

# JOINT REGION EDGE

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## Guam commands awarded

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis

Joint Region Edge Staff

Three U.S. Navy commands on Guam were among six commands recognized April 6 for their community service excellence as Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) announced the Navy Community Service Program (NSCP)/Project Good Neighbor Community Service Flagship Award winners for 2009.

The award recognizes the best volunteer-supported program or special project that promotes outreach activities throughout the year to establish and restore hope to the community.

Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), released a message selecting U.S. Naval Base

Guam (NBG) as winner in the large overseas category, U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas as winner in the medium overseas category, and Mobile Mine Assembly Unit (MOMA-U) 8 as winner in the small overseas category.

The CNO thanked all recognized commands for their continued dedication to excellence and the betterment of their respective communities.

"My sincerest thanks to all for their continued support of the Navy's community service program," Roughead said. "Please accept my personal Bravo Zulu and thanks to the caring and dedicated Sailors, civilians and families who selflessly volunteered and contributed to improving the quality of life in their communities."

A command effort from NBG saw 159 Sailors volunteer 2,573

hours to help members of Guam Animals In Need, Salvation Army, Guam Department of Parks and Recreation, Special Olympics Guam, the Hagatna soup kitchen, several elementary and high schools, and many other worthy causes.

According to Chief Master-at-Arms (AW/SW) Jason Smith, NBG's community service coordinator, receiving this award reflects the command's commitment to volunteerism.

"U.S. Naval Base Guam takes pride in continuing to contribute to the betterment of the community for the benefit of all who live within it," Smith said.

The 26 volunteers from NAVFAC Marianas accumulated 825 service hours, helping causes such as the Girl Scouts of Guam, Island Girl Power, Special Olympics Guam, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Harry S. Truman

Elementary School.

Receiving the award shows that partnerships between the commands of Guam and the island's community are mutually beneficial, according to Mark Cruz, a civilian volunteer from NAVFAC Marianas.

"Receiving such a prestigious award really serves to validate all the hard work all the Navy and civilian volunteers put in," Cruz said. "I feel like our efforts are being recognized and really make a difference in the community."

Of the 35 service members at MOMAU 8, all are volunteers, and they were able to spend 688 hours helping is sister village of Talofofo, Talofofo Elementary School, Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School and the Guam National Park Service.

"The crew of MOMAU 8 exemplifies the core value of commitment with the long-lasting dedica-

tion and continued excitement for this program and for the positive effect it has on our sister village of Talofofo," said Lt. Cmdr. Michael Kleva, MOMAU 8 commanding officer.

The Navy Community Service Program was launched in 1992 by then-CNO Adm. Frank B. Kelso. The program's goal is to foster and nurture community ties with the Navy and promote volunteerism while developing better naval leaders through experience in the program.

The program consists of five flagships, including the Health, Safety, and Fitness Flagship, Personal Excellence Partnership Flagship, Project Good Neighbor Flagship, Campaign Drug Free Flagship and Environmental Stewardship Flagship. A separate Navy command sponsors and administers each flagship.

## Northwest Field critical to training, ecosystem

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Andriacco

36th Wing Public Affairs

Andersen Air Force Base's Northwest Field has, over the years, become a critical training asset to support current operations.

Along with essential contingency training, the area is also important to the future of Guam's ecosystem, with several endangered species calling the area home.

Conservation: An aerial view of Northwest Field, which is an important historical, cultural and ecological resource for Andersen Air Force Base. In addition to a historical airfield used for training, it is the location of the largest limestone forest on Guam, the natural habitat for several endangered bird species. Andersen works closely with local wildlife agencies to protect these resources and balance the need for training with a solid record of environmental stewardship in the area. (U.S. Air Force courtesy photo)



Northwest Field offers several unique training opportunities, not found elsewhere in the U.S. Pacific Command's area of responsibility, which enables a realistic training environment for the 36th Contingency Response Group (CRG).

"Northwest field is an invaluable location to provide a venue where the 36th CRG can practice one of its primary missions, air base opening, as well as humanitarian assistance operations," said Col. Daniel Settergren, 36th CRG commander. "It also provides an austere location to bed-down CRG airmen who must train to operate in exactly that type of environment."

Also at Northwest Field is the Commando Warrior training program. It provides pre-deployment training for all Pacific Air Forces security forces personnel deploying in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

In addition to providing one-of-a-kind training in a single location,

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Joint Region Edge will publish on Fridays, effective April 23. If you do not begin to receive your newspaper on Fridays on that date, call 339-7113.

# Field: Andersen acts as steward of environment

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Northwest Field has unique environmental assets, which must be protected. The Air Force works daily to maintain its partnership with local wildlife authorities and continue to keep its reputation as good stewards of the environment intact.

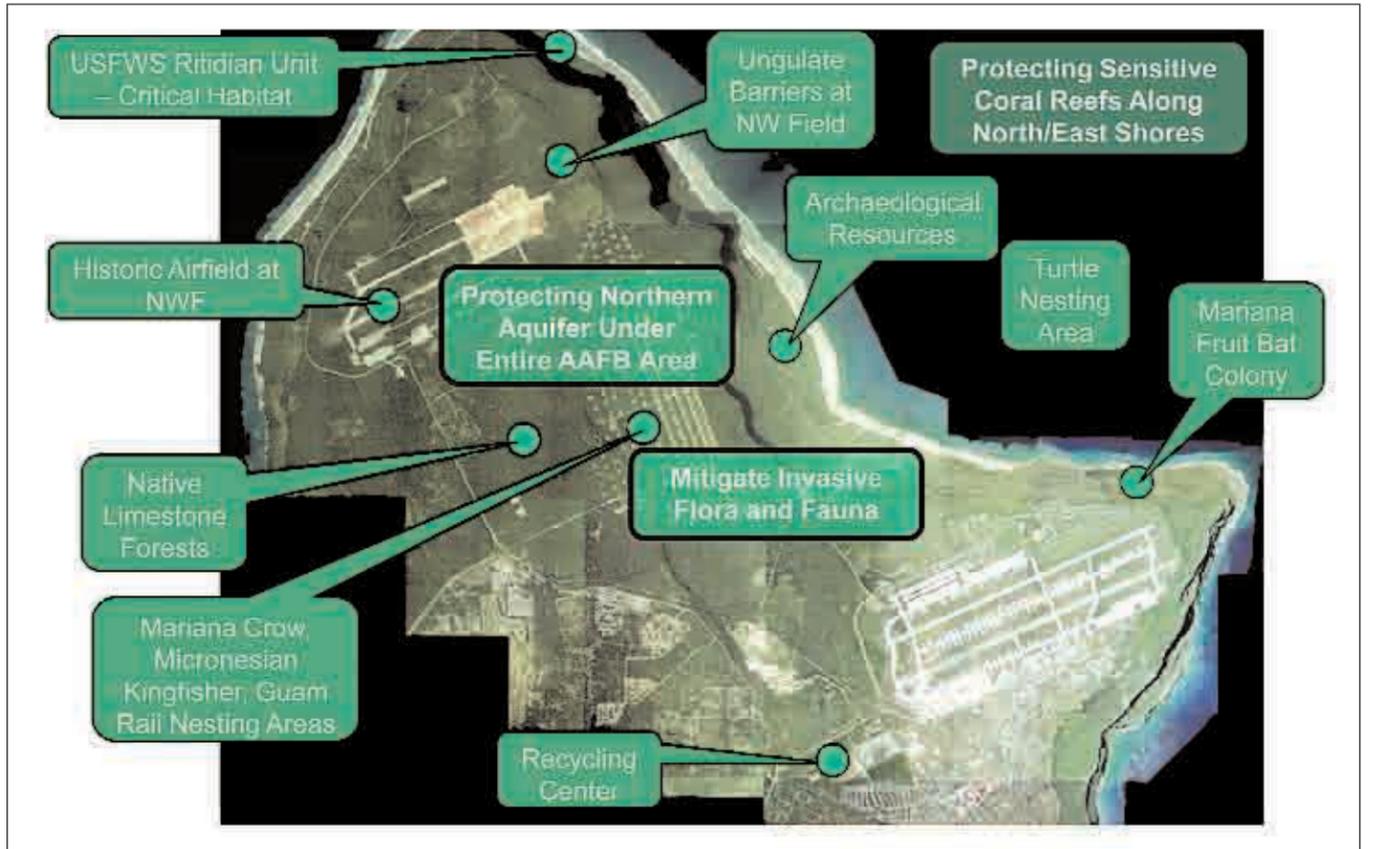
"The limestone forest of Northwest Field and also the larger area of Andersen is the last large expanse of limestone forest on Guam," said David Lotz, 36th Civil Engineering Squadron natural resources planner. "This area is the habitat for several endangered species of birds and needs to be protected for the eventual reintroduction of those species."

Northwest Field is also home to areas of historic and current significance to the Air Force and the people of Guam. The Northern Aquifer, Guam's main source of fresh water can be found 500 feet below the surface of the field. The airfield qualifies for the national historic registry because of its importance to air operations and their historical impact since its construction. And of archaeological significance, there is a site of ancient Chamorro artifacts the Air Force goes to great lengths to preserve.

Maintaining a second-to-none training area while protecting the native ecosystem and historical sites is a delicate process involving close coordination with several agencies, dedication of resources, and preventing conflicting uses.

"All training planned on Northwest Field is coordinated with many Wing and outside agencies such as the environmental office in the 36th CES," said Settergren. "They conduct environmental impact analyses, employ an environmental assessment team, conduct a cross-tell of information and analyze whether or not the training event will adversely affect the environment."

