

# JOINT REGION EDGE

Volume III No. 14

Friday, April 8, 2011



## Chiefs clean up island school

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Dozens of chief petty officers (CPO) from Navy commands around Guam were on hand March 31 at Ordot Chalan Pago Elementary School for a community service event.

Through a team effort, the chiefs cleared an area of overgrown brush which was the size of a football field allowing the students to reclaim their playground. The CPOs also unloaded hundreds of pounds of school uniforms which had been donated by the Navy.

According to Chief Hospital Corpsman (FMF) Jorge LaFuenta, of U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam, taking time to help out in the community can build relations and have a meaningful impact.

"It's a good thing for the community," he said. "[It's a way for us] to pay back the community for how

they help us out and support us. It's important for chiefs to do this to lead and to show others that it's everybody's responsibility to help the community and pay it forward."

Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Donald Singleton, also of USNH Guam, added that community support events like this are a good way for CPOs to lead by example.

"It's just a way for the CPOs in the Guam region to get out and support

See Chiefs, Page 11

Some Spring Cleaning: Navy chief petty officers (CPO) from commands around Guam clear brush from a children's playground during a community service project at Ordot Chalan Pago Elementary School in Ordot March 31. Dozens of CPOs came out to support the school and make a difference in the lives of the students. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



## USDA keeps snakes off of planes, out of cargo

By Airman 1st Class Whitney Tucker

36th Wing Public Affairs

Last year the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) captured 3,200 brown tree snakes on Guam.

According to an article by the U.S. Geological Survey, shortly after World War II the brown tree snake

Checking it Twice: Joe Sablan, U.S. Department of Agriculture, logs in each individual snake after being caught on Andersen Air Force Base March 31. The log shows how many snakes were caught, where they were located and the time they were caught. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Carlin Leslie)

was accidentally transported from its native range in the South Pacific to Guam, most likely as a stowaway in ship cargo. As a result of abundant prey resources on Guam and the absence of natural predators, brown tree snake populations reached unprecedented numbers.

Since Guam is a major transportation hub in the Pacific, numerous opportunities exist for brown tree snakes from Guam to be accidentally introduced to other Pacific islands in the same way they arrived here. Members of the USDA are dedicated to preventing this.

"The brown tree snake threatens the economy, ecosystem and overall health of a region," said Marc Hall, supervisory wildlife biologist of USDA on Andersen Air Force Base. "We're

here to help make sure this snake doesn't make its way to neighboring islands and cause the same problems it has here."

This mission is accomplished in three ways—traps are set up to capture brown tree snakes, canine inspections are performed using Jack Russell terriers specifically trained to sniff out the snakes and spotlighting, which is the process of hand-capturing snakes at night, is carried out two nights a week.

"We have 1,400 snake traps in operation in areas such as the flightline, the munitions storage areas and base housing," said Kan Dhillon, USDA wildlife biologist. "The traps have one-way entrances on both ends of

See Snakes, Page 11



### INSIDE

- Ribbon cutting held for wastewater plant, page 2
- Andersen unveils revised Shelter In-Place Plan, page 7



**Navy Birthdays**  
Submariners, Seabees  
celebrate service at  
respective balls.

SEE PAGE 4



**Sexual Assault Month**  
Air Force urge Airmen  
to take action against  
predators.

SEE PAGE 6



**Top Performer**  
Hospital  
Corpsman 2nd  
Class Joseph  
Wilson

SEE PAGE 3

# Hospital Sailors help resuscitate local school

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

Sailors from U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam travelled to the village of Ordot to help with beautification and maintenance projects at Agueda I. Johnston Middle School (AIJMS) March 30.

The Sailors tackled two major projects for the school – repainting their outdoor performance stage which had been worn down during Guam’s rainy season and removing several inoperable air-conditioning units throughout the school.

According to Chief Hospital Corpsman (FMF) Raj Chand, the hospital saw this as an opportunity to help the local community and let the island know that volunteer work is just a part of what it means to be a Sailor.

“We thought it’d be a good opportunity for us to get involved with the community and let the local population that know we’re not just here to work on the base,” Chand said. “We’re actually trying to create a positive relationship with everybody in the surrounding area and on the island.”

Logistics Specialist Seaman Crystl Dolphin, of USNH Guam’s Material Management Department, said that, in her opinion, any opportunity to help someone in need is worthwhile.

“I think it was a good idea to come out and help the school because they may not have the resources to do some jobs themselves,” she said. “So I thought this was a great way to volunteer my time.”

Naomi Taitingfong, AIJMS principal, called the event a huge success and said that she is very grateful for the continued relationship the command has had with the school.

“I think that we have a fantastic relationship,”



Caught Red-Handed: Hospitalman Justin Joco, of U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam’s Intensive Care Unit, paints an outdoor performance stage during a community service project at Agueda I. Johnston Middle School in Ordot March 30. Dozens of Sailors from USNH Guam participated in the event which included beautification and maintenance projects throughout the school. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

she said. “The Naval Hospital has been very gracious about coming to support the school. They’ve donated their time, their expertise, they’ve provided services [and] they’ve donated school uniforms. They’re really there for us!”

Chand said that the students and teachers were not the only ones to benefit from the community service project—the Sailors could take something away as well.

“It’s something they can feel good about,”

he said. “They’ve accomplished something. They came out here, they sweated a little bit and they did something that actually meant something.”

Dolphin agreed wholeheartedly with the chief. “Helping someone else who doesn’t have the resources to do it themselves, it makes me feel like I’ve done something good,” she said.

Looking toward the future, Taitingfong said that she knows the school’s relationship with

USNH Guam will continue long into the future.

“We hope to have the same kind of relationship we have now – a fantastic relationship,” she said. “It can only get better.”

For more information on USNH Guam, visit the command Web site at <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/usnhguam/Pages/navalhospitalguam.aspx>

For more information on volunteer opportunities, see your command volunteer coordinator.

# NAVFAC, NBG cut ribbon on Apra Harbor treatment plant

By Catherine Cruz Norton  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas Public Affairs

A ribbon cutting ceremony signified completion of a \$37 million military construction project to repair and rehabilitate the Apra Harbor wastewater treatment plant on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) April 4.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas Commanding Officer Capt. Peter Lynch delivered remarks and noted the importance of the upgrades to military readiness and the health and well-being of service members, families and base patrons.

“The plant was initially constructed in the mid-1970’s to provide primary treatment for all sewage that was generated here at Naval Station,” Lynch said. “In 1993 the treatment plant underwent a series of upgrades to achieve secondary treatment and, for this particular military construction project, we broke ground in 2008.”

Lynch said the scope of this project was

ambitious with complexities and many dimensions.

“First it set out to restore the system to its original design capacity and operational capability, and then the plan was to upgrade the process components and equipment for improved reliability,” Lynch remarked. In addition, he said it will continue to be an ongoing requirement to work towards meeting all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pollution discharge elimination system wastewater treatment requirements.

Lynch said the work to maintain the plant will not stop here. This project is one component of a comprehensive plan to maintain U.S. EPA compliance regulations.

“To demonstrate our commitment to long term operation of this system in a way that ensures environmental compliance, we have entered into a Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement with U.S. EPA,” Lynch said.

Among other things, the FFCA will help define how this compliance will be handled in the immediate future and over the long term.



One Snip Away: Navy and civilian officials cut the ribbon on the Apra Harbor wastewater treatment plant on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) April 4. The \$37 million military construction project broke ground in 2008 to repair and rehabilitate the system which was first constructed in the mid-1970s. Photographed from left to right are Capt. Richard Wood, NBG commanding officer; Wayne Cornell, DZSP 21 president and chief executive officer; JR Sana, NBG utilities director; Capt. Peter Lynch, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas commanding officer; and Larry Davidson, CDM vice president in charge of Navy programs. (US Navy photo by Catherine Cruz Norton)

## 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: 339-0001

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.

# Corpsman makes 'explosive' impact

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (DMT/PJ) Joseph Wilson said he joined the Navy five years ago because it was family tradition.

"I didn't just pick the Navy or the corpsman rate - they picked me," he said. "It was like destiny."

Wilson said he enjoys that his service and his job field offer vast opportunities to excel.

"Everyone in the service knows what the mission is," he said. "If you're motivated to do the job there's no limit to how far you can go in the military."

As a corpsman in Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5's medical department, Wilson is charged with the medical readiness of the entire command, supporting high-risk exercises, diving and "jumping out of planes."

"I love my job and my current duty station," he said. "We get to deploy to cool locations to help people and we dive deep. What more could you want?"

According to Lt. Shelby S. Best, Wilson's supervisor, the young corpsman is "always going above and beyond in a quiet, no frills manner."

"HM2 uses every spare moment given to him to complete a task or train someone in some way," he said.

Best added that Wilson's quiet, respectable demeanor and can-do attitude set a good example for his shipmates.

"He takes care of big ticket tasks and doesn't



Just a Pinch: Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (DMT/PJ) Joseph Wilson, of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5, locates a vein on a shipmate before drawing blood at the command compound on U.S. Naval Base Guam March 21. Wilson said he joined the Navy "to be the best at whatever I do and look the best doing it." (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd (SW) Peter Lewis)

slack on the small, seemingly unimportant or more annoying tasks," Best said. "Wilson's a stellar performer and is consistently requested as medical support for exercises and deployments for his demeanor as well as his skill set."

