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MCPON visits Sailors on Guam



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

Joint Region Edge Staff

The Navy's senior enlisted Sailor visited Sailors stationed on Guam Aug. 19-20.

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West held an all-hands call where he answered questions Sailors had regarding new uniforms, manning and mandatory enlisted warfare qualifications.

The MCPON also took the opportunity to thank Sailors for their hard work and dedication

Reaching Out: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West meets with chief petty officer selectees from the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) during his visit to U.S. Naval Base Guam Aug. 19. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jennifer A. Villalovos)

to the nation.

"It's very enjoyable to be here with you," said West. "You guys are doing great work. I appreciate absolutely what you all do."

West encouraged the Sailors to stay the course and to continue to excel in the Navy.

"Stay focused and keep moving forward," said West. "We have a great Navy, we have great technology and great programs, but they're all just hunks of metal if they don't have the Sailor power to move it."

Many Guam Sailors said they appreciated the chance to meet MCPON.

"It's an honor to have him here," said Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (FMF/SW) Daniel Lamb, of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam. "When you hear from the man himself, it makes life so much better."

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SW) Morgan Gerena, of USS Frank Cable (AS 40), said she also found it an honor to meet West.

"When our senior leaders come

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'Last Mission' of WWII started, ended on Guam

Editor's Note: Information included in this article was provided by Dr. Andreas Fischer, 36th Wing historian.

By Airman 1st Class Anthony Jennings

36th Wing Public Affairs

Guam's history is one of bloodshed and celebration, hardship and prosperity. It also contains a little-known yet significant event that altered the course of history.

Sixty-five years ago, on August 14, 1945, Northwest Field saw the launch of 143 B-29 Superfortress aircraft assigned to the 315th Bombardment Wing for what became the last combat mission of

World War II.

The mission was the longest continuous mission ever attempted by the Twentieth Air Force, logging more than 17 hours of flight and covering a distance of 3,760 miles to destroy the largest remaining oil reserves in Japan at Akita.

At a time when most service members and Americans were hoping for a swift end to the war, an air raid seemed unavoidable.

"There was little doubt on the part of the 20th Air Force commanders, B-29 bomber crews, or even ordinary Americans that the bombing of the Japanese homeland was an inevitable part of the war," said Andreas Fischer, 36th Wing historian. "Few on the Allied side doubted it was necessary."

The Japanese situation during this period of time was desperate. The major Japanese cities were devastated by atomic or conventional attack while the casualties numbered in the millions. Millions more were refugees, the Japanese naval fleet was lost, and merchant ships could not leave home waters without braving submarine or mine attacks.

Clearly the time to surrender had

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Heading Out: A B-29 in flight over Northwest Field, Guam. Records indicate this particular bomber was assigned to the 315th Bomb Wing, 501st Bomb Group. (Photo courtesy of the 315th Bombardment Wing circa 1945)



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36th Communications Squadron donates 12 computers to GovGuam retirees.

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Top Performer Staff Sgt. Richard Capuano

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all the way to Guam, it lets us know we matter," said Gerena. "It shows that the chain of command really

cares about Sailors and we're doing a great job."

While on Guam, West visited Sailors assigned at various commands, including Joint Region Mar-

ianas, Naval Hospital Guam, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, Naval Special Warfare Unit 1 and Naval Mobile Construc-

tion Battalion 11 Detachment Guam. He also toured Frank Cable, USS Buffalo (SSN 715) and USS Houston (SSN 713).

For more news from the

MCPON, visit www.navy.mil/local/mcpon/.

For more news from U.S. Naval Forces, Marianas, visit www.navy.mil/local/guam/.



Frank Cable: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/SW) Rick D. West meets with chief petty officer selectees from the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) during his visit to U.S. Naval Base Guam Aug. 19. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jennifer A. Villalovos)



Meeting Pluto: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/SW) Rick D. West meets Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Shannon Golden, assigned to the security department of Naval Base Guam, and her military working dog, Pluto, before an all-hands call at U.S. Naval Base Guam Aug. 20. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jennifer A. Villalovos)



NMCB 11 Detachment Guam: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/SW) Rick West shakes hands with Builder 2nd Class (SCW) Brian Thomas, of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 Detachment Guam, during a visit to Camp Covington on U.S. Naval Base Guam Aug. 19. West made a two-day visit to the island to talk with Sailors and tour facilities. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



All-Hands Call: Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/SW) Rick West speaks to Guam Sailors during an all-hands call at the U.S. Naval Base Guam Theater, Aug. 20. West spoke on many topics in today's Navy, including the new working uniform, manning, and the impending military build-up on Guam. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

Mission: Northwest Field crew played vital part in WWII

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come. Incredibly, many in the Japanese military urged the Showa Emperor Hirohito to fight on, preferring death to capitulation. The idea that the Emperor would support surrender was inconceivable to many in both the Japanese Army and Navy.

Twenty minutes after midnight, the bombers from Guam reached their target of processed crude oil

from the fields around Akita and released their payload. The after-mission damage assessment on all structures averaged 86 percent with no part of the refinery complex untouched. During their approach to the target, Japanese radar picked up the 315th BW B-29s as they neared Tokyo and the city went into a blackout. This occurred as a number of militarists attempted to kidnap the Emperor and prevent him from recording a speech announcing

Japan's unconditional surrender. Their plans were foiled and some attribute this to the blackout and utter darkness after the 315th BW aircraft were pinged on the Japanese radar.

Jim Smith, a member of the crew and writer of the post-war narrative "The Last Mission," was a proponent of the theory that the 315th BW's mission thwarted the Japanese militarists' plans.

After the blackout in Tokyo, "the

B-29s continued north to Akita, but it seems that the blackout happened precisely at the moment when a number of militarists bent on keeping the war going were about to kidnap the emperor and put a stop to the effort of recording a surrender speech," Smith said. "With flashlights and candles, soldiers searched all night for the recordings, but were unsuccessful, and the speech aired on Aug. 15, 1945 as planned."

Whether or not the theory is

accurate may be debated for years. However, it is undeniable that the 315th BW crew members from Northwest Field played a vital part in the Second World War.

"The crews of the 315th BW were on their way back to Guam when the bulletin [announcing Japan's surrender] was repeated over and over," said Fischer. "They yelled, for they knew that they would not have to test their luck over Japan again."

Navy supports Island Chief, deters illegal fishing

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

The Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9), the Golden Eagles, currently deployed to Kadena Air Base located in Okinawa, Japan, were on Guam to participate in Operation Island Chief 2010 Aug. 15-22.

Island Chief is the largest annual multi-national maritime security surveillance operation in the Pacific theater. Part of a Quadrilateral Defense Group (QUAD) that includes U.S., Australia, New Zealand and France initiative, Island Chief aims to improve interoperability with Pacific island nations and increase maritime security awareness to enhance the abilities of all parties involved to enforce laws in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

USCG District 14 is the U.S. Pacific Commanders executive agent to the

QUAD. VP 9 assisted the U.S. Coast Guard in this mission by providing increased maritime domain awareness of fishing vessels operating in the region.

"We get our tasks of what area to patrol, and then we go out and establish communications with the ship," said Lt. Luke Reed, assistant operations officer. "We can go a lot further and faster than their ships can, so we give them a bigger maritime picture than they can see using Automatic Identification System (AIS) alone."

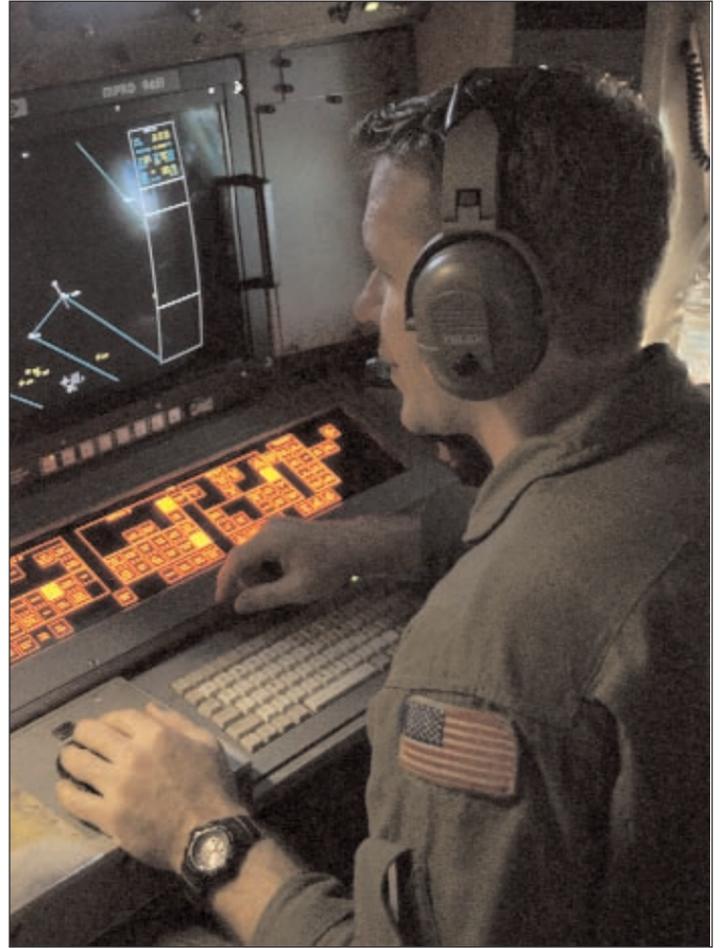
The U.S. Navy is committed to providing assistance to the Coast Guard and to the agencies to help mitigate threat to stability and prosperity. Illegal commercial fishing disrupts economic prosperity, which can destabilize many small countries that depend on this industry as an important part of their economy.