The Air Force has invested in a variety of measures to protect the delicate habitat at Northwest Field. For example, barriers prevent foliage-destroying deer and pig populations from damaging native bird nesting areas, said Lotz. Andersen is also actively engaged in



Area of Responsibility: An illustration of some of the natural, historical and archaeological sites found on Andersen and Northwest Field. Working closely with federal and local agencies to protect these vital resources while getting Airmen top of the line mission training is a delicate balance. Andersen will continue to support the protection of Guam's largest fresh water supply, the Northern Aquifer, as well as the natural habitat for several species of endangered birds and sea turtles. (U.S. Air Force courtesy illustration)

the protection of endangered sea turtle nests, which are found in increasing numbers every year thanks to the protection efforts of the 36th CES Environmental Flight.

"The balance between protecting the environment and protecting our nation is one that takes extreme dedication and perseverance," said Brig. Gen. Philip Ruhlman, 36th Wing commander. "The 36th Wing at Andersen

AFB is committed to doing both with excellence. As we demonstrated by passing last week's no-notice EPA inspection, we continue to excel in this regard. We, the US Air Force, along with our partners the US Navy, are appointed stewards of this land and promise to continue its preservation with exceptional standards."

Northwest Field will continue to serve as

an essential element of historical, cultural and environmental importance while providing an option to get Andersen's Airmen the training they need to save lives and complete the mission. All the while Andersen will continue to champion the protection of these resources and maintain the harmony and balance between mission readiness and environmental responsibility.

## Reduced speed ahead on Arc Light Blvd. during upgrades



Slow Down: A reduced speed sign warns oncoming traffic of construction on Arc Light Blvd. on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) April 8. The speed limit on and near Arc light Blvd is currently reduced as upgrades are made to the roadway to enhance traffic flow and operational security on Andersen AFB. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)

# USO honors volunteers on Guam

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis  
Joint Region Edge Staff

The United Service Organizations (USO) honored its outstanding military and civilian volunteers during the 2010 Guam USO Fifth Annual Gala Salute April 10.

About 400 people attended the event including service members, Government of Guam officials and Guam business leaders.

Guest speaker U.S. Marine Corps

Brig. Gen. William Crowe, principal director, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, Office of the Secretary of Defense, took to the podium and addressed the crowd.

As Crowe regaled the audience with whimsical stories of his 29 years of service, he pointed out that without families and the USO there every step of the way to support him and his troops, carrying out the military mission would have been much harder.

"I want to thank the families who support our servicemen, along with

the USO," Crowe said. "We can't do what we do every day without that support."

USO presented awards and gifts of appreciation to its five volunteers of the year — one civilian and four service members representing the National Guard, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SW/AW) Samuel Ramos Jr. of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, said though it was an honor to be recognized as the USO Navy Service Member of the Year, the real honor comes from volunteering his time

to help his fellow service members.

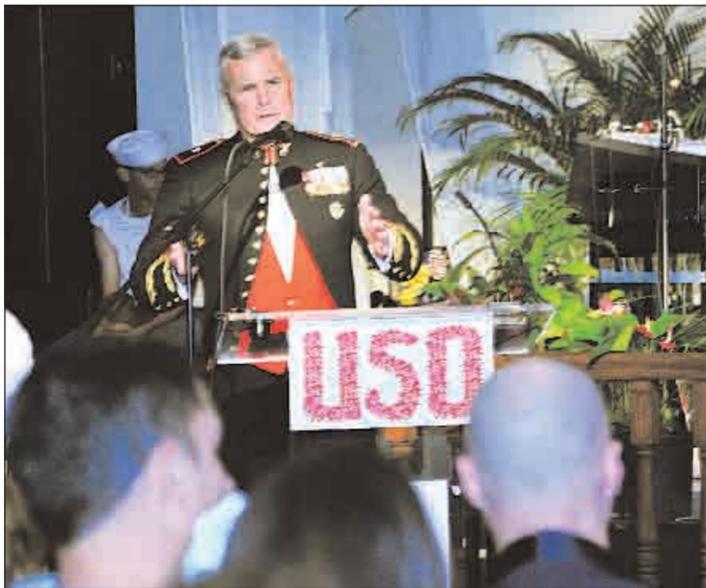
"Seeing people smile and telling me 'Thank you for helping me!' that's really the reward for me," Ramos said.

Specialist Philip Cabedo, of Guam National Guard; Tech Sgt. Jason Funk, of U.S. Air Force; Electrician's Mate 1st Class William Horn, of U.S. Coast Guard; and Nora Cruikshank, a civilian volunteer, were other award-winners.

The ceremony was closed with a surprise as a special award-winner was announced. Senior Airman Anthony Friday of 36th Security

Forces Squadron was presented with a special award for his outstanding volunteerism as one of the longest serving volunteers at Guam USO with more than four years of service.

The USO currently operates centers around the world, including numerous mobile canteens, located in the continental United States and overseas. The USO provides a variety of programs and services, including orientation programs, family events, travel assistance, free Internet and e-mail access, and recreation services.



Words of Experience: Guest speaker Brig. Gen. William Crowe, principal director, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, Office of the Secretary of Defense, discusses the importance of the USO during the 2010 Guam USO Fifth Annual Gala Salute April 10. Crowe said that the USO was an ever-present friend during his many deployments overseas. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Honorees: The Guam USO 2009 Military Volunteers of the Year stand at attention during the 2010 Guam USO Fifth Annual Gala Salute on Guam April 10. From left, Specialist Philip Cabedo, Guam National Guard; Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SW/AW) Samuel Ramos Jr., U.S. Naval Hospital Guam; Tech. Sgt. Jason Funk, U.S. Air Force; and Electrician's Mate 1st Class William Horne, U.S. Coast Guard. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Above: Governor of Guam Felix Camacho, left, presents Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SW/AW) Samuel Ramos Jr. the Guam USO 2009 Navy Volunteer of the Year with a crystal latte stone during the 2010 Guam USO Fifth Annual Gala Salute April 10. Ramos said his true award comes in the form of the smiles he gets from the service members and families he helps through the USO. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

Right: Tech. Sgt. Jason Funk, far right, stands at attention as the colors are presented at the 2010 Guam USO Fifth Annual Gala Salute April 10. Funk was recognized as the Guam USO Air Force Service Member of the Year during the gala and received a crystal latte stone and other gifts of appreciation. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



# What's your favorite aspect of the USO?

Since 1941, the United Service Organizations (USO) has helped create homes away from home for service members around the world. Joint Region Edge asked service members what is their favorite USO service.



**"The Wi-Fi and the access to communication through computers when you're away from your family because of traveling or deploying."**

— Staff Sgt. Pierce Butler, 36th Communications Squadron



**"My favorite aspect of the USO is it's a comfortable place to be at. If I need to go and call my family, I can and it's free. If I don't have Internet, I can go over there and check anything I need to do."**

— Operations Specialist 2nd Class Bruce Johnson, Joint Region Marianas Area Training



**"I like that you can call home for free. That's pretty cool, and it's somewhere to go to hang out where you don't have to drink and have a good time. That's my favorite part of the USO."**

— Machinery Repairman Fireman Shelby Court, USS Frank Cable (AS 40)



**"My favorite thing about USO is the massage chair. You just sit there and watch TV in comfort!"**

—Master-at-Arms Seaman Bradley Williams, Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 7



**"The free food for sure."**  
— Airman Jeremy Olson, 36th Communications Squadron

## EODMU 5 Sailor receives Purple Heart

Right: Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, pins the Purple Heart to the uniform of Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (EOD) Glenn Landers Jr., of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, at a ceremony held at the command's compound on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 13. Landers was injured while supporting the global war on terrorism in Al Asad, Iraq, on Dec. 29, 2008. He deployed from Guam to Combined Joint Task Force Troy October 2008-May 2009. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Below: Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, presents the Purple Heart to Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (EOD) Glenn Landers Jr., of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, at a ceremony held at the command's compound on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 13.



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# Runway completion brings operational changes

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Andriacco  
36th Wing Public Affairs

Improvements to Andersen Air Force Base's runway are nearing completion after more than 15 months of work.

With an estimated reopening date in early June, the south section of the airfield will bring added capability and safety improvements.

"The old runway was made of asphalt and a crushed aggregate mix with included coral," said Senior Master Sgt. Todd Lewis, the airfield manager. "It was a nice hard substance but slick when it rained. The new runway brings increased weight bearing capability along with a fresh paint job and new lights."

The new portion of runway was also designed with a system of grooves, improving rain runoff and decreasing how slick it can get when wet. Coupled with the lights and brighter paint, it creates a much safer operational environment for arriving and departing aircraft.

"The 36th Wing mission will be enhanced on all levels from contingency, humanitarian and operational support," Lewis said.



On the Runway: Construction workers pressure-wash a recently completed section of the South Runway. The runway is slated to reopen in mid-May and will bring added capability and safety improvements to Andersen operations. Starting April 15, all aircraft and vehicle operators will have to request approval enter or to access the controlled movement area surrounding the South Runway from the tower via two-way radio and be trained in accordance with 36th Wing Instruction 13-201. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Andriacco)

After more than a year of changes to the way business was done on the south runway, Andersen personnel should be aware of

some changes to access to that portion of the airfield.

