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2010 Air Show dates set, plans underway for "Wings Over South Texas"

By Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Kingsville has set a preliminary time frame for the 2010 "Wings Over South Texas" air show and plans are now in full-swing to ensure the event is one of the best ever in South Texas. The dates are March 27-28, with a traditional practice show on Friday March 26.

"We are going all out for this air show," said NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham. "This success of our 2008 show at NAS Kingsville exceeded our expectations but we're really going to add some significant events to make our 2010 the best-ever in Kingsville."

The air show committee is already conducting monthly meetings and making plans for the 2010 show. The commit-

tee has studied the lessons learned from NAS Kingsville's 2008 show and made changes as needed. But, according to Air Show chairperson Lt. Michael Wildman, it's difficult to improve upon a show that was considered a "huge success."

"We have our work cut out for us in improving what we did last year," Wildman told the committee members at the August meeting. "But we're going to ... and in a big way. One of the ways we're going to improve is by adding more popular performing acts. Another is by including the City of Kingsville and Texas A&M University in our event planning. Capt. Waddingham feels that hosting some of the pre-show and post-show events off-base would be a huge benefit to all parties. That would allow the local businesses and citizens to enjoy partial ownership of the show, and that's what



putting on an air show is all about."

The 2008 show included 12 acts, headlined by the Navy's Blue Angels, and Fat Albert. Also on the card were the Navy's parachute team, the Leap Frogs, the Air Force West Viper Squadron and Heritage Flight; an F-18 Super Hornet performance, and a number of other veteran air show performers. The 2010 show will include the same type of heavy-hitting performances, plus additional acts that will thrill and entertain spectators. Plans are

also in the works to include a pre-show concert by a national recording artist. The committee is still working the concert issue, but Wildman stresses that it will be a big name performer that will help draw in big crowds.

"It's too early to say who we're thinking about or who we think we'll be able to get," Wildman said. "But, we're going to go all out to make this show an event that people will remember for quite a while. That means we have to have the acts that people want to see, so we're going to be very aggressive as we put our schedule of performers together."

Stay tuned for updates on the 2010 show as they become available. Mark your calendars and make your plans now to attend. The 2010 "Wings Over South Texas" air show is one you won't want to miss!

CNIC Commander's Guidance available now on CNIC Gateway

The latest guidance from the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) is now posted on the CNIC Gateway website, <https://cnicgateway.cnic.navy.mil>.

Vice Adm. Mike Vitale posted the guidance on the site this week and encourages all personnel to review its contents. "The Guidance provides our mission, vision and guiding principles, as well as our key strategic priorities and way ahead," Vitale said. "Our next step will be the development of a Strategic Plan that will provide the framework for the goals, strategies and initiatives across our Regions and Installations. This Strategic Plan will live in the CNIC Gateway, be visible to all, and provide ongoing status re-



garding the progress toward achieving specific goals and objectives."

Vitale encourages all personnel, whether those assigned to CNIC Headquarters, a Navy Region, or a Navy Base/Installation/Station to read through this document.

CNIC is leading the way - Keep Charging!



NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham, left, accepts the Navy Ball Golf Tournament Captain's Cup Challenge Loser's Award from tournament chair Jon Gagné while Kingsville Mayor Sam Fugate accepts the coveted Cup on behalf of his team's victory. See related story and photos on page 12, (Photo by Wayne Short, MWR)



Capt. Phil Waddingham
Commanding Officer,
NAS Kingsville



Greetings, NAS Kingsville! How about the weather? I'd like to say, if you don't like it just wait a week and it'll change, but that really doesn't apply given that we haven't had significant rain for almost a year, and I'm sure most people were hoping for a little during that span. Now, finally, it has been raining, and I found myself looking forward to dry weather again. Well, I waited a week, and after a week of rain, we got nice weather. So maybe the old adage, "wait a while and the weather will change," has some applicability again. I hope it stays this way, at least for a few more weeks.

When I ask about the weather, most people have a general knowledge of what the weather is doing, and what its effects are, and in the most severe cases, how to prepare for its arrival and its aftermath in the case of Gulf Coast Hurricanes. I'll

go so far as to say we don't take it for granted, we know that we need it for its replenishment effects.

Electricity, and in a more general sense, energy, are not viewed the same way by most people. My experience has been that most people take energy for granted, when it comes to the naval air station. The electricity that provides power to your building or your workspace, the fuel for your government vehicle, and the water used in your work area, are all limited resources that the base pays for each month in order to accomplish our mission.

The reality is that base support funds will be diminishing in the future, and that means if utility expenses do not decrease, we will have less money to pay for mission related requirements. Furthermore, recent mandates codified in law, and set by executive order require us to reduce our energy consumption by 3% per year and 30% by 2015. We must also reduce water consumption 2% per year or 16% by 2015. Also, we are being challenged to increase renewable energy use to 25% of electricity consumption by 2025.

Let me put things into perspective. Think about your home electric/utility

bill. As the summer months set in, and the home air-conditioning usage goes up, the result is higher electric bills. And when that happens, most people are reminded of the importance of setting the thermostat at a reasonable level, making sure blinds are closed, and repairing door seals and other areas where a draft can cause you to essentially pour money out the window. In other words, doing the small things that add up to a big savings.

Consider the fact that for most bases, approximately 40% of the command's operating budget goes to paying utilities. For the month of June alone, NAS Kingsville paid almost \$500,000 for fuel, water, and electricity. We can't sustain this for ever.

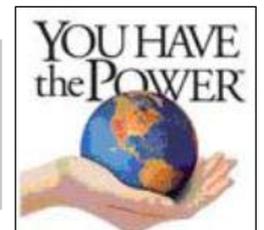
I am a member of the CNRSE Energy Council, and we meet monthly to discuss ways we can 1) instill a culture of conservation, 2) invest in energy saving technology, and 3) influence operations to execute our assigned missions at the lowest possible energy cost. Here at NAS Kingsville we have assigned Building Energy Monitors (BEMs) for each building, and we are well underway in establishing a quarterly Energy Conservation Board, which will be chaired by me.

It is the vision of NAS Kingsville that we become a leader in energy conservation, and that we set the standard for all of CNIC on reducing energy consumption, and increasing renewable energy technologies. In the weeks ahead, I will be sharing the progress we are making in my Flying K articles, and other venues.

Material will be published on our command web site, and much of it will be required knowledge of all hands. The fact is this, for us to accomplish our mission of energy conservation, it is going to take an all hands effort to make our goals. All tenants will play a part, each worker, and leadership from all members of Team Kingsville.

I'm looking forward to the challenge, and excited about sharing the news of our collective accomplishments in the future. Waddz sends.

