

THE SKYLINE



Volume 50, Number 14

<https://www.cnmc.navy.mil/meridian> & www.facebook.com/NASMeridian

July 5, 2012

On Base...

✓ **Legal Assistance Attorney will be on board NAS Meridian July 11-12**, in the Legal Office (Administration Building 255, Room 222) to assist with:

- Will, medical directive, estate planning, or power of attorney.
- Basic advice and assistance with tax related questions, state tax exemptions, and SSCRA.
- Help with family and domestic relations or consumer law/affairs or landlord-tenant relations, etc.

Make an appointment by calling (601) 679-2340. Personnel needing will services please be advised to call or come by soon to obtain a will worksheet in advance for completion for your appointment. This FREE service is available to active duty military and their family members, retirees and their family members, and pre-mobilization assistance for reserve personnel under order.

✓ **During the week of July 9-14, a contractor will be on board NAS Meridian inspecting sewer lines and manholes** in the NAS and NTTC Administration areas. The inspection of sewer lines includes inducing smoke into the lines to determine if there are leaks. The smoke comes out where the sewer line is broken and from the manholes. Please don't call security or fire -- this is all routine and nothing to raise alarm.

On board
NAS
Meridian



A Day in Naval History

July 6
1747: Birth of John Paul Jones at Arbigland, Scotland.
1911: First naval aviation base established at Annapolis, Md.
1976: First women enter Naval Academy.

July 7
1916: Thomas A. Edison becomes head of Naval Consulting Board which screens inventions for use by the Navy.
1948: First six enlisted women sworn into regular Navy. The Navy WAVES in Naval Reserve, who were the first to transfer to the regular Navy, were Kay Louise Langdon, Aviation Storekeeper First Class; Wilma Juanita Marchal, Chief Yeoman; Frances Teresa Dovaney, Storekeeper, Second Class; Edna Earle Young, Yeoman, Second Class; Doris Roberta Robertson, Telemann, Second Class; and Ruth Flora, Hospital Corpsman, First Class.

-- www.history.navy.mil

THE SKYLINE IS A CHINFO AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

FREEDOM FEST 2012



Photo by MC2 Casey Kyhl

Spectators watch the fireworks at Freedom Fest on board NAS Meridian on June 29. The event featured live entertainment by Natalie Stovall -- a recording artist from Nashville, Tenn., and the band Fatback. Children had fun on the inflatables and extreme rides, and of course, visiting with Smiley The Clown. A professional fireworks show was presented by Pyro Shows. The event was sponsored by NAS Meridian's Moral, Welfare and Recreation Department.

Workshops prepare parents, students for upcoming school year

Workshops for parents of student in kindergarten through 12th grade in Meridian and Lauderdale County schools will be held at the Andrew Triplett Library conference room on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the upcoming weeks.

Special Care Organization Record (SCOR) class will be Tuesday, July 10, at 1:30 p.m. or Thursday, July 12, at 10 a.m.

SCOR is an organizing tool for parents of children with special health care needs. SCOR will help you document your child's medical and educational information, insurance, and instructions for the child's care in case of your absence or in an emergency.

Introduction to the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children will be Tuesday, July 17, at 1:30 p.m. or Thursday, July 19, at 10 a.m.

The compact provides for the uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states. It reflects collaboration between The Council of State Governments and the DoD. The course will take a look at what's included and discuss how it affects you.

Students at the Center: An Educational Resource for Military Families will be Tuesday, July 24, at 1:30 p.m. or Thursday, July 26, at 10 a.m.

This guide outlines the important policies, procedures, and best practices that will empower military parents to be better advocates for their children and to more fully understand the rules and policies of their local education agencies.

TUTOR.com; eKnowledge.com; Student Online Achievement Resources (SOAR) will be Tuesday, July 31, at 1:30 p.m. or Thursday, Aug. 2, at 10 a.m.

This will be a review of several of the resources designed to support your child's academic success, including FREE 24/7 online, real-time tutoring, FREE SAT & ACT prep materials, and more.

Register by 4 p.m. the preceding Monday for Tuesday classes and by 1 p.m. the preceding Wednesday for Thursday classes. Sessions will last about an hour. To register, contact the School Liaison Officer Cynthia McDonald at (601) 679-2473 or e-mail: cynthia.h.mcdonald@navy.mil. Children are welcome; however, supervision will not be provided by library staff or the school liaison. Drop-in care is available at the CDC and SAC. Call (601) 679-2652 to make a reservation for childcare.

CSADD: Working for the junior Sailor



NAS Meridian Executive Officer Cmdr. Michael Siepert speaks with members of the NAS Meridian's chapter of the Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) during their bi-monthly meeting. CSADD's target age is 18-25 or junior Sailors, but all are encouraged to get involved. CSADD is open for participation from commissioned, enlisted, reserve, active-duty and JROTC members. Meetings are scheduled for every other Thursday (opposite the schedule of the Petty Officers Association) and held at McCain Rec Center. For more information on how to get involved e-mail AC2 Powell at whitney.powell@navy.mil or check-out www.facebook.com/nasmeridian.csadd.

Photo by MC2 Casey Kyhl

World's largest International Maritime Exercise gets underway

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- Military leaders from 22 nations formally launched Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC) 2012, July 2. RIMPAC is hosted biennially by U.S. Pacific Fleet in and around Hawaii.

U.S. and international speakers at the opening press conference included Adm. Cecil D. Haney, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet; Vice Adm. Gerald R. Beaman, Commander of the U.S. Third Fleet; Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Rear Adm. Fumiyuki Kitagawa, Commander of Escort Flotilla Three; and Royal Canadian Navy Rear Adm. Ron Lloyd, Chief of Force Development.

"The theme of capable, adaptable partners resonates here in what is the world's largest international maritime exercise," Haney said.

Haney said 22 nations, 40 ships, six submarines, more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 people are participating in RIMPAC 2012. The exercise is designed to enhance the tactical capabilities of participating units in major aspects of maritime operations at sea. RIMPAC 2012 is the 23rd in the series, which began in 1971. It is the world's largest international maritime exercise.

RIMPAC, as well as the cooperation and interoperability it fosters, "is critical to ensure the safety of the sea lanes and security of the world's oceans," said Haney, who was flanked by representatives of the participating nations during a pierside press conference.

Haney noted that this year's RIMPAC is unique with a number of exercise firsts:

- The naval and air functional component commands in RIMPAC are being led by international partners;
- Exercise, page 7

Future Scientists



Submitted photos

Rowan Lobdell, Anthony Williams, Jacob Taylor and Nicolas Davenport -- all students in the Engineering workshop held recently at Starbase Atlantis on board NAS Meridian show off their "rover" they created during the class. Students used a computer aided design program to design a Rover. Students printed the pieces on a three-dimensional printer and then put the pieces together to construct a model of the rover.



Look Inside



~ Page 3 ~
Lt. j.g. Wiley earns Golden Stick Award at June 29 winging ceremony



~ Page 5 ~
Gutierrez assumes command of Cherry Point Naval Aviation Technical Training



~ Page 10 ~
COMNAVAIRLANT releases investigation results of F/A-18D crash

Photo of the Week



Photo by MC3 Billy Ho

The U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels, fly over USS Constitution during the ship's annual turn-around cruise on July 4th as part of the Boston Navy Week 2012. This celebration is one of 15 signature events planned across America in 2012. The eight-day long event commemorates the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, hosting service members from the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard and coalition ships from around the world.

Area Happenings

JULY

7: "Earth's Bounty: Agricultural & Tourism Festival" held the first Saturday of each month at the Singing Brakeman Park, Front Street between 17th & 18th Avenues. Time: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. For information, call (601) 693-7480 or e-mail: johnmclure@meridianmainstreet.com.

11-14: Celebrate the 63rd anniversary of the Choctaw Indian Fair in beautiful Choctaw, Mississippi. Enjoy four fun-filled days of Choctaw culture and spirit including Tribal arts, crafts, dances, foods, and the thrilling action of World Championship Stickball. The fair offers fun for young and old alike, from exhilarating rides and contests to chart-topping, country, gospel and rock entertainers. There's something for everyone at the Choctaw Indian Fair. Schedule of entertainment includes: July 12 - performances by Steve Azar at 7 p.m. and Chris Cagle at 8:30 p.m.; July 13 - Indigenous at 7 p.m. and Jo Dee Messina at 8:30 p.m.; July 14 - The Lost Trailers at 7 p.m. and Clint Black at 8:30 p.m.

17: The Riley Center presents Alice Tan Ridley in concert at 7:30 p.m. at the center, 2200 Fifth Street, Meridian. Ridley's rousing rendition of Etta James' "At Last" during her first appearance on America's Got Talent is a classic example of her strong voice, with its R&B stylings. Ticket are \$28 and \$22. For information, call the box office at (601) 696-2200 or visit www.msurileycenter.com.

23-26: Meridian Community College will host a soccer camp at the college's C.D. Smith Soccer Field from 8 a.m.-noon. The camp is open to ages 4-12. The camp had over 150 participants last summer and the staff is hoping for much more. Call Coach Alex George at (601) 484-8697 to register.

27-Aug. 3: Neshoba County Fair in Philadelphia -- known as Mississippi's Giant Houseparty! Activities include Harper, Morgan & Smith PRCA Rodeo, entertainment by country stars: Jake Owen on Aug. 1, Jerrod Nieman on Aug. 2 and Trace Adkins on Aug. 3. For more information, visit: www.neshobacountyfair.org or call (601) 656-8480.

AUGUST

4: Children's Book Swap & Story Time in the Sam Dale Pavilion on Highway 39, just north of NAS Meridian. Betty Davis, a local Story Time facilitator will share stories beginning at 10 a.m. Donations of children's books are needed. Children's books will be bought and sold for 25 cents. Book swap begins at 8 a.m. For more information, email: vgladding@gmail.com.

4: Earth's Bounty: Agricultural & Tourism Festival held the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Singing Brakeman Park, Front Street between 17 & 18 Avenues in downtown Meridian. Lots of local produces and food for sale. Sponsored by Meridian Main Street. For information, call (601) 693-7480 or email: johnmclure@meridianmainstreet.com.

10: The Riley Center presents Robert Randolph and The Family Band at 7:30 p.m. at the center, 2200 Fifth Street, downtown Meridian. Tickets are \$52 and \$46. Preshow party at 6 p.m. For information, call the Box Office at (601) 696-2200 or visit www.msurileycenter.com.

The Navy's flight demonstration team, the Blue Angels, along with civilian and other military aircraft will perform aerial acrobatics over the Gulf of Mexico during a weekend of high-flying on July 14 at the Pensacola Beach Air Show.

Show begins at noon.

For more information go to:

<http://www.visitpensacolabeach.com/what/airshow.php>



Former NAS Meridian CO retires



Submitted photo

Capt. Russell Knight accompanied by his wife, Mary Lou and their children, exit after Capt. Knight's retirement ceremony at the U.S. Naval War College, June 22. Knight retired after 30 years of naval service. Knight assumed command of Naval Air Station Meridian on Aug. 12, 2005 and served until August 2008. He then reported to the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. as the deputy chief of staff. Knight ends his military career after more than 3,800 flight hours and 900 carrier arrested-landings while flying in more than 50 different types of aircraft. His personal decorations include two Legion of Merit medals, two Meritorious Service Medals, three Air Medals, and other personal unit citations and commendations.

Balfour Beatty Communities kick off 2011 Housing Survey

Family housing residents on board military installations will be receiving the CEL Resident Satisfaction Housing Survey this week. The annual survey is part of Balfour Beatty Communities' performance assessment program.

