



Flying K

Who took first in the basketball league?
Turn to page 10, to find out.

Vol. 70, No. 8

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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April 20, 2012

Spectators brave strong winds, overcast skies for 'Wings Over South Texas' air show

By Jon Gagné

NAS Kingsville Public Affairs Office

Aviation enthusiasts from throughout South Texas and afar braved strong winds and overcast skies April 14-15 to travel to Naval Air Station Kingsville for the 2012 Wings Over South Texas air show. The three-day event, which included a Friday pre-show practice, pep rally at Texas A&M University-Kingsville and a "Meet The Blues" event sponsored by Kleberg County and the City of Kingsville drew 115,000 spectators.

The majority of spectators attended the Saturday show, which produced the strongest winds, with gusts reaching 25 mph. An estimated 70,000 people turned out for the opening day of the weekend show.

"All in all, the weather turned out to be just fine," said NAS Kingsville air boss and air show coordinator Lt. Cmdr Dave Anderson. "We estimated 70,000 people came through gates for Saturday's show. The crowds were lower on Sunday – but the forecast for possible showers may have hurt attendance. Still, the show went on and we're pleased with the attendance numbers."

The headline acts for the show included 2011 National Aerobatic Champion and former World Aerobatic Champion Rob Holland; the US Navy F/A-18E 'Super Hornet'

see *Air Show* on page 6



Thousands of visitors enjoyed the 2012 "Wings Over South Texas" air show held April 14-15. Top photo is the air show's headlining act the Blue Angels flying past the crowd with two up and two down. Above, the USAF Heritage Flight was one of the acts, as was Ken Pietch in his 1942 Cadet, pictured above left. Far left, The B-1B Bomber created a lot of noise, as it roared overhead. (Air show photos by Jon Gagné, Maryann Shramko, Richard Hormann, Barbara Hormann and Fifi Kieschnick)

From the Bridge



Capt. Mark McLaughlin
Commanding Officer



Greetings Team Kingsville,

What an air show! I can't begin to say how impressed I was with the entire Kingsville effort to put on the 2012 Wings Over South Texas air show. The weather was a bit of a challenge for the Friday practice and the Saturday shows; however, we seemed to catch a break from the wind and clouds to have a near perfect Sunday.

To our air show performers, I would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for your professionalism and expertise in each of your individual events. The headliner announcer Rob Reider was awesome! The two concerts performed by my friend Aaron Watson were tremendous! The variety of aviation acts that our air show team put to-

gether for this year's show was an encompassing collection that spanned the entire aviation field -- from the comedy routines of the Indy Boys and Kent Pietsch, to the spectacular bi-plane routine of Paul Fiala, the DAV Flight Team, the Horsemen and Air Force Heritage Flights, the B-1 fly-over, the Navy Tac Demo, Randy Ball and his MiG-17, Jan Collmer, Dan Deawall, the Naval Air Training Command demonstration, the spectacular world-class aerobatics of Rob Holland, and of course, our Navy Blue Angels. I can speak for all and say "Thank You" for the tremendous performances over the three days! And I can't forget the singers who kicked off our show each day by performing the national anthem -- recording artist Jennifer Pena and Kingsville's own Sandra Messbarger. They were both amazing.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the entire NAS Kingsville staff that put the Air Show together. Too many names to list, but rest assured that Capt. Joe Evans and I are appreciative of the team effort that put this show together and pulled it off without

a hitch. I also salute the City of Kingsville, Kleberg County and Texas A&M University Kingsville for everything that they did to share ownership of this great show.

In closing, this week ends with the departure of two Navy Sailors from NAS Kingsville. First, Lt. Cmdr. Dave "Gravy" Anderson retired Monday after 20 years of service. He was my Executive Officer for four months and served as the Air Operations Officer for over two years. He is without a doubt one of the finest officers I've served with in my career and Gravy, we will all miss you, Kim and the family. Best of Luck in Nashville!

Additionally, Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff has been my advisor on all issues for nearly two years now and he has been one of the most professional leaders I've ever known. Master Chief, I will certainly miss you around here; you are the best and I'm proud to call you my friend. To you, Pam and the girls, I wish you all the best in your civilian career that will keep you right here in Kingsville.

Until Next Time ~ Skipper Mac

Deckplate Leadership



CSCM (SW/AW)
Fidel Medina
Command Master Chief



Team Kingsville,

As I assume my duties as your Command Master Chief, I would like to take this opportunity to send the traditional "Fair Winds and Following Seas" to CMDCM Charlie Ratliff and his family. Charlie, enjoy your well deserved retirement -- you will surely be missed by everyone here at NAS Kingsville.

