoming clearer each and every day.



Students with Gulfport Central Middle School sang songs of celebration at the NCBC Commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Training Hall. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1(SCW) Demetrius Keroun/Released)

OPSEC is imperative, especially in Cyberspace

Compiled by NCBC
Public Affairs from reports

I mean, really! What is the big deal? Why can I not email my mom and tell her when my Seabee is coming home or if he is not? What does it matter if I put a count down ticker on the homepage of my Facebook or in my email? Come on! It is not like anyone is REALLY going to be looking at it but my family and friends. Right? WRONG; so wrong that your Seabee could be put in harm's way because of your actions!

The safety and security of Seabees hangs in the balance of what terrorists can obtain and what everyone can keep them from obtaining. Follow and adhere to these rules.

- You never give out deployment dates or homecoming dates (i.e. countdowns until your Seabee is home).

- Don't give out your Seabee's personal info (i.e. social security number, rate, unit info, phone number, address, or your personal info).

- Check your privacy settings on Facebook and other social media sites.

- Be aware of who asks to be your online friend. The person you "just kind of remember" from high school, may not have your best interest at heart.

- When deployed, don't give out Seabee locations! That includes all locations, not just Iraq and Afghanistan areas. OPSEC is about not giving out sensitive information. Information doesn't have to be "classified" to be sensitive. The media gives out sensitive information when they shouldn't. So just because you see or hear something on TV does NOT mean it's ok to be giving things like that out!

- Don't give out information on battalion morale or that of your Seabee. This can be seen as a sign of weakness and makes an attack on a certain person/battalion more appealing.

- Don't think the enemy isn't trying to gather information from people like you because they are! That means not giving out that info in instant messages, Facebook, Twitter, other social media sites, emails, over the phone, blogs and even to friends and family members.

- The premise of OPSEC is that the accumulation of one or more ele-

ments of sensitive/unclassified information or data could damage national security by revealing classified information. We can never underestimate the capabilities or strength of conviction of terrorists. Nothing is more dangerous than people who are willing to die for a cause.

We are the most potentially damaging intelligence source. We may, unknowingly, provide intelligence information to adversaries through carelessness or a lack of concern for OPSEC measures in the workplace and in daily contact with others.

OPSEC may be applied to a wide variety of situations in a competitive or adversary environment.

10 OPSEC Points

1. Don't spread rumors about current, future, or past operations or movements.
 2. Don't discuss current or future destinations/ports of call.
 3. Don't discuss current or future operations or missions.
 4. Don't discuss current or future dates and times of when military will be in port or conducting exercises.
 5. Don't discuss readiness issues and numbers.
 6. Don't discuss specific training equipment.
 7. Don't discuss people's names or billets in conjunction with operations.
 8. Don't speculate about current or future operations.
 9. Don't assume the enemy is not trying to collect information on you; he is.
 10. Always think OPSEC when using email, phone, chat rooms and message boards. Use extra caution in online chat rooms, forums, and online communities—even those with a 'brand name' such as Facebook, Twitter, Yahoo!, AOL, TogetherWeServe, Military.Com or that define themselves as 'military' in origin.
- There is no guarantee that a chat room or forum described as 'military' has any security for transmitting information or restricting membership to military personnel and their families only.

LifeWorks February Events

Feb. 1 -12: Count the Sweethearts - Residents stop in the office and guess the sweethearts in the jar. The winner and their sweetie will receive a Valentine Dinner for two!!!

Feb. 1- 20: Co-ed Softball Sign-ups - Pull out that old glove and let's warm up those bats!! It's time to play ball. Bring in your registration form to the Community Management Office. Once registration is over we will organize the teams. The goal is to have a team represent each Neighborhood (Magnolia, Magnolia II, Ladd, Pinewood, Woodlands, Northpointe and Nickel Creek). The winning team of the community tournament will have a trophy put on display in the office and all the bragging rights. The

games and practices will be held at the softball fields on the base by the gym. Registration forms can also be picked up at office.

Feb. 10: Mardi Gras Mask Making from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the office.

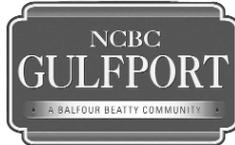
Stop by enjoy some King Cake, music, and pick up some beads.

Feb. 15: President's Day - Community Management Office Closed

Feb. 16: Fat Tuesday - Happy Mardi Gras! Stop by the office and enjoy some King Cake.

Feb. 19: Bird Feeders - February is national bird feeding month and we will be making bird feeders in front of the pool house from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Supplies will be provided.

Feb. 24: Pinewood Community Huddle - Residents of the Pinewood Community can meet at



the Community Management Office at 3:30 p.m. to discuss new ideas for events and make suggestions on various topics.

Feb. 26: Yard of Month - We will be awarding Yard of Month today. Remember to keep your backyard and patio neat too!!

Feb. 26, 27: Community Yard Sale - Residents can place items for sale out on the lawn, garage, or carport. Friday, noon until 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Signs and fliers will be put out for advertisement.

Deployment cycle shifts for Seabees

By First Naval Construction Division
Public Affairs Office

The deployment of two additional Seabee battalions to Afghanistan as part of the 30,000-troop surge will require adjustments to the deployment schedules of all Seabee units. Most deployment tour lengths will be increased and homeport periods shortened to meet the requirement.

Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCBs) normally deploy for six months and are in homeport for 12 months. In order to maintain the two additional deployed battalions, active duty units will shift toward a schedule of deploying for eight months and being in homeport for 10 months. In addition, the increased operational demand on Naval Construction Force reserve units will require 11-month mobilizations and eight-month deployments for the reserve NMCBs.

To achieve the 8/10 rotation, three battalions currently deployed will be extended.

NMCB 1 is currently in the Pacific region and will be deployed for nine months. NMCB 74 is currently in Afghanistan and will be deployed for eight months. NMCB 22 is also in Afghanistan and will be deployed for seven months. NMCB 3 is in the European Theater and will return home on schedule.

Buzz on the Street



By
EO3 Mikayla Mondragon
and
EO3 (SCW) Elizabeth Saranto

What do you think about the extended deployments and the shortened homeports?



"It does put a strain on the families but it's necessary for the Global War on Terrorism. Also, gives less training time for the new recruits and less time with families."

EO2 (SCW) Michael Chartrand
NMCB 11
Hometown: Brooklyn, N.Y.



"If it's necessary to get the mission done, than that's what needs to get done."

Lt. William Donovan
NMCB 7
Hometown: Atlanta, Ga.



"The upcoming rotation will be a great challenge that we are all looking forward to."

SW3 Elaine Vatter
NMCB 133
Hometown: Greenville, Pa.

NEXs accept returns of Blue T-shirts . . . Navy Exchange (NEX) uniform shops will no longer carry the optional Softe three-pack 50 percent polyester/50 percent cotton blue t-shirts for the Navy Working Uniform (NWU). The 50/50 blend t-shirts are not in compliance with the current Navy Uniform Regulations. Customers who have purchased the 50/50 blue t-shirts may return them, worn or unworn, to any NEX for a full refund with receipt or a NEX gift card without receipt.



All gowns will be
for sale
beginning
Saturday,
February 6th, at
the base Thrift
Shop

You are invited to celebrate
the Mardi Gras season at the
**1st Annual
Seabee Ball Gown Fashion
Show and Silent Auction**

Friday, Feb. 5

6 – 9 p.m.

**NCBC Training Hall,
Bldg 446**

Presented by:

the Navy-Marine Corps Relief
Society & the Naval Officer's
Spouse Club

with support from:

the Seabee Ball Committee and
Morale Welfare and Recreation
(MWR)

**Call 228-871-2610 for more
information**

Do You Need a Gown for the Feb. 27 Seabee Ball?

NMCRS Thrift Store will have new and gently used ball gowns on sale Feb. 6
from 10 a.m. until Noon. Call 228-871-2610/2070 with questions.



<http://nmcb62alumni.org>

NMCB 74 dedicates new camp to fallen Seabee

By MC1 Ryan G. Wilber
NMCB 74 Public Affairs

On Dec. 21, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 held a dedication ceremony for their new camp, Camp Krutke, on Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. The camp was dedicated in honor of a Navy gunner's mate killed while deployed with NMCB 74 in March 2007.

"Today we mark the next chapter of Seabee history here in southern Afghanistan with the dedication of Camp Krutke. GM2 Jared Krutke was a gunner's mate in NMCB 74 when he was killed in March 2007, while performing his duties at the Seabee Army on board Camp Covington on Guam.

I never personally had the privilege of meeting Petty Officer Krutke, but I've been told by those that knew him that he was the best friend you could ask for; a true friend who would give you the shirt off his back to help a shipmate," said Cmdr. Bruce Nevel, NMCB 74's commanding officer.

