



# Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

Vol. 47 No. 5

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

March 11, 2010

## NMCB 74 continues Camp Leatherneck improvements



Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Shaun Boyce, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, Alfa Company, waits for the bucket of an excavator operated by Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Jeremy Nelson, assigned to NMCB 74, Alfa Company, to finish filling a Hesco concertainer unit with sand and dirt so that he can level it off using a shovel. Boyce and Nelson are part of a crew tasked with improving sections of Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)

## Sailors can now verify medical readiness on-line

By Lt. Cmdr. James R. Hagen  
NAVMISSA Public Affairs Officer

Navy Medicine Information Systems Support Activity (NAVMISSA) in San Antonio, Texas, has developed an on-line program that will support every Sailor.

NAVMISSA's new web-based application allows Sailors for the first time to monitor their Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) status online.

Sailors can now review their IMR medical and dental data from the Medical Readiness Reporting System via BUPERS Online. The IMR status determines if a Sailor is medically eligible to deploy.

"This additional application within BOL allows Sailors to ensure that all of their IMR requirements are current and see what their current IMR status is," said Elaine A. Shorkey, a NAVMISSA external liaison and project lead.

Maintaining accurate IMR status through MRRS is a high priority within Navy Medicine and directly supports Navy Medicine's

See **READINESS** page 18

**Moreell Medal Awarded**

pg 6

**Local Greenhouse Build**

pg 9

**Seabee Birthday Bash!**

pg 13

NCBC/20SRG  
Commanding Officer  
Capt. Ed Brown  
Public Affairs Officer  
Rob Mims  
Editor  
Bonnie L. McGerr  
Mass Comm. Specialists  
MC1(SW) Terry Spain  
MC1 (SCW) Demetrius Kennon  
MC2 (SCW) Gregory N. Juday

22 NCR Commander  
Capt. Louis V. Cariello  
Public Affairs Officer  
MCC(SCW) Jeffrey J. Pierce  
Mass Comm. Specialist  
MC3 Michael Wright

25 NCR Commander  
Capt. Allen M. Stratman  
Public Affairs Officer  
MCCM (SW/AW) Lynn Levins

NMCB ONE  
Commanding Officer  
Cmdr. Stanley W. Wiles  
Public Affairs Officer  
Lt.j.g. Ina Miranda-Vargas

NMCB SEVEN  
Commanding Officer  
Cmdr. Jayson Mitchell  
Public Affairs Officer  
MCC (AW/SW) Yan Kennon  
Mass Comm. Specialist  
MC2(SCW) Michael B. Lavender

NMCB ELEVEN  
Cmdr. Michael Monreal  
Public Affairs Officer  
MC1 (SCW) Nicholas Lingo

NMCB SEVENTY FOUR  
Commanding Officer  
Cmdr. Bruce C. Nevel  
Public Affairs Officer  
Lt.j.g. Margaret Hansen  
Mass Comm. Specialist  
MC1 (SW/AW) Ryan Wilber  
MC2 Michael Lindsey

NMCB ONE THIRTY THREE  
Commanding Officer  
Cmdr. Christopher Kurgan  
Public Affairs Officer  
MCC (SW/AW/PJ) Ryan C. Delcorte

NCTC Gulfport  
Commanding Officer  
Cmdr. Stephanie Jones  
Public Affairs Officer  
Chaplain (Lt.j.g.) Rob Guilliams

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

The Seabee Courier is an authorized publication for members of the military services and their families. Content does not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the DoD or the U.S. Navy and does not imply endorsement thereof. The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U. S. Government, DoD, the Navy, NCBC Gulfport or The McClatchy Company of the products and services advertised. All content in this newspaper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The Seabee Courier is published 22 weeks a year by The McClatchy Company, a private firm in no way connected with the DoD, under an exclusive contract with the U. S. Navy. The Seabee Courier solicits news contributions from military and civilian sources, but the Public Affairs staff reserves the right to edit and/or rewrite material selected for publication to conform with journalism standards. The deadline for material is close of business Wednesday the week prior to publication. Your comments are always welcome. The Seabee Courier office is in Building 60, Room 250. The mailing address is 4902 Marvin Shields Blvd., Code 15, Gulfport, MS 39501. Phone: 228 871-3662, Fax: 228 871-2389. Email: SeabeeCourier@navy.mil.

# Navy Legal

## IRS form 8332; New rules about releasing, revoking a minor child exemption

By Cmdr. Kevin Whitmore, JAGC  
NLSO Central



The IRS has attempted to eliminate confusion with its new rules concerning Release/Revocation of Release of Claim for Exemption for Child by Custodial Parent. Divorced or separated parents sometimes quarreled over who can claim the child or children on their tax returns. This was especially true if the issue was not clearly spelled out in a divorce decree or separation agreement.

The new rule states simply that the custodial parent (defined as the parent who the child lives with for at least 183 days out of the corresponding tax year) has the right to take the tax exemption for the child. However, there is no requirement that the custodial parent exercise that right. The non-custodial parent can take the exemption and the IRS will allow it so long as the custodial parent does not attempt to take the exemption as well. When both parents attempt to take the exemption, the IRS needs to decide who is entitled to take it.

In past years, a divorce decree could transfer the right to take the exemption to a non-custodial parent. However, divorce decrees written in 2009

(and presumably after) do not transfer this right. The IRS requirement nullifies any clause in a 2009 decree granting the non-custodial parent the right to claim the exemption for the child. For those who settled their divorces on or before New Year's Eve 2008, their divorce decrees are grandfathered, and the new IRS rule does not take what the judge gave.

Now, the custodial parent completes IRS Form 8332, Release/Revocation of Release of Claim to Exemption for Child by Custodial Parent to officially give permission to the non-custodial parent to take the exemption(s). By completing IRS Form 8332 or by signing a similar statement which contains the same information required by the form, the custodial parent agrees in writing to allow the non-custodial parent to claim the child for the current year or for future years. When the non-custodial parent files his or her tax return, he or she must attach the

See EXEMPT page 21

# Skipper's Log

## Ideas on their own are useless

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



Capt. Ed Brown

Ideas are useless, opportunities are priceless. Opportunities are ideas with a plan and value. They are the forefront of the next step. Ideas without initiative are just . . . well . . . ideas, random thoughts; good to talk about, valuable for dreams and the beginning of excuses for not making progress.

Yet opportunities are for those who want to do more. Take an idea, figure out the pros and cons, determine the costs (in dollars, time and personal commitment) and develop a proposal. Now you're on your way. Put together a realistic timeline with places to stop and check the plan.

It doesn't stop there - you also need to sell the plan. Not everyone will see the value.

This is where the "idea" dies. You tell someone, they scoff and say why it won't work. If you can show a plan that already addresses how to overcome the challenges, you'll be on your way.

"Imagine - Plan - Execute - Succeed" works in all areas of your life.

**ATTENTION NCBC FIRE WARDENS . . .** In addition to the monthly Fire Warden Training which is normally completed on the last Thursday of the month from 2 - 2:30 p.m. at the Fire Department, Fire Wardens will now be responsible for completing annual on-line refresher training from the Navy Fire Emergency Services prior to attending the monthly training session. The training is available at [https://esams.cnic.navy.mil/ESAMS\\_GEN\\_2/LoginEsams.aspx](https://esams.cnic.navy.mil/ESAMS_GEN_2/LoginEsams.aspx). After signing in, select "Web Training" and select "Annual Fire Warden Refresher Training - the first training class listed. The training will take approximately 30 minutes. After completing the training, print out the certificate and bring it to the monthly in-house training at the NCBC Fire Department. Please contact Inspector Billy Ducote at 228-871-3083 if you have questions.

## Sailor's Creed

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

### 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.



Alija, a three-year-old black German Sheppard, is lead by her handler Warren Roberts while performing a vehicle inspection on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC). Alija and Warren are part of the security K-9 division, a specialized unit that provides regional security support for patrol, explosives and drug detection. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Elizabeth Saranto/Released)

## Seabees going to the dogs . . . Military Working Dogs that is

By EO3 (SCW) Elizabeth Saranto  
NCBC Public Affairs

A new military working dog program is being implemented on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) and is designed for force protection and to help secure the base. This will be the only naval base in the region to have the military dogs.

