



Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

Vol. 47 No.22

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

December 16, 2010

Americans asked to recall sacrifices of World War II

By Fred W. Baker III
Armed Forces Press Service

One of the top U.S. Navy commanders called for today's generation to remember the sacrifices of Americans during World War II, and to match those sacrifices as the country fights now into its 10th consecutive year of war.

Navy Adm. Jonathan Greenert, vice chief of Naval Operations, spoke to a crowd of about 100 veterans, troops and families, gathered here today at the National World War II Memorial to remember the Dec. 7, 1941 Japanese attacks on the United States.

On that early Sunday morning, the U.S. naval base on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, was attacked in what is widely recognized as one of the greatest military surprises in the history of warfare. In less than two hours, the U.S. Pacific Fleet was devastated, with more than 3,500 Americans killed or wounded.

The next day, then U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt called it "a date which will live in infamy."

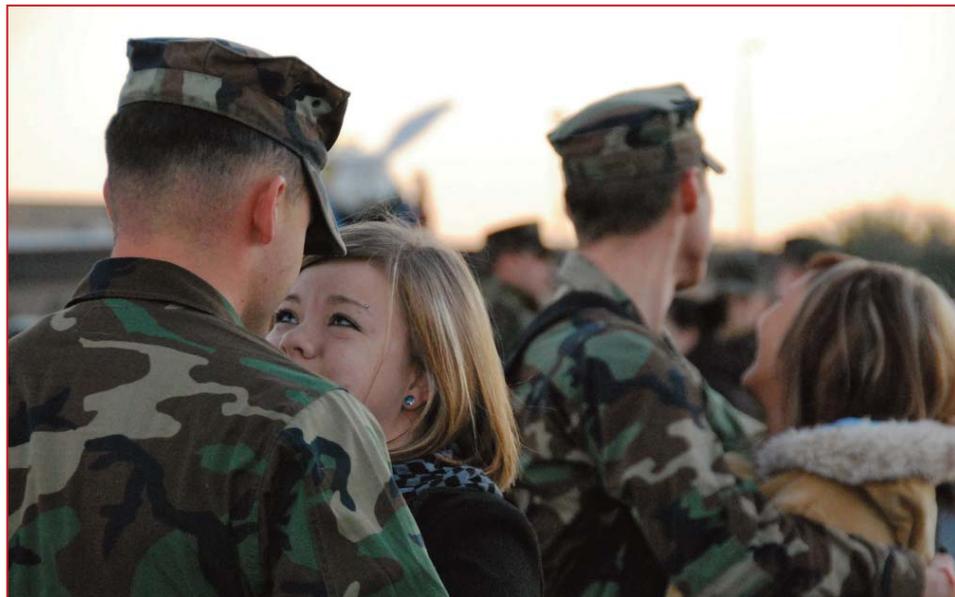
The attacks "galvanized" America, Greenert said, as Congress declared war on Japan, thrusting the United States into World War II, a war that would claim heavy tolls both at home and abroad.

Standing just across the river

See RECALL page 16



NMCB 7 - Home for the Holidays



Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7, embrace their loved ones during a homecoming ceremony at the grinder on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC). NMCB 7 is returning from a ten-month deployment from EUCOM and AFRICOM area of responsibility. Earlier this year NMCB 7 was awarded the Battle Efficiency Award as the top active duty battalion in the Atlantic Fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

More NMCB 7 return photos are available at: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Naval-Construction-Battalion-Center-Gulfport/161404016711> www.facebook.com/Gulfport

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NMCB ONE
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Public Affairs Officer
 Lt.j.g. Christopher Ely
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC1 (AW/NAC) Aron Taylor

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Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Jayson Mitchell
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC (AW/SW) Yan Kennon

NMCB ELEVEN
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Michael Monreal
Public Affairs Officer
 Ensign Timothy Palik
Mass Communication Specialist
 MC1 Jonathan Carmichael

NMCB SEVENTY FOUR
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Richard Hayes
Public Affairs Officer
 Lt.j.g. Sonny Rowland
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. Delcore

NCTC Gulfport
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Bill Whitmire
Public Affairs Officer
 Chaplain (Lt.) Rob Guilliams

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Navy housing residents give BBC high marks *Gulfport housing receives 'Platinum' for Best in the industry'*

Balfour Beatty Communities scored "Outstanding" in the 2010 annual independent survey of housing residents. These surveys determine how well private companies meet the needs of their residents. Annually, CEL & Associates compiles customer satisfaction survey data from thousands of properties across the United States. This year, Balfour Beatty Commu-



nities showed improvement in all performance benchmarks within the categories of Service and Condition of Property. As a result, Balfour Beatty's overall score improved by 6.5 percent to reach 87.5 percent, exceeding the "Outstanding" minimum score of 85 percent by which all privatized Navy installations are measured. Additionally, the survey return results exceeded expectations this year with a whopping 45 percent return.

Each of 11 installations within the Navy Region Southeast Project were surveyed to include Charleston, S.C.; Kings Bay, Ga.; Mayport, Fla., Jacksonville, Fla., Key West, Fla., Panama City, Fla., Pensacola, Fla., and Whiting Field, Fla; Gulfport, Miss., Meridian, Miss., and Fort Worth, Texas. Balfour Beatty has owned and operated these properties since October 2007.

Holly Costello, Regional Vice President of the Community Man-

agement Office was extremely pleased with this year's results, "I'm just thrilled that our staff's efforts are recognized and that our philosophy of responding promptly and professionally to our residents' needs, creating a welcoming community for our Navy families and managing each community and home as if it were our own is evident and residents appreciate all our hard work," said Costello.

Several neighborhoods achieved a "Best in The Industry" rating for service satisfaction. Seven of the eleven communities in Balfour Beatty's Navy Region Southeast Project received "Platinum" awards, which score 90 percent and above; these award winning neighborhoods are located at Gulfport, Jacksonville, Kings Bay, Mayport, Meridian, Panama City, and Whiting Field. Running a close second were the "A List" awards, 85 percent and above, for service satisfaction at an additional three neighborhoods which are located at Charleston, Fort Worth, and Pensacola.

These outstanding resident satisfaction results follow Balfour Beatty Communities recent award of receiving recognition as an industry leader in supporting the defense community. On Aug. 10, October 2007.

See MARKS page 10

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.

