

JOINT REGION EDGE

Volume II No. 47

Friday, December 10, 2010



USCG, Merizo celebrate relationship

By Anna-Victoria Crisostomo
Joint Region Edge Staff

Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam and residents from the village of Merizo gathered at the Merizo pier to commemorate their partnership through the sister village program Dec. 3.

"The Coast Guard has a history here in Merizo," said Mayor Ernest T. Chargualaf. "The program was initiated back in 1974, when my dad was the mayor at the time. So it continues today and we're going to celebrate today."

While the program boasts more than 30 years of military and community partnership, the Coast Guard has been present in the southern village of Merizo since the 1930s when they held a command station on Coco's Island.

The sister village program is believed to have started in Nov. 1974 by retired University of Guam professor, Richard Wyttbach-Santos and "Mr. Tourism," Bert Unpingco.

"That's why we're here today, to

commemorate and perpetuate the program so that we can continue to have a good rapport with the military commands with the sister villages," Chargualaf said.

Throughout the year, Coast Guard volunteers have assisted Merizo in various ways including village and beachside cleanups, safety oversight for water sport events and set-up for the annual Fiestan Tãsi (fee-ES'-tan TAH'-see). But that's just the tip of iceberg.

Amidst the celebration, military personnel and civilians again

See Coast Guard, Page 11

Partnership: Capt. Thomas Sparks, left, commander of U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, shakes hands with "Mr. Tourism," Bert Unpingco, as Merizo Mayor Ernest T. Chargualaf looks on during a commemoration of the sector's partnership with its sister village of Merizo at the Merizo pier Dec. 3. (U.S. Navy photo by Coleen San Nicolas-Perez)



Command Chief Master Sgt. Mullinex career recognized



By Airman 1st Class
Anthony Jennings

36th Wing Public Affairs

Only two percent of Air Force enlisted personnel achieve the rank of chief master sergeant. Fewer earn the privilege to hold the position of

Retirement: Brig. Gen. John Doucette, 36th Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Allen Mullinex, former 36th Wing command chief, read a certificate during Mullinex's retirement ceremony Dec. 3 at the Sunrise Conference Center on Andersen Air Force Base. After an illustrious 25-year career, Mullinex looks forward to completing his master's degree in business, snorkeling and learning how to dive. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)

command chief. For one Andersen Airman, achieving both by the pinnacle of his career is second only to his opportunity to serve both his country and fellow Airmen.

Chief Master Sgt. Allen Mullinex, former 36th Wing command chief, retired from service Dec. 3 after an illustrious 25-year career.

As the principal advisor to the 36th Wing commander on matters affecting the utilization, health, morale and welfare of more than 8,500 military and civilian personnel, the former command chief has affected the lives of many.

"When I first met him, day one, the first thing he said to me was, 'boss, I need to talk to you about your Airmen,'" said Brig. Gen. John Doucette, 36th Wing commander, during Mullinex's retirement ceremony. "There is nothing about him that screams 'me.' It's

never about him. Every waking moment, every conversation we've had has been about how we can make it better for the Airmen; how do we grow Airmen leaders and advance the Air Force?"

Mullinex advised the commander for Airmen deployed to Andersen Air Force Base for Pacific Command's Continuous Bomber Presence and Theater Security Package. His responsibilities include keeping all commanders within the 36th Wing apprised of matters affecting their personnel and to liaise between headquarters staff agencies, commanders, tenant units, and senior enlisted leaders on operational and administration matters and implementing policy.

The Grand Lake, Colo., native entered the Air Force Aug. 20, 1985

See Retirement, Page 11

INSIDE

- Holiday greetings from COMPACAF, page 2
- Buffalo returns, page 2
- Keep NBG pedestrian friendly, page 8



HSC-25
Helicopter squadron saves lives, carries out the Navy mission.

SEE PAGE 4



Linebacker II
Team Andersen to commemorate historic operation.

SEE PAGE 4



Top Performer
Navy Diver 1st Class (DSW/SW) Christopher Burns

SEE PAGE 3

COMPACAF extends holiday greetings

By Gen. Gary North
Pacific Air Forces commander

As the holiday season approaches and we start to think about entering into 2011, I offer my heartfelt "thank you" to our entire Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) team and each of our family members. Our continued service in this region and in our deployments throughout the world is vitally important to our nation – a fact underscored by the many significant milestones you allowed your command to achieve this year.

In July, we welcomed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's first two F-22 aircraft. As PACAF's second location where F-22s are based, the Hawaii Air National Guard and active duty F-22 squadrons continue to build our fifth generation capability in the region. The capabilities

of PACAF's Airmen, coupled with the advanced next-generation technology of the F-22, alongside our existing fourth generation inventory represent an exponential leap in tactical and operational warfighting capabilities for U.S. forces in the Pacific.

In September, we welcomed the first RQ-4 Global Hawk, our U.S. Air Force's high altitude, long endurance remotely piloted aircraft, to Andersen Air Force Base. This event marks an exceptional move toward enhanced information sharing, regional interoperability and an opportunity to facilitate addressing trans-regional issues, such as humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, piracy and terrorism, along with other key mission requirements.

Although the basing of these two advanced platforms demonstrates

our nation's continued commitment to the security and stability of the Pacific, the best indicator of that commitment remains the presence of more than 42,000 Airmen who work daily with our joint and coalition partners across our Pacific expanse that spans half the globe. When tensions flare on the Korean peninsula – as they have several times during this year – you're there and ready to respond. When disaster strikes – as it did in Haiti – you're prepared to employ airpower to provide vital relief. In addition, this year you provided routine humanitarian assistance to those in need through events like Pacific Angel in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Vietnam and the Philippines. And every day, you honorably represent our nation and our Air Force across the region and the world—through

exercises, deployed combat operations and missions across the Pacific. We are all very proud of your efforts in 2010!

As you gather with your families for the holidays, please keep in mind the more than 2,000 PACAF Airmen who are celebrating the holiday season in places far from the U.S. and the Pacific bases we call home. Be wingmen for their families, who await their return. To those serving in harm's way, I extend my deepest appreciation and wishes for your successful deployment and for a safe and smooth return to your Pacific base.

The holiday season can be a welcome change of pace and a chance to enjoy life with friends and family. It can also be a difficult time for those dealing with personal issues. Be alert to those who might

need a helping hand from you, a key part of their extended Air Force family. Listen carefully to those around you, and make sure your wingman or someone in their family is not trying to "fly solo" with a heavy burden.

Teamwork was responsible for our successes in 2010 and will ensure we're ready for the challenges ahead in 2011. Chief Master Sgt. Brooke McLean and I, along with our entire command leadership team throughout the Pacific, are proud to lead our team of professional Airmen, who consistently demonstrate service before self, who put integrity first, and who are committed to excellence in all they do. We wish you the very best for the holidays and a happy new year. Pacific Air Forces Airmen ... Aim High ... Fly, Fight and Win!

USS Buffalo welcomed home after three months

By Lt. Joshua Cornthwaite
Commander, Submarine Squadron 15
Public Affairs

The fast-attack submarine USS Buffalo (SSN 715) returned home Nov. 23 after successfully executing several missions in the western Pacific over a three-month period.

Buffalo's efforts directly contributed to the safety and security of the western Pacific region. The mission period also provided a valuable training opportunity to ensure

the unit's continued cutting edge operational readiness.

"The crew did an outstanding job," said Cmdr. Richard Seif, commanding officer of USS Buffalo. "Working long hours with unmatched dedication and professionalism, the crew accomplished the mission. The crew, their families and all Americans should be proud of the hard work that these men put in on a daily basis."

Capt. John Russ, commodore, Submarine Squadron (SUBRON)

15, echoed Seif's praise.

"Buffalo did a great job," he said. "The crew can enjoy their Thanksgiving holiday knowing that many people in this area of the world are thankful for the freedom and security that results from their hard work."

As the submarine sailed into port, the crew was greeted by the cheers of family and friends waiting on the pier.

"It's great," said Kolbi Vandrew, wife of Electronics Technician 2nd Class Steven Vandrew II. "I am very

excited to have my husband back home. I cannot wait to spend time with him setting up our nursery. Our first daughter is due in January."

"It's wonderful to be home," exclaimed Machinist's Mate 1st Class Joshua Willett. "I am very excited to see my family."

As family members connected over a hamburger cookout, there was a palpable sense of excitement and satisfaction for both the hard work just completed and the ongoing reunion with loved ones.

USS Buffalo is named in honor of the city of Buffalo, N.Y. Buffalo is the 25th Los Angeles-class attack submarine. Built by Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. in Newport News, Va., Buffalo was commissioned on Nov. 5, 1983. In 2007, Buffalo shifted its homeport from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to Guam, where the submarine is assigned to SUBRON 15 as one of three fast attack submarines permanently forward deployed in the western Pacific.

Off Limits Establishments

The Guam Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board has placed the following establishment off limits to all military personnel:

Gallop USA Indian Art and Jewelry at the Micronesia Mall

All military personnel are prohibited from entering the establishment. Service personnel, whether in uniform or in civilian clothing, found entering or leaving the establishment may be subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Report Fraud, Waste and Mismanagement

The Joint Region Marianas Hotline provides an opportunity to report significant cases of fraud, waste and mismanagement. Anyone can file a hotline complaint and you may remain anonymous.