Last Sunday April 1, the United States Navy celebrated the 119th birthday of the Chief Petty Officer (CPO) rank. CPOs provide leadership to the enlisted force and advice to Navy leadership to create combat-ready Naval forces. They are the senior enlisted force that serves first and foremost as deckplate leaders -- committed to developing Sailors and enforcing standards.

"Deckplate leaders" is an everyday Navy term referring to the Chief Petty Officer's leadership. In Naval terminology the deckplate can roughly refer to the deck (flooring), or the area of the deck of a ship or submarine.

Former Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen once said, "You can't be a Chief from behind a computer screen or in an e-mail or even on the phone. You've got to be there, out on the deckplates, with your people and their families. You have to walk the spaces. It's the first

principle of Naval leadership."

Navy Chiefs have their own creed and our profession is filled with tradition dating back 119 years. Active duty and retired alike, Navy Chiefs are the ones who have set the example and "make things happen" in the Navy. They are bound and dedicated to their duty as leaders forever. They are bound to their Sailors, their command, and their brethren. Navy Chiefs are "Tested-Selected-Initiated."

Happy Birthday to ALL Navy Chiefs.

April is also the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month. These proclamations were intended to help recognize the role that children play in the Armed Forces community, as well as raise awareness of child maltreatment prevention. According to statistics, the Navy has recorded more than 15,000 substantiated reports of child abuse over the past 10 years. While those numbers have been steadily decreasing, many incidents go unreported. Child

abuse is unacceptable and we -- as parents and as responsible members of our military -- should set the tone and course for awareness, response and intervention.

In addition to child abuse prevention, the proclamation is also intended to raise awareness about the sacrifices made by military children. According to military K-12 Partners, there are more than 1.2 million military children today, and since 2001, approximately 2 million children have experienced the deployment of a parent. This is why the Navy has set aside the month of April as the Month of the Military Child -- to honor their sacrifices.

In closing, I am looking forward to serving as your acting CMC. Master Chief Ratliff has left behind big shoes to fill ... and I will do my best to follow his lead.

Fellow Chiefs, remember to take care of our Sailors.

v/r,
CMC



Welcome aboard

-- Vice Adm. French visited NAS Kingsville briefly last week. Pictured here, he greets ADC(AW) Johnny Tienda, NAS Kingsville safety officer. French met with all department heads and discussed his philosophies and challenges the base may face in the upcoming years. Following the discussion, French received a familiarization tour of the air station. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick)

Flying K

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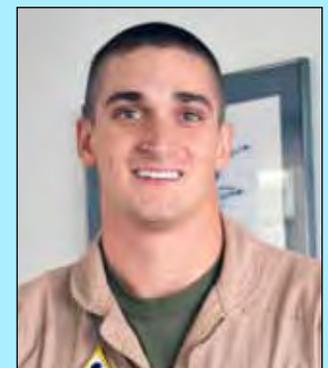
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This paper is published for people like 1st Lt. Nathan Houle, a native of Athol, Mass. Houle reported aboard NAS Kingsville in October as a student Naval Aviator with VT-21. He has 4 years Marine Corps service.



All washed up -- Volunteers washed the static aircraft aboard the air station the Friday before "air show week." Thanks to all the volunteers including the Junior Enlisted Association, Chiefs Mess, department heads, Safety, MWR, Fleet and Family Services, Admin and Wardroom members. Above JEA volunteers wash a TA-4 Skyhawk, one of the trainers on display in the NAS Kingsville "Air Park." Left, Kevin Wong, of Public Works, gives the underside a good scrubbing. Right, NCC(AW/SW) Minerva Verley helps wash Blue Angel No. 1 on display aboard NAS Kingsville. Verley and all the other volunteers helped the air station "put its best foot forward" for the "Wings Over South Texas" air show, held April 14-15. (Photos by Fifi Kieschnick)



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In the Break



Capt. Joe Evans
Commander
Training Air Wing TWO



Greetings NAS Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO.

What a great air show we had last week. Despite the strong winds and the low clouds, we had a great crowd turnout and a long line-up of spectacular aerial shows of skill and professionalism. What a tremendous weekend it was.

