



On Base...

Battle of Midway ceremony set for June 4, at 9 a.m. in front of Administration Building 255. All personnel are invited to attend.

✓ **The NAS Chapel will host Vacation Bible School June 25-29 from 6-8 p.m.** Children entering the first grade through fourth grade (approximately ages 5-9) are eligible. There are a limited number of seats available. Deadline to register is June 15. For more information on VBS, how to volunteer, and/or to register your child for VBS, please contact the chapel at (601) 679-3635 or e-mail joseph.stroney@navy.mil

✓ **Two Basic Motorcycle Rider Courses** are scheduled on board NAS Meridian this month for **May 29-30 and May 31-June 1**. To register go to ESAMS or visit www.navymotorcyclider.com to enroll. Active duty military will have priority. For more information, call Safety office at 601-679-3756.

✓ **All Hands Pool** opens May 26 at noon. See page 8 for Swim Lessons Schedule.

✓ **Kid's Summer Camp** begins May 28 for ages 5-12. Registration packets can be picked up at the CDC or SAC center's on base.

✓ **Attention Kids!** 1st Tee Golf meets at SAC every Wednesday from 2-4 p.m.

A Day in Naval History

May 25
1952: USS Iowa bombards Chongjin, Korea.
1973: Launch of Skylab 2 mission, which was first U.S. manned orbiting space station. It had an all Navy crew of Capt. Charles Conrad Jr., USN (commanding); Cmdr. Joseph P. Kerwin, USN; and Cmdr. Paul J. Weitz, USN. During the 28-day mission of 404 orbits, the craft rendezvoused with Skylab to make repairs and conduct science experiments. Recovery by USS Ticonderoga (CVS-14)

May 28
1980: 55 women become first women graduates from the U.S. Naval Academy.

June 3
1949: Wesley A. Brown becomes the first African-American to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy.

June 4
1942: Battle of Midway (June 4-6) begins; during battle, the four Japanese carriers which attacked Pearl Harbor are sunk; this decisive U.S. victory is a turning point in the Pacific war.

-- www.history.navy.mil

THE SKYLINE IS A CHINFO AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

Navy announces new uniform components, regulations

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- NAVADMIN 164/12, released May 18, announced the chief of naval operations' (CNO) approval of a number of changes to uniforms and uniform wear policy.

"These uniform changes are the direct result of Sailor and leadership feedback," said Rear Adm. Tony Kurta, director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy. "Updating Navy uniforms is part of outfitting the 21st Century Sailor, ensuring our Sailors have practical uniforms they want and that represent our proud naval heritage while reflecting advances in clothing technology and design."

An improved design of the male E1-E6 Service Dress Blue (SDB) Uniform, incorporating a side zipper on the jumper and a hidden center zipper on the trousers, is approved.

The uniform is scheduled to begin distribution in October 2015, at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, and Fleet availability is expected by October 2018. Specific details regarding fleet availability will be announced in a future NAVADMIN.

The E1-E6 men's and women's Service Dress White (SDW) jumper approved design improvements include incorporating a side zipper, front and rear yoke, Navy blue piping on the flap, and sleeve cuffs with Navy blue piping and button fasteners. Introduction of the new E1-E6 SDW will begin October 2015, at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes. Fleet roll out will begin by October 2018. Specific details regarding Fleet availability will be announced in a future NAVADMIN.

The contemporary design for Service

Dress Khaki (SDK) is approved for optional wear. Detailed guidance on the occasion for wear and Fleet availability will be announced in a future NAVADMIN.

A number of changes to the Navy flight suit occasion and manner of wear are contained in the NAVADMIN, including changes to the approved colors for undershirts and aligning the manner of wear of the one-piece flight suit with the Navy Working Uniform (NWU) Type I.

Among the changes to NWU policy approved in the NAVADMIN is the option to wear a nametape on the left shoulder pocket flap of the NWU Type I Parka, beginning July, 17. These nametapes will be purchased at the Sailor's expense during the optional

• **Uniform, page 3**

RUN FOR THE WALL

Sailors assigned to the NAS Meridian Ceremonial Detail team present colors before almost 1,000 Run for the Wall participants on May 21. Below, Run for the Wall riders enjoy food and beverages after a 160-mile morning ride. All food, beverages and gasoline were provided free of charge by the event organizer and owner of the venue, Earl Rottman.

Photos by MC2 Casey Kyhl



Veterans honored at annual event

By MC2 Casey Kyhl
Staff Writer

On May 21, the Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealership of Jackson hosted a luncheon for more than 650 Run for the Wall participants and other guests. The event honored a variety of U.S. veterans and their families.

The luncheon took place on the last day of a four-day celebration intended to honor Tuskegee Airmen, Navajo Code Talkers, Medal of Honor recipients and many, many more.

The meaning of the day and message of the riders was well expressed by Hershhal "Woody" Williams, the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient of Iwo Jima.

"I was born free because of the sacrifices of thousands of American citizens that came before me," Williams said. "Those that have given their lives no longer care for medals or speeches or victories. Appreciating our gifts, protecting our rights as Americans and honoring those that have made it all possible are responsibilities that fall to the living. Memorial Day is one of the most important days of the year and celebrates those that have laid down their lives. I hope you will remember the gift that you have been given."

Beginning in 1989, the Run for the Wall is a cross-country motorcycle journey from California to Washington, D.C., undertaken by veterans, active duty service members and other motorcycle enthusiasts that support the cause. The riders will arrive in Washington May 25 and visit Arlington National Cemetery, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial May 26.

• **Run for the Wall, page 3**



Shelter from the sun

A \$1.7 million project to construct 18 new aircraft shelters on the main tarmac of NAS Meridian's flightline was completed May 19. The shelters will prevent UV radiation from fading and cracking the canopies of the T-45C "Goshawks." There are now a total of 26 shelters that house the jets from Training Air Wing One and its squadron's VT-7 and VT-9.

Photo by MC2 Casey Kyhl

Look Inside



~ Page 3 ~
USS George H.W. Bush receives fleet's top honors



~ Page 4 ~
2011 Sailors of the Year advanced to chief petty officer



~ Page 7 ~
Navy welcomes USS San Diego to the fleet



~ Page 11 ~
Military Spouse Appreciation The strength behind the uniform

Photo of the Week



On May 11, the Petty Officer Association and other volunteers met and completed a thorough highway clean-up of Stennis Drive from the main gate of NAS Meridian to Highway 39. A total of 24 bags were collected weighing approximately 168 pounds. A special thanks goes out to the volunteers AC1 Brady, MA1 Dozier, ABE1 Gill, AC1 Gordon, ABE2 Moore, AC2 Smith, RP2 Stroney, AC3 Price, ACAN Whelton and LSSN West.

Submitted photo

New Navy policy allows reserve leave carry-over

By MC3 Andrea Perez

Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Navy implementation of DoD policy allowing Reservists to carry over leave earned during an active duty period to a later active duty period was announced in NAVADMIN 163/12, May 18.

Reserve Sailors may now earn and carry over up to 60 days of accrued leave. Additionally, as part of the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act, all service members may carry over up to 75 days if the leave was accrued between Oct. 1, 2008 and Sept. 30, 2013.

If serving in a combat tax exclusion zone, active duty and Reserve Sailors may be eligible to carry over up to 120

days of accrued leave.

Reservists desiring leave carry-over must sign a Page 13 documenting the leave carried over at their Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) at the time of separation from an active duty period.

Service members who choose to sell back carried over leave may do so at separation from their next active duty period, separation from the service (unless discharged under other than honorable conditions) or upon retirement.

The new leave carry-over changes are being updated to reflect the current MILPERSMAN articles that apply (1050-060, 1050-070 and 7220-340). For more information, read NAVADMIN 163/12 or contact your servicing PSD.

Area Happenings

JUNE

2: American Fiddler - Mark O'Connor featuring the Meridian Symphony Orchestra. O'Connor is an American bluegrass, jazz, country and classical violinist/fiddler, composer and music teacher. His music is wide-ranging and critically acclaimed, and he has received numerous awards for both his playing and his composition. Location: The MSU Riley Center, 2200 Fifth Street, Meridian. Tickets: \$55 and \$50. Students and military special rate of \$15. Show time is 7:30 p.m. For information, call (601) 693-2224.

2: Earth's Bounty: An Agri.-Tourism Festival sponsored by Meridian Main Street at the Singing Brakeman Park, Front Street between 17 & 18 Avenues. Time: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. For information, call (601) 693-7480 or e-mail johnmclure@meridianmainstreet.com

7: "The Riley Center presents Eddie Levert of the O'Jays in concert at the center, 2200 Fifth Street, Meridian. Ticket prices are \$52 and \$46. Preshow party at 6 p.m.; concert at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (601) 696-2200 or visit www.msurileycenter.com.

8-23: Children's Summer Workshop -- Camp Kick-Off is June 8 from 1-4 p.m. Workshop runs June 11-21. Performance of "Stone Soup" and "Robin Hood" on June 23. Cost is \$250 for first child, \$200 for second child and \$150 for other family members. Contact Susie Johnson at (601) 604-2129 or e-mail: susiesmj@comcast.net.

9: Queen City Gypsies 10 Year Anniversary Show at 7 p.m. in the Temple Theater Ballroom. Tickets are \$10 online and \$15 at the door. Can be purchased at queencitygypsies.com.

10: "XANADU" presented by the Jefferson Performing Arts Society at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under 12. For more information, call the Box Office at (601) 693-5353.

15: Opening Ceremonies for the State Games of Mississippi in front of Meridian City Hall. Festivities kick-off at 5:30 p.m. Opening ceremonies at 7:30 p.m. For information, go to www.stategamesofms.org.

21: The Riley Center presents "Jars of Clay" in concert at 7:30 p.m., 2200 Fifth Street, Meridian. Ticket prices are \$35 and \$29. For information, call the Box Office at (601) 696-2200 or visit www.msurileycenter.com.

22-24: A Midsummer Night's Dream presented by Stage 2 at the Temple Theater, 2320 8th Street. Advance tickets are \$15/adult, \$10/child or student. Tickets at the door are \$20/adult, \$15/child or student. Time: 7 p.m. on June 22-23 and 2 p.m. on June 24. For information, contact Susie Johnson at (601) 604-2129 or e-mail susiesmj@comcast.net

30: The Secret Garden presented by the Meridian Performing Arts Center at the Temple Theater for the Performing Arts, 2320 8th Street. Advance tickets are \$15/adult, \$10/child or student. Tickets at the door are \$20/adult, \$15/child or student. Show time is 7 p.m. For information, contact Susie Johnson at (601) 604-2129 or e-mail susiesmj@comcast.net

ONGOING

NOW: Kindermusik registration for the Spring 2012 semester is open. Music and movement classes are held at the Episcopal Church of the Mediator for children newborn to 8 years old. Our mission is to help your child learn and grow through music. For more information call (601) 678-7082, e-mail: jcarolmathews@gmail.com, or visit www.MusicWithJulie.com.

In the Spotlight...