Wilson, who has received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his efforts at EODMU 5, said that he learned his work ethic from his father.

"My dad taught me to work hard at whatever I do," he said. "He said to be the best at

whatever you do and look the best doing it."

For those who hope to emulate his success, Wilson had a few words of wisdom.

"Maintain a never-quit attitude," he said. "Believe that you can do anything and eventually you will."

## Andersen's Best: Manibusan ensures AF quality



An Eye For Details: Tech. Sgt. Brian Manibusan, 36th Maintenance Squadron quality assurance chief inspector, stands with peers after being awarded Andersen's Best March 31. Manibusan expertly scrutinized more than 4,000 quality assurance (QA) and exercise evaluation team (EET) reports in the past year. He was the lead maintenance QA liaison for exercises Valiant Shield and Cope North. By enforcing safety and technical data standards for maintenance operations, Manibusan ensured zero mishaps for both exercises. "Sgt. Manibusan has been an outstanding technical sergeant for just one year and has acted in a senior noncommissioned officer capacity on several occasions," said Master Sgt. Joseph Pumper, 36th Maintenance Squadron quality assurance superintendent. "He's handled aircraft mishaps, lead numerous maintenance group EET injects and several staff assistance visits in preparation for the Operational Readiness Inspections and Logistics Compliance Assessment Program inspections."

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 Staff Sgt. Jamie Powell)

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. 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

Anna-Victoria Crisostomo Editor 349-2115 anna.crisostomo@fe.navy.mil

Reporters

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis 349-4476 petedew1@fe.navy.mil

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

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 Schultz

366-2228

Airman Basic Julian North

366-2228

Airman Basic Anthony Jennings

366-2228

Airman Whitney Tucker

366-2228

# Navy celebrates 111 years of sub service

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Hundreds of undersea warriors and their families gathered at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort in Tamuning, Guam to celebrate the 111th anniversary of the inception of the silent service April 1.

According to Capt. Mark Benjamin, Commander, Submarine Squadron (CSS) 15 deputy commander for mission readiness and the master of ceremonies, the birth of the submarine service was not the only reason for celebration at this year's Submarine Ball.

"We have gathered here tonight, over 500 strong, for the following three reasons – to celebrate the 111th birthday of the U.S. Navy's submarine force; to hail Guam's newest submarine, the USS Oklahoma City (SSN 723), fresh from overhaul in Portsmouth, N.H., and hungry for action; and to say farewell to the USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705) as she leaves Guam for a change of homeport," he said. "After eight and a half years of heavy lifting on the frontlines, the 'bad boys of the Pacific' are going to Pearl Harbor."

The ceremony's guest speaker, Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, Joint Region Marianas (JRM) commander, spoke about the submarine force – from its inception in 1900 to its strategic role in the defeat of the Japanese during World War II to present operations around the world. He said that the key to its success is the submariners that keep the



A Few Good Men: The commanding officers and command master chiefs from all submarine commands on Guam stand together during the Guam celebration of the 111th anniversary of the inception of the U.S. Navy's submarine force at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort in Tamuning April 1. More than 500 submariners and family members were in attendance to celebrate the silent service, welcome USS Oklahoma City (SSN 723) and bid farewell to USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

undersea fleet in operation.

"Beyond all the amazing technology the thing that really enables us to be the dominant submarine force in the world is our people," he said. "Intelligent, motivated, highly trained, completely knowledgeable of their jobs and their shipmates' job – these submariners form a cohesive team that is second to none. They are what make our submarine force great and they will continue that tradition."

The admiral then said that he is confident the U.S. Navy would continue to lead the way because of the efforts of brave Sailors like those in attendance.

"The U.S. submarine force is and

will remain the world's pre-eminent submarine force thanks to all of you," Bushong said. "You represent all that is good about the Navy and are true ambassadors of not only the Navy but the U.S. I am honored to stand with you today in honor of your birthday. I salute you all. Thank you for all you do to protect our nation and our freedom."

Bushong, a proud submariner himself, was then presented with a crystal latte emblazoned with the seal of the event.

Following the heartfelt speech, Benjamin spoke about the brave submariners who gave their lives for their country. To close the ceremony the attendees watched a tolling

of the boats, a video montage which paid tribute to their accomplishments.

"Many of these [prisoners of war] and [missing in action personnel] were submariners lost at sea or captured escapees from sinking submarines," Benjamin remarked. "Since the beginning of World War II we have lost 52 submarines and over 3,600 fellow submariners. So as we celebrate our proud history tonight, we remember the tremendous sacrifice of those who have gone before us and we pay tribute to those undersea heroes who remain on eternal patrol guiding and watching over us as we continue to sail beneath the unforgiving oceans of the world."

Machinist's Mate Fireman Gabriel Chevirer, of USS City of Corpus Christi, said that, though it was his first submarine ball, getting together with his brothers-in-arms reminded him of just why he joined the silent service.

"It's good camaraderie," he said. "You realize that there are so many different stories from all these different boats and different places but you all understand each other. That's all that matters."

Chief Torpedoman (SS) Lou James Allan, of USS Oklahoma City, said that attending the ball just reminded him of how much he enjoys being a submariner.

"I love it," he said. "I wouldn't change this for the world. I've been doing this for 16 years. It's the greatest honor to be in this community. It's a brotherhood and it's what we love to do!"

On April 11, 1900, the U.S. Navy purchased John Philip Holland's revolutionary submarine which was renamed USS Holland (SS-1) and became America's first commissioned submarine. Since then, submariners have continued to patrol the oceans, fight America's enemies and provide maritime security around the world.

Currently, three Los Angeles-class fast attack submarines are forward-deployed to Guam – USS Buffalo (SSN 715), USS Houston (SSN 713) and USS Oklahoma City. Crew members from CSS 15, JRM and USS Frank Cable (AS 40) also attended the ball.

For more news from U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, visit [www.navy.mil/local/guam/](http://www.navy.mil/local/guam/).

# Sailors, civilians celebrate Seabee 69th birthday

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Seabees, Naval Civil Engineer Corps officers, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas civilians, their families and guests celebrated the Seabees' 69th birthday by throwing a ball at Hotel Nikko Guam in Tumon April 2.

Master of Ceremonies Lt. Jason Fahy, resident officer in charge of construction at U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, welcomed guests and thanked the personnel for their hard work and dedication.

"To all Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps officers and NAVFAC civilians, I thank you and your families for the service and commitment to the defense of the nation," Fahy said. "Through your daily professional efforts, you make our Navy stronger and our nation safer – happy birthday."

Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), was the guest speaker at the event. He talked about the long tradition of Seabees in the Navy and the world.

"Under your leadership and hard work, entire bases have been built; thousands of miles of roadways and



Bees Buzz at Birthday Ball: Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, left, presents the oldest and youngest Seabees with a coconut souvenir at a Seabee Ball at Hotel Nikko in Tumon, Guam April 2. Seabees, Naval Civil Engineer Corps officers, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas civilians, their families and guests celebrated the Seabee's 69th birthday. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

airstrips have been bulldozed and paved; and countless construction projects have been completed," Bushong said. "Your presence on Guam provides a ready response capability that is of critical importance for the Pacific area of operations."

Bushong highlighted events from Seabee history including the rebuilding

of the Tinian North Field Airstrip. The strip eventually became the largest airfield in the world, measuring about 20 miles long and allowing for the launch of more than 19,000 combat missions during World War II.

"The work did not stop on Tinian," he said. "In July of 1944, Seabees of

the 25th Naval Construction Battalion (NCB) landed on Guam with the 3rd Marine Division to liberate the island and, in August, the 5th Naval Construction Brigade assumed control of construction on Guam."

Bushong also praised service members and civilians of NAVFAC

Marianas for their contributions in Guam.

"Today NAVFAC Marianas continues to fulfill its mission and live up to its proud history supporting the Navy Base Guam Public Works Department, two resident officers in charge of construction offices on the Naval Hospital and Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Station, and Andersen Air Force Base with personnel in direct support of the civil engineering, contracting and logistical readiness squadrons," he said. "I am always impressed with the fact that, in addition to doing the work that needs to be done, Seabees and NAVFAC employees always find time to help others."

After the speech, Capt. Peter Lynch, NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer, presented Bushong with a plaque. The presentation was followed by a traditional cake-cutting ceremony.

Engineering Aide 3rd Class (SCW) Thomas Lazzara, of NAVFAC Marianas Self Help department, said the speech and the ball reaffirmed his Seabee pride and love of his job.

"I love being with the Seabees," he said. "I love working with my hands and, even though my specific rate is office work, I get to go out and get my hands dirty doing concrete pours and building layouts."

# JRM celebrates Chamorro, Women's History Month

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Service members and civilians from Guam participated in a Chamorro and Women's History Month celebration at Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM) Headquarters in Asan, Guam, March 31.

Diversity makes the Navy stronger. The different experiences, backgrounds and talents of almost 400,000 active duty and reserve component Sailors merge to allow the development and execution of new ideas - ensuring the Navy advances with the nation in terms of demographics and technology.

