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Rocketeer II

Vol. 6, Issue 2 | *The official newspaper of the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake community* | Thursday, January 26, 2012

Donald W. Cooper passes away:

Donald W. Cooper, a 37-year employee of China Lake and who most recently ran the Retired Affairs Office here at China Lake passed away Jan. 18. A memorial service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 at Holland and Lyons Mortuary. In lieu of flowers, his family requests donations be sent to Ridgecrest Regional Hospice Services, 1653 Triangle Drive, Suite B, Ridgecrest, Ca 93555.

Wanted:

IAug. 15, 2011, a fire occurred at the Oasis Community Pool located aboard NAWS China Lake in the vicinity of the women's locker room sink area.

If you, or any one you know, has information pertaining to the fire at the community pool, please contact Navy Criminal Investigative Services at (760) 939-6646 or come to the office at 451 Blandy Ave. Information can be given anonymously over the telephone.

NEX closure:

Navy Exchange will be conducting its annual inventory at the end of January. On Friday, Jan. 27, and Saturday Jan. 28, the gas station will close at 3 p.m. This does not include the pumps. Gas will be available for sale using a credit card at the pumps. On Saturday, Jan.28, the main store will close at 3 p.m.

Officials break ground at new solar plant

By Michael Roach
Editor, Rocketeer II

A distinguished crowd gathered at the Southwest corner of Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake Jan. 18 10 a.m. for the groundbreaking ceremony of the installations new photovoltaic solar power plant.

NAWS Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Dodson served as the master of ceremony for the event. "It is unique, in that, this is the first naval installation that has been able to pull off this type of contracting authority. That rate, as energy prices go up in the future is expected to save us about $13 million over the course of the 20-year contract. More importantly it is green energy meeting SECNAV's goals to become more energy efficient and to utilize alternative energy sources."

Dodson continued, "This facility will sell energy to the Navy for a negotiated price for the next 20

Solar, Page 13

Photo by Peggy Shoaf

ASN (EI&E) Jackalyne Pfannenstiel (third from left) joins (l to r, first row) NAVFAC Southwest Capt Clifford Maurer, NAWS China Lake Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Dodson, NRSW Commander Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, NAWCWD Commander Mat Winter and SunPower Corporation President Howard Wenger in tossing the first shovel of dirt for the groundbreaking ceremony of the 13.78 megawatt photovoltaic solar power plant being built onboard the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif.

Change of command being held for NAWS

By Jessica Armstrong
NAWS PAO

Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Dodson will be relieved by Capt. Dennis Lazar in a change of command ceremony today at 10 a.m. at the All-Faith Chapel. The event is open to all who have badge access to the installation and will be followed by a reception.

The ceremony will also officially retire Dodson from the Navy. Dodson, who assumed the role of commanding officer of NAWS China Lake in October 2009, will bid farewell to a 27-year career after turning over

Official Navy photo

NAWS Commanding Officer Capt. Jefrey Dodson.

Official Navy photo

NAWS Prospective Commanding Officer Capt. Dennis Lazar.

command of the installation.

During his station at China Lake, Dodson provided leadership and guidance for a number of energy, environmental and safety initiatives. These included projects that decreased energy and water consumption base-wide, reduced workplace mishaps, decreased Sailor drunk driving arrests, saved the Mojave Ground Squirrel from the threatened or endangered species list, and improved relationships with the eight Native American tribes in the area.

He also oversaw the

NAWS Change, Page 12

Wounded warrior
Page 10

MLK Celebration
Page 11

Sailor of the Year
Page 3

VX-31 awards
Page 3

Claude Barnham Knox, 1921-2012

Longtime Ridgecrest resident, retired Navy veteran and Pearl Harbor survivor, Claude Barnham "C.B." Knox, 90, died Jan. 6. in Bakersfield Calif., with his wife of 67 years by his side.

C.B. was the youngest of seven and the only son born Dec. 6, 1921 to the late Robert and Mattie Knox in Woden, Texas. After graduating from high school in 1939, he signed up as a "seaman recruit" for the United States Navy. The day after his 20th birthday, Dec. 7, 1941, C.B. Knox was sitting on the deck of the Battleship USS California, docked at Pearl Harbor, when he noticed smoke above Ford Island. He was the first loader on a five-in gun crew that went into action defending Pearl Harbor. Though the ship was sinking, C.B. and other crew members stayed aboard fighting until the Japanese withdrew. C.B. was able to swim to shore that day but he suffered injuries that affected him daily for the next 70 years.

He was transferred to the USS West Virginia in June 1942 where he stayed until she was decommissioned after the war was over. On Oct. 25, 1944, just days after the birth of his first son, they fought the battle of Surigao Straits and that battle was one of the largest surface actions of World War II.

C.B. met the woman that would be by his side for the rest of his life at a New Year's Eve ball in 1943 while the ship was docked at the Port of Bremerton, Washington. They were married April 30, 1944, in Kitsap, Wash. by the Navy Chaplain. C.B.'s service included battle of Surigao Straits as well as serving in the Atlantic Fleet after World War II. He ended his military service on the USS Braine and was discharged in 1960 after 20 years of service which included three years of recruiting in Galveston, Texas. In 1960, he joined the civil service work force at the Naval repair Facility in San Diego where he worked as a rigger until the base closed in 1964. He was then transferred to Ridgecrest. In 1966, he was made leadingman in barracks maintenance and in 1969, headed up the Mail, Files, and Records Branch, Office Services Division, Command Administration Department. He retired after a lifetime of service in 1986.

After his retirement, he took advantage of Ridgecrest's proximity to Crowley Lake and he and his wife took to the mountains, affectionately called "Camp," every summer with about 15 other couples and numerous family members visiting through the years. C.B.,

Courtesy photo

a true fisherman, seldom left the lake without catching his limit. In the winters, they would drive to Texas with the camper in tow to celebrate the holidays with their sons and their families. C.B. and Shirley loved life, dancing, laughing, and spending time with friends and family. In that fashion, C.B. recently celebrated his 90th birthday with a large gathering of friends and family in which he was honored and celebrated as the most influential, respected, and loved

Knox, Page 13

All Faith Chapel

Command Chaplain Lt. Derrick Horne

Rev. James Dowds, Catholic priest

Activities:

Airfield Bible Study:
each Wednesday from 1130-1230 at the VX-9 Airfield Training Room (on the west side of the Bat's Mess).

Ladies Do Lunch:
Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 12 p.m. in East Wing.

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james.dowds.ctr@navy.mil

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Monday through Wednesday
Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Sunday Mass:
(Saturday vigil for Sunday):
Saturday: 4 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m.

Altar Society:
9:30 a.m. Tuesdays
(prayer, work and Coffee and doughnuts)

Confession:
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Jumaa Prayer:
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Religious Education Building

PROTESTANT SERVICES:
Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Main Chapel

Adult Sunday School:
9 a.m., East Wing

Protestant Women of the Cross (PWOC)

Mary-Martha and Elizabeth Circle: Time and place to be announced in Chapel Service

Rocketeer II

NAWS China Lake

Commanding Officer ..... Capt. Jeffrey "DD" Dodson
Executive Officer ..... Cmdr. Lee "Navin" Johnson
Public Affairs Officer ..... Peggy Shoaf
Editor .....Michael Roach
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All copy is reviewed by the Public Affairs Office of NAWS China Lake. The editor reserves the right to edit, copy, run and/or delete stories submitted. Correspondence, articles and photographs for Rocketeer II submitted by the public or NAWS personnel should be e-mailed to Peggy Shoaf at peggy.shoaf@navy.mil or rocketeer2@verizon.net. Fax information to (760) 939-2796, or call the Rocketeer II office at (760) 446-4284 or (760) 939-1683 (DSN 437), respectively. Rocketeer II's office is located in the Headquarters Building, Room 1040. Submissions should be sent no later than noon the Wednesday a week before the publication date.