Happy Birthday...

Happy Birthday wishes go out to the following CDC employees: **Brenda McElroy**, May 2; **Linda Fuller**, May 4; and **Cynthia McDonald**, May 27.

Job Well Done...

Congratulations and a job well done to **Jamilah Hassan** for completing the 13 required units of the Navy Standardize Modules; and to the **entire CDC staff** -- all your hard work and contributions to the CYP Program are greatly appreciated.

To include an item in this column, e-mail penny.randall@navy.mil or call (601) 679-2318. Photos may be included.



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Silent Drill



Photo by Cpl. Dengrier Baez

The Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon performs during a Friday Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington May 18.

New web-based housing early application tool

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) announced the phased Navy-wide release of the Housing Early Application Tool (HEAT) beginning in May.

This web-based tool will allow Sailors and their families to apply for housing online from any computer.

"HEAT makes the Navy house hunting process smoother and less stressful for our Sailors and their families. By providing the early housing application online, Sailors and their spouses can use HEAT to review housing and community information, and make an informed decision on a home before receiving their permanent change of station (PCS) orders," said Vice Adm. William French, commander, Navy Installations Command.

HEAT utilizes authoritative systems to reduce the amount of personal information and to steam line the online process. HEAT can be securely accessed from any computer with an internet connection. Service members or their spouses can use HEAT prior to receiving permanent change of station (PCS) orders to request information about community housing or check on their eligibility for military and privatized housing. They may also submit HEAT requests to multiple Installations if they are not sure where they may be stationed next.

"Our goal with HEAT is to reach out to Sailors early in the PCS process to reduce stress and provide proactive sup-

port when moving from one duty station to another," said Corky Vazquez, CNIC housing program manager. "With HEAT, Sailors and their families are able to make contact with our Navy Housing Service Centers and Privatization Partners to discuss their housing needs and learn about their housing options at any time. HEAT makes it easy to connect with our housing professionals and make informed decisions before even having orders."

HEAT will be deployed Navy-wide by Navy Region according to the following schedule:

- * Naval District Washington, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic and Navy Region Midwest began May 1,
- * Navy Region Southwest began May 8,
- * Navy Region Southeast began May 15,
- * Navy Region Europe, Africa, Asia beginning May 22,
- * Navy Region Hawaii beginning May 29,
- * Navy Region Japan, Navy Region Korea and Singapore Area Coordinator beginning June 8,
- * Joint Region Marianas beginning June 15.

HEAT will be implemented by region and will be Navy-wide by June 30.

To access HEAT and for more information about when your base will have HEAT, visit <http://www.cnic.navy.mil/HEAT>.

From Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

NEX rewards students with A-OK Student Program

The Navy Exchange wants to help its customers pay for their children's college education through its A-OK Student Reward Program. Four times per school year, four students will be the recipients of a \$5,000, \$3,000 \$2,000 or \$1,000 U.S. savings bond, denominations at maturity. The next drawing will be at the end of May 2012.

Any eligible full-time student that has a B-grade point average equivalent or better, as determined by their school system, may enter the drawing. Eligible students include dependent children of active duty military members, reservists and military retirees enrolled in first through 12th grade. Dependent children without an individual Dependent Identification Card must be accompanied

by their sponsor to submit their entry. Each student may enter only once each grading period and must re-enter with each qualifying report card.

To enter the drawing, stop by any NEX with a current report card and have a NEX associate verify the minimum grade average. Then fill out an entry card and obtain an A-OK ID, which entitles the student to discount coupons for NEX products and services.

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) has been offering students a chance to win a savings bond through its A-OK Student Reward Program since 1997. Since the program began, NEXCOM has awarded \$504,000 in savings bonds with the help of its generous vendor partners.

Deadline nears for Navy League Scholarship

The deadline to apply for the Meridian Area Navy League Scholarship is June 30. Please be advised that the scholarship has requirements that include:

- Must be a graduating high school senior or higher or student participating in NJROTC who is a dependent of active duty or retired Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or Merchant Marine personnel, or
- A spouse of active duty or retired Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or Merchant Marine personnel.

Depending on the quality and quantity of the applications submitted, up to three \$750 scholarships for the 2012-2013 academic year will be offered.

To have to application e-mailed to you, contact Susan Junkins at 601-679-2602 or susan.junkins@navy.mil

USS George H.W. Bush receives fleet's top honors

By MC3 Timothy Daughton
USS George H.W. Bush
Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) received the fleet's highest recognition for superior operational performance and excellence in safety during an awards ceremony in the ship's hangar bay, May 16.

Adm. John C. Harvey, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces (USFF), Rear Adm. Ted N. Branch, commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic and Rear Adm. Brian C. Prindle, commander, Naval Safety Center, presented the Battenberg Cup Award, 2011 Battle "E" Award and the Admiral Flatley Memorial Award, respectively, to CVN 77.

Prindle presented the Admiral Flatley award to Electronics Technician 3rd Class Thomas Ackerson, Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Nieswand, from Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 8, and Cmdr. Patrick Honeck, command safety officer, who accepted the award on the behalf of CVN 77 and CVW-8 for their overall safety performance.

In 2011, the CVN 77 and CVW-8 team logged more than 250 days underway, 30,000 flight hours, 14,000 sorties launched including 11,000 catapults shot, 15,000 aircraft recoveries and zero mishaps.

"The Bush and CVW-8 team, integrated professional execution of risk management in all you did and results, remarkably, speak for themselves,"

Prindle said.

The award is based on the overall safety record, including the number of Class A and B mishaps experienced by the ship and air wing, their exposure to hazards during the year, and a type commander assessment of the ship's safety program; including an evaluation of Operational Risk Management (ORM) readiness.

"A lot of safety is ORM driven," Honeck said. "Along with ORM, we also monitor 18 different Navy Safety and Occupational Health programs on board; everything from eye hazards, hearing protection, electrical safety and heat stress, to inspections of all of the ladders, trunks, hatches and non-skid aboard the ship."

Branch presented the 2011 Battle "E" award to Operations Specialist 1st Class Shanika Simms and Lt. Eric Andrews, as CVN 77 was selected as the top carrier in the Atlantic Fleet in the 2011 Commander Naval Air Force Carrier Battle Efficiency and Departmental Awards Program.

"The Battle 'E' award means that you have done everything not just well, but you have done everything the best," Branch said. "You have demonstrated excellence in all your warfighting capabilities and mission sets. In the short span of time that you have had to become operational and go to the tip of the spear to exercise your

mission set and accomplishing the Navy's mission and doing it with such precision and such great results, is just simply incredible."

The Battle Efficiency Award, or Battle "E", recognizes superior operational performance, an assessment of the crew of George H.W. Bush who won the honors on the heels of the ship's first combat deployment. It was a clean sweep for the Navy's newest aircraft carrier, earning all 13 departmental awards and an additional nod to the combined George H.W. Bush and CVW-8 carrier maintenance team, making CVN 77 the only operational carrier to win honors in all categories.

"Winning the Battle 'E' is a great accomplishment and a testament to the skill of any crew, but it's all the more meaningful when you consider the fact that our crew earned it during the ship's maiden deployment, the first deployment ever for 40 percent of our Sailors," said George H.W. Bush Commanding Officer Capt. Brian E. Luther.

"I think the very essence of our success was teamwork. We had a common goal and we worked together to achieve that," said CVN 77 Command Master Chief (SW/AW) David Colton. "A key element is leadership. We train ourselves and we train our subordinates, and that's culminated in the clean sweep. I'm exceptionally proud of every member of this crew, because every one of them played a role in

this, from the Sailors launching the aircraft up on deck to the Sailors working in the ship's laundry, it was truly an all hands effort that paid off."

Harvey presented the Battenberg Cup Award to Electrician's Mate 1st Class Daniel Kliche and Chief Navy Counselor Aaron Jackson, recognizing the George H.W. Bush crew as the top unit in USFF. The award is presented to the premier vessel among aircraft carriers, surface ships and submarines where they are ranked for "Battle Efficiency" and achievements in other areas such as operations, administration and leadership.

The Battenberg Cup, also known as the British Challenge Cup, was initiated by Rear Adm. Prince Louis of Battenberg. Under his command in 1905, four armored cruisers from the British Second Cruiser Squadron made a goodwill cruise to Annapolis, Md. Washington, D.C. and New York. The visit was hosted by then-Rear Adm. Robley D. Evans, commander in chief of the Atlantic Fleet. After returning to Great Britain, he created the cup to recognize the "good fellowship and wonderful entertainments" he and his men experienced in their visit to the United States. The large silver trophy he made stood three feet high and 11 inches in diameter at the top.

Battenberg mailed the cup to Evans, with an accompanying letter stating the cup was intended for



Photo by MCSN Brian Read Castillo

Adm. John C. Harvey, commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command, addresses Sailors during an awards ceremony in the hangar bay aboard the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77). George H.W. Bush received the Battle "E" Award, the Battenberg Cup Award and the Admiral Flatley Memorial Award in honor of the ship's performance and safety record.

the enlisted men under Evans' command. The letter also requested the cup to become a challenge cup. In accordance with Battenberg's wishes, Evans subsequently set up racing rules so that British sailors would compete with American Sailors in using U.S. Navy standard racing cutters.

From 1906 until 1940, competitions were held until the war years disrupted them and they never resumed until 1978. That year Adm. Isaac C. Kidd Jr., commander in chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; reinstated the Battenberg Cup Award, not for racing cutters, but as a symbol of operational excellence with-

in the Atlantic Fleet.

"You have institutionalized excellence and the right way to do business in the United States Navy, taking the might and mission of the United States on deployment," Harvey said. "That's what you have done and you have done it better than anybody else in the Navy."

Other ships in the Battenberg Cup competition included the guided-missile cruiser USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) representing Naval Surface Forces Atlantic; and the nuclear submarine USS New Hampshire (SSN 778) representing Submarine Force Atlantic.

● USS Bush, page 9

Carl Vinson returns to 3rd Fleet

By MC2 (SW) Byron C. Linder
USS Carl Vinson Public Affairs

PACIFIC OCEAN (NNS) -- Sailors of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) and embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 17 returned to the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of responsibility (AOR) May 11.

Vinson is currently transiting to her homeport in San Diego following a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Middle East areas supporting maritime theater security operations in the U.S. 7th and 5th Fleets.

"The dedication demonstrated by every Sailor up and down the chain of command was the key factor in accomplishing every mission objective for our time in the 5th and 7th Fleets," said Vinson's Commanding Officer Capt. Kent D. Whalen. "With our return to 3rd Fleet, our focus may have changed but our mission-ready mindset continues."

Vinson serves as the flagship for Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 1, led by Rear Adm. T.K. Shannon, which also consists of Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 1 guided-missile destroyers USS Halsey (DDG 97), guided-missile cruiser USS Bunker Hill (CG 52), and CVW-17.