To contact the Joint Region Marianas Inspector General:

E-mail: M-GU-JRM-IG-HOTLINE-FRAUD-WASTE-ABUSE@fe.navy.mil

Phone: 339-4236

Mailing address:
JRM Inspector General Office
PSC 455 Box 211
FPO AP 96540

Remember, the more detailed information you provide the better we can assist you.

NBG diver is immersed in success

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert
Joint Region Edge Staff

Recently advanced Navy Diver 1st Class (DSW/SW) Christopher Burns is a standout Sailor at the Dive Locker on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG), according to his supervisor Navy Diver 1st Class (DSW/SW) Ricardo Parizal.



“Burns displays a strong working knowledge of his rate,” Parizal said. “He needs no supervision, has excellent personal appearance, plans and prioritizes wisely. He takes on hard assignments including the lead on our last re-certification. He sets a standard for all Sailors to uphold.”

Navy divers are part of the Navy Special Operations (NSO) community. Some of the mission areas of the Navy diver include deep sea underwater salvage, harbor clearance operations, in-water ship/submarine repair, demolition operations, submarine rescue, SEAL Delivery Vehicle deployment/recovery, saturation diving, experimental diving, underwater construc-

tion/welding as well as serving as diving technical experts at SEAL/Marine Corps and U. S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal diving commands.

These opportunities are the reason the six-year veteran chose to be a diver.

“I enjoy the opportunities, jobs, and brothers and sisters in the community and Navy,” Burns said. “My job entails lots of things that people will never get to do, there are also things that are [operations security]. Mainly here at NBG it is to support all diving operations in the region, as well as emergent jobs that pop up at any time.”

Besides job-specific tasks, Burns is also the department’s training petty officer, work center supervisor, assistant leading petty officer, safety petty officer and scuba diving supervisor. The list will increase as he plans to join NBG’s First Class Petty Officer Association.

With a busy work schedule, Burns still makes time for personal development and volunteer work.

“I am currently enrolled in college classes at [University of Maryland University College],” he said. “I need two classes for my degree. I also volunteer for the Special Olympics golf program. I teach the



Top Performer: Navy Diver 1st Class (DSW/SW) Christopher Burns, right, of the Dive Locker on U.S. Naval Base Guam, trains his personnel on the decompression chamber Dec. 7. Burns was recently advanced to first class. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

athletes the proper way to grip, stand, swing each club to golf correctly.”

An example of his superior work ethic resulted in a Navy Achievement Medal for the repair of a DDG destroyer that pulled in for needed repairs. The results

helped the vessel make it back to homeport in California.

Burns credits his success to his father as a personal role model and Master Chief Navy Diver (MDV) Mike Winter as his professional role model.

My father was always teaching me the right choices to make and to join the military,” Burns said. “Master Chief Winter guided me on what to expect from the Navy, how to study for advancement, and how to be an effective leader.”

Andersen’s Best Lewis keeps things moving



Andersen’s Best: Staff Sgt. Mike Lewis, center, an aerial port capability forecaster with the 734th Air Mobility Squadron, stands with his coworkers after being awarded Andersen’s Best Dec. 3. As an aerial port capability forecaster, Lewis coordinates cargo and passenger airlift requirements with the Tactical Air Control Center as well as coordinating all inbound and outbound munitions airlift movements. As aerial port lead for exercise Phoenix Cooper he lead the movement of 388 personnel, 95 tons and 18 missions with no delays. During Valiant Shield, he coordinated the movement of 615 tons of equipment, 1,600 passengers with more than 105 missions enabling 125 aircraft with more than 880 sorties in 10 days. Additionally, Lewis is the 36th Wing Reception Working Group lead for the 734 AMS aerial port; coordinating all exercise support for the Pacific Command’s Theater Security Package, Continuous Bomber Presence and tanker rotations. “[Sergeant Lewis is an] absolutely phenomenal noncommissioned officer,” said Chief Master Sgt. David Graak, 734 AMS superintendent. “Duty performance, leadership, community involvement, physical training - you name it and this hard charger excels in it.” Andersen’s Best is a recognition program which highlights a top performer from the 36th Wing. Each week, supervisors nominate a member of their team for outstanding performance and the wing commander presents the selected Airman with an award. To nominate your Airman for Andersen’s Best, contact your unit chief or superintendent explaining their accomplishments. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)

Joint Region Edge is an authorized publication for overseas members of the U.S. military and their families. Contents of this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Guam Publications, Inc. The appearance of advertising in the publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Commander, Joint Region Marianas of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Joint Region Edge is published by Guam Publications, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, or the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive contract with the Commander, Navy Region Marianas, located in Bldg. 200. Editorial material is due at noon on the Thursday before publication date. All classified advertise-

ments are due no later than 3 p.m. on the Tuesday the week prior to publication. Joint Region Edge reserves the right to edit, rewrite or reject material submitted for publication.

Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, USN, Commander, Joint Region Marianas

Brig. Gen. (Select) John Doucette, USAF Deputy Commander, Joint Region Marianas

Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs

Lt. Jodie Cornell, USN, Public Affairs Officer 349-4055 jodie.cornell@fe.navy.mil

Coleen R. San Nicolas-Perez Deputy Public Affairs Officer 349-3209 coleen.perez@fe.navy.mil

Theresa Merto Cepeda Public Affairs Director, DZSP 21 LLC 349-6114 theresa.cepeda@fe.navy.mil

Frank Whitman Editor 349-2113 frank.whitman.ct@fe.navy.mil

Reporters Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis 349-4476 peterlewis1@fe.navy.mil

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert 349-4376 corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

Anna-Victoria Crisostomo 349-2115

Photographers Reynaldo Rabara 349-5435 reynaldo.rabara@fe.navy.mil

Raymond Torres 349-5435 raymond.torres@fe.navy.mil

Write to us at: Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office PSC 455 Box 152, FPO AP 96540

36th Wing Public Affairs

Capt. Andrew Hoskinson Chief of Public Affairs 366-2228

Reporters Tech Sgt. Mike Andriacco 366-2228

Staff Sgt. Jamie Powell 366-4202

Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio 366-2228

Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson 366-2228

Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze

366-2228

Airman Basic Julian North

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Anthony Jennings

366-2228

Airman Whitney Tucker

366-2228

It's about the heroes, not the missions

By Airman Whitney Tucker

36th Wing Public Affairs

A ceremony to honor the heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice in support of Operation Linebacker II will be held at 2:30 p.m. at Arc Light Memorial Park on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) Dec. 17.

Often referred to as the 11-day war, Operation Linebacker II was conducted from Dec. 18-29, 1972, after peace talks between the U.S. and North Vietnam broke down. Linebacker II led to the renewal of the Paris Peace Talks and, on Jan. 28, 1973, the signing of a cease-fire agreement with the government of North Vietnam.

"Linebacker II was one of the most successful campaigns in the history of airpower and is often held up as an example of how air wars should be fought," said Lt. Col. Mike Cardoza, 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron commander.

During operations, Andersen AFB was the site of the most massive buildup of air power in history.

"The objective was to destroy major target complexes such as radio stations, railroads, power plants and airfields located in the Hanoi and Haiphong regions," Cardoza



Linebacker: A U.S. Air Force B-52 Stratofortress takes part in Operation Linebacker II over North Vietnam in December 1972. More than 15,000 people and 150 B-52s lined the flightline at Andersen Air Force Base for the most massive buildup of air power in history. During the operation, 15,237 tons of ordnance were dropped on 14 military and 18 industrial targets in North Vietnam. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Air Force)

said. "More than 15,000 people and 150 B-52s lined the flightline. Eighty-seven B-52s were launched from Andersen in less than two hours. Throughout the 11-day operation, Andersen-based B-52s flew 379 of the 729 sorties."

Despite the success of the 11-day offensive, 33 B-52 crew members were killed or missing in action when the smoke cleared and Operation Linebacker II concluded.

"It is important that the Airmen who gave their lives to the pursuit of freedom be celebrated for the magnitude of their accomplishment," said Brig. Gen. John Doucette, 36th Wing commander. "It is because of their unyielding commitment to the mission that Andersen Air Force Base has become the premier source of air power in the Pacific Region."

The sacrifices made by those lost in Linebacker II paved the way for the current iteration of expeditionary bombers.

"This really helps us remember what our profession is all about," Cardoza said. "By continuing this warrior legacy as a part of the continuous bomber presence, we honor their legacy every day. Events like this really help drive that point home for many of us."

Island Knights save lives, carry out Navy mission

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW)

Peter Lewis

Joint Region Edge Staff

Located on Andersen Air Force Base, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 stands always ready to protect and keep our nation safe. Their mission is to deploy helicopter detachments to conduct operations for the Navy and in support of national defense.

HSC-25 has approximately 440 personnel and is the first and only forward-deployed vertical replenishment (VERTREP) squadron in the Navy. The command is tasked with supporting units in the Seventh and Fifth Fleet Area of Operations.

"We provide disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, maritime interdiction operations, anti-surface warfare, vertical onboard delivery, drone and torpedo recovery, special operations airborne support with missions such as helicopter visit board search and seizure, and fleet logistics support for all military activities in the Guam area, including the Maritime Preposition Ships operating in the local area," said Cmdr. Ben Reynolds, commanding officer of HSC-25.

The command has two separate units, which combine to carry out the overall mission.

"We have the seaside, HSC-25, and the shore side, Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD)," Reynolds said. "They have separate [Unit Identification

Codes], but operate as a team to get the job done."

