



**Sunrise**  
MALL  
Airline at S. Padre Island Drive  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
(361) 993-2900

SEARS • BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY • STEIN MART

# Wingspan

Vol. 12, No. 20

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

Thursday • September 28, 2006

## HM-15 is keeping busy during RIMPAC 2006

By Lt. j.g. Greg Paules

The Blackhawks of Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 15 have been extremely busy. The summer started off with a single aircraft detachment leaving NAS Corpus Christi on June 2<sup>nd</sup> en route to NAS North Island in San Diego to board the USS Denver for a two month deployment in support of RIMPAC 2006.

The Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise is a multinational maritime exercise conducted in the waters off Hawaii. This year's exercise was the 20<sup>th</sup> RIMPAC and took place between June 26<sup>th</sup> and July 28<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the contingency of aircraft, aircrew, and support personnel from HM-15, more than 40 ships, six submarines, 160 aircraft, and 19,000 Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Soldiers from eight different countries participated in this year's exercise.

The HM-15 Blackhawks contributed one of three MH-53E Sea Dragon Helicopters for detachment along with personnel and equipment onboard USS Denver (LPD9) in support of RIMPAC 06 with their sister squadron, HM-14 providing the two additional aircraft and associated support personnel. HM-15 Detachment One with Lt. Jason W. Nelson as Officer-in-Charge (OIC) operated in accordance with the tasking directives provided by Commander, Mine Countermeasures Squadron ONE and Commander, Amphibious Squadron One. The purpose of the deployment was to provide AMCM exercise support as the precursor component to a multi-national amphibious assault operation.



HM-15 personnel took a moment from a busy day to take a group photo while on deployment for RIMPAC 2006. (Photo by OS2 Daniel)

On the afternoon of July 16<sup>th</sup>, one aircraft and 47 personnel arrived on station with the detachment poised for mission success.

Pilots, aircrew, and maintenance personnel hit the ground running from the first day of tasking. During the exercise, HM-15 employed the Q-24A, MK-103, MK-105, and AMNS

weapon systems with great success generating more than 200 contacts and locating more than 30 mines. DET One utilized a one aircraft flight schedule completing an average of two to three missions per day encompassing mine-hunting/sweeping, VOD, logistics, and reconnaissance operations. The detachment's focus was on meeting training and readiness

goals while providing sound tactical data.

The single HM-15 aircraft was used primarily for logistics missions. However, due to the integration of crews from HM-14 and HM-15, personnel from both squadrons were able to participate in all aspects of the exercise, including AMNS, MK-106, and Q-24A laser re-acquisition operations.

RIMPAC 2006 was an overwhelming success. Acting in a support role to HM-14 on this detachment, HM-15 flew more than 90 hours and never missed a scheduled event due to aircraft maintenance.

Returning from RIMPAC 2006, another detachment of personnel and two aircraft headed from Corpus Christi to Norfolk, VA where HM-15 set up shop alongside HM-14 on board the USS Kearsarge. This time, the Blackhawks participated in PanamaX 2006 in the Caribbean Sea. PanamaX is a multinational training exercise tailored to the defense of the Panama Canal, involving civil and military forces from the region. Ships, aircraft and personnel from 19 countries took part in the exercise designed to prepare participating nations for a coalition response to threats to the Panama Canal.

Detachments from HM-15 and HM-14 were embarked on board the USS Kearsarge with their MH-53E helicopters and associated airborne mine countermeasures equipment. For the first time, HM-15 was able to compare the

*HM-15 continued on page 6*



Security personnel do... Exercise Solid Curtain. During the week, random vehicles were searched for contraband, IED's and other devices. Each vehicle involved both the driver and passengers exiting the vehicles, open all compartments and stand facing away from the vehicle. In the process of searching, a mirror check under the vehicles checked for anything that might be out of place. As one Security officer checks a vehicle, a K-9 Unit checks another vehicle for possible contraband. (Photos by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

## From The Skipper

It's time for school days

By Capt. T.E. Coolidge

As was advertised throughout the base and in the media – both on TV and in print – NASCC was involved in a Navy-wide security exercise. The exercise, named "Solid Curtain," was cancelled last year due to the active hurricane season. This year the pace was quick and the "bad guys" played their parts well with realistic props!

Your base Security was challenged by running drills all week. The most active drills were conducted once in the afternoon on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> and again the morning of Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Your Security personnel did an outstanding job! A suspicious package was found and addressed. A van was spotted whose occupants were conducting surveillance of the

base. The occupants of the van were taken into "custody." While checking the daily vehicular traffic coming through the gate, two women tried to access the base because they had an "appointment with the Admiral." On further investigation, it became evident that they had simulated explosive devices hidden under the sweatshirts they were wearing. The situation was correctly assessed and dealt with in a rapid manner.

