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SATCOM:

Establishing connections of astronomical proportions

By Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos
36th Wing Public Affairs

He recalls being deployed to Madagascar with a team of four. The country was in a civil war. With an army coupe ousting its leader, the country was left in violent turmoil. The ambassador asked Africa command to send its advanced echelon team to help formulate a course of action for evacuating the citizens in case the situation worsened. With an Army lieutenant colonel, a sergeant major and an intelligence analyst, he remembered being snuck into the city. They got through safely, establishing his equipment's first-ever communications shot that far south of the equator.

"It had never been done to that point, so we weren't sure if it was even going to work," said Tech. Sgt. Robert Chrisman, 644th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) radio frequency (RF) transmissions crew chief, in recollection of one of his best down-range experiences in satellite communication. "It was successful, and I had the chance to represent communications (COMM)."

In the modern day world, where technology, communication and networking have

See CBCS, Page 7

Testing, one, two, three: Tech. Sgt. Robert Chrisman, 644th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) radio frequency (RF) transmissions crew chief, moves the modulator while Staff Sgt. David Foster, 644th CBCS RF transmissions supervisor, coordinates with the communications focal point in order to establish a connection with headquarters during Exercise Dragon Thunder at Andersen Air Force Base April 19. Satellite transmission is the main source of communication and information in a deployed environment. U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos/Released



Students tour
NBG
water plant
PAGE 6



AF completes
successful mission
PAGES 8, 9

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GHS hosts Far East Guam Regional Marksmanship Competition

By Shaina Marie Santos
Joint Region Edge Staff

Guam High School's (GHS) Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) hosted the Far East Guam Regional Marksmanship Competition for the first time this year that ended in a biathlon

at Gab Gab Beach April 29.

Teams from five local schools including GHS, four Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools from Japan, and Guam Department of Education schools participated in the competition that challenged participants' speed and endurance. Ten four-member teams completed a

course that included a mile of running, 200 total yards of swimming and 50 yards of crawling, which was to be finished after a shooting of 15 targets; a test of marksmanship after a physical challenge.

According to GHS Navy JROTC Senior Naval Science Instructor Cmdr. Doug

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Joint Region Edge

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Dorm Dwellers, Dorm Council combine efforts

By Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham
36th Wing Public Affairs

For Team Andersen's single E-4s and below, Andersen dormitories are a home away from home, and recently the "dorm dwellers", who meet once a month, have combined their meetings with the dorm council.

The dorm dwellers is a program meant to bring dorm residents together, allowing them to socialize, discuss concerns and build friendships.

"Bringing the meetings together help the Airmen gather so they can voice their concerns to the dorm council and help bring attention to issues in the dorms," said Dorothy Sarmiento, Tinian Hall dorm manager at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB).

"Issues like repairs can be taken care of easily with a verbal report, or an e-mail, but other issues that affect all dorm residents are better resolved when they are brought to the

attention of the dorm council," Sarmiento continued.

Combining the meetings was done with intentions that Airmen could gather feedback and enhance dorm living conditions.

"The goal of the Andersen Dorm Council as well as the dorm dweller meetings is to elevate the moral and quality of life throughout the dorms on Andersen," said Airman 1st Class Tieler Myers, 554th RED-HORSE Squadron and incoming council president.

These meetings are sent by e-mail to all dorm residents. However, with conflicting work schedules and day-to-day events, some Airmen feel they don't have enough time.

"Attending the dorm dweller meetings gives the occupants a more direct line of communication to their leadership, the dorm managers and the council," Myers said.

Without attendance of dorm residents, opinions and concerns aren't brought to the council's attention or documented.

"There should be decent representation from all squadrons," Sarmiento said. "It takes more than one individual showing concern. Each Airman should share their concerns."

For most, the dorms are a permanent home during their assignment at Andersen. The dorm staff is eager for Airmen to feel at home as much as possible during their stay. Dorm managers are also open to suggestions and want the Airmen to take pride in their dorms.

"We need to hear from the residents," Sarmiento said. "It's up to the residents; this is their home away from home."

Myers expressed that with voices from the dorm residents and support from an enthusiastic Airman's council, the dorms at Andersen are in caring hands.

"We, as dorm council, would like to enhance the camaraderie amongst the junior enlisted," he said. "We would like to build on the foundation of a community oriented living environment."

NEWS NOTES

Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view available vacancies by visiting the Web site at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 349-6119/2224.

Orote Point Commissary Case Lot Sale

There will be a case lot sale at the Orote Point Commissary on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 17-20 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The sale is open only to authorized I.D. card holders. Cash, check and credit cards are accepted. Call 339-5177 for details.

USO International Asian Bazaar

Don't miss the annual International Asian Bazaar hosted by the Guam USO. The event will be held May 4-6 at the Top O' the Mar. There will be Asian designs and decor by international and local artists including furniture imports from Asian and Indonesia, fine Oriental rugs and antiques, ceramics, paintings, woodwork, jewelry, porcelain and more! All proceeds to benefit the Guam naval Officers' Spouse Connection and the Guam USO. For more information, call 647-4876.

USO Golf For Our Heroes

Join the Guam USO and Golf For Our Heroes May 12 at the Onward Talofofo Golf Course. Fees are \$125 per person and \$250 per two-man team which include green fee, cart, refreshments, awards banquet and two raffle tickets. There will be prizes and trophies for the top three low net and first low gross, and closest to the line and pin. Showtime is 11:30 a.m. and go-time is at 12:30 p.m. Space is limited to the first 144 paid golfers and/or first 72 teams. Please register and make payment by May 4 at the Guam USO located on the ground floor of the Royal Orchid Hotel in Tumon. For more information, call 647-4876.

Guam Nurses Association Annual Conference

Join the Guam Nurses Association (GNA) for their annual Nursing Conference May 19 from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The theme for this year is "Nurses: Advocating, Leading, Caring." Pre-registration is \$60 for GNA members and \$75 for non-GNA members on or before May 17. If registering the day of the conference the fee is \$70 for GNA members and \$85 for non-GNA members. For more information, contact Tina Blas at 637-7787 or Glynis Almonte at 787-4148.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

The school bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy and Air Force communities. If you know of an education-related event that you would like to include, send it to jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil or call 349-2115.

COMMUNITY Corner

movies • movies • movies

The Big Screen Theater

MAY 4 (FRIDAY)
7 PM A THOUSAND WORDS PG-13
9:30 PM ACT OF VALOR R

MAY 5 (SATURDAY)
1 PM THE VOW PG-13
3:30 PM THIS MEANS WAR PG-13
7 PM SILENT HOUSE R

MAY 6 (SUNDAY)
1 PM DR. SEUSS "THE LORAX" PG
3:30 PM TYLER PERRY'S "GOOD DEEDS" PG-13
7 PM GONE PG-13

Movie Hotline 564-1831 US Naval Base Guam

Meehan Theater - TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Guam High School's "Rock 'n Revival Show"

Take a step back in time and enjoy hits from the 50s and 60s as Guam High School (GHS) students take the stage to perform your favorite songs. Performances will be May 3-5 with curtain call at 7 p.m. at the Panther Cafe at GHS. Entrance fee is \$10 per person and will be available for purchase at the door.