Correspondence, articles and photos from the following commands should be submitted to the person indicated:

- Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division and Explosive Ordnance Detachment Mobile Unit 3: NAWCWD Public Affairs at (760) 939-3511
- Air Test and Evaluation Squadron THREE ONE: Lt. Brian Culver at brian.culver@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-3529
- Air Test and Evaluation Squadron NINE: Lt. Bryan Haney at bryan.haney@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-5525
- Marine Aviation Detachment: Lt. Col. James Coppersmith at james.coppersmith@navy.mil or (760) 939-8094
- Naval Facilities Engineering Command: Patricia Sbrocca at patricia.sbrocca@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-0082
- Branch Health Clinic: Lt. Cmdr. Richard Stacey at Richard.stacey@med.navy.mil, or call (760) 939-8002
- Navy Expeditionary Combat Command: CWO3 John Hammond at john.d.hammond@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-6341

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Communication Resources

Naval Air Weapons Station: www.cnic.navy.mil/chinalake

Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons: www.navair.navy.mil/nawcwd

Social Media

NAWS China Lake can now be found on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/NAWSChinaLake, Twitter at https://twitter.com/NAWS_CL and Flickr at http://wwwflickr.com/photos/nawschinalake.

A YouTube channel is currently under development and can be accessed at https://www.youtube.com/NAWSChinaLake. Use of any of these channels is totally voluntary and not a requirement.

Rocketeer II online:
http://www.chinalakenews.com

Navy Family Ombudsman

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VX-9:
Jennifer Connolly
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Teresa Draves
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Military