The event was hosted by the JRM Cultural Committee and featured cultural presentations about Chamorros, Guam's indigenous people, and the contributions of women to society. The event started with cultural Chamorro song and dance. U.S. Naval Base Guam's (NBG) Patricia Flores sang the Guam Hymn followed by a musical selection featuring Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School (MEMS) fifth-graders.

The students' song praised the Chamorro village of Santa Rita where the school and NBG are located. The children also performed a traditional stick dance or bailan pailitu (BY-lan py-LIH-too). The dance features thin, long sticks held in each hand and struck together in intricate patterns and tells many stories of the Chamorro people.

Following the dance, Monaeka Flores, Guam Humanities Council Marketing and Programs coordinator, gave a presentation of modern and traditional Chamorro art and its comparison to world-renowned art works.



Island Styling: Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School fifth-graders perform a traditional stick dance or bailan pailitu (BY-lan py-LIH-too) during a Chamorro and Women's History Month celebration at the Commander, Joint Region Marianas Headquarters in Asan, Guam, March 31. The dance features thin, long sticks held in each hand and struck together in intricate patterns and tells many stories of the Chamorro people. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

"The council celebrates the rich social, historical and cultural landscape of Guam," Flores said. "We are excited to share two of our projects. Both presentations provide these values through visual arts."

John Borja, division chief of Agricultural Development Services with the Guam Department of Agriculture, shared his knowledge of how important the coconut tree is to the Chamorro people.

"When Joint Region asked me to come out and talk about the coconut tree, I didn't feel obligated but

honored," Borja said. "Because if there was any tree I would like growing it's the coconut tree because of its values."

Borja explained the many different uses of the tree including shelter, tools and food.

The Chamorro half of the event concluded when Anna-Victoria Crisostomo, the Joint Region Edge's editor, gave a rendition of a popular Chamorro song, "Hågu" (HAH-goo), or "You," which was followed by a thunderous roar of applause.

Following the performance, Chief

Master Sgt. Margarita Overton, Andersen Air Force Base 36th Wing command chief master sergeant, shared her life story and determination to succeed despite the many obstacles she faced as a woman in the work force. She also emphasized the importance of both genders and said that each contributes equally to society.

"I am going to tell you both male and female have value," she said. "It's important for us to recognize both in the work force and the value we bring to diversity."

Following her speech, there was

an award presentation for the MEMS Women's History Month essay contest and a poetry reading by Hospitalman Ryan Smith from U.S. Naval Hospital Guam. The event ended with a song to encourage women to persevere performed by Ro Herring, JRM's regional program director for Strategy and Future Requirements.

The ceremony came to an end but the celebration wasn't over. Immediately following, all were invited to an island-style picnic located behind the headquarters.

## News Notes

### Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view the vacancy listings at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 349-6119/2224.

### U.S. Naval Base Guam

Emergency Management Specialist, Closes April 11  
Housing Manager, Closes April 11

### New U.S. Postal Service Naval Station Business Hours

Effective April 30, the U.S. Postal Service Station on U.S. Naval Base Guam in Barracks 4 will observe the following business hours:

Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-3 p.m.  
Closed Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays

U.S. Naval Base Guam Information Line, Twitter Updates and Facebook Page  
NBG has a new Information Line that will be updated periodically during emergencies affecting NBG and personnel. For more information on incidents such as these, call 339-4636. NBG also uses Twitter for periodic updates including information on power outages, road closures, base activities and more. Follow NBG on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/nbgum](http://www.twitter.com/nbgum) or become a fan of "Naval Base Guam Ombudsman" on Facebook.

### Safety Hotline

U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) service members, dependents and personnel are encouraged to report any unsafe or unhealthful incidents and situations to their respective installation safety hotlines. The base safety office will promptly investigate all reports. On NBG, call 339-SAFE (7233) or 777-1809 during non-duty hours. On Andersen AFB, call 366-SAFE (7233) or 366-2981 during non-duty hours.

### Airman and Family Readiness Center Classes

The Airman and Family Readiness Center located in Building 21000 will offer the following free classes in April: April 11 - Getting a Business Loan from 9-11:30 a.m.

April 12 - Thrift Savings Plan from 9-10 a.m.

April 14 - Basic Budgeting from 9-10 a.m.

For more information, call 366-8136.

### Guam's First Junior Ranger Academy

War in the Pacific National Historical Park is proud to host Guam's first Junior Ranger Academy April 16-23. Seventh- and eighth-grade students are eligible to join. To sign up, download a registration packet at [www.nps.gov/wapa/forkids/junior-ranger-academy-2011.htm](http://www.nps.gov/wapa/forkids/junior-ranger-academy-2011.htm) or call education specialist Jackie Zapanta at 477-7278, ext. 1015. Space is limited, so don't delay. For more information, call 333-4050.

### Key Spouse Training

The Airman and Family Readiness Center offers initial and quarterly Key Spouse Training. Key spouses are appointed by unit commanders to provide assistance to families of members who are currently deployed. For more information, call 366-8136.

# GUARNG announces Soldier, NCO of the Year

From Guam Army National Guard Public Affairs

After six long months of training and competitive events, two Soldiers emerged among 12 participants as this year's Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year for the Guam Army National Guard (GUARNG).

Pfc. Eric G. Gatmen was named Soldier of the Year while Sgt. Raymond R. Merfalen was announced as NCO of the Year. The announcement was made after the competitors appeared before a board of sergeant majors from the different units in GUARNG during the March drill.

Competitive events for the 12 Soldiers who participated in this year's selection were held during drill weekends over the past six months.

During other days of the month, however, the competitors were continuously training on their physical fitness as well as preparing for the next month's events.

Among the events that tested the competitors' physical capabilities were six-mile road marches which were held in three different months and diagnostic Army Physical Fitness Tests which were held every drill. Other competitive events focused on warrior tasks such as evaluating a casualty; identifying unexploded ordnance; nine-line medical evacuation procedures; and day and



Top Honors: Sgt. Raymond R. Merfalen, left, and Pfc. Eric G. Gatmen pose for a photo after being awarded top honors by the Guam Army National Guard (GUARNG). Merfalen was named Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Gatmen was named Soldier of the Year after the competitors appeared before a board of sergeant majors from different units in GUARNG during the March drill. Merfalen and Gatmen are now preparing for the regional 2011 Region 7 Best Warrior Challenge Competition to be held early May to in Santa Fe, N.M. (U.S. Army photo courtesy of Capt. Ken Ola)

night land navigation.

The Soldiers' academic and mental capacities were also tested through a 50-question board examination and the sergeant majors (SGM) board. The SGM board is the last

event. Soldiers go before five sergeant majors who ask them several questions about a wide range of topics including warrior tasks and current events.

Command Sgt. Maj. Dan C. Elliott,

senior enlisted adviser for the Guam National Guard (GUNG), said the competition is designed to provide the chance for GUNG Soldiers to compete and do well in both the regional and national levels.

"You know how the old saying goes – train the way you're going to fight – and that's exactly what we do here," Elliott said. "We place our Soldiers and NCOs in the same exact scenario as they would be in at the regional competition every drill weekend for six months."

Competition like this, at the very least, helps improve the Soldiers personally and professionally, according to Elliott.

"Encouraging our Soldiers and NCOs to compete is probably the easiest part of my job because Soldiers and NCOs love to compete and take a lot of pride in being considered the best of the best," he said. "More importantly, they see the value in the training and competition. I've had Soldiers and NCOs tell how much they have improved now as to compare to when they started the program six months ago."

Most of the competitors felt their strongest events were the physically challenging events while the most difficult and stress-inducing event was the SGM board.

Merfalen and Gatmen are now preparing for the regional 2011 Region 7 Best Warrior Challenge Competition to be held early May to in Santa Fe, N.M. They will be competing with Soldiers from the region composed of National Guard units from Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, New Mexico and Utah.

If they win the Region 7 competition, they will proceed to compete at the national level in the summer.

## DOD to drop Social Security numbers from ID cards

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

Beginning June 1, Social Security numbers on military identification cards will begin to disappear, said Maj. Monica M. Matoush, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

The effort is part of a larger plan to protect service members and other Department of Defense (DOD) identification card holders from identity theft, officials said.

Criminals use Social Security numbers to steal identities allowing them to pillage resources and establish credit or to hijack credit cards, bank

accounts or debit cards.

Currently, the Social Security number is printed on the back of common access cards and on the front of cards issued to dependents and retirees.

Beginning in June, when current cards expire, they will be replaced with new cards having a DOD identification number replacing the Social Security number, officials said. The DOD identification number is a unique 10-digit number that is assigned to every person with a direct relationship with the department. The new number also will be the service member's Geneva Convention identification number.

An 11-digit DOD benefits number also will appear on the cards of those people eligible for DOD benefits. The first nine digits are common to a sponsor, the official said, and the last two digits will identify a specific person within the sponsor's family.

Social Security numbers embedded in the bar codes on the back of identification cards will remain there for the time being and will be phased out beginning in 2012. The department will replace identification cards as they expire.