Phone Numbers

Andersen Elementary School: 366-1511
Andersen Middle School: 366-3880/5793
Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School: 339-8676
Guam High School: 344-7410

MWR HAPPENINGS

U.S. Naval Base Guam

Cinco de Mayo

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with live music from the band Empty Pockets, enjoy a fiesta plate and some Cinco de Mayo favorites. The fun starts at 7 p.m. May 5 at Molly McGees. For more information, call 564-1834.

Mother's Day Brunch

Treat mom to a delicious brunch at Top O' the Mar May 13 at 10:30 a.m. Enjoy entertainment from a live band and a professional photographer that will be open to all customers. Adults are \$27.95, children ages five to 11 are \$13.95 and children under four years of age eat free. Reserve your table by May 4 by calling 472-4606/7 or 688-3634.

36th FSS HAPPENINGS

Andersen Air Force Base

Airman and Family Readiness Center Classes

May 4: Smooth move from 9-10:30 a.m.

May 10: Thrift savings plan from 1-2 p.m.

May 11: Saving and investing from 1-2 p.m.

For more information, call 366-8136

Cinco de Mayo

Enjoy Cinco de Mayo at Bamboo Willie's May 5 from 5:30-11 p.m. There will be Mexican-style fiesta complete with a taco bar and homemade salsa. A DJ will be on hand playing your favorite Latino hits. The fiesta is \$9.95 for club members, \$11.95 for non-members and free for children ages five and under. For more information, call 366-6166.

Mother's Day Brunch

A special Mother's Day brunch will be held at Top of the Rock May 13 from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Enjoy favorite breakfast and lunch dishes including omelet, waffle and dessert stations. Brunch is \$23.95 for club members, \$26.95 for non-members and free for children ages five and under. Reservations are required and must be made by May 11. For more information, call 366-6166.

SPORTS SHORTS

U.S. Naval Base Guam

Latte Stone Cup Qualifier

Calling all Navy active duty, retirees, and Navy reservists. It's the Navy vs. Air Force. The team will consist of 15 Navy players along with one golf manager and two alternates. Players must call and sign up prior to their qualifying round. Fee is \$45 per player (includes green fees and cart fees) per qualifying attempt. Players may attempt to qualify as many times as they wish, additional fees will apply. Deadline to register is May 6. Call 344-5838 to schedule your qualifying round.

Black Drongo 5K

Take part in the fourth annual Black Drongo 5K May 11 at the Charles King Fitness Center (CKFC) parking lot. Showtime is at 5 p.m. and go time is at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 685-5237 or 333-2049.

Triple Play 3X3 Basketball

Join the Triple Play 3X3 basketball tournament to be held June 1 at the Charles King Fitness Center. Participants must be at least 13 years old and each team must have three players and at least one teen participant. Fee is \$5 per team. For more information, call 564-1844/5.

Andersen Air Force Base

Pre/Postnatal Exercise Classes

The Coral Reef Fitness Center offers a low intensity class designed for pregnant women and new mothers. A doctor's clearance form is required and is available at the Fitness Center. For more information, call 366-6100



Andersen's Best: Airman 1st Class Dominic Pena

Flying Colors: Airman 1st Class Dominic Pena, 36th Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration apprentice, was awarded Team Andersen's Best on Andersen Air Force Base April 18. 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/civilian with an award. To nominate your Airmen/civilian for Andersen's Best, contact your unit chief or superintendent explaining their accomplishments. U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham/Released

By Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham
36th Wing Public Affairs

Airman 1st Class Dominic Pena, 36th Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration apprentice, was awarded Team Andersen's Best on Andersen Air Force Base April 18.

"Airman Pena tackled the back-breaking task of restoring the Pacific Air Force's largest chiller plant by removing 12,000 pounds of build up from three cooling towers, increasing the capacity by 40 percent and ensuring the uninterrupted cooling of 14

critical and quality of life facilities," said Staff Sgt. Aristides Cruz, Pena's supervisor.

The hard work Airman Pena put forth didn't stop there.

"Airman Pena installed a six-ton air handler at the base education office preventing facility closure and providing comfort to 70 weekly testers," Cruz said. "He also mastered all lesson objectives during an advanced chiller course provided by contractors, and obtained his certification by completing an online environmental protection agency course."

"Airman Pena's actions and dedication make him a vital asset to the HVAC shop

and key player in pacific airpower," he continued.

Pena grew up in Houston, Texas, and is a huge football fan. He enjoys working out at the gym and bowling.

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/civilian with an award.

To nominate your Airmen/civilian for Andersen's Best, contact your unit chief or superintendent explaining their accomplishments.

36th CES paints sister village school



Top left: Airmen from the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron repaint M.U. Lujan Elementary School as part of the sister village program April 21. Several Airmen from the squadron came to assist in the renovations to the school. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released

Top right: Airmen from the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron repaint M.U. Lujan Elementary School in Yona as part of the sister village program April 21. Several Airmen from the squadron came to assist in the renovations to the school. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released

Right: Lt. Col. Michael Staples, 36th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) commander, paints a wall at M.U. Lujan Elementary School in Yona April 21. Members from the 36th CES volunteered during their Saturday to make renovations to the elementary school. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released

By Chief Master Sgt. David Graak
734th Air Mobility Squadron
Command Chief

Healthy Airmen

What does being healthy mean to you? I would like to share a few findings on this topic with a little input from others, some research, a little reality and personal experience and a few recommendations. Curiosity sparked this topic, so I asked some people, "What does being healthy mean to you?" Some of the responses I received were to eat fruits and veggies, have a strong immune system, have and have high endurance or just to not be sick and stay in shape. Indeed, these are all healthy norms and/or indicators, but there are more.

While doing some online research I found that being healthy is broadly defined as, "A state of complete physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." This sounds familiar because it echoes the new culture of comprehensive Airman fitness. An umbrella of four pillars: social, spiritual, mental and physical; all aimed at enhancing and reinforcing total wellbeing, instilling self confidence and improving resiliency.

Resiliency, in a sense, is an abil-

ity to act or react when tough times hit and aids in coping and recovering from stressful situations, while reducing feelings of despair and loneliness. Stress is something we all experience and it actually helps in some ways. Under control, it can help when preparing for a test or completing requirements for a technical or college course. When it builds and is left uncontrolled, stress can be one of the biggest health problems in the U.S. I have learned firsthand when I've let stress build and go unchecked, it can really throw me off course.

To keep this brief, I will focus on two areas related to health and neutrally common to the Team Andersen community: diet and exercise. Maintenance and promotion of health requires a combination of effort, activity and smart choices. Keep in mind, what may work well for one may not be another's perfect recipe for success. For service members, simply going to mandatory unit physical training sessions and eating a salad now and then is not a prescrip-

tion for success.