CVW-17 encompasses the "Sunliners" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 81, the "Stingers" of VFA 113, the "Redcocks" of VFA 22, the "Fists of the Fleet" of VFA 25, the "Garudas" of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 134, the "Tiger Tails" of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 125, the "Rawhides" of Fleet

Logistics Support Squadron (VRC) 40 and the "Red Lions" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 15.

In addition to supporting its primary mission throughout the deployment, Carl Vinson completed the following:

- From Jan. 9 to March 24, flew 1,085 Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) missions, totaling 6,600 total flight hours. This included close air support missions, support for coalition ground forces, airborne electronic warfare missions and airborne command and control missions.

- Deployed 7,283 pounds of ordnance and expended 1,717 rounds of 20mm ammunition in support of OEF.

Conducted exercises with coalition countries and other nations, including Singapore, Britain, India and Australia.

- Made port visits and conducted community service projects in Hong Kong, Jebel Ali, India, and Australia.

- Earned the 2011 Commander Naval Air Forces Battle Efficiency (Battle "E") award for West Coast-based aircraft carriers.

- Hosted former CBS Evening News anchor and 60 Minutes correspondent Dan Rather for a three-day visit as the subject of a segment for television news magazine Dan Rather Reports.

- Sailed over 53,200 nautical miles.

Third Fleet leads naval forces in the eastern Pacific from the west coast of North America to the international date line.

waist tabs and slightly shorter length will be available in regular and long sizes. The blouse will become a mandatory, as needed, item in 2015.

The NAVADMIN also approved several insignia and badge additions and changes including standardizing the design and reducing the number of Navy Security Forces Identification badges from eight to three badges: U.S. Navy Security Forces, U.S. Navy Corrections Specialist and U.S. Navy Master-at-Arms.

A Strategic Sealift Officer Warfare Insignia (SSOWI) for wear by officers who have successfully completed the qualification requirements will be available May 2013. The United States Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) identification badge is authorized to be worn by officers and enlisted assigned to USCYBERCOM beginning July 17.

Also beginning July 17, the Marine Corps Combatant Diver (MCD) breast insignia is authorized for wear on Navy uniforms by Sailors that successfully meet all qualification requirements stipulated in MILPERSMAN article 1220-101, (U.S. Marine Corps Marine Combatant Diver Breast Insignia and Designation).

Illustrations of the new uniform items and insignia, as well as instructions on how to submit uniform changes to the Uniform Board, can be found on the Navy Uniform Matters Office website at <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/support/uniforms/pages/default2.aspx>

For complete information on the approved uniform policy changes read NAVADMIN 164/12 at www.npc.navy.mil.

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs



Photo by MC2 Casey Kyhl

Hershal "Woody" Williams, a Medal of Honor recipient of Iwo Jima, is walks through side boys before giving a speech on the importance of Memorial Day and the Run for the Wall organization.

● Run for the Wall

The Run for the Wall is intended to promote healing among all veterans and their families and friends, to call for an accounting of all Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action, to honor the memory of those killed in action from all wars, and to support military personnel all over the world.

More than 200 volunteers helped prepare food, park motorcycles and sell merchandise to benefit the Ride for the Wall organization.

"I think this is one of the best events

around for veterans," said Phillis McCallum, an Army veteran and luncheon volunteer. "I was so impressed my first time coming here three years ago that I have been volunteering ever since."

A Navy ceremonial detail team consisting of Sailors assigned to NAS Meridian did their part by parading the colors during the National Anthem.

The event also featured the Navy Band, various military equipment, living statues, military reenactments and live fire exercises. During the four days of the event more than 35,000 people attended.

NCIS honors fallen law enforcement

By Crystal Nosal

Naval Criminal Investigative Service Public Affairs

QUANTICO, Va. (NNS) -- The Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Headquarters in Quantico, VA, hosted a wreath-laying ceremony on Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15.

The event honored the eight members of the Department of the Navy Law Enforcement community including Navy civilian police officer Sergeant Irving Snyder, Marine Corps criminal investigator Staff Sergeant Daniel Tindle, NCIS Special Agents Harry Schanz, Jerry Kramer, Douglas Kocina, Brett McKee, Thomas Marzilli and NCIS Investigator Joseph Emanuele-all of whom died in the line of duty.

Special Agent Mark Clookie, the director of NCIS, reminded the audience that NCIS gathers each year to pay tribute to those members of the Department of the Navy that we have lost in the line of the duty. Clookie stated that dedication to community and selfless sacrifice are the values of the fallen officers whose names are etched on the wall of the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C. Director Clookie concluded his remarks with, "We thank all of our personnel, as well as their families, for their decision to serve us."

Raymond F. Geoffroy, Jr., assistant deputy commandant, HQMC, brought up the proximity of Memorial Day to Police Week.

"While many people think of the holiday as time away from work, or the start of summer, this is actually a time to recognize those who have gone before us, who have served and protected this nation," he said.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Special Harry Schanz's death and a number of his family members were in attendance at the ceremony. Marie Burris, one of Schanz's four daughters, spoke on behalf of their family. She described the shock of her father's death on family and friends, but also illustrated how far they have each come in 40 years. "As a family, we hope that you will continue to recognize those killed in the line of duty each year. We are always present [at this annual ceremony] in our hearts, but we will also be physically present whenever we can."

David McCallum, the actor who portrays Dr. Donald "Ducky" Mallard on the NCIS television show, and his wife, Katherine, were also present for the ceremony. The names of the fallen law enforcement officers were read out to the room while USMC Captain Mark Powers played the bagpipes. Director Clookie, Raymond F. Geoffroy, Jr., Blair Gluba, Naval Criminal Investigative Service Association President, and McCallum laid roses at the bases of each fallen officer's display to close the ceremony.

There were 173 local, state and federal law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2011, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. That is a 13 percent increase over 2010.

NCIS is a federal law enforcement agency that protects and defends the U.S. Department of the Navy against terrorism and foreign intelligence threats, investigates major criminal offenses and provides law enforcement and security services to the Navy and Marine Corps on a worldwide basis. The agency is comprised of approximately 2,400 total employees, including 1,200 civilian special agents, in more than 150 locations around the world.

Pfc. LaVon Baylor

MATSS-1 Student

Hometown: Tappahannock, Va.

Pfc. LaVon Baylor is a student in the Aviation Supply Course at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One on board NAS Meridian. He joined the Marine Corps on June 1, 2011.

"The Marine Corps is the toughest branch in America and I wanted to be part of that -- it gives me a sense of pride," said Baylor, the son of Yvonne Baylor and Richard Baylor. His hobbies include playing the PSP, football and baseball.

Baylor's goal is to finish college while in the Marine Corps.

"I want to perform my job to the best of my ability," he added.

The person he most admires is his brother, Kamarcus.

"He has always pushed me to better myself with everything that I do."

OOORAH!**Pfc. Legiah Strickland**

MATSS-1 Student

Hometown: Atlanta, Ga.

Pfc. Legiah Strickland joined the Marine Corps on Sept. 9, 2011.

"I wanted to prove myself to my friends and family. I wanted to challenge myself, further my education, travel, help others and lead," Strickland said. "One day I will look back on life and be proud of my accomplishments."

Strickland, 19, is currently a student at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One.

Strickland has plans for her future.

"I want to become a MCMAP instructor and attend college at Full Sail University in Winter Park, Fla., to study film and photography.

The person she most admires is her drill instructor from boot camp, Gunnery Sgt. Rivera.

"She was the perfect example of a well-rounded Marine."

White Letter aims to end sexual assault throughout ranks

By Cpl. Damien Gutierrez
Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - In White Letter No. 2-12, Gen. James F. Amos, the commandant of the Marine Corps, expressed his views on sexual assault incidents throughout the ranks and his goals to develop a service-level campaign plan.

Within the message, Amos stresses the importance of informing Marines, sailors and their families about preventing and reporting incidents of sexual assault.

"Sexual assault is an ugly mark on our proud reputation. It goes against everything we claim to be as United States Marines," said Amos in the White Letter. "This crime is not only completely incompatible with our core values of honor, courage and commitment, it is an affront to the basic American principle we so bravely defend."

Sexual assault is a crime defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat, abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, non-consensual sodomy, indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempts to commit these acts. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender, spousal relationship, or ages of the victim.

"Last year, 2011, there were 333 reports of sexual assault," said Amos. "These numbers represent only an initial glimpse of reality, as this crime is universally believed to be significantly underreported."

Active-duty victims have

two reporting options--restricted and unrestricted reporting. Under restricted reporting, you can make a report confidentially to a sexual assault response coordinator or chaplain. Restricted reporting allows a victim to obtain counseling and mental-health services without notifying law enforcement.

"Restricted reporting protects the victim's identity and, except in the rarest of instances, assures confidentiality," said Hollie Kelly, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

In unrestricted reporting, you may report to any command personnel, provost marshal, Naval Criminal Investigative Service employee, Sexual Assault Response Center, chaplain or health care provider, and then law enforcement will be notified.

"Unrestricted reporting informs the victim's chain of command, affords maximum protection of the victim from his or her offender, and ensures a thorough investigation of the circumstances of the assault in order to hold offenders accountable for

their criminal conduct," said Kelly.

In order to give the Marine Corps a better perspective with the matter at hand, Amos put together a service-level operational planning team last month. The team's goal was to look at the issue of sexual assault, make recommendations to fix the problems and develop a service-level campaign plan to address the issue head on.

"Our greatest weapon in the battle against sexual assault has been and will continue to be decisive and engaged leadership," said Amos. "I expect commanding officers, officers-in-charge and senior enlisted to spare no effort in changing the prevailing conditions and attitudes that are allowing this crime to happen among our ranks."

It is the commandant's intent to publish a Corps-wide campaign plan within the next 30 days.

"The Marine Corps has not spent the last 10 years defending our nation's high principles abroad, only to permit this type of behavior within our ranks," said Amos.

ON BOARD NAS MERIDIAN
If you or someone you know has been sexually assault, there are many options to seek help from, counseling services located at the Fleet and Family Support Center in Building 405 on Rosenbaum Avenue. Log onto Military OneSource at www.militaryonesource.com or call 800-342-9647, use the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800-656-HOPE or call 911.

Marines Forces Europe honor Belleau Wood through history, education

By Cpl. Tatum Vayavananda
Marine Forces Europe

STUTTGART, Germany -- Marines with U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa are getting a chance to reflect back on the history, sacrifice and legend that shrouds the battlefields of Belleau Wood. The series of classes are in preparation for the 94th-year anniversary of the battle with a Memorial Day ceremony in Aisne-Marne, France, slated for May 27.

"The Marines attending [the ceremony] will be more informed and have a better understanding of where they are," said Sgt. Paul N. Calderon, the driver for the deputy commanding officer, MARFOREUR.

The classes were designed to inform Marines about the sacrifices of the Allied troops as they prepare to participate in a ceremony on the historic grounds of Belleau Wood over Memorial Day weekend. The Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, the Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment from Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., the USMC Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Company from Rota, Spain, and elements of the 5th and 6th Marine Regiments and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe, are all scheduled to attend.