Holiday Message from the Skipper... Service and Community Pride

By Capt. Lou Cariello
 CO, NCBC/CMDR 20TH SRG



Capt. Lou Cariello

I want to extend my best wishes for "Happy Holidays" to the entire CBC Gulfport family. We are all fortunate to be part of such a terrific community! As the year draws to a close, I want to thank you for your part in making our base what it is today... Be proud of what we do every day - it is important service to our great country. Our work is not easy, but we have been afforded some very significant opportunities to make a lasting impact on the lives of others around the world. Whether it's fighting the Taliban and other insurgents in Afghanistan or winning the hearts and minds of local villagers in the Horn of Africa and helping to prevent the next war, delivering our "Can Do" capabilities is vital to winning the Global War on Terror.

I am proud of each and every one of you. I encourage you to take a moment to reflect upon your part in the CBC Gulfport community. Whether you are a Seabee who has deployed recently, or if you work on base at Public Works, the NEX, Commissary, Navy Gateway

Inns & Suites, the Child Development Center, MWR, the Chapel, Gym, NMPS, CED, etc., you are a valuable member of the CBC Gulfport team. And the same extends to all of our family members who support us in so many ways. 2011 will be an exciting year on the base, with an increasing amount of fun and interesting events and activities planned to further enhance the CBC Gulfport experience. I encourage you to be as involved as you can. I know you'll be glad you did. Have a great Holiday season and a very Happy New Year! Be safe, take care of each other, and "Lead The Way!"



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.

NGIS recognizes exceptional employee performance

From Navy Gateway Inns and Suites Gulfport

The second annual Navy Gateway Inns and Suites (NGIS) Winter Awards Ceremony was held on Dec. 3 at the Rhodes Hall Conference Center. Led by Charles A. Taylor, NCBC Gulfport Housing Installation Program Director, the NGIS at Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport and Lakeside Naval Support Facility in Pascagoula assembled for their biannual awards ceremony in recognition of employee achievements.

NCBC Commanding Officer, Capt. Lou V. Cariello was present to bestow an award certificate and lapel pin to each employee for achieving their one year, two year, three year, four year, five year, and fifteen year milestones. NCBC's Executive Officer, Cmdr. Stan Wiles and Command Master Chief Pete Grundy also attended the ceremony.

Additionally, Navy Gateway Inns and Suites rewarded employees who demonstrated exemplary performance throughout the Third and Fourth Quarters with a certificate, a monetary award and a

time off award. Employees of the Year were also awarded personalized, engraved crystal trophies in addition to the awards presented to the employees of the quarter. All nominees for those awards were chosen using NGIS Employee Recognition Program criteria such as customer service, teamwork, quality of work and initiative.

The Peer Choice Award was also presented. The recipients of the Peer Choice Award are selected through secret votes cast by the Navy Gateway Inns & Suites employees. The Peer Choice award gives employees an opportunity to recognize one of their co-workers for being an extraordinary team player, for always having a positive attitude and for just being an all around top performer. Those recipients also received a certificate and a personalized, engraved crystal trophy. The selectees were kept secret until the ceremony. The joy felt by the awardees was reflected by all of the personnel.

At the conclusion of the awards presentation Skipper Cariello thanked the NGIS for the invitation to the ceremony.

Citizenship And Immigration questions answered at NLSO

Jan. 27 . . . In order to better assist service members and dependents in the Gulfport area with their immigration and citizenship issues, the Naval Legal Service Office (NLSO) has arranged for Immigration Services Officers from the local U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office in Metairie, La., to make monthly visits on board NCBC Gulfport to provide one-on-one appointments. The visits will be scheduled for the fourth Thursday of each month, with the next visit being held Jan. 27. service members or their dependents can make a 20-minute appointment to see an Immigration Services Officer by calling the NLSO at 228-871-2620.

Around the Center



Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 Executive Officer Tom Lyons inspects the Seabees of Alfa Company during a battalion-wide Navy Working Uniform inspection. NMCB 74 conducted the inspection as a part of readiness preparations for their upcoming deployment. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

Lt. Cmdr. Michael Brown, Protestant Chaplain at the Seabee Memorial Chapel, presents a \$1000 check to Alice Huffman, Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) director on board NCBC, at the Fleet and Family Support Center on base, Nov. 18. The chapel donates from the Protestant religious offering fund twice a year to the NMCRS. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Demetrius Kennon/Released)



Seabees from various commands enjoy sampling menu items and providing feed back on the Colmer Galley menu during the quarterly Menu Review Board meeting on board NCBC, Dec. 7. Colmer Galley hours are from 5:45 - 7:45 a.m. for breakfast, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for lunch, and 4:30 - 6 p.m. for dinner. (U.S. Navy photo by Construction Electrician Constructionman Ivana Flores/Released)

After completing Petty Officer Indoc, more than ten Sailors assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) and 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG) were promoted to the rank of Petty Officer 1st Class, 2nd Class or 3rd Class at the Training Hall on board NCBC, Dec 2. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)





Master at Arms 2nd Class Rodolfo Gallardo monitors vehicle speed on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) as part of his duties with NCBC Public Safety. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

Sailor overcomes adversity to remain on active duty

By **CECN Ivana Flores**
NCBC Public Affairs

Sept. 5, 2008 was the defining point of an active duty service member's life. Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Rodolfo Gallardo was at his part time job in a Wal-Mart garage oil express change lane in Corpus Christi, Texas, when a young lady brought her car in for service.

As she went to pull away she thought her car was in drive, but didn't realize it was in reverse and the cars sudden acceleration pinned Gallardo between her car and another car.

"By the time I arrived at Christen Spawn (a hospital in Corpus Christi), I had already developed Compartment Syndrome. This is a compression of nerves and blood vessels with in an enclosed space. This condition leads to muscle and nerve damage, as well as problems with blood flow.

While at the hospital the doctors decided to take both my legs," said Gallardo as he recalled the events that took place.

Gallardo argued with the doctors to keep both his legs when he met a surgeon in the Army. He then received a second option from this surgeon to allow the doctors to find the pressure points of his legs

and cut into them to relieve the pressure of the limbs. This procedure was a gamble though and there was no guarantee that Gallardo would be able to keep both his legs.

The procedure worked; both legs were saved. He spent three days in intensive care. He was released

See **ADVERSITY** page 15

Sailor's determination results in selection for STA-21 program

By **EO3 Mikayla Mondragon**
NCBC Public Affairs

After 9-11, Chief Special Warfare Boat Operator Joseph Diaz, a native of Phoenix, Ariz., decided to join the military and defend his country to the fullest.

"I always promised myself I would defend my country if she needed me", said Diaz. Diaz fulfilled this promise by walking into a recruiter's office two days after the attack on 9-11. After being denied by the Marines for not having a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) certificate, Diaz, joined the Navy on a waiver Dec. 19, 2001. While watching a recruiting video in boot camp he decided to be screened for Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC).

"I wanted to serve the Navy on the front lines of war and joining SWCC was the best way for me to do so," he stated.