In terms of reality, there are "different strokes for different folks," right? When it comes to current Air Force standards, some people have it made in the shade. Some can eat whatever they choose and walk a mile a day. On the flip side, others struggle in certain areas and require extra effort, self driven discipline and guidance. When it comes to poor fitness, I have discovered some don't put in as much effort as required or were unfamiliar with the fitness assessment component requirements of the personal fitness test. Some people were also confused as to exactly where they stood physically leading into a fitness test. Bad on them, right? I agree that they knew it all along and failed to act, but this is not the case for all and a strong wingman may have come in handy here.

In my experience, being educated, aware and having a genuine interest in helping others when



self discipline and do that workout while cranking up the effort to ensure it is effective.

When it comes to nutrition, it doesn't mean you have to go completely without the unhealthy items you crave, but you have to keep a sense of reality. I use a personal reward system by setting a goal when I temporarily hop on the other side of the fence. I ensure I pay up front first.

For instance, in a given week if I get a craving for a cheeseburger, pizza, or ice cream, my plan is to have three different workouts and pass a scale check so I can indulge a bit. Then my goal is accomplished and the reward earned. Always keep in mind, shaving down portion size and not eating late at night will pay off in the long run.

Bottom line, being healthy should be important to you, your family and your friends. It benefits the Air Force in terms of readiness and reduced healthcare and costs. Approach life with an optimistic outlook in meeting or exceeding goals and keep the excesses off your plate. Know the importance of making informed food choices and leading an active lifestyle and keep them balanced. Be honest with time and effort for a priceless return on investment. Lead by example and don't be selfish on your road to success, take time to help someone else in need of a little extra guidance and motivation. No one has a bigger interest or impact in your well being than yourself -

needed can sculpt and build a healthy lifestyle. Set and adhere to solid achievable goals, and know where you need to be. This has to be a year-round effort. Taking months off of working out and making a last-minute mad dash to meet the goal is not wise and rarely successful. I'll be the first to admit, it's not easy waking up early to work out or to choose a healthy item over a tasty one.

I have found that realistic goals in achievable time frames have a much better effect than a springboard overnight hallelujah or trying the "extremist" approach. When it comes to a diet, the term, "You are what you eat," is not a myth. Keep a close eye on what you consume and realize whether liquid or solid, it all counts. Apply

Inside 36th MDG radiology



X-ray: Master Sgt. Devin Wilson, 36th Medical Group, aims the diagnostic imaging machine as she explains the procedure to Senior Airman Ben Nelson, 736th Security Forces Squadron, at the diagnostic imaging section of the 36th Medical Group clinic on Andersen Air Force Base April 18. The imaging section of the clinic is a walk in appointment style, but the patient has to be referred by a healthcare provider. The clinic also supports outpatient process for military members and their dependents. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released



Above: A patient waits to be X-rayed during a visit to the diagnostic imaging section of the 36th Medical Group clinic on Andersen Air Force Base April 18. The imaging section of the clinic is a walk-in appointment style, but the patient has to be referred by a healthcare provider. The clinic also supports outpatient process for military members and their dependents. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released

Below: Master Sgt. Devin Wilson, 36th Medical Group, prepares to take a shoulder x-ray at the medical clinic April 18. The imaging section of the clinic is a walk-in appointment style, but the patient has to be referred by a healthcare provider. The clinic also supports outpatient process for military members and their dependents. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released



644th getting ready for war

CBCS conducts full deployment exercise

By Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos
36th Wing Public Affairs

Airlifting pallets, a simulated flight, full battle-rattle, mortars and firefights; are all ingredients of a full-blown Air Force combat com squadron exercise.

The 644th Combat Communication Squadron (CBCS) conducted a field training exercise (FTX) on Andersen Air Force Base from April 16-27, testing their ability to build a communications base in a bare environment while responding to several combat scenarios.

This is the first the squadron will exercise all deployment phases to improve their war fighting capabilities.

"Usually we focus on one or two phases," said Tech. Sgt. Marcellas Walker, 644th CBCS exercise evaluation team member. "And just do a quick run through for the rest because we're familiar with it. We normally begin strong with trying to get out the door, and just close up shop near the end. But this particular (field training exercise) we're going to do all three phases completely. We're going to make everybody do everything that's supposed to be done."

Despite the new format and requirements, the team's morale has been high. The Airmen have been responsive and adaptive to situations they were given.

"They're doing [well] and they're very motivated," Walker said. "This FTX is one of the first exercises where we go through all the phases of deployment; from getting out the door, to doing our job in the field."

Walker said that timelines are important when it comes to executing a mission. If it is not started properly, then the mission is behind. Also, in this exercise the team aimed to organize their timeline and sequence of events so they can get out the door in a timely manner.

Despite areas of improvement and the difficulty presented by a bare



Above: Airmen from the 644th Combat Communications Squadron work together to build tents at the simulated Forward Operating Base Dragon Hill on Andersen Air Force Base April 19. The 644th CBCS conducted a deployment exercise from April 16-27 in order to test their capabilities in the field and improve their war-fighting capabilities. U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos/Released

Below: Senior Airman Brandon Hudson, 644th Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) cyber transport technician, watches as Staff Sgt. David Popovich, 644th CBCS cyber transport technician, works on setting up the network for the simulated Forward Operating Base Dragon Hill on Andersen Air Force Base April 19. The 644th CBCS conducted a deployment exercise from April 16-27 in order to test their capabilities in the field and improve their war-fighting capabilities. U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos/Released



base environment, Capt. Miguel Gonzalez, 644th CBCS deputy commander, and exercise site commander, said that the team's per-

formance was more than adequate.

"We have essentially met all the deadlines up to this point," he said. "We've shattered the deadline to

connect to the satellite. In less than 12 hours we've been able to get the bulk of our work done. Right now we're meeting our communications goals very well."

"It's the first time we've actually used some of those pieces of equipment," he continued. "Specifically the modems the satellite communication folks are using. It's the first time we've ever exercised it in the field. We've brought it up once in the office but never in a combat environment like this." All the days of planning, preparation and execution are set to achieve mission goals and make sure that the team is ready and well equipped for tomorrow's fight.

"The goal of this exercise is to succeed and be able to deploy successfully," Walker said. "This means accomplishing all three phases and get everybody home safely. In the training environment we have here we're going to try to present different obstacles that will require them to act accordingly, like conduct self aid and buddy care and operate in austere environments."

"We aim to validate our procedures," Gonzalez said. "We've been working on documenting them so that when the new people come in they can pick up the procedures and know what they need to do. We have gotten it down on paper and now it's a matter of validating those procedures by bringing it out to the field."

The 644th CBCS was faced with scenarios that they would have to solve, accomplish and survive. These scenarios ranged from mortar attacks to fire fights and even equipment malfunctions.

"We're planning some force protection," said Captain Gonzalez. "And things that will help protect and prepare us for what is to come with the combat environment. We've got good, smart guys in here and great team effort. They're doing everything we've ask of them. We are ready."

Celebrate May with eco-friendly gifts

By Kevin D. Evans
Joint Region Marianas Energy Manager

May isn't just May Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and Memorial Day. It is also not just flowers and gifts to loved ones, but a great time to actively provide energy-efficient and environmental-friendly gifting too.