"When you have the historic facts, walking through the battlefield doesn't just feel like a stroll in the woods anymore," added Calderon, who attended the ceremony last year. "It really puts everything into perspective."

The Battle for Belleau Wood was fought from June 1-26, 1918, in the first World War during the German Spring Offensive. Belleau Wood is a 200-acre forest located by the Marne River, approximately 90 kilometers north of Paris; a morsel of French territory that was contended for by the opposing German forces due to its strategic location. The opposing troops launched a surprise-offensive and reached the bank of the Marne River at Chateau-Thierry, which fell on the evening of June 1, 1918. In response, U.S. troops, consisting of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, marched more than 10 kilometers to plug the gap in the line by dawn. After weeks of heavy back-and-forth battles between the Marines and Germans, often reduced to using bayonets and hand-to-hand combat, on June 26, the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines attacked Belleau Wood and cleared the forest of the opposition, ending one of the most ferocious battles the U.S. would fight during the war.

"It's interesting to see the legends meet the historical facts. We all know of Belleau Wood but don't always take the time to get a profound understanding of it," said the Orlando, Fla., native.

Along with honoring the sacrifices U.S. and French troops made during the First World War, the ceremony also commemorates the long, outstanding friendship between France and the United States from World War I until the current war in Afghanistan.

"When you're at the Belleau Wood [ceremony], it really shows the strong friendship we have with the French that most Marines don't always think about," added Calderon.

The Memorial Day celebration is an annual event that is hosted by the American Battle Monuments Commission at Aisne-Marne American Cemetery. The ABMC is the guardian of America's overseas commemorative cemeteries and memorials that honor the service, achievements and sacrifices of U.S. Armed Forces.

"It makes you proud to stand in the lineage of these great war fighters. The Marines we learned about are part of the reason we have such a good reputation today."

Safety Is Our Duty

Navy environment and energy programs 'on location' at New York Fleet Week

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The U.S. Navy's Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, OPNAV N45, will host Navy energy and environmental exhibits in Manhattan from 23 to 30 May during New York Fleet Week.

The exhibits will be on Pier 92 and aboard the USS Wasp (LHD 1) at Pier 90.

Visitors to the Pier 92 exhibit can learn about many Navy initiatives such as marine mammal protection, waste management at sea, and energy conservation. The exhibit aboard Wasp will highlight specific environmental systems on Navy ships.

Show-and-tell items such as a plastic waste processor disk, a block of crushed cans for recycling, and compressed submarine trash will provide real-life examples of how the Navy manages waste at sea and on base. EQ Pelican, the Navy's environmental quality mascot, will provide free photo opportunities for kids and families all week. Free copies of Currents, the Navy's energy and environmental magazine, as well as posters, worksheets for kids, and other educational materials will be available at the exhibits.

"New York's Fleet Week is a wonderful opportunity for Americans to see their Navy up close and personal, and to meet the people who proudly serve our country around the world," said John Quinn, acting director of OPNAV N45. "Our friends in New York will be impressed not only by the Navy's combat capability, but also by what Sailors and Marines do each day to conserve energy and protect the environment."

Thousands of Sailors, Marine, and Coast Guardsman will visit New York during the weeklong event. Six U.S. Navy ships, three Coast Guard ships, three coalition ships, and various tall ships from across the world will be docked at several Manhattan piers and in Brooklyn.

To learn more about New York Fleet Week, visit www.fleetweeknewyork.com. To learn more about Navy's environmental, energy, and climate change initiatives, visit www.greenfleet.dodlive.mil. Follow daily Navy environmental updates on Twitter (@navycurrents) or www.facebook.com/navycurrents.

From Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Public Affairs

SECNAV announces Safety Excellence Awards

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Secretary of the Navy has selected the 2012 Safety Excellence Award recipients who will be honored at a ceremony July 11 at the Navy Memorial Heritage Center Theater in Washington, D.C.

Each year, the Secretary of the Navy bestows the Safety Excellence Award upon those Navy and Marine Corps commands who achieved exceptional and sustained safety performance during the previous year.

Under Secretary of the Navy Robert O. Work, will present 19 Safety Excellence Awards:

Industrial, Category A - NAVFAC Northwest;

Industrial, Category B - Ship Repair Facility and Japan Regional Maintenance Center (SRF JPMC);

Industrial, Category C - Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow;

Non-Industrial, Category A - Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay;

Non-Industrial, Category B - Naval Air Station Lemoore;

Non-Industrial, Category C - Naval Base Ventura County; Fleet Operational/Fleet Support

- Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island; **Large Deck Combatant** - USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76);

Surface Combatant - USS Lake Champlain (CG 57);

Amphibious - USS Green Bay (LPD 20);

Submarine - USS Tennessee (SSBN 734);

Auxiliary - USNS Grasp (T-ARS 51); Marine Corps Active Duty Aviation - Marine Attack Squadron 223;

Navy Active Duty Aviation - Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 77 "Saberhawks";

Marine Corps Reserve Aviation - Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773;

Navy Reserve Aviation - Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 57 "Conquistadors";

Training Aviation - Training Squadron 10 "Wildcats";

Safety Integration in Acquisition - NAVSEA Shallow Water Combat Submersible Team; and, the Emerging Center of Excellence - U.S. Forces Afghanistan (USFOR-A), Naval Sea Systems Command, NOSSA, and USFOR-A Systems Safety.

By Julie A. Van Orden



The NAS Meridian Safety Office registers military and civilians for the Motorcycle Safety Courses. Call Jerry Snow at (601) 679-3756 for more information. The Safety Office is in Administration Building 255, 2nd floor.

Argonne

Normandy

Midway

The Chosin Reservoir

Khe Sanh

Dak To

Medina Ridge

Tora Bora

Fallujah



These are the places we remember
to honor the lives of those we'll never forget.



Ronald Reagan culinary specialist showcase skills during competition

By MCSN Charles Gaddis
USS Ronald Reagan - Ronald Reagan Strike Group Public Affairs

BREMERTON, Wash. (NNS) -- Sailors assigned to USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) participated in the 20th Annual Olympic College Foundation Military Culinary Arts Competition in Bremerton, Wash., May 12.

Ronald Reagan Sailors placed in many of the categories, which were judged on appearance, taste and presentation.

Culinary Specialist Seaman Lakota Harris took first place for his pie presentation and third place for his barbecue ribs. Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Alicia Pruess took second for her garnish presentation and Team Ronald Reagan tied for third in the "Iron Chef" category.

A multitude of teams represented seven local commands in the competition; Ronald Reagan, Naval Base Kitsap, Naval Hospital Bremerton, Naval Station Everett, USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74), USS Maine (SSBN 74) and Joint

Base Lewis-McChord. Prior to competing in the Olympic College event, Ronald Reagan Sailors participated in two culinary arts competitions on board the ship. They used their experience from those competitions as a springboard to success in the contest at Olympic College.

"It felt great to get the opportunity to participate in a competition of this level," said Culinary Specialist Seaman Matthew Horn, assigned to the Ronald Reagan. "We were prepared to give 100 percent and were very confident in the dishes we prepared."

The competition was broken down into eight categories: Iron Chef, pie, decorated cake, garnish, chili, hors d'oeuvres, chicken wings and barbecue ribs.

"The competition was superb," said Naval Base Kitsap Commander Capt. Pete Dawson, who also served as a judge for the event. "This competition showcased the ability of our military members, and I look forward to next year's competition."



Photo by MCSN Charles D. Gaddis IV

Bremerton Mayor Patty Lent gives Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Kenzil Woodard, from Winnsboro, S.C., assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), a thumbs up after taste testing chili during the Olympic College Foundation Military Culinary Arts Competition held in Bremerton.

Bremerton Mayor Patty Lent, who also served as a judge for the event, was impressed with the level of expertise displayed by the competitors.

"I think each year it gets better," said Lent. "We have expanded to more branches (of the military) and the turn-out was amazing. I love how the civilians interact with the military, and hope it gets stronger."

Sailors from Ronald

Reagan began to pour in to show their support during the final judging of the competition.

"I'm so proud of them even though they have not competed on this level before," said Chief Culinary Specialist Lindsay Alvarez, USS Ronald Reagan Food Services leading chief petty officer. "Even though we got into the event pretty much at the last minute, our dishes looked excellent."

Ronald Reagan brought several special items to the competition, including a cake shaped like an aircraft carrier, a dinosaur-themed garnish, rainbow pie and lots of motivation.

"I personally enjoyed the aircraft carrier cake," said Command Senior Chief Loren Rucker from the Naval Supply Northwest Fleet Logistics Center Puget Sound. "It was fluffy like any cake you would have on a ship, and it reminded us of all the good times aboard a ship."

Food service specialists from other branches of the military were also impressed with Team Ronald Reagan's efforts during the competition.

"I was pretty amazed to see the time and effort Ronald Reagan put into their food for the competition," said Marine Food Service Specialist Sgt. Chris Hamilton, assigned to Marine Corps Security Forces in Bangor, Wash. "I'm impressed to see the dishes they were able to create while working in the shipyard."

The competition features a few fresh faces every year, with Ronald Reagan joining for the first time this year, placing third in the overall competition.

"The creativity and motivation of the junior Sailors is very high, and it shows in their dishes," said Alvarez. "I'm proud to work with this team; they help me enjoy my job more than anything."

The Olympic College Foundation Military Culinary Arts Competition is more than just a competition; it is also a training tool that boosts the morale of the participants and their commands.

"The competition is not completely to see who is better, but more of a learning experience," said Chef Steve Lammers, senior chef instructor at Olympic College. "I'm very proud of the Ronald Reagan for competing and send my support. I know their job is to defend our country, and for them to come to the competition with this level of motivation shows a great deal of leadership support from the command."

Navy welcomes USS San Diego to the fleet

By MC3 Shawnte Bryan
Navy Public Affairs Support Element West

SAN DIEGO (NNS) -- The U.S. Navy commissioned the latest San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship USS San Diego (LPD 22) during a ceremony in San Diego, May 19.

The ship is named for the city of San Diego, principal homeport of the Pacific fleet, and honors the people of "America's Finest City" and its leaders for their continuous support of the military.

The ship will be homeported here. It is the only ship in the Navy homeported in its namesake city. San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders presented the commanding officer of San Diego, Cmdr. Kevin P. Meyers, with the key to the

city, saying it was, "in honor of welcoming America's finest ship to America's Finest City."

Adm. Mark Ferguson, vice chief of naval operations, delivered the ceremony's principal address. He said that San Diego and her crew are coming into the Navy at an important time.

"Our expectations for this ship are very high," said Ferguson. "It arrives at a time when nearly half of our ships are underway on a given day; when we are surging forces to the Middle East to deter the threat of aggression; when we are rebalancing our forces to the Pacific; and when we face increasingly complex, and global, security challenges in an uncertain fiscal environment."

"Take a good look at this ship because she will

be very busy," said Ferguson. "Her time will be consumed fulfilling the tenets of our Navy. She will focus on war fighting, she will operate forward and she will spend her time being ready. This is our charge to the fleet, and the expectation of our nation that our Navy be ready to answer the call to defend freedom on the seas."