"The survey allows us to see where we are succeeding and where there is room for improvement," said Donna Riley, Community Manager for Balfour Beatty, "it's important for residents to fill it out honestly."

Balfour Beatty Communities encourages residents to fill the survey out and return it at its CEL Block Parties being held to kick-off survey time.

On July 14, the residents of Pine Crest Community will come to the vacant lot across from the BBC Housing office to enjoy a block party hosted by the BBC staff members. There will be plenty of food and fun for everyone.

On July 21, the residents of Juniper Ridge will come to the vacant lot on Price Street across from address 852 to enjoy a block party with friends, food, and fun! Both events will start at 11:30 a.m. and

end at 1:30 p.m.

By completing and handing the survey in, residents will qualify for weekly gift cards and prizes. Residents that hand in the surveys by Aug. 10 will also qualify for a special "Early Bird Drawing." The top prizes for our CEL Survey 2011 include gift cards to a variety of local restaurants, a digital camera, a set of porch rockers, and an Apple iPod touch.

"We truly strive to exceed our resident's expectations and hope that every resident enjoyed their home and the services that we provided," explained Riley.

Once residents complete their surveys and seal them in the postage paid envelopes provided, they can simply bring it to the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office and drop it in the authorized locked mailbox maintained by our navy housing partners. Only CEL employees will open the returned envelopes. Survey results are completely confidential and anonymous. The survey deadline date is Aug. 31.

Fleet Reserve invites military to attend meetings

Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) is a congressionally chartered, non-profit organization that represents the interests of the sea service community before the U.S. Congress. Its membership is comprised of current and former enlisted members of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. The local FRA branch holds monthly meetings the last Sunday of every month and potlucks every Sunday. For more information visit FRA Branch 264 on Facebook or 8874 Hwy 39 North, Meridian. The branch is open Thursday through Saturday from 4 p.m.-until and Sundays from 2 p.m.-until. This is a great way for both young and old to share experiences and fellowship. For more information, contact Michelle Spangler at (601) 479-8440.

Collecting food for Feds Feed Families

Feds Feed Families (FFF) 2012 is back in full swing now through Aug. 31!

Food banks across the country are facing severe shortages of non-perishable items, just as summer begins and children are left without school nutrition programs. This is an opportunity for federal employees to donate non-perishable items in support of the need in our community.

Last year Region Southeast was the leading region in collecting pounds of food for this worthwhile cause that directly assists the food banks in our own locations. The goodwill and gratitude that your efforts generated in our community was profound and deeply appreciated by the recipients and the commands alike.

It is our desire to make the 2012 Feds Feed Families an equally great blessing for those served by local food banks and those blessed to be able to give.

FOOD DROP OFF LOCATIONS & POCs

ADMIN: MC2 Kyhl (679-2809)
NOSC: ET1 Compton (679-3610 Ext: 19)
MATSS-1: Sgt. Ard (679-2718)
AIR OPS: ACAN Whelton (679-2505)
CHAPEL: RP1 Stroney (679-3635)
NTTC: Leave donations at quarterdeck
MEDICAL: HM1 Rice (679-2230)

On board NAS Meridian, if you wish to make a canned food donation please bring it to one of the representatives listed below or just drop it off at the chapel. For any other questions about this great program please call RP1 Joseph Stroney at (601) 679-3635 or email at joseph.stroney@navy.mil.

New VFW Post forming in Meridian

Organizers are coming to the final stages with many interested active duty military, guardsmen, retired military and veterans that are forming a new Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post in Meridian.

The new post will be family oriented so that the entire family can assist with supporting veterans, military and the community.

Have your community service count for veteran benefits! What you are already doing needs to be reported to our Congress to ensure they know that our military need

their benefits to continue to support local communities.

If you have not gotten your application in, you still have time. Organizers are working to submit the charter application July 1 with the start of the new VFW year. If you desire to be on the charter showing your support in assisting veterans in Meridian, provide application, copy of DD-214 or service record entry showing your foreign service and dues. For complete information call Norm at (601) 282-5866 or e-mail: meridianvfw@comcast.net

In the Spotlight...

Happy Anniversary...

Donald R. Naylor and his wife, Mary, will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on July 14. Officer Naylor works in NAS Meridian Security Department. Happy anniversary to the couple!

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

Check us out on facebook at

www.facebook.com/NTTCMeridian and www.facebook.com/NASMeridian

The Skyline

~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

Command Staff
Commanding Officer ~
Capt. Charles C. Moore II
Executive Officer ~
Cmdr. Michael Siepert
Command Master Chief ~
CMDM Sharon Laguna

Editorial Staff
Public Affairs Officer ~
Susan Junkins
Public Affairs Specialist/Editor ~
Penny Randall
Staff Writer/Photographer ~
MC2 Casey Kyhl

This DoD newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of *The Skyline* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, or NAS Meridian, Mississippi. *The Skyline* is published every other Thursday by *The Meridian Star*, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Navy, under exclusive written contract with the commanding officer of Naval Air Station, Meridian, Mississippi. The editorial content of this publication

is the responsibility of the NAS Meridian Public Affairs Office. *The Skyline* solicits news contributions from military and civilian sources. It reserves the right to edit material selected for publication. **The deadline for material is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday before publication.** Send submissions to: *The Skyline*, 255 Rosenbaum Ave., Suite 201, Public Affairs Office, Naval Air Station, Meridian, MS 39309-5003 or e-mail: penny.randall@navy.mil or susan.junkins@navy.mil. For more information, call (601) 679-2318 or (601) 679-2809.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or *The Meridian Star* of products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

23 aviators earn 'Wings of Gold' at June ceremony

There was a naval aviator designation ceremony on June 29 in the NAS Community Chapel.

Twenty-three U.S. Navy and Marine Corps aviators received their "Wings of Gold" during the ceremony. The naval aviator designation ceremony is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Navy regulations, but has emerged as an honored product of the rich heritage of naval tradition. It marks the culmination of nearly two years of specialized training, which has prepared these officers for the rigorous demands of aerial combat and carrier operations -- earning each the title of "Naval Aviator" and the right to wear the coveted "Wings of Gold."

The guest speaker was NAS Meridian Commanding Officer Capt. Charles C. Moore II.

Those earning their "Wings of Gold" included:

Lt. j.g. Michael Cassidy, USN, who earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Cassidy completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

First Lt. Justin Charles, USMC, who earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on March 25. Charles completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

First Lt. Dean Collins, USMC, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training and earned three Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Groves completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

First Lt. Donald Groves, USMC, who was named to the Commodore's List and was awarded the Academic Achievement Award during Primary Flight Training. In addition, he earned the "Top Gun" award for his class and was also designated a CNATRA Distinguished Naval Graduate during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Groves completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. j.g. Philip Gurney, USN, who earned one Navy "E" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Gurney completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. John Gustine, USN, who was winged as a Naval Flight Officer on April 21, 2006, and flew EA-6B Prowlers with VAQ-134 as an Electronic



Cassidy



Charles



Collins



Groves



Gurney



Gustine



Harris



C. Kennedy



J. Kennedy



Lape



Matson



Mayer



McNally



Moy



Nicholas



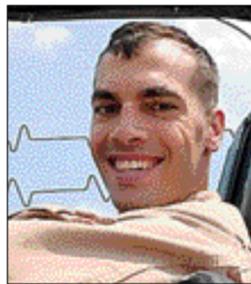
Nicolet



Noronha



Petro



Simmermon



Smits

Counter Measures Officer from June 2007 to August 2010. He was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training. In addition, he earned the "Best Bomber" award for his class and earned three Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on March 25. Gustine completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. j.g. Jake Harris, USN, who carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Harris completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Lt. j.g. Charles Kennedy, USN, who was selected as VT-9's Student of the Month for December 2011 and earned one Navy "E" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. Additionally, he was named to the Commodore's List with Distinction and designated a CNATRA Distinguished Naval Graduate. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on March 25 and was named VT-9's "Top Hook" for that carrier qualification evolution. Kennedy completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. j.g. Jordan Kennedy, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List with Distinction and earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qual-

ified in the T-45C on board the USS George H. W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Kennedy completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Lt. j.g. John Lape Jr., USN, who earned three Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Lape completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. j.g. Kyle Matson, USN, who earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on March 25. Matson completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

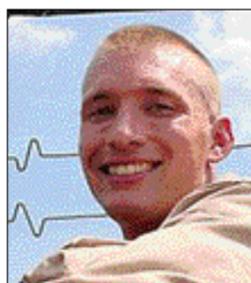
Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Mayer, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Mayer completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Lt. j.g. Brandon McNally, USN, who earned one Navy "E" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28, when he was named VT-7's "Top Hook" for that carrier qualification evolution. McNally completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

First Lt. Stephen



Strickland



Thornberg



Wiley

Congratulations to Lt. j.g. Justin Wiley who was presented with the Golden Stick Award for being named Top Aviator of the class. The award is presented by the Meridian Area Navy League.

Moy, USMC, who carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H. W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Moy completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Capt. Dylan Nicholas, USMC, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training and earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Nicholas completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Lt. j.g. Christopher Nicolet, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Nicolet completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Lt. j.g. Sean Noronha, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training

and was designated a CNATRA Distinguished Naval Graduate during Advanced Jet Flight Training. Additionally, he was selected as VT-7's Student of the Month for February 2012 and earned three Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Noronha completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

Lt. j.g. Nicholas Petro, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training, and was designated a CNATRA Distinguished Naval Graduate and earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Petro completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Seven;

First Lt. Jesse Simmermon, USMC, who he earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier

er qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on May 27. Simmermon completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. j.g. Anthony Smits, USN, who earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H. W. Bush (CVN-77) on March 25. Smits completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

Lt. j.g. Chase Strickland, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training. During Advanced Jet Flight Training, he earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy and carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 28. Strickland completed Advanced Jet Flight Training with Training Squadron Nine;

First Lt. Andrew Thornberg, USMC, who was named to the Commodore's List with Distinction during

● **Winging, page 4**



Capt. Charles C. Moore II, commanding officer of NAS Meridian, presents Sonya R. Evans with a certificate from during her retirement ceremony June 27. Sonya worked on board NAS Meridian for 31 years.



AC2 Whitney Powell recites the oath of enlistment administered by her father, Bill Powell. Powell reenlisted for four years.



Capt. Charles C. Moore II, commanding officer of NAS Meridian, pins a senior chief anchor onto the lapel of ACS Brentson Waller on June 29. Also pictured is Deena Berry.

Navy's floating research platform 'flips' for its 50th anniversary

ARLINGTON, Va. -- With an ability to drift over the ocean like a ship -- yet transform into a vertical buoy in pursuit of scientific research -- the Department of the Navy's Floating Instrument Platform (R/P FLIP) is celebrating its 50th year of service June 29.

Scores of scientists have deployed aboard the 355-foot research vessel, owned by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and administered and operated by the Marine Physical Laboratory at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at University of California, San Diego, to conduct investigations in a number of fields, including acoustics, oceanography, meteorology and marine mammal observation.

"FLIP's unique characteristic of a low-profile, stable observational platform has proven particularly useful over the years," said Dr. Frank Herr, head of ONR's Ocean Battlespace Sensing Department. "It will continue to be a research vessel of choice for our naval scientists."