**Conserve
Energy**



*Saving our Energy and our Environment
Is ALL of our responsibility ...*

Deck plate Leadership

Sea Notes From the Command Master Chief



CMDCM (SW/AW/FMF)
Charlie Ratliff
Command Master Chief



Team Kingsville,

This afternoon I was going down my checklist of big events that are coming up in the near future and the item at the top of the list is 2009 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). So what is the CFC? Officially, the CFC is an employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective way to provide all federal employees the opportunity to support philanthropy and improve the quality of life for others. The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign that raises literally millions of dollars each year to support non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

Well, now that you know the "official definition" of what the CFC is, let's talk a little bit about what makes us as federal employees unique when it comes to charitable giving. As Sailors, Marines, and DoD civilians, each of us have answered our country's call to serve in defense of the freedoms most Americans take for granted. While serving our country, many of us have seen firsthand the hardships endured by many people less fortunate than ourselves. The CFC affords us, as federal employees, an opportunity to make a positive difference in those peoples' quality of life.

Another great thing about the CFC is that it gives federal employees an opportunity to give to a non-profit charity of their choice. That's right, you make the choice where your monetary donation goes. And with over 2,800 charities on the list, I think everyone will be able to find a program that interests them. In fact, most folks are able to find a charity that supports a cause they are passionate about or have a very personal interest in.

Also, the CFC reduces administrative overhead costs and increases efficiencies

so that more of your donation goes to the organization you are supporting. Simply put, more of your donation goes where you want it to go -- to the charity, not to some administrator somewhere. Finally, the CFC makes giving easy by allowing you to make your pledge through cash or payroll deduction.

As I said at the beginning of this week's article, the CFC is right around the corner. Each department will have a CFC representative who will have information pamphlets, lists of charities, and of course, donation forms. And remember, the CFC is an opportunity for you to make a difference.

Regards,
CMC

Navy Ball: Saturday, Oct. 17 at the Captain's Club

See your departmental Navy Ball representative for tickets and be a part of the celebration of the Navy's 234th birthday!

Re-Enlistment



CONGRATULATIONS: *NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham presents an Honorable Discharge Certificate to Chief Culinary Specialist (SW/AW) Billy Hill prior to his reenlistment Sept. 16. The ceremony was held in the Navy Gateway Inns & Suites lounge and reenlisting officer was Senior Chief Culinary Specialist (AW/SW) Mike Reed. Photo by QM2 Monica Crump, Career Counselor's Office.*



Capt. Mark Brooks
Commander,
Training Air Wing TWO



Well done '09 Tailhookers! As I write, Melissa and I are winging our way back to South Texas after another enjoyable and rewarding Tailhook Reunion. We saw old friends, made a number of new ones, met Naval Aviation greats from WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and generally enjoyed the camaraderie of the world's greatest profession. At last week's Wing Professional Development Day, I asked that all those planning to attend Tailhook '09 party like rock stars... and be professionals—I received a nice note from the boss saying how proud he was of the instructors and students from TW-2, so once again... well done! And a big BZ to Lt. "Junior" Wallace of VT-21. It was a pleasure to see him recognized in front of the assembled masses as CNATRA Landing Signal Officer (LSO) of the year.

If you weren't able to make it this year, I encourage you to try again sometime in the future. Since the event has made a comeback, it has truly turned into a forum that is worthy of such a fine group. If you wear wings of gold (or aspire to), the potential for fun, information and "networking" that will last a lifetime is hard to beat. Beyond that, the bonds established in this business deserve a regular opportunity to be strengthened; and, those that have flown gray jets at sea for months on end, been directed around the shuttle on a dark night with the deck pitching, or flown into harm's way with a dozen or so of their best buds know what I'm talking about.

We had a busy summer, and the fall of '09 looks to be more of the same. Another trip to Cecil Field, Fla. for CQ is right around the corner, along with the next Weapons Detachment to El Centro, Calif. in October. The Navy Ball is scheduled for Oct. 17 and I would love to see a good showing from TW-2. We don't have many chances to dress up and get together as a local Navy community, so please attend if you are able. That will lead us up to Thanksgiving and the Christmas holiday period. As I've mentioned in previous

Flying K articles, normal South Texas weather has returned and distractions can get the better of us – fly safe and take care, both at work and at home. See you on the flight line and around "campus."
Regards, Fingers.

Winging Ceremony

Sept. 18 at the Henrietta Memorial Center on 6th Ave in Kingsville, 4 p.m.

Congratulations to the following students who receive their Wings of Gold this week:

VT-21

Lt. (j.g.) Gabriel H. Champion, USN
Lt. Michael J. Dixon, USN

Lt. (j.g.) Kirtlan V. Lewis, USN

VT-22:

Lt. (j.g.) Adam H. Bosma, USN

1st Lt. Aaron P. Brunner, USMC

Lt. (j.g.) Matthew K. Ramirez, USN

Also, Lt. (j.g.) Evan Scott will be moving on the NAS Corpus Christi for additional training with VT-31.

The Flying K

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Direct Line Input:
Submit questions or comments
for the Commanding Officer to:
kngv-pao@navy.mil
on the info line add: Direct Line

Ombudsman Appreciation Dinner



The Bay Club
NAS
Corpus Christi

South Texas commands celebrated Ombudsman Appreciation Day with a special dinner at the NAS Corpus Christi Bay Club Saturday, Sept. 12.

Above left, VT-22 skipper Cmdr. Gerald Murphy presents a certificate of appreciation to VT-22 Ombudsman Lisa Santos.

Right, NAS Kingsville Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff and NASK Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham congratulate Melissa Knight. (Photos by Ramon Panbanigan, Fleet & Family Support Center).

NAS Kingsville / TW-2 Flight Log

Arriving:

Newly reported personnel

Lt. Vince Nelson
Instructor Pilot, TW-2
Hometown: Dillon, Mont.

Ensign Nicholas Choffel
Student Aviator, TW-2
Hometown: Irving, Texas

2nd Lt. Ryan Chase
Student Aviator, TW-2
Hometown: San Diego, Calif.

Ensign Evan Werner
Student Aviator, TW-2
Hometown: Pittsburgh, Pa.

Lt. (j.g.) John Kash
Student Aviator, TW-2
Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio

Ensign Richard Galante
Student Aviator, TW-2
Hometown: Melrose, Mass.

AC1 Roberto Hernandez
Air Traffic Control / Air Ops
Hometown: Brighton, Mass.

Wayne Binning
DoN Security Patrolman
Hometown: Corpus Christi, Texas

Jessica Walker
NASK Safety Specialist
Hometown: Palatka, Fla.

Kati Burks
Outdoor Recreation Specialist
MWR/Youth Activities Program

Ensign Daniel Behrens
Student Aviator, TW-2
Hometown: Encino, Calif.

ET1 (SW) Abel Camarillo
Air Ops / Ground Electronics
Hometown: Alice, Texas

Departing:

Lt. Robert Hanvey, VT-21, transitioning to VT-21 Reserve Unit

Lt. (j.g.) Preston Ochoa, VT-22, departing to VFA-122, NAS Lemoore, Calif.

Navy Carrier Strike Group deployment schedules to shift

From U.S. Fleet Forces Command

NORFOLK, Va (NNS) -- The Navy announced Sept. 11 the decision to shift near-term carrier strike group (CSG) deployment schedules to address a delay in the completion of USS Enterprise's (CVN 65) maintenance availability at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding-Newport News.

Navy leaders have been closely monitoring the progress of Enterprise's maintenance availability and evaluating the upcoming carrier schedules in order to meet combatant commander requirements and minimize impacts to pre-deployment training cycles.