HSC-25's O-level maintenance projects include the removal and installation of aircraft parts, which often calls for I-level Maintenance. AIMD supports HSC-25 with I-level maintenance capability.

In addition, the command's Aviation Support Division (ASD) supports both HSC-25 and AIMD logistics requirements by providing parts and shipping parts, which can't be fixed by the command, to appropriate repair hubs.

"HSC-25's O-level Maintenance, AIMD's I-level Maintenance, and ASD's logistics support form the triumvirate that allows aircraft to fly," Reynolds said. "Through this teamwork and cooperation, the command fulfills the squadron's numerous missions in and out of the 7th Fleet"

The Sailors of HSC-25 use the MH-60S helicopter to provide 24/7 over-land and over-water air medical evacuation assistance for Guam and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

"We are the only military helicopter asset permanently assigned to this area of responsibility," Reynolds said. "We partner with U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, as well as Guam Fire and Rescue, in search and rescue [SAR] missions when an air transport is needed due to distance, terrain or other time dependent emergencies. We also conduct airborne firefighting utilizing externally carried buckets."

So far in 2010, HSC-25 has



Exercise: Members of the U.S. Marine Corps Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team Pacific (FASTPAC) fast rope from a MH-60S helicopter air support from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 into a field at Andersen Air Force Base, South in Yigo on Oct. 20. The scenario was during a day and night helo raid exercise. FASTPAC is equipped to perform short duration security missions at the direction of the Chief of Naval Operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

participated in 38 searches with 12 rescues and eight medical evacuations. They have also assisted Guam Fire and Rescue with one firefighting mission.

In addition to local operations, Sailors from HSC-25 deploy in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

"HSC-25 has three detachments supporting the Global War on Terrorism on several fronts," Reynolds said. "We provide support to the USS George Washington Carrier Strike Group, USS Essex Amphibi-

ous Readiness Group (ARG) and medical evacuation in direct support of Operation New Dawn. Our personnel have participated in numerous other operations including Unified Assistance, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom."

HSC-25's three detachments are Det. 1, which provides VERTREP for the USS George Washington Carrier Strike Group; Det. 5, which provides Naval Air Ambulance service in Basrah, Iraq; and Det. 6, an Armed Helo Plane Guard providing SAR and Surface Contact

Identification support for the USS Essex ARG.

When the command is not busy protecting the nation or saving lives, they are hard at work in the community, striving to promote positive change in the lives of friends and neighbors.

HSC-25 Sailors regularly volunteer at the Guam Animals In Need animal shelter, clean beaches and parks with the National Park Service, build houses for needy families with Habitat for Humanity of Guam, and tutor and interact with students at local schools such as Andersen Middle School and F.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School.

"It's important to our command that the community is aware of our presence and our effort to serve them," Reynolds said. "We hope that they may feel more comfortable knowing that they have great Sailors such as the men and women of the HSC-25 Island Knights always at the ready to respond to their needs."

Reynolds added that after all the hard work is done, every Sailor at the command could be proud of their support of the mission and defense of the nation.

"Our Sailors are proud to be part of the best squadron in naval aviation and many extend their tours here because of that fact," he said. "We uphold the highest professional standards as we are the representative for naval aviation in the Southwestern Pacific."

For more information on HSC-25, visit the command website at <http://www.hsc25.navy.mil/>

Andersen's Rota Walk a tradition of yuletide joy

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

Frost on the windshield, hot cocoa, and the sound of ringing bells at the mall would often usher in the holiday spirit for many service members. However, in this tropical paradise, the yuletide joy can often be lost.

But on Dec. 18, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Team Andersen will be hosting Rota Walk, an annual pilgrimage down Rota Drive, and one of the base's most beloved traditions.

"This is an opportunity for Andersen's senior leadership to give back to the Airmen and their families during the holidays," said Capt. Jason

Brown, 644th Combat Communications Squadron. "For the Airmen who are thousands of miles away from family, friends and loved ones back home, this event gives them a taste of their traditional childhood holidays."

The event will host a number of attractions including a live Nativity scene hosted by the Andersen Chapel, a gospel and elementary school choir singing carols, and a performance by the Guam High School and Air Force Alaska Brass Band at the house of 36th Wing Commander, Brig. Gen. John Doucette.

Rota Walk is way of celebrating and decorating for Christmas stretching back to Andersen's earliest days. Undoubtedly much decking the halls

Andersen Air Force
Base

2010 Rota Walk

Dec. 18

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Along Rota Drive

A holiday tradition!

has always been spontaneous but in the mid-1950s, the base sponsored competitions for the best-decorated houses, barracks, and units for which prizes were awarded.

There is no recorded mention of Andersen's holiday tradition before 1986, and understanding just when and how it began has been fuzzy for researchers. For example, in December 1996 the Andersen newspaper claimed that Rota Walk was celebrating its 10th anniversary, meaning that the event started in 1986. However, in December 2001 the base paper stated that the tradition had reached 20 years, bringing the origin back to the beginning of the 1980s.

Though it began as a friendly

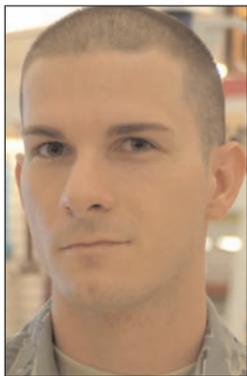
competition, it soon evolved into time-honored tradition. Every year, leadership residing throughout Rota Drive illuminates the street with extravagant Christmas lights and decorations that show off their organizations' missions.

Approximately 50 houses on Rota Drive will be decorated representing each commander's respective unit.

"Every house brings a piece of the operational mission into the holidays," Brown said. "The commanders, their spouses, and the organizations that sponsored to decorate the vacant houses really go all out to make sure Team Andersen is treated to a memorable holiday experience."

What holiday activity from home do you miss most?

Joint Region Edge asked its readers what holiday activity from home they miss most.



"I miss the input from the whole family when it came time to decorate. Decorating the house and the Christmas tree was really a family tradition and I enjoy everyone kind of putting their own spin on it each year. Whether it's picking out the type of lights and where they should go to whether or not there should be icicles on the tree."

— Staff Sgt. Brian Lashley
36th Civil Engineering Squadron engineering assistant



"I'm kind of missing staying up until 12 (a.m.) to get a present. It was tradition to get one present at midnight, so usually I picked the biggest one. In the morning we'd wake up and open the rest. I miss the eggnog, the smell of the Christmas pine and just getting together with family."

— Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Maurice Miller
Joint Region Marianas Area Training



"I just miss the entire family getting together. It feels more like Christmas when you start seeing old faces from the family you only get to see during the holidays. I mean I do miss the opening of the presents and eating, but the family is what made it Christmas."

— Airman 1st Class Lance Cuevas
36th Munitions Squadron storage



"I miss snowboarding at Crystal Mountain in Washington. You can snowboard there throughout the year, but it was always fun when it was Christmas."

— Electronics Technician 1 (SW/AW) Daniel Wahlstrom
USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705)



"My family had a tradition where we could open one present on Christmas Eve. It's like an early sneak peek for most kids' favorite part of Christmas."

— Tech. Sgt. Sean Hummel
36th Contingency Response Group flight equipment noncommissioned officer in charge



"When I was still in the Philippines, we always celebrated Christmas and especially New Year's. My dad would buy fireworks, and we would light it outside. When we moved to California, we'd go to my auntie's house and eat food at Christmas."

— Personnel Specialist Seaman Dennis Sercado
Personnel Support Det. Guam

Information Assurance: AF first line defense

By Airman Whitney Tucker
36th Wing Public Affairs

According to Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 8500.1, information assurance (IA) consists of measures that protect and defend information and information systems by ensuring their availability, integrity, authentication and confidentiality. This includes providing for the restoration of systems by incorporating protection, detection and reaction capabilities.

During the upcoming Command Cyber Readiness Inspection

(CCRI), the ability of each Andersen service member to uphold these IA standards will be examined and put to the test.

"The CCRI is designed to measure our capability to defend and protect the Air Force network," said Senior Airman Douglas McNeil, 36th Communications Squadron information assurance manager. "The network is one of our most valuable assets. It contains a wealth of information that, if leaked, could seriously hinder our ability to do our jobs."

In order to be successful during

the inspection, Airmen must have an understanding and be mindful of procedures and policies regarding the safekeeping of files, e-mail and information on the network.

"Realistically, many users are not knowledgeable about reporting procedures," McNeil said. "It is likely that Team Andersen members will be quizzed during the CCRI on how to properly report viruses and incidents. Also, DoD IA training could be fair game for quizzing and it is important that users pay attention to the course. Furthermore, some of the most

common IA infractions we see involve common access cards. Individuals write passwords down, tell others their passwords or leave their card unattended which can grant unauthorized access to Air Force information."

Protecting the network is vital to the security and success of the Air Force mission. Ensuring information used to guarantee the smooth conductivity of operations and safety of Airmen does not fall into the wrong hands is a responsibility that rests solely on the shoulders of users.

"If our network is compromised, we cannot complete our mission," McNeil said. "We use computers every day. All vital information is stored on the network and it is each of our job to do our part to protect it. Making sure our computers are safe and secure is one way we can all have a part in seeing the Air Force mission through."

The CCRI is scheduled to take place Jan. 10-14. In order to stay sharp on IA regulations, keep an eye out for IA blitz messages sent out weekly through the Communications Focal Point.