This gifting month, I might suggest gifting your significant other with the traditional chocolates,

flowers and wine that are environmentally sustainable. Locally, please consider checking out your local exchange and commissaries for environmentally-sustainable gifts and products. For you cybersurfers, check out the Green Mother's Day Gift Guide" at <http://inhabitat.com/green-gift-guide-mothers-day-2009/> for their eco-friendly picks for Mother's Day gifts that are sure to please both your mom and Mother Earth.

For the big-ticket gifting, I always suggest changing out your traditional internal combustion engine vehicle with a gasoline-electric hybrid (HEV) engine one available in two or four-door sedan, mini-van and light truck. Everything one could want to know about the topic, how your own vehicle rates, can be found on one government Web site www.fueleconomy.gov. It covers many fuel and vehicle topics, contains downloads of the latest vehicle ratings, helpful hints to get the most out of your current vehicle and much more.

Enjoy the many events of May as gifting can be as sustainable as it is enjoyable. So, please check out local as well as web-based resources.



SAAM closes with silent witness ceremony

Remembering Victims: U.S. Naval Base Guam Chaplain Lt. Joseph Mayer, speaks to Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) victim advocates about the issues of sexual assault before a Silent Witness Walk at the NBG chapel April 25. The walk was part Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a series of events with the goal to raise awareness and empower victims of sexual assault. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Corey Hensley/Released



Growing up military

By Col. Kim Brook
36th Maintenance Group Commander

"Growing up in a military family offers some challenges, but it also provides some special rewards," wrote Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in a letter to military children April 19, 2006. "You can be proud of your mom and dad for their brave defense of this great country. Your love and support sustains them. So thank you for being there for mom and dad. You are American patriots and role models for us all."

What do you mean I have to turn in my identification (ID) card?" My military ID card had been what defined my identity since birth in an Army hospital at Fort Lee, Va. When my dad retired from the United States Army, the thought of no longer being a part of the military had not occurred to me. It was not only weird but also a little bit scary. It was the only life I'd known. I was one of over a million military children also known as "military brats". A military brat is in no way a derogatory term in my opinion because it, like the terms military spouse or military member, associated me with an esteemed way of life. I was very proud to be an Army brat.

Now having served almost 25 years in the Air Force, I have my own military children and would like to take the opportunity to reflect on life as a military child. I remember being told once that if the military had wanted me to have a family, they would have issued me one. Now I know that this was the callous view of an individual and not the views of the Department of Defense but I can't help but feel that not enough recognition is given to the sacrifices of the children of military members. Perhaps because April is noted for the trials of showers that bring forth the rewards of May flowers, it is the perfect month to celebrate the trials military children must endure but with the hopeful outcome of becoming more rewarding adults. It is a very appro-



priate time to recognize the sacrifices that military children make.

Growing up in a military community has defined my life and view of America and the world. Living in foreign countries made me stand out as an American. Living in the states gave me the privilege of passing through the gates that many at school could not trespass. At the age of 10, my ID card tied my face to military service and identified me as unique amongst my peers who wouldn't get anything quite as cool until they got their drivers license. That card gave me access to the post exchange and commissary. It gave me access to travel and discounts and onto bases and posts all around the world. It made me feel I had a duty and responsibility to represent my country. That card identified that I had been to many places, attended many schools, that I was dependable, and honorable and perhaps even a little smarter and more mature than my peers, who hadn't had the opportunity to see the world like I had. Though I am from an older generation of military children, I believe many of these same attributes exist in today's military children.

Military children today are still forced to move often, attend many different schools, and live in foreign places during their parent's service. They have the added burden of active engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan which force them

to explore the human condition with more focused perspectives on religion, global communication, and economics. As generation Y and Z'ers, military children are now more interconnected given the rise of instant communication technologies made possible through use of the internet, such as e-mail, texting, instant messaging and new media used through Web sites like YouTube and social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace and Twitter. They are forced to assume the same adaptability traits that come with being a military child but grow up in an environment that allows them to question more, associate more, and yes, even rebel more.

Where military children of generations past were uprooted without the benefits of a lot of information about why they were moving, a lot of advanced information on where they were going, and strong ties to the communities they were leaving behind, today's military children have become masters of more robust communication. Though they continue to have to contend with the real possibilities presented with the military service of their parent or parents, they are able to be more actively engaged, whether "skyping" with the military member down range, "googling" the new duty assignment location, or "facetimeing" with friends and family from abroad. They are no longer the invisible by-products of our military community.

As Pat Conroy, author of "The Great Santini" states in the introduction to Mary Edward Wertsch's book, "Military Brats: Legacies of Childhood Inside the Fortress", "there are no ceremonies to mark the end of our career as military brats... we simply walk out into our destinies, into the dead center of our lives, and try to make the most of it."

Upon retirement, military members receive great accolades for their years of dedicated service; spouses

See Brook, Page 7



'What's That?': A Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary and Middle School student peers over a bridge during a fieldtrip to the Navy Water Treatment Plant in Santa Rita April 27. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

MEMS students visit Navy water plant

By Shaina Marie Santos
Joint Region Edge Staff

Students, teachers and parents of Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary and Middle School toured the Navy Water Treatment Plant in Santa Rita April 27.

The group of students toured a number of sites at the plant and learned how water from the Fena Reservoir is collected and treated for safe consumption by Guam's naval facilities and surrounding villages.

Potable Water System Supervisor Gino Tison said he hopes students gain an understanding of where the water in their homes comes from.

"I want them to appreciate really that it's not a very simple process how these things happen," he said. "We're open 24/7, so this isn't a project where after it's done you walk away from it; this is a continuous operation."

During the tour, MEMS students were given a first-hand experience at working at the plant, by taking control of a hose used to rinse the plant's backwash tanks while guided by one of the plant operators.

MEMS fifth-grade teacher Mae Flores said the tour gave students a more realistic view of the water system, enabling them to apply what they've learned to what they've seen.

"What one of our classes did is build their own water filtration system," she said. "This is part of really seeing first-hand a water filtration plant. When they do it in the classroom, then they see the actual process and procedure, it gives them a better depth of knowledge."

Flores added that the first-hand knowledge students gain from the tour engages them more because it relates what they learn to their own lives.

"This is the real thing," Flores said. "And they're interested because this is the water that goes into their homes."

Sherry Kirby, one of the parent chaperones during the visit, said she found it interesting to see the process and learn the difference between lake water and tap water.

"I think it's great for [students] to know where their water comes from and how it's cleaned and why it's safe," she said. "It's important to [my son] to know the water he's drinking is safe for him."

GUNG names top Soldiers and Airmen

By Capt. Ken Ola
Guam National Guard Public Affairs

Close to 700 Soldiers, Airmen, family members and guests of the Guam National Guard (GUNG) gathered for the first Joint Enlisted Awards Banquet and celebrated the announcement of this year's top enlisted service members April 14 in Tumon.

Three Airmen and two Soldiers were recognized as this year's Soldier, Airman and Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) of the Year.