VX-31 recognizes top performers

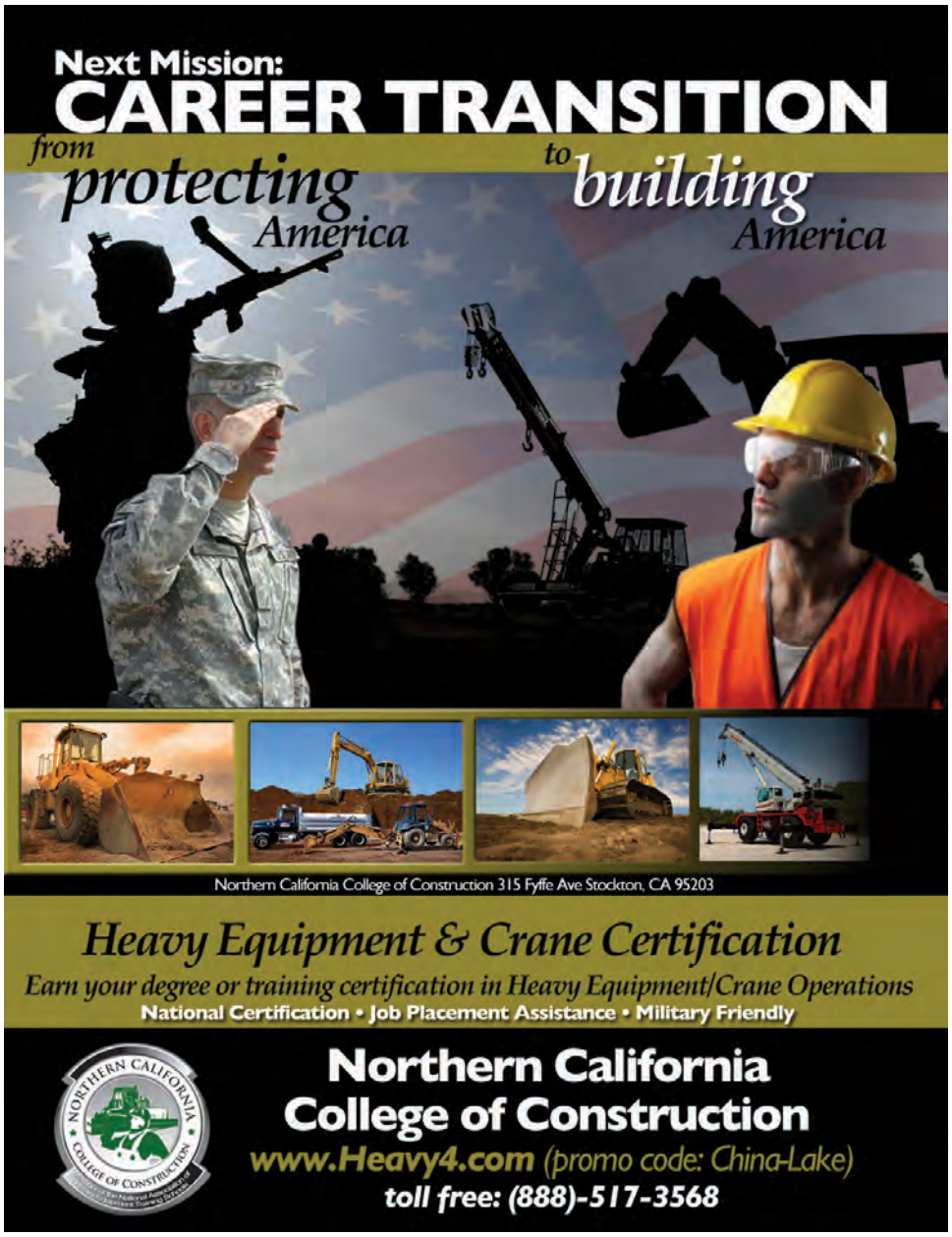
Photo by Mike McGinnis

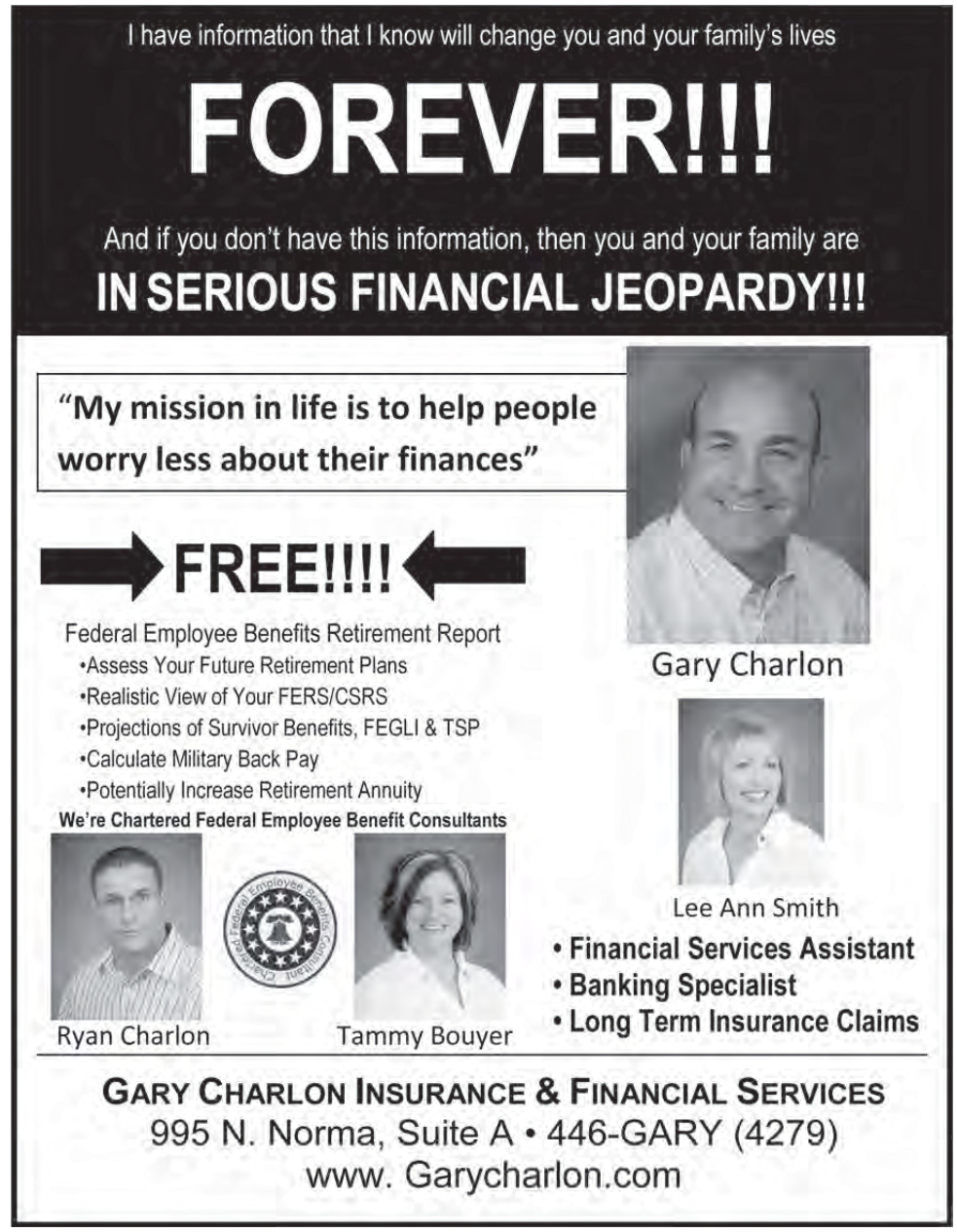
Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Three One (VX-31) recognized three top performers during the annual VX-31 Safety "Stand Down" at Michelson Laboratory auditorium, Jan. 9. Cmdr. A. J. "Face" McFarland, chief test pilot, and Greg Glen, chief test engineer, hosted the program. NAWCWD COmmander Rear Adm. Mat Winter presented the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medals and awards to Test Pilot of the Year Lt. Scott "Beav" Johnson and Naval Flight Officer of the Year Lt. Robert "Shredder" Merritt. Alexandria Pyle was recognized for her performance with the Flight Test Engineer of the Year award. Left to right, Winter, Merritt, Johnson, Pyle and Col. Andre Mercier, commanding officer of VX-31.

OS1 Aisha Jenkins named NAWCWD Sailor of the Year

Photo by Lori O'Brien

NAWCWD Commander Rear Adm. Mat Winter, congratulates OS1 Aisha Jenkins as NAWCWD Sailor of the Year. Jenkins will now be considered for the national selection of NAVAIR Sailor of the Year.





Military

Lt. Col. Darby speaks at the IWV Navy League on NAWCWD Counter IED program

Official Navy photo

Lt. Col. Keith C. "Titus" Darby II

By Ed Roeper
NAWCWD PAO

Lt. Col. Keith C. "Titus" Darby II, Naval Air Weapons Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) military deputy for the Counter Improvised Explosive Device Technical Project Office (CIED TPO) spoke at the Indian Wells Valley (IWV) Navy League's monthly dinner meeting on Jan. 10.

Darby, a Marine Corps veteran of 24 years briefed the IWV Navy League members on the innovative work NAWCWD is doing in the field of CIED.

CIED TPO's mission is to deliver decision-quality actionable information. This is accomplished by performance and compatibility testing using rigorous methodologies in a predictable, measurable, repeatable and affordable environment that provides actionable data to deployed forces and decision-makers.

IWV Navy League holds monthly dinner meetings and invites speakers to educate its members and the public about the sea services.

The group also sponsors the Annual Bluejacket Awards Dinner to honor local junior and senior enlisted Navy or Marine Corps members.

The 41st Annual Bluejacket Award Dinner will be held in March.

2012 election year guidance and voting assistance

Voting is a right, and DoD and Navy provide guidance on voting resources available for theirSailors, Marines and their families as well as certain restrictions pertaining to elections.

Throughout the fleet, Navy leaders support participation in the democratic process by:

• Supporting the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) by publishing factual information about registration and voting laws, with special emphasis on absentee voting requirements.

• Training and equipping voting assistance officers at every level of command.

• Ensuring expeditious processing of balloting material and proper postmarking and date-stamping of absentee ballots.

• Taking all necessary steps to prevent fraud and to protect voters against any coercion.

Prohibited Activities in Support of Political Events by Military Personnel

All personnel, including reservists, when acting in their official capacity, shall not:

• Wear military uniforms at political campaign or election events.

• Associate the Navy with any partisan political campaign or election, candidate, cause, or issue.

• Distribute political campaign or election literature while in uniform, or while on a military installation.

• Engage in public commentary, including speeches and written submissions offered for publication -concerning political campaigns or elections without prior clearance.

• Respond directly to inquiries from political campaign organizations. All inquiries shall be forwarded to a Public Affairs Officer, who will respond with public information unless the request is from elected officials.

Prohibited Uses of Navy Installations

Elected officials who are also candidates may visit installations on official business, and commanders should offer all candidates for national office who are not current government officials the same access to installations as any other unofficial visitor. However, commanders shall not allow the use of Navy installations for:

• Filming or photographing of military equipment for use in political campaign or election advertisements, commercials, or literature. This does not apply outside the confines of an installation.

• Use by any candidate for political campaign or election events including public assemblies or town hall meetings, speeches, fundraisers, press conferences, post-election celebrations, and concession addresses.

• Campaign or election activity or comments to the media by candidates visiting on official business.