What makes the vessel so special is that it can partially submerge like a sinking ship by filling ballast tanks in its stern with water. When in its vertical position, FLIP's visible floating platform extends 55 feet above the ocean surface while the rest of the hull reaches 300 feet below the water. Because so much of the vessel is

submerged when it sits upright, the platform is impervious to the ocean waves, providing a stable environment for researchers to do their work.

"I'm so thankful that ONR and Scripps have been able to maintain FLIP as an active platform," said Dr. C. Linwood Vincent, a recently retired ONR division director who managed a number of projects that employed the vessel. Now on the faculty at the University of Miami, Vincent added, "It would be very difficult to conduct these studies on a rocking ship."

Built in 1962, the steel-hulled platform accommodates 11 researchers and a crew of five for up to 30 days. It does not have its own propulsion and must be towed to research locations in the ocean, where it "flips" into vertical position in approximately 20 minutes. FLIP, designed by Scripps scientists Fred Spiess and Fred Fisher, operates in two modes, drifting with the currents or moored to the sea floor, and supports the deployment of

"FLIP was originally designed to study underwater acoustics -- the bending of sound."

William Gaines
Scripps Program Manager

a variety of sensors and instruments.

"FLIP was originally designed to study underwater acoustics -- the bending of sound," said William Gaines, the program manager at Scripps. "In recent times, we've done a lot of the marine mammal research because FLIP has

the ability to be very quiet in the vertical position. We can place hydrophone arrays far below the surface and put marine mammal observers up top to correlate the signals from the animals to the visual observations."

In 2010, researchers used FLIP for a set of experiments called High Resolution Air-Sea Interaction project, which measured wind and swell conditions. That data is helping to improve weather models and other ocean-atmosphere databases.

"FLIP was the pivotal platform for that project, which also included research done by traditional research ships and remotely piloted aircraft," said Tim Schnoor, the program officer who oversees

ONR's research vessel programs.

Naval Research Laboratory scientists recently employed FLIP for oceanographic work using lasers. Additional studies are in the works, and FLIP will continue to support scientists in their research endeavors.

"It's in good material condition," said Schnoor. "We've continued to invest in maintenance and preservation of the platform, including taking hull thickness measurements to ensure hull integrity. There's no reason it can't continue to serve research needs as long as we have users to exploit her unique capabilities."

To watch a video of FLIP in action, go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQ5hvtzGEM&feature=plcp. For broadcast media, click here for B-roll of FLIP.

The Department of the Navy's Office of Naval Research (ONR) provides the science and technology necessary to maintain the Navy and Marine Corps' technological advantage. Through its affiliates, ONR is a leader in science and technology with engagement in 50 states, 70 countries, 1,035 institutions of higher learning and 914 industry partners. ONR employs approximately 1,400 people, comprising uniformed, civilian and contract personnel, with additional employees at the Naval Research Lab in Washington, D.C

NEXCOM gives \$42.8 million to MWR

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) released its FY11 audited financials report which showed a \$42.8 million contribution to Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR).

"This contribution is in keeping with NEXCOM'S mission to provide customers with quality goods and services at a savings and to provide quality of life support to Navy MWR," said Rear Adm. Robert J. Bianchi, USN, (ret), Chief Executive Officer, NEXCOM. "NEXCOM gives 70 percent of its profits to MWR each year to support Navy quality of life programs. So, customers can save money and support MWR when they shop at a NEX. It's a win-win for everyone."

Navy MWR uses the dividends from the NEX in a variety of ways. Installations receive part of the funds for specific installation level MWR efforts. The remaining funds are used for MWR capital

projects to improve facilities.

"The NEX dividend returns some of the local NEX profits to MWR to improve local recreation programs," said Larry Warnken, Deputy Program Director of Fleet Readiness, Commander, Naval Installations Command. "Additionally, the dividend provides the MWR central fund with a source of funding that can be applied to non-appropriated fund projects for youth centers, clubs, golf courses and bowling lanes which cannot receive military construction (MILCON) support. By investing in capitalization of our MWR business-based operations and community support facilities, we provide a tangible demonstration of Navy's commitment to improving quality of life for our Sailors and their family members."

NEXCOM operates on the retail fiscal year calendar, which in 2011 was Jan. 29, 2011-Jan. 28, 2012.

NEX return policy changes

The NEX has changed its return policy to make it easier for customers. Effective immediately, the NEX will no longer collect customer information, such as name, address and telephone number, when requesting a refund with a receipt. Now, customers returning merchandise with the original receipt will receive either cash back or a refund to their credit card, depending on how the original purchase was made.

"This change was implemented to improve the shopping experience by speeding up the transaction and making sure the customer is satisfied with their purchase," said Richard Dow, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) Senior Vice President, Store Operations. "We are continually reviewing our processes and procedures to make the customers' shopping experience easier."

Customers returning merchandise without the original receipt will continue to receive a NEX Gift Card with the refunded amount.

-- NEXCOM Public Affairs

• Winging

Primary Flight Training. He was selected as VT-9's Student of the Month for November 2011 and earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on April 27. Thornberg completed Total Strike Training with Training Squadron Nine; and

Lt. j.g. Justin Wiley, USN, who was named to the Commodore's List during Primary Flight Training He was selected as VT-9's Student of the Quarter for First Quarter 2012. Additionally, he was designated a CNATRA Distinguished Naval Graduate and earned two Navy "E's" for bombing accuracy during Advanced Jet Flight Training. He carrier qualified in the T-45C on board the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN-77) on March 24. Wiley completed Total Strike Training with Training Squadron Nine.

Check it out! Rates slashed across the board.

Car Loans Starting as Low as

<h1>1.79%</h1> <p>APR*</p>	<h1>1.99%</h1> <p>APR*</p>
for up to 60 months	for up to 72 months

These new rates will get you behind the wheel of a new car!
Our low rates could save you hundreds. So apply for an auto loan today and see for yourself how low we can go.

Or, refinance your loan from another lender and get \$250!*



ARMY
MARINE CORPS
NAVY
AIR FORCE
DoD

NAVY FEDERAL
Credit Union

navyfederal.org
1.888.842.6328

FRAMING TO PLEASE!



Furniture
Lamps
Home Decor

Custom Frame & Gift

Broadmoor Shopping Center • 601-421-6605 • Hours: Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm

The NAS Meridian Petty Officer's Association meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at the Air Operations Building at 2 p.m.

Pvt. Sean Powers

MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Los Angeles

Pvt. Sean Powers joined the Marine Corps on Feb. 6, 2012. He is currently a student in the Individual Asset Manager Systems Clerk Course at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One on board NAS Meridian.

"I became a Marine to challenge myself mentally and physically. I wanted to become more disciplined and also provide for my family in the future."

Powers is the son of Kevin and Jacinta Powers, and lists his hobbies as working out, snowboarding, dancing and swimming.

Powers said his time at Marine Combat Training was the most memorable.

"I was pushed physically not quit on any of the hikes," he said. "I'm looking forward to expanding my experiencing in the Marine Corps and serving my country."

The person he most admires is his father. "He never gives up on anything he does."

OOORAH!

Pfc. Waynette Scott

MATSS-1 Student
Hometown: Woodbridge, Va.

On April 20, 2012, Waynette Scott earned the title of U.S. Marine.

"I was grateful because I joined to become a stronger person and challenge myself," said Scott who is currently a student in the Aviation Operations Specialist Course at Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One.

"Also to further my education and travel."

Waynette is the daughter of Wayne Scott and Tammy Scott, and has two sisters, Shawntee' and Monique. Her hobbies include writing, reading urban novels, music and dancing.

The person she most admires is her oldest sister, Shawntee'.

"She has always worked hard to get everything in life, and never let outsiders see her cry or know her weaknesses."



Pet policy on Okinawa updated effective July 11

By Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker
Marine Corps Bases Japan

OKINAWA, Japan -- Owning a pet, be it a fuzzy poodle or a tiny beta fish, can really be the cat's meow. In addition to companionship, owning a pet can reduce stress and lower blood pressure.

However, the joys of pet ownership come with responsibilities.

The 18th Wing, U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific recently released the Department of Defense's joint service pet policy for all military family housing on Okinawa.

The policy requires all pet owners residing in military family housing to comply with the policy by July 11.

The intent of the policy is to ensure the well-being and safety of the pets, pet owners and the Okinawa community, said Janice M. Coburn, the chief housing manager with 718th Civil Engineer Housing Management office, 18th Wing, U.S. Air Force.

The policy states that two domestic pets, which are cats, dogs or a combination, are permitted in single-dwelling units, duplexes and multiplex units. Cats are allowed on all floors of the tower military family housing, but dogs are limited to the first and second floors.

"Dogs are only able to live on the first and second floors because it's hard to get a dog outside in time for the dog to (relieve itself)," said Coburn.

The policy requires all owners to register their pets with the base veterinary treatment facility and military family housing via the pet registration form.

"All (pets) must have a microchip, so they can be traced back to their owner if they were to be found," said Kathryn Steiner Allen, the operations supervisor at the Okinawa veterinary treatment facility. "The microchip also tracks the pet's vaccinations."

The policy restricts certain breeds from dwelling in military family housing.

The pit bull, rottweiler, canid-wolf hybrid, chow and doberman pinscher are all restricted from dwelling in military family housing. These dogs are not limited to pure breeds, but also mixed breeds.

Owners of restricted breeds whom already live in military family housing must complete the grandfather pet waiver form with the housing office and may be authorized to house their pet, according to Coburn.

However, effective Oct. 1 there will be no further waiver opportunity, states the policy.

Any pet that inflicts serious injury, causes death, fails a temperament test, demonstrates dominant or aggressive behavior, or is harmful in any other way can be prohibited or removed from military family housing, according to the policy.

"If there is an issue with a dog, it will be documented through security forces or (the Provost Marshal's Office)," said Coburn. "This will help determine if a pet should be unauthorized in housing."

Minor violations of the policy may be ticketed. Violations that endanger safety or welfare of personnel or property could result in the removal of pets or termination of military family housing.

For more information on the policy, contact your base housing office or visit: <http://www.housing.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120525-022.pdf>.

Gutierrez assumes command of Cherry Point Naval Aviation Technical Training

By Lance Cpl. Andrea Cleopatra Dickerson
Marine Corps Air Station
Cherry Point

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C.-- Lt. Col. Jaime L. Gutierrez assumed command of Cherry Point Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training from Lt. Col. Paul M. Melchior during a ceremony on the parade field here, June 22.

Melchior, a native of Milwaukee, Wis., will move on to Marine Corps University at Marine Corps Base Quantico where he will assume the duties of a military faculty advisor.

During the ceremony, Navy Capt. Terry M.

Burt, commanding officer of Naval Education and Training Command at Naval Air Station Pensacola praised Melchior and his Marines for their hard work.

Together their efforts helped Melchior and the Cherry Point Marine detachment win the American Society for Training & Development's 2011 Excellence in Practice Award.

"During his time here, Lt. Col. Melchior set the standard for aviation maintenance training excellence and this command has excelled in every aspect," said Burt.

In his final address to his Marines, Melchior

commended their dedication and enthusiasm during his time as commanding officer.

"Know that I am proud of you and everything you have accomplished in the last two years," he said.

Hailing from San Antonio, Texas, Gutierrez comes to the squadron from 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing's Aviation Logistics Department. He said he looks forward to commanding the "Owls."

Recognizing the long hours his Marines endured to prepare for the ceremony, the new commander said he is eager to go the extra mile for them.

Gutierrez's career highlights include service in

**Gutierrez**

Afghanistan as Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16's (forward) executive officer, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with three gold stars in lieu of fourth award.