Warren Roberts along with Dominic Puzo, are the security force dog handlers who are in charge of the program. Roberts is a retired chief of police, and has 14 years of experience with K-9's.

"We would always have to call Gulfport or Biloxi police department and have a K-9 brought to base. Now we don't have to rely on them," said Roberts.

There are two K-9's on base- Alija, a three-year-old black German Sheppard, and Heky, a male Malinois who is two

years old. They are both detector dogs trained in explosives and drugs, who will also be able to detect "Spice."

On a daily and weekly basis the dogs will be posted at the front gates and throughout the base on the roads. They will conduct random inspections on vehicles all barracks and buildings that are underneath the commanding officer's authority.

The Navy uses various breeds of dogs for the K-9 units. The most common are German Shepherds and Belgium Malinois. These breeds are preferred due to their aggressiveness, agility, speed, longevity, and sense of smell.

The average military working dog will work for 10 to 11 years. The dogs then retire and are adopted or sent to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, where they will help train new handlers.

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

3

# In Honor of his Perseverance

By MC2 (SCW) Gregory N. Juday  
NCBC Public Affairs

1 African-American History Month is a time to raise awareness and appreciation of African-American History. Who better than the crew of the Guided Missile Destroyer (DDG) 107 Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) USS Gravelly to pay honor to Samuel Lee Gravelly, Jr., the first African-American admiral to serve in the U.S. Navy.

The celebration included a history of Vice Adm. Gravelly read by students of Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr. Elementary in Haymarket, Va. The students spoke of how he was one of the first black officers in the Navy, the first African-American commanding officer of a ship, the first African-American admiral, and the first African-American to command a U.S. Fleet.

The guest speaker, Paul Stillwell, author and historian, is currently in the process of publishing a book on the admiral's life, titled "Trailblazers." Stillwell spoke of the conversations he held with the admiral and the tribulations he faced as one of the first African American officers in the U.S. Navy.

"Once commissioned, Adm. Gravelly was looking forward to serving on a ship, only to find out that due to the mindset at the time, they would not allow him on a ship where he would be in command of any white Sailors," said Stillwell. "When asked why he got out after four years, Sam replied,



Alma Gravelly, wife of the late Adm. Samuel L. Gravelly, speaks to the crew of the USS Gravelly about her husband's ambitions, and the honor it is to see a ship built in his name at the Northrop Grumman Shipyard, Pascagoula, Miss. Feb. 24. The USS Gravelly is named after Adm. Gravelly, the first African-American admiral to serve in the U.S. Navy. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Gregory N. Juday/Released)

he was never asked to stay."

Today it is not uncommon to see an African-American in command of a ship or installation, mostly due to the motivation and perseverance of Adm. Gravelly. His success has paved the way for many African-American's serving in today's Navy.

"It is a wonderful honor to serve on the USS Gravelly, knowing what Gravelly stood for and the obstacles he had to overcome," said Boatswain's Mate 1<sup>st</sup> Class Stanley Weaver. "It makes my shipmates and me want to exceed and accomplish all of our goals. I believe in hard work, dedication. With these factors there is nothing I can not achieve."

Cmdr. Doug Kunzman, Commanding Officer USS Gravelly, closed off the celebration explaining how much of an honor it is to be a part of such a historical moment.

"I am a better commanding officer, Sailor, father and man because of events like this and the crew of the USS Gravelly," said Kunzman. "It is an honor to stand here and represent the Gravelly family and the entire crew, but I can not do them justice for what they represent."

For the crew of the DDG 107, African-American History Month is not only an awareness and appreciation of African-American History, it is a namesake.

**CPO's 117th Birthday**  
Come out and celebrate!  
April 1, 1 p.m.  
Training Hall (E-1 and up)

Khaki reception at A&E



Seabee Memorial Chapel Service Hours Changing . . . Beginning March 14, the time for Catholic Mass is 9 - 10 a.m., Protestant Service is at 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and the Gospel Service is 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

# 22 NCR assumes command in Kandahar, Afghanistan

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

Task Force Alliance led by the Twenty Second Naval Construction Regiment (22 NCR) assumed authority from Task Force Forager to begin their deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Task Force Alliance relieved Task Force Forager (30 NCR) of engineering responsibilities in Regional Command (RC) South and West during a Transfer of Authority ceremony held Feb. 16 on board Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan

The guest speaker was Brigadier General William M. Buckler, Jr., Director, J-7 Engineering, U.S. Forces -

Afghanistan. In his remarks, General Buckler told the personnel of 22 NCR that they prepared well for this deployment and were ready to take the lead.

"22 NCR is spot on and ready to step up and run," Buckler said. "They will continue to do great things for our country and the country of Afghanistan."

General Buckler thanked 30 NCR Commander Kelly J. Schmader and the men and women of 30 NCR for what they've accomplished in Afghanistan.

"Nothing is easy in Afghanistan. 30 NCR oversaw the expansion here in RC South and the expansion up in RC North," Buckler said. "Everything here happens in a

joint environment. They [30 NCR] had command and control of over 4700 Army, Navy and Air Force personnel, and the 30<sup>th</sup> allowed these units to work in this environment."

Commodore Lou Cariello, Task Force Alliance commander, thanked 30 NCR for a professional and thorough turnover and congratulated them and their subordinate units for all they have done over the past six months.

"We know we have big shoes to fill, and we'll do our level best to live up to the standard they have set. We cannot be more excited about all that lies ahead," Cariello said.

Task Force Alliance will provide general and combat engineering support for U.S. Forces Afghanistan and NATO



Commodore Lou Cariello, task Force Alliance commander (foreground) salutes Brig. Gen. William M. Buckler, Jr. Director, J-7 Engineering, U.S. Forces Afghanistan during a Transfer of Authority ceremony held Feb. 16 on board Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. Task Force Alliance led by 22 NCR relieved Task Force Forager led by 30 NCR, of engineering responsibilities in Regional Command South and West. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist 3rd Class Ernesto Hernandez-Fonte/Released)

Forces. 22 NCR, homeported in Gulfport, Miss., consists of both active and reserve component Sailors. This is the regiment's first deployment to Afghanistan after three de-

ployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2002, 2004 and 2008.

For more news from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Naval Construction Regiment, visit [www.navy.mil/local/22ncr](http://www.navy.mil/local/22ncr).

**New Motorcycle Rider PPE requirements . . .** Commander Navy Region Southeast has implemented new PPE requirements for motorcycle riders and their passengers effective March 15. See the regulation on the policy at [https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/document/cnicp\\_a150615.pdf](https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/document/cnicp_a150615.pdf). To ride a motorcycle onboard NCBC, riders will need License, Registration, Insurance, MSF Card, Proper Protective Equipment, DOT Helmet, Eye Protection, Sturdy Leather Over the Ankle Footwear, Long sleeve Brightly Colored upper garment, reflective upper garment during the night, Full Finger Gloves and Long Legged Trousers. See all the requirement at [https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/document/cnicp\\_a150616.pdf](https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/document/cnicp_a150616.pdf)

**NCBC has a new "NO TOBACCO USE" Policy . . .** 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 designated for patrons and employees. There will be no use within 50 feet from air intakes and commonly used building entry ways/egresses. Go to [https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/image/cnicp\\_a149802.jpg](https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/image/cnicp_a149802.jpg) to see the map of prohibited areas.

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

4

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

## NMCB 7 continues support to Operation Unified Response

Builder 3rd Class Jacob Bronson, from Portland, N.Y., assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7, pulls rebar from a pile to be used by Navy divers during a pier project at the Port-au-Prince main seaport. NMCB-7 is in Haiti supporting Operation Unified Response, conducting humanitarian and relief efforts after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the area Jan. 12. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kim Williams/Released)



Ad Space

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

Ad Space

# Officer with NMCB 7 selected for SAME honor

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

A Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 Seabee was recently selected for the Moreell Medal, a Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) award.