"Starting April 15, all aircraft and vehicle operators will have to

request approval enter or access the controlled movement area from the tower via two-way radio," said Tech. Sgt. Tanneka Chew, deputy

airfield manager. "In order for an individual to operate on the airfield, they must have been trained in accordance with 36th Wing Instruction 13-201 and have a certificate of competency endorsed by airfield management."

Airmen are also encouraged to use the proper entry control points as often as they can.

"All drivers requiring access to the north side of the airfield or to the center should use east and west perimeter road to the max extent possible," said Chew. "Requesting permission from the tower is not to be used for convenience so plan ahead."

Though it has been a long process and required understanding from all units on Andersen, the end is in sight with everyone's continued assistance, the transition back to normal airfield operations will go smoothly."

"We appreciate the support we have been given over the last 15 months and the hard work that went into making the entire project a success," said Lewis. "A lot of hard work went into making single-runway operations work while we were building the second runway. If you take one thing away from this it should be our motto, 'Ops never stops,' even with half your runway under construction."

## News Notes

### Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view the vacancy listings at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 339-4222/6210.

### Naval Base Guam

Police Officer

### Naval Hospital, Guam

Nurse (clinical)

### NAVFAC Marianas Guam

Contract Specialist, closes April 15  
Facilities Maintenance Supvy, closes April 15

Contract Specialist, closes April 17  
Supvy Interdisciplinary Positions, close April 20

### Living Pattern Survey

Service members with dependents stationed on Guam for more than three months are encouraged to take the time to access the link below to complete the Living Pattern Survey (LPS). The LPS is now available at <https://www.defense-travel.dod.mil/oscola/lps/guam/>. Maximum participation and accuracy

in completing this LPS is critical to the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) determination process for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. This survey which takes no more than 30 minutes to complete can be done at home with your spouse. Survey site will close when a sufficient number of service members required to participate in the LPS to statistically validate the results is received.

COLA is paid to service members stationed in high-cost overseas locations. COLA helps to maintain purchasing power so members can purchase about the same level of goods and services overseas as in the United States. This survey is designed to identify where and how you purchase goods and services. The information obtained from this survey is used in planning and completing a separate Retail Price Report that forms the basis for prescribing your COLA.

For additional information or questions, contact Yvonne Whitley, LPS/COLA Coordinator at 339-5303 or [yvonesalas.whitley@fe.navy.mil](mailto:yvonesalas.whitley@fe.navy.mil).

Checks go High-tech at AAFES The Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) stores in Guam and Saipan will soon begin converting paper checks into electronic debits

to check writers' bank accounts. The paper check conversion (PCC) system scans and instantly convert paper checks into electronic debits. PCC streamlines the processing of funds and information, reduces indirect cost, and increases accountability and security. This technology has been operational in contingency locations for roughly 10 years now and commercial industry for about five; it's an extremely efficient system. Checks will now clear in a matter of days rather than weeks. Customers should plan and budget accordingly. Rollout of the PCC program for all AAFES Guam/Saipan stores will begin April 14. To find out more: please go to <http://www.aafes.com>.

### Water Quality Notice

Important information that affected the 2009 water quality monitoring at South Finegayan, North Finegayan and Barrigada area is available online at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/marianas/index.htm>.

### Ballroom and Boonies Being Remodeled

The Top of the Rock Ballroom and Boonies Officers' Lounge on Andersen Air Force Base are

currently closed for remodeling. For more information, call 366-6166.

### Air Force Club Membership Drive

All personnel who join the Top of the Rock Collocated Club between now and May 30 will automatically receive three months' free dues, be enrolled in the free cash-back rewards program, and get a chance to win \$5-\$100 instantly. Dues are \$4 a month for E4 and below, \$10 a month for E5 and above, and \$15 for all officers. The membership card provides numerous benefits. The Military Free Cash rewards program is an outstanding benefit to members. When you use your club membership card in any on-base services activity, you earn two percent cash back on every eligible purchase including gas and other purchases at Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) as well as the Commissary. Additionally you earn one percent cash back on eligible purchases everywhere else including all off-base purchases. In addition to being able to redeem points for cash back and gift cards, you now can also redeem for travel, to include airline tickets, hotel, and car rental – super flexibility – and it is all free, as a benefit of club membership! Applications are available at Top of the Rock. For more information, call 366-6166.

# Sailors share experiences with students

By Jesse Leon Guerrero  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Sailors spoke about Navy careers to students at Simon Sanchez High School on Guam April 9.

More than a dozen Navy personnel discussed their personal experiences and responsibilities in the military during the school's career day event.

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (FMF) Ron Dimapiles, of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, said he volunteered to participate in the event because he graduated from the school in 2003. He explained it was a good opportunity to speak directly to the students.

"Education's the key to success," Dimapiles said. "The more interactive it is, the more they'll probably get into it."

Lt. j.g. James Gelsinon, of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25, spoke to students about the challenges of flying in inclement weather and the equipment used by the Navy to rescue lost or drowning victims. Aside from operating on deployments to locations such as Iraq, HSC-25 also supports Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands with 24-hour search and rescue capabilities.

"There are a lot of unique missions we have as a helicopter squadron, unique missions that a

helicopter can do that other aircraft can't," Gelsinon said. "For me, it's something that I really enjoy — being able to help someone who's in need or otherwise wouldn't be able to get out of a bad situation."

At the school's cafeteria, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician 3rd Class Jairo Ayala, of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, helped students try on a Mk. 9 helmet and bomb suit to get firsthand experience with what it's like to work in conditions with limited mobility and control. Navy explosive ordnance disposal technicians are an elite team of warriors who eliminate hazards from conventional ordnance, weapons of mass destruction, sea mines, improvised explosive devices, and accomplish expeditionary diving and salvage objectives.

Ayala spoke about the excitement of training by jumping out of aircraft at an altitude of a thousand feet for a mission, but he emphasized safety as the key elements of his work.

"The biggest thing is you just have to want it," Ayala said. "Now I'm living the dream."

At the end of the career day, Nancy Cruz, one of the school's counselors and a co-coordinator for the event, thanked the Sailors for spending their time at the school. Cruz said it was a benefit to the students as they consider what is available



Demonstration: Naval Air Crewman 2nd Class (NAC/AW) Derik Blackman, left, and Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (NAC/AW) Kyle Evans, right, both from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25, demonstrate to students the use of search-and-rescue gear during a career day event held at Simon Sanchez High School on Guam April 9. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

to them after high school.

"Although the military is a big presence on the island, not all the students have access to the military,

not all of them are related to someone in the military and they don't know the different types of careers," Cruz said.

For more information about getting involved in the community, Sailors can contact their Navy command volunteer coordinator.

## MSRON 7 participates at local school career day

By Oyaol Ngirairiki  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7 Sailors introduced hundreds of students at Astumbo Elementary School on Guam to the different jobs available in the Navy and at their command during the school's career day April 13.

"We were excited to come out today to show the kids what we do at MSRON 7 as a force protection unit," said Gunner's Mate 2nd Class (EXW/SW/AW) Todrick Christful, president of the command's Junior Enlisted Association (JEA). "One of our goals is to help strengthen the relationship that MSRON 7 and the Navy has with the island community and us coming here and talking to the kids about what we do and who we are helps to do that."

Eleven Sailors with JEA spoke with students about their mission and the tools they use to fulfill that mission. The Sailors brought two Oswald patrol boats to the school and students had the opportunity to board the boats for a closer look.

"It was really great because I got to tell them all about the Navy and give those students who are familiar with the Navy a better understanding of what the Navy does for the nation and what MSRON 7 does out here in the Pacific," said Information Specialist 2nd Class Angel Schaefer.



Tools of the Trade: Gunner's Mate 2nd Class (EXW/SW/AW) Todrick Christful, right, and Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Brian Balch, both of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7, demonstrate to students how a M2HB 50-caliber machine gun works aboard one of MSRON 7's patrol boats at Astumbo Elementary School on Guam April 13. MSRON 7 Sailors brought two patrol boats to the school's career day to serve as visual aids, as they talked about their command's mission and the tools they use to fulfill that mission. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairiki)

MSRON 7 has made strong ties with the island community through volunteer efforts at schools such as Astumbo and the command's sister village of Sinajana. Christful said JEA's goal is to help Sailors E5 and

below learn the importance of community service.

"The JEA offers Sailors, especially our junior Sailors, an opportunity to really understand the bigger picture," he said. "When we do

things to help someone out, whether that someone is a fellow Sailor or a student at Astumbo Elementary, they can truly see that their mission, their job and their actions have an impact on others in the community."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (EXW) Bryan Mather said he enjoyed the chance to meet and speak with students at the public school.

"For me it's all about being able to give back to the community and to help out where we can," Mather said. "The military is a large part of the island and the civilians here have been kind enough to open their home to us. This is just one of the things we can do to show we appreciate their hospitality and that we want to be a part of the island family."

Josie Gatman, an Astumbo Elementary teacher and career day coordinator, said her goal in inviting MSRON 7 Sailors was to have a positive impact on students and motivate them to look toward their future.

"We have kids who say they want to join the military but aren't aware that there are different jobs they can do there," she said. "I really wanted to open another door of opportunity for them."

MSRON 7, which was commissioned in May 2004, provides rapidly deployable forces to conduct or support anti-terrorism and force protection missions. It promotes the maritime strategy by providing security for American citizens through the application of sea power and by strengthening partnerships with allied nations.

For more information on MSRON 7, visit their Web site at [www.msron7.navy.mil](http://www.msron7.navy.mil).