The Blue Angels were absolutely magnificent. What really impressed me was not just the extraordinary airmanship, and it truly was extraordinary, but the stunning "teamwork." I had the fortunate opportunity to see firsthand how they conducted business, and I was truly surprised by how awestruck I was. Everyone worked beyond their trained comfort zone, and every one worked toward making the team a better unit. It was selfless, it was committed, and it was simply brilliant. Capt. Greg McWhorter, Blue Angels commanding officer, runs a tight ship and everyone from his engine mechanics to his wingman give it 100 percent.

Special thanks to Lt. Cmdr. "Gravy"

Anderson, 1st Lt. Nathan Houle, ACC Dale Wagner, AT2 Shannon Taylor, David Haigh, Jon Gagné, Fifi Kieschnick, Jeanie Alexander and the many other volunteers and volunteers from NASK and TW-2 that helped make our air show "second to none." My hat is off to each and every one of you for making this a truly remarkable event. Thank you.

By the time this edition of the Flying K is released, there will have been two retirement ceremonies here at NASK: Lt. Cmdr. "Gravy" Anderson and Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff. While neither of these two men belonged to the Wing, both have had a tremendously positive impact on our mission. To effectively execute our mission it is imperative that the Wing and base work hand in hand. To that end, both of these two men excelled bring people together and ultimately training Naval Aviators. CMC Ratliff and Gravy showcased professionalism, skill and enthusiasm that had a rippling effect throughout our ranks. On behalf of Training Air Wing TWO and all the men and women of Training Squadron TWENTY-ONE and Training Squadron TWENTY-TWO, I wish Lt. Cmdr. Anderson and CMC Ratliff "Fair Winds and Following Seas" in their retirement years.

Despite the air show and the retirements, the Wing has still been hard at work training future Naval Aviators. We have completed

the first two weeks of our Weapons Detachment in El Centro, Calif., with nearly 25 percent of our student pilots participating in that detachment. We also are wrapping up Field Carrier Landing Practice for eight student aviators from VT-21 who will travel to Jacksonville, Fla., next week and Carrier Qualifications aboard the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) of the coast of Mayport, Fla.

As always, we have a lot of plates spinning. It is ever more important to know

your limits, and take care of your mind and body for the long haul. I asked the skipper of the Blue Angels, Capt. McWhorter, how he was able to personally keep his stamina through the rigors of their tour schedule, and he said that it was a simple matter of daily exercise, eating right and taking care of each other. If it works for the Blues, it ought to work for us.

Keep it safe!

V/R

"Joe Bags" Evans



Well done --

Bravo Zulu to AC1(AW) Alex Ford, of Air Operations. Ford received a Safety Coin from Capt. Joe Evans, Commander, Training Air Wing TWO, for his diligence while controlling a very difficult traffic pattern. His expertise in a highly saturated pattern was noticed and appreciated by aircrew throughout the Wing. (Photo by Lt. Cmdr. Brian Merritt)

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Chemical compound abuse -- Sailors who use, will lose

By **MC1(AW) LaTunya Howard**
NPC Public Affairs

The Navy continued to emphasize the policy of zero tolerance for substance abuse by separating 1,515 Sailors in fiscal year 2011 for synthetic chemical compounds, commonly called Spice, and other drug usage according to an official recently.

“Currently, we are discharging a number of Sailors for use of synthetic chemical compounds also known as Spice, sighting failure to obey a direct order,” said Lanorfeia Holder, deputy director of Navy Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention (NADAP). “Those that are tested by our Armed Forces Medical Examiner System (AFMES) are discharged under an Article 92 misconduct or an Article 112A which is drug abuse.”

A ban was placed on five synthetic cannabis compounds commonly found in the designer drug Spice, but also sold under different names, just one year ago March 1. AFMES has the ability to test for those five compounds via Navy Criminal Investigative Services (NCIS) at the request of unit commanders if probable cause is determined.

Spice is a synthetic chemical compound that is sold as herbal incense and mimics the effects of the drug marijuana. Some of the compounds were initially developed as research to help individuals with certain brain conditions, but the research did not reach its fruition, according to Holder.

Some of the short-term effects include auditory and visual hallucinations, painless head pressure, panic attacks, time distortion and delirium. Long-term effects from the designer drug can include permanent physical impairment, mental illness or death.

OPNAVINST 5350.4D defines the scope of drug abuse as the wrongful use of controlled substances to include designer drugs, illicit-use anabolic steroids, prescription or over-the-counter medication.