By extending the current USS Nimitz (CVN 68) and the upcoming USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) carrier strike group deployments to just under eight months each, the Navy will meet the near-term operational requirements generated by the Enterprise maintenance availability extension. The Navy remains commit-

ted to its general policy of maintaining deployment lengths to manage personnel tempo as essential components of force readiness. No new deployments result from this schedule change; all the affected carrier strike groups were scheduled to be deployed in 2010, the only changes are to the timing and lengths of those deployments.

"Adjusting these carrier deployment schedules was the best solution of available options," said Adm. J. C. Harvey Jr., commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command. "We recognize this decision has operational and personnel impacts, such as training cycle changes and family uncertainty. Our Sailors and families also are ready to step up when necessary to meet the continued demands of a nation at war."

U.S. Fleet Forces and U.S. Pacific Fleet conducted a careful, in-depth analysis to ensure the Navy maintains con-

PACIFIC OCEAN (Sept. 5, 2009) An F/A-18C Hornet, from the Dambusters of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 195, executes a touch and go during an air demonstration aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73). George Washington, the Navy's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier, hosted a family and guest cruise after returning from her inaugural summer deployment supporting security and stability in the western Pacific Ocean.



tinued support for the Maritime Strategy while minimizing the impact of schedule changes on crews and ships.

"We have been engaged in reducing the stress of lengthy deployments, and we remain committed to that goal for our Sailors and their families," said Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. "I know changes in

deployment length affect everyone. Part of our Sailors' readiness and well-being is knowing their families are being cared for regardless of deployment length. We will continue to invest in family support and readiness programs to try to reduce the stress of lengthy deployments -- we owe it to them, and I am committed to it."

PCU New York Opens 9/11 Yankee Game

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Shannon Renfroe

The New York Yankees recognized Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) New York (LPD 21), the ship's crew members, as well as the commissioning committee during the pre-game ceremony Sept. 11.

PCU New York is a new amphibious transport dock ship of the San Antonio class. What makes this ship the most unique is that the bow stem was built with seven and a half tons steel recovered from the World Trade Center towers.

"I went to the pouring of the steel down at Amite Louisiana and not just myself, but everybody connected in that steel mill, treated that steel with utmost dignity. It was rather quiet, everybody handled it with dignity. The steel workers in Amite felt like they were contributing to the defense of the nation," said ship sponsor, Dotty England.

After the crew and commissioning committee introduction, presentation of colors was shared by the PCU New York Naval Color Guard, The Fire Department New York Color Guard, the New York Police Department Color Guard and the Port Authority Color Guard.

Musician 3rd Class Laura Carey sang the national anthem at the close of the pre-game ceremony. The ceremonial first pitch was thrown by Janet Napolitano,



secretary of Homeland Security.

PCU New York was named in honor of the victims of the World Trade Center.

"That day will always be with us. It brings me back both to the day and time when those attacks occurred, but also to the first time I saw the ship and actually put my hand on the ship and it was very electric," explained Cmdr. Curt Jones, prospective commanding officer. "When I touched the ship for the first time, every hair on my body stood on end, and that's not the kind of thing you can really describe very well. It's with you, its always with you and its part of what you do every day."

PCU New York will be commissioned in November.

CNO presents Purple Heart medal

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Rebekah Blowers, CNO Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) presented the Purple Heart to a Navy commander in the Pentagon on Sept. 11.

Adm. Gary Roughead, CNO, presented the medal to Cmdr. Kim M. LeBel, Nurse Corps, for wounds received in action during her individual augmentee assignment in Afghanistan. LeBel was a medical-embedded training team nurse assigned to an Afghan National Army Regional Hospital in Mazar-e Sharif when she was ambushed by enemy fire while performing routine physical fitness with friends.

While in Afghanistan, LeBel provided training to the Afghan National Army, improving the quality of health care provided in Afghan Army hospitals. Roughead said that she is part of an expeditionary Navy medical team that has 1,044 people in the fight on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"This is a great honor to be able to present a Purple Heart to one of us who has served and who has sacrificed in the current fight that we're in," Roughead said. "Thank you on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief and the Navy for what you have done, for your service, for your sacrifice, your courage, then and now, and the example that you set."



CNO said it was fitting for him to present LeBel the award on the anniversary of Sept. 11, and that it is important to remember the sacrifices that have been made by our service members in support of the Navy and the nation.

"She represents that sacrifice that our young men and women make every day. They willingly volunteer to go forward to help other countries become something that their citizens need and that their citizens want," Roughead said.

Label, safely at home, is recovering with the assistance of the Safe Harbor Program which provides Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, and their families a beacon of hope through non-medical support following a serious illness or injury.

New dialing plan for calling on and off base

Making telephone calls on and off base will soon include dialing 7-digit numbers as a new dialing plan goes into effect at NAS Kingsville. The new plan is part of a DoD-wide telephone communications upgrade designed to bring installations in line with the Defense Switched Network (DSN) standardized dialing plan.

"The change to the new dialing system will be implemented within the next two weeks," said Reese Walshe, Base Communications Officer. "The changes are part of a DoD-wide program to comply with the Defense Switched Network (DSN) standardized dialing plan. The plan changes station-to-station calling from 5 to 7 digits and changes access codes for local, long distance, DSN, toll-free and international calling. It should be a smooth transition for base personnel, although we will have to get used to dialing seven numbers for on-base calls instead of just four."

Dialing numbers on base will simply require the full 7-digit number (example: 516-1234 or DSN-1234). Local off-base dialing (including calls to NAS Corpus Christi) will require a 99 prefix for access, followed by the 7-digit number (example: 99-516-1234). Long distance access will require a 98 prefix followed by 1 (exam-



ple: 98-1-XXX-1234). DSN calls will require a 94 prefix plus the 7-digit number. The base emergency number will continue to be 6911 (four digits). Help Desk: 516-6000.

"The big change for people will be for those who have numbers pre-programmed into their phones or fax machines," Walshe added. "Users will have to change the numbers they have previously programmed to reflect the change. Other than that, it's just going to be a matter of getting used to a new dialing plan."

DoD has a web site that explains the new dialing plan and includes frequently asked questions, a "dialing plan cheat sheet" and more information on the transition. Visit www.shoretelephonytraining.com.

The switch to the new system on board NAS Kingsville is expected to go into effect the week of Sept. 21.

Navy prepares personnel, families for seasonal flu; Branch Health Clinic to offer flu shots

With flu season quickly approaching, officials for the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center (NMCPHC) are urging military personnel and their families to be aware of the risks of seasonal flu and how to prevent contamination.

Influenza is not the common cold and can be a severe to life-threatening disease. Immunization remains the primary method of reducing seasonal influenza illness and its complications. Getting an annual influenza vaccine immunization protects many people from getting the disease or becoming severely ill. The vaccine not only helps protect vaccinated individuals, but also the community as a whole by preventing and reducing the spread of the disease.

"If you are healthy, you should take care of yourself, follow medical practices, and stay in touch with medical providers," said Capt. Bruce A. Cohen, commanding officer in charge of NMCPHC.