# Guam residents thank Navy for Sumay celebration

By Oyaol Ngrairikl  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Former residents of the pre-World War II village of Sumay on Guam and their descendants celebrated their heritage April 11 thanks to a working partnership between U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and three local mayors' offices.

"We're so thankful and grateful for the United States Navy for opening this place up for us today," said Mayor Ben Gumataotao of the village of Piti and one of the event organizers.

Back to Sumay Day allowed the former residents and descendents of the historic village to return as a community and learn more about

their history. Sumay was one of the island's most prosperous villages with a population of more than 2,000 in the late 1930s. However, the residents had to leave the village as the Imperial Forces of Japan invaded Guam during World War II. What now remain are remnants of the past, such as a Sumay Cemetery, which are preserved by the Navy on NBG.

Capt. Scott Galbreath, NBG commanding officer, said the event was one way to reinforce an already strong relationship between the Navy and the island's community. It was also a way to honor the men and women, both civilians and military, who fought and died during World War II.

"We need to get along as neighbors now and recognize that a lot of people made a lot of sacrifices and those sacrifices need to be honored," Galbreath said.

The day-long event started with a Catholic Mass attended by hundreds of man'amko, or elders of Guam's Chamorro people, and their families. With tears in her eyes, Marie Luarca, whose mother's family lived in Sumay, said she appreciated the opportunity to attend Mass at the old village with her family. She added it was great meeting other elderly and their children to hear their family stories.

"I just hope that my generation and those to follow can continue to maintain the memories of our

parents who were born and raised here," Luarca said.

Mass was followed by presentations of the village's history shared by WWII survivors and historians, among them Tony Palomo, a Chamorro historian and author.

Palomo spoke of Sumay's history as a port for ships and amphibious planes that brought military personnel and visitors to the island. "Sumay has always played a tremendous role because it's the first place you get to when you get to Guam," Palomo said.

Gumataotao, who was born in Sumay in 1927 and survived the Japanese attack on the area in 1941, said it saddened him that his home was lost in the war. Gumataotao, a

retired Navy master chief, said he's glad to see that the area continues to serve as a platform from which the U.S. can launch forces in protection of the nation, the island and the freedoms all American citizens enjoy.

"Thank the Lord the United States won this war otherwise we would not be here," Gumataotao said.

At the event, there were also a display of photos and old newspaper clippings portraying life on Guam in the 1930s, a traditional Chamorro fiesta, and presentations by cultural performers.

The event was also organized by mayors of the villages of Santa Rita and Agat.



Above: Damage Control Fireman Chakhara Guyton, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security, center left, creates a traditional Chamorro hat out of coconut leaves with Joaquin Guzman, right, a Department of Defense Education Activity teacher, during the Back to Sumay Day event held April 11 on NBG. The event allowed former residents and descendents of the historic village of Sumay to return as a community and learn more about their history. It was organized by the mayors of Santa Rita, Piti and Agat in partnership with NBG. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

Left: Guam residents line up for fiesta food during the Back to Sumay Day held April 11 on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG).

# Postal Airmen deliver the goods

Special Delivery: Being stationed on Guam, mail service has an increased importance to members of the Andersen team and their families. The distance in space and time between many Airmen and their families and friends back home makes the Postal Office a vital service for both morale and the 36th Wing mission.

36th Communications Squadron members Tech. Sgt Sarah Stewart and Tech. Sgt Lashanda Santiago along with Senior Airman Brendon Gordon are the key players in delivering more than 1 million pounds of mail per year to a variety of customers including unaccompanied military members, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 and civilian contractors that work on Andersen.

They also serve 600-700 deployed personnel as well. The postal career field is unique in that it is a special duty assignment and is filled by a variety of Airmen with different professional backgrounds. Year-round this small team of dedicated professionals keeps its fellow Airmen connected through mail service. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)



# An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure

By Esther Rollen  
36th Medical Group

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. So what does that mean to you and me? That now is the time to reflect on how to prevent abuse to protect our children and our society. It is a time to look at what it means to be a parent, a care provider, and aunt or uncle, a godparent, a friend to children and a good citizen.

First and foremost, we all want to live in a successful and healthy nation. That must include our awareness of the importance of investing in children and their development, not only because it is a moral thing to do but also because it is an investment in the future of our community and economy. If we address the needs and development of our children early, in the long run it is much less costly to society and to individuals than trying to fix things later.

We make an impression that lasts a lifetime by how we interact and model behavior for our children. When a parent or any caregiver treats a child with respect, love and understanding, it affects the child

for a lifetime—making it easier to develop and keep friendships, succeed in school and work, sustain a happy marriage and parent effectively.

Unfortunately, there are many factors that may reduce parents' ability to protect and nurture their children. Being in the military on Guam there are several issues that can create stress and increase the families risk for abuse and neglect. What are some of those factors?

Risk factors that may apply to Guam service members include: feeling socially isolated and being a long way from home where there are family and friendships for support; often being young and inexperienced with few experiences with the military or parenting before coming to the island; and having few financial resources and few options for spousal civilian employment. It can be a difficult time for young couples and adding children in the mix may increase the sense of helplessness, anxiety and poor coping.

However there are certain factors that have been shown to serve as buffers against these risks. What are the shielding mechanisms that strengthen families? The Child Welfare Information Gateway describes

five protective points quoted below:

## Nurturing and attachment

Parents and caregivers who bond with and respond to the basic needs of their babies and young children lay the foundation for a positive and loving relationship. They also stimulate the growth of their child's brain and help their child learn how to interact in positive ways with others.

## Child and youth development

Helping parents learn about normal infant, childhood, and teen development will help them understand what to anticipate as their children grow and develop, and what types of support and discipline may work best at each stage.

## Parental resilience

Parenting can be stressful, especially when parents are also managing work demands or unemployment, financial worries, illness, or difficulties with a spouse or others. Parents who have support and skills for managing stress will be better able to cope with day-to-day challenges.

## Social connections

For most of us, family, friends, and neighbors create a network that provides social interaction, recreation, advice, and help. When parents have the opportunity to interact with, learn from, and seek the support of other adults, their children benefit.

## Concrete supports for parents

Many people outside the military do not have sufficient food or shelter. The military includes provisions for basic needs that are essential to existence. Housing, affordable food, security, medical services, legal services, and schools, allow parents to be able to provide for the daily living needs for their families.

The Family Advocacy Program addresses many of the developmental strengthening factors to build parental knowledge, resilience and nurturance. The new parent support program provides home visits to families with children under the age of three for those who request it. Risk factors are assessed and addressed individually with each family and connections are made to oth-

er resources if needed. Parenting classes are provided for parents of children ages 2-12 and teens. Confidential couples counseling is available along with stress management classes.

In addition there are many other base resources available for the asking which form social connections and parental strength. Other supports are accessible through The Force Support Squadron, the CDC, the Youth Center, the Airman and Family Readiness Center, the Military Family Life Consultant and the Chapel to teach and support the skills that parents need or want to improve.

It truly does take a community to raise a child, and the Andersen Community is filled with people who care. Anything we do to strengthen and support families in our community helps reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect. This month and throughout the year, let's focus our attention on prevention efforts that support parents and create healthier communities for children.

For more information, please call the Family Advocacy Program at 366-5167.

# FCPOA to celebrate Month of the Military Child

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis  
Joint Region Edge Staff

The U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) First Class Petty Officer Association (FCPOA) will host a Month of the Military Child celebration April 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at

the field across from Charles King Gym on NBG.

The celebration will feature static displays from various NBG units, such as Security's Special Response Team, Fire and Emergency Services and the Dive Locker, as well as a military working dog demonstration.

"Parents should bring their children out for this event because it's

all for the kids," said Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Jermaine Glover, event co-coordinator. "In addition to the military displays, we'll have Bubbles the Clown, Daren the Lion, McGruff the Crime Dog, and jump castles — all to celebrate our kids."

More than 1.7 million American children under the age of 18 have at least one parent serving in the military and about 900,000

have had one or both parents deployed multiple times. This month offers the opportunity to focus on military children, recognize their sacrifice and applaud their courage and continued resilience.

According to Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Orlando McLeod, event co-coordinator, the FCPOA feels that it is important to let military dependents know that their sacrifices are appreciated.

"This event will give recognition to the children because they also make sacrifices, just like their parents," McLeod said. "We feel this is good to give back to the community and a great way to reach out to the military children, who will be our future leaders."

For more information about the FCPOA Month of the Military Child Event, call Glover at 888-9609.

# MSRON 7 Sailors hold Kids Monster Mash on NBG

By James Fee  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7 hosted a Kids Monster Mash at its compound on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) April 10.

The event, coordinated by MSRON 7 and its Family Readiness Group (FRG), allowed children whose parents are assigned to the command to get a perspective of the Sailors' responsibilities, skills, and requirement to maintain readiness.

The Kids Monster Mash was

similar to the competition that MSRON 7 holds quarterly to challenge Sailors physically and mentally and keep them mission ready. The kid's event featured eight different exercises: a relay race, tire pull, battle dress stations, push-ups, sit-ups, a soft-pellet air rifle shoot, water balloon grenade toss, and a mud pit trench crawl.

Valerie Rose, the command's FRG chairwoman, said it was a "good time to bring the families together" in light of April being recognized by the Department of Defense as the Month of the Military Child.

"We all cannot function without

each other," Rose said. "We all need the support of one another to make it work."

Cmdr. Bryon Johnson, MSRON 7 commanding officer, brought his son to the event. He said that by showing children what Sailors do, families understand how they are part of a community.