Vice Adm. Richard W. Hunt, commander Naval Surface Forces, said he admired the work the crew put into making this ship a reality.

"Thank you for the dedication, professionalism and perseverance you have displayed over the years as you brought this ship to commissioning," Hunt said. "USS San Diego ... always keep warfighting first. I promise that you



Photo by MC3 Shawnte Bryan

Sailors run aboard the newest San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship USS San Diego (LPD 22) to man the ship and bring her to life during its commissioning ceremony. San Diego is the fourth ship named for the city and the first to be homeported in San Diego.

will operate forward. I charge you to always be ready. It is demanded by the surface warfare profes-

sion and a mandate for a

ship with this incredible capability."

The ship's sponsor, Mrs. Linda Winter, wife of former Secretary of the

Navy Donald C. Winter, gave the order to the ship's approximately 377 officers and enlisted personnel to,

● **San Diego, page 9**

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS SINCE 1941. \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH⁽¹⁾ ABOVE AND BEYOND CURRENT INCENTIVES ON SELECT JEEP MODELS.

2012 JEEP COMPASS
\$2,000 TOTAL CASH ALLOWANCE
 INCLUDES \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH
 OR
2.9% APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS⁽²⁾
 PLUS \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH

2012 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
\$2,000 TOTAL CASH ALLOWANCE
 INCLUDES \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH
 OR
1.9% APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS⁽²⁾
 PLUS \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH

2012 JEEP WRANGLER
0% APR Financing⁽³⁾
 PLUS \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH

Jeep. MILITARY EVENT

1. \$1,000 Military Bonus Cash plus an additional \$500 Military Appreciation Bonus Cash available toward the retail purchase or lease of select new 2012 Jeep vehicles. Offer available to active military, active military reserve, retired military (honorable discharge and 20 years of service required), and retired military reserve (honorable discharge and 20 years of service required). Honorably discharged veterans are eligible within 6 months of discharge date. Excludes SRT models. Ends 5/31. 2. 2.9% for 60 APR financing months equals \$1282 per month per \$1000 financed through Ally Financial for well-qualified buyers regardless of down payment. Not all buyers will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. Ends 5/31. 3. 0% APR financing for 60 months equals \$0.48 per month per \$1000 financed for well-qualified buyers through Ally Financial regardless of down payment. Not all buyers will qualify. Residency restrictions apply. Ends 5/31. 4. Financing for well-qualified buyers through Ally. Not all buyers will qualify. All offers exclude SRT models. Residency restrictions apply. Offer ends 5/31. Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS \$1,000 TOTAL MILITARY BONUS CASH⁽¹⁾ ABOVE AND BEYOND CURRENT INCENTIVES ON SELECT RAM MODELS. TRADE IN AND GET:

2012 RAM 1500 BIG HORN \$8,700 TOTAL VALUE
\$8,700 includes \$1,000 Military Bonus Cash and \$200 in Total Cash Allowance.

RAM 2500/3500 DIESEL MODELS \$5,000 TOTAL VALUE
\$5,000 includes \$1,000 Military Bonus Cash and \$200 in Total Cash Allowance.

1. \$500 Military Bonus Cash plus an additional \$500 Military Appreciation Bonus Cash available toward the retail purchase or lease of select new 2012 Ram vehicles. Offer available to active military, active military reserve, retired military (honorable discharge and 20 years of service required), and retired military reserve (honorable discharge and 20 years of service required). Honorably discharged veterans are eligible within 6 months of discharge date. 2. Trade-in vehicle must be registered to qualified buyer for at least 30 days prior to trade-in to be eligible for program. 3. Package values based on value of individual package items. Residency restrictions apply. See dealer for details. Offers end 5/31. Ram is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.



MWR Meridian, MS • Morale, Welfare and Recreation

On the Web: www.enr.navy.mil/meridian

Facility Phone Numbers

Fitness Center	678-2379	The Outpost	678-2809	CDC/CDN	678-2862
All Hands Pool	678-4470	Library	678-2326	SAC	678-5252
Library Center	678-3780	Postmaster's	678-2838	SLO	678-2473
ITT	678-3773	Snackbar Grill	678-2790	P.C. Golf Course	678-2828
McCain Rec Ctr	678-2881	Moore's Diner	678-2851	MWR Admin.	678-2851

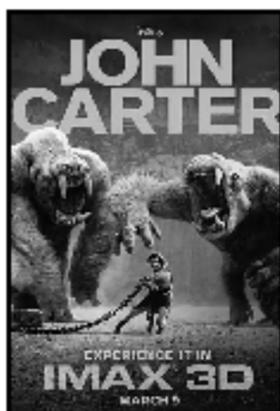


McCain Rec Center

Bowling Specials May

- SUNDAY**
FAMILY SPECIAL, 1pm-8pm.
- MONDAY**
NTTC/MATSS1 STUDENT SPECIAL, 8pm-close.
- THURSDAY**
RCTA SPECIAL, 6pm-close.
- FRIDAY**
GOSUNG LIGHT NIGHT, 6pm-Close.
- June**
- SUNDAY**
FAMILY SPECIAL, All Day.
- MONDAY**
NTTC/MATSS1 STUDENT SPECIAL, 5-9pm
- THURSDAY**
RCTA SPECIAL, 4:30-8pm
- FRIDAY**
Colored Head Pin Night, June 1, 15, 29
9 Pin No-Tap Tournament, June 8 & 22, \$10 entry fee, sign up by 6pm.
- SATURDAY**
Black Light Bowling, 7pm-Close.

Scheduled movie premieres at McCain Rec Center. Admission is FREE!



Rated PG13
5/28/12 • 1pm

Good Deeds
Rated PG13
05/24/12 • 6pm

Act Of Valor
Rated R
05/28/12 • 6pm

One For The Money
Rated PG13
05/30/12 • 6pm

Diary Of Mad Black Women
Rated PG13
05/31/12 • 6pm

Midway
Rated PG
06/02/12 • 6pm

Man On A Ledge
Rated PG13
06/05/12 • 6pm

Safe House
Rated R
06/06/12 • 6pm

Monday Matinees

There are two scheduled movies every Monday for dependent children. The movies will be shown starting at 1:00. The second movie will start after the first has concluded. Popcorn may be available if in stock by request.



Rated PG
06/04/12 • 1pm

Mr. Popper's Penguins
Rated PG
06/04/12

All Hands Pool Opens May 26 at Noon!

All Hands Pool
Hours Of Operation
Monday-Closed • Tues.-Fri.: 1200-2000
Sat., Sun. & Holidays: 1200-1800
For more info call (601) 679-2878.



SWIM LESSONS

All swim lessons will take place Tuesday-Friday. There will be two classes daily from 0900-0945 & 1000-1045.
Sess. 1: June 5-15 Sess. 2: June 18-28
*For more information regarding private swim lessons, contact Lee Cook at (601) 679-2879.

Water Aerobics & Lap Swim

Lunch Lap Swim takes place M-F from 1100-1200.
Water Aerobics take place M,W,F from 1215-1300.

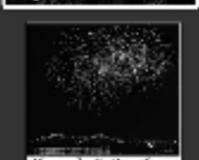


Freedom Fest '12

June 29
1700-2100

Across from Admin 255

Enjoy food, beverages, inflatables, extreme rides and more!



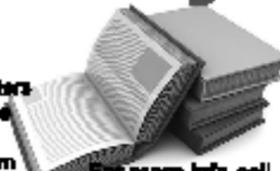
CDC CELEBRATION

The preschool class of the Child Development Center held its End of the Year Celebration on Friday, May 18, 2012. Members of the preschool class are Taylor Abroad, David Bostmann, Telle Campbell, Ajayvrent Gals, Miniquis Liqueste, Tyler Martinez, Charlie Baker, Kay Jan Sims, Janelle Simmons, Taylor Sweetser, Patricia Beady, Jordan Parker, Alyssa Erney, Megan Hughes, Tablis Lubers, Dr. Andrea McIntosh, Haygen Schneider, Samuel Strickton, Nazimul Shalim and Finn Thasitrongroj. Also pictured are Sandra Johnson, preschool teacher, Chad Boldevia, MWR Director, Doretha O'Neal, CYP Director and Rosalyn McCay, preschool teacher.
Photo by Matt Bork/MWR Marketing Manager

Andrew Triplett Library

Some services offered:

- Story Time/ Ages 3-5
- NY Times Bestsellers
- Over 20 Magazines
- Daily Newspapers
- Navy Reading List Books
- TV/Lounge Area
- Six Free Computers
- Copy/Fax Service
- Free Wi-Fi
- Conference Room

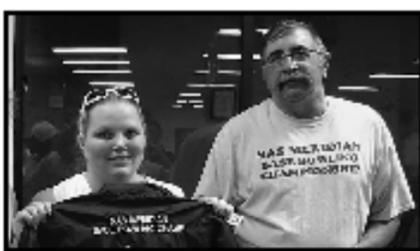


For more info call (601) 679-2326.



BOWLING CHAMPS

Above, Billy Elvins of Air Ops is awarded for winning the 2012 Base Bowling Championship Men's Division on Saturday May 19, 2012 at McCain Rec Center. Elvins bowled an eight game total of 1658 pins. Placing second in the men's division was Cecy Harrison with 1642 total pins and placing third was Jimmie Rodgers with 1500 total pins. Below, Angela Messy is awarded for winning the Women's Division of the Championship with a total of 1188 pins. Messy has won the tournament 2 years in a row. Placing second was Lori Evans with 1159 pins and placing third was Dina Blanton with 1133 pins. Pictured with Elvins and Messy is Gene Doretha, McCain Rec Center Manager.
Photo by Matt Bork/MWR Marketing Manager



Sonny Montgomery Fitness Center Complex

Personal Trainer
Now available at the Fitness Center. Begins at 5:30am Monday-Saturday. Call (601) 679-2379 for info.

Massage Therapy
Rates start at only \$35 for a 1/2 hour massage. Call (601) 679-2379 today to schedule your appointment!

Group Exercise Schedule

Monday Belly Dancing Class @ 11:30am Self Defense with Dawg @ 6pm	Self Defense with Dawg @ 6pm
Tuesday Spin with Shannon @ 11:30am	Thursday Spin with Shannon @ 11:30am
Wednesday Belly Dancing Class @ 11:30am	Friday Belly Dancing Class @ 11:30am

*All group exercise classes are held in Bldg. 166 and are free.

The Outpost

601-679-2609

Get ready for those summer camping trips... By renting a camper at The Outpost. Rentals start at just \$40.00 for a weekend! Call 679-2609 for more info.

LIBERTY

MWR NAS Meridian, MS

The following are events scheduled for single and unaccompanied active duty military aboard NAS Meridian. For info call (601) 679-3780.

Sunday, May 27
Air Hockey Tournament
Who will be the winner of Liberty's first air hockey tournament set to begin at 7pm?