The new 21-acre camp built in Helmand Province will be the home of all future Seabee battalions deployed to Camp Leatherneck in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Presently it serves as NMCB 74's main body site and operations center, supporting Camp Leatherneck and the battalion's numerous detachments throughout southern Afghanistan.

During his speech, Nevel expressed pleasure with his battalion's accomplishments since turning over with NMCB 5 in mid-August. Upon arrival to Camp Leatherneck the battalion operated from Camp Natasha, one quarter the size of Camp Krutke.

After emplacing three miles of berm to fortify the position, the battalion moved into the



The official party and guests of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74's Camp Krutke dedication ceremony salute the ensign during the playing of the National Anthem. Camp Krutke, located in the expansion area of Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, was dedicated to Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Jared Krutke, who was fatally shot while performing his duties during NMCB 74's 2007 deployment to Guam, and will serve as the camp for all Seabee battalions deployed to Camp Leatherneck for years to come. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

expansion area where the new camp was built.

"Seventy-Four arrived in theater in August 2009, and immediately took over where [NMCB] Five left off. Not long after checking on board, 74 was tasked with expanding Camp Leatherneck. The 650 acres that we are standing on, that you see all around you, was created by early October.

Not long afterward, 74 was given the order to relocate from Camp Natasha onto the expansion area. In true Seabee 'Can Do' fashion, Seabees rallied and designed, built and moved from Camp Natasha to Camp Krutke using all hands available, including the Doc, Dent, Chaplain, Admin, Supply, the Army; literally everybody working in [the battalion] contributed to moving to this camp," said Nevel.

The camp, built ahead of the President's planned 30,000-troop uplift, will allow the Marine's deployed to southern Afghanistan to more efficiently complete their mission. Forward deployed construction battalions have historically worked ahead of their Marine Corps, constructing bases and airstrips in hostile environments.

"The Navy-Marine Corps-Seabee relationship goes back many, many years. Every time I'm around Seabees, and I've been around them for 30 years, I continue to learn new things about them, and I continue to be impressed by the 'Can Do' attitude-'Can-Do' spirit of this organization," said Brig. Gen. Lawrence Nicholson, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan's commanding general and dedication ceremony guest speaker.

"I am proud of each and every one of you, your contributions here to this fight, your contributions to making life more manageable, and certainly more survivable for the Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and civilians that call Camp Leatherneck home."

Camp Krutke was built from the ground up by the Seabees of NMCB 74 and will remain a primary contributor to Camp Leatherneck and outlying areas as long as military members are deployed to southern Afghanistan. Culminating his speech, Nevel boasted of the camp's quality and place among Seabee camps around the globe.

"I am extremely proud of this camp. It was truly designed and built by all hands in the battalion, and it is definitely the best [Naval Construction Force] contingency camp in the world today.

I am also confident that Petty Officer Krutke would be proud of this camp and the manner in which it was built," said Nevel.

Roos' send Det to Beaufort for build

By BU3 (SCW) Jonathan Farewell
NMCB 133 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 recently sent a detachment of 16 Seabees from their Air Det. to Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Beaufort, S. C.

The Det. was given the challenging task, with the help and support of Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 273, to erect a 53' X 125' warehouse for MCAS's ordnance storage.

It was no standard project. The large warehouse was to be made of sheets of steel, cut to length, and bent with precision. As an added difficulty, no one person had any experience with the Ultimate Building Machine, from MIC Industries, that would shape and form the steel panels.

Both Seabees and Marines set out to complete their tasking within the tight 7-week deadline.

MIC Industries representative Scott Walden traveled from Virginia to South Carolina to train the Seabees and Marines on the mechanics of the UBM. The training evolution consolidated a two-week course into just five days.

"Although we hadn't had the time that we usually get for a class, I'm amazed at the job they've done. They caught on real quick, and they already look like they're an experienced crew" said Walden.

Both NMCB 133 and MWSS 273 personnel were trained on the ins and outs of the UBM. Every detail was gone over, from machine operations, to maintenance, to actual panel and building placement.

"It has been a great experience working with the Seabees, it's not something that we get to do all that often. I've learned a lot being out here these last couple weeks. This project has definitely better prepared me and my unit for our next deployment," said Sgt. Aragon Espenozo

of MWSS 273.

Initially, material delays and lack of experience pushed the project's finish date back five days, but the joint service crew was able to make up lost time and finish on schedule.

"Once you do it, you get it. There was a little bit of a learning curve, but the building is repetitive. None of us have ever done this before, it's all new, but like I said once you get a rhythm going, it's hard to stop us from getting it done," said Constructionman Thomas Russell.

NMCB 133 has taken its training and focused it on the future. Less than 50 personnel within the Naval Construction Force have the UBM training, and 20 percent of them are E5 and below with NMCB 133. New, young leaders have been molded from this experience and their focus is on training crews of their own, while performing contingency operations during their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.



Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 and Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 273 work on a steel panel using an Ultimate Building Machine while building an ammunition storage warehouse on Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S. C. (U.S. Navy photo by SW3 Jared Campos/Released)

JSOFT-Philippines Seabees build schools, relationships

By Lt.j.g. Theresa Donnelly
Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines Public Affairs

Thirty Seabees serving with Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines (JSOFT-P) are currently assisting with infrastructure projects to form lasting bonds and improve the lives of thousands of Filipinos.

Construction projects are part of the overall JSOFT-P mission to support the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and local government

officials in countering terrorist networks and bringing economic prosperity through humanitarian and engineering projects.

Projects the Seabees are working on include the building of bridges, wells, community centers, medical clinics and school buildings. Seabees accomplish this by working side-by-side with their AFP counterparts and local contractors.

For many years, Navy Seabees have been conducting temporary deployments to Philippines to con-

duct military exercises and humanitarian missions, such as Balikatan and Pacific Partnership.

The process to initiate construction starts when projects are jointly nominated by Philippine government leaders, the AFP and JSOFT-P Civil Affairs Teams. Once approved by all three elements, teams set up site surveys to assess logistics issues such as lodging, meals, materials and transportation to the remote job site.

All of the JSOFT-P civic action projects aim to promote peace and stability throughout the Mindanao region of Philippines.

The current JSOFT-P Seabee detachment deployed in the region is originally from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, out of Gulfport, Miss., and has been deployed in Philippines since August 2009.

The detachment is made up of two teams of approximately 12 Seabees.

"It is a wonderful feeling we can assist the community and help build schools in the Philippines. It has been an honor to work with the local contractors and the school superintendent to make this project happen," said Construction Electrician 1st Class (SCW) Michael Kelley, project supervisor.

Government officials and school administration leaders also participate in the construction efforts, inspecting the workmanship and



U.S. Army Col. Bill Coultrup and Maj. Scott Malone, both from Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines, assist Brig. Gen. Rustico Guerrero with cutting a ribbon during the dedication of the Kagay Elementary School. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb/Released)

offering assistance when needed, while the local community provides building materials.

"All of our materials have been purchased by local contractors and delivered to the job site by local contractors, positively affecting the local economy," said Chief Steelworker (SCW) Jeffrey Wright, the Seabee senior enlisted leader.

Another unique aspect about the mission for the Seabees is that the construction projects directly impact the local residents.

"There is a great satisfaction in doing humanitarian projects here.

We have a fairly young crew, some on their first deployment. So, the fact that they can interact directly with the customer who they are affecting is really meaningful," said Wright.

The focus of the team has been on completing the construction of schools in the area. Two of the school buildings the Seabees have worked on were made possible with the help of the AFP, whose forces provide security while the Seabees are working.

See **SCHOOL** page 20



Builder Constructionman Daren Trombley and Builder 3rd Class Steven Rozecki, both assigned to Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines, sift sand to be mixed with cement. (U.S. Navy photo by SWC Jeffrey Wright/Released)

NMCB 11 makes great strides between CPX's

By MC1 (SCW) Nicholas Lingo
NMCB 11 Public Affairs

The Seabees of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 are currently steeped in an aggressive training cycle and just completed their second command post exercise in the last month on Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport.

Training is the most important part of a Seabee battalion's homeport. It allows the 'Bees to correct deficiencies they may have and allows them to better prepare for the upcoming deployment in ways they couldn't when in country.

"Each skill must be refreshed in

each individual battalion member. Only then can the unit focus on the integration of multiple skills that accomplish a task," said Lt. Tyler Scharar, Delta Company officer in charge.

This training tempo has sped up since the battalions have shifted their deployment schedule due to the recent surge. First Naval Construction Division in Norfolk, Va., has deployed two additional naval mobile construction battalions to Afghanistan as part of the 30,000-troop surge. Due to this troop buildup adjustments have been made to the deployment schedules of Seabee units and most deployment tour lengths will be increased and homeport

periods shortened to meet the requirement.

"Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 will deploy three months early and relieve NMCB 1 in the Pacific Commands' area of operations. Due to our shortened homeport, we will be simultaneously preparing for the field training exercise, working on homeport construction projects and planning for deployment. As a result, our homeport training pace has reached a steep incline. It is imperative that our personnel and their families communicate with each and take early steps to prepare for deployment," said Cmdr. Michael Monreal, commanding officer, Naval Mobile



A member of the quick-react team attached to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11's Delta Company digs in to provide protective fire during a mass casualty drill. During the scenario the camp was attacked by aggressors to simulate a medical emergency during armed conflict. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nicholas Lingo/Released)

Construction Battalion Eleven.

This shift, which has obviously put a tremendous strain on the training schedules of most Battal-

ions, is creating a compressed schedule to pack in several graded

See **NMCB 11** page 21

From AIR DET page 1

tailored Air Detachment in support of disaster relief/recovery operations in Haiti” said Mitchell. “At this time, primary mission areas include route clearance and opening up lines of communication in order to facilitate flow of incoming aid.”

NMCB 7 was tasked Jan. 13 to provide support. Since then, personnel from NCBC and the 20th Seabee Readiness Group have pulled more than 50 pieces of civil engineer support equipment (CESE) and other non-CESE items from warehouses and prepped it to fly out with the air detachment from the battalion. Due to the lack of heavy lift aircraft and congestion at the Haitian airports, the flight plans have changed.

The non-CESE and Seabees will still fly; however, now the

CESE will be placed on a ship. All told, more than 690 short tons or roughly 1.38 million pounds of cargo and personnel are ready to roll. Initial indications are that the air detachment will be in Haiti three to six months.

“The air detachment has been training extensively throughout the past 10 months in executing contingency construction and disaster relief operations, and I’m confident in their collective ability to accomplish such an important mission,” said Mitchell.

This tasking comes less than a month prior to the battalion’s main body deployment to Rota, Spain, the Horn of Africa and several other locations in Africa and Europe. Due to the surge in Afghanistan, NMCB 7, which was originally scheduled to deploy for six months, will now deploy for approximately 10 months.

From GTMO page 1

“We’re doing this so that inbound and outbound planes are not impeded by any limitations on the runway,” said Chief Builder Christopher Grzebieńek, NMCB 25’s operations chief petty officer.

Removing the hill prevented the plane’s engine from making contact with the ground.

The Seabees were tasked with the project early Jan. 20. The bulk of the project is ongoing, but the area preventing the 747’s movement was clear mid-day Jan. 21.

Promise of support motivates one friend to go the distance for another

By MC3 Ernesto Hernandez
Fonte
30th Naval Construction
Regiment Public Affairs

Supporting a good cause and keeping a promise to a friend is all the motivation San Diego native Lt. Cmdr. Michael Bates needed to walk and run 60 miles in Afghanistan.

Shadowing the San Diego 2009 Breast Cancer 3-Day 60 Mile walk, Bates completed the distance in Afghanistan to support his friend Jennifer Schultz and breast cancer research.

The walk was an opportunity for men and women to make a personal difference by fundraising, training and wholly dedicating an entire weekend to the fight against breast cancer.

"[Schultz] signed up for this but she was nervous about walking 60 miles and was wondering if she did the right thing," said Bates. "I told her if she kept it up and did her

training I would do it with her but here in Afghanistan. When she left at 6:30 a.m., I left at 7:00 p.m., so we both started at the same time."

Bates, who is the current operations officer for the 30th Naval Construction Regiment, manages all ongoing military engineer construction in southern Afghanistan. After each workday, he needed to complete the distance over the same three days as his friend, running or walking 26 miles the first day, 20 miles the second and 14 miles the third.

"I didn't want to walk until four or five in the morning so I decided I've got to run some of this," said Bates. "I ended up running 13 miles and walking the rest the first night. It was pretty hard. I was worn out."

For the following two days Bates ran and walked the distances.

"The second day I [already] had blisters on my feet but I did it anyway. My heels were

bleeding afterwards and I had bigger blisters," said Bates before starting to laugh. "It was hard to walk so I went to see Doc."

He was told by the regimental doctor not to run.

"I needed to finish it. So he taped up my feet and got me ready to go," said Bates. "The last night I went out and did the last 14 miles. I felt horrible, but [I also felt] fantastic that I completed something I started."

On the second day, Bates called his wife and explained to her his struggles.

"My mother passed away from breast cancer when I was 14 years old," said Bates. "[My wife] asked me if I was thinking about my mom. I hadn't until that point but after that, I did. But my main motivation was my very dear friend. I made a promise to her and I intended to keep it. Those were definitely my two motivations."

Rotary appreciates those who serve



Gulfport Mayor George Schloegel presents Builder 2nd Class Christopher Williams, Naval Construction Training Center instructor, with a letter of appreciation at the Hancock Bank Building. The Rotary International hosts a Military Appreciation luncheon each year and invites representatives from each branch of the service to attend. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SCW) Gregory N. Juday/Released)

Seabee Center Safety Note . . .

All ATVs do not handle the same way.

For example, most have separate front and rear brake controls, but others have linked brakes operated by a single control. Learn the recommended stopping techniques for your machine. Gloves protect your hands from cold and injury. Off-highway-style gloves have padded knuckles to help prevent bruising. Wear a pair of strong, over-the-ankle boots with low heels to help keep your feet from slipping off the footrests. A face shield

or goggles will protect you from flying debris and low hanging branches. They should be made of a hard-coated polycarbonate, and kept fastened securely.

Practice riding on a large, flat, open practice area, free of obstacles. To keep your balance while riding, keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the footrests. Have a plan before you ride. Make sure someone knows where you're going to be riding and when you plan to be back. Ride with at least

one friend, and keep track of each other. Know the laws that govern how and where you can ride. Dealers and ATV clubs are a good source of information about local laws. Don't try to blaze new trails or create shortcuts. Stay out of designated wilderness areas as they are closed to all vehicles, even bicycles. Know where your boundaries are. If driving on unfamiliar trails drive slow and learn the hazards associated with the new trail, such as depth, blind corners and debris in water holes.



Seabee Center



"Hearts Against Hunger" Food Drive

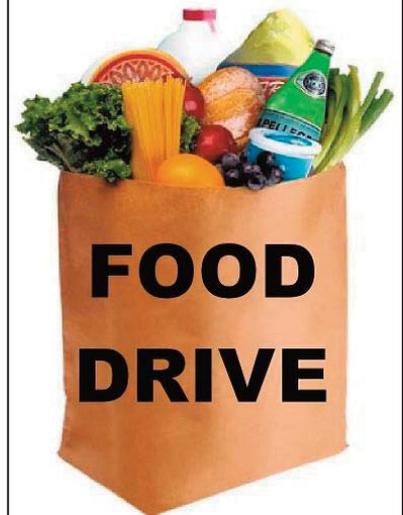
February 1 - 28

Drop off location: Building 60, Room 110

Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

All donations go to Twelve Baskets Food Bank in Gulfport for distribution to soup kitchens throughout the tri-county area

Contact CBC Public Affairs at 228-871-3662 for more information



30 NCR preps for uplift of additional battalions

By MC3 Ernesto Hernandez Fonte
30 NCR Public Affairs

More than ten Seabees assigned to the 30th Naval Construction Regiment (30NCR) departed Kandahar Airfield this January for northern Afghanistan with one purpose, to prepare that region for the arrival of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 4.

The regiment, which exercises command and control over military engineer construction in southern and western Afghanistan, is sending a quartering party made up of representatives from the communications, intelligence, operations, and logistics department to northern Afghanistan, the projected region for NMCB 4's deployment, with the goal of setting conditions for the battalion to operate.

"The goal of the quartering party is to help prepare bases in the areas for the arrival of the incoming battalion and assess the battalion's priority of work once they arrive," said Lt. Robert Kleinman, 30NCR assistant operations officer.

"Even if the battalion has not yet arrived, we can start the procurement process and build the bridges and relationships necessary for them to succeed."

The quartering party is making arrangements to acquire berthing, food, construction materials, equipment and any other resources required by the battalion as they transition to Afghanistan.

"It wouldn't be mission failure if we didn't send these individuals up north, but NMCB 4 would be starting cold if we didn't," said Kleinman.