"Our Soldiers and Airmen do so many things that are often unrecognized," said Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, The Adjutant General of the Guam Guard. "This banquet is one of those opportunities we wanted to take to make sure that their hard work is

not simply acknowledged, but more importantly, publicly heralded."

Ten Soldiers and 13 Airmen were nominated by their units and competed in a variety of categories.

Categories for the Guam Army National Guard (GUARNG) top honors were Soldier of the Year and Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year. For the Guam Air National Guard, the categories were Airman of the Year, NCO of the Year and Senior NCO of the Year.

This year's top Soldiers and Airmen were:

Spc. Vincent P. Penaflor, Bravo Company – Soldier of the Year

Sgt. Randy Eustaquio, Bravo Company – NCO of the Year

Senior Airman Anthony Dulla, 254th Security Forces Squadron –

Airman of the Year

Tech. Sgt Carmela Rapadas, 254th Force Support Squadron – NCO of the Year

Master Sgt Charles McDonald, 254th Security Forces Squadron – Senior NCO of the Year

Aside from trophies to recognize their accomplishments, the Soldiers and Airmen took home gift baskets filled with a variety of gift certificates and other giveaways courtesy of member companies of the Armed Forces Committee of the Guam Chamber of Commerce.

Gift contributors included the Armed Forces Committee; Atkins Kroll Inc.; Outback Steakhouse; Cars Plus; Micronesian Divers Association; Guam USO; Tango Theatres; Money Resources Inc.; Jones

& Guerrero Company; Johnson Controls; and Holiday Resort Guam.

Competition for the GUARNG Soldier and NCO of the year began almost six months ago. Soldiers and NCOs contended in many physically grueling events such as the Record Army Physical Fitness Tests, road marches and land navigation. Service members also had to take a written test and stand before a board of Sergeant Majors, who grilled them on military matters and current events. Four Soldiers competed in the soldier of the year category, while six contended in the NCO of the year category. The winners go on to battle in the regional competitions to be held in San Luis Obispo, Ca. later this month.

The competition in the GUANG

spans the entire year. A selection committee looks at the accomplishments of the Airman nominees throughout the year. Things they look at include leadership opportunities, community service, deployments and physical fitness.

"Winners move on to vie for top Airman, among the Pacific Air Forces Air Guard units, and at the same time, go up against nominees from 53 other states and territories across the Air National Guard," said Command Chief Master Sergeant Joseph Alcairo, Senior Enlisted Advisor for the GUANG. "If they win at this level, they then compete in the Air Force wide selection of the top Airmen. Guam Guard Airmen in recent years have won in both higher level competitions."



Bull's-Eye: A Guam High School student takes aim during the Far East Guam Regional Marksmanship Competition at Gab Gab Beach on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 29. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

CADETS: Fostering friendships

Continued from Page 1

Bowling, once a year all DoDEA Pacific schools gather for a meet, which has been held in Sasebo, Japan for the past two years. However, this competition only included half DoDEA Pacific schools, while the other half were to compete elsewhere.

"We have meets for marksmanship and then for drill and in order for some of the other schools to get a chance to travel and compete more often, we add an extra event per year," he said. "Marksmanship is this one."

Bowling emphasized the importance of marksmanship as a part of JROTC programs.

"We're not intending for the kids to become expert marksmen, but just the exposure for it and the discipline of learning how to shoot — that's one of the reasons why it's an important part," he said.

However, Bowling said one of the most important parts of the event was to promote camaraderie among cadets.

"The biggest thing is the fact that the kids get to meet the kids from the other schools," he said. "It's a really good chance for kids to mingle and get to know each other from other parts of the world and other schools."

Sasebo Japan's EJ King High School's Senior Naval Science Instructor Cmdr. Jeffrey Sizek echoed Bowling's remarks.

"[Marksmanship] teaches [students] a significant amount of discipline, a significant amount of being able to focus and teenagers have enough trouble focusing anyway," he said. "[Marksmanship] gets them to pay attention. They learn to be safe with firearms. This is Olympic-style air rifle shooting and it requires a significant amount of control and a lot has to do with form. You can't just walk up and do this real quick, it's a learning thing, it takes months and months to do it right."

Sizek said that overall, the program teaches its cadets lessons to last them a lifetime.

"This is a cadet run program... and the cadets do most of the work," he said. "The whole idea here is we teach them honor, courage, commitment. We teach them responsibility, we teach them accountability and then we actually put them in charge and do the work because that's how they learn. They need to learn now, all of the stuff they have to do, and what's involved and leadership."

Arcelita Franchino agreed with Sizek. Franchino was present during the event to cheer on and take photos of her daughter, one of the cadets competing from GHS.

"[JROTC] does a lot for her," she said. "Especially being responsible, learning how to work together with a group. It helps them grow up, be responsible and be independent."

Individual Marksman

First place
Edwin Cantara
Simon Sanchez High School

Second place
Rachelle Columbino
Simon Sanchez High School

Third place
Antonio Herrera
Southern High School

Team Marksmen
First place
Simon Sanchez High School Varsity

Second place
Southern High School

Third place
E.J. King High School Varsity
Sasebo, Japan

Team Biathlon
First place
M.C. Perry High School
Iwakuni, Japan

Second place
Guam High School

Third place
Father Duenas Memorial School

CBCS: Communication important to missions

Continued from Page 1

become a necessity for both individual and industry, satellite transmissions have been a national commodity. For the military, communication capabilities have been a valued asset, especially in a deployed environment.

"We establish connection from our location to enable many users to have telephone and Internet capability," said Staff Sgt. David Foster, 644th CBCS RF transmissions supervisor. "Without the major connection, there is nothing that can be done. Unless we get our link established, the others aren't able to do their job. We also have tactical radios that allow ground-to-air communication and also enables multiple users to communicate between each other."

"We establish the satellite link," he continued. "Our job is important enough to require us to be one of the first out to establish the bare base. Usually you'll have security forces, civil engineers and communications Airmen. After all, the first part of a deployment is security, base build-up and communications. COMM allows the first responders to report back to main base and let them know vital information to mission success."

Chrisman compared the satellite link they make to a garden hose.

"If we were to stretch a garden hose from Earth to the satellite, that's your path," he said. "If you send water through it, that would be the data you are sending. We as SATCOM (satellite communications) basically establish the water hose that allows user data to flow through it."

Having to establish the first-line connection requires urgency. The SATCOM team works in less than an eight-hour window along with difficulties posed by the environment where the connection is being established.

"The biggest difficulty in a bare-

base environment for SATCOM, I would say, would be finding the right satellite to connect to," Chrisman said. "There are times that multiple satellites are around the same area in space, so it is possible to track the wrong satellite in orbit. We can find it, but you won't be allowed to transmit information to the wrong satellite. The hardest thing is making sure that we are on the appropriate satellite and that the equipment communicates properly."

"Occasionally, you find unstable satellites that are difficult to connect to," he continued. "We just happen to be in a very good region here, where we are using a new, stable Wideband Gap System satellite."

In addition to the difficulties of finding the right satellite, Foster said that lack of manpower and amount of equipment can also affect the job pace for SATCOM on the field.