It is the current Department of Defense's (DOD) policy that annual seasonal influenza vaccinations are required for all active duty military personnel, Selected Reserves, and healthcare workers.

According to Cohen, the people that are affected most are the elderly, the very young, and people who are sick or not as

healthy as the general population.

Flu viruses are spread mainly from person-to-person through coughing or sneezing by people with influenza. People may also become infected by touching something with influenza on it and then touching their mouth or nose. Some ways to prevent becoming infected or spreading the virus is to practice coughing into your elbow, rather than your hand. Also, for added protection, wash your hands frequently using proper hand washing techniques.

The NAS Kingsville Branch Health Clinic is ahead of the curve when it comes to seasonal flu shots. Clinic staff members have been providing the shots to active duty personnel at the Captain's Club on base. And, according to Branch Health Clinic officer-in-charge Lt. Cmdr. Dawn Hardin, there is also a plan in the works to cover dependents and retired military personnel.

"We're going to be holding several events for personnel to obtain their annual flu shots," Hardin said, "and we're going to be including our dependents and retirees."

Shots will be given this Saturday, Sept. 19 at the Navy Exchange complex from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shots will be provided for dependents and eligible beneficiaries with valid military ID cards.

Students, IPs attend '09 Tailhook Convention

By *Cmdr Chip Kelsey, VT-21 XO*

More than 70 VT-21 Fighting Redhawk students and instructors recently returned from the annual weekend long Tailhook reunion held in Reno, Nev. The Tailhook organization, formally established in 1972, fosters, encourages, develops and supports the role of the aircraft carrier and carrier aviation in the nation's defense system. It is an organization which celebrates the uniqueness of the carrier aviator, and sponsors a weekend long forum creating camaraderie among the nation's current and former aviators.

The Tailhook convention hosted symposiums throughout the weekend discussing professional development allowing students and instructors the opportunity to be educated on the latest happenings in carrier aviation. The most popular symposiums featured the most accomplished naval aviators in the world discussing the future of Naval Aviation, an "Edge of the Envelope" brief consisting of former Topgun and Blue Angel pilots, and a panel of

current Flag officers submitting themselves to a question and answer session from the participants.

The Tailhook symposium also consisted of over one hundred industry displays featuring Boeing, Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, Navair, Omega refueling, Northrup Grumman, among others. For students, the highlight was having the opportunity to get some "stick time" in the F/A-18 Super Hornet and F-35 Lightning II simulators. The Tailhook convention was an ultimate place for student aviators to expand knowledge and increase motivation to carry with them through their career.

The weekend concluded with a semi-formal banquet where VT-21's own Lt. Mike Wallace received the Chief of Naval Air Training LSO of the year award. A large audience was on hand as Wallace received the award from the Chief of Naval Air Training, Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini, who praised Wallace for his extraordinary performance and dedication to flight safety and leadership.

DoD kicks off 2009 CFC Campaign

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16, 2009 – The Defense Department can lend a hand to Americans affected by the past year's economic crisis through donations to the Combined Federal Campaign, Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Lynn said today at the Pentagon's CFC kickoff ceremony.

"President Obama has said that America's success depends on the ability to extend opportunity to every willing heart, and the CFC enables us to do just that," Lynn said to a group of senior civilian and military leaders. "I ask everyone here and every organization and service to go out and champion the message of the Combined Federal Campaign and donate whatever you're able to do."

Through the CFC, Defense Department employees have the opportunity to give money to charities that feed the homeless, research leading-edge medical technology to save lives and to organizations that provide humanitarian assistance to impoverished regions around the globe. More than 4,000 charities are

listed in the CFC beneficiary catalog, making it the largest workplace giving campaign in the world.

The CFC campaign has out-pledged its previous year's goal for five straight years. The Defense Department's 2009 campaign goal is to raise \$14.1 million, the program's highest benchmark yet. Last year's campaign exceeded its \$13.3 million goal by raising more \$16 million in donations.

Service goals for this year CFC National Capital Area campaign are \$3.85 million from the Navy and Marine Corps, \$3.12 million from the Army and \$1.8 million from the Air Force. All increased their previous year's goals.

"The CFC is a tremendous and important effort," the deputy defense secretary said. "It has consistently been a leader in workplace giving, and the numbers are impressive."

The CFC campaign began Sept. 1 and runs through Dec. 15. This year's theme is "The Power of Community, the Compassion of Individuals."

Javelinas run 'Hog-Wild' in Armed Forces Appreciation Night blow out

By Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs

More than 10,000 fans showed up at Javelina Stadium Sept. 5 to see the 18th-ranked Javelinas square off against East Central Oklahoma in a Lone Star Conference match-up. It was also Armed Forces Appreciation Night at the stadium and several hundred active and retired military personnel and their family members turned out to see the high-scoring Javelinas in action. The Hogs (3-0, 2-0) were coming off an upset win over then third-ranked Delta State (Miss.), a game that saw the Javelina defense out-muscle and outlast the Tigers' high-scoring offense. The end result, a 39-7 victory, marked an early-season statement for the Javelinas.

The Hogs didn't waste any time showing the fans that their big win over the Tigers was not a fluke, controlling the game at the line of scrimmage. The Javelinas jumped out to a 7-0 lead in the first quarter on the strength of 45-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Bill Garza to Damian Couthren. The Hogs added three more touchdowns in the second quarter to take a 29-0 lead into halftime.

During the halftime ceremonies, TAMUK and the U.S. Coast Guard saluted local auto dealer Eddie Yaklin for his recent rescue of three boaters who had been stranded on their capsized boat for eight days in the Gulf of Mexico. Yaklin waived to the crowd after the presentation of the letter of commendation.

Also during halftime, Navy officials

joined Kleberg County and Kingsville officials on the field to recognize the signing of the Kleberg County Military Covenant, a document of continued support from the county, city, Texas A&M University-Kingsville for all branches of the military. Participants included Rear Adm. Mark Guadagnini, Chief of Naval Air Training; Capt. Phil Waddingham, NASK Commanding Officer; Col. Robert Crowe, Texas Air National Guard; Maj. John Hebert, U.S. Army reserve; Capt. Robert Paulison, U.S. Coast Guard; Dr. Stephen Tallant, TAMUK President and USAF (Ret.); Dick Messbarger, Kleberg County Economic Development Counsel; and Kingsville Mayor Sam Fugate.

The document, which pledges to building partnerships that support the strength, resilience and readiness of the military, was officially signed prior to the game at a pre-game ceremony hosted by Dr. Tallant at his home. Also on hand for that ceremony was Rep. Tara Rios-Ybera.

Once the halftime ceremonies were over, the Javelinas took the field again and continued to dominate their opponents. By the end of the third quarter the game was out of reach.

The Hogs added their third win of the season Sept. 12 when they shutdown then 24th-ranked Central Oklahoma 46-17. The win moved the Javelinas into the top 10 of the Division II college football rankings.

The Javelinas will be home this weekend against Northeastern State (Sept. 19) and on the road Sept. 26 to Canyon, Texas to take on West Texas A&M. Tickets are available for all home games at the ITT Office.



Military leaders join Kingsville and Kleberg County officials for a group photo announcing the signing of the Kleberg County Community Covenant.