NEX to offer Bonus Bucks for holiday shopping

From Exchange Service Command

This holiday season, customers can once again earn Bonus Bucks for shopping at their Navy Exchange (NEX). For every \$100 spent at select NEXs, including Guam, from Dec. 22-24 from 7 a.m.-1 p.m., customers will receive one \$10 Bonus Bucks coupon, while supplies last. A maximum of five Bonus Bucks will be issued to customers per single transaction. No rounding up will be allowed and multiple

transactions cannot be combined to reach the threshold amount.

"We offered Bonus Bucks for the past three years during the holiday seasons," said Mike Powers, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) director retail operations. "Our customers really appreciate the Bonus Bucks, so we're offering again this year. NEX Bonus Bucks are our way of thanking our customers for shopping at their NEX during the holidays and to encourage them to come back in January for extra savings."

NEX Bonus Bucks will be re-

deemable in any NEX from Jan. 3-31, 2011, on all merchandise except uniforms, gasoline, NEX and third party Gift Cards and concession merchandise. One coupon will be redeemable on a transaction of \$50 or more. Multiple coupons can be used when the transaction is for full multiples of \$50. A maximum of five coupons can be used on a transaction of \$250 or more.

In addition to NEX Guam, NEX Bonus Bucks are available to customers shopping at NEX Norfolk, Oceana and Little Creek, Va.;

NEX Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; NEX San Diego, North Island and Port Hueneme, Calif.; NEX Mayport, Pensacola and Jacksonville, Fla.; and NEX Whidbey Island, Wash.

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) is headquarters for the worldwide Navy Exchange System that oversees 104 Navy Exchange facilities and its 300 stores worldwide; 41 Navy Lodges; Ship's Stores; Uniform Program Management Office. NEXCOM's parent command is the Naval Supply Systems Command. NEXCOM's mission is to

provide authorized customers quality goods and services at a savings and to support quality of life programs for active duty military, retirees, reservists and their families. The Navy Exchange enterprise operates primarily as a non-appropriated fund (NAF) business instrumentality. Revenues generated are used to support Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) programs. In fiscal year 2009, \$2.5 billion in sales were generated with over \$51.1 million in dividends provided to Navy MWR programs.

News Notes

Priority Placement Program (PPP) for Military Spouses

If you are a military spouse looking for a job, PPP may be able to assist you. If you have recently relocated with your sponsor or just received new orders to relocate you may be eligible to register for PPP. You will be required to furnish a copy of your sponsor's PCS orders. Even if you've never worked for the federal government, new Executive Order 13473 may still award you eligibility for appointment to the federal service under a competitive appointment. Note that PPP is an automated system that only refers spouses to Department of Defense positions and you must be a U.S. citizen to be eligible for employment in the federal government. For more information, e-mail Kim Mendoza (last names beginning A thru M) at Kimberly.mendoza1@navy.mil or Renita San Miguel (last names beginning N thru Z) at Renita.sanmiguel@navy.mil or visit online <http://www.donhr.navy.mil/> (click on "Employment" and "Military Spouses").

Holiday Door Decorating Contest

Decorate your home, office, or dorm doors and enter the Hotspot's annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest. The contest is open to all Andersen offices along with base housing and dormitory occupants. Doors will be judged on design and creativity. Only the outside of the doors will be judged. Doors must be ready for display by Dec. 15. Judging will take place Dec. 16, and winners announced Dec. 17. Great prizes will be awarded! Entry forms are available at the Hotspot. Call 366-2339 for more information.

Air Force Clubs Membership Drive

The Air Force Clubs Membership Drive is going on now! All personnel who join the Top of the Rock Collocated Club between now and Dec. 31 will automatically receive three months free membership, a free cash back rewards program and two free lunches at the Top of the Rock. Membership benefits are numerous. In addition to the Military Free Cash rewards program, Air Force Clubs offer numerous free and inexpensive activities including discounts on every meal to include special functions, an annual \$25,000 scholarship program and other member's only programs. The Club is a great place for entertainment and meeting new friends in a fun and safe environment. Join now and start reaping the benefits. Membership applications are available at the Top of the Rock, Gecko Lanes Bowling Center, Palm Tree Golf Course, Magellan Inn Dining Facility and Coral Reef Fitness Center. For more information, call 366-6166.

Volunteers Needed

Tax Season is just around the corner! Anyone who desires to learn how to help Sailors and their families file income tax returns in 2011 should sign up for the tax training to be held Jan. 10-14, 2011. Seats are limited. To sign up or for more information, contact Toni Vegafria at 333-2061 or e-mail: antonette.vegafria@fe.navy.mil.

Andersen OSC Scholarships Available

If you are a graduating high school senior or upperclassman working on an undergraduate degree, you may be eligible for an Andersen Officers Spouses Club Scholarship. For an application or for more information, visit online at www.AndersenOSC.org or e-mail Molly Phillips at scholarships@andersenosc.org.

Santa visits HSC-25 children's Christmas party



Special Mission: Santa Claus arrives in a different kind of sleigh at the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 children's Christmas party on Andersen Air Force Base Dec. 4. The Christmas party has been sponsored by the HSC-25 Officer Spouses Club for more than 20 years. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jamie Powell)



Special Briefing: The daughter of a member of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25, tells Santa Claus exactly what she wants for Christmas during the squadron's Christmas party on Andersen Air Force Base Dec. 4. The HSC-25 Officers Spouses Club raised \$1,500 through fundraising to sponsor the Christmas party. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jamie Powell)

System allows quick alerts of emergency situations

From Commander Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

Tragedies such as Hurricane Katrina and shootings at Virginia Tech and Fort Hood clearly demonstrate that being able to put out emergency information quickly is vital to the safety of personnel. Government agencies, educational institutions and private industry have taken great strides to develop critical emergency notification methods to protect life, limb, property and operational capabilities.

The Navy has developed the Shore Wide Area Alert Network (WAAN) for Sailors, Navy civilians

and their families to receive emergency information no matter where they happen to be at the time of the crisis. To receive these emergency notifications while away from the workplace, anyone assigned ashore with a Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) or OneNet computer must register their emergency contact information on their computer.

"In times of natural disasters and crisis events on our bases, it will be crucial for our Sailors and Navy civilians to receive information updates as well as guidance on where to go and what to do. Currently, only 20 percent of our population have signed up for Wide Area

Alerts. We need to encourage 100 percent participation by everyone assigned ashore," said Vice Adm. Michael Vitale, Commander, Navy Installations Command.

The WAAN has been developed to provide Navy Installations with an effective and reliable mass notification system that can be used during a crisis to warn affected personnel. The WAAN consists of four sub-systems: Computer Desktop Notification System (CDNS), Automated Telephone Notification System (ATNS), Giant Voice (GV), and Interior Voice (IV).

CDNS and ATNS have been rolled out to each NMCI and OneNet user in the form of the

AtHoc Self Service client which starts automatically on computers at startup. Users are automatically registered for CDNS messages when they log into an NMCI computer via their Common Access Card (CAC). All NMCI users must manually register their emergency contact information via the AtHoc Self Service client in order to receive WAAN ATNS or e-mail/text notifications.

Instructions for adding contact information to the WAAN using the AtHoc Self Service client are:

1. Right-click on the AtHoc Self Service client (Purple Globe) icon in the users system tray, at

the bottom of the computer screen.

2. Select "Access Self Service" from the pop up menu.

3. The Athoc Self Service client will open. Select the "My Info" tab and update your last name, first name, and display name and save. Do not enter PIN information.

4. Select the "Devices" tab and enter your contact information in the appropriate fields and save.

5. This completes the registration process.

For assistance with these instructions or with technical issues, contact the CNIC Help Desk at 1-888-264-4255, DSN: 942-6597, or visit online at <https://supportcenter.cnic.navy.mil>

Slow down and keep NBG neighborhoods pedestrian friendly

By Annette Donner

U.S. Naval Base Guam Public Affairs

U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) leadership is reminding motorists to adhere to the speed limits inside the NBG housing areas in a team effort to keep the neighborhood streets safe, especially during this holiday season.

The speed limit in the residential

areas of NBG is 15 mph and in some places posted 5 mph if children are present.

"Too often drivers are in a rush to get to their destination and forget they are transiting a family neighborhood which spells 'children on board,'" said Capt. Richard Wood, NBG commanding officer.

He noted that speeding in the NBG residential neighborhoods is

a major concern of those living in family housing.

"I want NBG residents and visitors to be serious about keeping our base pedestrian-friendly and safe," Wood said.

Citing a Delaware Department of Transportation report, he said the fatality rate in residential areas is three times that of those occurring on the highway. Using statistics

from the same report, he cited that 45 percent of pedestrians hit by a car travelling at only 30 mph die of injuries.

Lt. Greg Jacobs, NBG security officer, also encouraged motorists to drive the speed limit, be aware of pedestrians and always be prepared to stop suddenly for a pedestrian. He said he encourages parents to teach their children to stay on the side-

walk, not to run into the street and to always carefully look both ways before crossing the street. Pedestrians should, when possible, use sidewalks and crosswalks, and always make themselves visible to motorists.

"We think vehicles and pedestrians can share the neighborhood in a safe and respectful manner," Jacobs said.