In Dec. 2002, Diaz contacted Dr. Alex Carter, director of the Navy College Office Gulfport, and found out about the STA-21 program and noticed that it offered the Medical Corps option for which he had always had a passion.

"The Medical Corps is very competitive and Joseph Diaz, being the extraordinary individual he is, set out and overcame obstacles and pushed himself every step of the way to achieve his goal," say Dr. Carter.

After applying for two years, Diaz was selected for the STA-21 Medical Corps field in November.

He will soon head out to the Officer Training Command in Newport, R.I. for an eight-week course that will provide an opportunity for officer preparation and indoctrination.

"I feel honored. I know many people apply to the STA-21, and few are selected. This says a lot, considering it takes



being one of the brightest to even be recommended," said Diaz.

Although it is unusual for Sailors to enter into the Navy without a high school diploma or GED, Diaz was determined to fight for his country, was accepted into the Navy, received his GED certificate and associate degree and was recently accepted into the STA-21 Medical Corps field in a short amount of time.

For more information on the STA-21 program contact the Navy College Office at 871-2785 or www.navycollege.mil.

AD SPACE

AD SPACE

Volunteer Management position open at NMCRS Thrift Shop . . .

The Thrift Shop is seeking a part-time Volunteer Manager/Chair to join and lead a team of volunteers who work with this important program. The Thrift Shop is a valuable resource for our military families, single service members and retirees. It is run entirely by volunteers and proceeds benefit the military community it serves. If you have retail experience, have supervised staff and managed cash handling and store display, you may find that this position is a fit for you. Make the decision today to volunteer and when people ask you what you do you can say, "I help people." It will put a smile on your face and theirs. NMCRS volunteers are reimbursed for mileage and child care. Contact Darlene Carpenter or Alice Huffman at 228-871-2610 to discuss your interest and learn more.

NCBC NMCRS Thrift Shop holiday closure . . .

The Thrift Shop will be closed the weeks of Dec. 20-24 and Dec. 27-31. Donations will not be accepted during the holiday closure. The Thrift Shop will re-open Jan. 4 at 9 a.m. for regular store hours.

The NCBC Thrift Shop . . .

Cannot accept the following items for donation: computers, monitors, copiers, printers, non-working electronics such as televisions/DVD players/VCRs, undergarments, mattresses and car seats.

Seabee Food Pantry . . .

The NCBC Memorial Chapel will be starting a non-perishable food pantry in January. The drop off points will be the Chapel and the Fleet and Family Support Center. Some of the items needed include baby food, canned goods, peanut butter, mayonnaise, dried fruit, spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, sugar, cereal and the like. For more information, please call the Chapel at 228-871-2454.



NCBC Christmas Services . . . Services for Christmas will be held at the Seabee Memorial Chapel as follows: Catholic Mass, Dec. 24, 4 p.m., Protestant, Dec. 24, 5 p.m. Catholic Mass, Dec. 25, 9 a.m.



Commissary Holiday Hours

Dec. 20 - Open 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Dec. 21 -23 Open regular hours
Dec. 24 - Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Dec. 25 - Christmas - Closed
Dec. 26 - Open regular hours
Dec. 27 - Closed
Dec. 28 - 31 Open regular hours
Jan 1. - New Years - Closed
Jan. 2 - Open regular hours

NEX Holiday Hours - Main Store

Dec. 20 - 23 - Open 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Dec. 24 - Open 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Dec. 31 - Open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Jan. 1 - Open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

AD SPACE



Officers and Chief Petty Officers from "The First and the Finest", along with battalion support personnel took part in Field Training Exercise at Camp Shelby to sharpen their skills in preparation for their upcoming deployment. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/NAC) Taylor/Released)

Khaki community of NMCB 1 completes training at Camp Shelby

By Lt.j.g. Stephen Barrett
NMCB 1 Public Affairs

The chiefs and officers of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 successfully completed their Khaki Field Exercise (FEX) Nov. 8-19 at Camp Shelby. Khaki FEX is a two-week evolution hosted by the 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG) and consists of one week of classroom instruction and one week of field applications and scenarios.

During the week of field application, participants were divided into four squads, each performing a different task each day. Many officers and chiefs had the opportunity to construct terrain models of the local area which were used during convoy and patrol briefs.

Other exercises performed during the field application week included manning a Combat Operations Center. Each squad stood watch on the different boards and communication equipment essential to the carrying out construction operations in a contingency environment. Squads patrolled the surrounding areas of Camp Baldwin practicing their land navigation and immediate action drills when taking contact from enemy personnel.

For some Junior Officers, this was their first chance to put what they've learned into practice and see such events first hand. Lieutenant Jun-

ior Grade Christopher Ely described his experience with the exercises by saying, "I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn basic tasks like giving a patrol or convoy brief, actually building a terrain model and taking part in setting up the defenses. As leaders, it is important for us to be aware of the hard work and effort that goes into making these tasks happen."

Each night the commanding officer held a discussion on a relevant topic regarding the upcoming deployment and current command climate. These nightly discussions proved to be some of the most beneficial events of the exercise by focusing on what cultural differences to expect while on deployment.

Overall the evolution reminds the senior leadership of the hardships and planning obstacles their troops face during various components of field exercises, which allows for a greater appreciation and respect for their Seabees. Khaki FEX is also intended to build the Officer-Chief relationship throughout the battalion. The 20th SRG personnel were impressed with the operational knowledge and enthusiasm of all NMCB 1 participants. Despite the cold and wet conditions of the Mississippi fall weather, the officers and chiefs of NMCB 1 persevered through their tasking and ultimately drew closer as a working unit during the two week evolution.

NCTC paves the way for CESE operations

By CM1 (SCW) Joshua Perry
NCTC Public Affairs

Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Alfa Company recently completed improvements on the east side of building 372 providing the Equipment Operator Advanced school house with staging area for Civil Engineer Support Equipment (CESE) used at the EO school.

Course manager, Senior Chief Equipment Operator (SCW) Helen Daniel, seized the opportunity to mix up training and base improvements utilizing the EO C1 Advanced course curriculum providing on-the-job training experience and quality construction with a positive impact. The staging pad is also available, with approval through the course manager, for base wide use during the spring and fall Physical Fitness Assessment cycles ran behind the former Pine Bayou Golf Course.

Instructors Equipment Operator 1st Class (SCW) Justin Hallahan, Equipment Operator 2nd Class (SCW) David Baklarz and civilian Dave Therrien's precision planning during the Paving Phase, supervised the EO C1 Advanced Class that graduated Oct. 15, to complete the scope of work, placing over 400 tons of asphalt in two weeks. The project provided challenges such as site preparation to include removal of old pavement, 12 inches of soil stabilization grounds left over from previous classes and two continuous weeks of rain. These conditions did set the project back; however a shift of curriculum accommodated the weather and the project.