"Because they feel part of a team, they'll understand when mom or dad has to depart for mission support some place, to go do their part for the team," Johnson said.

He said one of the main objectives of the event was to motivate the young participants to lead active lives.

"The goal here is not to figure out how many push-ups and sit-ups someone can physically do," Johnson said. "It's to try and inspire them to believe in a healthy lifestyle."

Children were divided into two teams with volunteers from Guam High School's Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) leading each team.

"To see everyone's facial expressions, they're so happy," said Krista Dipierro, a NJROTC volunteer. "It's nice to share that happiness."

Volunteers from MSRON 7 and NBG Security, who helped run the exercises, said the event was also about having a good time.

"We get to get dirty with the kids and it's fun," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Meredith Love, of NBG Security.

MSRON 7, which was commissioned in May 2004, provides rapidly deployable forces to conduct or support anti-terrorism and force protection missions. It promotes the Maritime Strategy by providing security for American citizens through the application of sea power and by strengthening partnerships with allied nations.

For more information on MSRON7, visit their Web site at [www.msron7.navy.mil](http://www.msron7.navy.mil).



Above: Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Dallas Jackson, left, of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7, takes a hit from a water balloon during the water balloon grenade toss portion of MSRON 7's Kids Monster Mash on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 10. MSRON 7 hosted the event at its compound to give children an idea of what Sailors do and to inspire them to live an active lifestyle. (U.S. Navy photo by James Fee)

Left: Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Meredith Love, right, of U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security, helps a child dress during the battle dress portion of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7's Kids Monster Mash on NBG April 10. Love was among the volunteers from NBG Security, MSRON 7, and Guam High School's Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps at the event. MSRON 7 hosted the event at its compound to give children an idea of what Sailors do and to inspire them to live an active lifestyle. (U.S. Navy photo by James Fee)

# Veterinary clinics keep four-legged friends in good health

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert

Joint Region Edge Staff

Boller Veterinary Treatment Facility (VTF) and Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) VTF offers a wide range of services for pets.

The facilities are run by the U.S. Army Western Pacific District Veterinarian Command and are located in Barracks 1 on U.S. Naval Base Guam and Bldg. 20011 on Andersen AFB. The Army command provides animal treatment services for pets of patrons who are eligible for military medical benefits and working dogs. The command also conducts sanitary and food inspections on bases, ships and commercial food vendors that serve the military across the Western Pacific.

Both VTFs are primarily small animal practices for dogs and cats. However, the staff will see any pet in an emergency situation and attempt to stabilize them to be transferred to a clinic that has the expertise and equipment to deal with exotic pets.

"We have sick calls two to three times a week and provide treatments," said Capt. Gary Brown, a Boller VTF veterinarian. "However, hospitalization of pets is limited due to a small staff and we often refer owners to civilian veterinarians for around-the-clock care."

The facilities provide full preventive medicine packages that include vaccinations, de-worming, examinations for parasites, heartworm testing, feline leukemia testing and feline immunodeficiency virus testing.

"Preventive medicine packages are used the most and help us control the spread of diseases not only among dogs and cats but also zoonotic diseases that pets could spread to people as well," Brown said.

The facilities have a listing of prices for their preventive medicine packages that vary depending on what each pet may need based on its age and vaccination history.

Boller and Andersen AFB VTFs have in-house laboratory equipment that can perform organ profiles, complete blood cell counts, and urinalysis. They also have full surgical,



Check-up: Sgt. Kimberly Wells, left, a veterinarian at Boller Veterinary Treatment Facility on U.S. Naval Base Guam performs an examination on a cat owned by Chief Machinist's Mate (SW) Travis O'Quin of USS Frank Cable's (AS 40) April 6. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

X-ray and ultrasound capabilities, and also perform dental cleanings. Surgery prices will vary depending on the procedure. Clients can always request a quote prior to any procedure being performed.

"Mostly we do elective surgeries, such as spays and neuters, to control the unwanted pet population," Brown said. "We perform dental cleaning to control periodontal disease. We can also perform most needed soft tissue and orthopedic surgeries that may be needed for a variety of reasons."

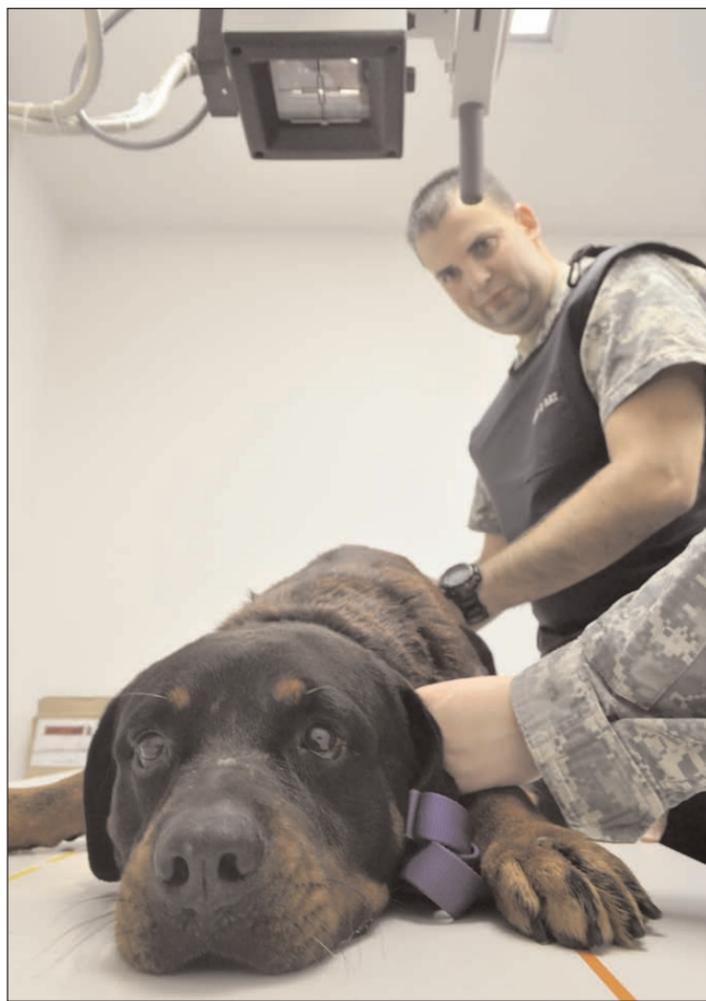
One major benefit of utilizing the VTFs is that they are a source for pet health certificates, which allow animals to fly on commercial airlines when families move off island. VTF staff asks pet owners to remember to contact the area that they are moving to, in order to see what that state or country's requirements are for incoming pets. Health certificates are only good for 10 days from the time of the examination.

"We are transferring and it is so much easier on us to come here to get everything needed to get our pets ready to travel with us," said Chief Machinist's Mate (SW) Travis O'Quin of USS Frank Cable (AS 40). "It is also a benefit because they deal mostly with the military. They know what is needed more than anyone else."

VTF staff has two important tips for pet owners. Pets should be on monthly treatments for heartworm, flea and tick prevention. Pets should also be screened once a year for common health issues and to update vaccinations as needed.

Boller VTF is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. for emergency walk-ins. For routine care, call Boller VTF at 333-3225 to make an appointment.

Andersen AFB VTF is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. with the exception of Thursday when it is open 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Due to renovations, call 366-3205 before coming in.



X-Ray: Choco, a Rottweiler, prepares to get an X-ray from veterinarian Capt. Gary Brown with Boller Veterinary Treatment Facility on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 6. The facility, which is run by the U.S. Army Western Pacific District Veterinarian Command, has full surgical, X-ray and ultrasound capabilities. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

# The importance of being immunized for mumps

## From 36th Medical Group

There have recently been several cases of mumps diagnosed on Guam. Mumps is a contagious disease, that is caused by the mumps virus. It can be prevented by routine childhood immunizations.

Mumps usually starts with a few days of fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness and loss of appetite, and is followed by swelling of salivary glands. Anyone who is not immune from either previous mumps infection or from vaccination can get mumps.

Mumps is spread by droplets of saliva or mucus from the mouth, nose or throat of an infected person, usually from when the person coughs, sneezes or talks. Items used by an infected person, such as soft-drink cans or eating utensils, can also be contaminated with the virus, which may spread to others if those items are shared. In addition, the virus may spread when someone with mumps touches items or surfaces without washing their hands beforehand, and someone else then touches the same surface and rubs their eyes, mouth, or nose.

Most mumps transmission likely occurs before the salivary glands begin to swell and up to 5 days after the swelling begins. Therefore, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends isolation of mumps patients for five days after their glands begin to swell. The incubation time (how long it takes for symptoms to appear after a person is exposed to the virus) can range from 12-25 days.

Currently, there is no specific treatment for mumps. Mumps is usually a mild illness in children but adults may have more serious illness or more complications. Typically, infected individuals will recover at home without having to see a doctor. If you or your child becomes very ill, you should seek medical attention. If you need to seek medical attention, they should call their doctor in advance so that they don't have to sit in the waiting room for a long time and possibly infect other patients.

## Protect Yourself and Your Children

All children and some adults should have documentation of two doses of a mumps-containing vaccine. In the United States, mumps vaccine is commonly given as part of the combination vaccine MMR. Adults born in 1957 or later without evidence of immunity (i.e., physician-diagnosed disease, laboratory evidence of immunity or confirmation of disease) should receive at least 1 dose of vaccine. They should receive a second dose if they are at

high risk of exposure to mumps (i.e., healthcare personnel, international travelers and college students). Unvaccinated healthcare personnel born before 1957, who do not have evidence of immunity, should also receive two doses of MMR vaccine.