Photo by Cpl. Glen Santy

A CH-53E Super Stallion with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461 hovers over a M777 155 mm Howitzer while Marines from 3rd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, Lima Battery, attach it to the aircraft in support of Exercise Mailed Fist at a range outside of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., June 21. The lift was in support of Exercise Mailed Fist, a large-scale exercise conducted by 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

Safety Is Our Duty

MCPON: It's Summertime, think safety

By MCC Sonya Ansarov
Office of the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy

WASHINGTON -- Summertime means fun in the sun, vacations and a myriad of outdoor activities, and the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) wants Sailors and families to think safety first.

"Benjamin Franklin said, 'An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,' and in the case of summertime, it's worth a pound of safety," said MCPON (SS/SW) Rick D. West. "Each year the Navy loses service members to senseless and avoidable mishaps, and the summer season brings the potential for increased risk."

According to the Naval Safety Center, summer deaths spiked in 2008 then decreased in 2009 and 2010, but unfortunately increased again last year. In 2011, between Memorial Day and Labor Day, 16 Sailors and 15 Marines lost their lives. One in an ATV wreck; three drowned; three during recreational activities; 11 in motor vehicles; and 13 on motorcycles.

"Losing even one

Sailor or Marine is too many, especially when most of the incidents can be avoided with the proper planning and training," said West.

Training is the priority when it comes to motorcycle safety. According to Naval Safety Center, motorcycle fatalities increased from six in 2010 to 13 in 2011, which is more than a 100 percent increase. Motorcycle training and safety starts with the command having a designated motorcycle safety representative (MSR).

"Closing the training gap on motorcycle safety needs to be top priority for our leaders," said West.

"Personal motor vehicle accidents are the second highest cause of fatalities in our Navy, and motorcycles are the primary casual factor with sports bikes remaining at the top of the list. MSRs play an important role in mitigating this risk by mentoring and educating our Sailors, and more importantly, ensuring they are registered and complete all required motorcycle training."

The Naval Safety Center's summer campaign "Live to Play, Play to Live,"

also focuses on alcohol awareness, water and boat safety, sexual assault, and suicide awareness, and summer sports activities.

"Whether you are on the highways, waterways or in the backyard, safety must come first. And if you drink, don't drive and have a plan to get home," West said.

When traveling long distances, remember to use TRiPS, the on-line, automated risk-assessment tool that helps users recognize and avoid the hazards they face on the highway: fatigue, not buckling up, and driving too far. TRiPS is located at <https://www.nko.navy.mil>

"You and your families are important to the Navy," said West. "Use the tools the Navy provides and remember to think safety first."

Safety is one of the key areas of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative which consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Lightning strikes increase in summer

Summer is the peak season for one of the nation's deadliest weather phenomena -- lightning. But don't be fooled, lightning strikes year round. The goal of this week is to

safeguard U.S. residents from lightning. In the United States, an average of 54 people are reported killed each year by lightning. To date, there have been four deaths in 2012.

Hundreds of people are permanently injured each year. People struck by lightning suffer from a variety of long-term, debilitating symptoms, including memory loss,

attention deficits, sleep disorders, chronic pain, numbness, dizziness, stiffness in joints, irritability, fatigue, weakness, muscle spasms,

depression, and more. Lightning is a serious danger. Visit the lightning safety awareness week web site at <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov> for more information and tips on how to protect yourself. A good source for weather information and additional information can be found at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jan/>



Water Survival instructors critical to fleet training

By Brian Walsh

Recruit Training Command
Public Affairs

GREAT LAKES, Ill. (NNS) -- Each year, immediately following in processing, 37,000 recruits meet with highly trained Recruit Training Command (RTC) water survival instructors to pass their swim qualification.

RTC has 11 civilian and 33 enlisted water survival instructors to assist recruits in successfully meeting the standard, which is mandatory for continuation of military service.

Aviation Electrician 1st Class (AW) Jeremy Jones is currently working on his qualifications to become an instructor.

"When I found out that I was being transferred to RTC to become a water survival instructor, I didn't exactly know what I was in for," Jones said. "The training is pretty intense. I feel that working my way up from where I was to passing the qualifications to become an instructor will help me

relate more with recruits that are not very strong swimmers."

To become a water survival instructor, a Sailor must pass a series of tests, one of which includes swimming a nautical mile. They must pass the first class swimming test, trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and qualified to use automated external defibrillator, succeed in the basic swimming instructor test, and pass the Lifeguard Proficiency Test.

"Although it may sound difficult, working to pass the qualifications to become an instructor is a great change of pace from my other commands," Jones said. "I work ten hours a day, five days a week, work out 3 times a day, and continually take part in water training."

To assist in training, perspective instructors receive coaching from qualified instructors. Janet Murphy Ryan is one staff member who qualifies instructors. She is a civilian employee who has worked at RTC for six years train-

ing instructors and recruits. Prior to her current position, she spent 27 years coaching the U.S. swimming team.

"Training those that are in the military is quite different than training civilians," Ryan said. "In the military the training is more disciplined, structured and strict; it doesn't have that looseness as there is training civilians."

According to Chief Warrant Officer William Rivera, water survivor division officer, in order to pass boot camp recruits have to meet a third class swim qualification, which includes jumping off of a ten-foot platform, swimming 50 meters, performing a five-minute prone float, and utilizing coveralls as a floatation device.

"Being a water survival instructor is both challenging and rewarding," Gas Turbine Systems Technician-Mechanical Second Class (SW) Demetrius Ward said. "There are many reasons a recruit may not be a strong swimmer. My job is to find

the problem and fix it."

Ward is in charge of working with recruits who have been removed from their division because they did not pass their swim test prior to completing Battle Stations 21, a capstone training event that encompasses firefighting, damage control and seamanship. All tests need to be passed before Battle Stations 21.

Approximately 85 percent of recruits meet or exceed the third class swimming standards on the first attempt. The remaining 15 percent continue their training while working to meet their third class swim qualification twice a day. If recruits do not pass by the time they are scheduled to take their final test, they are taken out of their divisions and placed into the Fitness Improvement Training (FIT) program until they pass or, in about one percent of cases, are discharged.

"The group of swim instructors we have at RTC is very impressive," said Rivera. "We are one of first

challenges the recruits have in boot camp. It is our job to break through that basic nervousness, and sometimes fear, so that we can assist them in succeeding."

The instructors said it is rewarding when that barrier is broken and recruits meet the qualifications, especially for those who arrived at boot camp needing assistance.

"When a recruit is working hard to pass and finally succeeds, it is like they just won a million dollars," said Ray. "It is great seeing them make it over that hurdle."

"I enjoy this job," said Ward. "My ideal day is to pass at least five recruits who are in the FIT division in a day. Despite being pulled out of their division, and in some cases, missing their own graduation ceremony, once they pass, they focus on the excitement of the moment and it's nice seeing them proud of their accomplishment."

Recruit Training Command, located in Great Lakes, Ill., trains more than 37,000 volunteer civilian recruits annually, transforming them into basically trained Sailors.

Navy training honors 2011 top instructors

By Steve Vanderwerff

Naval Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) announced its 2011 Military Instructors of the Year (IOY) during a ceremony June 21 at the Navy Memorial.

"Quality is never an accident," said Rear Adm. Don Quinn, commander, Naval Education and Training Command.

"It is always the product of deliberate intent, dedicated effort, and skillful execution. The instructors we honor today embody those characteristics in everything they do. The quality of their work is reflected in the consistently successful fleet missions carried out every day around the globe. Our training remains an asymmetric advantage for us and these instructors deliver it every day," Quinn said.

Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Scott Van Buskirk presented each winner with a Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal and a plaque.

"We are an expeditionary force that operates globally," said Van Buskirk. "When our ships and our squadrons deploy, they must be self-sustaining. Furthermore, the Navy's leading-edge technology today is growing ever more complex every day. Our ability to meet the mission, to respond quickly to crises and eliminate threats depends wholly on the expertise and critical thinking skills our Sailors have learned - taught by our exemplary instructors here today - in the nearly 2,000 training courses provided by NETC."

"After learning more about your accomplishments, and now meeting you all in person, I think what impresses me most is your passion for instructing. It's obvious to me that you enjoy the work you do - and I think that's critical. Your job is more than just teaching a skill - you build a Sailor," Buskirk said.

Lt.j.g. Evan P. Aluise, from Richardson, N.D., was selected as Officer Instructor of the Year. A five year veteran currently assigned to Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC) in Goose Creek, S.C., he teaches thermodynamics, heat transfer and fluid flow in nuclear propulsion applications. Aluise said he enjoys being an instructor and influencing the future of the Navy.

"Being on the podium is the best part of my day. I truly enjoy teaching, and I'm sincerely grateful and feel very fortunate to be selected for such an honor," explained Aluise. "Instructors are responsible for setting the standard for future generations and molding them into Sailors

that our nation can be proud of. We are responsible for giving students the skills they need to be successful."

The Senior Enlisted Instructor of the Year is Master Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate(AW/NAC) David W. Soucy, from Bristol, Conn. A 20 year veteran recently assigned to Naval Services Training Command's, Officer Training Command in Newport, R.I., Soucy says he became an instructor because he thought it was important to pass along the knowledge he gained during his career.

"Throughout my naval career I was taught to train my replacement. What better opportunity to train the next generation of Navy warriors than within the instructor community. Mastering your job is, in my opinion, the easy part of Navy life. Being able to pass your knowledge to others makes your talent much more essential," Soucy said. "My success as an instructor was a complete team accomplishment, because I had the privilege to work with the finest chief's mess and Sailors in the fleet."

Soucy suggests to anybody considering instructor duty to remember that individuals do not learn in exactly the same manner. "Some students learn by lecture, some learn by discussion, and still others learn by simulation," explained Soucy. "The biggest advice I could offer as an instructor is to realize that while one technique may work for one student, the same technique may not work for the next. Always checking for the proper comprehension is vital to passing the information you wish to teach."

Mid-Grade Enlisted Instructor of the Year honors went to Navy Diver 1st Class(DSW/PJ) Brandon L.

Hamilton, a native of Gary, Ind., assigned to the Center for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Diving's (CEODD) Learning Site, Great Lakes, Ill.

A 16 year Navy veteran, Hamilton says instructor duty is not for everyone.

"I would advise people not to come to an instructional training command unless you are excited about teaching," Hamilton said. "If the needs of the Navy leads you to a training command, get excited. I would also advise supplementing your instructing with college courses to arm yourself with a few more training weapons. All students have different learning and comprehension challenges. The more you know the better instrument you are."

The Junior Enlisted Instructor of the Year is Gunner's Mate 2nd Class(SW) Andrew R Liley from Wichita Falls, Texas. A seven year veteran he is currently assigned to the Center for Security Forces, Naval Technical Training Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, teaching Small Arms Marksmanship fundamentals. He credits enjoying his job and wanting to help Sailors advance their careers for his selection.

"I thoroughly enjoy my job. I get to mold young Sailors which are the future of the Navy. As an instructor I'm responsible to continue the military training of each one of the students that comes through the school house," said Liley. "My philosophy is, be humble, leave no Sailor behind, and do not sacrifice quality for quantity."

The NETC Military Instructor of the Year award program recognizes Navy and Marine Corps instructors and facilitators who exemplify personal excellence and display out-

standing instructional and leadership performance. The program highlights the significant contributions of individuals throughout the Naval Education and Training enterprise who have been nominated by their command based on their sustained superior performance over the course of the past year. Nomination packages, highlighting the nominee's accomplishments, community involvement, and personal and professional growth, are submitted to NETC headquarters in Pensacola, Fla. An awards committee reviews the packages and selects the most deserving candidates for IOY honors, which include receiving a Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal and an IOY plaque.