"Seabee battalions are primarily comprised of construction personnel such as builders, electricians, and equipment

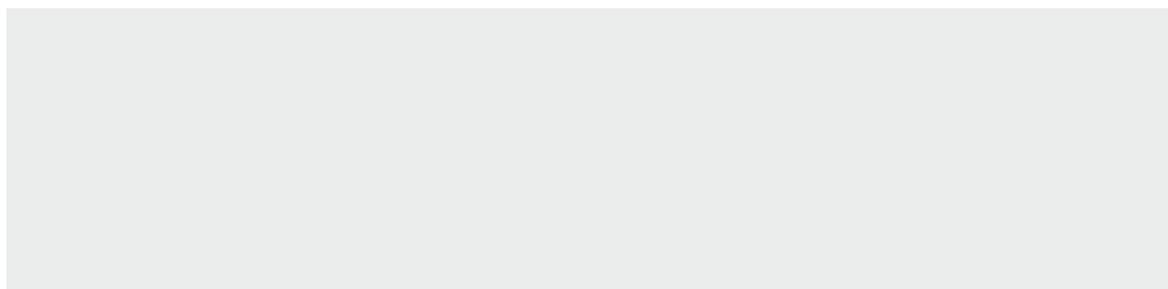
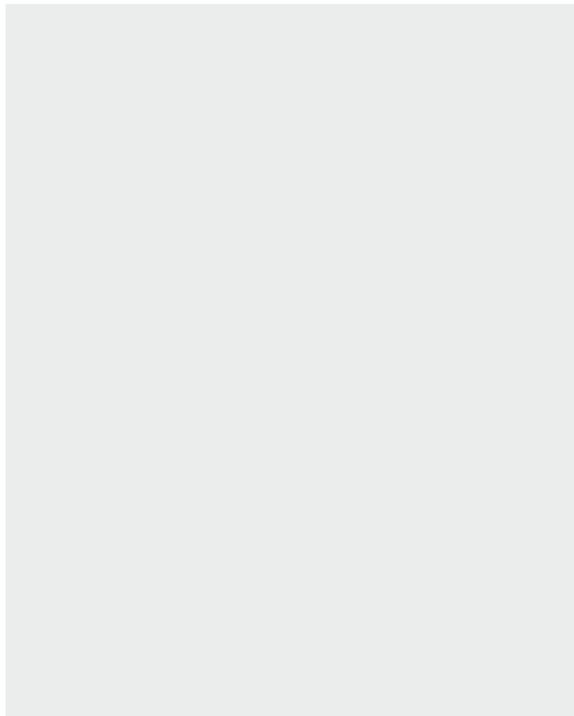
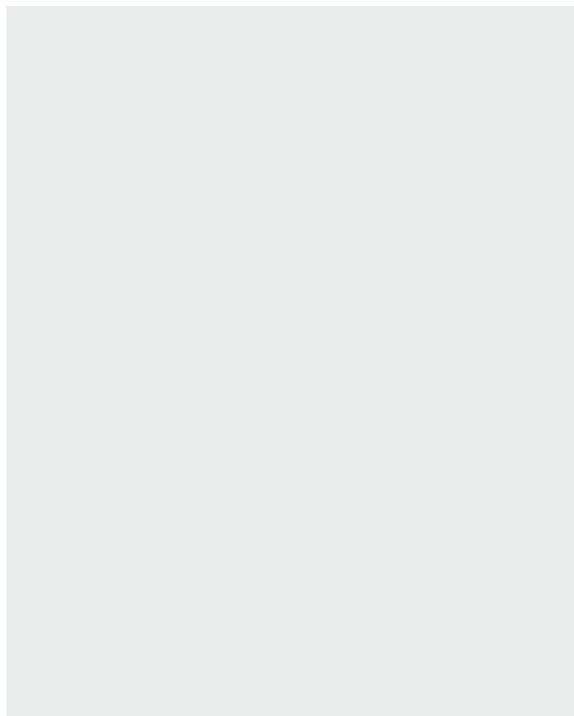
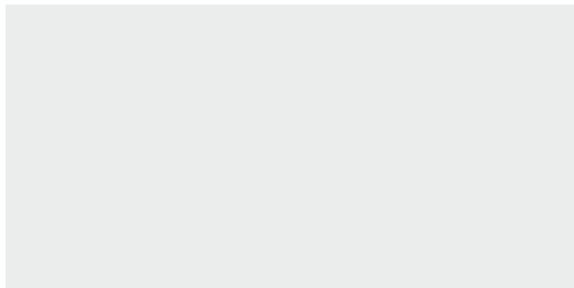
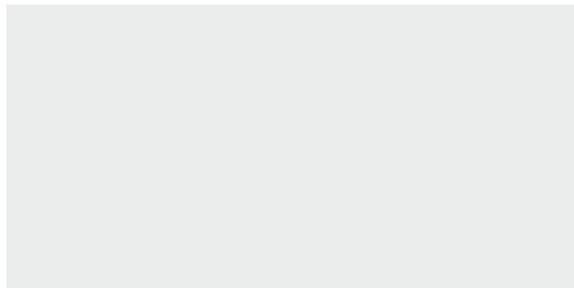
operators. Even though sending a small staff up north means the regiment has fewer people to run day to day operations, it will set the conditions for the battalion to begin work

as soon as they arrive in theater."

NMCB 4 is deploying ahead of schedule in support of the President's new troop uplift. The battalions, whose main job

is expeditionary construction, will play a key role in providing the necessary engineering support to arriving U.S. and Coalition Forces in Afghanistan.

Questions on
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at:
(228) 871-4738





Above left: Builder 2nd Class (SCW) Matthew Richardson of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Det. Diego Garcia uses a router to clean up the edges of the laminate on a cabinet he custom-made for the United Seaman's Service living facility on Diego Garcia. Right: A completed base cabinet is ready for installation at the USS living facility. (U.S. Navy photos/Released)

Seabee displays craftsmanship

By Lt. Matthew Lenzer
NMCB 1 Public Affairs

Seabees are widely known for their expeditionary construction skills in support of military operations around the world. With these expeditionary construction missions, some of our Seabees don't get a chance to show the level of craftsmanship they can put into their projects. With Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1's deployment to the PACOM Area of Responsibility, our Seabees have had a chance to show what they can do on a peacetime deployment. Det. Diego Garcia is lucky enough to have one of these Seabees who has brought his special skills to the table and put a finishing touch on the United Seaman's Service living facility.

Builder 2nd Class Matthew Richardson is Det. Diego Garcia's project supervisor as well as its master cabinet maker. As part of the construction of the USS living facility, Richardson has custom made two base cabinets with drawers and eight wall mounted cabinets to complete the two kitchen areas of the building. Prior to deployment, during project package reviews, 30NCR was a bit skeptical on the Det.'s ability to build cabinets. However, after a recent visit by the operations staff of the 30th, they were made believers in the skill of Richardson.

"I started doing finish work as a side job and then progressed to building cabinets such as built in wall units and other small jobs," said Richardson.

After joining the Navy, he continued to make cabinets in his garage to maintain his skills. With the deployment to Diego Garcia, he had the opportunity to improve on those skills further.

"The new part for me was the laminate," said Richardson. "I have never done it before and there was a lot to do on this project. After laminating the first few pieces, I found it was an easy, but time consuming, process."

After completing the laminations, Richardson sealed the interior of the cabinets and attached the door hardware. Once the kitchen areas are prepared, the cabinets will be installed, adding a finishing touch to the building as well as showing the great talent we have in the Seabees.

Det. Timor Leste spreads holiday cheer

Seabees attached to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Det. Timor-Leste are pictured with children of the Cristo Rei Orphanage after the Seabees brought the children gifts to brighten their holidays. The children colored Christmas cards as a special thanks to their new friends. (U.S. Navy photo by BU1 Trammel Henderson/Released)



NMCB 1 'Bees open holiday hearts to children of Guam

By YN2 Starrlette Thrasher
NMCB 1 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Det. Guam volunteers passed along the spirit of the holidays by presenting gifts to less fortunate children at the Luis P. Untalan Middle School and at Chief Brodie Memorial Elementary School on Guam.

More than 30 Seabees from the Det. chose a child from lists provided by the schools and then went shopping to help fulfill their holiday wishes with a new and exciting toy to keep them busy during their holiday break and into the new year.

In Barrigada, the Untalan Middle School staff and children showed their appreciation with cheers and joyous screams and shouts as the Seabee Santa's arrived carrying sacks filled with toys.

"This goes to show that with a little time and effort just a small token of holiday spirit can mean so much to so many," said Personnel Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Nathaniel Godfrey.

On the other side of the island, the chief petty officer's of Det. Guam participated in another

gift donation at the Chief Brodie Elementary School in Agana. The CPOs had a little extra help from Santa Claus himself, played by Chief Builder (SCW) Nicholas Hoffmann. "The Santa suit was incredibly hot but well worth it to see the happy kids."

While the children were excited to receive presents, seeing Santa really made their holiday special.

"It was a good time and a great opportunity to show our appreciation and support for the children of the local community," said Master Chief Equipment Operator (SCW/SW) James Moran. "But Santa was definitely the hit of the party."

"I just like to see kids happy and excited," said Senior Chief Construction Electrician (SCW) Donald Kirk. "You could tell the children were less fortunate yet they were so thankful for us being their and thinking of them."

Set-up by Construction Mechanic 1st Class (SCW) Jerry Searight and other volunteers Det. Guam, the mission of uplifting many children's hearts and spirits was definitely accomplished this holiday season.