"Because cards will be replaced upon expiration it will be approximately four years until all cards

### ID Cards

#### Personnel Support

Detachment Guam started issuing dependent ID cards without Social Security numbers in 2008. Anyone who renews an ID card that requires a DD Form 1173 will receive an ID card without a Social Security number. Starting in June, anyone who renews a card

will have the new common access card (CAC) issued without his or her Social Security number. Until June, anyone who renews a CAC card will still receive a card with his or her Social Security number both printed and embedded in the barcode.

Source: Personnel Support Det. Guam

are replaced with the DOD ID number," Matoush said.

The identity protection program

began in 2008 when DOD started removing Social Security numbers from family member identification cards.

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month encourages bystander intervention

By Tech. Sgt. Jess Harvey

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The Air Force is observing Sexual Assault Awareness Month starting April 1.

The Defense Department theme for the month is "Hurts one. Affects all," which is designed to point out how sexual assault affects not only the victim but the department as well. The Air Force's slogan supporting the theme is "Real Wingmen Act!," emphasizing the duty of all Airmen to intervene whenever they see questionable behavior.

"If all wingmen intervene when someone is starting to cross the line with another wingman, they will play a vital role in creating an Air Force culture in which sexual assault is not tolerated," said Lt. Col. Craig McCuin, deputy program manager for the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program. "Perpetrators of sexual assault rely on bystander inaction in the hopes they can commit this crime and not get caught."

The idea is one of bystander intervention, McCuin said.

"Bystander intervention is an all out effort to get its people to engage in preventing sexual assault," the

colonel said. "Not only will bystander intervention prevent the physical and psychological injuries that occur when an assault happens but it will also prevent damage done to the unit as a whole.

That's where "Hurts one. Affects All." comes in.

"Sexual assault happens directly to an individual but can indirectly affect everyone in a unit as well as the victim's family and friends," McCuin said.

Sexual assaults diminishes the Air Force's ability to function proficiently at all levels.

"The mention of mission readiness together with the toll sexual assault

takes on the victim is not meant to be callous," McCuin said. "It's just that we all need to understand the far-reaching impact a sexual assault can have on the victim and everyone else around them."

Some of the mission-related damages sexual assault incurs can include a loss of trust in the unit members or leaders, McCuin said. There is also the possibility that the victim and subjects may be temporarily or permanently unable to fulfill their obligation to the military due to physical condition, mental state or incarceration.

"Regardless of the extent of the assault

or the situation in which it happened, both the victim and the Air Force will be greatly impacted," McCuin said.

McCuin added that if every Airman acted to stop sexual assault, we could nearly eliminate every case of it.

"The 'Real Wingmen Act' slogan means that wingmen always act, on or off duty, in the certain knowledge that all persons possess fundamental worth as human beings," McCuin said. "The key is to change perceptions and help Airmen understand that their actions on behalf of another are not meddling but instead are helping to keep a fellow Airman safe."

# Revised Shelter In-Place Plan can save your life

By Airman Basic Anthony Jennings  
36th Wing Public Affairs

Although Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) represents a critical element of Pacific Command's forward presence and deterrence bringing peace and stability to the Asia-Pacific region through the use of world class air and space power, it is still vulnerable to the effects of hazardous material (HAZMAT) emergencies and terrorist use of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high yield explosives (CBRNE) or an active shooter incident.

This is why the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron readiness and emergency management and 36th Wing Inspector General have devised the Shelter In-Place Plan 10-3 and briefed Team Andersen on the proper procedures for planning, response and personal protective actions to take in the event of either emergency April 7.

"The purpose of the briefing is to orientate the base populace on the proper procedures to follow if a Shelter In-Place was put in effect," said Master Sgt. Carlos Durden, 36th Civil Engineer Squadron readiness and emergency management superintendent. "It also provided new information regarding actions to take during an active shooter incident. New

terminology such as 'lockdown' is something everyone should be aware of because you never know when, where or how an incident such as these may occur. I feel better knowing our personnel are educated and better prepared to respond to these events."

When events like these occur, emergency response officials have two options to protect personnel. One is to evacuate the area affected by the hazard or threat, and the other is to direct "Shelter In-Place" - that is go indoors, close up the building and wait for the danger to pass.

The Shelter In-Place plan contains information on what to do in the event of a HAZMAT emergency, terrorist use of CBRNE, improvised explosive device (IED), vehicle-borne IED or in the event of a radiological dispersal device incident an active shooter actions.

Sheltering in-place is used if a migrating toxic gas or vapor could quickly overtake unprotected or evacuating citizens, or if evacuation would create problems that would outweigh its usefulness. The amount of protection from sheltering in-place depends mainly with the air tightness of the facility and the length of time the facility is exposed to a hazard.

Even the most weather-tight structure will slowly allow contaminated air to enter. However, sealing windows, doors and vents with plastic sheeting, duct tape and other barrier

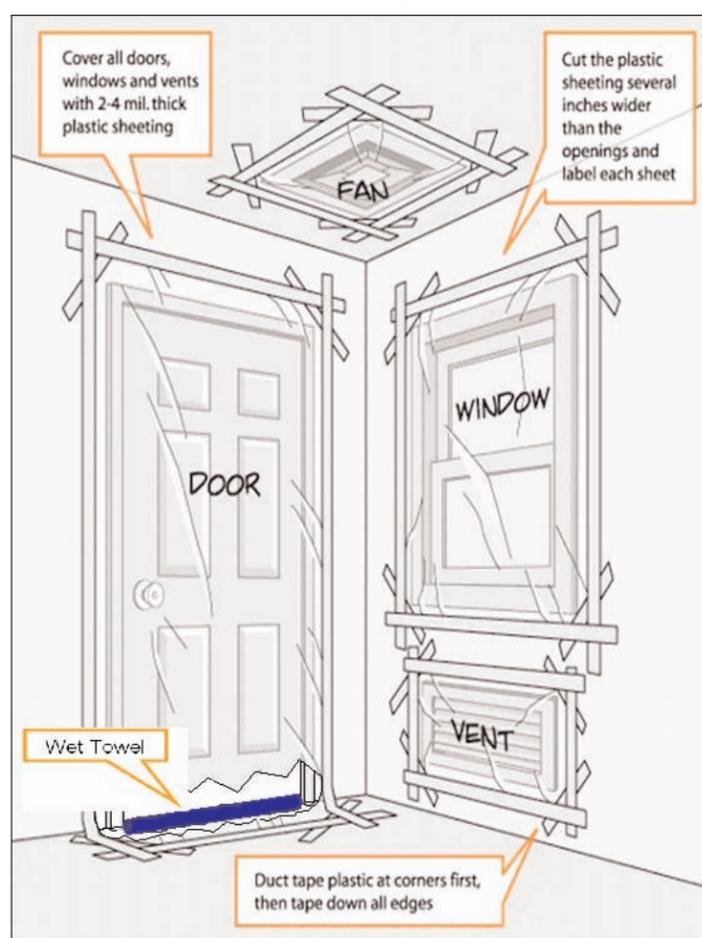
materials can reduce infiltration of contaminated air into a facility.

The plan also outlines the materials individuals should have in a Shelter In-Place kit at home or in the workplace. Items listed include, but are not limited to, an Andersen AFB sector map; administrative supplies such as pens and notepads; wing and unit specific checklists; the Shelter In-Place Plan; communications devices such as cellular phone or land mobile radio; contact listings and sign-in log; plastic sheeting precut and labeled; duct tape; towels; water; first aid kit; flashlights with spare batteries; scissors and a fire extinguisher.

The briefings also outlined "dos and don'ts" on what to do during an active shooter incident such as to remain calm, lock all doors, turning off cell phones so as to not give away your position, and to disregard fire alarms unless fire can be smelled, felt or seen.

The information provided at the briefings and in the Shelter In-Place Plan will help individuals protect them during an emergency situation.

"These actions could save your life not just during an exercise but, more importantly, in a real world event," said a message provided by the Andersen Communications Focal Point.



# 36th SFS offers simple tips for crime prevention

By Staff Sgt. Joshua St. Louis  
36th Security Forces Squadron

Traditionally, one might expect Air Force Installations to be relatively free of serious crimes against persons or property.

However, recent crime trends show that crime is on the rise at military installations. This has led to increased demands for better security forces responses, protection and more innovative crime prevention programs.

For such a program to succeed, a strong community and unit involvement is required. Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) is no different. Without a strong crime prevention program, we can expect to see the crime rate at Andersen grow, just as it has at other installations.

One useful prevention program is Operation Crime Stop.

This program is designed to

encourage everyone in the community to report a crime or suspicious activity and allows them to do so while remaining completely anonymous. All you have to do is make the call and explain what you saw and where it happened to security forces. You can tell them your name if you like but it is not necessary if you want to limit your involvement.

Remember, the people who steal or damage your neighbor's property today may make you their victim tomorrow. To report suspicious activity or a crime, call 366-6666.

Another worthwhile prevention program is Operation Identification.

This program is designed to encourage owners of high value, theft-attractive merchandise to mark their property with an identifying number. This system provides a means to positively identify lost or stolen property.

The 36th Security Forces

Squadron (SFS) has an engraver available for Team Andersen personnel.

All you have to do to take advantage of this service is report to the Security Forces Control Center located on Andersen AFB at Building 2320 and sign the engraver out.