Home Field Advantage: More than 10,000 fans turned out to Javelina Stadium to see the unbeaten Javelinas take down East Central, 39-7.



The NAS Kingsville Color Guard parades the colors during the opening game ceremonies as the TAMUK Marching Band plays the national anthem.



Javelina running back Cornell Davis (5) stretches for end zone after catching a pass from quarterback Billy Garza to take a 13-0 lead.



Redhawk Roundup

By Lt.(j.g.) Jonathan Cartledge,
VT-21 Public Affairs

The Fighting Redhawks of VT-21 recently completed their fourth Weapons detachment of 2009 at NAF El Centro, Calif. El Centro, based in Southern California's Imperial Valley, is an ideal location for student training with its dry climate, unobstructed desert terrain, limited non-military traffic and its own dedicated bomb ranges. Forty nine students from both VT-21 and VT-22 attended some portion of the detachment learning basics in weapons delivery and operational navigation.

Using three different bombing ranges, bragging rights were up for grabs as students practiced by dropping Mark 76 smoke bombs. The operational navigation sorties were flown on a series of vi-

sual and instrument routes throughout the Californian desert. These sorties are not only instrumental for students to finish the advanced strike syllabus, but also to build confidence aviating and navigating in a challenging environment. Battling an average temperature of 110 degrees in July, Training Air Wing TWO (under the direction of Officer-in-Charge Capt. C.S. "Big Perm" Perham) completed 491 student sorties amassing 729 flight hours in just three short weeks. When asked what contributed to completing such a high number of sorties, Perham said, "The instructor pilots are what made the detachment successful. All did what was necessary in order to achieve mission accomplishment."

Departing: Lt. Mark Messerly is leaving the VT-21 Fighting Redhawks at NAS Kingsville after almost three years of duty as an Instructor Pilot. Messerly graduated from the University of Kansas in 2000 with a Bachelor's Degree in civil engineering and was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy in May 2000. He then began pilot training in Corpus Christi, flying the T-34C with the VT-28 Rangers. Messerly completed his multi engine training with VT-31 flying the T-44 and then jet training with VT-9 in Meridian, Miss. Messerly was designated a Naval Aviator in 2002 and assigned to



Lt. Mark Messerly smiles after his final flight "wet down" on the NAS Kingsville tarmac.

VAW-120, Naval Air Station Norfolk, Va., for C-2 replacement training. After completion of replacement training Messerly was attached to VRC-40 where he completed his sea tour. Messerly reported to the Fighting Redhawks of VT-21 in December 2006 as an Instructor Pilot. He also served as the squadron Assistant

Administration and Assistant Operations Officer as well as the formation stage Standardization Officer. Messerly will continue his naval service at NAS Fort Worth JRB with VR-46 flying the C-9. During his career, Messerly has accumulated more than 2,300 flight hours with 1,150 coming in the T-45 Goshawk.

NMCR, VFW sponsor gown giveaway event

Photos by EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NASK Public Affairs

Laughter, music, food, door prizes and 98 new evening dresses – free for military spouses – filled the ballroom at the Captain's Club last Thursday evening. The evening, appropriately titled Military Spouse Appreciation Night, was coordinated by Melissa Knight, NAS Kingsville Ombudsman and Tambi Parker, Director Navy Marine Corps Relief Society.

Kathy Wiwi, Department of Texas Chaplain, Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW generously offered the evening dresses as part of a new Texas VFW outreach program. The dresses originated from a Dallas area bridal and evening wear store, which wishes to remain anonymous. The Navy Exchange generously allowed the usage of several racks, as well as a portable steamer to freshen the dresses after they were unpacked. Local dry cleaner, Budget Dry Cleaning, donated bags so that each dress could leave on a hanger and protected from the drizzle. Donations from the Sea Cadet Program

and the Kingsville Officers Spouses Club were used to procure cheese, fruit and dessert trays.

Even 4 inches of rain and the threat of more to come didn't keep the spouses away. By evenings end, over \$13,000 worth of ball gowns were selected off of the racks by over 60 military spouses. Captain Phil Waddingham made a brief stop to thank several of the ladies of the VFW who traveled from Dallas to partake in the event. He eloquently put into words what so many were thinking, "The Texas Chapter of VFW displayed a level of generosity that went well beyond simply addressing practical support. It has literally graced our spouses with beautiful fabric woven with love and admiration, and has truly touched our hearts."

Those who were unable to attend may stop by the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Office in Corpus Christi to try on one of the 30-plus remaining dresses. For additional information, contact Tambi Parker 361-961-6761.



Carol Garza & Kristen Perez



Jennifer Williams & Sara Carpenter



Nora Lopez



Kathy Wiwi, Melissa Knight, Tambi Parker and Cleo Hornsby



Anita Bibilari

Sea Duty holds key to Sailor advancement

By Ed Barker, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS)--According to a recent study by the Navy Advancement Center in Pensacola, Sailors looking for the best chances for advancement should consider sea duty over shore duty when given the option by their detailers.

The study showed statistically significant differences in the average standard exam scores, average final multiple scores and percent advancement for Sailors on sea duty. Advancements for Sailors on sea duty in paygrades E-4 to E-6 ranged from four to seven percent higher than their shore duty counterparts.

"Sailors are using their knowledge and training on sea duty while working directly in their rating, and that gets them advanced," said Jim Hawthorne, head of the Navy's Enlisted Advancement System Division at the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC). "While shore duty has quality-of-life advantages, the data clearly shows that sea duty has

-- Advancement higher at sea

an advancement advantage."

"The chiefs writing the exam questions are asked what they expect their Sailors to know in the fleet and put that into the exam," said Master Chief Electrician's Mate (SS) Jeromie Cook, NETPDTC command master chief. "The advancement exams for most rates are focused on knowledge and skills that are acquired on sea duty, so to perform well on the exam, that's where you need to spend significant time."

"Getting advanced is a combination of several things," said Hawthorne. The final multiple score combines the exam standard score, award points, passed not-advanced points, time-in-grade and performance mark average. "Sea duty is not a magic bullet if you don't have sustained, superior performance."

For more news from Naval Education and Training Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnet.

Christus Spohn Kleberg to offer free Breast, Prostate Cancer screenings

Christus Spohn Hospital Kleberg is pleased to announce free Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer screenings on Oct. 3. These lifesaving tests are being made available through the generosity of local philanthropist, Frank Horlock, Christus Spohn Hospital Kleberg, and the Christus Spohn Health System Foundation.

This year's event is being co-chaired by local business owners Jerry and Lisa Bockholt. The event is on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Christus Spohn Hospital Kleberg H-E-B Center located directly behind the hos-

pital.

Both prostate screening (blood test) for men and screening mammograms for women will be provided free of charge. There are no age requirements, referrals or insurance needed. The results of the exams will be sent to the person's family physician or the physician of the person's choice. In addition to the screenings, Dr. Gerard Voorhees will also talk with the participants about the warning signs of prostate cancer and breast cancer.

For more information on the screenings, call 361-595-9806.