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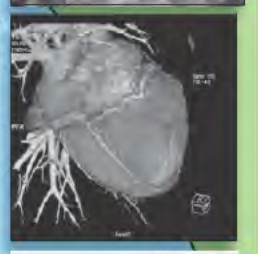

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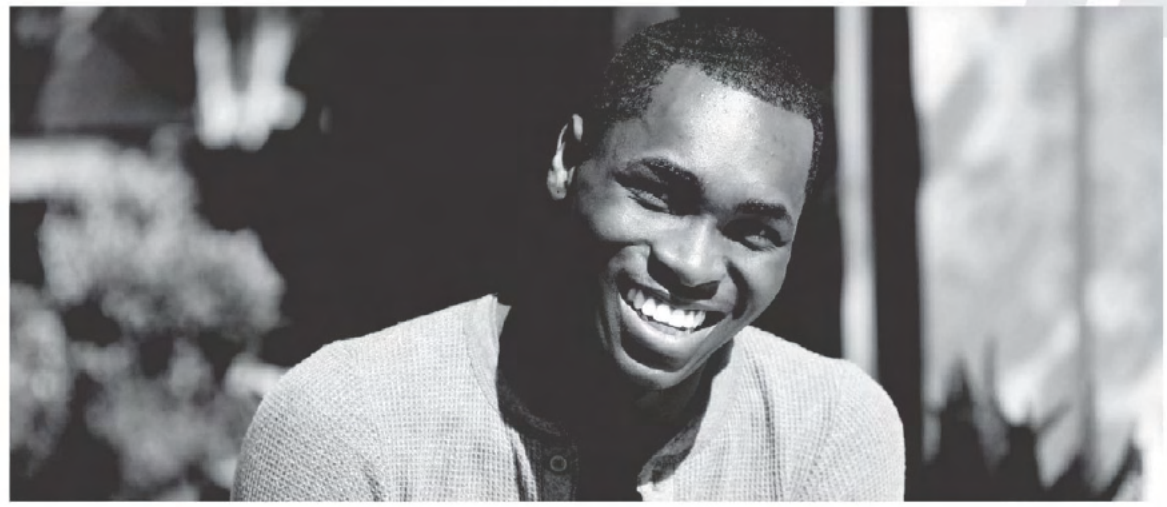

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RCF

News

Trish Gresham receives Corporate Operations Superior Achievement Award

Photo by Ron Rodriguez

Brad Harlow, head of Corporate Operations, presented the Corporate Operations Superior Achievement Award to Trish Gresham, human resources specialist of the Total Force Strategy and Management Department, for her superior skills and performance in support of the Community and Education Outreach program from fiscal year 2010 to 2011. Gresham is responsible for deployment of the Department of the Navy's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education outreach program at NAWCWD.

Dave Kelley recieves 30-year service pin

Photo by Michael Roach

Naval Air Weapon Station (NAWS) China Lake's Safety and Occupational Health Specialist Dave Kelley (left) was presented an award for 30 years of service to the federal government by NAWS Commanding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Dodson. Kelley who began his service in the Air Force Jan. 12, 1976, came to work at China Lake 20 years ago.

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Command Safety Message

Happy new year - back in the saddle in 2012

With our return to work after the holidays we must now re-focus our attention from holiday safety back to operational issues and performing our jobs in the most safe and healthful manner possible.

The New Year fosters a sense of a "fresh start" and can be an opportunity to work on cleaning-up and organizing workspaces, conducting self-inspections, updating and reviewing procedures, and setting goals to improve the safety and efficiency of your workplace. Our primary safety goal at China Lake continues to be the prevention of mishaps. There are many things that can be done by all employees to increase safety and prevent mishaps. It all starts with awareness of hazards or potential hazards and taking real action to correct even the seemingly small things that increase our risk of having a mishap. We cannot overemphasize the role that Operational Risk Management (ORM) plays in achieving a significant reduction in mishaps. The ORM process helps the process owner to identify hazards and risk levels and implement controls to reduce risk and potential mishaps. The start of a new year is a perfect time to review ORMs for operations already in place, update those which have had operational changes through the year, and create new ORMs for new tasks and operations in your workplace.

ORM is a continual or cyclic process which includes risk assessment, risk decision making, and implementation of risk controls, which result in acceptance, mitigation, or avoidance of risk. ORM can involve a systematic and detailed review of operations or can be a quick mental check of risks and implementation of controls as a task unfolds.

As a reminder, there are three designated levels of ORM: In Depth; Deliberate; and Time Critical.

•In depth risk management is used before a project is implemented, when there is plenty of time to plan and prepare. ORM at this level may take days or even weeks to complete the evaluation. Examples of in depth methods include operational training, drafting instructions and requirements, development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and test plans.

•Deliberate risk management is used at routine periods through the implementation of a project or process. Examples include quality assurance, on-the-job training, safety briefs, performance reviews, and safety checks.

•Time critical risk management is used during operational exercises or execution of tasks. This is a real time, on-the-spot evaluation of risk. It is the effective use of all available resources by individuals, work crews and teams to safely and effectively accomplish the mission or task using risk management concepts on-the-spot when time and resources may be limited.

Regardless of the complexity of the ORM performed, the basic steps of ORM are shown below.

1) Identify Hazards – review the steps of the task or operation at hand and determine what could go wrong at each step. Questions to ask: What are you going to do? What are the steps? What could go wrong at each step of the operation?

2) Assess Hazards – review each step and determine the risk level or risk assessment. What the probability is that the something will go wrong and compare that to the severity of the event. Questions to ask: What is the worst thing that could happen (i.e., severity)? What is the likelihood that something will go wrong (i.e., probability)?

3) Make Risk Decisions - review the risk assessment to help make your decision if the risk level is acceptable or what controls can be implemented to reduce the risk level. Questions to ask: Does the benefit outweigh the risk? Is it worth doing? What can I do to reduce the risk at each step? What controls do I need to put in place?

4) Implement Controls – put in place the control measures you described in the previous step. Simply activate your control plan. Implement the process changes, conduct the training, use the personal protective equipment (PPE), write the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), obtain the right tools, etc.

5) Supervise – watch for changes. Questions to ask: Are the controls I planned to put in place actually being done? Are they working? Do they need to be changed?

The requirements and guidance regarding the implementation of ORM throughout the Navy can be found in OPNAVINST 3500.39C dated July 2, 2010. Local guidance is provided in the NAWS Instruction 5100.28. Training on ORM is required and available through Enterprise Safety Application Management System and through the Navy Knowledge On-Line system. The current ORM training is titled "Individual – Managing Your Risk". An annual refresher on ORM is also required for all personnel.

The goal is to make ORM part of our daily operations. This simple, logical process will help save lives, protect people and preserve assets. The Naval Safety Center provides a great deal of resources regarding ORM at their web site -- http://safetycenter.navy.mil/. Think and use ORM both on-duty and off. The sound principles can be easily applied to any situation to lessen the risk of a mishap.

Calendar Year 2011 OSHA Recordable Mishaps: *68*

15) N9: Contusion/strain to top of foot when foot struck crib during fire evaluation drill.

16) N9: Pain in left knee while kneeling and standing during tile rip out procedures in pool locker room.

17) 470000D: Tripped and fell in CLPL parking lot resulting in multiple fractures.

18) 526210D: Lacerated finger while bouncing pry bar on a spool of steel banding.

19) Fire Dept: Pulled muscle in back/neck while doing pull-up exercises in Fire Station Dorm.

20) 474000D: Hit head on metal structural beam while standing up from a kneeling position.

21) CL Police: Allergic reaction to OC Pepper Spray during police training exercise.

22) 466200D: Skin irritation from exposure to chemical in water while TDY conducting mishap investigation.

23) CL Police: Insect bite to leg resulted in bodily reaction, fever, and swelling at the site.

24) N9: Strained back while attempting to stop a run-away utility golf cart during grounds maintenance.

25) N9: Finger laceration while trimming meat in preparation for lunch service.

26) 526200D: Electric shock experienced when doing a voltage check on a foreign radar system.

27) N9: Shoulder pain while changing bed linens during housekeeping of BOQ.

28) 741000D: Tripped on aircraft tie down eyelet on airfield tarmac and fell injuring shoulder.

29) 52322MD: After light lifting, exited GMV truck and felt pain in lower back.

30) 6C0000D: Laceration to finger while using box cutter to scrape stickers off equipment

31) N9: Fell in Child Development Center kitchen when foot caught on food serving cart.