"This mission is very important," said Lt. Cmdr. Ed Arnold, safety officer and pilot of the P-3 Orion used during the mission. "We work with other countries and show them

how to protect their economic zones."

The specific operational areas of Island Chief are the EEZs of the Republic of Palau, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru and Papua New Guinea, and the high seas adjacent to these areas.

The P-3 Orion used to conduct the missions is a four-engine turboprop, anti-submarine and maritime surveillance aircraft. Equipment used includes a camera that can zoom in and visually identify the vessels and hull numbers. In addition, VP 9 and the respective maritime law enforcement agencies use the Automatic Identification System (AIS) to track illegal fishing vessels. AIS is an automated tracking system used on ships and by Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) for identifying and locating vessels by electronically exchanging data with other nearby ships and VTS stations. AIS information supplements marine radar, which continues to be the primary method of collision avoidance for water transport.



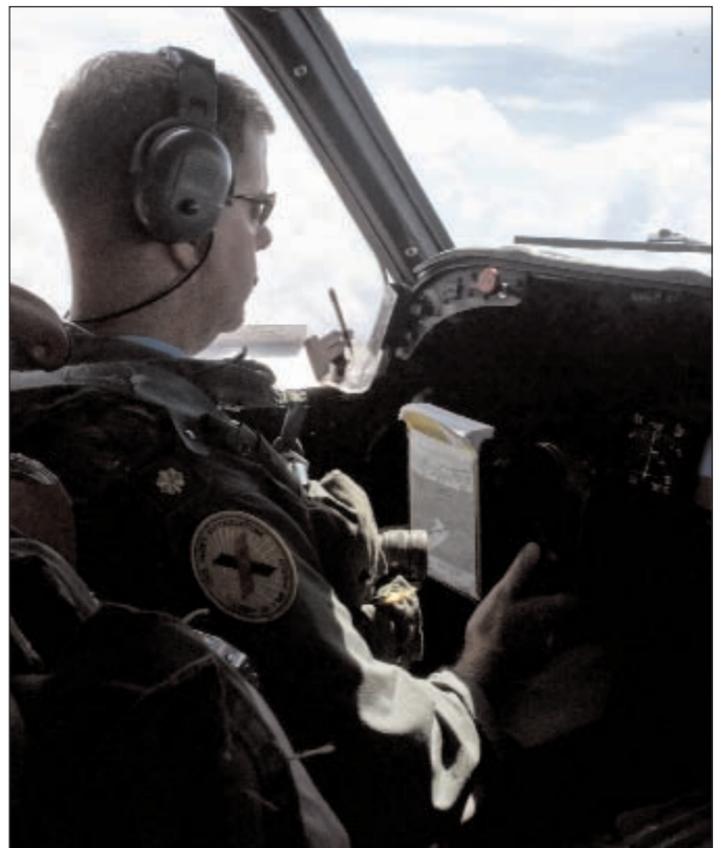
Patrolling the Pacific: Chief Warrant Officer 2 John Fuller, Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9) navigator, examines radar footage looking for suspected illegal fishing in the Papua New Guinea maritime area of operation Aug. 20. VP 9 participated in Operation Island Chief 2010 Aug. 14-22. The goal of Island Chief 2010 is to improve interoperability with Pacific island nations and increase maritime security awareness to enhance the abilities of all parties involved to enforce laws in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. The Navy squadron assisted in this mission by providing increased maritime domain awareness of fishing vessels operating in the region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)



Island Assistance: Lt. Cmdr. Ed Arnold, safety officer and pilot of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9), pilots a P-3 Orion to the Papua New Guinea area of operation Aug. 20. VP 9 participated in Operation Island Chief 2010 Aug. 14-22. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)



On the Lookout: Lt. Luke Reed, assistant operations officer of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9), examines camera footage looking for suspected illegal fishing in the Papua New Guinea maritime area of operation Aug. 20. VP 9 participated in Operation Island Chief 2010 Aug. 14-22. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)



Flying High: Lt. Cmdr. Ed Arnold, safety officer and pilot of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9), pilots a P-3 Orion to the Papua New Guinea area of operation Aug. 20. VP 9 participated in Operation Island Chief 2010 Aug. 14-22. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

Know-how takes MUNS crew chief to the top

By Airman 1st Class Anthony Jennings
36th Wing Public Affairs

Initiative, reliability, experience and dedication are a few characteristics that make up a unit's "Top Performer." One 36th Munitions Squadron (MUNS) conventional maintenance crew chief embodies all of those qualities, and then some.

Staff Sgt. Richard Capuano was selected as the 36th MUNS' Top Performer due to his wealth of job knowledge and work ethic. Capuano oversees operations within the conventional maintenance flight such as bomb builds and tracks bomb parts that require maintenance in order to be deemed serviceable.

"His job knowledge, initiative and dedication makes him without a doubt one of the best crew chiefs we have," said Tech. Sgt. Daniel Cain, 36th MUNS assistant non-commissioned officer in charge. "It's his all-around character that allows us to trust him with responsibilities like being the pad supervisor during exercises, which is normally the role of a technical sergeant at minimum."

The Danvers, Mass. native joined the Air Force five years ago and says he's been fortunate enough to be stationed overseas for

most of his career; first at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, then Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, before being stationed at Andersen.

"I enjoy being overseas because of the camaraderie you can't get anywhere else," Capuano said. "Ammo is already a tight-knit family, but even more so overseas."

Capuano joined the Air Force for the same reasons many other Airmen do, such as job security, educational benefits and the opportunity to travel to name a few.

"It seems many of my friends back home were stuck in jobs that weren't going anywhere," Capuano said. "Not careers, jobs. There is a big difference and I was sick of going from job to job. I wanted to pursue a career."

His role within 36th MUNS conventional maintenance flight is that of a trainer due to his wealth of knowledge in his job.

While he encourages Airmen in maintenance and ammo to change shops when the opportunity arises to gain experience in the various aspects of the career field, he noted that being a specialist can be beneficial as well.

"I've been in the same shop my whole career and I've done just fine, it just made me that much more proficient at what I do," he said. "There are benefits to both."

Being skillful at your job is only a part of excellence for Capuano. He pushes the Airmen following him to better themselves through volunteerism and continuing their education.

"I always encourage my Airmen to pursue



Hard Work: Staff Sgt. Richard Capuano was selected as 36th Munitions Squadron Top Performer due to his wealth of job knowledge and work ethic. Capuano oversees operations within the conventional maintenance flight such as bomb builds and tracking bomb parts that require maintenance in order to be deemed serviceable. (U.S. Air Force photo Airman 1st Class Anthony Jennings)

their education and bolster their base and community involvement," Capuano said. "Being proficient at your job is an important part, but furthering yourself to make you a better person is huge. I just finished my [Community College of the Air Force program] and look forward to earning my bachelor's in human resources."

Capuano attributed many of the qualities

which helped him excel in his job to his aspirations to exceed his and any of his supervisors' expectations.

"I've been fortunate enough to have had great supervisors in my career," Capuano said. "Every one of my supervisors has been inspirational. It seems like all of them climbed the ranks quickly and put me on the path to follow in their footsteps."

Staff Sgt. Shonk recognized as Andersen's Best



Contributions: Col. Tod Fingal, Vice Commander, 36th Wing, presented Staff Sgt. Rayanne Shonk, non commissioned officer in charge of Uniformed Business, 36th Medical Support Squadron, with a certificate recognizing her as Andersen's Best Aug. 6. Shonk was recognized for both her on- and off-duty contributions to Andersen Air Force Base, including serving in the Emergency Operations Center and acting as the point of contact for her squadron's sister villages. From left, Staff Sgt. Susie Bryant; Fingal; Shonk; Staff Sgt. Virna Garcia, and Karey Allen. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Julian North)

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Team Andersen supports community learning initiative

By Airman Whitney Amstutz
36th Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 36th Communications Squadron donated 12 laptop computers to the Government of Guam Association of Retired Persons Inc. in Hagatna, Guam Aug. 13.

A recent break-in at the GGARP resulted in the loss of several computers and other office supplies.

"Laptop computers were stolen and desktop computers were destroyed," said Pilar Lujan, president of the GGARP. "Needless to say, the incident inhibited the plan to start a computer class so active and interested elderly citizens may be taught computer technology."

The training, which will consist of Microsoft Office and network usage, will allow the individuals who participate to become more marketable in the workplace and help them to have a better understanding of the general functions of a computer.

"I feel that it is very important that those who would like to learn more about modern computer programs and capabilities have that opportunity," Lujan said. "Having these skills can make a big difference today. Almost everything is done electronically."



Donation: Pilar Lujan, president of the Government of Guam Association of Retired Persons Inc., thanks Jane Sasai, base equipment controller for the 36th Communications Squadron, for the newly donated laptops they received. Twelve computers were donated to the organization to help facilitate its program to teach elderly citizens about new technology. This image was altered. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Whitney Amstutz)

Hoping to keep plans for the program on schedule, Lujan reached out to Andersen for assistance.

"Once we received Pilar Lujan's request we got to work determining whether or not we would be able

to help," said Jane Sasai, base equipment controller for the 36th Comm Squadron. "There are restrictions on the organizations we can donate to. Fortunately, the GGARP is a non-profit organization that bene-

fits the elderly and we were cleared to help out."

Team Andersen was able to donate a dozen laptops just in time for the commencement of their introduction to computers class. The

donation is beneficial to both the GGARP and the Air Force. By giving these obsolete computers to the community instead of sending them back through the supply system, countless man-hours are saved.