Construction Mechanic 1st Class (SCW) Jerry Searight with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Det. Guam distributes gifts to elementary school children. The volunteers were able to answer the holiday wishes of children at both Chief Brodie Memorial Elementary School and the Luis P. Untalan Middle School. (U.S. Navy photo /Released)

NMCB 74 wins sixth consecutive retention award

By MC1 Ryan G. Wilber
NMCB 74 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 was recently named among the Retention Excellence Award winners for 2009. This makes the sixth consecutive win for the battalion, the most consecutive wins for an NMCB in recent years.

The exact criteria for the award changes from year to year, but centers on retention percentages for each career zone, attrition percentage and a command career counselor program assessment grade. The three zones (A, B and C) are based on how many years a service member has served on active duty, zone "A" represents the least and zone "C" the most years. A navy counselor from the command's Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC) performs the assessment.

According to the message, eligibility for this year's award required each command to meet or exceeded the 48 percent zone "A" reenlistment rate, 58 percent zone "B" reenlistment rate, 82 percent zone "C" reenlistment rate, and meet the zone "A" 6.2 percent or lower attrition rate, or earned at least two quarterly honor roll awards. In addition to retention and attrition, a command must score a minimum 80 percent on the career counselor pro-

gram assessment to be eligible for the award. To win the award this year, NMCB 74 earned three consecutive honor roll awards, met the zone "A" attrition rate and passed the assessment with a score of 98 percent.

When asked what contributed to the battalion winning the award, Chief Navy Counselor Surgann Coker-Bello, NMCB 74 command career counselor, gave much of the credit to her retention team. She also stated that completing career development boards help the command know a Sailor's career intentions and in turn helps Sailors meet their career goals whether the service member "stays Navy" or not.

"We had some very dedicated career counselors who were out to ensure that the Sailors were taken care of. Once they realized what the programs were all about, the career counselors really went to work," said Coker-Bello. "Whether they stay or leave to me is beside the point. I just want to make sure they are smart when they make their final decision. I don't want anyone to make a decision and they were given the wrong information. I think that now that we are empowering our Sailor's with the correct knowledge about their careers, they can make informed decisions on where they want to take it. Whether it's to

stay in the Navy or to go ahead and separate to continue their college or civilian job, at least I know they are making an informed decision."

Every NMCB in the Navy won the Retention Excellence Award in 2009 and Coker-Bello indicated that there are a number of reasons why a Seabee would make the choice to reenlist, besides pure patriotism.

"The skills that they learn here in the Seabee community translate very easily to a civilian sector job. What I've been finding out is that the longer they stay and the higher rank they are, they are able to obtain U.S. Map certificates, and along with those certificates and skills they learn here, they are able to negotiate a better paying salary or higher position in some of the construction work they want to do once they get out. Some of that same skill and the certificates also allow them to earn college credits to obtain their college degree a lot faster," said Coker-Bello.

Chief Construction Electrician Derrick Stephens, Headquarters Company career counselor, feels that a Sailor's knowledge of available opportunities contribute to a Seabee's decision to reenlist. Getting the word out is part of his job as a member of the retention team.

"To find out there are other things out there besides the battalion is



Chief Navy Counselor Surgann Coker-Bello (right), assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, Headquarters Company, interviews Builder 2nd Class Scott Bryant. Coker-Bello interviews all newly reported personnel to review their naval career and let them know what to expect from the Battalion's retention team. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

kind of like a treat. [If a service member] just did five or six years in the battalion, why not treat [themselves] or reward [themselves] with shore duty and find out about a shore duty they would like to take with a "C" school that they feel like is something they would enjoy doing," said Stephens. "There are different [opportunities] out there that I don't think people knew about besides guys who had done it before

... I see people starting to try and go [different] routes now."

Coker-Bello has been conducting paygrade appropriate training on the battalion's training days to get information about career incentives to as many Seabees as possible. It is anticipated that initiatives such as this will allow them to take full advantage of Navy programs and the battalion to win award number seven next year.

NMCB 74's electricians keep the juice moving

By MC1 Ryan G. Wilber
NMCB 74 Public Affairs

Light, heat or air conditioning and an outlet for a morning cup of 'joie' are all daily needs for a forward deployed Seabee battalion; none of which are possible without electricity. Beginning with just a drawing and roll of electrical wire, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74's construction electricians bring a newly constructed building to electric life.

The electrical plans are drawn by the lead electrician assigned to each new construction project using standard symbols and following a standard layout, but each plan is tailored to meet the functional needs of the space.

"I design [the electrical drawings]

myself based on what the customer's needs are for the building," said Construction Electrician 2nd Class Alyssa Copp, Charlie Company lead electrician. Everyone on the crew initially works together building the walls and placing the trusses, but once the walls are up the electricians break off and go to work on their specific duties. According to Copp, wiring a building requires specialized training and knowledge of the National Electric Code in order to perform the work correctly.

"As long as you know the basics that you've been taught in "A" school, you can get the job done pretty well," said Copp who went on to say that experience is a plus. "The more you do it, the more repetitive it gets, and it gets in-

grained in you. It's good to be able to use your skills."

Numerous aspects of construction on a building progress simultaneously, so members must communicate. According to Construction Electrician Constructionman Patricia Escobar, electrical crew member, it is important for the crew to keep each other informed concerning their progress to avoid rework.

Wiring a building in the desert can often be logistically challenging, and desert summer temperatures must always be kept in mind even when working during the winter, rainy season.

"A lot of times we have to think outside the box," said Copp. "Normally eight circuits go to a breaker back in the states, but we use six because of how hot it gets out here so



Construction Electrician 2nd Class Alyssa Copp, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, Charlie Company, installs an outlet box for a 20 foot by 32 foot Southwest Asia Hut for use by the battalion's Medical Department as a treatment facility on Camp Krutke, Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Ryan G.ber/Released)

we don't overload the circuit." The process of wiring a building is relatively safe. No electricity will run through the wires until the wiring is complete and ready for

testing. "When they are installing the wiring in the building they don't

See ELECTRIC page 21

Anchors and Eagles

Super Bowl Party is scheduled for Feb. 7 from 4 p.m. until the game is over! A \$10 cover will be charged which includes food, two drink tickets (valued at \$3 each) and a chance to win door prizes. Door prizes will be given out, one per quarter. For more information please contact 228-424-6892.

Beehive Lounge

Be sure to watch the big game on one of our many TV's located in the Beehive on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7 from 4 p.m. until the end of the game. A \$10 cover will be charged and will include door prizes, free food, and two drink tickets (valued at \$3 each).

Aquatics

The cold front has moved past us and the sun is shining bright. Keep those New Year's Resolutions "to get fit" and swim in the warm waters of the CBC Fitness Center Pool. We are currently offering swim lessons for individuals as well as stroke refinement sessions. Group swim lessons will begin again on Mar. 22 with registration starting Mar. 1. Contact Aquatics Supervisor Dana Dawson, at 228-822-5103 for more information.

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation is more than a place to rent a table, chairs, bounce house, canoes, camping gear or boat. Although those are all great items and should be rented because we have great deals, we have so much more to offer. Please check out our monthly calendar of events for all ages. Bring your spouse, children or a friend to one of the many concerts, National Seashore outings, plays or Miss. Coast Coliseum events. Also look forward to many outdoor activities such as canoeing, kayaking, hiking and biking for spring and summer.

Fitness Center

Get ready for CBC's Biggest Loser Challenge! This is a 12 week challenge with sign ups beginning Feb. 8. The first weigh in will be March 1-5 and will last until May 31. Your results will be determined by percentage of weight loss. For more details contact Michael McLaughlin 228-822-5107.

The next 5K will be a **Valentine's 5K** held Feb. 17 at 6:30 a.m. All eligible patrons are welcome to join us at the starting line which is located behind the Fitness Center.

Aerobics classes are free to all eli-

gible patrons, although children between the ages of 10 and 15 must stay with their parents throughout the class. Pick up the latest schedule at the CBC Fitness Center, Building 445.

Have you ever played walleyball?

This fun and exhilarating sport will have its first- ever league here on the base with sign ups beginning Feb. 15. A team consists of four players and a match is played best two out of three and/or completed within the scheduled hour. A team must win by two points or whoever reaches 17 points first. For more information or a copy of the rules contact Sam Perkins, 822-5109.

Massage Therapy with Julie

Blackner (to make an appointment, call 228-871-2667). Massage can help release chronic muscular tension, reduce mental and physical fatigue. Massage and body work is also known to promote better sleep and reduce anxiety and create a sense of well being. To experience these benefits call to make an appointment and you can be well on your way to a healthier way of living.

Information Ticket and Tours (ITT)

Your best bet in planning that special trip would be to make ITT your first stop since ITT offers discounted tickets to local attractions, cruise/hotel specials, vacation packages and TicketMaster services.

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 Feb. 12-15. Trip includes round-trip deluxe motor coach transportation, two night's hotel accommodations at the Radisson World Gate Resort. Race tickets may be purchased separately.