Holiday display brings spirit of the season



Happy Holidays: The Andersen Air Force Base holiday display shines brightly during the holiday tree lighting ceremony Dec. 2. The annual ceremony was a big hit with Team Andersen and included performances by several musical groups, as well as the appearance of Santa Claus. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)

Hundreds of treats delivered for Cookie Caper



Holiday Cookies: Andersen Officers' Spouses' Club volunteers bring in dozens of cookies to Chapel 2 Annex at Andersen Air Force Base, Dec. 8 for Cookie Caper 2010. Several dozen cookies were designed by Andersen Elementary and Middle School students and will be delivered to more than 672 single dorm residents. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)



Cookie Delivery: Wendy Wieder, Andersen Officers' Spouses' Club volunteer and head of Cookie Caper 2010, prepares cookies for pick up from Chapel 2 Annex Dec. 8 at Andersen Air Force Base. This year's goal was to bake and collect more than 672 dozen cookies to deliver to the dorm residents here. This year more than 900 dozen cookies were donated, far exceeding their original goal. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)

Coast Guard: 36 years of sister village program

Continued from Page 1

partnered in support of the community. Attendees drew makeshift paper ornaments from a Christmas tree that bore the names of children and their wish lists. The youth are part of the Angel Tree program coordinated by the Merizo mayor's office. The program helps to bring Christmas gifts to children who are less fortunate.

This year, 126 children, infant to 16 years old, from Merizo had their names chosen. The civilian and Coast Guard Santa stand-ins will purchase toys and other items from the children's wish lists and gather again to deliver the gifts Dec. 16.

Marine Science Technician 2nd Class Peter Calori said he has gained a lot from being a part of the sister village program.

"I get to meet individuals in the village of Merizo, establish friend-

ships and also, at the same time, I get to spend time down here and really develop a strong bond, personally," Calori said.

Chargualaf echoed his sentiments.

"I, for one, really look at the program as beneficial to both [the Coast Guard and Merizo residents] because as [Coast Guardsmen] leave the gates of their bases, they have a sister village that they can go to appreciate their presence and all the help they give to the community and vice versa that when the community needs help, that the military is able to come out," Chargualaf said.

The mayor added that he hopes future mayors and commanders will continue to foster the partnership.

"I hope that it continues," Chargualaf said. "You know, we're working together in harmony and the spirit of cooperation."



Angel Tree: Chief Warrant Officer 3 Mark Belt, senior marine inspector with U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, selects paper ornaments from a Christmas tree that bear the names of children with present wish lists, during a commemoration of the sector's partnership with its sister village of Merizo at the Merizo pier Dec. 3. Coasties are volunteering to donate Christmas gifts to 126 village children as part of Merizo's Angel Tree program. (U.S. Navy photo by Coleen San Nicolas-Perez)

Retirement: Leadership and dedication for 25 years

Continued from Page 1

right out of high school. With his father working in construction and his mother holding various jobs, Mullinex attributes his decision to join the Air Force to his upbringing.

"My family was hard working," Mullinex said. "I think I got my work ethic from my parents because they worked very hard to support their family. Besides working with my dad, I was splitting and stacking wood in the eighth grade. Not to say I had a strong work ethic back then, you know as a kid you didn't necessarily want to work. But when you get older you learn to appreciate what work experience gives. The foundation it builds for you as a person."

"When I saw the Air Force, I saw something that was exciting," Mullinex continued. "Growing up, I saw how hard my dad had to work to put food on the table. Not to say the Air Force doesn't work you hard, it's just I wanted to do something different."

Upon entering service, Mullinex became an Aerospace Ground Equipment (AGE) mechanic. Working on everything from hydraulics to electronics and diesel engines to air compressors, the chief said working in AGE helped mold him as a young Airman and set him up for success.

"Working in AGE really helped

me out as an individual," Chief Mullinex said. "I gained knowledge on a very wide career field. But AGE also has a lot of people in it, so you have to figure out how to get along with people, how to interact with them, and how to lead. I was very blessed to have that opportunity."

Over the course of his quarter-of-a-century career, Mullinex has been assigned to locations in North Dakota, Iceland, Utah, South Korea, California, Saudi Arabia, Alaska, New Mexico, Japan and Guam.

"I've been to more than nine different bases, but I couldn't say which is my favorite," Mullinex said. "That's because it isn't necessarily about the base itself, but the people who make an assignment memorable."

It was those people he has met, followed and led that made the biggest impact on his career, the chief said. Whether good or bad, he has learned something from everyone he has met.

"Everyone you ever come into contact with can have an effect on you," Mullinex said. "Even if you think they don't have good things to offer you. You just use that as a guide for what you don't want to be like when you are in a leadership position."

It wasn't just leadership that inspired the former command chief

to excel. Sometimes it was seeing the Airmen he was leading that motivated him.

"Sometimes I would see Airmen do things that made me wonder if I could have done the same when I was their rank," Mullinex said. "I have had the privilege to work with Airmen who have a sense of professionalism that goes unmatched. From the Airman in the medical group giving a crying baby their routine shots, to the Airman on the flightline working on a multi-million dollar aircraft, or the Airman behind the personnel desk making identification cards, these Airmen are making a difference. These are the Airmen who carry the bulk of the Air Force mission and I'm proud to say I serve them."

Mullinex's dedication to service and to his Airmen stands as a testament to his leadership qualities. Doucette noted the Chief's ability to inspire others to not settle with good enough, instead to strive for excellence.

"I just know the Air Force is losing a great warrior, but the civilian world is gaining an incredible man," Doucette said.

With his retirement comes the opportunity to focus on self-improvement.

"The first thing I'm going to do is finish my last class for my master's degree in business," Mullinex



Recognition: Alicia Mullinex attaches a retirement pin to her father, former Command Chief Master Sgt. Allen Mullinex, during his retirement ceremony Dec. 3 at the Sunrise Conference Center on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB). Mullinex, a native of Grand Lake, Colo., acted as the principal advisor to the 36th Wing commander on matters affecting the utilization, health, morale and welfare of more than 8,500 military and civilian personnel during his tour at Andersen AFB. The outgoing command chief is being replaced by Chief Master Sgt. Margarita Overton, from the 78th Mission Support Group at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson)

said. "Then I'm going to snorkel, learn how to dive and then I will look for a job."

When asked what Airmen can do to be as successful in their career as he has been with his, the Chief had this to say:

"I wouldn't say work to make a specific rank before you get out, because I originally planned to retire as an E-7," Mullinex said. "Instead, smile and work hard with a pure heart and watch where your career will take you."

Officials unveil new government travel cards

By Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The Air Force is primed for servicewide distribution of new Citibank controlled spend account (CSA) government travel cards now through spring 2011, officials said in Washington D.C. on Dec. 1.

Issuance of the CSA card for use in conjunction with temporary-duty assignments, permanent change of station or deployment orders follows an extensive multi-installation pilot phase and involves the eventual replacement of more than 480,000 traditional set-limit cards currently in use.

According to Mike Bilbrey, the Air Force banking officer, the CSA card differs from the traditional travel card in that approved travel authorizations and amendments automatically adjust the CSA's spend limits to reflect the estimated cost of the mission.

"The CSA is the most innovative solution to the government travel card (GTC) program since its inception, and it allows the Air Force to better manage cash flows," Bilbrey said. "Since the card won't have any value until a travel order is approved, Airmen can count on higher levels of security, lower delinquency rates, and best of all, instant approval, since there is no credit check required to have a CSA."

Bilbrey explained that once the mission is complete, users submit their vouchers for processing, at which time Citibank officials reconcile the account and identify the residual funds available to the cardholder for personal use or to transfer to another personal account.

While enjoying possible residual funds for personal use is a perk for Airmen, the fully automated CSA also has virtue from a commander's perspective by eliminating arduous, time-consuming GTC oversight responsibilities, Bilbrey said.

"We can reduce many hours per week on tasks agency program coordinators (APC) and managers once spent on program delinquency management, to the tune of about 382,000 man-hours per year," Bilbrey said. "With Citibank receiving 100 percent of the travel voucher payment, the number of delinquencies will be minimal, ensuring Airmen and APCs can focus on the mission at hand."

Since the mission at hand can vary greatly for Airmen, Citibank allows cardholders to call for temporary spend limit adjustments, based on last-minute travel requirements.

This provides cardholders the spending limit they need until they can get the amendment into the system, Bilbrey said.

Current GTC cardholders will be automatically enrolled into the CSA program and will receive e-mail notifications when their card is on the way. Infrequent travelers will be among the first to have their current government travel cards deactivated and receive the new CSA cards, Bilbrey said, adding that Airmen should update their e-mail addresses with Citibank and their new card numbers with merchants.

Citibank representatives said training sessions are essential to Airmen understanding how the CSA program works, and session schedules will be publicized in the near future.

"The Air Force has partnered with Citibank to not only provide training, but offer cardholders premiere, 24-hour customer service to travelers anywhere in the world," said Stacy Eslich, a Citibank relationship manager. "In addition, the card's coverage for insurance, travel, medical and emergency assistance delivers the most comprehensive coverage in the card industry."

For more information, visit www.airforcetravelcard.transaction-services.citi.com.

CNO releases 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' message to the fleet

By Mass Communication
Specialist 2nd Class (SW)
Kyle P. Malloy

Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

The chief of naval operations (CNO) released a video message discussing the Department of Defense comprehensive review of the issues associated with the repeal of

'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' (DADT) policy following his testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Dec. 3.

In his message, Adm. Gary Roughead discussed how he used the input of the fleet to inform his position on the matter.