"The computers were donated from the Comm Squadron," Sasai said. "The Air Force refreshes their systems every five years and we are left with equipment that is no longer compatible with our network. This allows us to give the functional supplies to groups around Guam who need them. It is a great way to help out the various educational associations in the community."

Providing supplies and services whenever possible is an essential part of showing the community that the Airmen of Andersen Air Force Base, and service members in general, are here to help.

"Though these assets are no longer useful to us, they are still fully functional and can be of great use to others," Sasai said. "These computers give elders in the community the capability to understand the latest computer technology. Many of them do not know how to use and take advantage of today's systems and these classes can give them the advantages they need. It gives them the ability to learn."

Continuation board aims to keep best Sailors in the fleet

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW)
LaTunya Howard

Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

The Navy announced the fiscal year 2011 (FY-11) performance-based board for continuation, which will convene Sept. 20 to review senior enlisted (Active/Reserve) personnel with more than 19 years of service.

The focus is performance within the last five years or since advancement to current grade (E-7 through

E-9), whichever is later.

According to NAVADMIN 276/10, an amplified update to NAVADMIN 180/10, documented misconduct, sub-standard or marginal performance will be the primary reason board-eligible Sailors will not be continued in the Navy past the 20-year mark. Among the specific performance indicators the board will consider are:

- Documented misconduct involving either Uniform Code of Military Justice (non-judicial punishment) or civilian offenses.
- Moral or professional dereliction such as relief for cause or de-

tachment for cause.

- Continuity gaps in evaluation/fitness report of greater than 90 days.

- The Sailor's evaluation/fitness report during the period reviewed includes marks showing sub-standard or marginal performance of duty.

The board will consider these factors and others within the entire record and use its judgment to select Sailors for continuation whose service is in the best interest of the Navy. NAVADMIN 276/10 contains the complete list of board consideration factors.

"This is a performance-based

board, and I have extreme confidence that the senior enlisted leadership who sit the board are focused on fairness and proper adherence to standards," said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SS/SW) Rick D. West. "This is a move in the right direction, so we are retaining the best people possible for our Navy."

Commands may re-verify their FY-11 enlisted continuation board eligibility listings weekly until Sept. 1.

For Sailors being reviewed, the board correspondence submission deadline has been extended to

Sept. 1. Board-eligible Sailors must submit any correspondence to the board with a postmark by this date.

West said this is the second year of the Senior Enlisted Continuation Board, but the first year Reserve chiefs will be looked at.

"The continuation board has expanded from last year," West said. "More people are being looked at across the Navy's Total Force including reserves and some communities that were exempt last year."

For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/npc/.

New handicap-accessible playgrounds rising in Naval Base housing

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

New handicap-accessible playgrounds are towering over residents living in U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) housing complexes.

The approximately \$1.2 million

project was awarded to contractor BME and Sons in Sept. 2009, and prominently features tall canopies to protect children from the sun.

"The contract includes five sites, Apra View, Lockwood Terrace, North Tipalao, Harbor View, and Bay View," said John Kelly, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas construction management engineer. "The expected comple-

tion date for the project is February 2011."

According to Marlyna Gumabon, NBG housing director, the project is in accordance with Commander, Navy Installation Command's (CNIC) directive to have handicap-accessible establishments at all U.S. Navy bases.

"We are replacing the old playgrounds that were not in standards,

as well as building new CNIC compliant playgrounds throughout the base," Gumabon said. "There will be more up-to-date equipment and hopefully a better place for all children to play."

Gumabon said the new equipment includes solar-powered lights for children to play during the evening; flooring to help protect kids from serious injury; new play-

ground equipment; and canopies to protect the children from rain and the sun.

Navy spouse Kari Kilipela, a mother of two, said she welcomes the new parks.

"It will be nice for my children to have new, safer parks to play in," Kilipela said. "With the parks being handicap-accessible, everyone can now play together."

Coast Guard Sector Guam keeps Micronesia secure

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

The men and women of U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Guam stand an ever-vigilant and taut watch, carrying out their missions of saving lives, protecting the environment, enforcing law on the seas, facilitating commerce, and guarding the homeland.

The Coast Guard's presence on Guam dates back to 1905 when the U.S. Lighthouse Service arrived to provide aids to navigation. Coast Guard presence on Guam was only ever interrupted by the Japanese occupation of the island during World War II.

"The Coast Guard has had a protective presence on Guam for more than a century," said Lt. j.g. Wade Thomson, USCG Sector Guam public affairs officer. "We will continue that tradition of ensuring the safety of the waterways around Guam and Micronesia well into the future."

In 2005, Coast Guard Marianas Section and Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Guam combined to form USCG Sector Guam. Similar changes occurred across the USCG in order to enhance shore-based operations, which spanned multiple mission areas.

As of 2010, USCG Sector Guam has several areas of responsibility,



Training: Two U.S. Coast Guard Defender Class 25-foot small boats conduct tactics, techniques, and procedures training just south of Orote Point. The training simulates an attempted intrusion into a security zone. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam)

including facilitation of commerce within Apra and Tanapag Harbors, port security, pollution prevention and response, commercial vessel safety, and maritime law enforcement within the waters of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), including enforcement of fisheries within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone.

With three 110-foot cutters and three 25-foot Defender-class Secure All-around Flotation Equipped boats, Cmdr. Yuri Graves, deputy commander, USCG Sector Guam,

said that Coast Guardsmen on Guam are well-equipped and ready to carry out their missions.

"Everyone at Sector Guam is well-trained and ready to go out there and keep the waterways safe," Graves said. "We all joined the service to enforce maritime law and keep our fellow citizens safe. It's what we believe in. It's what we do, and we'll continue to do the best we can with what we have"

USCG Sector Guam's Command Center aboard U.S. Naval Base Guam is a Joint Rescue Sub Center. The command is responsible for

search and rescue operations over an area of the western Pacific measuring more than 2 million square nautical miles, roughly the size of the continental United States. This area includes Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and the CNMI.

During fiscal year 2009, members of USCG Sector Guam saved 45 lives and assisted 72 civilians during approximately 120 search and rescue missions. The command also performed 83 vessel boardings, 657 harbor patrols and 212 vessel escorts.

"Through the combined efforts of all Coast Guardsmen on Guam, hopefully we can continue to keep the waterways of Micronesia safe," Graves said. "We want the people of the area to know that we, and all other service members and emergency service providers, are here to ensure everyone can enjoy the freedoms they deserve, and to help when we are called upon."

For more information on USCG Sector Guam, visit the command's website at <http://www.uscg.mil/d14/sect-guam/>

Police graduate from CNIC, Joint Region Marianas academy

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff

Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) and Joint Region Marianas celebrated the graduation of 16 civilian police officers from police training academy during a ceremony at Top O' the Mar Aug. 13.

More than 100 guests attended the morning event, during which class members received their completion certificates. The training program started in June and lasted nine weeks.

David Speed, assistant program manager for CNIC's Security Operations, visited from CNIC headquarters at the Washington Navy Yard, Washington D.C., to deliver his remarks as guest speaker. Speed said the academy provided graduates with the basic knowledge, understanding and capability they will need to do their jobs at the highest level possible. He added all federal police officers, classified as GS-0083, working with the Navy will eventually go through the academy.

"The main thing that we're trying to accomplish is to ensure that we have standardized training across the entire CNIC enterprise," Speed said.

CNIC conducted similar pilot academies at Navy Region Southwest and Navy Region Southeast, but this was the first time it was offered on Guam. To facilitate the training, two instructors from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam partnered with police instructors on Guam to conduct the required classes. The curriculum included a wide range of subjects such as

defensive tactics, firearms use, interview and interrogation, physical fitness, preservation of evidence and crime scenes, report writing, and traffic stops.

Lt. Greg Jacobs, regional security officer for Joint Region Marianas, said law enforcement is similar on Navy, Air Force, Army and Marine installations, but standards change, so future academies will be offered about once every six months. The next one for Joint Region Marianas is scheduled for January 2011.

"They learn the updated, the new way of doing business, which is always a good thing," Jacobs said. "The more you train, the better you are."

Police Officer John Reyes, a graduate of the academy, said he stayed focus on finishing the academy to show his family how much he appreciated their support of his chosen career. Reyes, who won the academy's leadership and academic awards, said he was grateful for the opportunity to become a police officer.

"It's honor, commitment, courage," Reyes said. "If you have those three elements, it's something good. You feel good about what you do. You enjoy coming to work."

Police Officer Rommel Magan, who also graduated from the academy, said he didn't know what to expect when he first started and he was able to learn skills he didn't have before.

"We've been through a lot this whole nine weeks," Magan said. "It was tough, but we fought through it, we kept together and did what we had to do to get it done."



Graduation: Police Officer Ryan Dela Cruz, left, watches as his wife pins his police badge to his uniform during the graduation ceremony for Commander, Navy Installations Command and Joint Region Marianas police training academy at Top O' the Mar Aug. 13. Ryan and the 15 other graduates completed nine weeks of training in law enforcement subjects such as defensive tactics, firearms use, interview and interrogation, physical fitness, preservation of evidence and crime scenes, report writing, and traffic stops. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

736th SFS Airmen put verbal judo to the test

By Airman Whitney Amstutz
36th Wing Public Affairs

Twenty-six Airmen from the 736th Security Forces Squadron received specialized Fly-Away Security Training on the flightline when a team from Pacific Air Forces visited Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) Aug. 2-6.

The training is a localized version of the Phoenix Raven program, which deals with the support and defense of aircraft in austere locations. The Airmen learned how to use communication as a means of de-escalating situations, as opposed to weaponry, a practice often referred to as verbal judo.