Let's get ready to go to the Orlando Theme Parks one more time! ITT is taking a Spring Break trip March 27 - April 2! Trip includes round-trip deluxe motor coach transportation, four 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 March 15 with final payment by March 25.

NEW! NEW! NEW! - ITT is going tropical! Come with us and enjoy a three-night cruise to the Bahamas! We will be sailing on Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines May

27 from Port Canaveral, Fla. for three days/three nights of tropical breezes, tropical music, sandy beaches and FUN! Must have a minimum of 8 cabins (minimum 16 people) to sail. Cost is \$480/per person with a \$200 per cabin deposit due by Feb 17. Balance due by March 17. Pricing is all-inclusive.

We can book as many cabins as we need, so there is no chance of overselling! Bring your spouse, your sweetheart, your kids, your mom and dad . . . just come along! Transportation will be provided to and from the cruise terminal with payment plans available!

The Grill

Monday Special . . . Meat loaf, mashed potatoes & gravy, with vegetable for \$5; **Wednesday Special . . .** Lasagna with coleslaw or salad and bread for \$5.75; **Friday Special . . .** Catfish platter with fries and coleslaw for \$4.50

Pizza Bros

Come check out our new additions to the menu such as soup and chili. You can get any wedger on a hoagie for only \$4.50.

Liberty Center

How about kicking off the New Year with a great trip?

There are only a few days left to sign up! Over President's Day weekend, Feb. 12-15, we'll be heading to Nashville, Tenn. Transportation, 3 nights lodging at the Ramada Inn & Suites Opryland Airport is only going to cost you \$110! You can't get a better deal than that. But we need you to sign up by Feb. 1. Call 228-871-4684 or come see us in Liberty for more information.

If you're not able to swing \$110 or three days away, then join Liberty as we take trips both near and far this month. Trips that are close to home will include a Mall Trip to Edgewater Mall in Biloxi Feb. 2 (departing at 5:30 p.m. - FREE!); a night at the Gulfport Dragway Feb. 3 (departing at 6 p.m. - admission is \$7 at the gate) and two trips to the Mo-Joe Festival in D'Iberville Feb. 8 and 10 (departing at 6 p.m. and admission is \$5 at the gate.)

If you're looking to get out of Gulfport then join us Feb. 5 as we leave at 5:30 p.m. to go watch the New Orleans Hornets take on the Philadelphia '76'ers- ONLY \$17!

As always, Liberty is gearing up for the Super Bowl Feb. 7. Join us at the Training Hall to watch the



game in style on the big screen. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. (kickoff is at 5:30 p.m.) and we'll have tons of free pizza, wings, cookies and soda! Interested in winning some Super Bowl gear? Get ready to try your hand at Super Bowl Squares for free and you might win t-shirts, hats or even a football (must be present to win).

Don't forget that the goal of Liberty is to be your home away from home - a place for you to relax, shoot some pool, check your email or just watch a movie. Have a request for trip or event- let us know!!!

Pine Bayou Golf Course

Check out our Golf Specials!

Monday-Thursday 2 for 1 greens fee after Noon. Cart Fees have been reduced to only \$9 for 18 holes and NO rider fee will be charged to immediate family members who want to accompany you while you golf. FREE club rentals for all Enlisted (as available). Finally, if you are staying at the Navy Gateway Inn and Suites just bring in your room key for a free greens fee! Be sure to grab a bite after your round of golf by having a great meal at the Grill! Quarterly Memberships (Greens Fee Only) are still available! Military/Retirees are \$125, DoD Employees are \$150, and Guests can join for as little as \$250

Youth Activities Center

Sign-up your energized 5 - 12 year old for this special two-day Holiday Camp Feb. 16 - 17 from 6 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. at the Youth Activities Center. Many activities, games, and crafts have been planned so don't miss out! At the time of registration you will need to bring the following items: Current LES or pay stub, Family Care Plan for Dual or Single Active Duty, and proof of age (5 - 12) and dependant status. Daily fees for the Mardi Gras Holiday Camp Program are based on gross total family income. Please call 228-871-2251 if you have questions regarding the School-Age Care, Recreation and/or Sports Programs.

At the Movies . . .

FREE movies, now playing at

the Training Hall Movie Theater



Jan. 28: Surrogates (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 29: Sorority Row (R), 5:30 p.m., The Informant (R), 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 30: Zombieland (R), 1 p.m., Gamer (R), 3 p.m., Surrogates (PG13), 5 p.m., Whiteout (R), 7 p.m.

Jan. 31: Fame (PG), Noon, All About Steve (PG13), 2 p.m., Love Happens (PG13), 4 p.m., Jennifer's Body (R), 6 p.m.

Feb. 2: Carriers (R), 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 4: Paranormal Activity (R), 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 5: Where the Wild Things Are (PG), 5:30 p.m., Law Abiding Citizen (R), 7:45 p.m.

Feb. 6: Astro Boy (PG), 1 p.m., Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (PG), 3:15 p.m., Fight Club (R), 5:45 p.m.

Feb. 7: Where the Wild Things Are (PG), Noon, The Invention of Lying (PG13), 2 p.m., Michael Jackson's This Is It (PG), 4 p.m., Amelia (PG), 6 p.m.

Feb. 9: Where the Wild Things Are (PG), 6:30 p.m.

Feb.11: The Stepfather (R), 6:30 p.m.

Focus on Education

Applications for 2010 Scholarships for Military Children now available

From NCBC School Liaison Officer

Scholarship applications for the 2010 Scholarships for Military Children Program are available in commissaries worldwide and online through a link at <http://www.commissaries.com> and directly at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Since the program began in 2000, it has awarded \$7.3 million in \$1,500 scholarships to almost 5,000 children of service members.

Only dependent, unmarried children, younger than age 21 (age 23 if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university) of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military members, survivors of service members who died while on active duty, or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military may apply for a scholarship.

Eligibility is determined using

DEERS, the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current ID card.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already be attending, an accredited college or university full time in the fall of 2010, or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants should prepare to submit an essay on the following topic: "You can travel back in time; however, you cannot change events. What point in history would you visit and why?"

Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 17.

At least one scholarship will be awarded at every store location.

Training Classes . . . The Human Resources Service Center now has their 2010 training schedule online. Go to https://www.cnbc.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/cdn/cnicp_a144407.pdf to find out more.

Need a tutor? Tutor.com gives students of all ages FREE online help in math, sciences, English, social studies and a variety of other subjects. To access the program go to www.tutor.com/navy and then sign in to Navy Knowledge Online.

School Liaison Officer
Location: MWR, Bldg 352
1706 Bainbridge Ave. , NCBC
(228) 871-2117

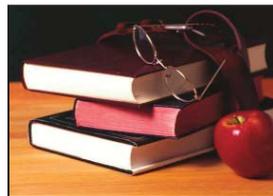
Academic Achievement



NCBC Navy College representative Dr. David Drye presents Builder 2nd Class (SCW) Dean Allen Jr. with his associates degree in Construction Technology from Coastline Community College, Jan. 5. Allen is serving with Twentieth Seabee Readiness Group (20 SRG). (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



NCBC Navy College representative Dr. David Drye presents Engineering Aid 3rd Class (SCW) David Lawlor with his associates degree in Construction Technology from Coastline Community College, Jan. 5. Lawlor is serving with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



NMCRS Education . . . Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provides a source of education financing to help service members and their families pursue their academic goals. Information and application deadlines can be found by visiting the Society's Education Programs webpage at: <http://www.nmcrs.org/education.html>

RecruitMilitary Opportunity Expo

The Expo is a free employment, entrepreneurship and educational opportunity events for veterans, personnel who are transitioning from activity duty, Reserves, Guard and military spouses. Presented by RecruitMilitary, the President's National Hire Veterans Com-

mittee, the American Legion and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network, the Expo will be held Feb. 10 at the Fair Grounds Race Course and Slots, New Orleans, La. from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.recruitmilitary.com>.