Monday, May 28
Make Your Own Sundae
Make a FREE sundae at the Liberty Center! Ice cream, whip cream and a variety of toppings will be available at 7pm for you to make a cool treat.

Wednesday, May 30
Video Game Tournament
Game time is 7pm. Prize awarded to the winner.

Sunday, June 3
Ping-Pong Tournament
The tournament begins at 7pm in the Liberty Center. No entry fee - prize awarded to the winner. Register the day of the event at the Liberty Center.

Thursday, June 7
Double Elimination Pool Tournament
The tournament begins at 1800.

Events

- Monday- Margarita Monday
- Tuesday- Import/Specialty Beer Night
- Wednesday- Ladies' Night
- Thursday- Karaoke Night

Captain's Cup Golf Schedule

May 29
Scramble- Front Nine
1540- Air Ops vs. MATSS-1
1550- Public Works vs. VT-7

June 5
Alt Shot- Back Nine
1540- Fidelity vs. VT-7
1550- Air Ops vs. Public Works

Captain's Cup Softball Schedule

Captain's Cup Softball games are played every Monday and Thursday at 1700 at Bernath Field.

Scholarship program available for officers interested in law careers

By Ed Barker

Naval Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- Active duty and full-time support officers interested in a challenging career change can apply for scholarships via the FY-13 Law Education Program (LEP) announced May 9 in Naval Administrative Message (NAVADMIN) 157/12.

The program affords selected Department of the Navy officers the opportunity to earn Bachelor of Laws

or Juris Doctor degrees, and to serve the Navy as career members of the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps.

Vice Adm. James Houck, the 41st Judge Advocate General of the Navy, began his career at the U.S. Naval Academy and following graduation, qualified as a surface warfare officer aboard the USS Caron (DD 970). He then applied and was accepted for the Navy's Law Education Program, and graduated from the

University of Michigan Law School. He later earned a Master of Laws (International and Comparative Law) from the Georgetown University Law Center.

"Bringing fleet-experienced officers into the JAG Corps benefits the Navy," said Houck. "These officers bring valuable military knowledge, experience and leadership to our legal practice; things that can't be taught in law school. The LEP provides a tremendous return on investment."

The Navy typically selects four officers to attend law school each year. Candidates must be serving on active duty as a commissioned officer in pay grades O-1 to O-3 and have no more than six years of active duty service as of their law school class convening date. FY-13 participants must begin law school using LEP orders no later than Sept. 2013. LEP students have up to 36 months to complete their degree program.

"I first heard about the LEP when I was a first class midshipman at the Naval Academy and taking a required naval law course" said Cmdr. Rob Monahan,

executive officer of Region Legal Service Office Southeast in Jacksonville, Fla. "It piqued my interest and stayed in the back of my mind as I was qualifying as a surface warfare officer. I applied while I was a division officer on board USS Hopper (DDG 70), and after being accepted into the program, went to law school at Boston College. I believe it's the best deal in the Navy, and has given me a truly rewarding career."

Upon graduation and admission to the practice of law, which in most jurisdictions includes passing the bar exam, officers will be designated as judge advocates. Upon completion of the Basic Lawyer Course at the Naval Justice School, they are certified as qualified and competent to perform duties as trial and defense counsel of general courts-martial. They will then be detailed to one of several large Region Legal Service Offices where they will be exposed to the many legal areas found in today's Navy, including: criminal, international, administrative and tort law; legal assistance; maritime law and environmental law.

Eligible participants who desire to apply for the FY13 program must submit a letter request and application package via their commanding officer to: Center for Personal and Professional Development (CPPD), Voluntary Education Detachment, Attn: Code N2A2 LEP, 6490 Saufley Field Road, Pensacola, FL, 32509-5204 prior to Sept. 30, 2012. Letters must include the applicant's current work mailing and e-mail addresses and contact numbers.

In addition, all applicants must ensure official college transcripts from each school attended are forwarded to CPPD at the above address. Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores must be received prior to the FY-13 selection board convening in Feb. 2013 but may be submitted by separate correspondence.

"One of the things that make this program great is that the Navy completely funds the program, and the student remains on active duty and continues to draw a military paycheck while attending law school earning a professional degree," said Lt. Cmdr. Elizabeth

Rosso, the JAG Corps Accessions Detailer at the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn. "Once they've completed their degree, they'll get to serve in a challenging career field. This is an excellent program for anyone who has the desire to make a career change, go to law school and become a JAG."

For specific guidance on the Law Education Program and application requirements, see SECNAVINST 1520.7F and NAVADMIN 157-12. Questions about the application process should be directed to Billie Colonna, Center for Personal and Professional Development, by phone at 850-452-1001, option 3, ext. 2219 (DSN 922-1807) or by e-mail at billie.colonna@navy.mil.

All other program questions should be directed to Lt. Cmdr. Elizabeth Rosso, Navy Personnel Command, at 901-874-4084 (DSN 882-4084) or by email at Elizabeth.rosso@navy.mil. For additional information on careers in the Judge Advocate General's Corps visit <http://www.jag.navy.mil/>.

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● San Diego

"man our ship and bring her to life." With that order, the crew began a spirited charge up the brow to take responsibility for the Navy's newest warship. Marines from the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, based at Camp Pendleton, Calif., soon joined the

Sailors to man the rails of the ship, as a show of the Navy/Marine Corps team that will serve aboard.

After his ship was manned and brought to life, Meyers told the audience that the San Diego memorabilia donated to the ship by the city, including street signs, was proof that, "the city

has open its heart to us and we are truly, truly appreciative."

Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Joshua Cuevas said he was proud to be part of the ship's first crew, traditionally known as a "plankowner" because they were present as the ship was being built.

"It took a lot of hard work in building this ship so to be a plankowner is an overwhelming achievement," he said Cuevas, a Miami native.

Cuevas added that having a ship named for San Diego is fitting.

"The city has always supports the Navy and having a ship named for the city of San Diego in San Diego is a way of giving back," he said.

Built by Huntington Ingalls Industries in Pascagoula, Miss., San Diego is 684 feet in length, has an overall beam of 105 feet, a navigational draft of 23 feet, displaces about 24,900 tons and is capable of embarking a landing force of about 800 Marines. Four turbo-charged diesel engines power the ship to sustained speeds in excess of 22 knots.

San Diego is the sixth amphibious transport dock ship in the San Antonio class and the fourth ship to carry the name. Her principal mission is to deploy combat and support elements of Marine Expeditionary Units and Brigades. With the capability of transporting and debarking air cushion or conventional landing craft and augmented by helicopters or MV-22 vertical take-off and landing aircraft, these ships support amphibious assault, special operations, and expeditionary warfare missions. The ship will provide improved warfighting capabilities including an advanced command-and-control suite, increased lift capability, increased vehicle and cargo-carrying capacity, and advanced ship survivability features.

● USS Bush

"Today, I join my father in thanking you for not only serving this nation but for making sure the Avenger rises to the top. The Battenberg Cup and Admiral Flatley Memorial Awards are the result of your passion, your commitment to the Navy, to serving others, to safety and to quite simply, being the best the Atlantic fleet has to offer," Koch said. "The 'E' in the Battle 'E' stands for efficiency, but I know it represents many more attributes all of you possess; excellence, experience, expertise and elite. My dad is honored and humbled by the work and dedication of each of you, the elite leaders and crew of this ship."

"This is a perfect example of hard work being recognized and I am honored to be the commanding officer to the crew. Receiving these awards shows the relentless dedication and superior performance the crew on a continuous basis to keep it maintained at the highest levels of excellence," said Luther.



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Naval Air Station Meridian, Ms. MSDH PWS ID # 0380026

MAY 15, 2012

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continuously improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from the Wilson Aquifer.

Our water quality assessment has been conducted and is available at this time, and copies of this assessment are available at our office. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Robert Whitlock at 601-679-2330 (TDD) Monday thru Friday. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please call to schedule a meeting at the NAS Meridian Water Plant.

Mississippi State Department of Health and the Certified Operators of NAS Meridian routinely monitor for 63 constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2011. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- As of 2011 (AO) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (Mg/L) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- Percent per liter (P/L) - percent per liter is a measure of the turbidity in water.
- Millions per year (m/y) - measure of radium allowed by the body.
- Action Level - the concentration of a constituent which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - A treatment technique is required process intended to reduce the level of a constituent in drinking water.
- Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a constituent that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the healthiest level as is currently available technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a constituent in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

TEST RESULTS

Constituent	Violation	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Results or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/MCLG	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Label/Source of Contamination
Disinfection By-product				458,844.8	1.098	999.81		
Chlorine	N	1 Jan. 2011-31 Dec. 2011	1.09	0.85 - 1.27	PPM	NOAEL	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	1/2011	N/A	1	FCU	0	0	Presence of colonies leading to P/L of monthly samples
Radioactive Contaminants								
Total radium	N	11/01	0.0	0	PICU	0	0	Presence of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants								
Iron	N	10/20/11	0.00000	0	Ppm	0	0	Discharge of drilling water, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	10/20/11	0.001	0	Ppm	0.01	0.1	Discharge from acid and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	10/20/11	0.1	0	Mg/L	0	10	Discharge of fertilizer/planting systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from land application
Lead	N	10/20/11	0.001	0	Mg/L	0	0.01	Discharge of fertilizer/planting systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite/Nitrate								
Nitrite	N	10/20/11	0.00	0	ppm	0	1ppm	
Nitrate	N	10/20/11	0.02	0	ppm	0	1ppm	
Nitrate-Nitrite	N	10/20/11	0.1	0	ppm	0	1ppm	

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Naval Air Station Meridian Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead/>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing for \$10 per sample. Please contact 601-276-7182 if you wish to have your water tested.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/ACD guidelines on appropriate means to lower the risk of infection by cryptosporidiosis and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions. Public Works Office (601) 679-3900 or Robert Whitlock, Maintenance Supervisor (601) 679-2330. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Fluoridation Records

To comply with the "Regulation-Governing Fluoridation of community Water Supplies", the MERIDIAN NAVAL AIR STATION is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year that average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7 - 1.2 ppm was 12. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.2 was 100%.

***** A MESSAGE FROM MSDH CONCERNING RADIOLOGICAL SAMPLES *****

In accordance with Radiocellulose Rule, all community public water supplies were required to sample quarterly for radiocellulose beginning January 2007 - December 2007. Your public water supply complied sampling by the scheduled deadline, however, during an audit of Mississippi State Department of Health Radiological Health Laboratory, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suspended analysis and reporting of radiological compliance samples until further notice. Although this was not the result of inaction by the public water supply, MSDH was required to issue a violation. This is to notify you that as of this date, your water system has not completed the monitoring requirements. The Bureau of Public Water Supply has taken action to ensure that your water system be returned to compliance by March 11, 2012. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Parker, Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Water Supply, at 601-576-7308.

NAS Meridian has collected and sent to the Division of samples to MSDH for testing. NAS Meridian water supply continues to monitor a total of 7 radiological quality and directions.