"Right now we're doing airfield security and close-in security," said Tech. Sgt. James Howard, Fly-Away Security program manager from PACAF headquarters. "What they're doing is surveying the parking ramp, assessing lighting and any avenues of approach that may be a threat."

In addition to learning advanced security techniques, role-players tested 736th Airmen on their ability to improvise and act thoughtfully in situations that do not allow a lot of time for decision making. During these scenarios, the Airmen learned which situations can be handled with words and a level head, and which require a show of force and capability.

"We're also conducting scenarios for the use of force," Howard said. "Ranging anywhere from level one: a compliant individual who's just curious, to level five: we have no choice but to diffuse the hostile threat. We act out a variety of scenarios that cover the whole spectrum of involvement. What we're doing is assessing their verbal judo skills and verbal manipulation skills; seeing if they can talk us down and talk us away from the aircraft."

In many countries today, on-location aircraft security is non-existent. Therefore, the Fly-Away Security program has become an integral part of the Air Force mission.

"Often times, we find ourselves in a foreign land and we don't have the same jurisdiction that we do at stateside bases," Howard said. "We don't have the red-line restricted area where we can put someone down, escort them out and find out if they're good to go. In these places, they can literally get up in front of the aircraft. What we're trying to do is get them as far away as we can without putting our hands on them."

After training, Airmen will be able to provide optimum security while maintaining a low profile.

"They're trying to do discreet, low visibility security," Howard said. "In most of the countries that we're visiting we're not allowed to take weapons off the aircraft. So what we're trying to do is push the buffer out to meet them before they



Training: Airmen from the 736th Security Forces Squadron receive fly-away training from a Pacific Air Forces instructor on the flightline on Andersen Air Force Base Aug. 6. The program enables Airmen to utilize communication as a tool to avoid conflict. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Julian North)

come up to the aircraft."

Howard and his three-man team are traveling throughout PACAF providing Fly-Away training to the four bases with flight-based missions: Yokota Air Force Base, Japan, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska and Andersen.

"Localizing the training allows us to train a lot more people," Howard said. "Before, candidates had to fly to the states. This allows us to get a lot more bang for our buck."

Not only is the program economical, Airmen who participated gained a wealth of knowledge and hands-on interaction.

Airman 1st Class, Steven Young, a member of the 736th SFS, found the techniques to be helpful and effective.

"I am responsible for guarding my sector and making sure no one that's not supposed to be near the aircraft gets in," Young said. "I've learned to react when someone approaches and act accordingly. A lot of the time, all you need to use is verbal judo. I definitely think this is something I will use in the future, probably sooner than later."



Hands On: Twenty-six Airmen from the 736th Security Forces Squadron receive fly-away training from a team of Pacific Air Forces instructors on the flightline on Andersen Air Force Base Aug. 6. The training teaches Airmen to judge every situation individually and react with an appropriate degree of force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Julian North)

Gates asks for ideas to increase efficiency, savings

From American Forces Press Service

In a video message released Aug. 12, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates announced the Defense INVEST Program, launched to encourage service members and department employees to submit their ideas on ways to cut overhead costs and promote efficiency.

During an Aug. 9 briefing, Gates said he wants military personnel and

civilians to think outside the box. He wants them to submit their ideas for saving resources, reducing the layers of the organizations and eliminating duplication and overhead.

“Within the department, we are launching an online contest for the purpose of soliciting and rewarding creative ideas to save money and use resources more effectively,” he said. “I would encourage all DoD employees to visit ‘www.defense.gov’ on the Web to learn more.”

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.

Joint Region Marianas Financial Technician, Closes Aug. 30

Employment Opportunities

Looking for a part time job?

36th Force Support Squadron offers multiple employment opportunities. Current job vacancies and job descriptions within 36th Services are available online at www.36thservices.com by clicking on HRO jobs. For more information, visit the Human Resources Office (HRO) or call 366-6141.

U.S. Naval Base Guam Gate Closure

The main gate of U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) will be temporarily closed for repairs through Sept. 14. Access around-the-clock for authorized motorists will be through the NBG back gate in Agat. Access from 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Friday will be at X-Ray Wharf located behind the Navy Housing Office and the T. Stell Newman National Park Visitor Center. Electronic signs will be in place to provide traffic

directions. Motorists should anticipate traffic congestion in the area.

Café Latte Coffee Club

If you're an Air Force Club Member, you can join the Café Latte Coffee Club. When you join, you'll receive a coffee card. Have your card initialed for each coffee purchase; after you've made nine purchases, your 10th cup is free. Ask for your coffee card next time you visit. For more information, call 366-6166.

Navy Citizenship Codes

Service members who become naturalized citizens should immediately report citizenship changes to their local service record holder. Some Personnel Support Detachments may not have access to the appropriate codes required to enter citizenship changes in the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System.

For a list of codes, refer to the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) Instruction 1080.53, ENLISTED DISTRIBUTION AND VERIFICATION REPORT USERS' MANUAL, Section 11.3 Citizenship.

This document can be accessed online at:

http://www.npc.navy.mil/NR/rdo_nlyres/0899052A-1212-437B-9FB1-0DF3CF366858/0/108053.pdf.

Protect yourself, future with Thrift Savings Plan

By Jesse Leon Guerrero
Joint Region Edge Staff

Sailors, other uniformed personnel and most federal employees can invest in their future right away by putting money into an account under the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP).

TSP works as a retirement savings and investment plan aimed at supplementing income after retirement. Pilar Pangelinan, Personal Financial Management Program financial educator for Fleet and Family Support Center, said service members and federal employees should participate in the plan and take advantage of the benefits.

"Not all Sailors stay 20 years to start their retirement and this is equivalent to a 401(k) plan," Pangelinan said.

Pangelinan said that TSP is a defined contribution plan, so participants can choose a percentage of their pay to contribute to the plan. She said the amount of investment can vary from as low as 1 percent to as high as 99 percent, but a maximum of \$16,500 is allowed per year. Members older than 50 can invest an additional \$5,500 per year.

Members also select the type of investment fund in which contributions are allocated. The funds should be chosen based on the kind of



For the Future: Pilar Pangelinan, center, Personal Financial Management Program financial educator for Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC), offers savings tips and techniques to Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Reynaldo Leal, left, and Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Demarco Benton, both from Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 7, at the FFSC offices on U.S. Naval Base Guam Aug. 19. FFSC provides Thrift Savings Plan classes and other personal financial management information to Sailors and their family members for free throughout the year. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

return the member hopes to achieve and the risks associated with that venture.

The investment options TSP

funds cover are government securities investment, or G fund; the fixed income index investment, or F fund; the common stock index investment,

or C fund; the small capitalization stock index investment, or S fund; the international stock index investment, or I fund; and lifecycle funds,

also called L funds.

"It's portable, so if they leave the military, they can roll it over to their [next] employer's 401(k) plan," Pangelinan said.

Pangelinan encouraged service members and federal employees to at least learn more about the advantages of having a TSP account, which can supplement their retirement income. Since military pay incrementally increases each year, she said it's possible for a member to not even notice a difference in pay that has had a small TSP investment deducted. TSP is also tax-deferred, so the contributed money is deducted before taxes. The amount made from the investment is also not taxed until it is withdrawn.

"It's so much easier to save when you're young and then see the effects of compounding interest," Pangelinan said.

Pangelinan gave the example of how \$2,000 contributed per year, with a 10 percent rate of return, starting when the member is 20 years old will result in a difference of \$487,000 compared to someone who invested the same money at the age of 30.

For more information about TSP visit www.tsp.gov. For more information on other FFSC services and programs including TSP, call 333-2056.

What Fleet and Family Support Center or Airman and Family Readiness Center programs have you used and why?

Joint Region Edge asked its readers what Fleet and Family Support Center or Airman and Family Readiness Center programs they have used. The answers ranged from borrowing household goods to attending their classes.



"I just arrived in June and I attended the orientation program which was very helpful. I've also used the spouse program to help look for a government job. It's helped me find out about the different jobs that are available and the different websites to check."

— Ivy Franklin
Navy spouse



"Mostly for help faxing my grocery coupons. I borrowed pots and pans from them when we first arrived. It's a good center and I recommend them to anyone who needs help."

— Suzanne Seybold
Navy spouse



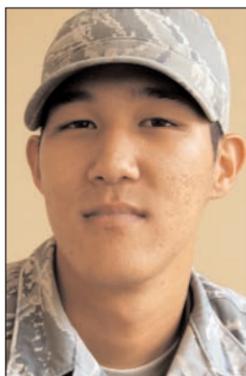
"I haven't used any here yet, but it's been broadcast and I'm aware of their services. I'd use it if needed. I'm here [geo bachelor], but when I was with my family in Okinawa and when we first arrived, we had loaner plates and other kitchenware. We used them for about a week."

— Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF) Cenon Cacuyog
U.S. Naval Hospital Guam



"When we PCS'd here in early July, the Airman and Family Readiness Center gave us household goods until all our stuff was shipped here. They gave us the basics we needed to run a household like a high chair, pots and pans."

— Randie Music
Air Force spouse



"Before my last deployment, they gave me brochures and showed me all the different programs I could take advantage of like the morale calls."

— Airman 1st Class Justin Araki
36th Communications Squadron information assurance technician



"Bundles for babies is a great program because not only do they give free stuff that will help with taking care of a newborn, they also gave me good information and advice with becoming a new mother."

— Staff Sgt. Santana Forey
36th Communications Squadron communications security accountant

Army team completes seven-month deployment in Palau

By Oyaol Ngirairikl

Joint Region Edge Staff

Civic Action Team (CAT) Palau from 130th Engineer Battalion turned over Camp Katuu to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 during a ceremony in the Republic of Palau Aug. 20.