South Mississippi Mardi Gras Parades



Jan. 30:

11 a.m., Bay St. Louis Krewe of Kids
1 p.m., Ocean Springs Elks Lodge/ followed by
Krewe Unique
1 p.m., Lizana Carnival Association, Gulfport
1 p.m., Secondline Mardi Gras Club, Biloxi

Feb. 6:

1 p.m., Krewe of River City, Moss Point
1:30 p.m., Mystic Krewe of Pine Island, Van-
cleave
2 p.m., Orange Grove Carnival Association/ fol-
lowed by Orange Grove Krewe of Kids
2 p.m., Timber Ridge Women's Club, Pass Chris-
tian
7 p.m., Gautier Men's Club

Feb. 7:

1 p.m., Krewe of Nereids, Waveland
1 p.m., Carnival Association of Long Beach

Feb. 12:

1 p.m., Moore Community House, Biloxi
7 p.m., Ocean Springs Carnival Association

Feb. 13:

11 a.m., Wiggins-Stone County Chamber Parade,
Wiggins
Noon, Krewe of Diamondhead
Noon, Biloxi Children's Walking Parade
1 p.m., Jackson County Carnival Association,
Pascagoula
1 p.m., Pass Christian Carnival Association's
Krewe of Legacy
2 p.m., Krewe of Gemini, Gulfport

Feb. 14:

Noon, St. Paul Carnival Association, Pass Chris-
tian
1:30 p.m., North Bay Area Mardi Gras Associa-
tion, D'Iberville-St. Martin

Feb. 16:

1 p.m., Krewe of Diamonds, Bay St. Louis
1 p.m., Gulf Coast Carnival Association/ followed
by Krewe of Neptune, Biloxi
5:30 p.m., Krewe of Gemini, Gulfport

*Subject to change; for latest Mardi Gras info go to
<http://www.gulfcoast.org/visitors/events/mardigras>*

Homefront in Focus: Friendly faces on the road

By Beth Wilson
Special Military Spouse Contributor

I am writing this article during a layover at the Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City. I just spent three inspiring days with the Oklahoma National Guard and Air National Guard Family Programs Office. While it was a great trip it was packed full of meetings, trainings, meals and networking. This is one weary traveler.

When I was dropped off at the airport my host suggested I check out the Military Welcome Center at the airport. I thought I was going to visit a USO center at the airport. Many of us know the USO operates military centers at many airports across the country which is truly a blessing to many military travelers in transit.

This center, however, is not a USO facility. I learned this center was staffed by volunteers in conjunction with the Armed Forces YMCA of Oklahoma City. Clyde Tulles, Central Director, humbly states this is the only CONUS YMCA operated facility. He is proud of this operation and they should be! I was warmly greeted by the staff of five volunteers. They quickly thanked me for my support of my husband and directed me to the internet service, computers, living room lounge area, complimentary snacks and beverages. There have cell phones with free minutes for service members to call home. They are prepared for the military family as well with games and toys for the children. This facility even sports an additional room with cots, blankets and pillows for weary or overnight military to rest and relax.

Clyde is quick to defer to his team of volunteers who 'make it happen' and the proud history of this facility. The Military Welcome Center was started by the Blue Star Moms in the area. With Tinker Air

Force Base and Fort Sill it was clear the facility needed to operate full time and they needed assistance. They approached the Armed Forces YMCA and, with the volunteers and airport management support, a wonderful relationship was formed and the YMCA Military Welcome Center was born.

As I visited I was struck by

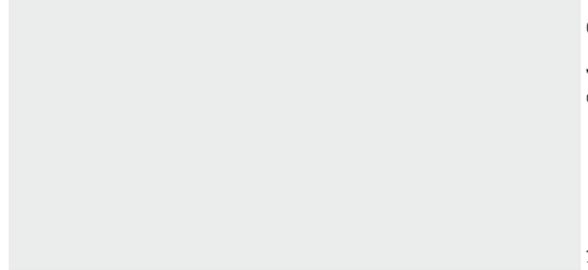
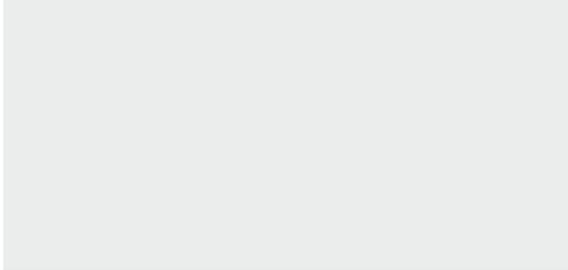
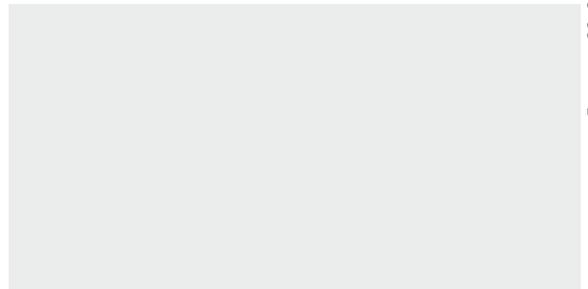
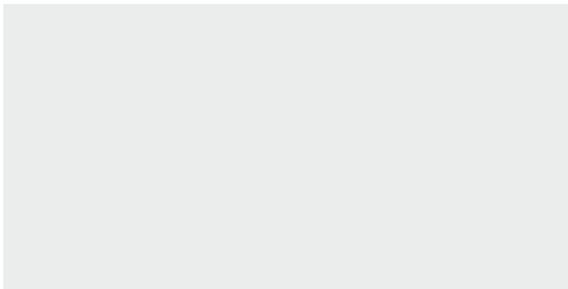
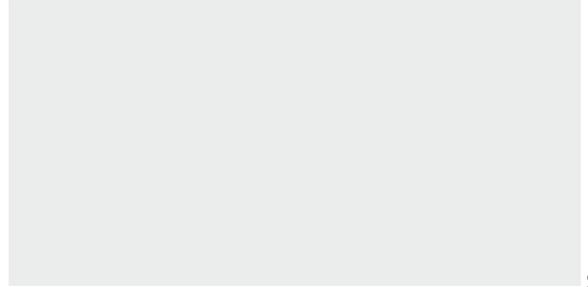
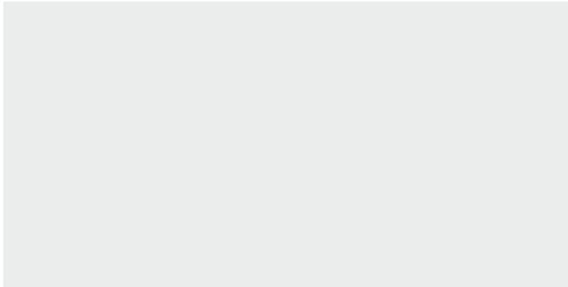
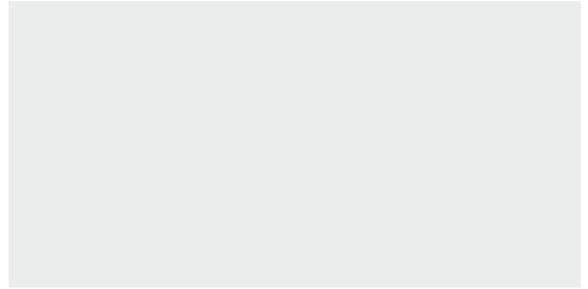
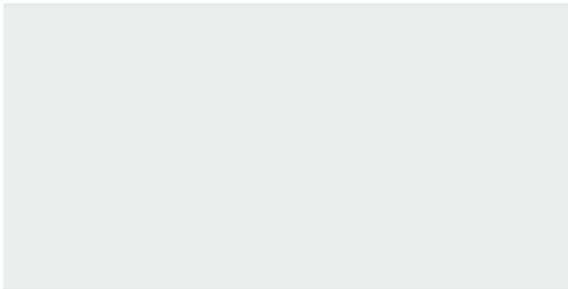
the deep desire of the volunteers to 'love on' the military and their families that pass through their facility. It struck me that it was such a boost and blessing to me, a weary military spouse, how much more to our traveling military! Whether traveling on orders or pleasure it was great to hear the stories of military utilizing not only this facility but the

many operated by private organizations or the USO.

Clyde specifically asked that I make it clear that military welcome centers are not just for the military but for the entire military family; spouses, children, even parents, and grandparents who are traveling with their Soldier, Sailor, Airmen or Marine. As you travel, and with today's often long waits

between check-in and departure, stop by the military welcome center at your airport for a great place for you and your family to wait. You're sure to be greeted by caring volunteers who are waiting for you!

Contact Beth at beth@homefrontinfocus.com. Check out her internet show, Navy Homefront Talk, at www.blogtalkradio.com/nht



Commissaries partner with DoD to promote care for veterans, families

By Kevin Robinson
DeCA Public Affairs

Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Megan Krause had deployed to Iraq and returned without any injury, or so she thought. Marine Sgt. Josh Hopper had been wounded by a roadside bomb during his second tour to Iraq, but his scars ran deeper than even he could imagine.

Both Krause and Hopper were suffering from post-traumatic-stress syndrome. They are among the service members profiled in candid videos posted on <http://www.real-warriors.net> as part of the Real Warriors Partnership Campaign. The Defense Commissary Agency is partnering with Real Warriors to help promote their Web site as a meeting place for service members, veterans and their families to begin seeking psychological care.

"This campaign looks to open doors for our warriors and let them know it's OK to ask for and receive much-needed assistance," said DeCA Director and CEO Philip E. Sakowitz Jr. "We are proud to do our part in supporting this noble initiative. As a member of the military community we have an inherent responsibility to lend a helping hand."

Through this partnership, DeCA will:

- o Print and distribute posters to each of its 254 commissaries to be displayed for at least two weeks;
- o Distribute reusable shopping bags that bear the Real Warriors logo, Web site, and outreach telephone number to each commissary for use during newcomer briefings, health fairs and other outreach

events; and

- o Place a Web link on <http://www.commissaries.com> that connects DeCA's site to the Real Warriors site.