Another good idea is to videotape or take pictures of your property. Create a log book and annotate the serial numbers and enclose photos of your high value merchandise. If your stuff gets stolen, you have proof of your claim.

The 36th SFS also provides a program called Quarters Checks. This program is offered to personnel living on Andersen AFB. Before you leave for vacation, stop by the Security Forces Control Center and fill out a quarters checklist. The check sheet will be issued by the flight chief to a patrol who will conduct the checks throughout their shift.

The patrolman will annotate on the back of the check sheet the date and time of the check and their last name. When the residents return, they are required to contact the Security Forces Control Center immediately to cancel the checks.

Safety practices and precautionary measures should also be practiced by individuals who work on Andersen AFB.

If you're the last one leaving work for the night, make sure you do security checks around your facility. Look for unsecured doors and windows. If you leave a door or window unsecured and it's discovered by a security forces member, your building custodian will get a phone call. The building custodian will have to respond and secure the facility regardless of what time it is.

If you have questions about Andersen's AFB Crime Prevention Programs, call 366-2503/3444.

## Security Tips

Here are a few important security questions that can help improve your surroundings:

1. Do you have a logbook with serial numbers and photos of high value items?
2. Are your trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate hiding places?
3. Is lighting around your house adequate?
4. When on vacation, do you have someone maintain your lawn and pick up your mail?
5. Can all of your doors and windows be securely locked?

If you answered no to any of these questions, then you may be inviting crime.

## Navy Housing Program Assistants

South Finegayan and U.S. Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS)  
Raymond Garrido  
Office - 355-5811, Mobile - 777-0847

North Tupalao and Apra View  
Latisha Jeffries  
Office - 333-3117, Mobile - 988-0950

Lockwood Terrace  
Tracy Asuncion  
Office - 339-4107, Mobile - 777-0807

Harbor View and Bay View  
Paul Hattori  
Office - 339-2204, Mobile - 777-0843

Apra Palms, Nimitz Hill and U.S. Naval Hospital Guam (USNH)  
Edwin Rengjil  
Office - 333-1117, Mobile - 777-0848

Performance Assessment Representative  
Delores Hutton  
Office - 339-4107, Mobile - 777-1872

Contract Support  
Geraldine Julao  
Office - 339-5735

Family Advocate  
Jasmine Stover  
Office - 339-7391, Mobile - 777-0892

# USCG, community promote water safety

From U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam Public Affairs

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam and local agencies joined together to host the "Get Your Feet Wet" water safety day at Matapang Beach in concert with the opening day of the high school paddle racing season April 2.

Safety messages were distributed to the public at the opening event for the 2011 Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam /Guam Kayak and Canoe Federation High School Paddling Season.

Sen. Ben Pangelinan, 31st Guam Legislature, presented Guam Legislature Resolution 61-31 commending the combined effort of all the agencies and supporting the formation of a Water Safety Committee comprised of safety experts from each of the governmental agencies and youth paddle clubs.

Also in attendance were personnel from Guam Police Department Marine

Patrol Division, Guam Fire Rescue, Guam Parks and Recreation, Coast Guard Auxiliary, National Weather Service, Marianas Paddlesports Racing Association, and Guam Kayak and Canoe Federation.

"Water safety clinics such as we see here today are the impetus for future ongoing water safety workshops that we hope our water safety committee will be able to carry on in the community," said Capt. Thomas M. Sparks, Coast Guard Sector Guam commander. "If these events can accomplish lives saved and prevent risky and costly search and rescue efforts, then we consider it time well spent."

The Coast Guard is focused on safety and security of the nation's waterways. The public is asked to use caution when boating and report all marine emergencies by immediately calling local emergency responders at 911 and the Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center on VHF-FM channel 16 or by phone at 564-8724.



Smiling for the Camera: High school paddlers and coaches shout out water safety messages in support of the "Get Your Feet Wet" water safety day at Matapang Beach in Tumon April 2. The messages were filmed and will be broadcast as public safety announcements on local television. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam Public Affairs)

## What do you enjoy most about your job in the U.S. Armed Forces?

Joint Region Edge asked its readers what they enjoy most about their job in the U.S. Armed Forces.



"Some people in the Air Force work jobs where they never really have any interaction with people. Because I work in records management and because everyone on base has records, I have the opportunity to meet service members from various career fields."

— Airman 1st Class Amanda Williamson  
36th Communications Squadron records manager



"The access to the Hooah training like opportunities to go to schools such as Air Assault, Airborne, Sniper school and being offered the chance to shoot weapons you don't see in the civilian world."

— Spc. James J. Gumabon  
Guam Army National Guard 1-294th Infantry Regiment



"I enjoy the aspect of being in a position to protect the base populace and making sure everyone goes to sleep safely."

— Airman 1st Class Jose Cruz  
36th Security Forces member



"The opportunity to mentor and lead Marines into combat and everyday life."

— Gunnery Sgt. Douglas Gray  
Marine Forces Pacific (Forward) Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands senior enlisted adviser



"My job provides me with the stability and security desired for my family. At the end of the day, I have the greatest sense of accomplishment due to serving my country with my daily actions."

— Tech Sgt. Oscar Cardec  
36th Communications Squadron knowledge operations manager

# National Public Health Week in affect

## From 36th Medical Group

National Public Health Week is April 4-11.

The 36th Medical Group (MDG) maintains focus on improving the health of active duty and civilian workers as well as dependents through preventive medicine and education.

Two groups of personnel vital to protecting the public health are Public Health and Bioenvironmental engineering technicians. They are responsible for monitoring the health of individuals on base and identifying

hazardous conditions and exposures.

“Primary roles of public health personnel are the prevention and control of communicable diseases, worker protection, medical standards and readiness,” said Capt. Don Michael, 36th MDG public health element chief. “We work with just about every section in the clinic, base units and Navy and Guam Public Health counterparts to ensure a comprehensive approach to preventive medicine and deployer medical readiness.”

Public Health technicians evaluate the sanitary conditions of base food

facilities, oversee occupational exams and requirements, and assist with worker education. Additionally, personnel provide administrative oversight to the profile program, conduct disease-carrying insect surveillance, educate patients treated for sexually transmitted diseases, evaluate disease trends and investigate outbreaks.

Another public health responsibility is working with active-duty and Air National Guard units to ensure their military personnel are medically ready to deploy by informing unit commanders of requirements and

coordinating deployer medical clearances and education.

According to Michael, the base has a medical readiness rate that is 8 percent above the Air Force standard, ranking it sixth highest of 83 installations. Medical readiness includes currency in preventive health assessments (PHAs), labs, immunizations and dental exams.

Bioenvironmental engineering is comprised of four main areas – radiation, industrial hygiene, environmental protection and emergency response.

“Our main purpose is to provide

effective risk management decisions based on bioenvironmental engineering methods of control and prevention of diseases, work stresses, degradation of human performance, human health hazards and pollutants,” said Tech. Sgt. Wyll Yabut, element noncommissioned officer in charge.

Bioenvironmental engineering also participates in disaster preparedness activities and medical aspects of safety and accident programs by providing environmental health hazard evaluations and personnel protective equipment recommendations.

Additionally, they evaluate the respiratory and hearing personnel protective equipment effectiveness, test water, and review facility requirements and modifications to ventilation systems.

Bioenvironmental engineering also serves as a liaison with local, state and federal agencies on matters involving criteria, standards, performance specification and monitoring related to environmental quality and occupational health matters.

# Awareness is the key to energy savings

By Kevin D. Evans

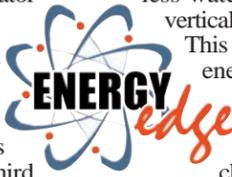
Joint Region Marianas Energy Manager

Water and electricity are often entwined energy wise. Allow me to share a few examples.

Waterbeds can be the largest consumer of electricity in the home

exceeding even the refrigerator and water heater.

Also, did you know that approximately 90 percent of the energy consumed by a clothes washer is for heating water? Horizontal-axis clothes washers use one-third



less water than conventional vertical-axis clothes washers.

This saves you water and energy to heat some of that water.

If you live in military housing, chances are you have a

front-load washer or will get one in the near future.

In the kitchen, around 80 percent of the energy consumed by a dishwasher is used to heat water. A typical dishwasher uses 14 gallons of hot water per load. A dripping faucet can waste up to 20 gallons of

water a day and a leaking toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water a day. For the former, if it is hot water, electricity used more to continually make up the lost hot water.

As we move deeper into the dry season, we should all give thought to conserving water and electricity.

## Preventing sexually transmitted infections

By Tech Sgt. Aracelly Champion

36th Medical Operations Squadron

April is National Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Awareness Month.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that more than 19 million new STIs occur annually in the United States. At least one in four Americans will contract an STI at some point in their lives. Of these new infections, about 56,000 are due to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Each year, AIDS resulting from HIV infection results in 18,000 U.S. deaths.

In 2010, Guam Public Health reported 900 chlamydia cases, 98 gonorrhea cases and four cases of syphilis. Four HIV infections were reported in Guam in 2009. Chlamydia case rates in Guam remain above that of the United States. Also, in 2010, Andersen Public Health reported 109 chlamydia and 15 gonorrhea cases.