Babies should receive their first dose of MMR or MMRV on or after their first birthday. The recommended range is from age 12-15 months. A dose given before 12 months of age may not be counted, so the child's medical appointment should be scheduled with this in mind

The second dose of MMR is usually given when the child is 4-6 years old, or before he or she enters kindergarten or first grade. However, the second dose of MMR can be given anytime as long as it is at least four weeks after the first dose.

Other things you can do to help prevent the spread of mumps and other infections include: washing your hands well and often with soap, and teaching your children to wash their hands too; not sharing eating or drinking utensils; cleaning surfaces that are frequently touched (such as toys, doorknobs, tables, and coun-

ters) regularly with soap and water or with cleaning wipes; minimizing close contact with other people if you are sick; and covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and putting your used tissue in the trash can. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.

For more information, visit the CDC mumps Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/mumps/index.html> or call Andersen Public Health at 366-4147 or USNH Guam Preventive Medicine at 344-9787.

# Uniform changes include CPO cutlass, ball caps

## From the Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The chief of naval operations approved a number of uniform changes as announced in NAVADMIN 118/10 March 31.

Included in the announcement is the approval of a Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Ceremonial Cutlass for optional wear by E-7 through E-9s. Chief petty officers are authorized to wear the cutlass in full dress uniforms when acting as a member of an official party during a ceremony. However to ensure uniformity, all members of the official party must wear either the cutlass or the sword. Because this is an optional uniform article, Sailors are responsible for the cost of the item.

Additional details on the final design and manner of wear of the cutlass will be released in a future Navy message.

Also announced in the NAVADMIN, are changes to the occasion of wear of the Navy and command ball

caps. The ball caps are authorized for wear with the following uniforms: wash khaki, utilities, physical training uniform, coveralls, and flight suit. Commanding officers can authorize the wear of the ball cap at sea with the Navy Working Uniform (NWU) and Camouflage Utility Uniform (CUU) by bridge watch teams and command training teams.

Ashore, commanding officers may authorize the wear of ball caps with the NWU and CUU by command training teams during field exercises held in restricted areas to help provide immediate visu-

al identification of supervisors, controllers and safety observers. Ball caps are not authorized for wear in transit to or from exercise events.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2011 the Navy blue coveralls are only authorized for wear when underway. However, commanding officer can allow the wear of the Navy blue coveralls ashore in environments that place an excessive amount of wear on the working uniforms. The NAVADMIN also reminds commands they are responsible to purchase coveralls for work in areas that are likely to permanently soil or

prematurely destroy the uniform.

Also beginning Jan. 1, the blue 100 percent cotton t-shirt worn with the NWU will be the only authorized T-shirt for wear with the Navy blue coveralls, replacing the white T-shirt formerly worn with the uniform.

Sailors can now wear black or navy blue backpacks on either the left shoulder or on both shoulders while wearing the service uniform or NWU. When wearing the NWU, a matching NWU pattern (blue, grey and black) backpack may be worn on the either the left shoulder or both

shoulders. Sailors are reminded no personal ornamentation can be attached or worn on the backpack.

For complete uniform changes see NAVADMIN 118/10. More information on Navy uniforms can be found on the Uniform Matters web page at [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil).

To read the latest Navy Uniform News Gram, visit <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/USNavyUniforms/Newsgrams2.htm>.

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit [www.navy.mil/local/cnp/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cnp/).

# Green generation blooms at McCool school

By Oyaol Ngirairikl

Joint Region Edge Staff

Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School students are getting hands-on experience with keeping the earth healthy.

Using a composting machine purchased by the school's parent-teacher organization (PTO), McCool students are churning out pounds of topsoil for their school garden. Students from each grade have an opportunity to use the composting machine and work in the garden.

"The garden is a great place because the kids are learning what it takes to sustain life," said Louise Cruz, a second-grade teacher.

Cruz said second-grade students, who had the composting machine in March, made topsoil using

eggshells, coffee grounds and other food waste.

"It's a great learning tool because they now better understand that like recycling cans and paper there are ways to reuse other items that would normally get thrown away," Cruz said. "With this project they're not just reusing the items, but they're learning to reuse them in a way that helps regenerate the environment."

Cordelia Allen, a second-grade student, said she enjoyed working in the garden and learning her part in maintaining a "clean world."

"We learned about butterflies and how they need flowers and other plants to live and grow," Allen said. "That's just like us. We get food and shelter from the world around us so we have to make sure we keep it clean and try not to pollute our environment."

Cathy Reyes, PTO president, said they purchased the machine at the beginning of the year using funds raised from the last year's Earth Day festivities held at the school.

"Anything we can do to get the kids excited about helping the environment is great," Reyes said. "Composting and working on ways to address erosion — this is stuff that they're learning about in the classroom, and I think working with the composting machine and working in the garden are a great way to support what's happening in the classrooms."

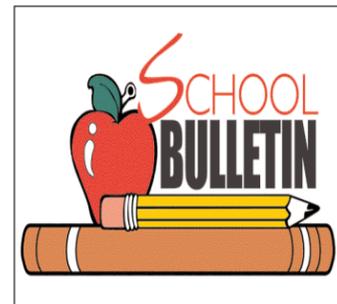
The school will build on its students' growing environmental awareness with an Earth Day/Spaghetti Night April 30, 3:30-7 p.m., a week after the international Earth Day, which falls on April 22. Reyes said this year's

Earth Day/Spaghetti Night will feature displays and activities by U.S. Department of Agriculture and other organizations.

"I know it's going to be a lot of fun for the entire family, but because it's an Earth Day celebration we're trying to ensure that everyone comes away from it having learned something new," Reyes said. "We're going to have the kids plant seeds in egg cartons that they can take home and with their families help the plants grow."

Reyes said they've also been asking parents to save and send with their children to school empty toilet paper rolls for an arts and crafts activity.

For more information on McCool's PTO and its activities, call 339-8678 or e-mail [mccoolpto@yahoo.com](mailto:mccoolpto@yahoo.com).



School Bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy community. If you know of an education-related event that you would like to include, send it to [jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil](mailto:jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil) or call 339-7113.

## DoDEA

Student registration will be held this month for Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Guam schools. Parents can register children who next year will attend Andersen Elementary School, Andersen Middle School and Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School at their respective schools April 19-23, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Parents of students who will be attending Guam High School (GHS) next school year can register at either of the Andersen schools April 19 and 20, at McCool April 21 and 22, or at GHS April 23. Registration is 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on all of the above days.

DoDEA School Board will meet April 27, 6 p.m. at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School.

## Andersen Elementary School

Parents are encouraged to volunteer on the School Year 2010-2011 Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) board. For more information about vacancies, contact Glynda Richter at [andersen\\_aesp@yahoo.com](mailto:andersen_aesp@yahoo.com).

## McCool Elementary/Middle School

The 2010 Academic Fair will be April 21, 4-6 p.m. at the school gym. The fair will feature students' writing and math curriculum, National History Day projects and science fair projects.

## Guam High School

Congratulations to freshmen Sarah Berg and Syndey Short and junior Ethan Berg for winning the 2101 Guam History Day contest. The three winners will be attending the 2010 Kenneth E. Behring National History Day Contest June 13-17 at the University of Maryland College Park.

Junior Amber Gadsden was selected by the Rotary Club of Guam to represent Guam in Karuizawa, Japan this summer as part of a student exchange program.



Tending a Garden: A Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School student pats down the soil around an aloe vera plant in the class's garden April 8. Cathy Reyes, the parent-teacher organization president for McCool, said that tending a garden is a great way for children to learn about the environment. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Creating Topsoil: Sixth-graders at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School put sawdust into a composting machine at the school April 8. By combining the sawdust with eggshells, coffee grounds and other food waste, the students create fertile topsoil. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

# Add bananas for a tasty muffin treat

By Jesse Leon Guerrero  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Bananas play a big role in the diet of many people around the world, and especially in the Pacific. They show up in main course meals as well as desserts. Ollie Fernandez, a resident of Ordot, shares her Crunchy Muffin recipe with those who want to try a pastry that owes its distinct flavor to bananas.

Fernandez said her recipe uses different ingredients, but is very easy to make because she prefers to keep things simple. She created the muffin through weeks of experimenting and a trial-and-error approach. Fernandez said what also worked was being open to people's reactions when they first tasted it.

"It evolved over time and people like it," Fernandez said.

Fernandez said she doesn't mind giving out the recipe for what is now her final version because she wants people to enjoy it. She added the key ingredient is the banana and banana essence, which adds to the aromatic smell of the finished product.



Banana Muffins: A plate of crunchy banana muffins cools off before being served in Ordot April 12. A tray of 18 muffins takes about 35 minutes to prepare and bake, and it includes bananas, coconut, eggs, and walnuts as main ingredients. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

"It reminds me of my childhood," Fernandez said. "My mom would make ginataan [a type of sweet soup] and people wouldn't know why they liked it so much. It was the banana essence."