With the approval of the Public Works Department, the base saved \$50K in labor by having NCTC conduct the work. The overall project costs were just short of \$42K covered in the C1 Cost of Course funding from the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering and Learning Center (CSFE). All of the CESE used was from NCTC Transportation, thus eliminating all outsourcing of assets.

NCTC has future plans for training of this nature with Specialized Construction Battalion Training (SCBT) Courses to include laying 200 tons of asphalt around the wash rack located nearby to reduce storm water pollutants.

Point of contact for use of the pad for PFA testing is EOCS(SCW) Helen Daniel at Helen.daniel@navy.mil or 228-871-2740.



Equipment Operator class 11010 prepares a site at Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) designed to provide the Equipment Operator Advanced school house with a staging area for Civil Engineer Support Equipment (CESE) used at the EO school. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

Long Beach recognizes NMCB 74 for community service with Boy Scouts

By MC2 Michael Lindsey
 NMCB 74 Public Affairs

Long Beach Mayor William Skellie, Jr., officially proclaimed Dec. 1 as a day to honor Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 for their community service in a speech given at the construction site of the new Long Beach Boy Scout building just a few blocks outside Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport. The proclamation came during the Boy Scout Troop 205 building completion ceremony.

In June of 2009, the Twenty Second Naval Construction Regiment (22 NCR) was asked to provide Seabees and equipment to construct a 40 foot by 60 foot pre-engineered building for Boy Scout Troop 205. The building would give Troop 205, as well as other scout organizations in the area, a place to conduct functions year round. The 22 NCR acted as the prime contractors and delegated the work to several Gulfport Seabee battalions.

Due to the hectic deployment schedules of NMCBs, the project had a very slow start and was turned over a few times until NMCB 74 took it over in

June 2010. Builder 1st Class William Lathan and Builder 2nd Class Roy Mason supervised and led the project crew that did the majority of the work.

Troop 205 Scout master, Pat Gibson, said he was very grateful for the Seabees and their hard work. He also gave several awards during the ceremony.

"It's fantastic to see this building behind us and I appreciate every ounce of energy these guys put in," said Gibson. "I knew that NMCB 74 would be deployed when the building opens in January, so I wanted to do something for this crew that worked so hard for the last five months getting us to this point."

Most of the materials and funding came from donations within the community and money raised by Troop 205. The Seabees were able to provide labor and equipment to get the job done.

"We have a long association with the Navy Seabees and so many have stayed here in our community after they have retired," said Skellie. "This is another great community project that will benefit our youth,



Long Beach Mayor, William Skellie, Jr., reads an official proclamation declaring the day, Dec. 1, a day to honor Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 for their community service during a ceremony at the construction site of the new Long Beach Boy Scout building. Builder 1st Class William Lathan and Builder 2nd Class Roy Mason (far left) led the project crew in building a 40 foot by 60 foot pre-engineered building, which will serve as a scout hut for Troop 205 to hold their functions for years to come. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)

and our youth benefit America, so it's a nice circle that you all physically participated in." Lathan and Mason were

awarded Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals for their professional and exceptional leadership. They

both intend to volunteer their time to help Troop 205 when they return from deployment late next year.

December 16, 2010

Seabee Courier

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Fair Winds to 'Fearless' of NMCB 74

USO greeters welcome the Seabees of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 to the Bangor, Maine, airport terminal. The battalion is heading overseas on a regularly scheduled deployment to the European/African area of responsibility. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

Traffic changes coming to NCBC . . .

The following traffic changes will take place in January barring any unforeseen problems:
 Colby Avenue - The Colby Avenue speed limit will change from 25 to 35 mph between Marvin Shields Boulevard to 11th Street. Runners caution signs will be added along Colby Avenue in order to reduce speed to 10 mph when runners are present.

7th Street and Bainbridge Avenue - This intersection will be reconfigured as a 4-way stop.

Buzz on the Street



By E03 Mikayla Mondragon & CECN Ivana Flores

What is your favorite family holiday tradition?



"Being with family at Grandma's house and opening presents Christmas Eve."

UT1 Ryan Rygh
NMCB 1

Hometown: Sioux City, Iowa



"Getting together with my friends in Las Vegas."

Lt.j.g. Victor Wong
NMCB 74

Hometown: Los Angeles, Calif.



"Drinking Egg Nog with family and getting to open one present on Christmas Eve."

YNSN Jonathan Butler
NMCB 133

Hometown: Greenville, S.C..

NCBC FRAMES...
EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
3RD CLASS
JUSTINA KIEL
NMCB 1

STORY BY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
3RD CLASS MIKAYLA MONDRAGON

FF: WHAT SINGLE EXPERIENCE DURING YOUR CAREER STANDS OUT THE MOST, AND WHY?
E03: WHEN I WAS SENT TO LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, I LEARNED SO MUCH. SEEING NOTHING TURN INTO SOMETHING WAS AMAZING. WE GOT TO DO THINGS THAT WILL HELP MANY FUTURE SAILORS/SEABEES.

FF: WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST MOTIVATION THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREER?

E03: MY FAMILY, WE ARE ALWAYS THERE FOR EACH OTHER. MY FAMILY IS SO PROUD THAT I AM A SEABEE AND THAT KEEPS ME GOING.



FF: WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO FUTURE SEABEES/SAILORS?
E03: BE PROACTIVE IN YOUR CAREER. SET GOALS AND ACHIEVE THEM.

FF: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING A SEABEE?
E03: THAT WE HELP SO MANY PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD. WE ARE THERE WHENEVER WE ARE NEEDED.

FF: WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO GAIN FROM BEING IN THE NAVY?
E03: TO GAIN MORE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE. THERE IS SO MUCH TO LEARN AND THIS EXPERIENCE IS ONE OF A KIND.

Your opinion counts . . .

Have you been to one of the clubs on base lately? If so, you may have had one of the Service Quality Data Collectors ask about your experi-

ences at one of the clubs. Employees from Fleet and Family Readiness departments have talked with customers at Anchors & Eagles, the Beehive, the Fitness Center and

other locations to get customer feedback. Be on the lookout for improvements over the next few months at the clubs that are a result of the feedback received. Data

collection results and plans of action are also available for viewing at the clubs. All data will be posted soon and the progress annotated on a weekly basis.

AD SPACE

AD SPACE

AD SPACE



"Project Flag Raising"

NSVA Island X-1 is initiating a flag-raising program. We would like to help you, your family and neighbors fulfill a dream of proudly displaying our national ensign. For more information, contact Don Galster at 228-239-7326 or dgalster@gulfport-ms.gov

Buckle up for safety every time . . . Click it or ticket!