CAT Palau fulfills U.S. Pacific Command's engagement strategy by directing and supporting the Civic Action program in community construction, apprentice training, medical assistance, and community relations programs.

The event boasted a couple of firsts in that the outgoing team of 13 Soldiers was the first Army team sent to Palau in a decade. It is also the first team NMCB 11 has sent to Palau.

Guest speaker Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, U.S. Defense Representative to Palau, lauded the departing Soldiers.

"As ambassadors of the United States and representatives of the Army, the Soldiers of 130th Engineer Battalion have fully supported U.S. Pacific Command's mission," Bushong said. "Your team hit the ground running. Each of you quickly engaged in all aspects of the mission, from constructing facilities to sharing your knowledge with others."

Bushong noted his confidence in the incoming NMCB 11 Sailors.

"I know you all are well trained and ready for this assignment, and I have no doubt that you will succeed," he said. "I am confident our Seabees will uphold the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment, making your families and our nation proud of the work you will accomplish here."

Chief Utilitiesman (SCW) Sean Stewart, assistant officer in charge of the NMCB 11 CAT, said the 13-person team is excited to be in Palau.

"This being our first time in Palau; we want to ensure we do our best work and do our part to continue building this great relationship with our partners in the Pacific," he said. "We're really looking forward to the opportunity to represent the U.S. military and make our leadership proud."

Col. Jeffery Milhorn, 130th Engineer Brigade commander, said he was proud of the Army team's performance.

"The relationship between the U.S. and Republic of Palau is extremely unique and vitally important to both nations, and I can see that relationship has continued to strengthen with the Army CAT," he said. "The Soldiers have done more than just complete construction projects and provide training. They have built upon relationships that will serve both nations for years to come. The team has set a standard for future civic action teams to strive to exceed."

While in Palau, the outgoing team supported 5K and 10K runs held by various community organizations, helping to promote fitness and health in the community. Team members also offered swimming lessons twice a week to Palauan youths, and 1st Lt. Christopher Gensler, the Army team's officer in charge, served as the assistant coach for the Palau National Olympics swim team, which represented the island nation during the Micronesian Games held in Palau Aug. 1-10.

The Army team also conducted maintenance on two World War II memorials on the islands of Peleliu and Angaur and provided medical examinations to more than 500 patients from all 16 states.

The Soldiers also had several projects at facilities across the island to support safety. One of the projects is the construction of a police



Turnover Ceremony: Ens. Robert Thompson, left, officer in charge of the of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 Civic Action Team (CAT) in the Republic of Palau, looks on to ensure Sailors are ready for the turnover ceremony of Camp Katuu in Palau Aug. 20. Holding the NMCB 11 guidon is Utilitiesman 2nd Class (SCW) Jeremy Orndoff. During the ceremony, Soldiers of 130th Engineer Battalion Army CAT turned over the camp to NMCB 11 CAT. Camp Katuu is the home base to Navy, Air Force and Army CATs deployed to Palau. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator Chief (SCW) Larry Fulbright)

and fire substation in Ngardmau State. The team also built more than 300-feet of fencing around Palau High School in Koror State and replaced old light and power switches with newer, safer fixtures.

The Army CAT's apprenticeship program graduated five island residents with administrative specialist, mechanic and equipment operator certificates.

The efforts did not go by unnoticed. On Aug. 3, the Olbiil Era Kelulau, or Palau National Congress, signed a resolution in a show of appreciation for the team's efforts to promote safety, health and education in Palau.

Gensler said they were humbled and gratified when they received the resolution.

"There's no words to explain how good it feels to do something and be able to see the positive outcome, in this case between our civic action team and the people of Palau," he said. "It's amazing to know you've made a difference."

Gensler added his team is proud to have been part of a successful mission and a great tradition of partnership.

"I think we more than met our mission goals. We were able to strengthen the bonds between our two nations," he said. "We had an opportunity to use our skills to help others while also getting to know the culture and make friends with the people living in Palau. I wouldn't have traded this experience for any other."

Palau President Johnson Toribiong thanked the Army CAT for their efforts to promote quality of life for Palau's residents.

"The Army team was professional, knowledgeable and a great representative of the U.S. military," Toribiong said. "From their construction projects and apprenticeship program to their community and medical services at the



Meeting the Community: Ens. Robert Thompson, right, officer in charge of the of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 Civic Action Team (CAT) in the Republic of Palau, speaks with Paramount Chief Reklai Raphael Ngirmang, before the turnover ceremony of Camp Katuu in Palau Aug. 20. During the ceremony, 130th Engineer Battalion turned over the camp to NMCB 11. Camp Katuu is the home base to Navy, Air Force and Army CATs deployed to Palau. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator Chief (SCW) Larry Fulbright)

clinic and beyond, they quickly became an important part of our community and we're sad to see them go."

The president added his welcome to NMCB 11 Sailors.

"These Sailors are part of a great history between Palau and the Seabees," he said. "As they settle into Camp Katuu, I know the people of Palau look forward to working with them and as they share their expertise with our

residents so we too look forward to sharing our culture and heritage with them."

The 130th Engineer Brigade is homeported in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. To learn more about the brigade, visit <http://www.stewart.army.mil/tfm/units/130ENBDE/home.asp>.

NMCB 11 is homeported in Gulfport, Miss. To learn more about the battalion, log onto <https://www.seabee.navy.mil/index.cfm/65527>. To learn more about PACOM, visit <http://www.pacom.mil/>.

Base housing residents can learn from Millington flood

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Guam military base housing residents should reconsider their stance on renters insurance, if they do not have a policy already. The flooding that hit Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington, Tenn., left service members with the reality of the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act (Personnel Claims Act).

The Personnel Claims Act (PCA) allows for limited compensation for active duty service members and Department of Defense civilian employees whose personal property is lost, damaged or destroyed because of their military service. Members who desire to submit a claim are required to first file a claim with their insurance carrier.

The maximum value of a claim filed under the PCA is limited to \$40,000, and service members who file claims will only receive a depreciated value on their lost or damaged property.

Marlyna Gumabon, U.S. Naval Base Guam housing director, said she encourages all government-based housing residents to get renters insurance.

"Spending a few dollars a month helps ensure your valuables are compensated," she said. "If there is a flood, fire or other damage to your home, it is a good feeling to know you're protected financially."

Shannon Harding, a Navy spouse, purchased renters insurance for her family and said that she believes it's worth the cost.

"We purchased insurance because

you never know what could happen," Harding said. "Having insurance lets us not worry so much about what will happen if a typhoon or fire causes damage. We can focus on other things and enjoy Guam in peace."

The Navy recruiting command web site, www.cnrc.navy.mil/insurance.htm has some helpful tips for those looking to get insured. Some basic tips from the site include:

Take an inventory: Before purchasing insurance itemize your belongings with price estimates, serial numbers, receipts (if possible) and

purchase dates.

Make an informed decision: Ask your insurance company about theft limits, cash or replacement value, deductible options and discounts.

- Shop around: Call a variety of insurance agents, and keep track of the coverage and costs.

- Read the policy: It's a contract; ensure you understand the obligations spelled out.

For more information about emergency preparedness, visit www.cnrc.navy.mil/CNIC_HQ_Site/WhatWeDo/EmergencyManagement/index.htm.

Tuition Assistance to be distributed quarterly in October

By Mass Communication
Specialist Seaman Alexandra
Snow

National Naval Medical Center Public
Affairs

A policy change, effective Oct. 1, to the Navy's Tuition Assistance (TA) program will not only place monetary caps on the funds available to Sailors, but also affect how and when the funds are allocated.

TA provides funds to eligible active-duty personnel and enlisted Reservists, who are recalled to active duty for 120 days or more, to further their education on an off-duty basis, said Joyce Murphy, Navy TA program manager at the Center for Per-

sonal and Professional Development (CPPD) in Virginia Beach, Va.

Currently, Sailors can receive tuition assistance throughout the year. When the policy takes effect, benefits will be allocated quarterly and determined by available funds. In addition, applications for assistance will be processed on a first-come-first-serve basis until the quarterly cap is reached, according to NAVADMIN 245/10, which was released July 21.

Sailors can still submit applications for TA benefits at any time; however, applications will not be processed more than 30 days prior to the start of each quarter, said Murphy. TA pays for the cost of tuition

and mandatory fees directly associated with course instruction, but does not cover the cost of applications, registration, parking, textbooks or any living expenses accrued during enrollment, Murphy added.

To apply for TA benefits, personnel must use the Navy College Web site. They are also encouraged to contact their nearest Navy College office to discuss their educational goals with a counselor and review college credits earned via Navy training and experience, said Lt. Cmdr. Walter Rogers, Voluntary Education Programs (VOLED) analyst at CPPD in Virginia Beach, Va.

Before receiving the electronic assistance voucher that allows them

to enroll in college courses or certification programs, Sailors must submit their online TA application for command approval, said Rogers.

"Sailors may also access our Virtual Education Center (VEC) for educational information, counseling and TA processing," added Rogers.

Those who enroll in courses prior to applying for TA benefits will not be reimbursed, said Rogers. Likewise, if a Sailor is approved for TA benefits and chooses not to enroll in the course, they must contact the Navy College offices or VEC to cancel the voucher. If they do not, the Sailor must reimburse the government in the amount of the voucher. "TA cannot be used congruently

with Navy College Fund benefits or other education programs such as the Advanced Education Voucher and Graduate Education Voucher," said Murphy, "[but] if a Sailor's tuition costs more than the TA cap, then they can use their Montgomery GI Bill benefits to [supplement] their TA."

Navy College offices are located in Anacostia and at Naval Support Activity Bethesda. For more information on TA and other educational programs and services offered by the Navy, visit www.navycollege.navy.mil.