Lt. Cmdr. James E. Brown, NMCB 7's operations officer, was selected for his extraordinary service and involvement in the 2009 NMCB 7 "lift and shift" to Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

"I was honored to have even been considered and equally surprised and humbled to find out I was selected," said Brown. "It was based on the accomplishments of our previous deployment, specifically our "lift and shift" movement, as well as the simultaneous closing of our Iraqi operations followed by the rapid construction of forward operating bases Leatherneck and Dwyer."

The 2009 redeployment of NMCB 7 gave way to some challenges that Seabees had yet to face, being the first redeployment of a Seabee battalion from

one war-time theater of operations to another.

"Unlike Iraq, most of Afghanistan does not have modern infrastructure, such as roads and buildings, so the first identified priority for the 2009 surge was to create logistic and command and control centers," explained Brown. "The support and infrastructure requirements were tremendous and the timeline was aggressive to say the least. The Seabees were selected as the engineering force of choice because of what we bring to the fight. We were the force that accepted the call to move into the area on very short notice and begin working with little to no support requirements outside of our own unit. The Seabee motto, given to us by Adm. Ben Moreell, of 'We build, We fight' was never more appropriate. We cleared and self secured two 450-acre sites and developed the construction phasing strategy to meet the project/infrastructure milestones that allowed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Expeditionary Battalion (MEB) to press forward with their mission plan and execu-

tion."

The Moreell Medal is named for Adm. Ben Moreell, who served from 1917 until 1947 and is considered to be the "Father of the Seabees." In 1941, then Rear Adm. Moreell, was faced with the inability of civilian contractors overseas being unable to fight as combatants in World War II. Seeing the need to have a militarized construction force to build advance bases in the Pacific war-zones as self-evident, he requested specific authority to recruit and train men from the construction trade.

On March 5, 1942, he was granted permission and soon had a 250,000-man outfit that was responsible for the construction of more than \$10 billion worth of facilities at overseas locations throughout the war.

"From a personal perspective, the experience last deployment really made it clear to me what a visionary Adm. Moreell really was," said Brown. "His recognition of a need for a force like the Seabees; his ability to take his vision and turn it into the Seabee Force; and his understanding



Lt. Cmdr. James E. Brown, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7's operations officer, shows anticipated berm construction sites for a forward operating base in Afghanistan to Navy Capt. Jim Schroeder, following the battalion's redeployment from Iraq to Afghanistan. Brown was recently selected for the Moreell Medal for his leadership, superior planning ability, exceptional construction management skills and tactical poise during the historical movement. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael B. Lavender/Released)

that the force needed to be led, not only by Naval Officers, but by Engineers. Being recognized is always an honor, but to be recognized with an award named for the 'Father of the Seabees' and arguably one of the most influential Engineer/scientists in modern time is amazing.

To be listed in the company of the prior awardees is also an honor and incredibly humbling."

SAME has awarded the Moreell Medal since 1955 to Naval Civil Engineer Corps

See MEDAL page 21

## NMCB 1 strengthens community ties in Okinawa

March 11, 2010

NMCB 1 Public Affairs  
Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Seabees and Kadena Air Force Base Airmen traded wrenches, hammers, and computer skills for shovels, weed eaters, and trash bags to collaborate with Project HOPE's, Okinawa - historical site clean up.

Since their arrival in Okinawa, the NMCB 1 Second Class Petty Officer's Association has volunteered numerous hours to local community relations projects that include visits to day care centers and orphanages, sharing holiday carols with children and sorting clothes and gifts for Operation Goodwill at Camp Kinser.

In their most recent COMREL project, NMCB 1 had the opportunity to participate at a

Kadena Marina Clean up which consisted of intensive grounds maintenance labor and site clean up. The Seabees and Airmen spent five hours digging through weeds and cutting back brush to get to trash and debris that had settled in areas affecting local fauna and flora.

"The Seabees and Airmen out here feel it is necessary to give back to the island and its community," said Construction Mechanic 2nd Class (SCW) Michael Dembinski. "There is so much more that we can do to give back to Okinawa, and cleaning up a historical area of environmental importance is of great importance."

Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Raymond who joined the battalion a month into deploy-

ment, said "I felt proud to do a service within the community that the local people would see and appreciate."

The president of the SCPOA, Construction Mechanic 2nd Class (SW/SCW) Karl Cox, was thrilled with the successful turnout of project HOPE.

"I believe the COMREL was a good project. It was something out of the norm that allowed us to really give back to the community. It was a very high visibility type of project for the command," Cox said. "I believe everyone that went had a good time. It allowed for a more noticeable outcome than any of the other community relations projects. It provided a safer and cleaner atmosphere for the surrounding community."



Members of the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1, Second Class Petty Officer's Association participate in a Kadena Marina Clean Up during a Project HOPE community project. The battalion is currently deployed to the U. S. Pacific Command. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

Seabee Courier

# Seabees 'Have a Heart' for local school children

By MC2 (SCW) Gregory N. Juday  
NCBC Public Affairs

Seabees stationed on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Gulfport read books to students of Bel-Aire Elementary School as part of the "Have a Heart for Reading Program," Feb. 26.

With the illiteracy and student drop-out rate on the rise across the United States, teachers and school districts are coming up with new and inventive ways to capture children's imaginations. Bel-Aire Elementary designed this program to bring in people the students look up to in their local community to read stories to the children.

"Children look up to men and women in uniform," said Jenny Smart, assistant principal of Bel-Aire Elementary. "Having someone come in they look up to brings reality into the classroom. Now, we have someone besides their teachers, stressing the importance of reading and staying in school."

Mrs. Smart contacted Builder 2nd Class Glaister Corlett, assigned to the 20th Seabee Readiness Group, about having Seabees partake in the event.



Utilitiesman Ariane Markell, assigned to 20th Seabee Readiness Group, reads a book to second grade students of Bel-Aire Elementary, Feb. 26 during the school's Have a Heart reading program.. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Gregory N. Juday/Released)

"Once I heard about the 'Have a Heart for Reading Program,' I went to my chain of command asked them to spread the word," said Corlett. "I thought it would be fun, and a way to be a positive role model for my own children."

A total of 17 Sailors and Seabees vol-

unteered for the event, all wanting to spend time with the children.

"I love kids and volunteering," said Equipment Operator 3rd Class Levean Pinkston, assigned to NCBC. "Seeing the children smile and interact with the story had to be the best part of the day."

# New policy authorizes social media access, with caveats

By Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

Attention all Facebookers, Twitter tweeters and YouTubers: a new Defense Department policy authorizes you to access these and other Web 2.0 platforms from nonclassified government computers, as long as it doesn't compromise operational security or involve prohibited activities or Web sites.

Defense Department officials issued the long-awaited policy Feb. 26, establishing consistent rules for all military members and employers.

Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn III, who signed the policy, said it strikes a critical balance between the benefits and potential vulnerabilities of these applications. "This directive recognizes the importance of balancing appropriate security measures while maximizing the capabilities afforded by 21st-century Internet tools," he said.

While authorizing access to

these tools, the new policy also recognizes the importance of protecting military networks and operations, explained David M. Wennergren, deputy assistant secretary of defense for information management and technology.

For example, the new policy allows commanders to temporarily limit that access as required to maintain operations security or address bandwidth constraints. It also prohibits malicious activity on military information networks and denies access to sites promoting prohibited activity such as gambling, pornography and hate crimes.

While information sharing may seem the polar opposite of security to some people, Wennergren said the Defense Department can no longer afford to consider just one or the other.