Spring Fabrics have arrived!

- New Indoor & Outdoor Fabrics ••
- Large Selection Of Colors & Patterns ••
- Custom Outdoor Cushions ••

Premier Fabrics

1732 North Frontage Road • 601-483-4022
Monday-Friday 10am-5pm • Saturday 11am-4pm

MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Naval Air Station Meridian

Register Now for Fall Classes

Term I Classes - Aug. 28 - Oct. 16
—All classes held from 5 - 7:45 p.m.—

Tuesday/Thursday
ART 1113-YH - Art Appreciation
Monday/Wednesday
BIO 2514-YH - A & P I w/ Lab. (Hybrid)
ENG 1113-YH - English Composition I

Term II Classes - Oct. 17 - Dec. 13
—All classes held from 5 - 7:45 p.m.—

Monday/Wednesday
BIO 2514-YH - A & P II w/ Lab. (Hybrid)
ENG 1113-YH - English Composition II

Thursday
SOC 2113-ZH - Intro. To Sociology I (Hybrid)
Tuesday/Thursday
SPT 1113-ZH - Public Speaking

with pay half the cost of tuition, up to \$500 per semester, for military personnel and military dependents.

Contact
Andrea Goran
601-679-2450
601-483-8241

MERIDIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Berque de la Symphonie

with special guests

and guest conductor Jeffrey Rink

Saturday, August 25, 2012

at the Temple Theater

TICKETS
601.693.5353

MSO
601.693.2224

Just Come & Listen

meridiansymphonyorchestra.com

Rookie mistake

Veteran move

LaBiche Jewelers
SINCE 1953

A HERITAGE OF TRUST

2212 8TH STREET • MERIDIAN, MS 39301 • 601.693.6071
MON-FRI 9:00AM-6:00PM SAT. 10:00AM-2:00PM

Military Discounts

The following businesses in Meridian offer various military discounts. You must show military ID.

20 percent

Foot Locker, Bonita Lakes Mall, (601) 483-4064

15 percent

Goody's Family Clothing, 103 South Frontage Rd., Crossroads Shopping Center, (601) 484-5791

10 percent

The Hot Spot, 2500 North Hills St. (601) 693-4344.

Wash, Dry & Fold, Broadmoor Shopping Center, (601) 693-8004

Nick & Al's Pizzeria, 1910 Highway 19 North, (601) 693-0100.

China Buffet II, 2210 N Frontage Rd, (601) 693-2188

Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits

MidSouth Tires, Meridian 10 percent on service work and 5 percent on tire purchase

Plant the Earth, 7802 Poplar Springs Drive, (601) 485-7030

Squealer's BBQ, 4805 Great River Dr., (601) 693-0910

McAlister's Gourmet Deli, 2684 North Hills St., (601) 693-9100; 534 Bonita Lakes Dr., (601) 693-0966

5 percent

Cater's Market, 4919-B Poplar Springs Dr., Meridian, (601) 482-5515

Coupon required

Bonita Lakes Cinema offers a military discount, but requires a discount coupon. Coupons are available at the ITT Office, located beside Navy Federal Credit Union in Building 255. Coupons good after 6 p.m. only.

Navy's only boot camp changes command

By Lt. j.g. Liza Swart

Recruit Training Command
Public Affairs

GREAT LAKES, Ill. (NNS) -- Recruit Training Command (RTC), the Navy's only boot camp, held a change of command ceremony held in the USS Midway Ceremonial Drill Hall on Naval Station Great Lakes, June 22.

Capt. John T. Dye relieved Capt. Steven G. Bethke as commanding officer. Rear Adm. David Steindl, commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), presided as the guest speaker at the ceremony, which also served as the retirement for Bethke.

While commanding officer (CO), Bethke led more than 70,000 recruits through the transition from civilians to basically trained Sailors. With more than 320,000 active duty Navy personnel, this means one in six Sailors had Bethke as their CO.

"I am honored to have held this position," Bethke said. "It is a phenomenal facility. I don't worry about the future of the Navy. The future of the Navy is in good hands."

A native of Los Angeles, Bethke graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics. He entered the Navy through Aviation Officer Candidate School, commissioning in January 1988 as a naval flight

officer. While aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) in 1995, he also qualified as a surface warfare officer.

"I love the Navy," Bethke said, "But it is time to go."

As commanding officer of RTC, Dye will be responsible for the training of 37,000 recruits annually and more than 1,100 military personnel and civilian staff. RTC is primarily responsible for conducting the initial Navy orientation and training of new recruits. The command is commonly referred to as "boot camp" or "recruit training" and has been in operation at Great Lakes since 1911.

"I consider it a true honor to have the opportunity to lead the most inspiring command in the United States Navy," said Dye. "To be entrusted with producing the next generation of Sailors is certainly a humbling responsibility, but the rewards will be equally as great. Every week, when I see and feel the pride, patriotism and sense of accomplishment in the faces of our graduating Sailors, it will make the challenges of command seem small in comparison."

A native of Mer Rouge, La., Dye graduated from Northeast Louisiana State University with a Bachelor of Science in aviation and a Master of Education administration and supervision. He received his commission through Aviation Officer Candidate

"I am honored to have held this position. It is a phenomenal facility. I don't worry about the future of the Navy. The future of the Navy is in good hands."

Capt. Steven G. Bethke,
Outgoing commanding
officer of RTC Great Lakes

School in May 1989 and was designated a naval flight officer in May 1990.

Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) oversees 98 percent of the officer and enlisted accessions training for the Navy. That includes RTC, the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) program at more than 150 colleges and universities that either host NROTC units or have cross-town enrollment agreements with a host university. NSTC also oversees Officer Training Command in Newport, R.I., as well as the Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps citizenship development program at more than 600 high schools worldwide.

Fleet survey team holds change of command

By Lane Cookse

Naval Oceanographic Office, Public Affairs

STENNIS SPACE CENTER, Miss. (NNS) -- The Fleet Survey Team (FST) held a change of command ceremony at the John C. Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, June 21.

Cmdr. Ronald R. Shaw relieved Cmdr. Christopher J. Sterbis as commanding officer.

"You should be extremely proud of what you have accomplished. The Navy understands the value of the Fleet Survey Team and what it does," said Naval Oceanographic Office Commanding Officer Capt. Paul Oosterling, guest speaker.

Shaw graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1992 and was commissioned as an ensign. He earned a master's degree in meteorology and physical oceanography from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey,

Calif. In 1994, he reported to Naval Support Force Antarctica as a flight meteorologist and served as officer in charge of a detachment in Christchurch, New Zealand.

In 2000, Shaw reported to the Naval Pacific Meteorology and Oceanography Center in San Diego, Calif., as a senior ship router and assistant operations officer.

In 2002, he completed a tour as the OA division officer/officer of the deck aboard the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). Shaw graduated with a master's degree in hydrography from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2005 and reported to the Fleet Survey Team as executive officer. He graduated with distinction from the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., and in 2009 served in Hawaii on the staff of the U.S. Pacific Command.

His awards include the

Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals; two National Defense Medals; Navy Humanitarian Assistance Medal, Armed Service Medal, Antarctica Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal and various campaign and service awards.

Sterbis' next assignment will be in Washington D.C. at OPNAV N81, Assessment Division, which provides capability-based analyses of naval warfare and support requirements.

FST is a rapid-response team with the capabilities to conduct quick-turnaround hydrographic surveys anywhere in the world. It is comprised of approximately 65 military and civilian members. FST is collocated with the Naval Oceanographic Office and the Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command at Stennis Space Center, Miss.

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church

10638 Antioch Rd • Daleville, MS 39326

REV. CLEVELAND HAYES, SR., PASTOR

Call if you need transportation 601-681-8500

www.amb-church.net

Schedule of Upcoming Events:

July 8 - 138th Church Anniversary - 3pm

July 22 - Homecoming Service - 11:15am

July 23-27 - Summer Revival - 7:30pm

Rev. Jarvis Towner, Evangelist

July 29 - Fellowship Service - 6pm

Directions from I-2059 & Meridian: take exit 151 off I-2059, then Hwy 30 N or approx. 20 miles, turn right on Hickory Grove Rd, continue 1.2 miles, turn left on Antioch Rd. The Church is on the right.

IT'S ALL ABOUT ME!



Pictures
Submitted by
OUR READERS!

Runs last day of
every month

ASK US HOW
TO GET YOUR
BUSINESS IN
FRONT OF OUR
READERS

2x2 ad
as little as
\$75

6x3 ad
as little as
\$300

DEADLINE 24TH OF EACH MONTH

Types of photos: parties, proms, pets, family get-togethers, reunions, vacations, etc.

*Birthday & memorial pics excluded.

Call Amy Harwell or Susan Reede,
601-693-1551

Email pics to:
sreede@themeridianstar.com
in .jpg format

Exercise

- Includes a humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HA/DR) component;
- The U.S. Navy will demonstrate its "Great Green Fleet" approach with some surface warships and aircraft functioning on biofuel blends

Beaman, said the HA/DR portion of the exercise is a five-day exercise that involves Hawaii disaster responders as well as more medical personnel than have participated in past RIMPACs. He also highlighted the international leadership roles throughout

the exercise.

"It is the first time in the RIMPAC series that the component commanders are led by other than U.S. leaders," said Beaman. "It's a sign of where we have come with this exercise and we're excited, each and every one of us to be here and to carry out RIMPAC 2012."

Kitagawa, of Japan, took a moment to recognize the growth in the international participation over previous years.

"I am very glad to welcome seven countries of new partners, and the opportunity for us to train

together," said Kitagawa.

Kitagawa also noted that this is the 17th RIMPAC Japan is participating in, and he expressed his gratitude to all of the nations participating in RIMPAC for the assistance they provided to Japan in the wake of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

"Continued participation in RIMPAC and regular deployments in the Pacific Rim also allows us to renew our focus on the region on a biennial basis," said Lloyd of Canada. He also thanked Hawaii for "what is truly

first-class, world-class hospitality" that is being offered to all of the RIMPAC participants.

This year's exercise includes units or personnel from Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, the United Kingdom and the United States.

From U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs

Sale ... or

ELECTRONICS MUSICAL/COMPUTERS

Klipsch Proedia 2.1 Speaker System in used, working condition. Call Bill at (601) 934-8718.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

Allegro "Balanced Body" Pilates reformer. Gym quality, top of the line in palates equipment. Bought 1 year ago at \$2,695. Used 1-2 times a week. Just like new always keep in doors. Moving and will sacrifice at \$1,800 OBO. Call Sonia (601) 513-2229.

AB Lounger Sport exerciser, great condition and assembled. \$40 Call Willie (601) 479-4061.

Brand New Treadmill fully equipped. Asking \$400 firm. Great savings! Call (601) 681-4280.

Chuck Norris Total Gym "XLS." Call (601) 513-3495.

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 Mountaineer 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.

GRACO Portable Crib. Great condition. Easy setup. Folds nicely into carry bag for travel. Asking \$40. **Wood High Chair.** Great condition. Asking \$50 Call Joe at (916) 402-7908.

Oak entertainment center. Asking \$100. Call Joe at (916) 402-7908.