AD SPACE

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AD SPACE

AD SPACE

AD SPACE

Electrical Surge Protector Fire Hazard . . .

Due to recent fires that have occurred on DoD Installations involving "surge protectors," please look at all surge protectors in your office, work areas, and at home for the following model; made by EFI, Model P-50ES, 1998. If you have any of these surge protectors, remove them immediately. Please call NCBC Fire Emergency Services if you find any of these in your work spaces or you have any questions at 228-871-3082 or 2414. Additional information available at: https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/Service_Organizations/Public_safety/FireEmergencyServices/index.htm.



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

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

Recycling Saves, Recycling Pays

AD SPACE

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From MARKS page 2

Balfour Beatty Communities was selected by the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) to receive the 2010 ADC Private Sector Partner of the Year Award. Balfour Beatty Communities was selected, in part, "for consistently providing a high quality of service that promotes partnership with the military, and for exceeding expectations with the superior services they offer to defense communities throughout the country."

What's next? "First, I would like to thank the residents for their tremendous response to the survey; we appreciate their input and we believe that there is always room for improvement," comments Costello. "Our goal now is to not only continue to offer the same quality service but also incorporate our residents' suggestions in the survey and take action on those items. As a result, we are working to bring all of our neighborhoods into the CEL "A List" award category or even better, the Platinum Award level."

December 16, 2010

Seabee Courier

F O C U S E D U C A T I O N



Support for Wounded Warriors

Over 30 members of the Biloxi and Ocean Springs High School Student 2 Student Club show their support as they walk across the Biloxi/Ocean Springs bridge during the second annual Wounded Warrior Walk sponsored by Keesler Air Force Base Nov. 13. The goal of the Warrior Walk is to raise awareness in the local community and to honor those who have suffered war injuries or illness. All donations go to the Wounded Warrior Fund established to assist injured and ill veterans with financial difficulties. Photo courtesy of School Liaison Officer/Released

NCBC School Liaison Officer . . . is located at Building 352, and may be contacted at 228-871-2117 or kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil

Coastline Community College announces spring registration . . . Registration for the spring "A" term which runs from Jan. 31 to March 28 is ongoing through Jan. 5. Additional information can be obtained in the Navy College Office, building 60, room 239 or by contacting Dr. David Drye at 228-871-3439 or e-mail ddrye@coastline.edu.

Veterans Day 28th Street Elementary



In honor of veterans everywhere, students at 28th Street Elementary School in Gulfport sing and perform skits during a Veterans Day Celebration for parents, teachers and friends. (Photo courtesy of School Liaison Officer/Released)



NCTC Top Performers



Builder 2nd Class Dylan Jay presents the Military Excellence Award for Builder "A" School Class 10770 to Builder Second Class Rodger Hakins Jr. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



Builder 2nd Class Rodger Hakins Jr., receives his certificate as the Honor Graduate of Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Builder "A" School Class 10770 from Senior Chief Builder James Brooks. Williams will be assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 27. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

NMCB 133 holds Khaki Field Training Exercise

By Lt. Nathan Chenarak
NMCB 133 Public Affairs

The chiefs and officers of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 completed their Khaki Field Training Exercise (KFTX) Nov. 8, in order to refresh their tactical skills, improve teamwork, and build camaraderie.

"In addition to providing us with a great team building experience, the Khaki FTX was a good opportunity for the senior leaders of the Command to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Wardroom and the Chief's Mess before the upcoming Battalion FTX in January," said Lt. Cmdr. Joe Pope, NMCB 133's executive officer.

The KFTX consisted of one week in class and one week in the field. The classroom portion of the training went over topics such as land navigation, communications, and weapons systems. These topics cover fundamentals that allow Seabees to execute their mission. Land navigation is necessary to relate planned patrol routes, location of defensive positions, and convoy destinations from the maps to the field.

Communication flow is vital in informing the chain of command of the situation outside of the camp lines. The types of communication equipment, how to use them, and

how to take care of them were the highlights of this topic.

The weapons systems topic went over heavy machine guns, better known in the Seabees as crew serve weapons, how to place them, and how they are placed in certain locations to provide the most advantageous position against the enemy.

The classroom portion of the KFTX took place in Gulfport, Miss. The first week of this exercise presented challenges for the khaki leadership. The khaki were split into four squads consisting of 12 people broken into three groups of four, known as fire teams. Each squad had a leader and a grenadier who usually assisted the squad leader with communications equipment and the ability to launch grenades while on patrol or manning fighting positions.

The fire teams were constructed so that people of different rates who normally don't work together were forced to do so. The fire teams also had more junior chiefs and officers set as the fire team leaders. This combination was a good mix that allowed all people to get to know those they normally don't work within the Battalion.

The field week of KFTX displaced almost all khaki in the Battalion, leaving the responsibilities for running the Battalion in the hands of

the 1st & 2nd Classes. For most of the khaki leadership, breaking away from the Battalion for a period of two weeks was somewhat difficult due to the Battalion's shortened homeport and condensed schedule.

The purpose of this training exercise was to refresh the leadership's tactical skills, put new khaki in leadership positions, and most importantly, remind leadership what we will be asking of our troops during the upcoming Field Training Exercise (FTX) in January.

Each of the four squads participated in an evolution each day. The four evolutions were patrols, command operations, convoys, and defensive positions.

Patrols consist of a squad planning a route to walk, outside of their defensive lines in order to gather information about the terrain, and enemy location, provide security, and move personnel from one camp to another by foot.

The patrol routes from the camp's point of departure to different check points and back to the camp's entry point were plotted on a map using a magnetic compass. The patrols were equipped with rifles in case they encountered enemy threats. The squads encountered instructors dressed like the enemy who attacked the squads while on patrol, making it a very realistic and exciting training scenario.

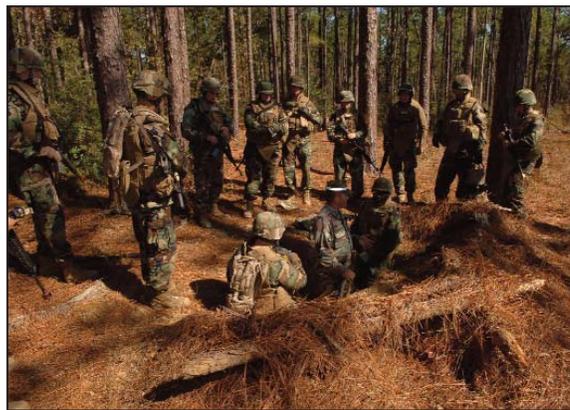
The convoy evolution consisted of four vehicles moving out from camp to complete objectives, gather information, providing security, and taking personnel and supplies from one camp to another as a patrol would, but with the use of vehicles. The convoy routes and check points were plotted on the maps as well.