Trading Post

Available to all military and civilian employees on board NAS Kingsville. Submit Ads to KNGV-PAO@Navy.Mil

For Rent: 3 BR, 2,000 sft, 2 bath home in established neighborhood in Kingsville. Formal & informal living and dining rooms plus bonus room. Recent kitchen upgrades, new tile floor throughout, open

floor plan. Three minute drive to NASK front gate. \$1400 per month. Call Nate at 361-563-5166.

View home at 1730 Lawndale Drive, Kingsville.



WASHINGTON (Aug. 25, 2009) Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West holds an office call with Debby Greene, Ombudsman-at-Large for the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). Greene is responsible for advising the CNO and MCPON on matters affecting Sailors and their families and for providing information and education to spouses to improve total family readiness. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jennifer A. Villalovos).

MCPON Honors Navy Ombudsmen

Special report by MCPON Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- In recognition of Ombudsmen Appreciation Day Sept. 14, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, (MCPON) Rick D. West released the following message to the fleet:

"In 1970, then-Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt established the Family Ombudsman program and showed the entire Navy that he understood that there were issues and concerns specific to a Navy family.

Nearly forty years later, the program he began is the very backbone of our family support network. The ombudsman is a key member of every commanding officer's group of advisors and they are the trusted confidante of every command master chief.

Most importantly, no one is a greater friend to the individual Navy family than each command's ombudsman. I say "individual" because the key to their effectiveness will always be the personal approach each ombudsman takes to every situation.

Our ombudsmen don't ask for money, awards or recognition. But they deserve our gratitude and this September 14th, on Ombudsman Appreciation Day, I ask that you make every effort to give them that. The U.S. Navy family is being asked

more than ever before. We're sending more Sailors into harm's way, more ships to sea, to accomplish a greater variety of missions. We have thousands more men and women on the ground in the Fifth Fleet theater than we do on board ships in that part of the world. Expectations of our Navy are changing every day. And with those changes comes more stress on the family.

Navy leadership relies on the ombudsmen to help mitigate that stress. We rely on their training, their experience and their instincts. And we place the highest value on their compassion and loyalty to the Navy family. Since 1970, those two qualities have been the common characteristics shared by all our ombudsmen.

Admiral Zumwalt's goal was to capitalize on those qualities and four decades later I believe he'd be proud of how far the program has come.

September 14th is the day we've set aside to recognize these amazing volunteers. One day out of the year is the least we can give them considering the 365 days they spend supporting the United States Sailor and our families around the world.

Join me in thanking them. Hooyah Navy ombudsmen...you make a difference every day."

Heavy rains cover roads during much-needed downpour; lightning strikes hit airfield

By Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs

After several months of nothing but a teaspoon full of water in the Kingsville area, the City and the Air Station received everything they had been praying for and more Sept. 9. The clouds overhead opened up and dumped more than 3-inches of rain throughout the area in just over 30 minutes. The result was flooded roads throughout Kingsville and on board the air station, slowing traffic down to a crawl. But even a downpour of this nature couldn't dampen the spirits of local residents.

"Boy, we sure needed this," one man told me as he splashed through the ankle-high water in the parking lot. "My backyard will be flooded, but at least it will green up in a day or two."

That seemed to be how most people addressed the storm, having spent the last three or more months begging to the rain gods for a few days or wet weather.

Depending on where you resided, or where you drove, the water on the streets reached heights of nearly two feet before eventually finding its way to the water lines below. And in what seemed like just a matter of minutes after the storm departed, the water -- and the flooding -- were no where to be found.

Water wasn't the biggest concern on the Naval Air Station however. During the downpour, Air Traffic Controllers witnessed lightning strikes hit on the north

end of the runway. A team of investigators went out to the site shortly after the storm departed the area, only to find a few small holes and concrete chips scattered about. The three men, Bill Cashen, Rene Rangel and AME1 Marty Wood, made a quick assessment of the situation and then cleaned up the debris, and informed Air Ops of the damage, which was "minimal." The holes were repaired early the next morning.

"I've been working here for a quite a few years and it's been a while since we had a downpour like this," Cashen said. "Fortunately the lightning strikes didn't do very much damage, so we should be okay."

While he was out on the airfield Cashen checked the Fresno Lens landing system and the Landing Signal Officer shack to make sure they were not damaged, and he scoped the area for other damage. All he found was a dead bat and the remains of a small bird.

As Cashen and I were getting ready to wrap things up and head back to Air Ops we stopped at the north end of the runway to watch a C-130 land and taxi its way to the Air Ops tarmac. When we were finished picking up rocks, we followed. Early the next morning, the airfield - and the City- were back to normal and the traffic delays were long gone. But the grass was a little greener ... on both sides of the fence.



A Security vehicle plows through the water



Bill Cashen checks the Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System for damage.



Water lines its way up to Hangar 760 (left) and into the VT-21 / VT-22 parking lot..



The intersection in front of the squadron hangars was flooded for about a half hour after the storm before the water subsided.



Rene Rangel (left) and Bill Cashen of the Air Operations dept. examine a hole on the flightline left by a lightning strike Sept. 9.



Lightning left a few small holes on the runway, while the rain slowed down the runway repaving job for a day or two.



**Lt. Cmdr (Chaplain)
John H. McKenzie
CHC, USN**



Avoid Hasty Decisions

Making decisions is part of daily life. Some decisions have to be quickly; others can wait. Some have lasting consequences; others do not. Still, we have to make decisions.

I have seen many people who bitterly regretted having made a hasty decision without giving it sufficient thought. I remember one friend who quit a job right after having had an argument with his supervisor. As the bills continued to arrive and he still had no work, he wished that he had not acted so hastily. In another situation, I remember a mother having regretted her quick decision to make her son get rid of his dog after the neighbors complained about it getting into their yard. She did not look for a solution that she and her son could have sought. At the moment, she was not open to a solution other than her son getting rid of the

dog he loved. Her son gave the dog away and was grief-stricken. The mother later admitted that she made a terrible mistake. She wished that she handled the situation differently.

The situations mentioned above had lasting consequences and they happen a lot. In both cases, those who made these hasty decisions had to live with the consequences. Dire consequences from hasty decisions can be avoided by thinking ahead. The Bible counsels us to weigh our decisions. "The shrewd man measures his steps" Prv 14:15. Also, "Give careful thought to your ways" Haggai 1:7.

Yes, there will be times when we have to make decision because of the nature of the situation. Still, we can avoid regretful consequences by thinking ahead. While we might not find easy answers, we can find workable solutions. This will do much to help us to have peace in our hearts and minds.

Religious Ministry Services (held in the Chaplain's Office annex, Bldg. 2741)

Sunday Catholic Mass

Noon in the Chaplain's multi-purpose room. **Daily Mass** at 12:30 p.m.

Safety Office offers motorcycle safety classes as DoN grace period nears end

In June 2008, Navy Policy required all motorcycle riders to complete refresher training every three years. Due to the significant numbers, the Naval Safety Center authorized a waiver through Sept. 30 to allow those personnel who were over the three-year time frame to complete the course.

Motorcycle riders, and supervisors, recommend that you ensure that all your personnel are now in compliance. If it has been three years or more since their last class, they must complete refresher training before the end of this month.