See SOCIAL page 10

# Troops to Teachers helps fill urgent educational shortage

March 11, 2010

By EO3 Mikayla Mondragon  
NCBC Public Affairs

State and local school districts are struggling to meet the demand of new, competent, and qualified teachers. Troops to Teachers (TTT), a program that helps former service members find and enter programs that train and certify teachers, was established to meet this demand. TTT helps service members find and enter programs that train and certify teachers. If eligible, the program will provide financial assistance.

TTT was originally authorized by Congress in the Defense Authorization Bill introduced in 1993. Since 1994, the program has been managed by the Defense Activity for Non-traditional Education Support (DANTES). It was reauthorized by Congress as part of the "No Child Left Behind" Act in 2001. Troops to Teachers provides referral assistance and placement services to military personnel that are interested in beginning a second career as a teacher and has helped over 12,000 former service members transition into teaching as a second career.

The program is helping to bring in teachers that are

exactly what the nation has identified it needs, including more men, minorities, teachers in "high needs," or poverty-stricken, areas and more subjects, like mathematics, social studies, and special education. Life experience, leadership, motivation and dedication are just a few of the valuable principles troops to teachers bring into the classroom.

Participants of TTT receive a stipend up to \$5,000 to help with costs of obtaining their teaching certification. To receive the stipend, participants must agree to teach in a "high needs" school district. They are also eligible for a bonus of \$10,000 in lieu of the stipend. Additionally, they will help with placement assistance and post mini-resumes to school districts.

"Serving in the military is a service to your country. Teaching is also a service to our country and a service to our children," said Chris Carey, director of TTT. "Military members are great role models and are able to bring experience, knowledge, and their passion for excellence to the classroom."

For more information about the Troops to Teachers program, call 601-359-6654.



Chris Carey, director of Troops to Teachers, informs members about the specialty fields needed by state and local school districts. Troops to Teachers is a program that helps former service members become teachers. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

Seabee Courier

### NCBC Marquee Message Procedure . . .

The electronic marquees located at the Pass Road and Broad Avenue gates are ready to display your messages. Please email your requests at least five days prior to the date you want it posted. Make sure the message is no more than 15 words to allow it to be placed on both marquees. There are space restrictions unique to each marquee, so the messages will be broken down to fit on the marquees properly.

We try to accommodate all requests, though not all messages are guaranteed to be posted. Postings are at the discretion of the Public Affairs Office. For more information or to submit requests email [bonnie.lindleymcgerr@navy.mil](mailto:bonnie.lindleymcgerr@navy.mil) or [robert.c.mims@navy.mil](mailto:robert.c.mims@navy.mil).

**Daylight Saving Time . . .** Begins Sunday, March 14 at 2 a.m. Remember to move all clocks forward one hour . . . Spring ahead, Fall behind!

### GSA Training Conference & Expo

Be part of the Action / Orlando, Fla  
May 4 - 6

Free CLP-Certified Training  
Network with Federal Experts  
Meet with FSA Contract Vendors  
Free Meeting Space - Free to Attend!  
Register Online! [expo.gsa.gov](http://expo.gsa.gov)



March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

Ad Space

## Family and friends come out to say good-bye to 'Bees of NMCB 133



A Seabee assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, spends time with his wife and son before leaving on deployment, March 7. NMCB 133 is deploying to CENTCOM in support of the current mission of the Seabees. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

# Seabees build greenhouse for local middle school

By CE3 (SCW) Josue Pelton  
NMCB 133 Public Affairs

Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 were asked to build a 24' by 50' greenhouse for the Bayou View Middle School in Gulfport.

The greenhouse will be used for the students who are learning to grow plants and to help the school's science department. The project began Jan 25 and was completed a month later. The school wanted to have the project done two years earlier but couldn't find anybody to do it. When NMCB 133 heard about it, the battalion jumped at the opportunity to take on the task and build the greenhouse.

Crew leaders on the project were Steelworker 1st Class Thomas M. Bundy, Builder 2nd Class Jesse Johnson and Steelworker 3rd Class Garren Clegg. Their crew consisted of many junior troops who were glad to be given the opportunity to use their skills while helping out the school.

"Walking into the green-



Principal Bryan Caldwell of Bayou View Middle School, Builder 2nd Class Jesse Johnson, Cmdr. Christopher Kurgan, commanding officer of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, and Builder 1st Class Thomas Bundy cut the ribbon to officially turn over the greenhouse that the Seabees built for the middle school's science department. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan Delcore/Released)

house is like walking away from this cold weather and straight into summer; this place is huge and looks really good," said Builder Chief David Choice.

The project was valuable training that helped the Seabees prepare for the up-

coming deployment to Afghanistan. "It was such short notice [for the project], but that got our crew in the right mind set of working on projects that pop up [unexpectedly] and knocking them out while on deployment," said Johnson.

# NMCB 7 takes over for NMCB 3 in Sixth Fleet

By CECN Ivana P. Flores  
NMCB 7 Public Affairs

Seabees of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 are carrying out operations at a rapid pace just two weeks after completing turnover with NMCB 3 and assuming control of Camp Mitchell, the Seabee camp located on Naval Station Rota, Spain.

NMCB 7 Seabees with the battalion's advanced party

worked alongside their NMCB 3 counterparts for a week of turnover prior to arrival of NMCB 7's delayed party and departure of NMCB 3. The week successfully prepared NMCB 7 with key information about the deployment site and ongoing projects, information that ensures a smooth start to the battalion's 10-month de-

See NMCB 7 page 21



Construction Electrician Constructionman Jessica Tandberg, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7, discusses procedures for the dining facility at Naval Station Rota with a Spanish staff member. Tandberg is currently serving as a food service assistant for the battalion. NMCB 7 and its detachments are deployed to various locations throughout U.S. Sixth Fleet's area of responsibility. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael B. Lavender/Released)

Hug them at home . . . belt them in the car . . . Buckle Up for Safety, every time!

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

Ad Space

Ad Space

From SOCIAL page 7

"If you look at either one individually, you will fail," he said. "You will have great security, but no ability to access information sharing. [Or], if you think only about sharing, you will run into issues of operational security and letting bad things into your system. So you can no longer think of them as two separate subjects."

The new policy promotes what Wennergren calls "secure information sharing," providing the balance needed to tap into the capabilities social media networking provides without compromising security.

He emphasized the importance of personal responsibility in using unclassified military networks to access these tools, and said the department will continue to evaluate the policy after it takes effect.

"There's a huge imperative for security," Wennergren said. "It is everyone's responsibility in the department to make sure they are doing all that they can to protect our information and our information systems."

Ultimately, he called responsible, security-conscious use of social media networks a win-win proposition for the Defense Department and its members, enabling them to take full advantage of the power of social media networking.

"The world of Web 2.0 and the Internet provides these amazing opportunities to collaborate," Wennergren said. It not only promotes information sharing across organizational boundaries and with mission partners, but also enables deployed troops to maintain contact with their loved ones at home.

"So if you work on those two

pieces" – access and security – "this really is giving people this avenue to do amazing things in terms of getting the information shared and making decisions happen much more rapidly," Wennergren said.

Until now, most service members have been able to access social media platforms from their government computers, but policies have not been consistent across the department. The Marine Corps instituted a policy in early 2007 blocking Marines from accessing these sites through the Marine networks. Marines have, however, been permitted to access the sites from personal computers.

**Editors Note:** When contacted, Jana Landers, director of the NCBC Information Technology Department issued this statement regarding the Social Media article by Donna Miles:

"Navy policy currently allows access to Facebook and Twitter on NMCI, however, access to YouTube, and all streaming video remains blocked due to bandwidth constraints. Navy and DISA [Defense Information Systems Agency] are working to upgrade circuits to increase bandwidth, but the completion date for that isn't yet known. Users who have a mission-related requirement to access sites or functions that are blocked should contact their command's Information Assurance Manager [IAM]. The IAM for CNIC personnel on board CBC is Ray Acker, 228-871-2056."