White Queen Bed and Frame. Asking \$175. Call (601) 513-3495. **Sofa and love seat.** Dark blue microfiber material in great condition, 6 pillows included. Asking \$500 OBO. **Coffee table and end table.** Asking \$120 OBO. Call (619) 512-6630.

Solid Wood Oak top white high dining room table with hideaway extension, and 4 white high top chairs. Six months old in perfect condition. \$650 call 601-513-3495.

Wrought Iron Baker's Rack 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.

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

NEW! 2000 Toyota Sienna CE Minivan - 1 owner; 7 passenger 6 cyl., 129k miles on Mobil 1 Synthetic Oil, equipped w/cruise, CD/tape w/wheel controls, power windows/locks, AC w/rear AC & factory carpet mats. All scheduled maintenance done w/records. Michelin X Radial Tires. Call (601) 409-0513.

2006 AUDI S4, gray, GPS, Bose System, 80k miles. Asking \$19,900. Call Stephane (210) 837-2437.

2005 Toyota Rav4 L 121k miles. Excellent condition, white with tan interior, fully loaded, cruise control and power everything. Asking \$11,500. Call (601) 480-3552 or (601) 513-2220.

2010 Toyota Highlander SUV, 4x2, 3.5l. Silver color, navigation system, backup camera, dual leather PWR/heated seats, sunroof, third row seat, multi disc, JBL premium sound, dual control airheat system, like new condition. Asking \$28,500. Call (601) 479-9713.

'91 CHEVY Z71, Rebuilt 350, transmission and a lot more, needs interior work, great toy or work truck. Asking \$6,000 OBO. Call (601) 679-3258 or (601) 681-4280.

2005 Ford Ranger, 136k miles, 3.0 v6 with 5 speed trans, 15" Dick Cepek rims with 31x12.5 Bridgestone Revo A/T, DUAL 7" touch screen DVD player with 2 Memphis 12's. Asking \$6,500 call or text (601) 781-7189.

1984 Full-Size GMC Jimmy, has 350 4-bolt main has less than 9k miles after rebuild, skyjacker lift, 35" pro comp M/T tires, electric water pump, cam, chrome, new Auburn locker in rear end, lots of performance parts. Asking \$3,000 call or text (601) 781-7189. MUST SEE! Too many extras to list.

2004 Corvette, 77k miles, LS-1 5.7 Liter SFI V8-350HP, Black exterior w/chor red interior trim, transparent removable roof panel, Bose speaker and amplifier system. Asking \$19,000. Call (601) 737-4435 after 6 p.m.

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

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.

MOTORCYCLES/GEAR/ATV

NEW! 2005 Harley Davidson Softail Deluxe. Low mileage (5500 miles). Original owner. Stored indoors. Blue/White with chrome trim. Exceptional condition. Harley Davidson accessories: windshield, road bars with pegs, hard leather saddle bags. Corbin custom seat with back rest. Original seat included. Pictures available upon request. Call: Bob (334) 341-1670.

NEW! 2004 Honda CBR F4i 600 Many extras. Black/Red. D & D carbon, fiber exhaust. 9500 miles -- never been dropped! Excellent condition. A must see! Asking \$3,250. Call Ben at (601) 681-9921.

Leather Jacket and Chaps. Matching set. Has all the fringe for that freedom in the wind. Make yourself seen and look good doing it. Asking \$130. **Leather Chaps.** great condition. Add some protection to your riding. Asking \$50 Call Joe at (916) 402-7908.

Two motorcycle helmets. DOT approved. \$25 each. Call Joe at (916) 402-7908.

2007 Yamaha Vstar 1300 Tourer/Silver and Grey two tone paint. 23k miles, new tires, recent service with records and many extras. Averages 49 mpg. Asking \$7,000 OBO. Pics available upon request. Call Mike at (601) 604-2170.

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.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

NEW! For Rent: Approximately 2400 sq. ft. heated area, 3 BR/2BA; large drive-in basement with manual garage door with concrete floor area; large front porch; brick construction; high ceilings with original, wide crown molding and chandeliers; very large living room; beautiful, original hardwood floors in foyer, hallway, dining room and two bedrooms; appliances include dishwasher, s/s refrigerator and stove. Located approximately 1 mile from hospitals and only about 20 minutes from NAS. Call (601) 527-6381.

For Rent: 1920 sq. ft. 3BR/2BA on North Hills Street 20 minutes from NAS Meridian. Home has 2 car garage, fenced back yard and gas fireplace. Excellent location. Call (601) 934-2862.

For Sale: 2389 sq. ft. 4 BR/2BA brick home just off North Hills St on a less traveled path. Kitchen has been nicely updated and is open to the breakfast area and family room. There's a great backyard with plenty of play room. Call Carla at (601) 678-6165.

For Sale: Home located 20 minutes from NAS Meridian, 3 BR/2BA 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 at (601) 513-4787.

For Sale by Owner: 3 BR/2BA, 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: pardisekv@yahoo.com. Call (601) 479-9713 or (601) 679-3517.

TOOLS

Gravely zero turn lawn mower. Industrial model HD (Heavy Duty), 52 inch cut with 26 hp Kohler engine. 2-5 gallon fuel tanks with 3 blades. Almost new with approximately 75 hours running time. Always keep inside, never left in the weather. Used residentially only. Paid over \$5,600 new 2 years ago. Asking \$4,500 OBO. Call (601) 513-2220.

Craftsman self-propelled lawn mower. Honda engine; bag; used very little. \$400 new, will sell for \$250. Call (601) 616-0947.

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

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

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

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW! One set of F2 (face forward) irons 4-9 with graphite shafts and F2 pitching, sand and lob wedges with steel shafts. Asking \$150; and **Bobby Jones Workshop Edition Driver,** \$60 -- all in like new condition. Call (601) 679-2022.

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.

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

WANTED

Need someone to babysit your child/children starting in August, Mon-Fri. Over 25 yrs of experience in child care. Please contact (601) 595-2035.

Motorcycles any size any condition, will pay above salvage price. Also have a large selection of good used parts for sale. Call (601) 938-4295 anytime.

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.



NAS Meridian, MS • Morale, Welfare and Recreation

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

Facility Phone Numbers

Fitness Center	678-2379	The Outpost	678-2308	CCDCDH	678-2382
All Hands Pool	678-2470	Library	678-2326	SAC	678-2322
Liberty Center	678-3780	Plumber's	678-2838	SLO	678-2473
ITT	678-3773	Sandtrap Grill	678-2780	P.C. Golf Course	678-2828
McCain Rec Ctr	678-2591	Moor's Diner	678-2551	MWR Admin.	678-2851



McCain Rec Center Bowling Specials

SUNDAY
FAMILY SPECIAL, 11am-3pm, Bowl for \$2.50 a game including rental shoes.

MONDAY
NTTC/MATSS1 STUDENT SPECIAL, 8:30pm-Close, \$2 game & \$1 for rental shoes.

THURSDAY
RCTA SPECIAL, 5pm-Close, Bowl for \$2.80 a game including rental shoes.

FRIDAY
9 Pin No-Tap Tournament, July 6 & 20, Bowl 3 games, \$15 entry fee, sign up by 8pm.

SATURDAY
Cosmo Bowling, 7pm-Close, regular rates.



Rated R
07/05/12 • 6pm

The Three Stooges
Rated PG
07/07/12 • 1pm

The Lucky One
Rated PG-13
07/10/12 • 6pm

Chinatown
Rated R
07/11/12 • 8pm

Lockout
Rated PG-13
07/12/12 • 6pm

Mirror Mirror
Rated PG-13
07/14/12 • 1pm

Monday Matinees

There are two scheduled movies every Monday for dependent children. The movies will be shown starting at 1pm. The second movie will start after the first has concluded. Popcorn is also available.



Rated PG
07/09/12 • 1pm

Cloudy With A Chance
Of Meatballs
Rated PG
07/09/12



Rated PG
07/16/12 • 1pm

Princess & the Frog
Rated PG
07/16/12

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

UFC 148

Silva vs. Sonnen II

July 7, 2012 at Rudders
Live on PPV. Fight starts at 8pm
No cover charge for fight.
For full fight card visit:
<http://www.ufc.com/event/UFC148#fight>

FreedomFest '12



Scenes from FreedomFest '12 on June 29, 2012 • Photos By Matt Davis/MWR Marketing Manager

ITT Geyser Falls Trip

Saturday, July 21, 2012
Location: Philadelphia, MS
Bus Departure: 1000 from Admin 255 parking lot
Cost: \$25 for children ages 4-9; \$30 per person ages 10 & up
For more info call (801) 678-3773

Andrew Triplett Library

Some services offered:

- Story Time/Ages 3-6
- 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 (801) 678-2326.

Now Available!

ITT

Six Flags Over Georgia & Geyser Falls tickets now available at the ITT Office!

10K Run Results

#	Time	Name	Command
1	:43:27	Matthew Ketter	MATSS-1
2	:47:06	Sara Bustamante	NBHC
3	:48:09	Tina Henley	MATSS-1
4	:48:18	James Allen	VT-7
5	:56:14	Anna Whitacre	VT-7
6	:56:30	BRI Whitacre	VT-7
7	:57:02	Jordan R Thomas	MATSS-1
8	1:08:10	Dominic Liqueste	NBHC
9	1:08:48	Bern Jenkins	PW/MAS
10	1:09:10	Cardace Mizrahi	MATSS-1

10K RUN WINNER
Above, Matthew Ketter, of MATSS-1, approaches the finish line during the 10K Run. The competition took place on May 16, 2012 at the Pleasure Center.

MWR Aquatics Swim Lessons

All swim lessons will take place Tuesday-Friday. There will be two classes daily from 9-9:45am & 10-10:45am.
Sess. 3: July 10-20 Sess. 4: July 24-Aug. 3
*For more information regarding private swim lessons, contact Lee Cook at (801) 678-2379.

Water Aerobics & Lap Swim

Lunch Lap Swim takes place M-F from 11am-1pm.
Water Aerobics take place M,W,F from 12:15-1pm.

All Hands Pool Hours Of Operation Monday-Closed • Tues.-Fri.: Noon-8pm Sat., Sun. & Holidays: Noon-6pm
For more info call (801) 678-2379.

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	Self Defense with Dawg @ 6pm
Belly Dancing Class @ 11:30am	
Self Defense with Dawg @ 6pm	
Tuesday	Spin with Shannon @ 11:30am
Wednesday	Belly Dancing Class @ 11:30am
	*All group exercise classes are held in Bldg. 106 and are free.

Events

Monday- Margarita Monday
Tuesday- Import Beer Night
Wednesday- Karaoke Night/ Manager's Choice \$1 Draught
Thursday- Bud Special

July 15- "DJ Aloha"- Hawaiian Night at Rudders

Available at The Outpost

601-679-2609



Rent One Today!

Hours of Operation
Mon.-Sat. 0930-1800
Closed Sun. & Wed.
For more information call (601) 679-2609.

LIBERTY

MWR NAS Meridian, MS

The following are events scheduled for single and unaccompanied active duty military aboard NAS Meridian. For info call (801) 678-3760.

Thursday, July 5
Air Hockey Tournament
The tournament begins at 7pm. No entry fee - prize awarded to the winner.

Tuesday, July 10
Birthday Bash
A celebration of June birthdays! FREE cookies and soda will be provided at 7pm in the Liberty Center.

Thursday, July 12
Double Elimination Pool Tournament
The tournament begins at 7pm. No entry fee - prize awarded to the winner.

Saturday, July 14
Pensacola Beach Trip
Travel to Pensacola, FL for a day of relaxation on the beach, shopping and good food. We leave the Liberty parking lot at 7am. The cost is \$20 per person. You must register & pay for the trip by Wednesday, July 11.