The convoys consisted of four High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle's (HMMWV's) armed with Browning M2 .50-caliber or M-240B 7.62 mm machine guns. A brief was given to convoy members to go over the immediate actions to take place in case they encountered enemy contacts such as the use of weapons and vehicle maneuvering.

Defensive positions were dug and manned to ensure the security lines of the camp were not crossed. This evolution showed each squad how to establish security around a perimeter by digging fighting positions and placing weapons and con-



Chief Utilitiesman Michael Gibson from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 shoots a heading with a magnetic compass while on patrol at Camp Shelby, Miss. The patrol was one of many evolutions during NMCB 133's Khaki Field Training Exercise at Camp Shelby, Miss. where the battalion's leadership was trained and evaluated on all aspects of defensive operations in a tactical environment. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan C. Delcore/Released)



Chiefs and officers from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 are evaluated and trained on their fighting positions at Camp Shelby, Miss. Digging fighting positions was one of many evolutions during NMCB 133's Khaki Field Training Exercise at Camp Shelby, Miss. where the battalion's leadership was trained and evaluated on all aspects of defensive operations in a tactical environment. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan C. Delcore/Released)

certina wire in strategic positions that would corral enemy patrols into the weapon's most deadly line of fire in order to inflict the most damage on the enemy.

The command operations evolution consisted of a squad manning a tent that basically served as a hub of information for the patrols, convoys, fighting positions, and higher command. They kept records and passed information on everything going on inside and outside of the camp. Their job was to ensure information was passed to groups not directly involved with the action to ensure they heightened their awareness in case of another attack. The command operations squad also fulfilled supply and support requests

for the other squads so that they could complete their missions.

The instructors from Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport's 20th Seabee Readiness Group taught the classroom portion and assessed the Battalion's performance during the field portion while continuously giving constructive feedback and making recommendations on what needed improvement.

The Battalion's "Tactical Standard Operating Procedures" manual is a set of step-by-step instructions and guidelines for the Battalion to follow during any situation in order to be successful during war and peace time missions. The Battalion's knowledge of the TACSOP is evaluated during all FTXs.

Seabees dedicate flag mast in tribute to Pearl Harbor

By MCC Leif HerrGesell
NMCB 18 Public Affairs

Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18 attended a ceremony at Kandahar Air Field Dec. 7 in recognition of the 69th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

During the ceremony, Machinery Repairman 1st Class Benjamin Cerneus and Gunners Mate 1st Class Kelly Carson raised the American flag to the top of a new 57-foot flag mast.

Capt. John W. DeBerard, the commanding officer of NMCB 18, rendered a salute for all of his Seabees as the colors were reverently hoisted to the peak and solemnly lowered back to half mast.

The ceremony, held at 7:48 a.m., also remembered all of the Sailors and Seabees who gave their lives in World War II.

The main spar of the new

mast measures 50 feet above ground and is set in concrete surrounded by a cement pad bearing command coins from NMCB 18 and NMCB 40.

The mast project was tasked to Chief Builder Paul Chacon's shop.

"It was nothing more than an honor to stand such a great structure here at KAF (Kandahar Air Field). Finishing it on time and erecting it before Dec. 7 was our goal; I'm really proud of my guys. The workmanship is excellent. I know the Navy vets would be proud," said Chacon.

The three steel spar sections of the main mast and the two sections of yard arm were welded together by Steel Worker First Class John Overy, a native of Idaho.

"I weld stuff together every day to keep it working. This was a pretty cool project since it gives us one of the tallest Navy masts or staffs that's flying the American colors in



Troops assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18 assemble to dedicate a new flag mast. The dedication, on the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, is in remembrance of the Sailors and Seabees who gave their lives during World War II. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman 2nd Class Vuong Ta/Released)

Afghanistan," said Overy.

NMCB 18 and 40's Air Detachment have been pressing forward with construction on numerous combat outposts and forward operating bases projects for months. Only recently did the tempo of work allow the battalions the opportunity to take a breath and

erect a new mast replacing the old staff, which measured in at approximately 30 feet.

NMCB 18 Executive Officer Lt. Cmdr. Charles Nash, who attended the ceremony and served as an enlisted Marine in the mid 1970s, smiled and shook his head after the 10 minute ceremony concluded.

"It's not every day that you get a chance to say thank you to the guys who fought in World War II. It's just darned moving to see those colors up there, and I know it reminds me why I'm here- I just hope it brings an ounce of the same feeling of pride to our junior troops," said Nash.

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Seabee Courier

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FISC wants to know . . . What do you think about your recent HHG move?

Did you PCS recently? If you did, you've likely unpacked most of the boxes, completed your PCS travel voucher, settled your kids in their new schools and tackled new duties on the job. Congratulations!

But, you're not done with your move yet if you haven't completed your personal property Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS). Well, "survey" is not the best way to think of the CSS . . . think of it as a "scorecard" or a "grade report" for both the government and industry organizations that were involved in moving your household to your new duty station.

"Whether this move was your best move ever, just average or your worst, we encourage you to complete the short 12-question survey to ensure Navy leadership is aware of how your move went," said Deborah McGlennon, HHG program manager for

Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers (FISC).

The results are used in two ways. First, the military services use the results to determine how well the origin and destination personal property offices did in assisting you. Additionally, your ratings on how well your commercial moving company performed determine how much business they will get from DoD in the future.

You can do your part in ensuring quality future moves for thousands of military and civilian movers by completing the survey when it arrives in your e-mail inbox between 7 and 21 days following delivery of your property. If you didn't get the e-mail, select the Personal Property/POV link at www.SDDC.army.mil to access the survey. Or, contact your local Personal Property Office for assistance.

COMFISCS provides an array of integrated global logistics and contracting services to Navy and Joint operational units across all warfare enterprises.

COMFISCS is responsible for facilitating best business practices and efficiencies across the seven FISCs headquartered in San Diego, Calif.; Norfolk, Va.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Yokosuka, Japan; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Bremerton (Puget Sound), Wash.; and Sigonella, Italy; and for optimizing the performance of base supply functions and standardizing levels of service across 11 regions and 70 Navy installations.

Comprised of more than 6,200 military and civilian logistics professionals, contractors and foreign nationals, COMFISCS operates as a single cohesive team providing global logistics services from 110 locations worldwide.

A component of the Naval Supply Systems Command, headquartered in Mechanicsburg, Pa., COMFISCS is part of a worldwide network of more than 22,500



military and civilian personnel providing combat capability through logistics.