32) 472200D: Injured back while lifting a test table (125-150lbs) into pick-up truck.

33) N32: Noise induced hearing loss that resulted in OSHA recordable significant threshold shift.

34) 783400D: Back and shoulder strain after falling in parking lot.

35) 418300D: Fell from forklift while attempting to wash windshield – bruises and strain.

36) N9: Pain/pull in groin area when lifting case of toilet paper during custodial duties.

37) N9: Shoulder/arm strain when moving "Bounce House" after evening event.

38) 753000D: Strained back while lifting and moving a 25" CRT style television set into van.

39) 51J320D: Hearing loss sustained that meets OSHA recordable criteria for threshold shift.

40) 52610MD: Vehicle mishap while traveling from meeting to primary worksite.

41) 783300D: Allergic reaction to suspected spider bite to arm while moving boxes.

42) 477100D: Strained shoulder attempting to move 55 gallon drum with no assistance.

43) 471100D: Rolled ankle and fell while running down outside stairwell – ankle sprain.

44) 535200D: Lacerated leg when hand held grinder kicked back toward employee.

45) N9: Strained back when bending at the waist to pick up clean linen bundle.

46) CL Police: Strained knee while participating in police training exercise.

47) 7J2000D: Laceration to hand when contacting sharp edge of aluminum plate.

48) CL Police: Vehicle ran over gate guard's foot as it proceeded through the gate ID check.

49) 52540MD: Employee felt pain in his lower back after moving furniture.

50) 52540MD: Employee twisted ankle while exiting large truck to refuel at gas station.

51) N9: Strained neck and hit head while standing up inside of small school bus.

52) 4L1000D: Sprained shoulder while attempting to catch a computer monitor that was falling from a cart.

53) 477200D: Fell and twisted ankle when old door came off hinges while trying to open it.

54) 472300D: Strained back after kicking furniture dolly out from under work bench being moved.

55) 518200D: Tripped and fell while running across parking lot on-duty while TDY.

56) N9: Knee pop/strain when standing up from the ground while holding/lifting a child during childcare.

57) Fire: Back strain/pain during fire fighter physical training (PT) at the Gym.

58) 472100D: Rolled ankle on 2"x4" board while exiting laser test van resulting in multiple fractures.

59) 78G000D: Tripped and fell over concrete parking bumper resulting in various injuries.

60) CL Police: Pulled/strained leg muscle while running during police training exercise.

61) CL Police: Tripped on stair and started to fall backward resulting in hamstring strain.

62) 473200D: Laceration to leg when truck door struck against shin during door closure.

63) 434100D: Stepped on wooden pallet edge that collapsed, resulting in loss of balance and strained foot.

64) 473100D: Jarred/strained wrist when socket wrench malfunctioned and slipped.

65) 526000D: Abdominal strain removing overhead oil fill plug from radar tower during fluid check.

66) N9: Severe arm swelling/redness as a result of a bee sting while caring for children in toddler playground.

67) 4L6100D: Muscle strain to hip when fell trying to sit down into office chair that had moved away.

68) N9: Caregiver struck foot against child's toy when crossing through the courtyard/play area in the dark.

News

Simpson gets appreciation award

Photo by Dan O'Connor

Merrie Giles, right, NAWCWD comptroller, presents Rebecca Simpson, NAWCWD travel technician, a Comptroller Employee Appreciation Award on Jan. 23. Simpson's nomination stated that she is knowledgeable in researching and resolving issues to the satisfaction of both the customer and her team members and excels at problem solving. It goes on to say that her willingness to go the extra mile to assist customers and team members is evident in everything she does -- answering the phones, developing new and improved tools, providing better and more efficient ways to extract information from the system, and assisting customers with their issues and concerns. "Ms. Simpson represents the epitome of professionalism, customer service, and positive attitude," a customer recently stated. The Comptroller organization has an ongoing program that recognizes employee excellence through peer nomination, whereby an employee is selected based on employee input and receives a time-off award.

Public Works Dept. responds to busted water line

Courtesy photo

A crew of pipe fitters from the Public Works Department Utilities Shop work the weekend of Jan. 6 to replace four seized valves and deteriorated couplings on a waterline at the intersection of Blandy Rd. and Hussy near the Paradise Café.

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CW03 Osilla helps weave pride into quilt for injured Marine

By Jessica Armstrong
NAWS PAO

When Marine Aviation Detachment China Lake was approached by JoAnn Foster of the High Desert Quilt Guild for assistance with a quilt to be created for an injured Marine, Chief Warrant Officer Three Michael Osilla gladly obliged. But, what began as helping Foster with research, ended with Osilla forever becoming a part of the quilt.

The recipient of the wounded warrior quilt was Marine Corporal Farrell Gilliam, a 2007 graduate of Burroughs High School who was injured in Afghanistan Jan. 5, 2011, when he stepped on an improvised explosive device during a foot patrol. Foster specifically requested to create the quilt for Gilliam. While presenting the quilt to Gilliam's father, Michael, at the Guild's holiday meeting, Dec. 1, she said, "I have been so touched by the strength of character shown by Farrell Gilliam. As his high school guidance counselor, I know that Farrell always wanted to become a Marine. When our quilt guild decided to present Farrell with one of our wounded warrior quilts, I… asked if I could make the quilt."

Courtesy photo

JoAnn Foster (left) explains the significance of the fabrics of the wounded warrior quilt she made for Marine Corporal Farrell Gilliam presented to his father, Michael, at the High Desert Quilt Guild's holiday meeting Dec. 1. Gilliam, part of the 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division based in Camp Pendleton, Calif., was injured in Afghanistan in January 2011 while on foot patrol. Marine Aviation Detachment China Lake's Chief Warrant Officer Three Michael Osilla, who at one time served in Gilliam's regiment, contributed several of his slightly worn woodland and desert-patterned combat utility uniforms to the project.

Quilts are often created in fabrics and patterns that have meaning. Foster wished to craft a gift that was patriotic and reflective of Gilliam's service and sacrifice. She wanted to include the red, white and blue of the U.S. flag as well as unserviceable uniform fragments and the red and yellow colors of the Marine Corps at the insistence of her husband, a veteran.

Osilla referred Foster to a few military catalogs for materials for her project, but due to the cost and availability, the fabrics weren't feasible. So, he donated a few sets of his own slightly faded and worn combat utility uniforms in desert and woodland patterns. He showed Foster the unique feature within the digital pattern of each set which reveals a tiny "USMC" and the Marine Corps eagle, globe, and anchor emblem every few inches of fabric.

"While I worked on the quilt," Foster said, "I was able to keep Farrell in my thoughts and prayers; to appreciate the sacrifice that he and all other military personnel and their families make each day for our freedom."

Osilla's contributions to the quilt are made more meaningful by the fact that, from 2003 to 2006, he served in the same regiment Gilliam was serving in when injured - the 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division based in Camp Pendleton, Calif. During that assignment, all four battalions within the regiment were either preparing for, or deeply engaged in, combat operations. Osilla's primary duty as a special staff officer for the regimental commander was to be on the coordination end of the message that no family wishes to hear, but was endured by Gilliam's family. In addition to tracking and reporting all Operation Iraqi Freedom casualties and wounded, Osilla coordinated and confirmed that next of kin notifications were quickly and properly completed. Not nearly as brutal as combat, it was still a brutal assignment for Osilla.