Sunday, July 15
Water Balloon Battle
Meet outside the Liberty Center at 7pm for some cool and refreshing competition.

Monday, July 16
Water Slide Day
A water slide will be set up outside of the Liberty Center from 6:30pm-7:30pm for you to enjoy some refreshing fun.

Tuesday, July 17
Ice Cream Eating Contest
In honor of "National Ice Cream Day" Liberty is hosting an ice cream contest sure to put a smile on your face at 7pm.

Captain's Cup Golf Standings

	W	L
Public Works	7	0
Air Ops	4	3
VT-7	3	4
Fidelity	3	5
MATSS-1	1	8

* Standings as of July 2, 2012.

Captain's Cup Softball Standings

	W	L
Public Works	12	2
Air Ops	11	3
Field Support	10	4
Sluggers	9	5
Devil Dawgs	6	9
Eagles	4	10
Tigers	3	11
Devil Pupa	2	12

* Standings as of July 2, 2012.

It's Your Turn...

July is statistically the hottest month of the year in Mississippi. With the temperatures toping 100 degrees this past week, we asked people, "What are you going to do to keep cool?"

By MC2 Casey Kyhl



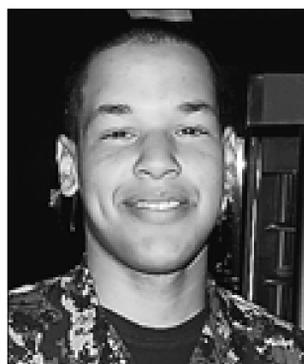
Barbara Gowdy
Assistant Contract
Manager

"I will drink plenty of water and stay in the shade!"



AZAN Joshua Rodriguez
NTTC Student

"I'm going to sleep and stay indoors in the air conditioning."



AZAN Kelvin Martinez
NTTC Student

"I'm going to stay hydrated and spend a lot of time at the pool."



AZAN Matt Hutton
NTTC Student

"I think eating the right things helps. I'll be eating lots of fruit and ice cream."



AZAN Christina Martinez
NTTC Student

"By eating popsicles."

Fleet & Family Support Center

Identify your child's interests, needs before selecting a summer camp

Summer camp can be a fun way for your child to spend part of his summer, while building such skills as self-esteem, creativity and teamwork. Summer camps are offered for all interests, ages and levels of skill. Before you ship your youngster off to camp, follow these guidelines.

Three types of camps

✓ **Resident camp:** Children sleep overnight in cabins, tents, tepees or another form of shelter and participate in a variety of activities.

✓ **Day camp:** Many offer a variety of programs similar to resident camps, but without sleeping quarters.

✓ **Tour and travel camp:** Participants move themselves to sites by hiking, canoeing, horseback riding or other means. The camper's accommodations can vary from program to program. Participants in travel camps are transported by car or bus to explore geographic and topographic places of interest.

Each type of camp may operate from a period of five days to eight weeks.

Identify your child's interests

After your child has made the decision to attend a camp, the National Camping Association suggests you sit down together and answer the following questions:

What does your child want to gain from the camp experience? What do you want her to gain? Learn new skills, develop more self-confidence, improve proficiency in certain areas, become more independent? What are the special interests your child wants to explore? What kind of emphasis will your child profit from the most? For example, is a lot of structure desirable; is social interaction with members of the opposite sex important or does your child need a place where he is encouraged to develop at his own pace?

While some summer camps offer a variety of activities for participants, others are focused on one topic or area of interest such as performing arts,

sports, science, creative arts, foreign language, nature, history or religion. Zero in on your child's areas of interest before selecting a camp.

Assess your child's needs

Does your child have a physical disability or medical ailment that may hinder her ability to participate at certain camps? Many organizations, such as the American Lung Association and American Diabetes Association, sponsor camps specifically for children who have certain health conditions.

Parents also need to consider any intellectual, social or emotional limitations their child may have.

For example, many hospice organizations offer summer camps for children who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Children have the chance to interact with others who are the same age using music, art, literature and play activities to express grief.

If you are considering a sleep-away camp, think about how comfortable your child is being away from home and if you think he is ready for the residential camp experience.

Parents must factor in their needs as well. If you're sending your child to a resident camp, contemplate the distance and travel arrangements. If it's a day camp, consider the hours of the camp, whether or not meals are served and if and when transportation is provided.

Finding a camp

Local newspapers and magazines are a great place to start looking for a camp. They may list the types of camps that are being held in your area, along with the dates and times of the camps, a contact name and price range. The municipality in which you live also may hold day camps for residents; call the municipal office to find out. Libraries are another place to do research on specific camps. Other resources include local nonprofit organizations, churches, parks and recreation bureaus, historical societies, schools (including local colleges and universities), YMCA or YWCA,

Boy or Girl Scout councils and the Internet.

Choosing a camp

It is important that the camp is safe and meets your standards. The American Camping Association recommends parents consider the following questions when selecting a camp for their child:

What is the camp's philosophy? What is the ratio of counselors to campers? What are the ages of counselors? How does the camp handle special needs? How are behavioral and disciplinary problems handled? How does the camp handle camper homesickness and other adjustment issues?

Also keep in mind the location of the camp, its reputation, safety records and the cost. Fees vary according to the type of camp, the facilities offered and the camper's needs. Some camps offer financial assistance based on necessity.

But most importantly, say representatives at the National Camp Association, involve your child in the selection process. Narrow down the possibilities, review the brochures and videos with your child and then choose the ones you are most interested in. If possible, speak or meet with the camp directors or representatives.

Early bird catches the worm

Registration for summer camps can begin as early as January, with some camps offering the previous year's campers priority in registration. Remember the registration deadline for the camp of your choice. While some camps require early enrollment, others allow registration up until the time the camp begins. Some camps even offer early-bird specials for those who sign up in advance, including discounted rates and free camp apparel with early registration by a specified date.

From <https://www.militaryonesource.eap.org/achievementsolutions/en/militaryonesource/>

New Command Financial Specialists



Military members who recently completed training to become Command Financial Specialists include Capt. Ryan Maple (VT-7), ET1 Garry Compton (NOSC), AC1 Zachary Cary (NAS), HM1 Dominic Lique (Medical), and AC1 Fredrick Rudolph (NAS). The training was conducted by the Fleet & Family Support Center.

Senior military oversight announced for sexual assault cases in the Navy

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy announced June 28 that only officers at the O-6 (captain) level and above will have the authority to make initial disposition decisions on the most serious sexual assault cases.

This announcement follows a statement from Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta, directing the services to elevate reported offenses including rape, sexual assault, forcible sodomy, and attempts to commit those offenses to a "Special Court Martial Convening Authority" at the O-6 or above pay-grade.

The Navy's implementation of the Department of Defense initiative was outlined in NAVADMIN 195/12, released June 28. This message defined the sexual assault initial disposition authority (SA-IDA) as officers O-6 or above.

Once a sexual assault is reported to a command with a military member named as the alleged perpetrator,

Naval Criminal Investigative Service is alerted to begin an investigation. If the commander is not an SA-IDA, the case will be forwarded to the SA-IDA for an initial disposition decision. The SA-IDA must consult with a judge advocate and, if practicable, an NCIS agent before making any determination on a case. The SA-IDA may then take any action in accordance with the established Rules for Court-Martial, to include pursuing criminal charges, taking administrative or non-judicial action, or taking no action against the alleged perpetrator. Additionally, the SA-IDA decision must be documented.

The NAVADMIN also directed commanders to understand the recent changes made to Article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which addresses the criminal elements of rape, sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, and abusive sexual contact. To assist commanders, members of the Navy Judge Advocate

General's Corps will provide training in conjunction with mobile training teams under the oversight of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Task Force. Every commanding officer, staff judge advocate, victim advocate, and sexual assault response coordinator is required to attend a session of this training.

Sexual assault prevention is an important element of the readiness area of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative, which consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Department of the Navy (DoN). DoN is working aggressively to prevent sexual assaults, to support sexual assault victims, and to hold offenders accountable.

From Department of the Navy, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

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.

Building Self-Esteem in Kids: July 11 from 3-4 p.m. at Child Development Center. Healthy self-esteem is like a child's armor against the world. Children who feel good about themselves seem to have an easier time handling conflicts and resisting negative pressures. They tend to smile more readily and enjoy life. These kids are realistic and generally optimistic. Join us for this workshop to learn more about how you, as a parent, can nurture healthy self-esteem in your child.

Welcome Aboard & New Spouse Orientation: July 12 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (Spouse Orientation from 2-3 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 offbase driving regulations, legal services, community services, chapel and other religious services, MWR, things to do at NAS and in Meridian, and more! The New Spouse Orientation will include a Q&A session with command Ombudsmen and other briefs of interest to military spouses. Whether you're a spouse new to military life or just new to Meridian, you'll be able to pick up important information and meet other spouses.

IA Spouse Discussion Group: July 13 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!

Conflict Management: July 17 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Conflict is normal, even in the most high-functioning work groups. We all have different styles, points of view, and ways of communicating. However, when a conflict between two individuals or within a group lingers or goes unresolved, it can waste time, lower energy and morale, and leave those involved with hurt feelings that are hard to forget. If you need to improve your coping-with-conflict skills, come to this workshop to learn the mediation method and other tips to manage the sticky situations in your life.

Financial Readiness for Deployment: July 18 from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Financial mismanagement can be the number one cause of conflict and anxiety during deployment. While deployment brings additional pay, not having a plan for what to do with it can lead to wasting valuable opportunities (such as the Savings Deposit Plan) to put those extra deployment dollars to work. Also, planning for handling everyday financial matters during deployment is crucial. Attend this workshop to make sure money doesn't create stress during your deployment.

Transition Assistance Program (TAP) Seminar: July 23-27 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Military personnel who are voluntarily or involuntarily separating or retiring and are within 180 days of separating should attend this seminar, held at the FFSC. It is highly recommended that spouses attend. You may also attend if you're up to 18 months away from your separation or retirement date. The following topics will be covered: résumés, job search skills, job interviewing, employment (state and federal), veterans' benefits, pay and travel, movement of household goods, PSD/ID cards, TRICARE, emotional transition to separation, financial planning, forms and documents, benefits and services, Naval Reserve programs, military obligations, and more!

10 Steps to a Federal Job: July 24 from 4-6 p.m. The government is hiring! But if you want to be successful in landing a federal job, you need to understand the government's unique and complex application process. This workshop, based on the writings and training of federal job search guru, Kathryn Troutman, will walk you through the 10 steps to finding and applying for a federal job. We'll cover: finding and analyzing federal job announcements; crafting a federal-style résumé and an electronic résumé; interpreting the cryptic language of federal hiring process ("core competencies", etc.); the incredible importance of including "keywords" in your application; addressing "KSAs"; and much more!

**Contact
NAS Meridian
Ombudsman at
Call (601) 527-1377**

First qualified female submarine supply officer receives supply dolphins

BREMERTON, Wash. (NNS) -- A Sailor assigned to USS Ohio (SSGN 726) became the first female supply officer to qualify in submarines, June 22.

Lt. Britta Christianson of Ohio's Gold Crew received her Submarine Supply Corps "dolphins" from the Gold Crew Commanding Officer Capt. Rodney Mills during a brief ceremony at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PSNS & IMF).