The unlawful possession or use by Department of the Navy personnel of controlled substance analogues (designer drugs), natural substances, chemicals wrongfully used as inhalants, propellants, prescribed or over-the-counter medication or pharmaceutical compound with the intent to induce intoxication, excitement or stupefaction of the central nervous system is prohibited via SECNAVINST 5300.28D. Violators are subject to punitive action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Article 92.

“If a Sailor is having issues with drug abuse or synthetic chemical compound use specifically, we recommend that they reach out to Military-One Source for confidential assessment and counseling at no cost to the Sailor,” said Holder. “We also recommend members seeking substance use counseling talk with their doctor, chain-of-command or self-refer to a substance abuse rehabilitation program.”

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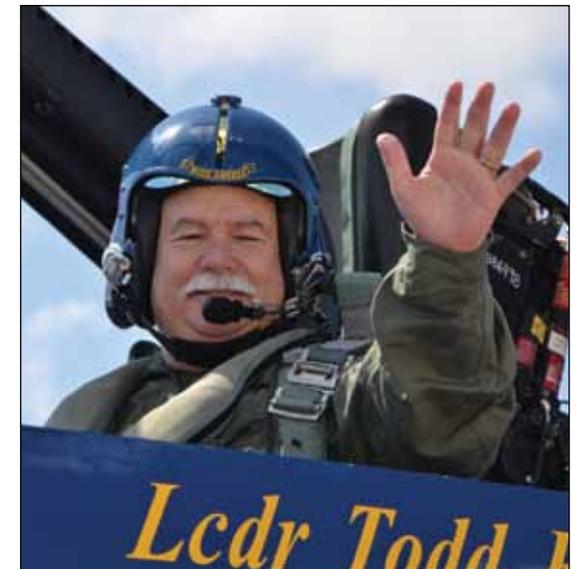
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Blue Angel #5 passes through the middle of the diamond formation. (Photo by Maryann Shramko)



Above, Dr. Steve Tallant, Texas A&M University-Kingsville president waves to friends following his flight with the Blue Angels on April 11. Below, visitors not only enjoyed the aerial demonstrations but also the numerous static displays positioned along the flightline.



VFA-122's F/A-18 Super Hornet demonstration thrilled the crowd. (Photo by Maryann Shramko)



Air Show from page 1

Tactical Demonstration Team from VFA-122; the US Air Force Air Combat Command's Heritage Flight and B-1B Bomber; the Disabled American Veterans B-25 Mitchell Bomber, the Horsemen Flight Team; Randy Ball's Russian-made MiG-17, and of course, the US Navy Blue Angels.

Other acts included stunt pilot Kent Pitsch, the Indy Boys and their jet-powered school bus, King Ranch pilot Paul Fiala, and air show veteran Jan Collmer. The Naval Air Training Command also provided a four-plane, T-45 Goshawk power demonstration.

Tejano music recording artist Jennifer Pena and Kingsville resident Sandra Messbarger opened the weekend shows each day by singing the national anthem, and country music recording artist Aaron Watson and his Orphans of the Brazos Band rocked the

crowds each day with a mid-show concert.

"I'm very pleased with the way things went this weekend," said NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Mark McLaughlin. "My air show staff did an incredible job and the people who attended seemed to have a great time. Our performers also put on one heck-of-a show."

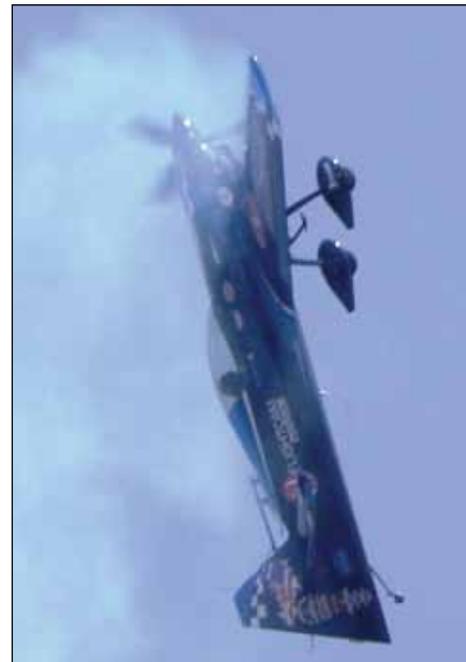
Watson and his band, who travel throughout the Midwest, were thrilled to be part of the air show – their first.