It's important to understand the basic facts about STIs, the ways in which they are spread and can be prevented, and their common symptoms.

Anyone who has had sexual intercourse is at risk for contracting an STI. Some symptoms include yellow, green, or white discharge; genital sores; pain or burning during urination; frequent urination; and burning or itching in the genital area. Diagnosing an STI is difficult at times as some people have few or no symptoms at all. If you experience some of these symptoms, please contact your health care provider. Several types of STIs can be treated and cured.

The best way to prevent an STI is not to have sex or to have sex only with someone who's not infected and who has sex only with you. Latex condoms can reduce your risk of getting an STI if used the right way every single time you have sex. Washing the genitals, urinating or douching after sex will not prevent an STI.

For more information, call Andersen Public Health at 366-4147 or visit the CDC Web site <http://www.cdc.gov/std/default.htm>.

# NBG sharpens emergency management

By Annette Donner

U.S. Naval Base Guam Public Affairs

U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) personnel enhanced their emergency preparation and response skills during exercise BisitanTāsi (bih-SEE-tan TAH-see) March 25.

The exercise, translated means "Ocean Visitors," simulated the arrival of a ship with 300 people including children and pets who would reside on Guam for up to 48 hours before flown to the continental U.S.

"You can never be too prepared," said James Ogburn, NBG business manager and coordinator of the half-day exercise. "We are a small base with limited resources including personnel but preparation for this exercise has resulted in some real ingenuity and attention to detail."

The exercise was held in response to the possibility that NBG could become a temporary designated destination if the crisis in Japan as a result of the March 11 9.0-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami grew more serious. Ogburn added that all Installation Program Directors (IPD) and their staff were included in the days of preparation for this emergency management training exercise.

"This was an opportunity to test our mettle," Ogburn said. "A disaster such as what has been seen in Japan



This is Only a Test: Pat Scott, left, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Fleet and Family Support Center chief of services, prepares NBG Security personnel for the pending arrival of volunteers at the processing center during the "Bisitan Tāsi" (bih-SEE-tan TAH-see), or "Ocean Visitors," emergency management exercise March 25. The exercise simulated the arrival of a ship with 300 evacuees including children and pets who would reside on Guam for up to 48 hours before heading to the continental U.S. The exercise was held in response to the possibility that NBG could become a temporary destination after the 9.0-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan March 11. (U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner)

brings the word 'preparedness' to the forefront of everyone's mind, so we used the situation to sharpen our emergency preparedness."

According to Ogburn, NBG personnel have participated in other emergency management exercises and training but this one involved more people, increased intensity and role-playing.

"NBG leadership is focused on NBG personnel being as prepared as possible for any emergency or natural disaster that might occur on Guam

to ensure the safety of our Sailors, their families and as well as ensuring we are always ready to meet our mission of supporting the fleet," Ogburn said.

Ogburn added that, if called upon, NBG personnel would be ready to support the Guam community in disaster recovery.

The exercise caused volunteers to consider some of the same issues all emergency management teams face such as communication resources; equipment needs and

availability; transportation needs and drivers; physical location for processing and holding; and facilities within those locations.

The new Charles King Fitness Center served as the primary processing center. As role players arrived, they handed the receiving personnel cards describing different scenarios including lost children, missing or sick pets, unidentified illnesses, lost passport, financial hardship and concerns and inability to cope with the evacuation.

"Little did we think about the suitability of the fitness center for such a situation when we planned it," said Eric Nikkel, NBG Morale, Welfare and Recreation director. "But it was almost perfect for this exercise and would certainly be for a future need."

Because the exercise scenario called for a 48-hour stay, personnel also considered where to house the arrivals, and how to transport them.

"The scenarios within such a situation are endless," said Pat Scott, NBG Fleet and Family Support Center chief of services. "We can't prepare for them all but we certainly can practice many potential situations."

Scott added that experiencing scenarios in "real time" gives NBG personnel the opportunity to react and see the how the anticipated physical execution worked or didn't work. Scott said she was impressed with the flexibility the players demonstrated when faced with the unexpected scenarios.

Ogburn added that throughout the exercise spotters noted important lessons learned, all of which will be addressed in the after-action review and report. With the exercise completed, NBG is not sitting idle.

"Whatever this team executed and carried out was a positive experience," Ogburn said. "We can only improve."

## Chiefs: Leaders feel 'privileged' to serve island

Continued from Page 1

the community," he said. "We pride ourselves as being on the deck plates and part of that is being an example to our Sailors and also supporting the community which we're privileged to serve with."

Rebecca Perez, the school's principal, praised the Navy for its continued support of the local community and said that the Sailors' efforts help with accomplishments that could not be met otherwise.

"In terms of getting big projects completed, the Navy always comes in handy," she said. "They come ready with personnel and equipment which is often very hard for us to come up with."

Perez added that her faculty, students and the local community are thankful for the support of the local military.

"We're really, really grateful to have the military come out here and help us," Perez said. "Any help they give to the public is really appreciated.

When we partner with the military, things always get better for us."

In response, Singleton said that it's always a pleasure to help those in need and just a part of what it means to be a Sailor.

"It's about being good neighbors and good citizens to one another," he said. "That's exactly what we wanted to portray here today."

For more information on volunteer opportunities, see your command volunteer coordinator.

Chief in a Haystack: Chief Hospital Corpsman (FMF) Freddie Mawanay, of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam's Pharmacy Department, clears brush from a children's playground during a community service project at Ordot Chalan Pago Elementary School in Ordot March 31. Dozens of chief petty officers from Navy commands on Guam came out to support the school and make a difference in the lives of the students. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



## Snakes: Guam USDA, Team Andersen are on the defense

Continued from Page 1

a cylinder. We place a mouse inside a self-contained section of the trap along with food and a water source. The snake sees and smells the mouse and is lured in but, because of the divide, the mouse is completely safe and doesn't get eaten by the snake."

Team Andersen has also taken the offensive. Brown tree snake population control and elimination measures have been developed and

subsequently employed throughout the base.

"There are ongoing research projects supported by the Air Force that are dedicated to finding ways to attract, lure and capture brown tree snakes more effectively," Hall said.

Research has shown that a 40 mg dose of acetaminophen, the primary ingredient in Tylenol, is lethal to virtually any size of brown tree snake.

"Currently, the most effective way to deliver that toxicant to a

snake is through a tiny neonatal mouse," Dhillon said. "We have a way to kill the snake but we just need to perfect a delivery system that works on a landscape scale."

Some may wonder why government resources are being used to control and eliminate a pest population on Guam, particularly when most have never even seen a brown tree snake.

"As you may or may not know the brown tree snake is responsible for the extinction of nine of 12 forest

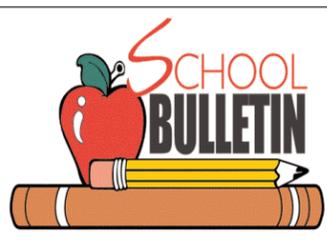
birds on Guam," Hall explained. "Research is showing that the loss of the birds may be impacting the ability of the natural ecosystem to sustain itself."

Before the snakes arrived, Guam's ecosystem was very different. Numerous birds could be seen and heard when walking through the northern limestone forests. Without the birds to disperse seeds and the fact that non-native pigs and deer tear up the ground and eat sapling

plants, the native limestone forest has been severely degraded and will require extensive help in order to recover.

"It is important that people who may come in contact with the brown tree snake, especially at points of exit and other high-risk sites, understand the scope of this problem and how to identify the snake so proper action can be taken," Hall said.

For more information, contact the USDA at 366-3822.



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](mailto:jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil) or call 349-2113.

### Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)

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

Upcoming meetings:

April 21 at Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School  
May 12 at Guam High School

Parents may re-register children at the DoDEA school of their choice from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. April 11-15. When registering, remember to bring updated immunization record and, if applicable, military extension orders and certification letters. For more information, call 344-9578/9596.

If you are interested in serving on the school board for SY 2011-2012, submit your nomination application to any DoDEA school location or the district superintendent's office located at U.S. Naval Hospital Guam. Deadline to submit your nomination is April 7. School board elections will take place April 11-15. For more information, call 344-9578/9596.

### Andersen Elementary School

April 11-15 Spring Break

### Guam High School

April 11-15 No school-Spring Break

April 20 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) testing

April 25-29 Far East Honors Musical Festival in Korea

The Student Council is preparing for the "Spring Fever Reliever" spirit week. There will be spirit dress days, lunch activities and a weeklong spirit competition between the classes and faculty. The week will culminate with a pep assembly where athletic and academic teams will be celebrated and new spirit class will be announced. For more information, call 344-7410.

### McCool Elementary/Middle School

April 18-22 Spring Book Fair

April 22 Earth Night/Spaghetti Night in the cafeteria from 6-8 p.m.

Nominations for the 2011-2012 PTO board will be accepted throughout April. A box will be set up by the front office and in the re-registration area for individuals to drop off nominations. Voting will take place during the May PTO meeting. For more information, call 339-8678.

# McCool students give to Japan



By Katie Johnson  
And Kimmie Seif

Cmdr. William C. McCool  
Elementary/Middle School

Students from Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School (MEMS) showed that they care about Japan.