Robert Whitlock
Public Works Officer

NAVSUP announces lithium battery mailing prohibited by USPS

By Debbie Dortch
NAVSUP Corporate Communications

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. (NNS) -- Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), which oversees Navy postal operations, announced May 11, it is providing guidance to the fleet about new United States Postal Service (USPS) prohibitions regarding lithium batteries.

According to the USPS announcement, beginning May 16, mail to or from APOs/FPOs are prohibited from containing lithium or products containing lithium. The prohibition also applies to international mail. The prohibition is in effect pending further USPS review of investigations for safety.

"Customers should understand that postal clerks at these locations have been instructed to question patrons and check customs labels for any declarations of lithium batteries or electronic equipment to determine whether lithium batteries are in the shipment," said NAVSUP Navy Postal Subject Matter Expert Tom Rittle. "Upon identification of packages containing lithium batteries, customers will have the option to remove the batteries or not mail the package."

The prohibition applies regardless of quantity, size, watt-hours, and whether the cells or batteries are packed in equipment, with equipment, or without equipment. For more information about the prohibition, see USPS Postal Bulletin 22336 at <http://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2012/pb22336/pdf/pb22336.pdf>.

The NAVSUP and Navy Supply Corps team share one mission-to deliver sustained global logistics capabilities to the Navy and Joint warfighter. NAVSUP/Naval Supply Corps' diverse team of more than 25,000 civilian and military personnel oversee a diverse portfolio including supply chain management for material support to Navy, Marine Corps, joint and coalition partners, supply operations, conventional ordnance, contracting, resale, fuel, transportation, security assistance, and quality of life issues for our naval forces, including food service, postal services, Navy Exchanges, and movement of household goods.

Effective May 16, 2012 until further notice, customers may not tender electronic devices containing lithium batteries, including equipment with non-removable lithium batteries i Outbound International Mail.

Examples of common electronic devices containing lithium cells or batteries

Video cameras	Walkie talkies (2 way radio)	GPS devices	Radio controlled toys
Cameras	Scanner	Cellular Phones	MP3 players
Bluetooth headsets	Smartphones/mobiles	Laptop computers	Shavers
Power Drills	Tablets	Portable DVD players	Measuring equipment

NAS Meridian Chapel hosts Vacation Bible School June 25-29 from 6-8 p.m. Children entering first grade through fourth grade (approximatley ages 5-9) are eligible. Register by June 15 by contacting the chapel at 679-3635 or email joseph.stronej@navy.mil.

MERIDIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

ALL AMERICAN FIDDLER: MARK O'CONNOR

Sat., June 2, 2012 ~ 7:30 p.m.



Coleman Pearce
Guest Conductor

Mark O'Connor is an American bluegrass, jazz, country and classical violinist fiddler, composer and music teacher. O'Connor's music is wide-ranging and critically acclaimed, and he has received numerous awards for both his playing and his composition.

As a teenager he won national string instrument championships for his virtuosic playing of the guitar and mandolin as well as on the fiddle. His mentors include Texas old-time fiddler Benny Thomasson, French jazz violinist Stéphane Grappelli and guitarist Chet Atkins.



Mark O'Connor
Featured Soloist

SYMPHONY FUN FEST

Tues., June 26, 2012 ~ 10:00 a.m.

It's Free! Call 601-693-3595 to register.



Join us for this year's Fun Fest celebration, sponsored by the Meridian Symphony Association. Bring your children to enjoy a day of music education and fun. Best of all, it's completely free! The fun lasts from 10:00 am until 12:30 p.m. Call our education director Susie Johnson at 601-693-3595 to register.

Just Come & Listen

TICKETS
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MSO
601.693.2224

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BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

Camper/F350 Package -- 1999 5th Wheel Imperial by Holiday Rambler 36SKT standard or goose-neck hitch, new refrigerator/freezer, new leather swivel recliner chairs, 80 gallon fresh water tank, flat screen TV, microwave over with bent fan, three burner stove with oven, two air conditioners, owners are non-smokers! Asking \$16,165. 2003 F350 Dualie Crew Cab with Lariat Package, 135,000 miles complete maintenance record, 6 speed manual transmission, 7.3 liter turbo diesel, trailer pkg., tool box, non smokers. Will sell separately or discount both items as a package. Asking \$19,000 for F350. As a package: \$34,000. Call (601) 917-4545 or (601) 693-9292.

2012 Cargomate 6x12x6 enclosed cargo trailer. One month old, bought from a dealer, build date 8/18/2011. Rear barn doors, side door, interior light, spare tire, 3

month limited factory warranty. \$3200 OBO. Call (267) 414-4124.

32-foot Mountainer Travel Trailer, tag-alone, 2 slides, excellent condition. Asking \$13,300. Call (251) 607-9536.

1992 Sprint 276 Pro Bass Boat Yamaha Pro V 150. Runs great, ready to fish. Asking \$4,500. Call John at (601) 737-8735 or (601) 701-5069.

Concession Trailer (former CATFISH PLUS). Great operation for new power plant area. Negotiable terms. Call John at (601) 737-8735 or (601) 701-5069.

2008 SKEETER ZX190, Bass Boat -- Blue/White/Black Galaxy Hull with protective Keel Guard and Light Grey Interior. Powered by Yamaha 175 HPDI motor. Package includes: EZ Loader Trailer, Line Spooler, Hot foot/Pro Trim, tilt Steering, Hummingbird 767 w/GPS, Hummingbird 727 Bow Mount, Auto Bilge Switch, Safety Ladder, Bow Mounted 80 LB. thrust Minn Kota trolling motor and much more. Price \$29,500. Call: day (601) 604-2256, evening: (601) 483-5311.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Sofa and love seat. Dark blue microfiber material in great condition, 6 pillows included. Asking \$500 OB. Coffee table and end table. Asking \$120 OBO. Call (619) 512-6630.

Solid Wood Oak top white high dining room table with hide-

away extension, and 4 white high top chairs. Six months old in perfect condition. \$650 call 601-513-3495.

Wrought Iron Baker's Rake for \$100 or OBO. If you would like to see a picture e-mail jason4heather@yahoo.com or call (601) 679-8372.

Chocolate love seat with decorative pillows. Asking \$280. In excellent condition with no tears or stains and comes from a smoke free home. Call Helena at (601) 485-1472.

34" widescreen Trinitron Sony HDTV. Remote & Memory Card slot, works great. Asking \$150. Call (601) 621-4417.

Butterfly couch and chair with the pillows. Asking \$500 set. Color is forest green. Call (417) 664-5420.

Solid Cherry Wood Entertainment Center, 7 1/2 foot tall, Holds up to a 40" TV. Beautiful piece of furniture -- Like New. Asking \$600. Call (601) 679-8052.

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

NEW! 2004 Honda Civic EX, 4 door, 36 miles per gallon, gray. Asking \$6,300. Call Groves at (601) 679-2589.

NEW! 2006 Pontiac G6 GTP Coupe, black, man 6 spd, heated leather, moonroof, SiriusXM radio, HID Xenon's, well maintained. 59k miles. Asking \$10,999 OBO. Call (601) 678-9177.

2008 Chrysler PT Cruiser, 48,000 miles. New compressor-cold

A/C. Asking for Kelly Blue Book value: \$9,000 OBO. Call Rhett at (251) 300-0198 or (251) 422-0983.

2003 Gold Chrysler, 300M loaded, heated leather, CD, XM satellite, sun roof, nice interior. High mileage but well maintained. One owner, new transmission and battery, fairly new tires, needs motor work. Asking \$1350 OBO. Call (601) 679-2636 or (662) 803-9007.

2005 Ford Explorer, sunroof, leather interior, low mileage. Asking \$7,500 OBO. Call (601) 490-3905.

20in Chrome rims and tires (Toyo Proxy-295/45R/20). 6 lug. Only 10k miles. Asking \$750. Call (757) 814-9739 or (601) 479-3446.

MOTORCYCLES/GEAR/ATV

NEW ITEM! 2007 Suzuki Eiger 400 ATV, 4x4, auto trans, wench, garage kept excellent condition, low miles. Also, 6x10 utility trailer with spare tire and mount. Asking \$3,000 for both. Call Jerry at 601-513-2624.

1981 Kawasaki KZ440LTD motorcycle, 22k miles. Asking \$1500. Call (601) 457-8915.

2008 Suzuki Boulevard T-50. 10600 Miles, leather touring bags, floor boards, shield, various helmets, garage kept, synthetic oil since new, new tires with sale. Asking \$4,500. Call John (601) 737-8735 or (601) 701-5069.

4-wheeler for sale. Asking \$800. Call (601) 483-3801 for details.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

For Sale: Home located 20 minutes from NAS Meridian, 3 BR/2 BA home located in the Poplar Springs school district. Home also has a finished basement with full living area, sunroom, and deck, 1 car garage and nice backyard. Must see! Call (601) 490-3905 great deal!

Home for sale in excellent Meridian neighborhood. Call Alita for more information, (602) 513-4787.

Single family home, 2708 Russell Camp Road, Meridian, 1131 square foot, 2 BR/1 BA with a two car garage & with a washer and dryer. Available after July 1 2012. Rent: \$569. Proof of military service in form of LES or orders get half off of first months rent. Can be seen on www.ahm.com or call G. Barrett at 850-855-8304. To be seen by appointment only. Currently the house is occupied.

For Sale by Owner: 3 BR/2 full BA, nice kitchen with breakfast nook, formal living room and dining room, 1860 sq. ft., view of main lake at private community of Dalewood Lake in Lauderdale, 2 car garage, situated on 3 beautiful fenced lots, large front porch, deck, double French door lead to back court yard. 12 miles to NAS Meridian. Can provide picture with email request to: paridisekw@yahoo.com. Call (601) 479-9713 or (601) 679-3517.

TOOLS

Craftsman Contractor Series Radial Arm Saw with stand, asking \$200. Call (601) 679-9972.

Craftsman 10" compound mitersaw. Works great. \$40. Call (757) 412-9411. Leave message.

10hp generator for sale used very little. Asking \$450. Call (601) 323-1003.

MISCELLANEOUS

10 month old Maltese Poodle mix puppy, spayed female, 6 pounds, 8 pounds. Can email pics. Serious inquiries only. Fenced yard preferred. Asking \$150. Call (601) 880-3819.

Lab Puppies -- AKC registered have first shots and ready to pick up April 1, mother and father onsite. Asking \$300 each. Call Ann at (601) 480-4134.

Wedding dress size 8 and veil for sale. If interested please call 601-938-0182.

Golf Taylormade Driver R9 \$150; Bobby Jones Workshop Edition Driver \$70 -- all in like new condition. Call (601) 679-2022.

5x5x4 fenced kennel. Asking \$150. Call Tamra at (601) 479-7902.

If you wish to add or remove an item from "Sale...or" please send your request to penny.randall@navy.mil or call (601) 679-2809. Deadline for submissions is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday before publication.

It's Your Turn...

This week we asked military and civilians, "What does Memorial Day mean to you?"