For more news from National Naval Medical Center, visit www.navy.mil/local/nnmc/.

Bloom takes the helm of DoDEA Pacific Guam

By Oyaol Ngrairikl

Joint Region Edge Staff

Education veteran Dr. Steven Bloom is the new Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific Guam superintendent.

Bloom comes to Guam from Okinawa where he served 10 years as deputy director of DoDEA Pacific. Bloom was selected to lead the Guam district in June 2010.

As superintendent, Bloom is responsible for more than 2,600 students, 450 employees, and an annual budget of approximately \$36 million.

Though new to the position, Bloom is familiar with the local district and its team of teachers, administrators and staff.

"As deputy director of the Pacific District, I've had the privilege to come to Guam on several occasions and I've always been very impressed by the level of professionalism and dedication to education, and not just that but continued improvement of how we educate," Bloom said. "The team of educators is always looking at what they can do to better help their students. I've always seen and admired that."

Another aspect of Guam's military community that caught Bloom's attention, and one he'd like to continue to encourage, is the partnership between the DoDEA Pacific Guam community and the military commands and squadrons.

"It's really striking that you have various military service members

and spouses of all ranks from the rear admiral to the young Sailor who just joined coming into the schools for career days, to celebrate the start of the school year and just being an active participant in the education of our children," Bloom said. "I think these partnerships are very involved because it tells children, 'Yes, education is important and we're here to support you.'"

Bloom takes over as superintendent from Dr. Gayle Vaughn-Wiles who came to Guam in 2008 and retired over the summer.

Bloom said the transition with Vaughn-Wiles went smoothly and he is looking forward to starting a great school year on Guam. Bloom said one of the things he'd like to focus on is the continued hiring of master teachers in early childhood development, education, math and other areas.

"These master teachers will look at refining and improving teaching and instruction, which is something the teachers have already been doing, but this will help provide that additional support that allows the teachers to focus on teaching with the guidance and support of master teachers," Bloom said.

Bloom said he'd also like to encourage parents to maintain communication and continue to work with their children's schools.

"Research has shown that parent involvement helps students succeed," Bloom said. "Whether it's doing homework and following up with teachers on assignments or volunteering for the school board – all



Taking the Helm: Dr. Steven Bloom, Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific Guam superintendent, checks his e-mail at the Guam District superintendent's office on the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam compound in Agana Heights Aug. 10. Bloom replaced Dr. Gayle Vaughn-Wiles who retired over the summer. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngrairikl)

of these are a great way for parents to support their children's education. And, in turn, the school and the district will try to support that any way we can – because at the end of the day, that's why we're all here, to help ensure our children grow up with the education they need to succeed in life."

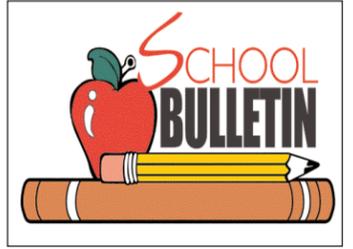
Prior to his DoDEA career, Bloom taught special education in Florida, worked in teacher education programs at Florida Atlantic University and served as a child development specialist with the Department of Pediatrics at the University of New Mexico.

Bloom entered the DoDEA system in 1982 as a special education

teacher and principal at Torrejón, Spain. From there, Bloom applied his extensive background in education and curriculum design to the various administrative and supervisory positions he held within DoDEA Europe and Pacific.

His postdoctoral studies include a clinical internship in developmental disabilities at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine and advanced studies in education leadership, policy, strategic planning and school improvement at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education.

For more DoDEA Pacific Guam news, visit their website at www.guam.pac.dodea.edu.



School Bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy and Air Force communities. If you know of an education-related event that you would like to include, send it to jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil or call 339-7113.

Parent Advisory Board

The Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) Parent Advisory Board is meeting Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Child Development Center on Andersen AFB. For families with children in the Child Development Center, Family Child Care, School Age Program, Youth Programs and Teen Center. For more information, call 366-1601.

Guam Navy Homeschool Support Group

Navy families who are interested in home schooling their children can e-mail Guam Navy Homeschool coordinator Christine Duplissey at christine_duplissey@yahoo.com or call 564-3360.

Andersen Homeschool Support Group

Andersen Air Force Base families who are home schooling their children can learn more about the group by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AndersenHomeSchoolSupportGroup>. For more information, call Belinda Whittington at 653-4991.

Department of Defense Education Activity

School Bus Schedule, Passes
Parents are asked to call their children's respective schools for information about bus passes or the bus schedule.

School Lunch Program Application

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National School Lunch program is authorized under the Child Nutrition Act. This Act establishes the income eligibility guidelines for all federal child nutrition programs. The reauthorization of this act is still pending Congressional approval. In the meantime, USDA Guam was granted a waiver to move forward with applications using income guidelines from 2009. Free and reduced lunch income eligibility guidelines can be accessed on the USDA website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/notices/iegs/iegs.htm>.

Applications are now available at all schools and the district office. For more information, call Leslie Nolan, Student Meal Program manager at 344-9582.

Help keep children safe during the new school year

By Oyaol Ngrairikl

Joint Region Edge Staff

Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific-Guam officials and Joint Region Marianas safety officers are reminding parents of school-age students and all drivers to be especially careful on the roads as the school year begins.

The first day of classes for the 2010-2011 school year for DoDEA Pacific-Guam schools is Aug. 30.

"The biggest concern when it comes to the safety of everyone in the community is traffic," said Jack Ary, DoDEA Pacific-Guam Security, Safety & Antiterrorism officer. "You've got children on sidewalks and crosswalks, parents driving in cars and buses — all trying to get to the same destination."

Ary said congested traffic along with rain creates a breeding ground for accidents.

"You have more cars, more people and more slow-moving, wide-turning buses on the road. You also have less visibility and slippery roads due to rain; these are the types of road conditions that are just screaming for an accident to happen," Ary said. "Motorists must be vigilant wherever they go, not just past the school but around housing areas, particularly around 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. when the school day is beginning and ending."

Ary said parents who drive their children to school should also bear

Drop Off Times

Parents are reminded that students are allowed on Department of Defense Education Activity Pacific-Guam school campus no sooner than:

Guam High School: 7:20 a.m.

(Classes start at 7:30 a.m.)

Commander William C. McCool

Elementary/Middle School: 8 a.m.

(Classes start at 8:15 a.m.)

Andersen Elementary School: 7:20

a.m. (Classes start at 7:35 a.m.)

Andersen Middle School: 7:30 a.m.

(Classes start at 7:45 a.m.)

Back-to-School Safety Tips

Here are some things parents can do prior to the start of the school year to promote safety:

in mind that they are "motorists first and parents second."

"When you're on the road, your first job is to drive carefully not to make sure that your child has his or her lunch money or homework," he said. "Take care of that at home. There's too much happening at the pick-up/drop-off points at school for you to get distracted."

Schools will have personnel posted around the campus to help direct foot and motor traffic.

"Mornings and afternoons can

Traveling To and From School

Map out with your children a safe way for them to walk to school or to the bus stop. Avoid busy roads and intersections. Do a trial run with them to point out places they should avoid along the way, such as vacant lots, construction areas, and parks where there aren't many people.

Teach children to follow traffic signals and rules when walking or biking. Stress that they should cross the street at crosswalks or intersections with crossing guards when they can.

Children ages 9 and below are required to be escorted to school by a parent or legal guardian.

Teach children not to talk to strangers, go anywhere with them, or accept gifts from them without your permission. Tell them that if they see a suspicious stranger hanging around or in their school

get really hectic, especially on the first several days of school when everyone is still getting used to the routine and getting familiar with the entry points for walkers, car-riders, and bus riders," said Missy Gingrich, Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School assistant principal. "We're asking everyone to be mindful of our personnel and their instructions — they're being stationed out there to ensure safety for everyone."

Ary said that parents should also

they should tell an adult.

Help children memorize their phone number and full address, including area code and zip code.

On The Bus

Have your children arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to pick them up.

Make sure children know to stand on the sidewalk or on the grass while waiting for the bus.

Teach children to make sure they can see the bus driver and the bus driver can see them before crossing in front of the bus. Tell them to never walk behind the bus.

SOURCE: National Crime Prevention Council, Department of Defense Education Activity Pacific-Guam and Joint Region Marianas Safety Office

talk to their children about bus etiquette.

"Kids need to know that the school bus driver is there to drive the bus and it would be helpful for [the safety of all] if students were sitting properly, and not making a lot of noise, and being mindful of the bus drivers' instructions," Ary said.

Ary said parents can contact their children's respective schools for more information about starting the new school year safely.

GHS orientation showcases dedication to education

By Oyaol Ngirairikl

Joint Region Edge Staff

More than 100 students and parents attended the Guam High School (GHS) orientation for freshmen held at the school located on the U.S. Naval Hospital Guam compound Aug. 20.

A second orientation was held Aug. 23 for incoming 10th- to 12th-grade students.

GHS principal Philip Keim introduced himself to parents and students. In addition to reviewing school policies, graduation requirements and sharing information about the various school organizations, Keim shared his goals as the new principal.

"Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific-Guam is a district that has high goals for its students; you can see it in the curriculum and in the way our teachers and staff are always willing to work with parents to ensure students' success," he said. "What I'd also like students to realize is the programs we have here, from Navy Junior ROTC to the GHS Student Body Association, are all created to help you make your high school experience a great one."