"... Your willingness to share your views has helped me as I was called upon to provide my best mil-

itary advice to the secretary of defense and to the congress on this issue," Roughead said.

Roughead thanked all of the Sailors and their family members who participated in the survey and said he knows the Navy will continue to carry out the mission at hand with unwavering focus and professionalism.

"I have no doubt that should the

law be repealed, we as a Navy and as individuals will continue to exhibit the highest degree of professionalism and continue to treat one another with dignity and respect," Roughead said.

CNO reminded the fleet how much he appreciates each Sailor, their continued hard work and the support of their loved ones.

"During the course of this review,

as in all you do, you have demonstrated your thoughtfulness, your candor and your dedication to making our Navy the best the world has known," Roughead said.

To watch or download CNO's DADT message, go to www.navy.mil.

For more news from Chief of Naval Operations, visit www.navy.mil/local/cno/.

Nominations open for Outstanding Airmen of the Year Award

Air Force Personnel, Service and Manpower Public Affairs

Air Force officials are seeking nominations for the 2011 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year (OAY) Award.

There are three categories for award: Airman, noncommissioned officer and senior noncommissioned officer.

Major commands and the Air Force District of Washington will each nominate three candidates, one per category, to the Air Force 12 OAY selection board, which will select the winners.

Nominations must include examples of leadership and job performance in the nominee's primary duty, significant self-improvement, and

base or community involvement from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2010. Nominations are due to AFPC by April 22, 2011.

All nominees must be enlisted in the Air Force through Sept. 30, 2012.

Any nominee with a projected separation date prior to Sept. 30, 2012, must take immediate action to

extend or re-enlist in the Air Force. Local military personnel section (MPS) officials may approve or disapprove extensions for the purpose of the 12 OAY program. AFPC will make the final approval determination for extension requests sent from the MPS for 12 OAY nominees.

Any nominees who extend their enlistment for the 12 OAY award

program and are not selected may cancel their extensions through their local MPS.

For more information about the 12 OAY award program, visit the AFPC personnel services website at <http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil> or call the Total Force Service Center toll-free at 800-525-0102 or DSN 665-5000.

Never too late to submit application for AETC special duty assignment

By Staff Sgt. Jesse Opena
Andersen First Term Airman's Center

The Air Education and Training Command's (AETC) Special Duty Briefing Team conducted their

scheduled visit last week, but Air Force members who may have missed the team's visit do not have to wait for the next visit to apply for an AETC special duty.

For more information about re-

cruiter opportunities or an application, visit www.aetccareers.com or call DSN 665-0584.

For military training instructor (MTI) information, visit www.aetccareers.com or call DSN 473-1018. For Military Training Leader (MTL) information, vis-

it the 2nd Air Force website at <https://hq2af.keesler.af.mil/MTL>.

If interested in an assignment as a Professional Military Education instructor or Technical Training instructor, contact your servicing Mil-

itary Personnel Flight for application procedures.

The wing career advisor, Master Sgt. Carmalito Sanga at 366-7829, can also answer questions you may have about special duty assignments.

First lady dedicates NNMC Fisher Houses

By Sarah Fortney

National Naval Medical Center Public Affairs

First lady Michelle Obama visited National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) Bethesda, Md. Dec. 3, to dedicate the first of three new Fisher Houses aboard the facility.

The Fisher House program, established in 1990 by Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher, provides military families a place to stay at no cost while their loved one is in treatment.

The three new 16,000 sq. ft., two-story buildings at Bethesda are in addition to two others currently in operation on campus. Each house consists of 20 suites, which include private, handicapped-accessible bathrooms. Additionally, the houses have common areas, offering large communal dining and family rooms and a multi-cooking station kitchen.

"It is a privilege, and it is an honor to join you as you open the doors of this beautiful house," the first lady said during the ribbon-cutting ceremony. "Every day, this house and others like it across this country, remind us of a simple truth that when our men and women in uniform are called to serve, their families serve too. Their sacrifice is their family's sacrifice as well."

When a loved one is receiving treatment far away from home, she added, there are many prohibitive costs of hotels and transportation



Ribbon Cutting: First lady Michelle Obama and Fisher House Foundation Chairman Ken Fisher cut a ribbon during a dedication ceremony for the first of three new Fisher Houses at the National Naval Medical Center Dec. 2. The new houses will be in addition to the two houses currently on campus. (U.S. Navy photo by Cat DeBinder)

that have kept many family members apart and placed a tremendous burden on others.

Since the Fisher House program was established, it has served more than 130 families, providing nearly three million days of lodging and saving families an estimated \$100

million in lodging and transportation expense.

"These numbers don't even begin to capture the impact these houses have had – the late nights families have spent in those kitchens, laughing and crying and praying together, the lifelong

friendships they've maintained and the gratitude and relief they feel knowing that wherever they are, they'll have a place to call home," the first lady said. "We know the sacrifices these folks are making, putting their careers on hold, putting their own dreams aside, often working around the clock to care for those they love."

"We're fortunate to have places like this medical center that provide world class care for our men and women in uniform," she said.

Additionally, in order to heal, she said, service members need more than just medical treatment, they also need "their loved ones who will travel on the road with them – the spouse that sits by their bedside that serves as their champion and their voice, day after day, the parent who pushes and encourages them week after week, the son or the daughter who reminds them of everything they have to look forward to ... That is what Fisher House provides for so many military families, that chance to be together when they need each other the most."

While in treatment at NNMC during the past year, David Chirinos said he has been grateful the Fisher Houses have provided a place for his family to stay. He couldn't imagine going through treatment without them. While serving in Kuwait a year ago, Chirinos was diagnosed with type IV cancer – an advanced stage in which the cancer spreads

through multiple areas of the body.

"It makes you feel at home, and that's one of the greatest things," Chirinos said. "It's been so great. They make these houses ready for anybody to move in. You can rest and [providers can] focus on the patient, which I think is most important."

Though the Fisher family was not a military family, the first lady noted, they had the upmost respect for those who served and they spent their lives showing their gratitude.

"They remind us that even if we're not a part of a military family, we're all a part of the American family," she said. "Every single one of us has an obligation to support the men and women who protect us and the families who love them."

"My family has instilled in us a tremendous respect and admiration for those who have dedicated their lives through service in our armed forces," said Fisher, foundation chairman and chief executive officer. "We are grateful to be joined in our efforts by thousands and thousands of patriotic and concerned Americans who are looking for a tangible way to express their thanks and support for our military families."

For more information about the Fisher House Foundation, visit www.fisherhouse.org.

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

Cambodian-born Navy commander visits homeland

By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Devon Dow

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West Det. Japan

Commanded by a man who was born in the rice fields of Cambodia, the guided-missile destroyer USS Mustin (DDG 89) arrived in Sihanoukville, Cambodia for a port call Dec. 3.

It has been over 37 years since Mustin's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Michael V. Misiewicz has returned to his homeland after being adopted by an American woman in 1973 after the Vietnam War spilled over into Cambodia.

"We are honored to be representatives and ambassadors of the U.S. Navy here today," Misiewicz said. "Very significant progress has been made this year in terms of U.S. and Cambodia relations and my crew and I are hoping to contribute to that forward progress of strengthening this partnership."

During the visit, Misiewicz and his crew of approximately 300 Sailors will engage in community service (COMSERV) projects and other goodwill activities. Mustin Sailors will interact and train with the Cambodian Navy, host a reception on board Mustin for distinguished guests and participate in an overnight COMSERV trip to Siem Reap, Cambodia, where Sailors will have the opportunity to visit Angkor Wat, one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

For Misiewicz this visit reaches beyond fulfilling the Navy's mission, it also brings him back to where his life started and a chance to reunite with family.

His personal life story has garnered international media attention.

As a young boy growing up in the countryside outside of Phnom Penh, Cambodia during the Vietnam War, his family allowed him to be adopted by an American woman who was serving in the U.S. Army in Cambodia. Shortly following his immigration to the U.S., Cambodia fell into more turmoil when the Khmer Rouge regime came to power in 1975, causing millions of deaths in the country in what is known today as the "Killing Fields."

While Misiewicz has been able to re-establish some communication with family members from Cambodia over the years, it will be a bitter sweet reunion when he is able to embrace and see his family and native country for the first time in almost four decades.

"I've been thinking about this visit a lot and thinking about all the emotions I will have to cope with about returning to the country I was born in and seeing relatives that have wanted to see me for so long," he said. "It is important for me to be strong and to remember and honor the sacrifices that were made for me."

"Both Cambodians and Americans in my young life sacrificed life and happiness so I could have a better life. So now I am very hap-



Welcome Home: Cmdr. Michael V. Misiewicz, commanding officer of the guided-missile destroyer USS Mustin (DDG 89), is greeted by members of his family as Mustin arrives in Sihanoukville, Cambodia Dec. 3. This is Misiewicz's first visit to his native country since he immigrated to the U.S. in 1973. During the port visit, Mustin will conduct bilateral training with the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Devon Dow)

py and proud to lead a mission that serves to develop a positive and persistent relationship between the U.S. and Cambodia, laying the foundation for a long-lasting friendship between our two nations," Misiewicz said.

Mustin joined a unique group of Navy ships to have the opportunity to visit the Asia-Pacific nation since the end of Vietnam War. In February 2007, the frigate USS

Gary (FFG 51) made its historical port visit to Cambodia.