There are openings in our Sport Bike (MSRC) Class on Sept. 28, (required for all personnel operating a sport bike), and our Experienced Rider Course (ERC) on Sept. 29, and we will add classes as necessary to accommodate any additional requirements.

The preferred class registration method is through ESAMS https://esams.cnic.navy.mil/esams_gen_2/loginesams.aspx. This way our Command



Motorcycle/Traffic Safety Coordinator will receive notification letting them know they have a rider signed up for one of our courses. You may also contact Charles Young at 516-6397, or Kordeen Kor at 516-6153.

Miramar's firefighters named DOD's best

By Cpl. Ryan Rholes, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION MIRAMAR, Calif. — Although widely recognized as heroes, the firefighters who protect America's military installations and service members have a chance each year to receive formal recognition for their hard work and excellence.

Miramar's fire department won the 2008 Department of Defense Fire Department of the Year award for the small-station category, and received the award Aug. 28, at the DoD Awards Banquet in Dallas.

The small station category award is for fire departments with three or less staffed companies, and submissions include each station's accomplishments in: customer service, department level awards, accreditations and certifications, innovativeness and quality of life.

Col. Christopher O'Connor (Ret.), the former commanding officer of MCAS Miramar, endorsed the fire department's submission package.

"The MCAS Miramar Fire Department has continuously and professionally demonstrated remarkable achievements towards their vision of being the best," said O'Connor in his submission package.

Miramar's fire department does not just cover the air station, they respond to calls across the county, and even responded to massive wildfires in Northern California during 2008, and the wildfires in Southern California at the end of 2007.

"Some people may think of fire fighters as the guys in the fire house sleeping and just passing time," said James Magill, the fire chief here. "But they forget that these are the guys responding to accidents, fighting fires, cleaning the station and fixing the engines. People also forget that these are the guys working 24-hour shifts over Christmas and Thanksgiving to make sure everyone else is safe."

Although this is the first time in recent memory that the fire department has won this award, they have placed as runner-up several times in the past few years, added Magill.

The fire department here responds to



about 1,500 calls every year, and those calls run the gamut from people needing medical assistance and vehicle accidents, to structural and land fires. During the 2008 fires in Northern California, the station's fire fighters served two-week rotations for six weeks, helping state and local agencies contain and extinguish the infernos.

"We don't have the same depth as other stations, we have about 60 guys for Battalions 61 and 62," said Magill, who assumed responsibilities as fire chief in late 2008. "We all have the same mission and we all work hard, but these guys also

have initiative. They are always like 'Hey chief, what do you think about this equipment, or this idea?' They are always looking to improve."

That initiative has translated into several innovative concepts, such as the station's zero-tolerance policy for property loss due to fire, and its fire education, prevention and awareness programs.

The caring and hard work of the fire fighters here is a proven cornerstone to the safe working environment MCAS Miramar presents to Marines and civilians alike, and this award is hopefully the first of many more to come.



MWR's Open Recreation Program registration

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department's Youth Activities Center's (YAC) Open Recreation Program for children of base personnel. The program includes outdoor activities and caters to youth and teens aged 10-18 years-old and their outdoor leisure activities and sports of interest. Open Recreation will be offering events like fishing, camping, kayaking, snorkeling, paintball, back-country cooking, to name a few.

"MWR is excited to offer this new program for dependent children," said YAC Director Brent Edwards. "Truly, this program is being designed to take the outdoor recreational interests of NASK's dependents to heart. Many of the programming ideas have been formulated from current CYP-registered youth, yet, will be evaluated continuously by current patrons and the introduction of new patrons."

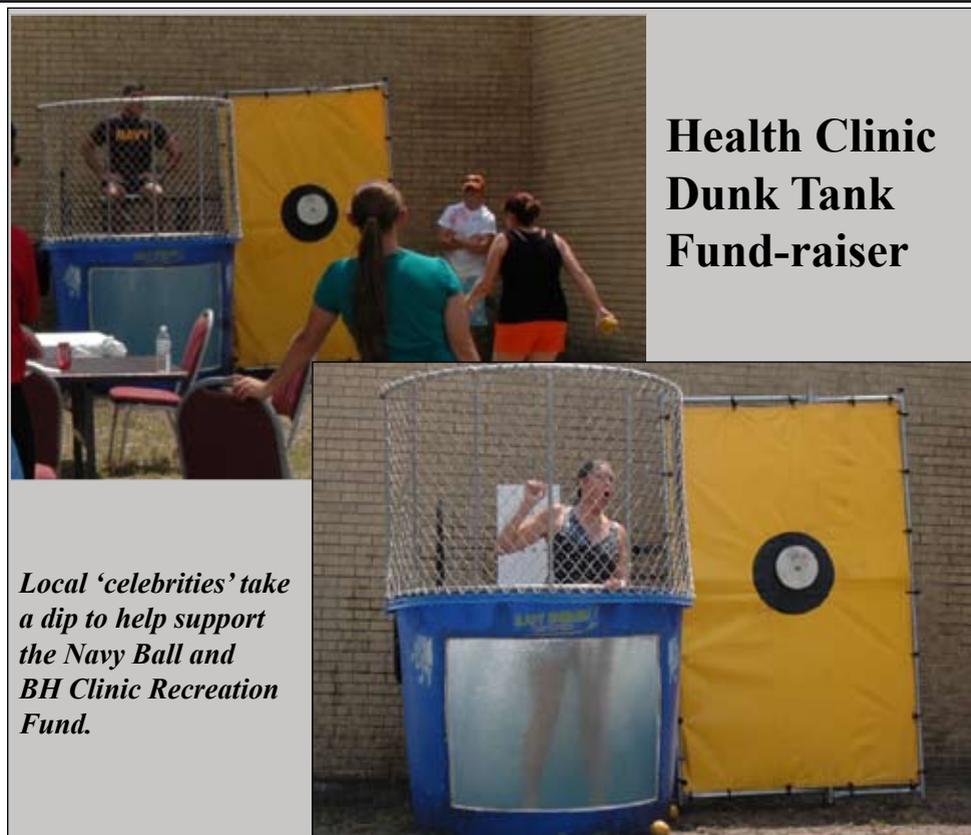
The Open Recreation Program's focus is to offer activities and programming to the youth and teens of NASK at a reasonable price. In the past, many of the ac-

tivities and programming may not have been available to NASK families for whatever reason. Now, MWR has qualified, trained, and experienced personnel to plan and implement such a program!

This program is for dependent children between 10-18 years of age, of active duty military, DoD civilians paid through appropriated and non-Appropriated funds (APF/NAF), military retirees, Reservists on active and inactive duty for training, and contractor employees stationed or working at NAS Kingsville, are eligible for enrollment at the MWR Navy Youth Center.

Edwards encourages eligible children to register for the program. Registration is free of charge and packets are available at the Youth Center. Events will be held throughout the year and include weekend outings, evening events and special activities. There will be nominal fees charged for each activity planned.

For additional information, contact Edwards at the Youth Center at 516-6719.



Health Clinic Dunk Tank Fund-raiser

Local 'celebrities' take a dip to help support the Navy Ball and BH Clinic Recreation Fund.