On March 11, a 9.0-magnitude earthquake hit Japan. It was the worst earthquake in Japan's history. The earthquake was followed by a tsunami, which devastated the country.

**Coins For a Cause:** Students from Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School (MEMS) on U.S. Naval Base Guam deposit spare change at the school campus March 31. The MEMS Parent Teacher Organization and journalism class are sponsoring a coin drive and dress-down days to raise funds for Arahama Elementary School in Japan's Miyagi prefecture. The school was one of those hit the hardest by a 9.0-magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan March 11. (Photo by Lily Sheedy courtesy of MEMS)

As the humanitarian movement swept through the island, MEMS students have shown their concern and decided to do something for their neighbors. The National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement suggest helping those in need as a way to build resilience in students.

The Seahawks have a plan to help. MEMS students will be raising money to help students from Arahama Elementary School in Japan's Miyagi prefecture. The school was one of those hit the hardest in by the disasters.

The MEMS Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and journalism class will be hosting two dress-down days. During dress-down days, students pay \$1 or more to wear clothes other than the Department of Defense Education Activity-sanctioned uniform. Students will also contribute to a coin drive.

"The students just want to do something to help," said Debora Moore, MEMS public affairs officer. "I am so glad they came up with these ideas because it lets them take action. They see everything on television and taking action makes it not hurt so much."

# MEMS students learn about soroban



**Math Gets a Makeover:** Students from Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School (MEMS) use the soroban, a Japanese calculating device that uses beads, during a presentation at the U.S. Naval Base Guam campus March 31. Kouzi Suzuki, Institute for International Culture Exchange board chairman, and other experts from Japan came to teach MEMS and other Department of Defense Education Activity Guam students how to use the device. Japanese students learn to use the soroban as a mandatory part of their third-grade arithmetic classes according to Kiyoshi Ishika, League for Soroban Education of Japan Inc. MEMS is focused on improving student achievement in problem solving including calculation. This type of experience brings math to students in a new way. (Photo by Gabrielle Kranz courtesy of MEMS)

# STEM Program accepting registrations

By Anna-Victoria Crisostomo

Joint Region Edge Staff

The United States Naval Academy Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Program is now accepting applications for their summer program. The last day to apply is April 14.

The STEM Program is designed to encourage youth in the eighth-through 11th-grades to pursue

careers in engineering and technology. Rated as one of the country's top five "Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs" by "U.S. News and World Report," the program exposes participants to classroom study, "world-class" lab facilities, real-life applications of the various subjects, field trips and a chance to network with students from across the country.

The program consists of three

five-day sessions beginning June 6 and ending June 25. Participants will be grouped according to age.

Students looking to attend the summer program must demonstrate high academic performance. Performance indicators including grade point average, Preliminary and Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT and SAT) results, American College Testing (ACT) results and class standing will be taken into consideration.

Students' location will also be taken into consideration to allow for the largest geographic representation.

Students are responsible for transportation fees including air fare. According to the STEM program Web site, participants should make arrangements to fly into the Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) airport between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on the first day and depart after 2 p.m. on the last day of their

respective session. Transportation will be arranged between BWI and the Academy site.

All students selected will receive a scholarship for conference fees including room and board and daily meals. Those selected will be notified by May 1.

For more information or to apply, visit the STEM Program Web site at <http://www.usna.edu/admissions/steam.html>.

# Art of the talaya transcends generations

By Anna-Victoria Crisostomo  
Joint Region Edge Staff

As Jeffrey Pocaigue walks with his son along the Pago Bay shoreline in Chalan Pago, he carries more than just the weight of a fishing net on his shoulders. He skillfully positions the net, his hands agile from memory, and lifts his shoulders high as he leans back. In a second the net is soaring – opening wide and round before gravity pulls it into the water below.

Pocaigue is a talayeru (ta-la-DZEH-roo), a fisherman who has mastered the art of the taláya (ta-LAH-dza) throw net. Each time he casts his net into the ocean waters, he practices a centuries-old craft that has permeated generations of fathers and sons.

Pocaigue has been using the taláya since he was just eight years old.

“I usually follow my grandpa every day – almost every morning to the beach,” he said. “I’ve been doing it pretty much my whole life.”

A taláya is an intricate, hand-woven throw net that is used for fishing in shallow waters. The net is circular and has tiny weights known as sinkers all around the circumference. The net’s radius can be several feet long which can make it difficult for the inexperienced fisherman to handle.

Pocaigue, however, has had years of experience and is perfectly comfortable manipulating the taláya.

“I love the sport,” he said. “It’s something I love to do. It takes my mind away from whatever

stresses or problems I might have. It’s the life to live.”

Pocaigue said that his catch ranges from ti’ao (TEE-ow), or goatfish, to mañáhak (ma-NYAH-hawk), or baby rabbitfish, depending on the fishing season. He added that, while there are many good fishing spots on Guam, there is a key trait that all successful fishermen share.

“Patience,” Pocaigue said. “It’s all about patience.”

Pocaigue advised any first-time fishermen to be cautious of the dangers of the ocean. Strong currents, undertows, sharp coral, stonefish and broken glass are just a few potential hazards that can cause big problems if seafarers are not careful.

Despite the hazards, Pocaigue is sure that he has found his life’s calling and said that he will teach the craft to his son and grandsons just as his grandfather taught him.

“I’ll keep it generation to generation,” he said. “I don’t think I would ever give it up. It’s important. It’s been passed down from our ancestors and we should just keep the tradition alive – keep it going.”

**Generations of Tradition:** Local talayeru (ta-la-DZEH-roo), or fisherman, Jeffrey Pocaigue collects his taláya (ta-LAH-dza) at Pago Bay in Chalan Pago April 1. Pocaigue learned the art of taláya fishing from his grandfather and has been practicing the art since he was eight years old. He hopes to pass the tradition on to his son and grandsons in the same way it has been passed down to him. (U.S. Navy photo by Raymond Torres)



## FREE

**Karaoke Night**  
Every Friday at the Silver Dolphin on Naval Base Guam (NBG) Ordnance Annex, 7 p.m. Open to all authorized Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) patrons. For more information, call 564-2280.

**Golf Clinic**  
Every Saturday and Sunday from 9-10 a.m. at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course. No need to register! Just stop by to learn the basic fundamentals of the game of golf. For more information, call 344-5838/9.

**Children's Story Time**  
Every Wednesday at NBG Library from 3:30-4 p.m. and at Andersen AFB Library from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, call NBG at 564-1836 or Andersen AFB at 366-4291.

## Tumbling for Tots

Tumbling for Tots, an interactive play program for kids and parents, is available at the Hotspot Gym on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) just down the walkway from the bowling center. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. For more information, call the Hotspot at 366-2339.

## Sunrise Yoga

Every Friday morning at 6 a.m. at Tarague Beach. End your week with a relaxing yoga session on the beach. Listen to the sounds of the ocean while your body is rejuvenated with the sun's rays. For more information, call 366-6100.

## UNDER \$10

### Xtreme Midday Madness

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

## First Friday

The Top of the Rock will offer a great new "First Friday" program featuring a disc jockey and plenty of appetizers beginning April 1. First Friday will be held the first Friday of every month in the ballroom and Boonies beginning at 4 p.m. First Friday is free for club members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information, please call 366-6166.

## Willie's Beachside Jazz

At Bamboo Willie's every Sunday from 5-8 p.m., enjoy a relaxing evening and listen to jazz music. For more information, call 653-9814.

## 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.

## Bowl Your Brains Out

At Andersen AFB's Gecko Lanes, every Monday from 6-10 p.m. Bowl all you want for just \$5! For more information, call 366-5085.

## \$10 AND UP

### Breakfast at Café Latte

Café Latte at the Top of the Rock (Andersen AFB) offers breakfast from 6:30-9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturday. Enjoy morning coffee along with traditional breakfast favorites, plus a variety of breakfast burritos and sandwiches. For more information, call 366-6166.

### Family Golf Special

Bring the family on a golf outing to Palm Tree Golf Course (Andersen AFB) on Sundays after 2 p.m. and get nine holes of golf, two carts and rental clubs for up to four people for just \$34. Players must be immediate family members (parents and children). For more information, call 366-4653.

### Ladies' Golf

Every Wednesday is for the ladies at Palm Tree Golf Course. Ladies receive free green fees. Just pay the cart fee, \$12 for 18-holes or \$8 for 9-holes. For more information, call 366-4653.



### FRIDAY, APRIL 8

7 p.m.: Unknown • PG-13

### SATURDAY, APRIL 9

2 p.m.: Unknown • PG-13

7 p.m.: Big Momma's: Like Father, Like Son • PG-13

### SUNDAY, APRIL 10

7 p.m.: Take Me Home Tonight • R

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



### FRIDAY, APRIL 8

7 p.m.: Beastly • PG-13  
9:30 p.m.: Hall Pass • R

### SATURDAY, APRIL 9

1 p.m.: Tangled • PG  
3:30 p.m.: Big Momma's: Like Father Like Son • PG-13  
7 p.m.: Take Me Home Tonight • R

### SUNDAY, APRIL 10

1 p.m.: Beastly • PG-13  
3:30 p.m.: The Adjustment Bureau • PG-13  
7 p.m.: Hall Pass • R

The schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond the theater's control.