Ad Space

Ad Space

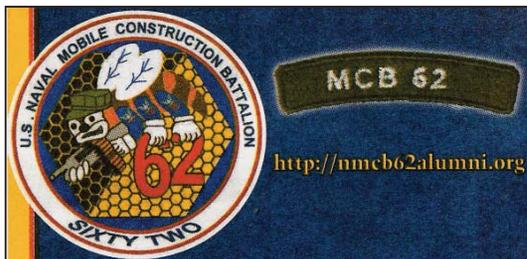
Ad Space

Ad Space

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

10



# Buzz on the Street



By EO3 (SCW)  
Elizabeth Saranto

Are you planning to use your G.I. Bill?



*"Eventually I might use it for my son. If I use it for myself I want to get a criminal justice degree."*

UT2 (SCW) David Stiefermann  
NMCB 133  
Hometown: Jefferson City, Mo.



*"Most likely yes, if I get my college done in the Navy, I want to get a business management degree."*

CM1 (SCW) Richard Krymski  
20th SRG  
Hometown: Pittsburg, Pa.



*"I'm going to use my G.I. bill or let my wife use it. I haven't really thought about it yet but if I do, it will be for a business management degree."*

EO1 (SCW) Christopher Harrison  
NMCB 133  
Hometown: Pottervalley, Calif.

Thanks to all who contributed during the February 'Hearts Against Hunger' canned food drive. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the Twelve Baskets Food Bank and will provide food for those in need throughout Harrison, Hancock and Jackson counties.



Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

# FOCUS on FITNESS

By EO3 Mikayla Mondragon  
NCBC Public Affairs

### Fit Tip:

Lose weight and  
strengthen your heart  
with cycling

Cycling is a high-intensity exercise that's helpful in staying in shape and boosting your endurance. Cycling strengthens your heart and lungs by increasing your body's oxygen levels. This aerobic exercise is a great way to burn calories, keeping you fit and healthy.

So if you're tired of running in circles and need an upbeat change, give cycling a try. Classes are offered every Monday and Wednesday at 5 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. at the



Joan Hudson, NCBC fitness supervisor, instructs a cycling class on board NCBC, Feb. 23. For more information about cycling classes or other fitness opportunities call the Fitness Center at (228) 871-2668. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

NCBC Fitness Center. The Fitness Center also offers cycling classes to commands for the fitness enhancement program. Classes are booked accordingly.

For more information on all of the physical fitness opportunities at the Fitness Center, call 228-871-2668.

Ad Space

Ad Space

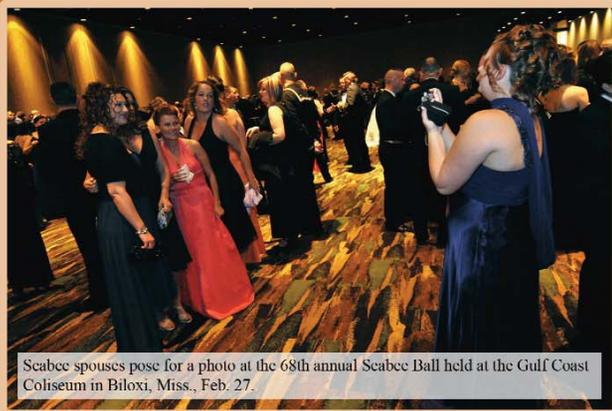
# a toast



Steelworker Constructionman Recruit Todd Canglose, assigned to Naval Construction Training Center on board NCBC and Command Master Chief James Fairbanks, command master chief of Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport, cut the cake at the 68th annual Seabee Ball held at the Gulf Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Miss., Feb. 27. Canglose and Fairbanks were the youngest and oldest active duty Seabees attending the ball.



The Honorable Gene Taylor, Congressman, 4th District of Mississippi, receives the Honorary Seabee award after speaking at the 68th annual Seabee Ball held at the Gulf Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Miss., Feb. 27.



Seabee spouses pose for a photo at the 68th annual Seabee Ball held at the Gulf Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Miss., Feb. 27.



Senior Chief Utilitiesman John Sasso, the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 family readiness officer, dances with his wife, Sharon, at the 68th annual Seabee Ball held at the Gulf Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Miss., Feb. 27.



Command Master Chief Peter Grundy, the command master chief of NCBC, sings the "Song of the Seabees" with the USO Liberty Bells.

Story and photos by MCT/SCM/Demetrius Kennon

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

# ... to the Spouses

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Gulfport, hosted the base's annual Seabee Ball at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Feb. 27, for a special audience this year--spouses of deployed Seabees.

The theme for this year's ball was "Any Place, Any Time." The Honorable Gene Taylor, Congressman, 4th District of Mississippi and guest speaker for the event, spoke about the importance of the Seabees' and their spouses' roles at home and abroad.

"You're warriors, you're builders, and above all you're our nation's absolute best ambassadors," Taylor said. "And you spouses, who are so willing to let your loved ones go to the far ends of the Earth for six, seven, and 12 months at a time, away from you [and] away from your kids, knowing that what you're doing in supporting and being there for them when they come home, I've come here tonight with a simple message; Thank you for all you do for the United States of America, and God bless you."

The Seabee Ball was held at an earlier date this year to accommodate the changes to the deployment cycles for battalions attached to NCBC.



March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier



**Upcoming Events**

St. Patty's Day Party at Shields RV Park March 17 from 5 - 8 p.m. Join us for Irish food and music by Julie Clark. This event is free to all RV Park residents or \$3/plate for everyone else.

Comics on Duty will be performing live at the Training Hall, March 25 (Building 446). This event is free and open to All Hands. Show times are 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Come out and watch Steve Bills, Steve Burr, Ian Gutoskie, and Jack Mayberry perform their adult comedy show.

For more information on either of these events please contact Dana Dawson at 228-871-2804 or 224-3516.

**Liberty Center**

As March is well underway and you're beginning to feel the strain of having to do your taxes as well as all that spring cleaning, why not join us for some fun Liberty events? We'll be taking part in some of the local fun when we take a trip to the Gulfport St. Patrick's Day Parade March 14 at 12:45 p.m. We will also be Rock Climbing at Slidell Rocks March 18 for only \$16 (all gear included)!

You're seeing a lot of green in the Liberty Center lately and if you're wondering what we've got in store for St. Patrick's Day

here it is - join us March 16 for the Liberty Goggle Races. The fun starts at 4 p.m. and prizes will be given out to the winners of the beer goggle obstacle course! Come see what all the fun is about. If March Madness has a hold of you then join us as we journey over to see the New Orleans Hornets take on the Denver Nuggets on March 12 for only \$18!!

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity then sign up to help with Habitat for Humanity March 27 and earn a letter of appreciation for your file!!!

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; complaints or commendation- let us know!!!

**Outdoor Recreation**

New Orleans Day Trip is March 21. Visit the Aquarium, Imax Theater, or shop the French Quarter. Bus leaves at 9 a.m. and is only \$3/person. For more info contact ODR at 228-871-2804.

**Aquatics**

The next session for Swim Lessons is March 22-April 2. Each session consists of 8-30 minute lessons (Monday-Thursday) with make up lessons on Friday (for weather conditions). Registration is going on now so sign up today to reserve your spot. Only \$35 for the first child and \$25 for additional children. For more info contact Dana at 228-822-5103/5104.

**Anchors and Eagles**

Attention all chiefs and officers! Do you know where the best place on base to relax and get a cold drink is? A&E is the place for you. Located in building 303, Rhodes Hall, Anchors and Eagles is open Tuesday through Thursday 2 - 9 p.m. All other days are by reservation. For information call Michael Sweetapple at 228-871-4750.

**Beehive Lounge**

The Beehive All Hands Club is the best place on base, or in town, to get a cold beverage and hang with friends. Located in Building 352, across from the

Silver Diner, the Beehive has multiple TVs, pool table, darts and more. Now a WIFI hot spot. We adjusted our hours to better serve you: Monday-Thursday 4 - 10:30 p.m., Friday 4 -11:30 p.m. & Saturday 5 - 11:30 p.m.