"We were just so honored to be in Kingsville for the air show and to be able to perform for spectators," Watson said after the event. "My daddy is a 100-percent disabled veteran from the Vietnam War and I have a real soft spot in my heart for the men and women who wear the uniform of our country. To be here at NAS Kingsville and play for the fans was really a treat for us."

Right, Capt. Mark McLaughlin, NAS Kingsville commanding officer, receives a thank you memento from DAV member Lynn May. The poster was signed by the DAV Flight team and all veterans who stopped by their static display. (Photo by Jon Gagné)



Below, the Disabled American Veterans' B-25 Mitchell Bomber flies over the air show during a mock bombing run. Pictured right, Training Air Wing TWO Goshawk power flight was one of the first aerial acts of the 2012 "Wings Over South Texas" air show. More than 100,000 spectators enjoyed the weekend show which showcased numerous acts including a B-1B Lancer fly-by, Ken Pietsch in his 1942 Cadet, Paul Fiala in his Great Lakes Bi-plane, a VFA-122 Super Hornet West Demo, Indy Boys' Jet-Powered Outhouse and Jet-Powered School Bus, Randy Ball Fighter Demo in his MiG-17, Rob Holland, the Blue Angels and more. (Air show photos by Jon Gagné, Maryann Shramko, Richard Hormann, Barbara Hormann and Fifi Kieschnick)



Rob Holland twists and turns. (Photo by Rich Hormann)

Lt. Dave Tickle, above, and the other Blue Angel pilots sign autographs after their performance.



Air-show goes dance to the tunes of recording artist Aaron Watson and his Orphans of the Brazos band, pictured left. The band performed mid-show concerts each day.



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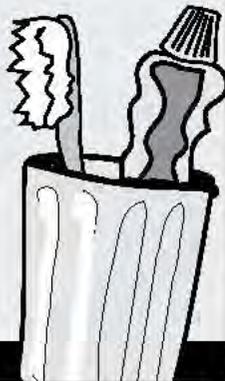
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Poison prevention -- Eric Alonzo points out dangerous chemicals to preschool children at the Child Development Center during a Poison Prevention Program presented to them earlier this month. Also pictured is Kendra Colson, graduate student at Texas A&M Health Science Center. The kids learned about different household poisons, how to avoid them, and what to do in case of an accidental poisoning. They watched a short video entitled, "Spike's Poison Adventure," with Spike the Porcupine, then got their own Spike the Porcupine puppet and had a poison prevention adventure. The children picked a number of objects from a box and identified whether they were safe or not using the Spike puppet. In addition, the kids played the "Is it Candy or Is it Medicine Game" with student volunteers. The program wrapped up with the youngsters learning to sing the Poison Prevention song, and they went home with a Poison Prevention coloring book, information for care givers, Poison Help line stickers, and Poison Help Line refrigerator magnets. The program was provided by a grant from the Texas Poison Control Network in affiliation with the Texas A&M Science Center. (Courtesy photo by Joy Alonzo)

Bravo Zulu

NASK personnel recognized

Bravo zulu to the following personnel who were recently recognized for their outstanding achievements.

Shane Hennessey, NAS Kingsville firefighter, was recognized for 10 years of government service.

L-3 employee recognized

Nancy Mejorado, of L-3 Vertex, received a letter of appreciation from Commander, Navy Region Southeast, Rear Adm. Jack Scorby, for her efforts in promoting change in the energy culture aboard NAS Kingsville.

As the building energy monitor (BEM) for L-3 Vertex, Mejorado has been

proactive and engaged at the customer level by turning off lights and ensuring that thermostats are properly set. Her encouragement of L-3 Vertex employees to implement energy saving measures in 19 buildings that are under her responsibility is commendable. She also consistently participates in BEM meetings where her valuable suggestions of installing shorter springs to quickly close doors and installing weather stripping on exterior doors to retain conditioned air has contributed to improve workspace quality and over energy savings for the organization.

PW recognizes personnel

Congratulations to the following Public Works personnel on their achievements:

Ernie Rogers was recognized as Supervisor of the First Quarter. **Henry Aguilar** was awarded Employee of the First Quarter.

The following personnel were recognized as Great Place to Work Awardees: **David Cirilo**, **Urbana Garcia**, **David Garza**, **Max Jones**, **Ensign Allison Kirk**, **Tish Knerr**, **Warren Kress**, **Jeff List**, **Robert Long**, **Bitsey Smith**, **Bob Spindler**, **Rebecca Wilson**, and **Ryan Wystub**.