**The Big Screen Theater hotline is 564-1831 or visit [mwr Guam.com](http://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  
 Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 5 p.m. and Sunday, 9 a.m.

### Protestant Worship Service

Sunday Service: Traditional Service: 8 a.m.  
 Contemporary Service: 11 a.m.  
 Women's Bible Study: Monday, 9 a.m.  
 Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, 6 p.m.  
 Prayer Time: Thursday, 11:30 a.m.  
 Choir Practice: Traditional: Wednesday, 6 p.m.  
 Choir Practice: Contemporary: Tuesday, 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.  
 Protestant Services  
 Full Gospel Service: Sunday, 6:30 p.m.  
 Men's Bible Study: Every other Tuesday starting April 5  
 Women's Bible Study: Second and fourth Saturday of each month

### Andersen Air Force Base

Roman Catholic Mass (Chapel 1)  
 Weekday Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:30 a.m.  
 Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 p.m.  
 Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30-4:50 p.m.  
 Catholic Women of the Chapel: First and third Wednesday of the month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6:30 p.m.  
 Catholic Youth of the Chapel: Second and fourth Wednesday of the month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6:30 p.m.  
 Choir Rehearsal: Saturday 4-5 p.m. and Sunday, 8-9 a.m.

### Protestant Worship Service

Praise Service: Sunday, Chapel 2, 9 a.m.  
 Gospel Service: Sunday, Chapel 2, 11:30 a.m.  
 Emerging Worship Service: Sunday, Lighthouse, 6 p.m.  
 Protestant Women of the Chapel: Second Monday of each month, Chapel 2 Annex, 6:30 p.m.  
 Protestant Men of the Chapel: Wednesday, Lighthouse, 7 p.m.  
 Protestant Youth of the Chapel: Thursday, Chapel 2 Annex, 7 p.m.  
 Protestant Young Adults: Thursday and Saturday, Lighthouse, 6 p.m.  
 Protestant Sunday School: (September-May) Sunday, Chapel Activity Center, 10:15 a.m.

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

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

# God bless our military children

By Lt. James M. Rutan

U.S. Naval Base Guam Chaplain

Sitting in solitude gazing out at the San Diego skyline, my silent reflection was suddenly pierced by the appearance of a brood of young children energetically erupting onto the scene.

I took one look at them and immediately marked them as military kids.

I confirmed this as two physical training gear-clad moms, woefully outnumbered by the brood, descended to restore order. As I made this distinction between these particular children and the scores of other children on the scene, I studied them for a moment—perhaps trying to understand my own ability to pick military families out of a crowd so easily.

My observation—there is just something special and compelling about these little ones.

Often we recognize the value of

the person serving in the uniform and, nowadays, we properly honor the sacrifices of the military spouse but we often overlook the contributions and service of our pint-sized patriots.

Because we expose our children to so many exotic places and cultures in the course of our wanderings across the globe, military kids are more curious and informed about the world than other children. I find that,

when asked, they do have an opinion about the events happening in our world.

After services one Sunday, a young boy engaged me in a discussion about the war in Iraq. At just ten years old, he thoughtfully articulated the root causes of the conflict and the latest news from the front.

Unfortunately, I have spoken to many adults who do not possess nearly the insight that this young boy summoned.

Another trait that sets our military kids apart is their strong sense of patriotism. Over the past year I have been blessed with the opportunity to address returning combat veterans and their families at Army and Navy Yellow Ribbon Campaign events.

Despite the long periods of separation and the stress of these deployments, I would be hard pressed to find a child in attendance who does not take pride in the fact that their mom or dad is manning the watch in these difficult times.

In many ways it is not mom and dad who pay the greatest price for their service to the nation—more often than not it is our children.

Think about it—teens plucked out of their high school and circle of friends in their senior year and campus football stars relegated to the “B team” as they transfer to a new base. When I consider the plight of military kids, their sacrifices for our nation humble me.

I am certainly not the first to recognize the value and contribution of our military kids. Many researchers

have taken an interest in military children attempting to analyze what makes the subculture so unique.

One theme that constantly emerged is the continued desire of our children to serve others as they approach adulthood. Many, if not most, choose service-related professions. Some follow in the footsteps of their parents and choose to continue in the tradition of military service. Others become nurses, doctors, police officers or public servants.

Our military children are so very special and it is therefore incumbent upon each one of us as military parents to do our utmost to cherish and train our children. Because of the pressure that they face and the unique challenges brought upon them by our profession, we must heed the admonition of Proverbs 22:6. “Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it.”

Their futures are far too important to chance and their sacrifices are far too great to ignore. God bless our military kids.







# Lady Panthers look promising despite loss

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

The Guam High School Lady Panthers lost an exciting game to the George Washington High School Geckos April 5.

In the beginning, things looked grim. The Panthers scored the first basket in the first half but were cold and disengaged. The Geckos built an 11-point lead. The Panthers shot heavy and couldn't get a friendly bounce.

After a needed timeout, the coach was on his feet with his hands held high. Whatever he said – it worked. The Panthers came out on fire. Christiana Mendiola, Panthers team captain, took control of the team by moving them into position, creating fouls and controlling the tempo.

"My father told me to be more aggressive on the court," she said. "I want to win and I get my motivation from him."

Another key player was Alyssa Swingle with her relentless rebounding. In the first half alone she grabbed

seven rebounds. Majority of them were offensive.

"I am 5'9"," Swingle said. "My height helps me out."

Coach Mark Pieper said he was impressed with Swingle.

"This is her first time playing basketball," he said. "She is coming along really well."

With Swingle rebounding the ball and Mendiola commanding the court, the team pulled the gap closer for a two-point deficit. Halftime score was 21-19 with Geckos in the lead.

The second half was exactly the same as the first as far as tempo. The Lady Panthers couldn't find their rhythm and the Geckos started to pull away. At the end of the third period the, the score was 29-19 in favor of the Geckos.

Going into the final period, the Panthers were back on the court and Mendiola looked fresh. The whole team stepped up their defense – slowing down the Geckos' attack. A Panthers' forward grabbed three crucial rebounds while forcing two fouls. The Geckos' fast-paced attack came to a halt – they scored only two more baskets the whole period.

Meanwhile, the Panthers were working on a comeback. Mendiola was cutting through the defense and Swingle was crashing the boards. Despite their poor inside game, the Panthers were in control. The game was in their grasp. The home crowd was shouting and the intensity grew. Unfortunately, the game ended and the Geckos won with a final score of 35-29.

Coach Pieper was content with the outcome.

"This is a very young team," he said. "We have three returners and everyone else is new. We are in a tough division but we have time to fine tune everything."



Going Up: Guam High School Lady Panthers team captain Christiana Mendiola drives to the basket during an Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association Guam Varsity Basketball League game at the school April 5. The Panthers lost an exciting game to the George Washington High School Geckos with a final score of 29-35. (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.

### Captain's Cup Softball

Captain's Cup Softball begins April 20. Registration is ongoing April 14. Coaches meeting will be April 14 at 5 p.m. at Charles King Fitness Center (CKFC). Registration packets can be obtained from the CKFC front desk. For more information, call 685-5243.

### 2011 Earth Day 5K Fun Run

2011 Earth Day 5K Fun Run will be held April 22. Show times is 5 p.m. and go time is 5:30 p.m. Pre-registration is ongoing until April 21 at Charles King Fitness Center. Registration can also be done at the race. Start and finish will be at the grassy field at Sumay Marina. For more information, call 339-2049.

### Baseball and T-Ball

The Guam Youth Sports Association will be hosting a five-week baseball and T-Ball clinic including practices and games. Registration is ongoing through April 22. Practices will be held on Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-6:30pm starting April 25. T-Ball (youth ages five-six) will practice at Community Field. Baseball (youth ages seven-10) will practice at Ebbett Field. For more information, call 564-1844/5.

### Ultimate Frisbee

Ultimate Frisbee pickup games are played Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Sampson Softball Field on NBG (next to the old swimming pool). No experience necessary. For more information, show up.

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.

### Youth Baseball and T-Ball Registration

Youth Baseball and T-Ball seasons are set to begin. Certification for coaches will be held April 14-16. Practices start April 18. Games begin May 7. For more information, call 366-3491.

### Monthly Green Fee Card

Golfers can now purchase a money-saving monthly green fee card for just \$40-\$60 per month depending on rank. Purchase yours at Palm Tree Golf Course or call 366-4653 for more information.

### Lap Swimming

The Andersen pool offers lap swimming outside recreational swim hours. Lap swimming hours are 6-8 a.m. and 11 a.m.-noon Friday through Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. No lap swimming available Thursdays, weekends, holidays and down days. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 366-5197.

### Aikido Classes

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.



Every Game I'm Hustling: A Guam High School Lady Panthers team member hustles for the ball during an Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association Guam Varsity Basketball League game at the school April 5. The Panthers lost an exciting game to the George Washington High School Geckos with a final score of 29-35. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)



I'm Open!: A Guam High School Lady Panthers team member sets up a pass during an Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association Guam Varsity Basketball League game at the school April 5. The Panthers lost an exciting game to the George Washington High School Geckos with a final score of 29-35. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