**Grill**

Looking for a good meal at a fair price? Then head on over to the Grill at Pine Bayou Golf Course. Located off of Colby Ave, the Grill offers quick service and tasty meals. Open Monday-Friday from 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Call 228-871-2494 for take out.

**Pizza Brothers**

Pizza Brothers is located in the Silver Diner and has the best pizza on base! Open Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 5 - 8 p.m. Call 228-871-4706 for delivery or take out.

**Fitness Center**

Mark your calendars! "Family Fun Walk" is scheduled for April 16 at 4:30 p.m. on the track. All age groups and strollers are welcome, but please - no pets allowed. Come and enjoy a spring time walk with the family along with Outdoor Fitness equipment orientations. Refreshments will be provided.

The next CFL course is scheduled for April 26-30 April. To register for the class you must log into the following website [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil). All information needed is located on the website. Please register early as space is limited.

Massage "Spring Special"- Enjoy a relaxing 30 minute massage followed by a deep cleansing facial for only \$60.

Call today to schedule your appointment, 228-871-2668 or 228-297-5601 ask for Julie. We accept cash or checks only. IM Softball starts April 5 with last day to sign up March 22. A team roster consists of 20 players (max) and needs to be turned into Sam Perkins, NLT March 22. A hold harmless agreement must be signed by each player. For a copy of the hold harmless agreement, rules, or more information please contact [samuel.perkins2@navy.mil](mailto:samuel.perkins2@navy.mil) or 228-822-5109.

**YAC moves forward in fight against childhood obesity**

From Kimberly R. Reid  
Youth Activity Center, MWR



A child enjoys her time at the playground while attending Holiday Camp on board NCBC. (U.S. Navy photo provided by MWR/Released)

First Lady Michelle Obama recently launched a new campaign, Let's Move, designed to eliminate childhood obesity in a generation.

"It's an ambitious goal, but we don't have time to wait," said Mrs. Obama. Combating childhood obesity will be quite an undertaking, considering that the number of obese children in the U.S. has quadrupled since 1960. Most obese adolescents become obese adults, setting the stage for dangerous health conditions, such as heart disease, stroke and some forms of cancer. Currently, some 32 percent of America's children are overweight or obese.

At the Youth Activities Center, a Boys & Girls Club of America affiliate program, we understand the urgency of this situation. For the last 3 years, we have been on the front lines in the battle against childhood obesity.

Through programs such as Triple Play and Navy Fit Factor, we teach young people how to not only eat better, but also increase the number of hours they spend engaging in physical activity and strengthen their abilities to form healthy relationships.

We know these programs work. An independent, in-depth study by Youth Development Strategies, Inc. shows that Triple Play participants, especially girls, significantly increased their daily amount of physical activity compared to their peers outside the program. In addition, participating Boys & Girls Club members have shown an increase in overall nutrition knowledge and feeling of control over their own lives.

Despite these encouraging results, there is still a long way to go to solve the childhood obesity epidemic. As Mrs. Obama said during her press conference announcing the initiative,

every American has a part to play in resolving this issue, including non-profit organizations, businesses, medical professionals, as well as parents and schools. Each of us has a stake in this battle - whether it's because of a personal connection with someone who is struggling with these issues, or simply a desire to reduce health care costs. That means we all can, and must, play a role in solving this problem.

Eating well, exercising regularly and making good lifestyle choices help lay the foundation for success. Studies prove that a healthy lifestyle keeps young minds more alert, and can also boost confidence and self-esteem.

Solving this dangerous problem is a tall order. But it can be done if we lead by example, encourage our children to become more physically active and support local youth development organizations. If we all play a part, we can ensure long, healthy lives for generations to come.

The Youth Activities Center is open Monday through Saturday with School-Age Care and Recreation programs that emphasize character and leadership development, education and career enhancement, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation. Contact Jennifer Bush or Sabrina Davis at 228-871-2251 for additional information.

**Final Intramural Basketball standings (March 3)**

Team	Won	Loss
The "A" Team	10	2
CBC (Goon Squad)	9	3
NMCB 11 (Ballers)	8	4
NMPS	6	6
Army	5	7
NMOPDC	2	10
NCTC (Army)	2	10

**Movies . . .**  
For the latest movies playing at the Seabee Heritage Theater go to: <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/documents/document/cnicpa150830.pdf> or call the Movie Line at 228-871-3299.

# Focus on Education



Capt. Ed Brown, commanding officer Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC)/commander Twentieth Seabee Readiness Group (20 SRG), speaks with enrollees at the Transition Counselor Institute Phase 1 training conference about deployment, reintegration and the role of the Seabee. NCBC sponsored the training designed to assist education professionals with the transitional dynamics experienced by military children. (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)

## NCBC sponsors Transition Counselor Institute Phase 1 training

By School Liaison Officer  
NCBC Gulfport

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) sponsored Transition Counselor Institute Phase 1 training at the Holiday Inn Airport in Gulfport Feb. 24-25. Trainers from Military Child Education Coalition spent two days teaching local educators, base personnel, and community professionals on the military-connected child's experience with transitions.

TCI Phase 1 strives to create an environment for individu-

als who work with military-connected students to have access to professional networks, technologies, resources, and support systems to help them stay abreast of the dynamic and diverse K-12 school experience that impacts the transitioning student. Military lifestyle and culture, school transition perspectives, identifying local transition challenges, and supporting children through trauma and loss are some of the modules addressed.

**NCBC Education Fair . . . March 17, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Building 114 (Reserve Center). Find out about educational opportunities for active duty, veterans, DoD personnel. For more information call Navy College at 228-871-2785.**

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

## Commander Navy Region SE earns 2009 Navy Child and Youth Regional Program of Excellence Award

By Mary Anne Broderick Tubman  
CNRSE Public Affairs

The Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) Child and Youth Programs received the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) 2009 Navy Child and Youth Regional Program of Excellence Award during the recent joint Navy/Air Force Child and Youth Program conference in Dallas, Texas. The award was established by CNIC to recognize Navy regions for exceptional or extraordinary contributions that have significantly impacted the lives of military families using Child and Youth Program services.

"The purpose of the award is to recognize a region that best meets the qualifications of what CNIC envisions to be an ideal child and youth programs," said Sandy Powers, CYP manager for CNRSE.

Each region was evaluated for its record of outstanding accomplishments in the areas of services provided, demonstration of a "one-team" approach, mentorship, implementation and tracking of the Navy/FitFactor partnership, and the incorporation of Boys and Girls Clubs of America and 4-H programs.

Powers was commended for her outstanding leadership in the revision and implementation of the CYP budget model. To expand its utilization, she conducted webinars to train Navy Child Development Center, Child Development Home, and youth directors worldwide on its application, and also offered follow-up support to individual users.

The region's organizational plan was another factor that gave CNRSE its winning edge. CYP personnel at each installation report to their Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) directors and commanding officers. While the CNRSE CYP office supports them through guidance, training, and assistance visits,

program management is handled at the installation level.

"This plan is successful because our customers have local staff members who are interested in their concerns, people who they reach out to when they need help," Powers said. "Our installation personnel have true ownership of their local child and youth programs because of our regional organizational structure."

This spirit of involvement was evident in the variety of ways through which the CNRSE CYP motivated and supported other programs. The staff members of the CNRSE School Liaison Officer program, who serve as the primary liaisons between community schools, installation commanders, and military parents, have been recognized Navywide for their professionalism and leadership in every aspect of the program's development.

Enrollment in FitFactor, a Navy youth fitness program for ages 6-18, has remained consistently high at CNRSE installations since the program began in 2007. The region CYPs used various promotion strategies for children, staff, and families, including printed materials, enrollment tables at MWR facilities, and incentives where children can earn prizes to keep FitFactor highlighted in their local programs.

CNRSE has earned praise for its incorporation of the 4-H and Boys and Girls Clubs of America programs. By matching BCGA initiatives like its Image Makers Contest with the 4-H Photography Club, children have been able to gain the photography skills they need to participate in the Image Makers Contest.