Navy and Air Force leadership also spoke at the freshmen orientation, encouraging students to work hard, take care of the school, which



Orientation: George Ishmael, center, a Federal Aviation Administration airways system technician, picks up information on sports and educational programs at the sign-up table prior to the Guam High School orientation for freshmen held at the school's cafeteria Aug. 20. About 100 students and their parents attended the orientation. Another orientation was held Aug. 23 for new students in grades 10-12. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

opened three years ago, and participate in the many educational, athletic and student-leadership programs offered at the school.

"I'd like to encourage all the students to study hard and to take ad-

vantage of the many programs," said Capt. Richard Wood, U.S. Naval Base Guam commanding officer and one of the guest speakers at the orientation. "Get involved in a sport or in one of the clubs. All of these

exist to help you become a mature and responsible student and eventually adult."

Col. Peter Brewer, 36th Medical Group commander, also encouraged students to get involved in school.

"There are skills that you can develop in high school that will serve you through life, such as teamwork and leadership," he said. "Take advantage of everything high school has to offer and enjoy it all because, believe it or not, these next few years will go by very quickly, and if you blink, you could miss it."

Parents and students said they attended orientation to ensure they started the school year on the right foot.

"This is my son's first year in high school and in a DoDEA school, so I want to make sure we have all the information we need as parents so we can guide him, and we want to make sure that he knows about the school as a student so he knows what to expect coming in," said George Ishmael, a Federal Aviation Administration airways system technician. "I think it's great that Navy and Air Force leaders took time out to come and talk to parents and really encourage the students to do their best. As a parent, it's great knowing you have this level of commitment to education from the community."

To learn more about GHS, visit the school's website at <http://extranet.guam.pac.dodea.edu/guamhighschool/default.aspx>.

To learn more about DoDEA Pacific-Guam, visit the district's website at www.guam.pac.dodea.edu.

Spice up your food the Chamorro way

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff

On tables across the nation, salt and black pepper shakers traditionally stand next to ketchup and mustard. While those condiments can add a lot of flavor to a meal, it is fina'denne' (fin-uh-din-nee) that reigns as the seasoning of choice on Guam.

Residents use fina'denne' as a spicy sauce on rice, beef, chicken, fish and pork. It can also be substituted for salad dressing and can be used as a marinating or basting sauce. Fina'denne' has a salty taste so it's never added to cakes and similar desserts, but it does enhance the flavor of unripe fruits such as papaya and mango.

There are many different ways to alter the overall taste of fina'denne' and it is common to find different versions according to the preference of the family cook. However, the basic ingredients include soy sauce, white onions, and red chili peppers. This dark fina'denne' is usually seen alongside meats, while a lighter version that substitutes vinegar or lemon for the soy sauce is sometimes used with dried beef and fish.

Depending on preference, fina'denne' might include vinegar or even tuba (too-buh), which is a sweet liquid made from fermented



Spicy Condiment: A fina'denne' bowl filled with soy sauce, calamansi, chopped onions, and red peppers sits on a dinner table in Ordot Aug. 18. Chamorros and other residents of Guam use fina'denne' to flavor a variety of foods, especially beef and fish dishes. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

coconut sap.

To save on ingredients, families will often make just enough fina'denne' to feed several people, but fiestas and similar gatherings might fill larger bowls. These are almost always placed at the end of the food table so party-goers can pour what they want over the food items on their filled plate. Dipping food or a used utensil into a fina'denne' bowl is considered rude if the bowl is intended for others to use.

Fina'denne' recipe

Ingredients for two people
2 ounces of soy sauce
1 garlic clove
2 red chili peppers
2 tablespoons of chopped white onions
1 lemon or 4 calamansi

Directions
Pour the soy sauce into a bowl and chop the garlic clove, peppers and onion. Add the pieces into the bowl and mix them to blend the flavors. Slice the lemon and squeeze as much juice into the bowl to satisfy preference. Substitute calamansi, also known as Philippine lime, for a different fragrance. Green onions can also be substituted for the white onion. Reduce the number of peppers for a milder taste.

GNOSC invites officer spouses to mingle over coffee

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff

Guam Naval Officer Spouses Club (GNOSC) welcomes its members and interested spouses to a Welcome Coffee event scheduled to take place at the residence of Rear Adm. Paul Bushong and his wife Dona at Flag Circle on Nimitz Hill, starting at 2 p.m. Sept. 19.

GNOSC is open to spouses of active duty, Reserve, retired and

deceased commissioned officers of the U.S. Sea Services. Spouses of Department of Defense civilians at General Schedule 9 and higher pay scale working within the U.S. Sea Service community can also join.

The Welcome Coffee kicks off the nonprofit group's after-summer activities for 2010-2011. Jill Barton, GNOSC president, said the event is free and guests do not have to bring anything because the organization will provide the coffee and other

refreshments.

"It's for those who've been here to meet those who just arrived on Guam, to tell them about Guam and make them feel more welcome," she said.

Charities on Guam benefit every year from funds raised by GNOSC. So far in 2010, the club has collected and distributed a total of \$8,600 to Habitat for Humanity of Guam, Operation Christmas Drop, The Salvation Army, and the United Service Organizations (USO).

"Last year we gave \$2,500 to The Salvation Army," Barton said. "We presented them the check and then bought toys, different purses, soccer balls and stuff like that. It was for everybody, children of all ages."

As a social outlet, GNOSC members hold get-togethers for games, discuss their favorite books and enjoy lunch at different locations. Barton encouraged eligible spouses to join GNOSC because of the opportunity to meet others they can

relate to and with whom they can share their experiences.

"You can ask about schools, where to go to eat, and where to shop because you have a network of people to draw from," Barton said. "It gives you a social connection to the island, and you never know where you're going to meet your next lifelong friend."

For more information, call 969-3294, e-mail contactgnosc@gmail.com, and visit online at www.gnosc.org.

FREE

Trip to Agat Fiesta

Take a trip to Agat and enjoy their annual fiesta. Meet at Single Sailor Sanctuary Aug. 29. Van leaves at 11:30 a.m. Open to active-duty single Sailors and active-duty geo bachelors. For more information, call 564-2280.

AFE presents Survivor

Armed Forces Entertainment is bringing the cast of the TV show "Survivor to Guam." A Meet and Greet will be held at Top O' the Mar Sept. 2, 6:30-9 p.m. For more information, call 472-4606 or visit www.mwrguam.com.

Labor Day Bash

Enjoy a day of fun at Arc Light Park on Andersen Air Force Base Sept. 3, 3-6 pm. Kids activities

include the bouncy castle and there will be door prizes and much more for the entire family. Armed Forces Entertainment will also present a special Meet & Greet with the cast of Survivor. Event is free. Food and drinks will be on sale. For more information, call 366-2339.

On a Budget

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.

Image Makers

U.S. Naval Base Guam Teen Center and Youth Center offers photography classes every Monday, 3-4 p.m. For more information, call 339-6130.

Story Time

The Andersen Air Force Base Library has story time every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. There will also be crafts and other fun activities. For more information, call 366-4291.

Bring the children for story time at the U.S. Naval Base Guam Library every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. In addition to great stories, there will be crafts and other fun activities. For more information, call 564-1836.

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.

Free Golf Clinic

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

UNDER \$10

Under 21 Night
Every Wednesday High Tides Enlisted Lounge hosts Under 21 Night from 7 p.m.-midnight. Patrons can enjoy Mongolian Barbecue, music and a fun environment to hang out and unwind. Patrons 18 years and older can participate. For more information, call 366-6166.

Tarzan Falls Hike

Meet at Outdoor Recreation on Andersen Air Force Base Aug. 28, 7:45 a.m. Fee is \$5 per person. Difficulty rating is moderately difficult due to the downhill terrain to the falls and the uphill return. Wear sturdy shoes, bring lots of water, energy snacks, and your camera. Minimum age is 12. For more information, call 366-5197.

Gef Pago Trip

Meet at Silver Dolphin on U.S. Naval Base Guam Ordnance Annex Aug. 29. Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation van departs 10 a.m. Cost is \$7 per person. For more information, call 349-9128/ 564-2280.

Game Time Sports 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 are 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 for \$46 per person. For more information, call 344-5838 or 734-2155.



On a Budget

\$10 AND UP

Origami Lotus Flowers Class

Arts & Crafts Center on Andersen Air Force Base is offering the class Sept. 4, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. To register or for more information, call 366-4248.

Intro to Drawing Class

Arts & Crafts Center on Andersen Air Force Base is offering the class Sept. 4, 1:30-3 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person. To register or for more information, call 366-4248.

Auto Skills Shop Indoctrination Class

U.S. Naval Base Guam Auto Hobby Shop is hosting an indoctrination class Sept. 5, 3-4 p.m. The class includes policies and procedures that guard the safety of the shop patrons as well as compliance with OSHA requirements relative to Hazardous waste disposal and spills as it applies to the patron's use of the facility. For more information, call 564-1827.

Jazzy Sundays

Sundays from 5-8 p.m. at Willie's Beachside Jazz on Andersen Air Force Base. Enjoy a relaxing evening at the beach while you listen to great jazz music. If you get hungry, you can order one of the delicious offerings from our Bamboo Willie's menu. For more information, call 366-6100.

Mongolian BBQ Thursdays at Top O' the Mar

Every Thursday, 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$17.95 for adults and \$9.95 for children ages 5-11. Active-duty military receive a 20 percent discount and all other military ID holders and CAC card holders get 10 percent off. For more information, call 472-4606.

Orote Point Lanes Family Deal

Family Value Package at Orote Point Lanes available on the following days and times: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and 9-10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10:30 a.m.-midnight. Cost is \$40 per lane with a limit of five people. Fee covers two hours of bowling, shoe rentals for five people, one large single-topping pizza and one pitcher of soda. For more information, call 564-1828.