When asked why he chose to help Foster and the Guild with this particular quilt, Osilla said, "I will always help in any way I can for a good and worthy cause for service members and their families. Mr. Gilliam had sacrificed, during his short term of service on active duty, a great deal more than what most of the youth of America today will ever -- if ever -- do for their country in their entire lifetime[s]."

Tara Cross receives Joint Insensitive Munitions Technology Program Investigator of the Year award

photo by Theresa Goldstrand

Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) employee Tara Cross recently received the Joint Insensitive Munitions Technology Program (JIMTP) Investigator of the Year award for her research on insensitive solid rocket propellants. This honor represents national recognition of the excellent research being conducted at NAWCWD and for the many scientists and engineers who contributed to her research. Cross currently works as a chemical engineer for the Synthesis and Formulations branch in the Energetics Research Division.

Cerro Coso Boosters to host Celebrity Sports Dinner

Former NFL players, Joseph Tuipala and Marvin Washington will be guests of honor at the 1st Annual Celebrity Sports Dinner hosted by the Cerro Coso Community College Boosters on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2012 at 6 p.m. in the newly remodeled Student Center.

A pinnacle event for local sports fans, Tuipala is a 1994 graduate of Burroughs High School and went on to play for the New Orleans Saints in 1999 and the Jacksonville Jaguars from 2001 to 2003.

Washington, a former defensive end, played for the New York Jets, the San Francisco 49'ers, and the Denver Broncos where he won a super bowl in 1998 and AFC Championship. He also played college football and basketball at the University of Idaho.

Catch the football fever and enjoy an evening of great speakers, raffles,

Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for children (12 and under), family packages available for $50 (two adults and two children's tickets, additional childs are $5). Tickets are available at Red Rock Books, Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce and the Cerro Coso Business Office.

For more information, contact Tom Heck at (760) 384-6384 at http://cerrocoso.edu/foundation/dinner.asp.

CERRO COSO
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NAWCWD celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. Day

By Michael Roach
Editor, Rocketeer II

"Remember! Celebrate! Act! A day on, not a day off." was the theme of the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake Jan. 17 hosted by the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division's Equal Employment Opportunity Office.

Speakers focused on the importance of serving one's country and community, the examples set by King, what he taught the world and its application to the mission at China Lake and Point Mugu. Special guests at China Lake included NAWCWD Executive Director Scott O'Neil, and NAWCWD/NAWS Command Master Chief Charles Grandin. Prospective NAWS Commanding Officer, Capt. Dennis Lazar, was also in attendance.

NAWCWD Commander Rear Adm. Mat Winter gave the welcoming remarks via video teleconference from Point Mugu. "Dr. King had an incredible intellectual impact in the United States and around the world," he said.

Winter talked about how King was able to unite people for a common purpose by "looking past the color of their skin and into the eyes and the character of individuals." He then related this to the work done at China Lake and Point Mugu. "We have a common purpose; that cause is the cause of freedom. What you do each and every day in our mission, contributes to the freedoms we have in our country. We flourish in that mission successfully when we have an environment of inclusion, of respect, of understanding and of acceptance."

After a viewing of King's historic "I Have a Dream" speech, Winter introduced the events keynote speaker, Ridgecrest City Manager Kurt Wilson, who discussed the need for service to become a higher priority in the lives of Americans and the role that King played in the Civil Rights movement.

"You look at Dr. King and the whole civil rights movement, I think that there was a problem and there was a solution… Looking back at the movement, the problem is kind of easy to figure out. We had racial injustice, we had immoral acts, we had inequality and a lack of opportunity," said Wilson. "I don't think Dr. King was the solution, I think the solution was those people who answered Dr. King's call, those people who were not on the podium at the March on Washington [D.C.], but those people who were in the audience… The whole concept of the civil rights movement was based on service."

Wilson was followed by Kimberly Silver, an event comittee member who gave an account of the various events that were held at or around NAWCWD locations during Martin Luther King Jr. Day and encouraged employees and service members to get involved in their communities.

Photo by Michael Roach

Keynote speaker and Ridgecrest City Manager Kurt Wilson discusses the importance of public service and giving back to the community during the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division Martin Luther King Day Celebration.

"Now is the time; it is the time for each of us to really rededicate ourselves to service," said Silver. "As civil servants and military personnel, it is our job to serve the nation, but we also have an obligation to serve the communities in which we live."

Dr. Ron Smiley, director of Electronic Warfare, Combat Systems, NAVAIR and director of the Avionics Department at NAWCWD Point Mugu, gave the closing remarks. Smiley was able to listen to King's famous speech on the radio in 1963 and was in Washington D.C. when the civil rights leader was assassinated. "The 'I Have a Dream' speech can be paraphrased into the 'I Have a Vision' speech. Quite frankly, that vision is still a work in progress, there are many elements of the social fabric in America where there is still a lot of work that needs to be done," said Smiley. "A lot of what he [King] represents and did for this great nation of ours, is a legacy that we all should carry forward individually and collectively."

Water watch: groundwater and the valley

By Mike Stoner
Geologist, NAWS-China Lake

This is the eighth in a series of articles intended to inform readers about our local water resources and is a continuation of the previous articles written by members of the local Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which is a subcommittee of the Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Group. The previous article discussed the different methods used for installing groundwater monitoring wells in the IWV.. This article will concentrate on the drilling of groundwater production wells.

Groundwater is the sole source of useable water in the IWV so water production wells are drilled to perform a variety of functions. They provide water for human and livestock consumption and landscape, agricultural, industrial and military uses. There are hundreds of small diameter (six-inch) production ("domestic") wells drilled to support the small parcels of land throughout the Valley and tens of the larger diameter (16-inch) production wells which provide water to customers of the IWV Water District, Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Searles Valley Minerals and to the large farming interests in the Valley. Some of these large-diameter wells are capable of producing upwards of 2,000 gallons/minute when operating while the small-diameter wells produce in the 5-100 gallons/minute range.

As mentioned in previous "Water Watch" articles, water well drilling techniques used in the Valley vary from the old cable tool techniques to the more modern dual-wall, reverse rotary method using air as the drilling fluid. When drilling and installing large diameter water production wells, the reverse circulation drilling rigs are the best choice for drilling in the alluvial sediments within the Valley.

Important factors to consider when planning to drill a large production well should include well location, well drilling techniques, well design and installation, well development, and wellhead protection. Well location is one of the most important factors because of costs associated with the well drilling and subsequent connection into an existing water distribution system. For example, the Navy has drilled five new production wells since the mid-1980s. Each of the wells was drilled at sites previously used for water production or at new sites along existing water distribution and electrical transmission lines. These wells were all located away from the intermediate wellfield (area between Inyokern and Ridgecrest) which had developed a sizable pumping depression due to the amount of groundwater being extracted from that area since the 1950's. The goal of the well re-location was to not only avoid contributing to the pumping depression but to also minimize the interference between the new wells and existing wells.

The overall objectives of a well design and installation are to create a structurally stable, long-lasting, efficient well that has enough space to house pumps or other water extraction devices; provide a high groundwater yield with minimal drawdown of the aquifer; prevent bacterial growth and material decay; and provide for a long lifetime (>30 years) with reasonable short-term and long-range costs. Well design and installation of a production well also depend on aquifer conditions, method of drilling, and material used for casing and screens.