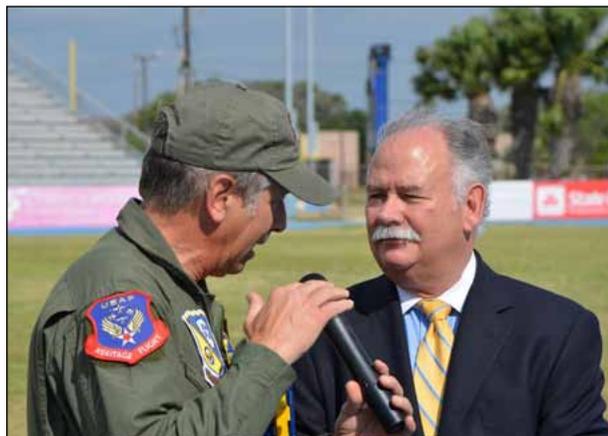


Mejorado



Meet the Blues -- Friday air show activities included a "Meet the Blues" event organized by Kleberg County Parks and Recreation, Kingsville Chamber of Commerce and the Kingsville Convention and Visitors Bureau. Pictured here, Cmdr. Todd Royles, Blue Angels pilot, autographs a handout for one of hundreds of community members who attended the event. The event also included free food and entertainment by the Beau Walker Band, as well as introductions of many of the "Wings Over South Texas" performers.

Pep Rally -- About 8,000 students from throughout South Texas attended a pre-air show Pep Rally held Friday, April 13, at the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Javelina Stadium. Pictured right, Rob Reider, award-winning air show announcer, talks to Dr. Steve Tallant, university president, about his ride with the Blue Angels earlier in the week. During the Pep Rally, the students saw video of that flight, as well as talked to Blue Angels and saw flyovers of several the acts performing during the air show. Pictured below, Blue Angels talk to the thousands of students about being a Navy pilot and the importance of staying in school. (Photos by Jon Gagné)



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Court champs -- Congratulations to the basketball league champions, the Banshees. Pictured here from left are Banshee team members Kevin Pabon, Johnny Garcia, Oscar Hinojosa, Will Armstrong, Arnaldo Pabon, Sean Cantu, and MJ Ortega. (Courtesy photo)

Morale, Welfare & Recreation

MWR Event Calendar

Tuesdays
 Ping Pong Tournament
 Liberty Center at 6 p.m.

Wednesdays
 Liberty Movies at 7 p.m.

Fridays
 Dominos Tournament
 6 p.m. at Liberty center

Thursdays
 Trivia on Tap
 at K-Bar at 7 p.m.

April 21
 Single Sailor Trip to San Antonio

April 24
 5v5 Dodgeball league begins.

April 27
 "Last Buck" Pizza at the Barracks

April 28
 Month of the Military Child
 Family Fun Fest
 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bowling Leagues

In the Doghouse League Standings as of April 10

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Lane Breakers	79	41
2	Alley Cats	78	42
3	Three J's	66.5	53.5
4	The Guys	62	58
5	DNA	55	65
6	3 Minds/Gutter	53.5	66.5
7	The Dusters	53	67
8	Spare Tires	32	88

High Score Game-Men: Lindy Conner, 279; Clinton Howell, 267.

High Score Series-Men: Lindy Conner, 710; Rodney Malin, 637.

Wednesday Nite Mixed Standings as of April 11

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Big K Rollers	68	48
2	IBowlers	65.5	50.5
3	Rat'Lers	62.5	53.5
4	DUH's	57	59
5	Laugh Out Loud	53	63
6	I Can't Believe	53	63
7	Petes Angels	52.5	63.5
8	Bad Azz	52.5	63.5

High Score Game-Men: Rodney Malin, 279; Darrell Beal, 278; Clinton Howell, 276.

High Score Series-Men: John Zapalac, 724; Clinton Howell, 704; Frank Goff, 700.

High Score Game-Women: Lucy Clarkson, 231; Carmen Arevalo, 222, Amelia Goff, 212.

High Score Series-Women: Delia Monroe, 543; Carmen Arevalo, 538; Lucy Clarkson, 522.



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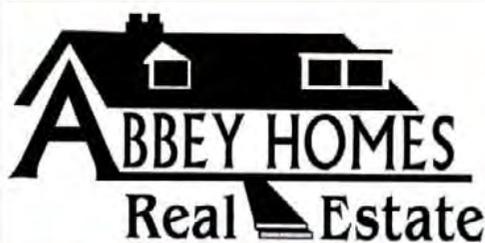
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