For more COMFISCS news, go to <https://www.navsup.navy.mil/navsup/ourteam/comfiscs/news>.



Liberty Center

Holiday Hours (Dec. 17-Jan. 5) are Sunday-Thursday 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m. and Friday/Saturday 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m.

Lend a helping hand and earn a LOA. On Dec. 18 the Liberty Center will volunteer with Habitat for Humanity at 7:30 a.m. sharp and lunch is on us.

Be sure to stop by every Monday throughout the month for MNF on the big screen. Show off your skills in one of our many tournaments: Texas Hold em™ Poker Dec. 21, Ping Pong Dec. 23, Madden Dec. 28, and Pool Dec. 30. All tournaments are held at 6 p.m. in the Liberty Center with prizes given away to 1st and 2nd place winners.

What better way to get into the Christmas spirit than with a Christmas Party Dec. 16 from 8 - 11 p.m., Cookie Decorating Dec. 22, and Christmas Day stop by and enter to win cool prizes all day.

Ring in the New Year at the Lib-

erty Center with a "That Guy" Wii party. The fun starts at 9 p.m. Outdoor Recreation

Movie on the Lawn, Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. on the lawn between The Grill and Outdoor Recreation.

Public Ice Skating at the MS Coast Coliseum Dec. 19. Depart at 1:15 p.m. \$10/person and includes skates and transportation.

Anchors and Eagles

Located in Building 303, A&E is open Tuesday-Thursday from 2 - 9 p.m. with a full service bar and covered patio area for your enjoyment. The rental fee is only \$25/hour so call and book your special event.

Beehive Lounge

Located in Building 352, next to the Grinder, the Beehive will be open for New Year's Eve.

Fitness Center

Winter IM Softball League signups are now-Dec. 20. For more details please contact Sam Perkins, IM Sports Coordinator, at 228-822-5109.

Blast the Calories from the Past

5K will take place Jan. 15 at 9 a.m. Open to all MWR eligible patrons, but children 12 and under must remain with parents at all times during the race. Signups will begin Jan. 3. Snacks and beverages will be provided as well as participation awards.

Youth Activities Center

Drop-in services are available during the YAC's Before & After-school Care Program just in time for last minute holiday shopping. Only \$5/hour.

Registration for the 3 & 4 year old Mighty Mite Basketball League has begun. Visit or call the YAC for more details on this exciting program!

The Youth Activity Center's Winter Break Camp is Dec. 20-23 and Dec. 27-30. Snacks and lunch are provided. Signups are underway. 228-871-2251

Information, Tickets, and Tours

Walt Disney World Resort Special: Now through Oct. 2011 all Active Duty and Retired Military can receive up to 40 percent off on selected Walt Disney World Resort standard rooms. Room availability is limited. Advanced reservations required. Now through Jan. 31 you can get your discounted Audubon Senior tickets to the Aquarium of the Americas, Audubon Zoo, and IMAX Theater. Don't miss out on this great offer.

December Movie Schedule

Training Hall Theater, Movie Hotline 228-871-3299

- Dec. 16-Despicable Me, PG, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 17-The Switch, PG13, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 18-Despicable Me, PG, at noon, Flipped, PG, at 3 p.m., and Step Up 3D, PG13, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 19-The Expendables, R, at noon, Takers, PG13 at 3 p.m., and Machete, R at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 20-Nanny McPhee Returns, PG, at noon, Nanny McPhee Returns, PG, at 3 p.m., and Going the Distance, R, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 21-Despicable Me, PG, noon, Disney's A Christmas Carol, PG at 3 p.m., and Inception, PG13 at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 22-The Grinch, PG, at noon, Nanny McPhee Returns, PG at 3 p.m., and Machete, R, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 23-Disney's A Christmas Carol rated PG at 12 p.m., The Grinch rated PG at 3 p.m., and Going the Distance rated R at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 24-Flipped, PG, at noon and Nanny McPhee Returns, PG, at 3 p.m.
- Dec. 25-Closed: Merry Christmas
- Dec. 26-Nanny McPhee Returns, PG at noon, Flipped, PG, at 3 p.m., and Scott Pilgrim vs. The World, PG13 at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 27-Despicable Me, PG, at noon, Nanny McPhee Returns, PG, at 3 p.m., and The Expendables, R, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 28-Nanny McPhee Returns, PG, at noon, Flipped, PG, at 3 p.m., and Scott Pilgrim vs. the World, PG13, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 29-The Grinch rated PG at noon, Despicable Me, PG, at 3 p.m., and Machete, R, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 30-Nanny McPhee Returns, PG, at noon, Despicable Me, PG, at 3 p.m., and Inception, PG13, at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 31-Despicable Me, PG at noon, The Grinch, PG, at 3 p.m., and The Expendables, R, at 6 p.m.

Movies contingent upon training requirements

ITT is having a Holiday Mickey Coloring Contest for children ages 3-9 years. We will hang the artwork throughout ITT for all patrons to enjoy. The artwork will be judged by age group and prizes will be awarded to the most creative, festive, and unique coloring sheet. We will announce the winners Dec. 28 and the winners do not need to be present to win. Please stop by ITT to pick up a

coloring page today and return no later than Dec. 23 at noon.

Available through Ticketmaster: Disney Live! Mickey's Magic Show Dec. 26; Public Ice Skating at the MS Coast Coliseum Dec. 26; and Rascal Flatts Feb. 4. Please contact ITT at 228-871-2231 for more info.

Surge tickets are only \$12 and can be redeemed for any regular season game.

NCBC 15th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Dec. 10



Partiers came in costume . . . or not . . .



The Grinch came down from Mount Crumput and consented to photos with children at the Tree Lighting.



Kids of all ages help Santa light the official Christmas tree.



A couple of 'Things' hang out together at the holiday celebration.

This year, the MWR-sponsored Christmas Tree Lighting was 'Grinch' themed as all were welcomed to Whoville. The night was filled with caroling, cookies, movies, games, a D.J., and of course, the jolly one himself - Santa Claus.

U.S. Navy photos by Construction Electrician Constructionman Ivana Flores

From **ADVERSITY** page 4
from the hospital Sept. 15, 2008;
however, the road to recovery had
just begun.

"I was told it was up to me to
take my legs back," said Gallardo.
"I was in and out of wheelchairs
for six to eight months and re-
ported back for duty in October
2008."

Rehabilitation is still an ongoing
process for Gallardo as he had to
learn how to walk, run and com-
plete the basic functions of his
daily life all over again.