After the well screen, well casing, and gravel pack have been installed, the well is developed to clean the borehole and casing of drilling fluid and fine-grained sediments. Good well development also helps to settle the gravel pack around the well screens. A typical method for well development is to surge, or, jet water and/or air in and out of the well screen openings which can take several days or longer depending on the size and depth of the well. A properly developed gravel pack keeps fine sediments out of the well and maximizes groundwater flow into the well.

Wellhead protection involves the construction of the final well seal near the top of the well to provide protection from surface water entering the wellhead. Minimum standards are set by the California Department of Water Resources and usually include a sanitary seal (a concrete/bentonite slurry poured between the borehole wall and the casing) from the surface to a depth of at least 50 feet and a six feet by six feet concrete pad on the ground surface surrounding the wellhead.

In previous months, this series has discussed the TAC and given background information on the groundwater resources in the IWV. This and future articles will provide an opportunity to learn about the tools available to collect and understand the data critical to managing our groundwater resources responsibly. If you cannot wait and wish to find more information about the IIWV Cooperative Groundwater Management Group, please visit www.iwvgroundwater.org. There, you will find links to relevant studies and reports and access to a wealth of data pertaining to the groundwater resource in the valley. The Group meets the third Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the board room at the offices of the Indian Wells Valley Water District. Meetings are open to the public.

News

NAWS Change, Front Page

implementation of the Navy's largest ground-mounted photovoltaic array that will provide 28,000,000 kwh of clean renewable energy annually and a yearly cost avoidance of $300,000. The project officially broke ground Jan. 18.

In addition, Dodson was a huge supporter of the Ridgecrest community. Recently, and most notably, he welcomed the community onto the installation for the China Lake Celebration of Naval Aviation in October that included opening Armitage Field to the public for the first time in over 20 years. It was a decision he viewed as "an opportunity for the base to celebrate naval aviation history, but also to recognize this community's contributions to providing a great home and outstanding support to our warfighter."

The incoming commanding officer, Capt. Dennis Lazar, will arrive at the installation from Washington, D.C. and with 30 years of Navy experience.

NAWS China Lake will be Lazar's sixth shore assignment following his designation as Naval Aviator in May 1989. He served in Kingsville, Texas as a flight instructor, Lemoore, Calif. as a F/A-18 instructor pilot, Millington, Tenn. as the F/A-18 assignment officer, the U.S. Army War College in Pennsylvania where he earned a master's degree in strategic studies, and, finally, Washington, D.C. as the first executive officer of the Nimitz Operational Intelligence Center.

Lazar's sea assignments include two deployments aboard USS Constellation, one in support of Operation Southern Watch, a deployment aboard USS Enterprise where he participated in the initial strikes into Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and back-to-back deployments aboard USS Nimitz during which his squadron flew numerous combat missions in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

For more information about the change of command ceremony or the incoming commanding officer, please call the NAWS Public Affairs Office at (760) 939-1683.

Leave Transfer Program

Leave Transfer Program - The employees listed have been approved as leave recipients under the Leave Transfer Program. These employees have exhausted annual and sick leave because of medical emergencies and anticipate being in a leave-without-pay status for at least 24 hours. Employees who wish to help a leave recipient may donate annual leave to the employee by submitting a completed OPM 630-A Request to Donate Annual Leave (Within Agency) form. Send your completed form to Code 731000D Stop 1316, Attn: Madonna Clark, or you can fax to 939-1423. For more information regarding the Leave Transfer Program, please call Madonna Clark at 939-8103 or DSN 437-8103. The 2011 leave year ends on 1 January 2012.

NAME	CODE	NAME	CODE
Andrews, Douglas K.	52300ME	Nutter, Valerie K.	412000D
Avery, Ellie D.	4J3300D	O'Connor, Bonnie S.	52J00MD
Baldwin, Barbara	410000D	Osman, Eisa H.	474300D
Bales, Trisha M.	511000D	Platon, Rita R.	452200E
Benham, Carlyn R.	451000D	Puckett, Kenneth D.	45P200E
Dannenberg, Alyse N.	466100D	Ray, Randall L.	52132MD
Davis, Douglas N	45P200E	Roberts, Billie Jo	478600D
Depue, Gwendolyn P.	N9120WN	Rodriguez, Patricia	658300E
Freund, Dana R.	685000D	Rowland, Raymond	60C000D
Gleason, Natasha L.	733000D	Rubio, Gerardo	413100D
Halsey, Kelsey M.	J25000D	Sangchan, Ronnie	473100D
Hiser, Mary Ann	474000D	Schonhorst, William M.	51J30MD
Jones, Donald T.	475100D	Smith, Michelle A.	486M00E
Lake, David R.	451200D	Sweany, Carolyn J.	J17000D
Lee, Victor D.	475100D	Tanner, Sarah	451400D
Long, Bonnie M.	470000D	Turbett, Jennifer J.	52J400D
Lucas, Gerald (Quin)	478200D	Williams, Marc E.	535200D
MacArthur (Mallory), Carol D.	783100D	Wirtz, Anne Marie	4J2400D
Martin, Nicole R.	52700ME		

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News

Solar, Front Page

years, so although the land is owned by the Navy as well as the federal government, the equipment that is being placed on it as well as the operation will be under the contracting authority of SunPower," said Dodson during his opening remarks.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment) Jackalyne Pfannenstiel, who served as the keynote speaker, praised the project and discussed the need for the Navy as a whole to make positive steps forward to reduce its carbon footprint. "Here at China Lake, you know better than anyone that the Navy leads the surge when it comes to harnessing better technology to succeed at our missions. We are a sea-going service, but we also have 3.3 million acres of land and 72,000 buildings. Some portion of which should be able to support solar, wind, bio-mass, geothermal or waste energy technologies."

Pfannenstiel made it clear that not only were clean and renewable energies a necessary part of cutting emissions, but so is the reduction of energy usage, stating that the cleanest kilowatt hour is no kilowatt hour.

"China Lake is an energy heartland for the state, for the country and for the Navy," said Pfannenstiel. You already have an important geothermal plant producing more than 200 megawatts of base land power, far beyond any other alternative energy source in the Department of Defense. However to get to our goal of meeting half of our energy consumption with alternative resources by 2020 we are going to need to harness much more renewable power from fertile sights such as this."

Commander Navy Region Southwest Rear Adm. (select) Dixon Smith reiterated much the same message as Pfannenstiel but stressed heavily the importance of continued progress. "We are continuing to transform our culture from one of consumption to one focused on conservation," he said. "Part of this culture change is to instill a sense of ownership and accountability for energy consumption, from the individual Sailor and their family living in quarters, across our military and civilian employees in their workspaces, to our leadership who oversee a wide variety of missions across the southwest."

Commander Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) Rear Adm. Mat Winter then stepped to the podium to discuss the importance of the project for NAWCWD and the tenant commands mission. "The Weapons Division is the consumer; we're the major tenant here at China Lake. With that consumption requirement comes responsibility. As we are more efficient in executing and continuing to do our mission, it frees up resources to provide to our warfighter."

China Lake's new photovoltaic solar system will provide approximately 30 percent of the base's power over the next 20 years, and will be built with no out-of-pocket expense to the Navy. The Power Purchase Agreement created to insure the partnership between the Navy and SunPower was the first of its kind in Navy history, and will likely serve as template for future endeavors of similar nature, according to President of SunPower Corporation Mr. Howard Wenger.