## Ingredients

Two cups of all purpose flour  
Two teaspoons of baking powder  
One teaspoon of baking soda  
One pinch of salt  
Half a cup (or one stick) of softened butter  
Three-quarters of a cup of sugar  
Two whole eggs  
One teaspoon of banana essence  
Two cups (or about four pieces) of mashed, ripe bananas  
Half a cup of walnuts  
Half a cup of sweet, shredded coconut meat  
Half a cup of granola  
Quarter of a cup of crushed cornflakes or granola  
Quarter of a cup of chopped walnuts

## Directions:

Line 18 muffin cups with baking paper.  
Mix the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.  
Mix, by beating, the butter, eggs, sugar, and banana essence until they are blended together.  
Add flour and mixture but be careful not to over mix.  
Pour the mix into each baking paper cup until about three-quarters full.  
Top each muffin cup with granola and walnuts.  
Bake the filled cups in a preheated 350 degree oven for 25 minutes or until the muffin tops are brown.  
Afterward, cool lightly and serve.

# Take a bite out of bananas at Talofofu festival

By Jesse Leon Guerrero  
Joint Region Edge Staff

The southern village of Talofofu is inviting all local and military residents to get a taste of bananas at their upcoming Banana Festival at Ipan Beach Park. Admission is free and the event will be held April 23, 6 p.m.-midnight and April 24-25, 10 a.m.-midnight.

Sponsored by the Talofofu Mayor's Office, the Banana Festival will feature locally grown bananas and how they're used in many Chamorro and Filipino recipes on Guam. Maggie Castro, a co-coordinator of the event, said they expect to have a wide range of vendors displaying and selling their dishes.

"You can make a lot of things out of the banana, such as donuts, bread, and pie," Cas-

tro said. "You can even cook it with chicken or pork because there are so many ways to use it."

Since the festival will take place in Talofofu, it will be a good way for people to experience the beauty of the southern side of Guam and the hospitality of its people, Castro said. She added it's a family-oriented event with lots of activities and things to see or eat throughout the days.

"We're going to have food booths, games, performances from cultural dancers, and it's all right next to the beach," Castro said.

Proceeds from sales at the festival will go toward the village's humanitarian fund, which helps pay for people in need of medical treatment. Children will also benefit from the proceeds through youth sports sponsorships.

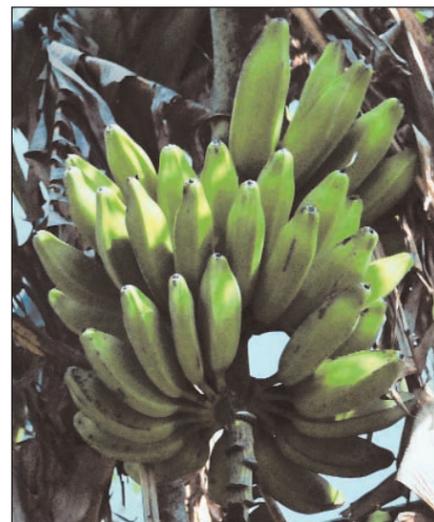
Castro said the festival is showcasing the

banana because many Talofofu families grow banana trees, so it's part of their cultural identity. She encouraged anyone with a banana recipe to share it at the festival, where they also plan to have a cooking contest.

"It's our first one, so we're really excited," Castro said. "We want everyone to have a great time."

For more information, e-mail the Talofofu Mayor's Office at [maggie.castro09@yahoo.com](mailto:maggie.castro09@yahoo.com) or call 789-1421.

Banana Festival: A bunch of bananas hang in the woods of Talofofu. The Talofofu Mayor's Office will hold a Banana Festival in Talofofu April 23-25, featuring locally grown bananas and how they are used in many Chamorro and Filipino recipes on Guam. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



## FREE

### Free Movies

Starting April 16, enjoy free movies everyday at Big Screen Theater, on U.S. Naval Base Guam. For more information, call 339-1830.

### TAP at FFSC

April 19-22, 7:45 a.m. - 4 p.m. Fleet and Family Support Center is offering a Transition Assistance Program (TAP) class at Barracks 4 on U.S. Naval Base Guam. This class is designed to assist service members in making the change from military to civilian life, by transferring military experiences into a worthwhile career choice. For more information, call 333-2056.

### U.S. Naval Base Guam Library Story Time

Readers of all ages are invited to join the Mother's Day coloring, connect the dots, and writing contest. Contest

begins April 21, pick up forms at the U.S. Naval Base Guam Library. Also, enjoy stories and crafts every Wednesday from 3:30-4 p.m. For more information, call 564-1836.

### Ice Cream Sunday

On April 25, 7-9 p.m. stop by Silver Dolphin for sweet treats. For more information, call 564-2280.

### Welcome to Guam Orientation & Island Tour

April 29, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Two days of fun-filled information and facts service members and their families should know about Guam. Meet representatives of quality of life offices and/or agencies on April 29, 8 a.m. at Barracks 4. Day two will be a bus tour of the island. Meet April 30, 8 a.m. at U.S. Naval Base Guam Chapel. For more information call 333-2056/57.

### Chamorro Village

Take a free trip to Chamorro Village every Wednesday. Single Sailors and geographical bachelors can catch a shuttle at 6 p.m. from Single Sailor Sanctuary. Sailors at the Ordnance Annex can catch the shuttle 6:30 p.m. at Silver Dolphin. For more information, call 564-2280.

### Tuesday Texas Hold'em Nights

Texas Hold'em tournaments are held every Tuesday starting at 6 p.m. in Hightides at the Top of the Rock on Andersen Air Force Base. Play is free for club members and \$5 for non-members. Weekly prizes are awarded. For more information, call 366-6166.

### FREE Golf Clinic

Learn the fundamentals of golf every Saturday and Sunday, 9-10 a.m. at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada. No need to register! For more information, call 344-5838.

### Tarague Beach

Tarague Beach is currently open for swimming Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. During these days/times, swimming is authorized only in the designated marked swimming area, and only when a life-guard is present. For more information, call 366-5197.

## UNDER \$10

### Hike to Talofofu Caves

Rated easy-medium. Join Rec N' Crew April 22 at 8:15 a.m. for a hike to Talofofu Caves. Explore five awesome caves. Cost is \$5 per adult, and \$3 per child age 5-11. Registration deadline is April 21. For more information, call 564-1826.

### Breakfast at Top of the Rock

Starts below \$10. Breakfast hours are Monday-Friday, 6:30-9:30 a.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 7:30-9:30 a.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

On a Budget

**UNDER \$10  
Hike to Lost Pond**

Outdoor Recreation will show you the way to Lost Pond April 24. Tour departs Outdoor Recreation on Andersen Air Force Base at 7:45 a.m. During this hike you will pass three different beaches before arriving at the trailhead to Lost Pond. A short 15-minute hike through the jungle will get you to your destination, one of just two natural freshwater pools in Northern Guam. Bring snorkeling gear along if

you'd like to snorkel along the beach afterwards (conditions permitting). Cost is just \$5 per person. Minimum age is 5. For more information, call 366-5197



**Game Time Grill**

Begin or end your day with a delightful meal at Game Time Sports Grill. The overlook of the golf course offers a relaxing atmosphere for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Breakfast specials are served daily ranging

from \$4.50-\$5.50. Breakfast hours are 6-10:30 a.m. Lunch specials also served daily and are only \$6.95 with fountain soda. Lunch hours are 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Also enjoy 18 holes of golf and a lunch package available at the Pro Shop at \$46 per person. For more information, call 344-5838 or 734-2155.

**2 for 1 at Gecko Lanes**

Get two games for the price of one and have twice the fun Monday-Saturday, 6-10 p.m. For more information, call 366-5085.

**Fajita Dinner at Café Latte**

Base price for adults' dinner is \$2.95, and \$1.50 for children ages 6-12. All condiments are 75 cents per ounce. Every Tuesday, 5-7:30 p.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

**Mongolian BBQ Wednesday**

At Café Latte. Base price of \$2.95 for adults and \$1.50 for children ages 6-12. All condiments are 75 cents per ounce. Mongolian BBQ is also available for take out. For more information, call 366-6166.



**FRIDAY, APRIL 16**

7 p.m.: Green Zone • R

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17**

2 p.m.: Green Zone • R

7 p.m.: Brooklyn's Finest • R

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18**

7 p.m.: Brooklyn's Finest • R

The movie schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond Meehan Theaters on Andersen Air Force Base. **The Meehan Theater hotline is 366-1523.**



**FRIDAY, APRIL 16**

7 p.m.: Brooklyn's Finest • R

R

9:30 p.m.: Cop Out • R

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17**

1 p.m.: Spy Next Door • PG

3:30 p.m.: Valentine's Day • PG-13

PG-13

7 p.m.: The Wolfman • R

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18**

1 p.m.: Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief • PG

3:30 p.m.: Valentine's Day • PG-13

PG-13

7 p.m.: Crazy Heart • R

The schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond the theater's control. **The Big Screen Theater hotline is 564-1831 or visit [mwrguam.com](http://mwrguam.com).**

*(Source: Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation Office)*

## Chapel Schedule

### Naval Base Guam

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Roman Catholic Mass  
Monday-Wednesday, Friday  
11:40 a.m. Weekday Mass  
Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Mass  
Sunday, 9 a.m. Mass  
CCD Sunday, 10:15 a.m.  
Choir Practice  
Wednesdays, 6 p.m.  
Protestant Worship  
Service  
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.  
Protestant Sunday School  
Sunday, 9 a.m.

Women's Bible Studies  
first & third Wednesday  
8:30 a.m.

Women's Studies  
Second & fourth  
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Choir Practice  
Tuesdays, 6 p.m.  
Jewish Shabbat  
Fridays, 6:30 p.m.