The Real Warriors Campaign, launched in the spring of 2009 by the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological

Health and Traumatic Brain Injury, looks to erase the stigma that there is something wrong with people who seek psychological healthcare. The campaign Web site features stories of service members who asked for help and moved forward with successful mili-

tary and civilian careers.

"I think it takes real strength for anyone to get help for psychological issues," said Hopper in his profile video on the Real Warrior Web site. "... You're branded as, 'Oh, he's the tough guy . . . the chip's been put on your shoul-

der that those kinds of things aren't supposed to bother you . . ."

The call for help goes beyond those who need help, but also includes information on what

See REAL page 19





**WANTED:
Seabee
Divers!
Underwater
Construction
Team ONE**

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

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 nmcbone-frg@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 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. For more information, contact FRG President Torell Coquet at torellcoquet@yahoo.com or Vice President Annie Gundy at anniegundy@gmail.com. To receive updates, log on to the FRG website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb-74-fgr/index.html>.

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. 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 hansonkl54@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 meets the fourth Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Youth Center. Children are welcome and child care is provided. For more info, e-mail noscgulfport@yahoo.com. Visit NOSCGulfport.org for more information.

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. Volunteers are always welcome. Visit the NMCRS 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.

TRAINING
COMPASS is a team of trained seasoned military spouses mentoring other Navy spouses. Classes are intimate and informative. The three-day course is offered the last week of the month. The course and child care are FREE! Contact Kim at 228-832-5343 or Amanda at 228-328-1352 to sign up.

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. Bowling at 228-313-9035 or coachcb_yahoo.com; or AGC Enrique Acosta-Gonzalez at

228-688-5288 or enrique.acosta@navy.mil.

SOCIAL
Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association is seeking new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 3 p.m. at CBC's Beehive, building 352. Call BU1 Tony Boldrey 228-871-2577 for more information or just come and join us at a meeting.

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 the month is Seafood night, the remaining Fridays are Steak night. 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. All 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.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group
Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Group may go to <http://nmcb62alumni.org> for more information. The website also contains links to hundreds of Seabee military historical sites as well as reunion 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 Hueneame, Calif. Contact the museum through the web address at www.seabeeuseumstore.org/shop/index.php

From REAL page 18

to expect when service members return from their deployments, and how their families, friends and employers can support and encourage them to get the help they need.

In her video, Krause said it took her fellow soldiers to con-

vince her that she needed help; she didn't realize how badly she was suffering from PTSD. "It wasn't until I got the emotional help that I needed that I was able to fix the rest of my problems."

Through the Real Warriors Campaign, the Defense Centers of Excellence has set up a

24-hour call center staffed by health resource consultants to provide confidential answers, tools and resources about psychological health and traumatic brain injury.

The center can be reached toll-free at 866-966-1020 or via e-mail at resources@dcoc-outreach.org.

The first project is on the island of Jolo, in the Barangay (community) Kagay, with the construction of an elementary school. Seabees built two school buildings and a bathroom.

The completion of the school in December 2009 was especially important for the crew, as their work was stopped in the middle of the project because of a tragic incident.

Army special forces soldiers, Sgt. 1st Class Christopher D. Shaw and Staff Sgt. Jack M. Martin, and Marine Corps Pfc. Jerwin J. Estrada of the Philippine Marine Battalion Landing Team 6 were killed Sept. 29 when their vehicle ran over an improvised explosive device as they travelled to the school site. The soldiers were conducting a resupply mission in the vicinity of the school when the incident occurred.

At that point, construction was halted for six weeks while teams regrouped and a security plan was reestablished. The team returned to the area, determined to complete the project. Finishing the school demonstrated a resolve that lawless elements could not halt infrastructure developments in Jolo.

"One of our main concerns, when we went back out there was that we already had three guys lives invested into this project," said Steelworker Nicholas Moore.

"To not complete [the school] would have been letting them down because these two special forces Soldiers did everything they could to help us see it through to the end. They always made sure they could get us any kind of supplies we needed, and they pushed and pushed and made things happen," said Moore.

Wright also spoke of the Seabees' determination to see the project to completion.

"The Kagay team was glad to go back and finish the school. I don't think they would have been satisfied if they had been forced to leave project incomplete," said Wright.

Finishing the Kagay school was an achievement for everyone who was involved in the project. It also was a statement to the community and surrounding areas that the Seabee team was there to help and could not be deterred.

"When we were done with the school, everyone was just thrilled. During the last week, when we were finishing up, the locals were out there helping us paint, doing finishing touches and they erected a flagpole and monument," said Moore.

Construction Electrician Alex Pisa talked about the satisfaction of completing the Kagay school.

"It was exciting to work on the school and a great feeling of accomplishment to know we were doing such a good thing for the community," said Pisa.

The second project involved the building of two structures at the Lanao Agricultural College, which consisted of six classrooms, with a 5800 square foot main building and a 1000 square foot science building.

Both projects include a complete septic system, electrical power distribution, lighting, fans and a generator. The completion of these projects were made official and turned over to the community with recent ribbon-cutting ceremonies where members of the local governments, AFP and JSOTF-P leadership attended.

Working conditions for the Seabee crew are rigorous, with crews working 12 hour shifts, six days per week. Seabees live in walking distance of the sites and often go without many of the amenities other deployed service members may have.

"There is a strong tie between us and the locals here. Both the crews and residents were very emotional about the completion of these two projects. The Seabees are very satisfied with the impact they are able to have on the local communities," said Wright.

Future projects for teams here will be the renovations of two elementary schools in Marawi, as well as what are known as camp support projects. These are projects designed to improve the living conditions and capabilities of U.S. forces and contractors. Both projects will involve the renovation of living spaces inside AFP camps.

"We are very happy our people are working together on this school with AFP and the U.S. forces. Our people will greatly benefit from this project," said Jasmine B. Asum, the head high school instructor at Lanao Agricultural College.



Interested in volunteering? Check out www.volunteermisissippi.org for information on volunteer opportunities in your community.

From NMCB 11 page 7

exercises that would normally be spread out over a 12-month period into nine short months for NMCB 11.

Eleven recently wrapped up its second Command Post Exercise. The CPX is used to better prepare the Battalion for its Field Training Exercise, FTX is the last graded element before deployment. It's used to gain proficiency in every

executable area of a battalion and provides them the platform to integrate all the working parts of the exercise into one cohesive unit.

"At this stage of the game the goal was to increase troop proficiency in their tactical skills and to engage the leadership in communication, command and control, and to train the troops," said Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Harder, operations officer, NMCB 11.

"On all counts the Battalion

made tremendous progress during the four day exercise. The battalion and the Twentieth Seabee Readiness Group worked tremendously hard together through this exercise to ensure we're ready for our next deployment." added Harder.

This exercise was the second of three CPX's prior to NMCB 11's FTX in March. Eleven will be deploying to the PACOM area of operations in the spring.

Seabee Center Blood Drive . . . There will be a Blood Drive at the Seabee Memorial Chapel Fellowship Hall Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

From ELECTRIC page 13

have live power, it's all completely dead. So, as far as actually installing electrical systems, it's pretty safe," said Utilitiesman 1st Class Jason McBrayer, command assistant safety officer.

Following the correct wiring procedure however, is imperative. A spark-producing electrical malfunction can cause a quick catastrophe to

a dry wood structure during the summer heat.

"If there is anything faulty in it, the building is gone relatively quick considering it's in an all wood structure. If something should happen, it is going to catch fire," said McBrayer.

Once the wiring is complete and tested in one building, the electricians gather their tools and move on to the next project site to begin the

same process all over again. Other than slight variations in a building's floor plan and the specific needs of each customer, the job can become quite repetitive, but Copp doesn't complain.

"A lot of people find electrical work monotonous, because you are doing the same thing. You're building another SWA-Hut, installing more receptacles, and the process gets repetitive, but I don't mind," said Copp.

GULF COAST USO



3001 6th St., Bldg. 306, (228) 575-5224
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 - Friday, 11:35 a.m.,
Daily Mass**

Gospel Service: Sunday, 8 a.m.

Center Chaplains:

**Cmdr. Macgregor McClellan,
Protestant Chaplain
Lt. Cmdr. Michael Brown,
Protestant Chaplain
Lt. Leticia P.J. Rouser,
Protestant Chaplain**

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

Celebrating 106 years of service



Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society staff celebrate the organization's 106th birthday Jan. 22 at the Fleet and Family Support Center on board NCBC. Founded in 1904, the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is a private non-profit charitable organization. NMCRS is sponsored by the Department of the Navy and operates nearly 250 offices ashore and afloat at Navy and Marine Corps bases throughout the world. (U.S. Navy photo by EO3 (SCW) Elizabeth Saranto/Released)