"Blazing new trails is never easy and there is an extraordinary new level that went into market research and preparing complicated acquisition documentation, navigating complicated regulation incentives and doing technical analysis to put this together," said Commanding Officer, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest, Capt. Clifford Maurer.

"I look forward to later this year, when we can realize the benefits of this renewable system; when the China Lake team is able to connect it to the grid," said Smith. "Although the Southwest team has accomplished much, we cannot stop. We must strive to identify significantly more opportunities to reduce energy consumption, to improve our shore efficiency and continually find smarter ways to accomplish our mission."

Knox, Page2

man of our time.

He is preceded in death by his parents and five of his six sisters, Rosie, Eula, Jewel, Georgia, and Lessie B. He is survived by his wife Shirley E; sister Rosene Webb of Texas; sons/daughter-in-laws Jerry and Clara; Mikel and Mary ; grandson and family Michael, Tina, Cordell and Jared; granddaughter and family Kristin, Rick and Jay Paradis; grandson Mikel J Knox Jr., his daughter Brynn; step-grandchildren Peter, Philip, Eduard and Alexander Keller and their families; beloved family Helen Lovell; Barbara Stanifer; Kendra Stanifer and Abdi LaRue and their son, Miles; Russ, Cheryl, Brandon and Spencer Lovell; Ron, Stacey, Chelsea and Nate Lovell; Randy, Cecelia, Rowan and Colin Lovell. Numerous friends and relatives who cherished their relationship with CB.

His memorial was held at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Base in the All-Faith Chapel. Visitor's passes will be required. A Reception following the memorial will be held at Immanuel Baptist church at 1201 N China Lake Blvd.

In lieu of flowers, the family recommends donations to any charity in support of our Armed Forces.

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Tickets are priced at $30, $25 and $20 and are available at Red Rock Books, the Maturango Museum and PackWrap Business Center

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This is a Maturango Museum Fundraiser

Community Support Programs Events

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Clubhouse Special - $25
Cheeseburger, fries, small soda, green fees and cart!
Monday - Thursday
Call to pre-book your tee time and remember to mention the Special!

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Super Bowl Golf Tournament

Sunday, February 5 • 10 am
4-person teams • Sign up by 2/2
$45
Wear your jersey! Stay to watch the Super Bowl on our 4-60" TVs!

Mulligans Grill

Powerlifting Meet

Bench, Deadlift & Squat
Friday, February 10
11 am- 1 pm

Prizes will be given for 1st - 3rd place!

Military ... Free!
All Others ... $10
Sports & Fitness Complex
760-939-2334

Comfort Foods!

Hearty Foods to remind you of home $9.95

Monday Buffet!

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- Pot Pies
- Meatloaf
- Casseroles

Paradise Cafe
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760-939-8662
11 am-1 pm

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Valentine's Day Lunch Buffet

Tuesday, February 14
11 am-1 pm
$10.95

- Honey Glazed Ham with a Pineapple Sauce
- Tuscan Chicken
- Cheesy Risotto
- Scalloped Potatoes
- Peas and Carrots
- Soup and Salad Bar
- Ice Cream Bar
- Homemade Bread Pudding with Caramel Sauce

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Outdoor Recreation Information, Tickets and Tours

Bldg. 21, Blandy Ave.
760-939-3006/8644

Ontario Mills Shopping Trip

Tuesday, February 14 • 9 am- 6 pm
Adult ... $20 Child ... $10

Mammoth Ski Trip

Friday, February 17 • 4:45 am- 9:30 pm
Adult ... $100 Child ... $75

Big Pine Winter Day Trip

Saturday, February 18 • 8 am- 7 pm
Adult ... $50 Child ... $20

Bike Maintenance Clinic

Thursday, February 23 • 1-3 pm
Cost ... $5
Child under 15 with Adult .... Free

Rastrelli Cello Quartet Trip to Bishop

Tuesday, February 21
Departs at 3:30 pm
Cost ... $25
Does not include ticket.
Ticket is $20 at Bishop Union HS.
Dinner stop at Whiskey Creek.

Community Support Programs • 760-939-3440

Outdoor Recreation - 939-3006
Equipment rental headquarters! Trailers, bikes, camping gear and party equipment. Trips & clinics every month!

Dining Services - 939-8662
Paradise Cafe offers all-you-care-to-eat buffets, Monday-Thursday 11 am-1 pm!

Fleet & Family Support Center - 939-4545
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Sat 8 am-3 pm, Sun 9 am-3 pm,
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Sizzler • N. Norma St.
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City Hall • 100 W. California Ave.
Chamber of Commerce • 128 B E. California Ave.
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The *ONLY* Classified ads that are available as free ads to above listed personnel are:

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- Roommate Wanted
- Lost & Found
- Cars & Trucks (Except RV's)
- Furniture & Appliances
- Misc. For Sale
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Motorcycles
- Misc. Wanted

All other categories are paid.
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Home Phone:_____ Duty Phone:_____

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- Loans
- Investments
- Business Opportunities
- Recreational Vehicles
- Work Wanted
- Condos For Sale
- Townhomes
- Industrial Properties
- Mobiles For Sale
- Mobiles For Rent
- Misc. For Rent
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- Lost & Found
- Cars & Trucks (Except RV's)
- Furniture & Appliances
- Misc. For Sale
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Motorcycles
- Misc. Wanted
- Roommate Wanted
- Rooms For Rent

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- ☐ APTS FOR RENT
- ☐ LOTS
- ☐ HOTELS & MOTELS
- ☐ COMMERCIAL RENTALS
- ☐ LOANS
- ☐ INVESTMENTS
- ☐ BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
- ☐ RECREATION VEHICLES
- ☐ MOTORCYCLES
- ☐ WORK WANTED
- ☐ LOST & FOUND
- ☐ INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY
- ☐ MOBILES FOR SALE
- ☐ MOBILES FOR RENT
- ☐ MISC. FOR RENT
- ☐ ACREAGE
- ☐ INCOME PROPERTY
- ☐ FARMS & RANCHES
- ☐ MISC. FOR SALE
- ☐ SERVICES
- ☐ EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- ☐ PETS
- ☐ CARS & TRUCKS
- ☐ FURNITURE & APPLIANCES
- ☐ MISC. WANTED
- ☐ GARAGE & YARD SALES
- ☐ CHILD CARE
- ☐ CONDOS FOR RENT

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Vilasinee Morkjaroenpong MD, MPH

When it comes to pulmonary care, our goal is simple: to help you breathe easier.

Our team of respiratory therapists works together with our highly experienced pulmonologist, Dr. Mork, to provide comprehensive care for a complete range of respiratory issues — from COPD, emphysema and chronic bronchitis, to asthma and shortness of breath. Whether you are admitted to Ridgecrest Regional Hospital for pneumonia, an acute critical care illness, or even a stay in our ICU, our team is here from the initial diagnosis through continuing medical treatment.

For sleep-related issues, fatigue, tiredness or snoring, our state of the art sleep center is nearby with expert guidance to help manage your CPAP, BIPAP or oxygen therapy. Our pulmonary rehabilitation department integrates cardiopulmonary rehab to help get you back to the activities you love.

So you can take a deep breath and relax knowing that your respiratory health is in good hands.

Ridgecrest
REGIONAL HOSPITAL
Personally We Care...Professionally We Serve

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