"This is my first time ever going to Cambodia and I am very excited about getting the chance to visit. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Machinery Repairman 2nd Class (SW) Mickie Kitchens from Roseland, La. "I am glad to see my captain be able to return to Cambodia to see his family and show them what he has become, I

know he is making them proud. They will all see he is not a little boy anymore."

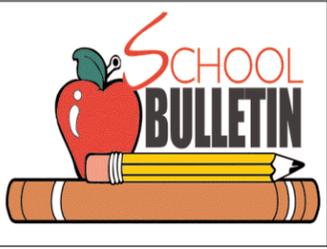
While Misiewicz is humbled by the attention on his personal life, he said the unique opportunities the Navy and United States has provided him, made a story like his own achievable.

"Anything is possible. You can start anywhere, any place, if you've got freedom and you have opportunity like we have in the U.S., the sky is the limit," he said. "When you look at the U.S., you see that we are a melting pot of people from almost every country in the world, and then if you look at the U.S. Navy, that diversity is magnified 100 times."

"If one was to look at my crew, they would be amazed at the different faces, cultures and backgrounds. Every member of Mustin has a unique story of why they joined the Navy, the hardships of their families and of themselves. I'm just one of those stories. I am glad that I'm able to share my story so we can show that the U.S. Navy is committed to diversity and willing to give opportunity to those who work hard and want to succeed," Misiewicz added.

Misiewicz assumed command of Mustin in June 2009. The ship is one of seven destroyers assigned to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15 and is forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, as part of the U.S. 7th Fleet.

For more news from Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, visit www.navy.mil/local/c7fl/.



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.

Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)

School board meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Upcoming meetings:

Dec. 14 at Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School (MEMS)

Jan. 18 at Guam High School

Feb. 15 at Andersen Elementary School

March 15 at Guam High School

April 19 at MEMS

May 10 at Guam High School

DoDEA is administering its biennial Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS) through Dec. 15. All sponsors with children enrolled in DoDEA Pacific schools from Pre-kindergarten or SureStart through grade 12 may complete a survey for each school in which they have an enrolled student. The surveys take approximately 20 minutes and are available online at www.dodea.edu (click on the CSS graphic link). Parents who do not have access to the Internet should contact their child's school to determine other alternatives for completing the survey. For more information on the CSS, call the school office or visit the DoDEA website at www.dodea.edu/.

Winter recess for all DoDEA Pacific schools is from Dec. 20-Jan. 3.

DoDEA Guam District Continuous School Improvement committees are inviting parents to offer input and to serve as members of the various committees. For more information or to sign up, contact your child's school.

Andersen Elementary School

Music performances (all performances at the Dolphin Theater):

Third grade, Dec. 15 at 9 a.m.

Kindergarten, Dec. 15 at 12:30 p.m.

Fourth and fifth grades, Dec. 16 at 9 a.m.

First grade, Dec 17 at 12:30 p.m.

Guam High School

Mid-Winter Ball at the Panther Den Dec. 11 from 7-11 p.m.

McCool Elementary/Middle School

Holiday band concert is Dec. 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the school gym.

Security Sailors DARE students to be aware

By Anna-Victoria Crisostomo

Joint Region Edge Staff

Four Sailors from U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security have been dedicating their time to teach fifth-grade students at Andersen Elementary School (AES) about the dangers of substance abuse and risky situations as part of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) America program.

Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Jermaine Glover and three other Sailors answered the call when Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific put out the call for security personnel in the Pacific region to take part in the annual

DARE training.

Glover said the intense two-week training taught them basic teaching fundamentals with emphasis on a facilitating style of instruction. Once training was completed, it was time for the Sailors to step foot in the classroom.

"We're actively teaching for 10 weeks at Andersen Elementary School. Each of us takes one class, so there are four classes, with a fifth combined class," Glover said.

He added that Sailors simply give students the information they need. From there, students will re-teach their new knowledge back to Sailors or to their peers.

Throughout the 10 weeks,

students must take a DARE pledge, remain drug and alcohol free, complete a program workbook and write an essay about their experience. Upon successful completion of the program, students will take part in a graduation ceremony.

Glover said that while the old DARE program focused just on drug awareness, the program's focus has shifted to overall awareness and skills that help students avoid falling in to risky behaviors and activities. According to Glover, topics covered include family talk, bullying, how to get out of risky situations, and the dangers of drugs, alcohol and other substances like prescription drugs.

"We are giving them the basic knowledge to know how to get out of bad situations and building their confidence so they can get out if they find themselves in these situations," Glover said.

Fifth-grade teacher Doriann Sison, along with her colleagues, emphasized that the program promoted the student responsibility and outcome of decision-making. According to Sison and her teammates, the program teaches students "the understanding of a responsible student and how there are consequences in choices we make."

The students will be recognized for their participation in a graduation ceremony in January.

For more information, visit the DARE website at www.dare.com.

Panther Company physical fitness test



NJROTC: The Guam High School Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Panther Company held its physical fitness test at Gab Gab Beach on U.S. Naval Base Guam Dec. 3. The high scorer for male cadets was Paul Floyd with a near perfect 298 points, and the high scorer for the female cadets was Lexie Vermeire also with a near perfect 296 points. (Photo by Doug Bowling)

Ham takes its place on holiday tables

By Anna-Victoria Crisostomo
Joint Region Edge Staff

Merry makers talked turkey for Thanksgiving, but Christmas tables are about to ham it up a notch.

A rich, festive ham has been a staple on holiday tables for generations. While most in-store hams are sold pre-cooked, holiday chefs are still able to add their twist to the Christmas classic and many take the challenge to heart.

Ingredient variations range from the traditional pineapple, cloves and brown sugar to soda and maple syrup. No matter which recipe one favors, the holiday ham is sure to be the perfect mix of saltiness and sweetness for the naughty and the nice.

Spiral ham glazed with raisin pineapple sauce

Ingredients for first glaze:
5 pounds of fully cooked ham
One-fourth cup of whole cloves
One cup pineapple juice
One cup brown sugar
One-half cup of honey
Two oranges, juiced

Directions for first glaze:
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Place ham on roasting pan.
Rub cloves over ham.
Combine all the other ingredients in a sauce pan and use that mix to glaze the ham.

Bake for one hour uncovered. Add the second glaze.

Ingredients for second glaze:
1 cup of drinking water
One cup of raisins
One-third cup of brown sugar
2 teaspoons of corn starch
One tablespoon of white vinegar
One tablespoon of lemon juice
One teaspoon of mustard powder
Grated lemon zest/peels

Directions for second glaze:
Using a sauce pan, combine ingredients and use the mix as a glaze over the baked ham.

Glazed Ham: Peter Cruz, a Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff member, prepares a slice of double glazed ham for customers at Top O' the Mar's Sunday brunch Dec. 14, 2009. (Joint Region Edge file photo)



FREE

Free movies at the Big Screen Theater

Stop by the Big Screen Theater on NBG this weekend, where free movies are shown every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Library Games

Children ages 5-17 can visit Andersen AFB Library Tuesdays-Thursdays, 5-8 p.m. to enjoy playing video games from a collection of Xbox, Wii or Playstation 3 games. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsors must provide written permission to allow minor dependents in-house use of games and gaming equipment and accessories. For more information, call 366-4291.

Tuesday Texas Hold'em Nights

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

Adult Swim Clinic

On the last Saturday of every month from 8-10 a.m. at the NBG pool. This course is designed to help proficient swimmers improve their

stroke. Each clinic is a 2-hour session with a certified instructor, including individualized drill sets and a videotaping session to improve stroke.

Registration deadline is the Thursday before each clinic. For more information, call 564-1856.

Image Makers

NBG Teen Center and Youth Center offers photography classes every Monday, 3-4 p.m. For more information, call 339-6130.

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.

Story Time

Bring the children for story time at the NBG 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.

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

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

Tuesday Fajita Night

At Andersen AFB's Café Latte, every Tuesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Base price starts at only \$2.95, and you can build your own fajitas! For more information, call 366-6166.

Game Night

At Top of the Rock on Andersen AFB, every Friday from 6-9 p.m. Card games, pool, and darts. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. For more information, call 366-6166.

Mongolian BBQ

Andersen AFB's Café Latte Wednesday night from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Base price is \$2.95/adult and \$1.50/child. For more information, call 366-6166.

Xtreme Midday Madness

At NBG's Orote Point Lanes, Every Monday-Friday from 1-5 p.m. Bowl for only \$5 (shoes not included)! For more information, call 564-1828.

Bowling Mondays

Bowl all you want at Gecko Lanes every Monday, starting at 6 p.m. for just \$5 plus shoe rental. For more information, call 366-5117.

Thirsty Thursdays

Thirsty Thursdays at Gecko Lanes every Thursday, starting at 5 p.m. Enjoy \$1 games, shoe rentals, fountain sodas and more! For more information, call 366-5117.



\$10 AND UP

Family Bowling Value Package
 NBG Orote Point Lanes, Family Value Package (up to 5 people) \$40 per lane. Includes: Shoe rentals, two hours of bowling, one large single topping pizza and one pitcher of soda. Package available Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-8 p.m. For more information, call 564-1828.



Piano Lesson Openings
 The Andersen Air Force Base Youth Center has piano lessons on weekdays after school and on Saturdays. \$60 per month for four 30-minute lessons.

Contact Dale Garcia at 366-3490/91 or e-mail: youth1music@yahoo.com for more information.