"Manpower is also a limiting factor in this kind of environment," he said. "You have to have enough people to operate the terminal. If SATCOM goes down, and I'm at my security job, they would have to go out there and relieve me so I can take care of the problem."

Both downrange and on base, RF transmission services are on high demand.

But despite the mergers and the occasional difficulties of the job, both noncommissioned officers are aware of the importance of their role, especially out on the field.

"I really like my job, and it's definitely important," Foster said. "When you're doing real missions, communication is vital."

"I like a lot of aspects of my job," Chrisman said, echoing Foster's appreciation of being in their career field. "I'm starting to learn more of the networking side and really enjoy that aspect. I love tactical satellite equipment and proud to serve in the military, do my job and defend my country in the process."



Communication is Key: The 644th Combat Communications Squadron Airmen set up a satellite dish that allows the team to be current with the latest world events during Exercise Dragon Thunder at Andersen Air Force Base April 19. Satellite transmission is the main source of communication and information in a deployed environment. U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos/Released

BROOK: Children are part of community

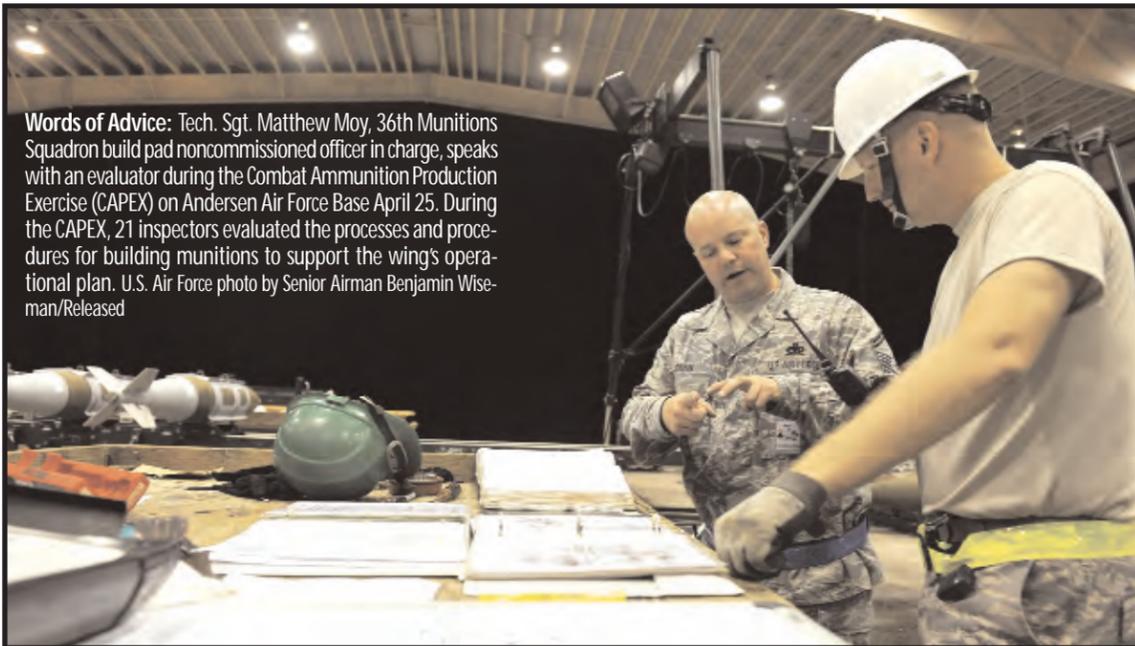
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receive recognition from unit leadership and even the president of the United States for their years of support, understanding and sacrifice on behalf of the military. Military children have been a part of our military community since the first stone was cast and yet they re-

ceive very little for the years they may give, and the sacrifices they make for the sake of military service. In these times of tremendous change, we need the growing number of youths who've learned the adaptability skills growing up military provides. They come with openness to other cultures, firsthand knowledge of the trials of liv-

ing a military life and are the epitome of resiliency, a resiliency necessary to meet our future challenges as a nation.

For those who sacrifice without having the choice to serve, who persevere despite the challenges, and adapt and flourish - our military children, I'd like to say thank-you for your service.



Words of Advice: Tech. Sgt. Matthew Moy, 36th Munitions Squadron build pad noncommissioned officer in charge, speaks with an evaluator during the Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) on Andersen Air Force Base April 25. During the CAPEX, 21 inspectors evaluated the processes and procedures for building munitions to support the wing's operational plan. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released



Ready to Load: These Mark 84 munitions are one of several different types of munitions built and transported during the Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) on Andersen Air Force Base April 24. CAPEX tested Andersen Air Force Base's strategic capabilities in the area of munitions readiness. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jeffrey Schultze/Released

CAPEX is a success: Test

**By Senior Airman Veronica McMahon
36th Wing Public Affairs**

The Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) concluded with an outbrief April 27 announcing the CAPEX's success, testing the 36th Munitions Squadron's and deployed-in forces' ability to build munitions and support combat sorties.

The non-rated exercise, conducted April 23-26, is done once a year and only in the Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) command. Working 24-hour operations, the 250 personnel involved were able to train in various areas. Not only did they meet, but they exceed Andersen's expectations by building 1,500 munitions in a four-day period.

"CAPEX is a great exercise that tests the abilities and capabilities of a wing to produce a wartime-scenario munitions build," said Col. Herb Phillips, Logistic Readiness division chief at PACAF Headquarters and CAPEX team lead. "It gives that wing the opportunity to take that wartime requirement, translate it into an air

tasking order or a flying schedule, and then for the ammo and munitions personnel to build to that schedule, deliver and get the munitions to the aircraft."

The evaluators assessed the Airmen in multiple categories to include conventional air-launched cruise missiles, break out, munitions control, big bombs, accountability, line delivery and weapons in check. The evaluators were impressed with what they saw.

"The exercise has been quite impressive, the wing certainly knows how to build bombs," Phillips said. "Watching the Airmen at all of the different sights as they breakout the bombs and as they build them up and transport them off, has been quite incredible."

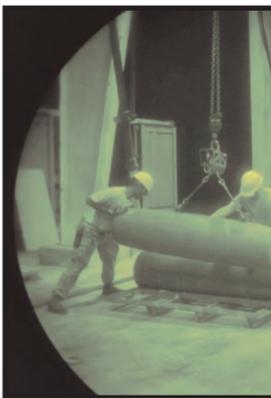
While members from the 36th Munitions Squadron made up most of the Airmen, there were many deployed in troops from across the Air Force.

A loading exercise was also held in conjunction with the CAPEX to test the skills of the new 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (EAMXS) deployed in from Minot Air Force Base (AFB), N.D.

"This LOADEX (loading exercise) is unique because it is done in conjunction with CAPEX and we have enough training shapes to do a full load," said Maj. William Babbit, 36 EAMXS commander. "A full load on the B-52 is eight CALCMs (conventional air-launched cruise missile) and 12 joint air-to-surface standoff missiles (JASSM)."

These exercises conducted simultaneously allowed for a timeline for both the bomb builders and the loaders. The CALCMs and JASSMs were two of the main bombs built during this training exercise.