"One thing I refuse to do is let
this play as a crutch. I can still do
my duties," said Gallardo. "Life
can turn on you in a split of a sec-
ond. If the Navy would have re-
leased me, I would have had
nothing to fall back on."

Though still going through reha-
bilitation, Gallardo is able to run
and perform the Navy semi-an-
nual physical fitness assessment
test.

Currently, Gallardo is an Anti-
Terrorism Master with NCBC
Public Safety and is earning his as-
sociates degree in Criminal Jus-
tice.

NCBC Public Safety Info . . .

Did you know that the Department of Public Safety uses the NCBC website to keep you advised of the most current Navy wide and Installation based security concerns? For a better understanding of Warning Indicators involving Violence in the Work Place, go to <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/index.htm> and visit the Department of Public Safety's programs which were developed by

the Security Division for your information. Under the link for Crime Prevention you will find Disgruntled Employee and Domestic Terrorist Warning Indicators. Additionally, the Anti-Terrorist and Force Protection link provides detailed information involving Warning Indicators for Insider Domestic Terrorism. The Public Safety page also provides a wide range of emergency telephone numbers, as well as other valuable information posted with your safety in mind.

AD SPACE

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From **RECALL** page 1

from the Pentagon where terrorists slammed a commercial jet into its walls nine years ago, Greenert said the United States is fighting a "different kind of enemy," but the support required of Americans in this war is the same.

"Today we have to emulate those values of the World War II generation," Greenert said. "We look to their courage and their determination, and to their commitment."

As World War II raged, families sacrificed, rationed and saved for war bonds, he said.

And, as troops returned home from war, their needs were the same as those returning from combat today.

"When they come home they want what those young heroes of 1941 and throughout World War II wanted - a job, an education, a home and a better life," Greenert said. "We have to care for them, reach out to them, seek to understand them, and ensure that they do not suffer in desperation with wounds that are both visible and invisible."

The number of World War II survivors is slowly dwindling, with

only a few present at the ceremony today. This generation must embrace the responsibility to remind a new generation of what happened at Pearl Harbor, the admiral said.

"That's why we came here today. That's why you came here today," he said. "Why we will always return and why we must endure to ensure that the generations that follow will always know the phrase 'Remember Pearl harbor.'" Jay Groff, an 88-year-old former

warrant officer with the U.S. Army Air Corps will never forget that day, he said. He called it the "most important day of the 20th century."

"The world changed for the United States," Groff said. But, not only for the country, he added.

"I grew up overnight," he said. "That morning, I realized that there was somebody out there try-

See **RECALL** page 18

Enjoy the holidays . . . 'Bee Smart . . . Stay Safe

AD SPACE

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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 meeting at 6:30 p.m. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided during deployment. Contact FRG President Mary Belanger, 228-273-4158, e-mail nmcbonefrg@gmail.com or Secretary Krystin Canipe, 704-726-5751, 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 NCBC chapel. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided for children four and under. For e-mail updates, 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 Naval Reserve Training building #114. Bring a covered dish to take part in a potluck dinner. Contact FRG President Angela Boyd at 832-579-8422 or Vice President Tanieka Roshell at 414-530-4189. To receive updates, log on to the FRG website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb-74-fgr/index.html>.

NMCB 11 FRG invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Seabee Chapel Fellowship Hall. Baby sitting is provided.

THERE IS NO DECEMBER MEETING. For more information contact FRG President Sarah Edwards or Vice President Robin Coker via email at nmcb11frg@gmail.com. Visit the FRG and Ombudsman 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 Gulfport Naval Officers' Spouses' Club is a social organization that has FUN while helping our community. We meet monthly and have special interest groups for almost everyone! Please email noscgulfport@yahoo.com for more information. We hope to see YOU soon!

NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop is located in building 29 on Snead Street. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers, and 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 find out how to become 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 to sign up.

Naval Sea Cadets – Gulfport branch are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nationwide 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.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Asso-

ciation 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. 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. 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 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 information or for links to Seabee historical sites.

Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport are seeking Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Seabees who left the military after a short period of time. Island X-1 Gulfport meets the second Thursday of each month at Anchors & Eagles at 7 p.m. For more information contact Joe Scott (Secretary) at 228-669-8335 or elevenoaks58@cableone.net or log onto WWW.NSVA.ORG for an application.

HERITAGE

The Seabee Gift Store is located in the Training Hall, building 446. Hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, DVD's and books. Contact the museum at www.seabeeuseumstore.org/shop/index.php or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for more info.

NCBC Post Office Closure . . . The Contract Post Office will be closed Dec. 24 - 25 in observance of the holidays. The office will close at noon Dec. 23 and Dec. 31. Contact Abeena Jones at 228-871-2258 if you have questions.

AD SPACE

From **RECALL** page 16

ing to kill me. That changed my outlook on life.”

Sharlene Hawkes, a former Miss America, gathered with her extended family for the event.

Alongside her sisters, she sang the closing hymn at the ceremony.

But, Hawkes was not there as a celebrity. Her father, Robert Wells, is a World War II veteran. And, in fact, a member of her extended family has fought in every conflict since World War II. At the head of the group were the four Walser brothers from El Paso, Texas: Roy, Stensel, Kenneth and Walter. Roy survived the attack at Pearl Harbor. The others all served in World War II, and some later in Korea.

Between the four, the brothers amassed 94 years of military service. Walter died last year, but the other three attended the ceremony today.

“I think the most important thing is we never forget,” Hawkes said. “We must never forget the service of anyone who has ever sacrificed and who has served. Both of those are fundamental to our way of life; to preserving our liberties.

“If we don’t recognize and honor that on a consistent, regular basis and put everything that we can behind it, then what we’re saying is ‘It’s not that critical and not that important to our way of life.’ And it is,” she said.

Hawkes’ sister, Elayne Harmer, said it also is important to remember the sacrifices of those who are still serving, and their families. “We go to the store, we go to games, and we take our kids to school, and we don’t often re-

member on a day-to-day basis what makes all those freedoms available to us,” she said. “And it’s important to have ceremonies like this as often as possible so that we remember the sacrifices that were made.

“Every sacrifice they make – from the families that are sacrificing, to the men and women who are putting their lives on the line – none of it is wasted,” she said. “We remember them. We think of them. We pray for them.”

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**Gulf Coast
USO**

901 CBC 3rd St., Building
114 (228) 575-5224
Office hours: Monday-Fri-
day, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
(Closed Sundays)

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Seabee Memorial Chapel

Services:

Sunday Catholic Mass: 9 a.m.

Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 11:15 a.m.

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

Center Chaplains:

**Lt. Cmdr. Michael Brown,
Protestant Chaplain**

**Lt. Yoon Choi
Protestant Chaplain**

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