### Naval Hospital Guam

Roman Catholic Mass  
Sunday, 9 a.m.  
Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.  
CCD  
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

### Andersen Air Force Base

Roman Catholic Mass  
Chapel 1  
Saturday, 5 p.m.  
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.  
Monday-Thursday, 11:30  
a.m.

Sunday Protestant  
Worship  
Chapel 2  
General Worship 9 a.m  
Inspirational Gospel 11:30  
a.m.

Sunday Religious  
Education  
Chapel 2  
Catholic R.E., 8 a.m.  
Protestant R.E., 10:30 a.m.

*Schedules subject to  
change without notice. To  
confirm times or for more  
information about the pro-  
grams, call the chapels at  
the following numbers:*

Andersen Air Force Base  
366-6139  
Naval Base Guam  
339-2126  
Naval Hospital Guam  
344-9127

# Faith brings a new reason for hope

By Maj. Andrew G. McIntosh  
36th Wing Andersen Air Force Base  
Chaplain

"Hope is the anchor of the soul." For years I have heard and pondered these words, reflecting on what they might mean. The word hope can be defined as the feeling of what is wanted can be obtained or that events will turn out for the best. So do things always turn out for the best?

Well, that might depend on your perspective. Life often turns out differently than we had hoped.

We begin a military career with the hope or even expectation to earn a retirement, yet we find ourselves having to separate before we are

given the chance to retire. For others, it may be a marriage where you expected to grow old together and spend a majority of your life together, yet you end up trudging through a painful divorce. Still others may have dealt with the gut wrenching grief of burying a child or loved one who died unexpectedly, whatever the case may be we all need hope.

Many people turn to their faith to find a source of hope, in fact, the word hope is found 174 times in the Christian Bible. In fact I even (middle) named my daughter Hope as the word itself gives strength in times of despair. The Apostle Paul commented in 1 Corinthians 13:13

- "Now these three remain - faith, hope and love." So what is so enduring about hope? Could it be that hope is born out of despair, pain and suffering, it is the expectation that "this too will pass" and that there will come a time when we will be exonerated, released from struggle or simply relieved of a burden.

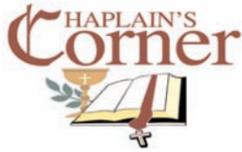
Christians recently celebrated Easter which reminds them of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, but that resurrection was preceded by a death on the cross. Jewish communities recently celebrated Passover, but that same Passover reminds them of their delivery from 400 years of slavery and oppression - it's as if these celebrations of victory can only be made possible because they were born out of struggle.

Whatever your struggle may be,

do not lose heart, give up or even give in. Find something that you can hold on to that gives you a perspective on the situation and a realization that all is not lost, even when things do not turn out the way you think they should.

If you have discovered that hope in God who is the foundation of faith, then that is good; do not lose that faith. If however, that is not where your journey has led you, I would encourage you to hold on nevertheless!

You have heard before the old axiom - tough times do not last, but tough people do, there is some truth to this. Understand that although it is darkest before the dawn...the dawn is coming. And when it comes, our faith is strengthened for it brings a new beginning, a new reason for hope.



# Still Moments



Employee of the Quarter: Michelle Flores, a human resource specialist with Joint Region Marianas, receives the Joint Region Marianas Employee of the Quarter Award from Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, at the headquarters April 9. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist (SW) 2nd Class Corwin Colbert)



Pride and Challenges: Erlinda Montecalvo, Fleet and Family Support Center family advocacy program manager, shares a story of the pride and challenges of being a Chamorro woman during a Women and Chamorro History Month celebration in the Joint Region Marianas headquarters April 9. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist (SW) 2nd Class Corwin Colbert)

# FISC beats NAVFAC in AC basketball

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert

Joint Region Edge Staff

Rebounds were the determining factor in Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Detachment Marianas' 64-51 victory over Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas in an Admiral's Cup basketball game at Charles King Gym April 7.

The leading rebounder for the FISC team, Logistics Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Ricky Crews, had more rebounds than the entire NAVFAC Marianas team.

"Rebounding is key to the game," Crews said. "It gives your team a chance to control the paint and capitalize on second chances."

Despite the final score, the game started competitively with each team scoring their first five buckets. After the first four minutes, the score was 12-10 NAVFAC Marianas. The final 16 minutes in the half were at a slower pace due to amped-up defense by both teams.

FISC began to pull away with a 7-2 run highlighted by FISC's Sandy Fegeran's 10 points in the first half. With the score 30-20, NAVFAC Marianas's Chris Santos hit from behind the arc to pull his team closer, but FISC kept the pressure on with a half court press and seven total rebounds from Crews. The halftime score was 34-25 FISC.

The second half began the same



Shoot, Score: Clarence Layutang, of Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas, takes the paint for two during an Admiral's Cup basketball game against Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Detachment Marianas at Charles King Gym on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 6. FISC won the game by a score of 64-51. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

way the first half ended — with strong defense. Both teams' defense made the offenses look dismal with the first bucket scored more than three minutes into play. NAVFAC Marianas's Glen Camacho scored the first field goal with 17:11 left to play in regulation. He followed up

with a steal and a behind-the-back pass that should have been an assist, but the home team couldn't capitalize on the opportunity.

After that, the game started to go downhill for the home team. Their bench, as well as their starting five, was gasping for air while they

watched Crews grab his sixth rebound of the half and 13th rebound of the game with 15:23 left in regulation.

By the 13-minute mark, NAVFAC Marianas was in serious trouble with four team fouls. With 13:10 left in the game and the score

44-29 FISC, NAVFAC Marianas couldn't afford to get three more fouls and put FISC on the free throw line.

NAVFAC Marianas called a timeout with 11:05 left to play. After many huffs and puffs on the sidelines, they went back to the court, gained their second wind by locking down FISC and went on a 12-6 run.

NAVFAC Marianas's Clarence Layutang put a momentary hurt on FISC by scoring six points coming out of the break. However, it was as if health care services arrived as FISC's Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Mike Russell scored from behind the arc with four three-point plays, putting NAVFAC Marianas's comeback chances in the waiting room. Game over. FISC won 64-51.

Following the game, both teams shook hands and enjoyed a moment to recapture memorable moments of the game.

"It was a fun game," Layutang said. "It's the first game, and we are just figuring out what we need to work on. In the end it's about being competitive but building camaraderie with co-workers and other commands. Hopefully we will be more polished by playoffs."

The Admiral Cup basketball season will last for five weeks followed by double-elimination playoffs tentatively scheduled for April 29.

For more information on Admiral's Cup sports, call 564-1861.

## NMCRS golf tournament slated for April 16



By James Fee

Joint Region Edge Staff

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) is holding a golf tournament at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course April 16, as part of its 2010 Active Duty Fund Drive.

Participants should arrive at 11 a.m. for a shotgun start at noon. Interested golfers can register prior to

Tee Off: Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SW) Carrie Shuford tees off during the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) annual golf tournament fundraiser April 24, 2009 at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course. This year NMCRS will hold its tournament April 16 at the same golf course. Show time is 11 a.m., and noon is go time. Registration will be accepted at show time. (Joint Region Edge file photo)

the start of the event.

The format for the tournament is a four-person scramble and costs \$50, which includes green fees, a golf cart, lunch and raffle tickets. Participants may also purchase bad luck insurance for \$10 at check-in, which entitles a golfer to three muligans and three feet of string.

Both military personnel and civilians can register by contacting the chair of the fundraising committee Chief Electronics Technician (SW) Phil Laserna, U.S. Naval Base Guam, at phil.laserna@fe.navy.mil, calling NMCRS at 564-1879/80 or signing up at the golf course the day of the event.

Laserna encourages all to come out to support a worthy cause.

"One in six of our fellow shipmates and Marines were helped by

this fine organization just last year," Laserna said. "It's family helping family."

The mission of NMCRS is to provide, in partnership with the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, financial, educational, and other assistance to members of the naval services of the United States, their eligible family members and survivors, when in need; and to receive and manage funds to administer these programs. Last year, the fund drive raised \$144,610 in local contributions and Laserna hopes to exceed that amount this year, setting a goal of \$200,000.

For more information about 2010 Active Duty Fund Drive events for NMCRS, call NMCRS at 564-1879/80 or e-mail Laserna at phil.laserna@fe.navy.mil.

## Sports Shorts

The following is a list of sports and health-related activities held on U.S. Naval Base Guam. To submit your sports note, e-mail jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil.

### Spring Fling Kid's Run

April 16, 5:30 p.m. at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School parking lot. Admission is free, but T-shirts cost \$5. Register at Charles King Gym or at the race site the day of the event. All ages are invited to participate! For more information, call 339-1301/2.

### Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate Frisbee is a fast-paced, self-officiated sport similar to football, in which the frisbee is moved down the field toward the opposite endzone by passing only. Pick-up games are free. Ages 16 and up are welcome. Games are co-ed and start April 20, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. - TBD at Sampson Field, near U.S. Naval Base Guam pool. For more information, just show up or e-mail mthorn3478@aol.com.

The following is a list of sports and health-related activities held on Andersen Air Force Base. To submit your sports note, call 366-2228.

### Golf Get Ready Program

Palm Tree Golf Course will soon offer the Golf Get Ready program for adults with a choice of two classes. The first classes are April 20, 27, and May 4. The second will be April 10, 17, 24 and May 1 and 8. The cost is \$99. Sign up soon, as we can only take eight students per class. For more information, call 366-4653.