Other factors considered were the region's accreditation of individual child care programs and providers. Of the 16 eligible CDC programs in the region, 14 are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and all 13 School Age Care programs in

CNRSE have earned National After School Association accreditation. Nine CDH providers hold or are in the process of obtaining Child Development Associate credentials, and seven providers have earned or are in the process of attaining National Association for Family Child Care accreditation.

"I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of our NRSE CYP team, as they are a direct reflection of the superb effort and results delivered to our families every day, at every installation, in support of providing world class child and youth programs," said CNRSE MWR Program Director Bruce Grenier. "The bottom line is that we are supporting the Navy's mission through this important Fleet and Family Readiness program at a very high level of quality, and that is what our war fighters deserve."

Receiving the CYP Program of Excellence is only part of the reason Powers is proud.

In addition, two employees were honored for their contributions toward the success of CNRSE programs, which earned the region three of the four top awards. Mary Grenier was named CDC Director of the Year for her work at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville CDC, and Kristina Moreland was selected the CDH Director/Monitor of the Year for her work with Naval Station Mayport's CDH Program.

"Honoring us with these awards illustrates that CNIC recognizes the true quality of CNRSE programs and personnel," Powers said.

For more information about Navy Child and Youth Programs, visit <https://qol.persnet.navy.mil/CYP-Web/Web/Home/Home.aspx>. The Web site provides information about services, partners, requests for services, frequently asked questions, and a search feature that locates programs at both regional and installation levels.

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier



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

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

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

# NMCB 1 'Bees help prepare MSRON-7 Sailors for deployment

By YNSN Adam Johnson  
NMCB 1 Public Affairs

On the morning of Feb. 26, a crew of 17 Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Det. Guam served as an aggressor force during the field training exercise for Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7.

MSRON-7 is stationed on Naval Base Guam and is conducting a series of exercises to keep them mission ready.

Five to 10 personnel from each of Det. Guam's three companies volunteered to support the request for an aggressor force from MSRON-7. For a few of the Seabees, this was their second time to "aggress" MSRON-7. In September 2009, almost 50 Seabees assisted MSRON 7 on a separate exercise to act as aggressors and also simulate a riot at their camp's entry control point.

Builder Constructionman Phillip Jones, one of the two-time volunteer Seabees said, "I volunteered because I knew we would have fun. Plus, I grew up in South Carolina near the woods so I enjoy being outdoors."

After doing pre-fire maintenance checks on their weapons at the armory, the group of volunteers boarded a bus for the Orote Point Airfield. Since the airfield is decommissioned, Navy and Marine Corps units are now able to use it for FTX's, live-fire ranges, and other military training evolutions.

Upon arrival, the Seabees received a safety brief conducted by MSRON-7 and picked up four magazines loaded with blank rounds to use while assaulting the squadron's defensive positions. Once the signal to start was given, the Seabees aggressed MSRON-7's forward operating base and provided an intense, realistic fight. Leap-frogging forward, the Seabees continued the assault

See TRAINING page 20

From READINESS page 1

goal of a fit and healthy force.

"The ability for individuals to monitor their IMR status will help to promote a healthy naval force and ensure our warfighters are medically prepared to meet their mission," said Capt. Tina L. Ortiz, NAVMISSA commanding officer. "It's every Sailor's responsibility to maintain their individual medical readiness. This tool empowers them to keep track of their IMR status and update it as necessary."

The new application is a module that displays information in an easy-to-follow format that resembles a report card. Sailors can see their physical health assessments, laboratory results, dental readiness, and any medical conditions that may prohibit or limit deployment and post-deployment health assessments. It also shows when immunizations should be administered and when upcoming assessments should be completed.

A Sailor's overall IMR status is assessed into one of four categories: fully medically ready, partially medically ready, not medically ready and medical readiness indeterminate.

A fully ready status means the Sailor is current in all medical categories and is not considered at risk to experience a dental emergency, thus deployable worldwide. A partially ready status means the Sailor lacks one or more immunization, laboratory results or medical equipment such as a gas mask insert. These limitations can be quickly resolved and allow the member to deploy once corrected.

Not medically ready means the Sailor has a chronic or prolonged deployment-limiting condition and cannot deploy. This status includes Sailors who are hospitalized or convalescing from serious illness or injury, or they fall into a dental class three - considered to be at an increased risk to experience a dental emergency.

The last category, medical readiness indeterminate, applies to Sailors whose health status cannot be determined because of missing information such as lost medical records or an overdue assessment.

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (SW) Amado A. Rivera is an administrative assistant for the Navy Medicine Support Command (NMSC) headquarters in Jacksonville, Fla., NAVMISSA's parent command. Rivera, who has served on three ships, said, "The IMR status has long been a potential problem for deploying Sailors. IMR verification will allow Sailors simple access to helpful medical information as they prepare to deploy."

For Chief Storekeeper (SW) Sierra Elam, NAVMISSA's new web-based application is a major breakthrough.

"I've served on four ships," said Elam, NMSC command career counselor and administrative leading chief petty officer. "Knowing who's in and who is out could turn a bad situation into a manageable one. For a leading chief, this is ground breaking."

Sailors can view their medical readiness status on <https://www.bol.navy.mil> by clicking on the IMR Status link under the BOL Application Menu.

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

18

# Homefront in Focus: MilSpouse 101 . . . After 'I Do'

By Beth Wilson

## Military Spouse Contributor

After my rant in last week's column I started researching this series I'm calling "Military Spousedom 101." Before we begin I want to warn you. The military and Navy in particular, is steeped in tradition. Some are rooted in their rich history, others - well, as a spouse I just shake my head.

After you walk the aisle, tying the knot with that handsome man (or gorgeous woman) in uniform, you become eligible for many benefits and resources for life as a Navy spouse. To access these benefits your Sailor is responsible to add you to DEERS or the Defense Eligibility Enrollment System. Once enrolled, you will be issued the United States Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (or Dependent ID). Let me warn you, if you think your driver's license photo is bad, be prepared. This photo will be worse. I speak from experience. Sorry.

Let's talk about that card. Your card is tan, signifying you are a dependent. Care needs to be given to protect this card as it contains your Sailor's name and Social Security number. The bearer of this card is granted access to military installations, services and benefits. Guard your card.

Once you receive your card, look at the box on the bottom right corner. This tells you some of the your privileges; MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation - more about this in a later column), Exchange (military tax-free department store), Commissary (military grocery store). On the back of the card is your vital statistics, a barcode and your eligibility status for medical care through the military medical system known as TriCare.

To get off on the right foot there are three more stops to make; Pass & ID, TriCare, and Navy Legal. Once enrolled in DEERS you need to enroll in

TriCare, the military medical system. Each base hosts a Tri-Care Service Center with Health Benefit Advisors' and Patient Advocates. Stop by this office to enroll in the plan that best suits you (more on this topic in a later column). They are very knowledgeable and will help you with your selection.

The "Pass & ID" office issues decals for your vehicle. Vehicles wanting to access the base require a permanent or temporary decal. To obtain your decals take your ID, vehicle registration and proof of insur-

ance. A quick call to your Pass & ID office prior to arrival is valuable as your state may have extra requirements such as an emissions compliance certificate.

The last stop is the Navy Legal Services Office (NLSO). This office provides legal support to Sailors and their families (again, another column) but you are here today to get a "Power of Attorney" or POA. As your Sailor deploys you will make decisions and take action in his absence. Banks, service providers and others require a POA if you are not

on the account or authorized to make changes. It is important to have one . . . period.

Your Sailor has one more stop: PSD or Personnel Support Detachment to update his "Page Two." The 'Page Two' is the official Emergency Notification sheet. If something happens to your Sailor this is who the Department of the Navy will notify. I have heard from many spouses whose mother-in-laws were notified instead of the spouse because the Page Two was not updated.

We're on our way. Next week we'll look at the privileges that

card provides.