"The more experience we have loading these missiles the quicker we are at providing assets, and doing this along with the CAPEX gives



Night Vision: Airmen from the 36th Munitions Squadron place bombs on a rack during the Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) on Andersen Air Force Base. Members from the 36th MUNS built and transported munitions to support the CAPEX mission. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Benjamin Wiseman/Released



Preparations: Airmen deployed to the 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, prepare to lift and transport a training conventional air-launched cruise missile during the Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) on Andersen Air Force Base April 23. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes/Released

everyone more of a team," said Sgt. Christopher Moore, weapons section chief at Minot AFB. "This is what makes everyone sharp and prepared."

Testing out all of these skills is not only good for training, but it's also good for Team Andersen and the wing.

"Exercises like CAPEX are so important to the Air Force for so many reasons," Phillips said. "It gives us a chance to test the skills that you may not use on a daily basis. Numbers are a chance to ensure that whoever they may be, they are fully capable and ready for wartime tasking."

Munitions Squadron is making a lasting impression on the wing leader's gratitude for all that the wing did in the CAPEX.

"This week you've operated 1,500 weapons of them on time," said Dreichler, 36th Wing commander. "That is amazing. I'm proud of yourself and you all have done here on this base."



Delicioso: A plate of Mexican food is served at a home in Chalan Pago April 30. Mexican food is one way to indulge in celebration of Cinco de Mayo which falls on May 5 this year. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/ Released

Contemporary holiday celebrates **culture, diversity**

By Shaina Marie Santos
Joint Region Edge Staff

For those on Guam celebrating Cinco de Mayo, there are a number of events on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) you can partake in to celebrate the Mexican holiday this year. The holiday, which is held on May 5, has become a popular celebration of the Mexican culture in the United States, providing Mexican-Americans a chance to celebrate their heritage and share it with others. On NBG, Molly McGee's Irish Pub will be hosting their Cinco de Mayo celebration with a live band, south of the border-style food and other festive favorites. NBG Morale, Welfare and Recreation Food and Beverage Director Robert Walter said the celebration is just one way MWR offers diverse events. "It's a cultural tradition," he said. "This is a reason to celebrate. You don't have to be from that heritage or that culture to appreciate the event. It helps with awareness and

diversity, gives pride. We're a nation of multi-cultures and each are important in their own way." Walter added that it is an honor to serve who he calls the best customers in the world. "We're serving those who serve, keeping us safe," he said. "We're just glad to be there for them and make their lives easier, bring a little home to them." On Andersen AFB, patrons can celebrate by the beach at Bamboo Willies. Attendees will be treated to a Mexican-style fiesta and Latin music from 5:30-11 p.m. Bamboo Willies Manager Willie Williamson hopes for patrons and their families to enjoy themselves this Cinco de Mayo. "I think people are expecting to come down and have good food, good fun, and take a moment to remember what [the holiday] is about," he said. "It's a part of our history. It lets us know that we have come a long ways in a lot of freedoms that we have are tied to the people who have sacrificed." Cinco de Mayo, which means May 5, celebrates the defeat of French forces at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862.

Cinco de Mayo CELEBRATIONS

U.S. Naval Base Guam

- **Cinco de Mayo at Molly McGee's Irish Pub**
- May 5 at 7 p.m.
- Live music from "Empty Pockets"
- Enjoy a fiesta plate along with other Cinco de Mayo favorites
- For more information, call 564-1834

Andersen Air Force Base

- **First Friday at Top of the Rock**
- May 4 at 4:30 p.m.
- Lots of great food, fun, a DJ and prize drawings.
- Free for Club Members and their family members and \$5 per person for nonmembers and their family members.
- For more information call 366-6166

Cinco de Mayo Celebration at Bamboo Willies

- May 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- There will be a Mexican-style fiesta featuring a Taco Bar and homemade salsa, a disc jockey playing your favorite Latino hits and beverage specials.
- The "Andersen's Got Talent" contest will also start at 7 p.m.
- The Mexican-style fiesta is \$9.95 for club members, \$11.95 for non-members and free for ages five and under.
- For more information, call 366-6166

GHS students learn to handle oil spill

By Shaina Marie Santos
Joint Region Edge Staff

In observance of Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific's Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Awareness week, students at Guam High School (GHS) witnessed a mock oil spill at the school in Agana Heights April 26.

Naval Facilities and Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas and DZSP 21 environmental specialists performed the spill and informed students about different kinds of chemical spills and how they are managed.

NAVFAC Marianas Environmental Management Assistant Carlo Unpingco said the presentation was to create awareness for students about environmental concerns that arise when an oil spill takes place.

"Wildlife around the world face environmental contamination from human influences on the natural world," he said. "As animals are threatened by environmental contamination, we need to examine what can be done to minimize the risk of contamination and maximize the

response to such problems."

NAVFAC Marianas Environmental Protection Specialist Blaise Koki echoed Unpingco's remarks and added that the demonstration was to teach students to identify what it takes and what happens during an actual oil spill.

"It's going to show the kids how to go about and what we do to clean up a spill," he said. "It gives them more of an awareness when there's a spill - what to do about it. It's important to protect the environment, to make sure that the kids know what's going on out there and know how to handle the situation."

Instead of oil, water was used to demonstrate how an oil spill is contained with the use of absorbent socks, pads and sand.

DZSP21 Environmental Protection Specialist Olivia Idechiil said she hopes learning about the environment can inspire students to protect it.

"This environment is the only place we've got," she said. "If we destroy it, we're not going to go anywhere."

GHS science teacher Eric Eisaman said having a first-hand look at environmental practices makes all the difference.

"We feed from pictures, we feed from

the internet and books but whenever real people come in to express the activities they engage in day to day life, that's what really gets the ball moving faster," he said.

Eisaman also said having students witness first-hand improves their understanding of the importance of teamwork.

"It's more than just knowing stuff, it's working together as a team," he said. "I wanted the kids to see a mock drill because you get to see the coordination between the people and realize that it's just as important to be a good person as it is to know the raw facts."

GHS Principal Phil Keim said STEM's coursework is directly related to job experience, specifically to high-end science positions.

"The kids actually get to experience real world occurrences and how to deal with those," he said. "[The mock oil spill] gave them a real-life scenario to be able to see how the STEM program works directly from science to an actual occurrence. It's really a philosophical change in education in that it's promoting teaching to be geared directly towards problem solving in the real world."

Cleaning Up: DZSP 21 environmental protection specialist Olivia Idechiil explains how to control an oil spill during a mock oil spill demonstration at Guam High School in Agana Heights April 26. The presentation, hosted by Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas, was in observance of the Department of Defense Education Activity's Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics Awareness week. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released



Story Time: Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Tarrant, or U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, begins to read, "The Napping House," by Audrey and Don Wood to children at the Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Library during story time on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 25. Story time is a volunteer program which allows service members to read to children of all ages at MWR Library every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. (U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy M. Starr/Released)

USNH Guam Sailor reads to children

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Jeremy Starr
Joint Region Edge Staff

More than a dozen children and parents attended a spring reading event at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) library on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) April 25.

Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Tarrant, of U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam, was asked by the librarian to read to chil-

dren and chose to read Audrey and Don Wood's "The Napping House," a book selected from his personal library.

"I brought my own book, because I thought the kids would love to read a big book," he said.

Tarrant, a father of four, visits the library regularly with his family and encourages them and other children to read, not only textbooks, but storybooks as well.

"[Reading] sets them up for success in the future," he said. "It helps the child

have self-confidence and to grow to be an articulate adult."

Ensign Brian Bonzo, assigned USNH Guam, attended the event with his daughter, a pre-kindergarten student at Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School.

"We love to listen to the Sailors read the stories every week," Bonzo said. "My wife and Kairi come to the library every day after school to read and pick out books to take home."

MWR library employee Stephanie

Olson said she takes enjoys seeing children visit the library as she's able to watch them learn and grow with each every book they read.

"I love watching the kids every Wednesday," she said. "Sometimes there is a lot, sometimes there is only a little, and sometimes we get some of the same kids."

From May 15-July 25 the MWR Library will host a Summer Reading Program for all ages, including children younger than 1. The program is fund-

ed by the Navy General Library Program in Washington, D.C. The object of the program is to have Sailors and their families continue to read through the summer months. Every participant will receive a certificate and gift bag. Top readers of each category, which range from younger than 1 to 19 years old, will receive additional prizes.

For more information with the MWR Library, please visit <http://www.facebook.com/pages/MWR-Library-Guam> or call 564-1836.

DoDEA school board elects SY 2012-2013 board members

From DoDEA Pacific District Guam
Public Affairs

Jeff Arrington, acting superintendent, Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Pacific Guam Schools, would like to announce the newly elected school board members and extend congratulations to Allen E. Blend, Michelle Dana and Michael Gadsden, as new members of our school board for the 2012-2013 school year.

Blend, Master Sergeant, U.S.

Army National Guard, has coached high school football. He has experience working with children as a youth coach for the Guam National Youth Football Federation. He would like to be a school board member to represent the interests of deployed soldiers and their families as well as all Guam National Guard service members. He has children attending Andersen Elementary School and Guam High School.

Dana, military spouse, has a degree in nursing and is cur-

rently attending American Military University. She has been actively involved in the school's Parent Teacher Organization, a member of the Utah Land Trust Board, a classroom volunteer and a volunteer with Red Cross. She was a teacher at a Children's House Montessori School in Utah. She has been a cub scout den leader and Sunday school teacher. Dana stated that she wanted to be a school board member to serve the DoDEA community.

"I am community service ori-

ented having served on a state-side local emergency planning committee (co-chair), regional response planning committee (vice-chair), Utah regions planning committee, and community emergency response team board," she said.

She has children attending Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School.

Gadsden, FBI Special Agent, has a bachelor's of science degree from University of South Carolina and DeVry. Gadsden is a school volunteer as well as

a tutor. He teaches tennis in his spare time. As a member of the school board, he wants to assist DoDEA in improving education.

"I am a passionate advocate for educating our children," he said. "I feel that my contributions will make a positive difference."

He has children attending Andersen Middle School and Guam High School.

For more information, please contact the district superintendent's office at 344-9167.

Chapel Schedule

U.S. 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 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday, 5 p.m.

Protestant Worship Service

Sunday Service: Traditional and
Contemporary Service:
10:30 a.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.

Women's Bible Study: Every
second and fourth Saturday of
the month at 8:30 a.m. at the
Fellowship Hall, Building 61

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.

Military Council of Catholic

Women: Second and fourth
Tuesday 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:

Chapel 1,
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

By Lt. Matthew Drayton
U.S. Naval Base Guam Chaplain

What kind of people are church people? Do these words help you to picture a certain kind of person? What do they look like? What do their hearts look like? Do you like them? Are they the kind of people you'd want to hang out with? Are they friendly? Is their faith genuine or superficial? Any way you cut it, the term to many can sound a bit stiff.

In the first century, Jesus attempted to clarify for the disciples what church people should be because he was frustrated with what they had become. A once courageous and faithful people had become legalistic, hypocritical and self-righteous, and it had all become a big show devoid of substance and value. Unfortunately, the problem is not foreign to us and all too often we suffer the same problem today.

In Mark 12:41-44, we find the story of the widow and her offering. So many have considered this passage to be about giving money, but its not. Instead, this passage is about heart, the heart God wants his people to have.

Church people

This is why amidst a crowd of people, many of whom rich and flaunting their giving, Jesus sees this lowly widow and points out her meek offering of two copper coins worth less than a cent, and says that her offering is more.

But why is it more? Ironically their location was the court of the Gentiles, where there were large coffers. These coffers are where people would give their offering, and as they gave it would clang loudly. The more the coins the more the noise and attention the giver would receive. In addition

it was called the bird offering. The bird offering was designated specifically for the building of the temple or God's church. Jesus highlights not the rich

CHAPLAIN'S Corner



but the widow to his disciples because it will not be chief executive officers and high finance that will build God's church, but people with hearts like the widow.

In addition, the religious elite had made a law that stated that the minimum that could be offered to the bird offering was two copper coins. This was all the widow gave because it was all that she had. The rich gave out of

their abundance, but the widow gave all her grocery money. Even more powerful and telling, the Greek text gives away the true weight of her offering because the verse is actually translated "she gave her whole life." Said in another way: This widow, held nothing back for herself and 'gave her whole life' for the sake of God's church. It was an action that required real faith, real trust in God to provide and came at a personal cost, a cost the widow paid willingly. This not only reflected the heart of Jesus, but mirrored what he was about to do upon the cross.

When we consider the heart God wants for his people, Jesus points to the widow, because her offering shows us a heart that truly bucks the system, and its with this kind of collateral that Christ will build his church.

Imagine what the Christian church today would look like if it didn't care as much about its worldly appearance and worldly tendencies and instead built itself upon people who had a faith and trust in God as real as the widows. Perhaps then every reference to church people would then be wonderfully positive. I do believe this is what we are striving for.

Turbo Kicking the pounds away



"One, two, three, kick!": Joanna Wyatt, right, instructs women and children students during her turbo kick class at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam April 26. Turbo kick is a combination of intense kickboxing moves which incorporates dance moves all choreographed to high energy and motivating music. U.S. Navy Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Jeremy Starr/Released

Players compete in 2012 TAG Golf Tournament



Par: Master Sgt Jake Barnes, right, eyes the ball following his putt, while his golf teammate and son, Staff Sgt. Coby Barnes, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robert Castro and Private 2nd Class Bill Penn, from the Guam National Guard (GUNG), look on during the 2012 TAG (The Adjutant General) Golf Tournament at the Admiral Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada April 14. The father-and-son team represented the 254th Air Base Group and won 2nd place in the tournament. The golf tournament is one of 14 events in this year's GUNG TAG Cup. The TAG cup is GUNG's annual sporting event intended to foster camaraderie and esprit de corps among the Soldiers, Airmen, dependents and retirees of the Guam National Guard. U.S. Army photo by Capt. Ken Ola/Released