MEEHAN THEATER

FRIDAY, AUG. 27

7 p.m.: *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* • PG

SATURDAY, AUG. 28

2 p.m.: *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* • PG

7 p.m.: *Predators* • R

SUNDAY, AUG. 29

7 p.m.: *Predators* • 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.**



MWR Big Screen Theater

FRIDAY, AUG. 27

7 p.m.: *Despicable Me* • PG

9:30 p.m.: *Inception* • PG-13

SATURDAY, AUG. 28

1 p.m.: *The Last Airbender* • PG

3:30 p.m.: *Toy Story 3* • G

7 p.m.: *Predators* • R

SUNDAY, AUG. 29

1 p.m.: *Despicable Me* • PG

3:30 p.m.: *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* • PG

7 p.m.: *Twilight Saga: Eclipse* • PG-13

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.**

(Source: Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation Office)

Chapel Schedule

Naval Base Guam

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Roman Catholic Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 5 p.m. and Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service

Sunday Service: Traditional

Service: 8 a.m.

Contemporary Service: 11 a.m.

Women's Bible Study: Monday, 9:30 a.m.

Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Prayer Time: Thursday, 11:30 a.m.

Choir Practice: Traditional:

Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Choir Practice: Contemporary:

Thursday, 6 p.m.

Jewish Shabbat

Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Naval Hospital Guam

Roman Catholic Mass:

Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.

Chapel of Hope: Sunday, 9 a.m.

Andersen Air Force Base

Roman Catholic Mass (Chapel 1)

Weekday Mass: Tuesday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30-4:50 p.m.

Catholic Women of the Chapel: First and third Wednesday of the month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6:30 p.m.

Catholic Youth of the Chapel: Second and fourth Wednesday of the month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal: Saturday 4-5 p.m. and Sunday, 8-9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service

Praise Service: Sunday, Chapel 2, 9 a.m.

Gospel Service: Sunday, Chapel 2, 11:30 a.m.

Emerging Worship Service: Sunday, Lighthouse, 7 p.m.

Protestant Women of the Chapel: Second Monday of each month, Chapel 2 Annex, 6:30 p.m.

Protestant Men of the Chapel: Wednesday, Lighthouse, 7 p.m.

Protestant Youth of the Chapel: Thursday, Chapel 2 Annex, 7 p.m.

Protestant Young Adults: Thursday and Saturday, Lighthouse, 6 p.m.

Protestant Sunday School: (September-May) Sunday, Chapel Activity Center, 10:15 a.m.

Schedules subject to change. To confirm times or for information about other programs, call the chapels at:

Andersen Air Force Base: 366-6139

U.S. Naval Base Guam: 339-2126

U.S. Naval Hospital Guam: 344-9127

Still Moments



Top Mechanic: Wayne L. Cornell, left, project director for DZSP 21, presents the Employee of the Month Award for April 2010 to Gary Ericsson, a sheet metal mechanic for the company's Annex 1502- Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization (SRM), at the SRM shop on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 26. The Base Operations Support Contractor recognized Ericsson for leading a renovation project at Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 7, fabricating transition ducts for U.S. Naval Hospital Guam's Intensive Care Unit, and providing information for correcting deteriorating safety valves and other safety hazards. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Top Clerk: Wayne L. Cornell, right, project director for DZSP 21, presents the Employee of the Month Award for February 2010 to Evelyn Sepulia, a general clerk IV for the company's Annex 1300- Food Services, at U.S. Naval Hospital Guam's galley July 26. The Base Operations Support Contractor recognized Sepulia for her dedication, hard work, and commitment, while being able to multitask and execute different duties. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Top Drafter: Wayne L. Cornell, left, project director for DZSP 21, presents the Employee of the Month Award for March 2010 to Monica Lagatao, lead drafter III for the company's Annex 1501- Facilities Management, at Building 104 on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 26. The Base Operations Support Contractor recognized Lagatao for completing a family housing radon testing and mitigation project ahead of schedule, establishing and revising internal policies for distributing tasks evenly, improving productivity, and revising documentation for 17 Navy Family Housing special projects. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Top Safety Specialist: Wayne L. Cornell, left, project director for DZSP 21, presents the Employee of the Quarter Award for First Quarter 2010 to Vincent Salas, a safety specialist for the company's Annex 0200- Safety, at Building 104 on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 26. The Base Operations Support Contractor recognized Salas for not only his reliability and dedication, but for also improving the subcontractor safety program through better functioning relationships within the annex, developing a tracking system for new forms and other processes, and monitoring the company's subcontractors who average 60-80 hours and more than \$300,000 on projects per month. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Top Mechanic: Wayne L. Cornell, left, project director for DZSP 21, presents the Employee of the Month Award for January 2010 to Joseph Rivera, a mechanic for the company's Annex 1502- Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization (SRM), at the SRM shop on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 26. The Base Operations Support Contractor recognized Rivera for his technical and professional knowledge, for the Navy money through recycling efforts, and for being a role model for his coworkers. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Aaron, Security Enforcers win derby, softball tourney

By Oyaol Ngirairikl
Joint Region Edge Staff

Heavy hitters representing various Navy commands and organizations stepped up to the plate for the 2010 Naval Base Guam (NBG) Home Run Derby and Softball Tournament held at Polaris Point Aug. 20 and 21, respectively.

Logistics Specialist 1st Class (SW) James Aaron, of U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 Detachment, Guam, slammed through the home run derby to win first place with nine home runs in the third and final round.

"I felt good going in and was just able to hit the ball," Aaron said.

Security Enforcers were able to hold down their opponents in the softball tournament blasting their way through the competition to take first place. The Security Enforcers team included Sailors from NBG Security, U.S. Naval Personnel Support Activity Detachment Guam, NBG Dive Locker, and Navy Operational Support Center Guam.

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Eduardo Monson, of NBG Security who is Security Enforcers' coach, said his team is enjoying their first-place trophy and bragging rights.

"It was a four-team tournament with a three-loss elimination, so that was a long day but it was still a lot of fun," Monson said. "We were able to get out there and play ball with friends and meet folks from other commands who we probably wouldn't meet during our regular work rotation so it was nice get-



Heavy Hitter: Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician 3rd Class Taylor Shoaf, of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, begins his swing during the 2010 Naval Base Guam (NBG) Homerun Derby held at Polaris Point Aug. 20. The derby was one of two events held that weekend to raise funds to offset ticket costs for junior Sailors attending this year's NBG Holiday Party. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

ting to meet others. But at the end of the day, the event is for a good cause, so I'm glad we were able to support it."

NBG Recreation Committee sponsored the weekend events to raise money while also

boosting morale and promoting camaraderie among service members on Guam.

Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Jermaine Glover, chairman of the committee, said more than 20 individuals participated in the home

run derby and eight teams vied for the softball tournament championship.

"It was a great weekend," Glover said. "We were able to raise some money and have fun, but we were also giving our Sailors an opportunity to network, to meet other Sailors from other commands, get some exercise and play ball. So really, everyone was a winner."

Funds raised at the weekend events will be used to offset the cost of tickets for the NBG holiday party for junior Sailors.

Glover said the committee is also hosting Pie in the Face on Sept. 3, noon-2 p.m. at NBG Security compound. During the event, Sailors can purchase pies, which will be priced from \$5 to \$20, to smash in the faces of volunteer senior Sailors and officers.

"We're adding a little twist that makes ours different from similar events held at other commands," he said. "You can buy a pie and hit anyone E-5 and above, but they can pay double so they can get you back."

Glover said the event is open to all commands, as well as federal and contract employees connected to NBG.

"It's going to be fun, and again it's going to a worthy cause - to support our junior Sailors," he said.

Glover said Sailors and civilians attached to NBG interested in participating or volunteering in the committee or upcoming events, can call him at 888-9609.

To enter the Pie in the Face, send an e-mail to Joshua.joseph@fe.navy.mil. Include the name, command and contact number for yourself and your potential pie victim.

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.

"We Will Never Forget" 5K

"We will never forget" 5K run will be held Sept. 11 at Sumay Cove Marina. 5 p.m. show, 5:30 p.m. go. Register at Charles King Gym by 9 p.m., Sept. 4. T-shirts are \$8 for pre-registration and \$10 at the race. For more information, call 564-1824.

Aikido

A new Aikido session begins Sept. 1-Dec. 11, every Wednesday 3:30-4:30 p.m., Friday 6:15-7:15 p.m., and Saturday 9:30-10:30 a.m. Cost is \$60 per month (discount for additional siblings) and a \$30 uniform fee. It is open registration at the Child Development Center for ages 6 months and up. For more information, call 564-1844/5.

Fitness Challenge 2010

Join the Department of Defense (DoD) Fall Fitness Challenge! DoD is looking to register 2 million total hours of physical activity. DoD will present Certificates of Achievement to those who log in at least 30 hours of physical activity from Aug. 1-Oct. 31. Register today at www.presidentschallenge.org/login/register_individual.aspx.

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.

Summer Smash Volleyball Tournament

A Summer Smash Volleyball Tournament is slated to be held Sept. 4-7, 6 p.m. at the Coral Reef Fitness Center. For more information, call 366-6100.

Deep Sea Fishing

Deep Sea Fishing with Outdoor Recreation will be held at 7 a.m., Sept. 4. There is a \$70 fee per participant and seating is limited so sign up early. For more information, call 366-5197.

Outdoor Recreation Paintball

Try out your paintball skills at Outdoor Recreation's paintball field located next to the 21000 softball field. Paintball participants must be at least 10 years old to use the facility. Ages 10-17 must be accompanied by a parent. Hours of operation are Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday and holidays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Open play is available unless a tournament or special function has been scheduled. For more information, call 366-5197.