Questions about military Spousedom? Email Beth at [beth@homefrontinfocus.com](mailto:beth@homefrontinfocus.com) and check out her talk show for spouses, Navy Homefront Talk! at [www.blogtalkradio.com/nht](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/nht).

**Note: Military families in the Gulfport area can contact Security Pass and ID at 228-871-4271 for specific requirements for a decal to enter NCBC; Tri-Care at 228-385-6650; and Navy Legal at 228-871-2626 to make an appointment to obtain a power of attorney.**

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

## Community Notes

### SUPPORT

#### Family Readiness Groups

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

**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 aniegundy@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 Seabee Chapel Fellowship Hall. For more information contact FRG President Sarah Edwards, Vice President Robin Coker, Secretary Krysta Thomas or Treasurer Jennifer Babb via email at nmcb11frg@gmail.com. Visit the ombudsman and FRG website at <http://nmcb11.webs.com>.

**NMCB 133 FRG** invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information contact FRG President

Kelli Clarke at 727-504-4408 or e-mail hansonk154@yahoo.com. 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 noscguflport@yahoo.com. Visit [NOSCGulfport.org](http://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.g. Bowling at 228-313-9035 or coachcb\_yahoo.com; or AGC Enrique Acosta-Gonzalez at

228-688-5288 or [enrique.acosta@navy.mil](mailto:enrique.acosta@navy.mil).

### SOCIAL

**Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association** is seeking new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 3 p.m. at 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 Hueneme, Calif. Contact the museum through the web address at [www.seabeesmuseumstore.org/shop/index.php](http://www.seabeesmuseumstore.org/shop/index.php)

From TRAINING page 18

until the end of the exercise was signaled, and MSRON-7 was evaluated on the evolution. After the debrief, the Seabee volunteers loaded onto the bus and headed back to Camp Covington for chow and post-fire maintenance on their rifles.

"This is a [much] different de-

ployment than being on a ship. It was fun, I hope we can assist them one more time before we leave Guam," said Det. Guam's newest Seabee, Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Jose Martinez who reported to the command just a few weeks ago.

"I think the event was successful and I had a good time. It's always fun to help out a fellow Naval

command," said Steelworker 3rd Class Jordan Mitchem.

The strong relationship being fostered between the Seabees and commands at Naval Base Guam, especially other Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) units, is playing a large and vital role in ensuring that the Navy is ready to take the fight to the enemy anywhere at any time.

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier

# Ad Space

## From EXEMPT page 2

IRS Form 8332 to the tax return.

If you think it is unfair that non-custodial parents whose 2009 divorce decrees awarded them the right to take the child exemption now have to go hat-in-hand to the ex-spouse for a signature on IRS Form 8332, especially when the non-custodial parent may have counted on taking the child exemption when child support obligations were calculated, you are not alone. But, be aware of the rule.

Once the custodial parents give their release to the non-custodial parents, the custodial parents must revoke the release in writing also using IRS Form 8332 or a similar statement. In other words, the custodial parent must complete the same IRS Form 8332 and provide a copy to the non-custodial parent. The custodial parent must attach the revocation, IRS Form 8332, to his or her tax return. However, here's the catch. The revocation will be effective no earlier than the tax year following the year in which you provided the non-custodial parent with a copy of the revocation. For example, if you give the revocation, IRS Form 8332, to the non-custodial parent in 2009, the earliest tax year the revocation can be effective is 2010. It appears not to matter whether you give the revocation to the non-custodial parent in January 2010 hoping to file and to claim the child on your tax return due by April 2010, but you must wait until the following year to claim the child on your tax return.

The bottom-line: if this matter still confuses you, please consult a tax professional or call the IRS. Nevertheless, the IRS Form 8332 requires custodial and non-custodial parents to deal with each other in writing when it comes to who claims the child or children on their tax returns.

Legal assistance at NCBC Gulfport is available by calling 228-871-2620. This article is not intended to substitute for the personal advice of a licensed attorney.

## From MEDAL page 6

members, civilians and retirees for outstanding contributions to military engineering.

"I was thrilled and surprised to find out I had been selected," said Brown. "Anecdotally, the news came at a very interesting time. I was headed in to our commanding officer's office to let him know that we had just been given word that we had four days to get our Air Detachment ready to deploy to Haiti in support of Operation Unified Response. The execution order came just weeks before we were headed out on our current deployment and required the whole battalion to circle the wagons, pause what we were doing, and put all of our effort into setting up our Air Detachment for a successful deployment. As a result, we also had to re-rack all of our deployment manning and project plans to absorb the un-planned loss of the Air Det. Obviously, hind-

No Butts about it! . . . NCBC is a No Litter Zone!  
Pitch In! . . . Use the Bin! . . .

## From NMCB 7 page 9

ployment.

"For being my fourteenth turnover with Alfa Company, it seems like the hardest part was getting over the jet lag," said Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Joseph Murrell, an Alfa Company crew member. "Alfa Company's turn over went rather smoothly. NMCB 3 was very organized with their technical library."

NMCB 7's advanced party consisted of over 150 Seabees who arrived on Camp Mitchell to learn the roles that the Seabees would fulfill to bring mission success.

"I felt the hardest part of turnover was learning and exploring the area," said Utilitiesman 3rd Class Joshua Silva, a camp maintenance crew member. "But I did like the interaction and meeting fellow Seabees from NMCB 3. They taught me a lot and I'm putting that knowledge into use in Delta Company Camp Maintenance."

Operating in a foreign country where regular interaction

sight shows that NMCB 7 responded once again and met the challenge and has done great things in Haiti. It was just funny that I really did not have time to think about how I felt about the award until much later."

Though the award is awarded to an individual, Brown went on to say that his selection was due to NMCB 7's work and efforts.

"Our 2008-2009 deployment wrote a new chapter in the Seabee legacy, but the NCF response to the current surge; the extended deployments and the accelerated work schedule are a reflection of Moreell's vision," said Brown. "This award was given to me, but it is more reflective on the merits of NMCB 7 as a whole. We're the ideal force, able to do any mission self-sufficiently, quickly and with little help. To date, we have never failed a mission and I am extremely thankful for the efforts and work of our battalion's Seabees."

with local nationals brought about different challenges for NMCB 7 Seabees to overcome.

"Getting used to the language was the hardest part. You have to learn some Spanish in order to communicate with the civilian workers properly," said Construction Electrician Constructionman Jessica Tandberg, an Echo Company food service assistant. "However, getting to work with another battalion and seeing how they ran everything was interesting."

An important goal of the turnover between the battalions was preparing NMCB 7 for the upcoming ten-month deployment by creating contacts with various units on NAS Rota.

"My counterpart taught me the relationship between our battalion, the Camp Mitchell Czar, and the NAVFAC office here in Rota," said Lt. Robert Warren, Delta Company's officer in charge and Camp Maintenance officer.

"Understanding those relationships has made our transition much easier."

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier



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:**

**Sunday Catholic Mass: 9 a.m.**  
**Daily Mass: Monday - Friday, 11:35 a.m.**

**Protestant Service: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**

**Gospel Service: Sunday, 11:45 a.m.**

**Center Chaplains:**  
**Lt. Cmdr. Michael Brown,**  
**Protestant Chaplain**  
**Lt. Leticia P.J. Rouser,**  
**Protestant Chaplain**

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

March 11, 2010

Seabee Courier



**Need TAX help . . .**  
Active duty service members and their families may contact VITA at 228-871-4264/4257 to schedule an appointment for FREE tax preparation assistance.

**Miles for Fallen Heroes Charity (5K and 1-mile fun) Run . . .** will be held March 27 at 8 a.m. Race begins at the Run-N-Tri Company at 9138 Carl Legett Road, Gulfport. Pre-registration: \$15, Race Day: \$20 T-shirts to all pre-registered racers, limited T-shirts on race day. Awards to top finishers in each age group. All proceeds go to the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. Register at [www.run-n-tri.com](http://www.run-n-tri.com). Contact Annie Gundy at 228-332-6262 for more information.

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space