Clipper Landing
 Delicious entrees with a spectacular view of Sumay Cove Marina. For more information, call 564-1857.

Lunch at Top of the Rock
 Enjoy the Smoker Menu, with St. Louis ribs with fried bread and honey butter, pulled pork sandwich, brisket quesadilla and a hickory chicken Caesar salad. The soup and salad bar is \$6.95. Open: Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

Jazzy Sundays
 Sundays from 5-8 p.m. at Willie's Beachside Jazz on Andersen Air Force Base. A relaxing evening at the beach with to great jazz . For more information, call 366-6100.

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.



FRIDAY, DEC. 10
 7 p.m.: Skyline • PG-13

SATURDAY, DEC. 11
 2 p.m.: Skyline • PG-13
 7 p.m.: Paranormal Activity 2 • R

SUNDAY, DEC. 12
 7 p.m.: Saw 3D • R

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



FRIDAY, DEC. 10
 7 p.m.: Red • PG-13
 9:30 p.m.: The Social Network • PG-13

SATURDAY, DEC. 11
 1 p.m.: Secretariat • PG
 3:30 p.m.: Life As We Know It • PG-13
 7 p.m.: Paranormal Activity 2 • R

SUNDAY, DEC. 12
 1 p.m.: Legend of the Guardians • PG
 3:30 p.m.: Red • PG-13
 7 p.m.: Case 39 • 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 mwr Guam.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
Weekday Mass: Monday-
Wednesday, Friday,
11:40 a.m.
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday, 5 p.m.; and Sunday
8:30 a.m.

Protestant Worship
Service
Sunday Worship Service:
10:30 a.m.
Women's bible Studies:
Monday, 9 a.m.
Choir Practice: 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 Mass: 5 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday, 4:30-4:50 p.m.
Catholic Women's Group:
First and third Wednesday of
the month, 7 p.m.
Catholic Youth: Second and
third Wednesday of the
month, 6 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal: Sunday 8-9
a.m.

Protestant Worship
Service
(Chapel 2)
Praise Service: Sunday, 9 a.m.
Gospel Service: Sunday,
11:30 a.m.
Protestant Women's Group:
Second Monday of each
month, 6:30 p.m.
Protestant Men's Group:
Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Protestant Young Adults:
Thursday, 7 p.m.

*Schedules subject to change.
To confirm times or for infor-
mation about other pro-
grams, call the chapels at:*

Andersen Air Force Base:
366-6139
U.S. Naval Base Guam:
339-2126
U.S. Naval Hospital Guam:
344-9127

The essence of family and marriage

By Capt. Mario Catungal
36th Wing

The family is the most funda-
mental unit of society. The family
is the first society we belong to.
Our very name
identifies us as a
member of a fami-
ly. The purpose of
the family is to raise
Godly human be-
ings. And this can-
not be subordinated
to any other project.
We have to make
the family work.

There is no substitute for it. No
two human beings are made for
each other. Every human being is
made for God.

Marriages are not made in heav-
en. There are no prefabricated mar-
riages. They are made right here on

earth, day by day, by the sacrifices
both persons are called upon to
make. Marriages are not made by
what comes naturally. That is im-
portant, of course, but marriages are
made by what does not come natu-
rally, and that is
self-sacrifice.

One professor
begins his class
on marriage by
saying that mar-
riage is a three-
ring circus. First
there is the en-
gagement ring
then the wedding

ring and then comes the suffering.
And they laugh and think that it is
a joke. I was giving a talk on mar-
riage one day and quoted Professor
Chesterton as saying, "The two
most incompatible people in the
world are a man and a woman."

After the talk a woman came to me
and said, "Father, I have been mar-
ried for 50 years. I wish I had heard
that when I was first married." For
50 years, she had been trying to
change her husband, evidently with
little success.

In marriage, two become one. It
is this very intimacy which is both
the ecstasy and agony of marriage,
its greatest pleasure and heaviest
burden. There is no greater suf-
fering than that which is caused
by love. Two become one but they
must remain two — two well de-
fined, unique persons who do not
try to manipulate or seek to be
submissive. Each must respect the
conscience, uniqueness and free-
dom of the other and share equal-
ly in the responsibility.

Many marriages fail because
the partners do not realize that
marriage is a career. And like all

careers it demands long prepara-
tion, hard work and self-sacrifice.
Marriage is not only a career it is
a multiple career. Teaching, for
example, is a great career. There
is no teaching done anywhere, in
the elementary, secondary, college
or post-graduate systems — not
all of it put together — that can
come close to the teaching that is
done in the family, especially in
the first three years of life. Or
think of a sculptor. What is a hu-
man figure chiseled out of a cold
block of marble, even Michelan-
gelo's statue of David, compared
to giving flesh and blood and im-
mortality to a child? Marriage is
the greatest participation in the
creating power of God. Your fami-
ly today is God's gift to you.
What will become of your fami-
ly will be your gift to God and to
your family.



Still Moments



Sugar Plum Donation: Wayne L. Cornell, left, DZSP 21 project director, presents a donation of \$2,500 to Kathy Kernaghan, of Sugar Plum Tree, at Bank of Hawaii in Hagatna Nov. 24. Sugar Plum Tree is an annual charity that provides toys and clothes to children and adults in need during the holidays. DZSP 21 provides base operations support services to U.S. Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base. (Photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero, DZSP 21 Public Affairs)

No sleighs during Reindeer Run Competitive 5K

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) hosted a Reindeer Run Competitive 5K at the Navy Exchange parking lot on U.S. Naval Base Guam Dec. 3.

Unfortunately due to prior obligations during the holiday season, actual reindeer couldn't participate, however, Jenna Wienert, MWR fitness coordinator, was pleased with the turnout anyway.

"We had about 117 people from many commands participate," Wienert said. "Service members from Air Force, Army, Navy and Coast Guard were there."

Wienert said normally their competitive runs are on Saturdays, however, they are revamping the way they organize their runs.

"For our short runs like the 10Ks and 5Ks, we are trying to transition them to the work week so we can increase every commands' participation

as an official physical fitness training event," she said. "We need to push it a little bit more to commands. The dilemma is to try to get commands to participate, without making it mandatory. We want it to be voluntary. It allows everyone to enjoy the run and do their best."

Wienert said participants were motivated from beginning to end in an incredible race.

"People showed up early. The command fitness leaders' warned everyone up prior to the event," she said. "Everyone ran pretty hard. I was surprised to see that no one ran longer than 42 minutes. That showed that everyone stayed competitive until the end."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Joshua Joseph, of U.S. Naval Base Guam Security, Special Response Team, participated with his division. He said the Special Response Team members normally run together.

"This is my fifth 5K run," Joseph said. "We do these as a team and it brings us together. I am also getting a head start fighting off the calories for all the eating during this holiday season. All in all, it was great to come out and run with the team."



Racing Reindeer: Service members cross the finish line during a Reindeer Run Competitive 5K (3.2 miles) at the Navy Exchange parking lot on U.S. Naval Base Guam Dec. 3. Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosted the event and is planning its next competitive run for St. Patrick's Day. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

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.

Charles King Fitness Center

Charles King Fitness Center hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 5 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday and holidays from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. For more information, call 333-2049.

NCTS Gym

The Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Guam Sports Center reopened Dec. 6. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m.-8 p.m., and Saturday-Sunday from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For more information, call 355-5623.

Run Registration

Runners can now submit run registrations for Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)-sponsored runs via e-mail. On the Fitness Program page of the MWR website, mwr.guam.com, click on the "NEW Run Registration Form" PDF under Additional Links, and follow the instructions on the form. Pre-registration for all fitness events will end at 5 p.m. on the Friday of the week prior to the event.

Captain's Cup Basketball League

Time and date to be determined. Registration from Dec. 20- Jan 6, 2011. Coaches meeting 5 p.m. Jan. 6, 2011 at Charles King Fitness Center basketball court. Open to active duty service members and DoD civilians. Teams must consist of players from the same command, no exceptions. For more information, call 333-2049.

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.

Lap Swimming

The Andersen pool now offers lap swimming outside the recreational swim hours. Lap swim hours will be: 6-8 a.m. Friday through Wednesday 11 a.m.-noon Friday through Wednesday 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday only. No lap swimming on Thursdays, weekends, holidays and down days. Also, the pool is looking for certified swimming instructors and lifeguards. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 366-5197 or Human Resources at 366-1189.

Aikido Classes

Aikido is a traditional Japanese martial art of self-defense that focuses on using the force of the opponents attack and redirecting it. The Hotspot is now offering two types of Aikido Classes. One is a traditional (Hombu) Aikido Class for all levels. Classes will be held Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for kids 8-12 years and 6:30-8 p.m. for adults. The other class is Law Enforcement/Combat Aikido, and is for adults only. This class will be held Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. All classes are \$60 per month, per student. Sign up at the Hotspot. For more information, call 366-2339.

Tumbling for Tots

Tumbling for Tots, an interactive play program for kids and parents, is now available at the Hotspot Gym just down the walkway from the bowling center. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-noon and closed holidays and down days (schedule subject to change due to base exercises, official unit functions, etc). This is a self-directed activity. A Family Advocacy staff member will be available Tuesdays and Thursdays to talk with parents. Some simple rules for this program: Children will not be left unattended. No food or drink is permitted in the play area. Parents must clean-up after their children. No shoes are allowed in the play area and children must abide by rules that will be posted on the bouncy castle in the play area. For more information, call the Hotspot at 366-2339.