"I'm very proud of Lt. Christianson's accomplishments today," said Mills, "and I'm glad to welcome her to the elite community of dolphin-wearing submariners, past and present. She is a superb supply officer, an excellent watchstander, and she will be critical to ensuring the ship's success during our upcoming deployment."

Ohio is currently undergoing maintenance at PSNS & IMF, having returned to the Pacific Northwest in March after a 14-month forward deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

Christianson, a native of Chippewa Falls, Wis., joined the Gold Crew in November 2011 during Ohio's deployment. She is one of 13 women - four supply officers and nine submarine line officers under instruction - assigned to Ohio and USS Maine (SSBN 741) at Naval

Base Kitsap-Bangor, Wash. Twelve other women are assigned to USS Wyoming (SSBN 742) and USS Georgia (SSGN 729), based in Kings Bay, Ga.

In order to receive her Supply dolphins, Christianson - already a qualified Naval Flight Officer and surface supply officer - was required to demonstrate knowledge in basic submarine operations and engineering fundamentals, perform damage control functions, and qualify as a diving officer of the watch (DOOW).

"I was honored to be given the opportunity to serve aboard a submarine, so receiving my dolphins is like icing on the cake for me," said Christianson. "It was a lot of hard work, but at the end of the day, two things bring us and our submarine home safely: knowledge of the submarine and our ability to execute the mission, and that basically sums up what dolphins are all about. I owe a lot of my thanks to my captain, chiefs and crew members who trained me and helped me to learn my boat."

Prior to reporting to their boats beginning in November 2011, Christianson and the other women assigned to Ohio, Maine, Wyoming and Georgia graduated from the Submarine Officer Basic Course in Groton, Conn. In addition, the submarine line officers under instruction graduated from the



Photo by Chris Calnan

Lt. Britta Christianson, a Gold Crew supply officer assigned to the guided-missile submarine USS Ohio (SSGN 726), is presented with her Submarine Supply Corps "dolphins" by her commanding officer, Capt. Rodney Mills, during a ceremony at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as Capt. Dixon Hicks, Ohio's former commanding officer, looks on. Christianson is the first female Supply Corps officer to qualify in submarines.

Naval Nuclear Power School at Charleston, S.C., and underwent naval nuclear prototype training.

Ohio and USS Michigan (SSGN 727)

are homeported at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor and forward deployed to Guam.

From Commander, Submarine Group 9 Public Affairs

A photo worth a thousand words

By MC3 Randy J. Savarese

Enterprise Carrier Strike Group Public Affairs

USS ENTERPRISE, At Sea (NNS) -- Aviation ordnancemen (AO) assigned to aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 1 came together June 22 for a photo on the flight deck spelling out the name of a young boy diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Dyrk Burcie was three years old when he was diagnosed with pediatric liver cancer, and despite nine rounds of chemotherapy and a liver transplant, his prognosis is still grim.

The photo is part of what has become a spontaneous campaign intended to bring some happiness and comfort to his family during their time of need.

This unique campaign began with one act of kindness from the Dallas Fire Department, where Dameon Burcie, Dyrk's father, works.

To show support for their fellow fire fighter, Dameon's coworkers got together and took a photo with personnel and fire trucks forming the shape of the boy's name. This thoughtful gesture spread to other fire departments, which began creating their own photos.

Enterprise became involved when Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Julian Medina, a forklift technician assigned to weapons department's G-1 division, received an e-mail from his brother, a Dallas fire fighter who works with Dameon Burcie. The letter described the boy's story and asked if something similar could be done aboard the aircraft carrier.

"When my brother e-mailed me the story, I wanted to get involved," said Medina. "That's when I (brought the idea to) Chief Warrant Officer James Yager, and he took it from there."

"Medina approached me with a story of a young boy from Dallas who was dying from cancer, and asked me if we could do something," said Chief Warrant Officer James Yager, air gun-

ner with weapons department's G-1 division. "So I contacted Aviation Ordnancemen from the ship's company and the air wing and got them together to do this photo on the flight deck so we could send it back to the family."

With a helicopter already in the air on a routine flight, the group of AOs had just 45 minutes to form the letters that would spell out Dyrk's name using only a drawing from Yager. In total, approximately 300 AOs showed up to help.

The outpouring of participation in this touching tribute was felt by everyone involved in the spelling of his name.

"It's an awesome feeling to know you're helping someone," said Medina. "Even though it was just a 45-minute [photo] shoot for us on the flight deck, everyone knew what it was for and knew it was going to make a big impact on this one child's life."

A photo, which was born out of a basic desire to bring some sense of happiness to a child's life, spread quickly through the ranks of fire departments in Texas and has now touched down on the flight deck of Enterprise.

Though one of Enterprise's own Sailors is connected to Dyrk's father, Yager believes this shared experience also highlights the brotherhood of those who serve and protect every American.

"Ever since 9/11 I just feel like the military, the fire department and police have become more of a tight-knit group," said Yager. "We all support each other and we're all out to accomplish the same goals. This was definitely an instance where we could all come together to make a difference in someone's life."

"Anything like this, if he was my child and I got this kind of support from people, I know I would appreciate it," said Yager. "I have a soft spot in my heart for children and I thought this would be a good thing to do for him and his family."



Photo by MC3 Randy J. Savarese

Aviation ordnancemen stand together for a photo on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) to spell out "Dyrk", the name of a young boy from Texas diagnosed with terminal pediatric cancer. Enterprise is deployed to the U.S. 5th fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operations, theater security cooperation efforts and support missions as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Navy commander inducted into USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame

SAN JOSE, Calif. (NNS) -- A naval officer was inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame, during a ceremony and luncheon as part of the USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show in San Jose, Calif., June 30.

Cmdr. Mark Calderon, now the requirements officer for the Chief of Naval Air Training, represented the United States at four World Championships from 1980 to 1986 and won the 1982 World Synchronized Trampoline title with Stuart Ransom.

He was serving in the U.S. Navy when he qualified for the U.S. Trampoline Team for a fourth time in 1986.

"I always appreciated the fact that I was allowed by the Navy to pursue qualifying for the U.S. team back in 1986," said Calderon. "They gave me time off to train and even paid for some of the travel expenses, all while I was a third class petty officer."

He earned a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from the University of Texas at Austin and was com-

missioned as an ensign in the Navy in August 1992. He received his "Wings of Gold" and was designated a naval aviator in September 1995, and has flown the P-3 Orion. He went on to be an instructor pilot in both the P-3 and the training aircraft T-44.

"If he brought half as much dedication to gymnastics as he has brought to his jobs in the Navy, it does not surprise me that he was the best in the world," said Chief of Naval Air Training Rear Adm. William Sizemore. "He is a superb naval officer and a great example of the type of talented people we have serving in the United States Navy."

From South Texas, Calderon has been using his celebrity to inspire local children and encourage them to focus and work hard. He spoke to several classrooms this spring about his experiences and, in April, Calderon threw out the first pitch at Whataburger Field for the "Hooks," a Corpus Christi's minor league baseball team.

-- From Chief of Naval Air Training Public Affairs



Photo by MC2 Ernest R. Scott

Rear Adm. Ted Branch, commander of Naval Air Force Atlantic, addresses the public regarding the results of its Judge Advocate General Manual (JAGMAN) investigation of the F/A-18D Hornet that crashed into an apartment complex in Virginia Beach on April 6. The aircraft, assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 106 and based at Naval Air Station Oceana, was conducting a scheduled training exercise when it suffered a catastrophic mechanical failure shortly after takeoff and crashed into the Mayfair Mews Apartment Complex.

COMNAVAIRLANT releases investigation results of F/A-18D crash

By MC2 Ernest R. Scott

Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Public Affairs

OCEANA, Va. (NNS) -- Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic released the results today of its Judge Advocate General Manual (JAGMAN) investigation in to the crash of an F/A-18D into an apartment complex in Virginia Beach April 6.

The F/A-18D, assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA)-106 and based at Naval Air Station Oceana, was conducting a scheduled training exercise when it suffered a catastrophic mechanical failure shortly after takeoff and crashed into the Mayfair Mews apartment complex in Virginia Beach.

"I know the process has been challenging for some, especially those who lost their homes and personal belongings," said Rear Adm. Ted Branch, commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic. "But we are all incredibly fortunate that the crash, which occurred on Good Friday, resulted in zero loss of life."

The recovery process was a team effort between Navy Region Mid-Atlantic and Virginia Beach first-responders who quickly began helping the affected residents. Branch said the emergency response cooperation between the city of Virginia Beach and the Navy is a testament to the close-working relationship that has developed over the years.

"I would like to add my thanks to everyone who acted so quickly to assist our aircrew, treat the injured citizens, and help ensure that all residents of the Mayfair Mews complex were safely evacuated," said Branch. "This exceptional response almost certainly prevented further injury, and perhaps death, to affected citizens and aircrew, and more widespread property damage."

The Navy has spent the past several weeks conducting a detailed investigation into the crash to learn what went wrong and how to minimize the chance of such an event from happening in the future.

"The aircrew followed their proce-

dures, but given the cascading series of problems and lack of thrust and altitude, continued controlled flight was not possible," said Branch. "It is our view that the aircrew's assessments were reasonable given the initial indications, and their actions were in accordance with training and procedure."

The JAGMAN investigation found that the crash occurred as a result of two significant, unrelated engine malfunctions, the first at takeoff and the second shortly after takeoff. The right engine failed due to ingestion of fuel into the right intake. The left engine afterburner failed to light when selected by the pilot after the right engine malfunction. Post-mishap analysis indicates the likely cause was failure of an electrical component, but several of the suspected components were damaged beyond the point of conclusive analysis in the crash and subsequent fire.

"While I recognize that these gaps are less than satisfying, we have a high degree of confidence in the F/A-18 airframe, and in the F404-GE-400 engine in the legacy Hornet," said Branch. "The U.S. Navy has been flying the F/A-18 Hornet for more than 30 years, and we have found it to be an extremely safe and reliable aircraft."

According to the Naval Safety Center, there has been a steady decline in the overall mishap rate for Naval Aircraft, and the Hornet mishap rate has followed this trend. The Naval Safety Center's data indicate that the reliability of F404-GE-400 engine has been exceptionally good over the life of the F/A-18 program.

"We are confident that we can continue to conduct safe operations with the F/A-18, both here in Virginia Beach, and around the world," said Branch. "Our concern is not just for our pilots and aircrew, but for our community. We operate every day with this in mind, and we are focused every day on ensuring that we have the best aircraft, operated by the best aircrew, conducting safe operations - we can accept nothing less."

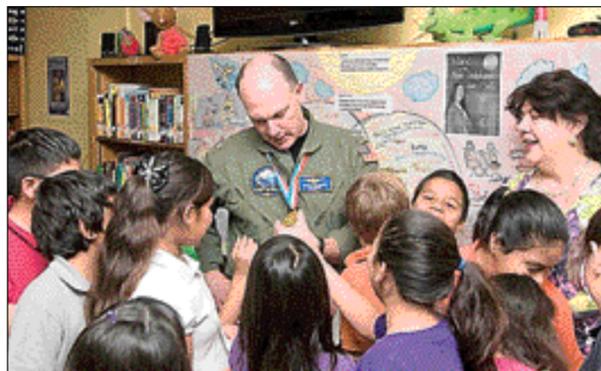


Photo by Richard Stewart

Students from Culk Elementary gather around Cmdr. Mark Calderon to see his gold medal after speaking with the students about his accomplishments throughout the years. Calderon, who represented the USA at four World Championships from 1980-86, won the 1982 World synchronized trampoline title with Stuart Ransom.