Above left, NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham encourages Tara Elrod to concentrate on the target. Right, BH Clinic officer-in-charge Lt. Cmdr. Dawn Hardin heckles a shooter after getting sent into the water at the Branch Health Clinic Lunch & Dunk Tank fund raiser Sept. 1. A number of base officials volunteered to sit on the hot seat for the event to help the cause. Photos by EN3 Brenda Acevedo, NASK Public Affairs.

Bowling Standings

In the Dog House League

POS	TEAM	WON/LOST
1.	Lane Breakers	16-8
2.	Three Minds	14-10
3.	Triple X's	14-10
4.	Tumbalos	12-12
5.	Hounds	10.5-13.5
6.	The Guys	5.5-18.5

Weekly High Scores:

Johnny Robertson: 187 game, 455 set

Ramiro De La Paz: 180 game

Wednesday Night Mixed League

POS	TEAM	WON/LOST
1.	Laugh Out Loud	8 - 0
2.	Pin Bangers	6 - 2
3.	DUHs	5 - 3
4.	Sixty Forty	5 - 3
5.	Pete's Angels	4 - 4
6.	Big K Rollers	1 - 7
7.	Guttermouths	0 - 4
8.	Ghost Team	0 - 0

High Scores: Kirk Hyndman 500 series; Johnny Robertson 231 game

Have You Met ...

Jeanie Alexander School Liaison Officer



A Kingsville resident for 37 years, Alexander brings a wealth of experience to the MWR department in her role as School Liaison Officer (SLO) for the air station.

In this role, she will serve as the liaison between the installation commander, military agencies and local schools by providing assistance in matters pertain-

ing to student education. The School Liaison Officer also implements the Navy's Strategic Planning for Education Advocacy K-12 recommendations in order to ensure Navy families have access to quality educational opportunities.

SLO's level the playing field for military children by ensuring maximum educational opportunities for academic success.

Alexander is highly qualified for the SLO position. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in elementary and early childhood, a Masters Degree in mid-management with a principle certification, and she is currently in the final stages of her doctorate program in educational leadership.

"I'm very happy to be on board as part of the NAS Kingsville team" Alexander said recently. "I hope that in my role as SLO I can make the transitions to a new duty station easier for people reporting to Kingsville and those moving on to new duty assignments."

Alexander's office is located in the Library and she can be reached by calling 516-4366 or (Cell) 361-675-0112.

Captain's Cup Sports Schedule

Flag Football Tournament

Sept. 26. Starts at 11 a.m. and ends when there is a winner. 7 on 7 Flag Football. Teams of 7 to 14 are to sign up at the MWR Total Fitness Center Desk by Sept. 24.

Flag Football League

Season starts Oct. 6. Games played from 7-8 p.m. Teams of 7 to 11 people should sign up for this league by Oct. 1. Games to be held every Tuesday and Thursday night at the MWR field.

Mayor's team wins Captain's Cup Challenge as Low scores highlight Golf Tourney

By Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs

The fall bird migration to South Texas arrived a few weeks earlier than expected Friday, Sept. 4 as 20 teams descended upon the L.E. Ramey Golf Course in Kingsville for the annual Navy Ball Golf Tournament. Birdies and eagles were everywhere, and the players took advantage.

The tournament was sponsored by the Kingsville Navy League, who helped raise funds through donations from local businesses. NAS Kingsville commands and activities also chipped in to help make the event a big success.

"I want to thank all of the teams for participating in this tournament," said NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham prior to the start of the event. "I'd also like to thank all of the sponsors who helped make this event successful – especially our Platinum Sponsors Navy Federal Credit Union, Kleberg Bank, Celanese Corporation, and Rolls-Royce. Your donations will help offset the cost of our annual Navy Ball for our junior enlisted personnel, and for that I thank you."

The field of 20 teams were the maximum that the L.E. Ramey Course could handle for a single round of play, but the Ramey Staff was ready for the challenge. Although the course had seen very little rain over the last three months, four consecutive days of rain leading up to the tournament helped get the course in good condition, and allowed the golfers to take aim at the pins and shoot for low scores.

There were a few twists for the golfers in the tournament rules, all designed to help the teams cut their scores. One included finding marked yellow golf balls on each hole that would allow the teams to take a stroke off their overall score. The more balls teams found the more strokes they could cut. As it turned out, the hidden "birdies" proved to be difference between the top two teams.

There was also a special NAS Kingsville – City of Kingsville "Captain's Cup Challenge," in which, the two teams, captained by Waddingham and Kingsville Mayor Sam Fugate, participated in a blind "skins game." Neither team would know which hole the skin match began on until after they completed play so it was pretty much a blind competition. In the end, Fugate's team came out on top, 11-

7. The win gave the Mayor the Captain's Cup to display in his office for the next 12 months, while Waddingham was presented an appropriately-labeled pumpkin to put on display in the command suite to help motivate his team for next year.

A host of volunteers also helped make the tournament a success, with Sailors from a number of commands and activities turning out to man the registration tables, drive the beverage carts, assist with tournament set up, and man the par 3's and special challenge holes during the tournament. Navy Ball Committee chair and tournament director Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff said the volunteers, working behind the scenes, were the people that kept things in order.

"This tournament really showed how Sailors help Sailors and how our civilians and spouses are such a part of the team," Ratliff said after the event. "The Navy Ball Committee is really the true stars of this tournament – especially CS1 Erasmio Guerrero who lined up the volunteers and did all the leg work. I'm very proud of all of them."

With all the pre-tournament business taken care of, the golfers were left to focus their attention on the golf course, and the scores reflected it. Of the 20 teams competing, 17 came in with under-par scores.

Two teams ended up turning in 22-under-par scores (50) to share low-score honors. But one of the two teams, team Quality Energy Services, also turned in five yellow golf balls which helped drop their score to 45. The other team, Team Simmons & Company, wasn't able to find any of the freebees, and thus, had to settle for second place. Third place went to VT-21, and the Branch Health Clinic Trauma Dawgs came in fourth. The last place team, staggering in with an 8-over par 80, came from Air Operations. But the team was well-rewarded for their efforts, receiving a team one hour golf lesson from the L.E. Ramey golf pro, a dozen T-45 Goshawk golf balls courtesy of Boeing, and individual super-sized ball markers courtesy of the NASK Safety Office.

Closest-to-the-pin winners on the par 3's included Barry Brown, Kleberg Bank; Geoffrey Steele, Air Ops; Jim Dunlop, Air Ops/3 Sheets; and Ray Granado, City of Kingsville. The longest drive winner was Bryan Stoniecki of VT-21. Shortest drive went to Nick Morgan of Air Operations.



PRICELESS: After nearly taking out the Flying K photographer with an errant tee shot, Air Ops' Nick Morgan uses a mulligan to takes aim at the fairway as his teammates enjoy a hearty laugh. (Photos by Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs)



Champs: Quality Energy Services, LLC took home the 2009 Navy Ball Golf Tourney championship with a score of 45.



Losers: The last place team is all smiles after learning they walked away with a dozen golf balls and free golf lessons!



Brent Simmons shows his skill by blasting a tee shot off a beer can.



Mike Crisman drills home a birdie putt on the way to his team's 22-under score.