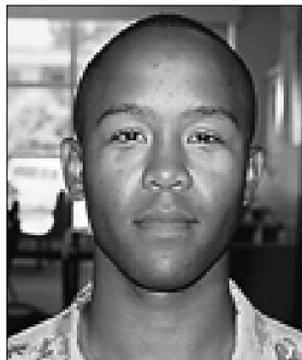
By MC2 Casey Kyhl



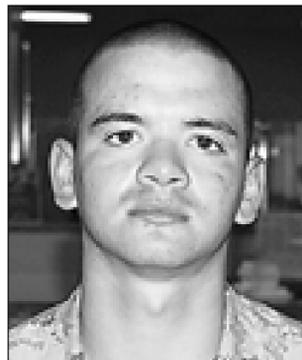
Matt Davis
MWR Marketing Manager
"On Memorial Day I reflect on the sacrifices made by military personnel in the past. One of the reasons I work on base is to honor them and give something back."



HM3 Janneakea Ball
NOSC Reservist
"Memorial Day serves as an opportunity to honor the individuals who fought bravely to keep our country safe."



Pfc. Robert Baskerville
MATSS-1 Student
"Memorial Day reminds me of why I joined the Marine Corps, and the impact my military service can have on the country."



Pfc. Steven Morris
MATSS-1 Student
"I think about the veterans. Trying to fill their shoes and live up to their reputations."



Jenna Bickel
ITT Manager MWR
"Memorial Day is a chance to look back and honor service members that sacrificed for this country."

Fleet & Family Support Center

Military Spouse Appreciation

The strength behind the uniform

By MA1 (EXW/SW) Jason A. Falls
NAS Meridian Security

Editor's Note: During Military Spouse Appreciation Week, the Fleet and Family Support Center held an essay contest. Below is the winning essay by MA1 Jason Falls saluting his wife, Heather.

So far I have served in the United States Navy for 11 years. It has been every bit as fulfilling as I could have hoped for.

I was a member of a small caliber attack team that captured two wooden dhows and their crews that supported terrorists. I trained members of the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force in anti-terrorism and force protection. I have lead small security teams with Expeditionary Security Forces as the mission commander. What I imagined I could do as a child became a reality as Sailor. I did not do this alone; neither can I take credit for it. Much of what I accomplished is due to my wife, Heather.

Before I joined the Navy I knew two things for sure: first thing, I wanted to marry Heather; second, I knew I could support her through the Navy life. We married shortly after boot camp and life has been an adventure ever since. She began her military spouse training at the quarterdeck of the Navy -- Great Lakes, Ill. She embraced the Navy life and enjoyed functions such as the Navy Ball. Before we left Great Lakes she was given a gift from one of the wives of a commanding officer. She told Heather, "This was given to me as a gift, one day you need to give it to a new military spouse." It was a refrigerator magnet in the shape of a house and



MA1 Jason Falls with his wife, Heather, and their four-year-old son, Logan. Heather is expecting the couples second son, who they plan to name Landon, in June.

heart. The writing on the magnet stated, "Home is where the Navy sends you." This is how we lived our lives from that point forward.

Our home soon became Sasebo, Japan. This move was not easy for Heather because she left everything that was familiar to her. Our first night in Japan she cried herself to sleep. She proved to be very tough during this time. Not only did she stay in Japan, she boldly explored the new country. If I was not available to go with her she went without me. I was very proud of her. This was the beginning of a six year stay overseas. The first three years were spent in Japan and the second three years in Guam.

Heather is the greatest military spouse, not because of her personal adjustments to the military culture but, because she is dedicated to helping other military spouses

adjust to the culture. In Japan she became involved in the sponsorship program and opened her house to new Sailors and their spouses. Heather understands that when stationed overseas the military community needs to come together and care for each other. Her hospitality has touched many in this military culture. She set the example of how Navy leadership should take care of their Sailors.

There was a time, in Sasebo, that I was ready to separate from the Navy. Heather reassured me that she enjoyed the military lifestyle and that it was the place where she belongs. Where I doubted myself she was sure of what I could achieve. I could do my job only because she is the military spouse that she is. My accomplishments belong to her. She is the strength behind this Navy uniform.

What does WIC have to offer?

Did you know that many military families are eligible for the Women, Infant & Children (WIC) Program, which provides nutritious food for qualifying families?

In these trying economic times, programs such as WIC can help military families stretch their money a lot farther. WIC serves pregnant, breast-feeding, and postpartum women as well as infants and children up to five years of age who meet the financial, nutritional, and residency requirements.

To qualify, you must be a resident of Mississippi for at least six months (your LES or a utility bill can help establish this residency requirement). A family of three with an annual income of \$34,281 or less qualifies for WIC, as does a family of four with an income of up to \$41,348 and a family of five with an income of \$48,415 or less. In July 2012, the income guidelines are scheduled to increase by approximately \$1,000 so even more families will qualify for WIC.

WIC provides nutritious food to supplement your diet, nutrition counseling, and referrals for other health care services.



WIC food packages for women and children include:

- Iron-fortified cereal
- Dry whole-egg mix or liquid eggs
- Peanut butter or dried beans
- Fruit juices with Vitamin C
- Milk and milk products

Infants up to one year old receive:

- Iron-fortified formula
- Infant fruit juices
- Iron-fortified infant cereal

WIC also offers special food packages with tuna, carrots, and extra cheese for mothers who exclusively breastfeed.

How long you can stay on WIC varies. Pregnant women are eligible during their pregnancies and for up to six weeks after giving birth. Breastfeeding mothers can stay on WIC for up to one year after giving birth. Mothers who are not breastfeeding are eligible for WIC for up to six months after giving birth. And children can stay on WIC until their fifth birthday.

WIC is provided through your local health department. To apply for WIC, call your local WIC office (the Lauderdale County office can be reached at 601-693-2451 or 601-482-4820) and say you want to apply. The office will give you a date and time for a WIC appointment. At this visit, the WIC staff will review your household income and health status to find out if you and your children are eligible for WIC services.

For more information about WIC eligibility, food packages, breastfeeding promotion programs, and state agency listings, visit www.fns.usda.gov/wic.

Rosso, the JAG Corps Accessions Detailer at the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn. "Once they've completed their degree, they'll get to serve in a challenging career field. This is an excellent program for anyone who has the desire to make a career change, go to law school and become a JAG."

For specific guidance on the Law Education Program and application requirements, see SECNAVINST 1520.7F and NAVADMIL 157-12. Questions about the

application process should be directed to Billie Colonna, Center for Personal and Professional Development, by phone at 850-452-1001, option 3, ext. 2219 (DSN 922-1807) or by e-mail at billie.colonna@navy.mil. All other program questions should be directed to Lt. Cmdr. Elizabeth Rosso, Navy Personnel Command, at 901-874-4084 (DSN 882-4084) or by email at Elizabeth.rosso@navy.mil. For additional information on careers in the Judge Advocate General's Corps visit <http://www.jag.navy.mil/>.

FFSC Briefs

To register for any of the following workshops, please call (601) 679-2360. The class will not be presented if no one registers, so please make sure you sign up if you're interested. If you can't attend at the scheduled time, call anyway -- the workshop facilitator may be able to meet with you one-on-one, give you materials, or let you know when the class will be scheduled again. All active duty, reserve, retired military and their families are eligible for programs and services provided by the FFSC. Civil service employees can utilize the services on a space available basis.

Stress Management: May 30 from 2-3 p.m. Everyone experiences stress in normal day-to-day life, and your reactions to stress can be difficult to control. Some stress can be helpful because it spurs you to meet life's challenges, but too much stress (or poor stress management skills) can affect your mental and physical health and damage your relationships. If you feel that you're just not handling stress well, come to this workshop to learn about your stress triggers and what you can do to manage your stress better.

Saving & Investing: June 4 from 2-3 p.m. or June 28 from 9-10 a.m. While money doesn't grow on trees, it does grow when you save and invest wisely. Knowing how to secure your financial well-being is one of the most important things you'll ever need to know in life. You don't have to be a financial genius to do it, you just need to know how to get started. No matter how much or little money you have, the important thing is to start!

Exceptional Family Member Program Orientation: June 6 from 3-4 p.m. held at Child Development Center. The Navy first established its Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) to identify children with special educational needs or disabilities. Over the years, it has grown to support dependents who have special needs of virtually any kind. This training will cover important EFMP topics such as: program eligibility, myths vs reality, application tips, and resources.

Welcome Aboard: June 7 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. FFSC welcomes you to Meridian by providing current information and policies regarding NAS. Topics covered will include: Navy career choices, FFSC services, Medical/Dental, Exceptional Family Member (EFM) Program, TRICARE, vehicle registration, on- and off-base driving regulations, legal services, community service, Chapel and other area religious services, MWR, things to do at NAS and in Meridian, School Liaison Program, and more!

IA Spouse Discussion Group: June 8 from 9:30-11 a.m. FFSC hosts this IA Spouse Discussion Group over coffee! Join other military spouses to talk about the challenges of IA deployment, share survival tips, discuss the impact of deployment on kids, remind one another about the benefits of deployment, or just kick back and chat!

Communication Skills: June 11 from 9-10 a.m. or June 27 from 3-4 p.m. Communication is powerful and directly affects our quality of life and relationships. Our ability to express what we think and feel without clouding our ability to listen and respect how others think and feel is the greatest factor of success in our work and home life. Yet, communication is an everyday activity that is easily taken for granted. This workshop helps people use the power of communication to strengthen relationships at work and at home by practicing skills that build effective two-way communication.

Smooth Move: June 13 from 2-4 p.m. This training provides valuable information to relocating service members and their families with Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders within the continental United States. Topics covered include an overview of the moving process, tips and techniques for coping, managing the move, moving with children, and resources available throughout the relocation process.

Command Financial Specialist (CFS) Training: June 18-22 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Each command with at least 25 active duty service members is asked -- in accordance with OPNAVINST 1740.5B and SECNAVINST 1740.4 -- to select individuals to attend CFS Training. Commands are required to maintain a ratio of one CFS to every 75 active duty personnel. Current CFSes must attend CFS Training every three years to remain active. Only E6 and above service members are eligible to attend this training and serve as CFSes.

Join the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

Training provided for caseworkers & receptionists. No experience needed. Childcare & mileage reimbursed. Interested volunteers call: 601-679-2504
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays
9 a.m.-1 p.m.
JOIN THE TEAM!

• **Law**
CPPD at the above address. Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores must be received prior to the FY-13 selection board convening in Feb. 2013 but may be submitted by separate correspondence.

"One of the things that make this program great is that the Navy completely funds the program, and the student remains on active duty and continues to draw a military paycheck while attending law school earning a professional degree," said Lt. Cmdr. Elizabeth



WE EXTEND A HEARTFELT THANKS TO THOSE WHO NEVER ASKED FOR ANY.

**On this Memorial Day, Northrop Grumman pays tribute to the men and women
who gave everything to protect the freedom we enjoy every day.**

NORTHROP GRUMMAN