There was more going on than was visible around the base. In reaction to the drills, on Thursday afternoon Commander, Fleet Forces Command directed all installations to move to a more restrictive Force Protection Condition (FPCON). We increased our FPCON from 'Alfa' to 'Charlie' (only 'Delta' is more restrictive) along with NAS Kingsville and NS Ingleside. More rigid inspections of vehicles moving on and off the base were conducted. I'm sure most everyone saw the cones that pushed parking out farther from the buildings.

Navy Region South manned their Regional Operations Center (ROC) and I activated our base Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC is manned with key players from the Command Staff, Public Works, Air Operations, Fire Department, Safety, Supply, Legal and Emergency Management. Representatives from the Naval Hospital participated, too, adding an extra element of realism and aiding in the training. The EOC provided assistance and direction to the Security assets throughout the base.

To highlight the flexibility and span of control your Security team is capable of, while all the above was going on there were still four groups onboard for several days. The Coast Guard and HM-15 conducted Search-and-Rescue (SAR) operations in reaction to a vessel in distress. The Defense Depot Corpus Christi, Texas (DDCT) hosted a Defense

*Captain continued on page 10*

## Chaplain's Column

Life's Road a Bit Bumpy?

By Chaplain Timothy Gault

The King of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, invaded Judah (basically the modern area of southern Israel) in approximately 600 B.C. and made all Judeans ("Jews") living there his servants. King Nebuchadnezzar took King Jehoiachin, his mother, his wives, all the government officials and military, and all the leading citizens including the craftsmen and the artisans back to his kingdom where they lived daily depending upon him for their existence. Only the poorest, most incapable Jews were left to live in their homeland. Judah was devastated.

There were no people left who were capable of rebuilding the nation and they could certainly never stand against Babylon. Life for the nation was very, very different and would be for the foreseeable future. They were completely at Nebuchadnezzar's mercy – or were they?

In Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar al-

lowed the Jews to worship according to their faith traditions and even to maintain most of their social customs. During the time they lived in Babylon many Jews rediscovered the importance of their Jewish faith and recommitted themselves to faithfully living it. Some historians believe that it is likely that the Torah, the Jewish Bible, took its final shape during this time. Lamentations and many Psalms, including Psalm 137, "By the Rivers of Babylon," were written during this period. Jewish faith survived—even thrived—following a devastating blow to their land.

I think that this short recounting of an important period in Jewish history gives more than just interesting information in the background of the land where we are currently engaged. It also points to something that can be instructive for us.

Perhaps we won't face an invasion from a foreign power anytime soon but we can count on life's "road" including some "bumps" and maybe even a few unforeseen "cliffhangers." Those occasions may be the

result of our own choices or the choices of others. They may be outworkings of our genetics or something else. But, we don't have to live at the mercy of our circumstances.

Nebuchadnezzar took the Jews out of Judea but he didn't take the faith out of the Jews. Not even Hitler could do that. An active, living faith may be rediscovered in trials and circumstances.

That rediscovered faith is much more than a crutch to get you through a difficult period—it is a rediscovery of the essential self. Deeper than material possessions, than things that are familiar, than our politics, citizenship or ethnicities, deeper

*Chaplain continued on page 10*

## Health Watch

A Cure for Cervical Cancer?

By Lt. Wayne Murphy, MD

You may have recently heard about a new vaccine which targets the Human Papillomavirus or HPV. This new vaccine called Gardasil was approved by the Food and

Drug Administration in early June 2006. Why all the excitement you may ask? Because it has the potential to dramatically decrease the chances of a woman developing cervical cancer, a disease which is expected to claim the lives of nearly 4,000 women this year alone.

The American Cancer Society even called it "one of the most important advances in

women's health in recent years."

HPV is spread by both men and women during sexual contact and is the most common sexually transmitted disease. In fact, some 20 million people are currently infected with HPV and more than half of those who are sexually active will be infected at some point. Most people who become infected will not have any symptoms and the infection quickly clears. However, in some individuals, HPV causes genital warts and cervical as well as other female cancers. Rarely, HPV can also cause cancer in males.

The vaccine is purported to protect against the four different strains of HPV which cause the majority of cervical cancers and genital warts. Currently, it is only approved for females; however a clinical trial evaluating its potential use in males is underway. So far the vaccine has proven to be extremely effective. In fact, studies have shown it to be 100 percent effective in preventing infection with

the HPV-16 and HPV-18 strains, which are most commonly linked to cervical cancer. Just as important, the vaccine appears to be very safe. One possible reason for this is because the vaccine is not a live virus, but instead contains only virus-like particles which stimulate our bodies to develop immunity to the real virus.

While the vaccine is very promising, it will not protect against every HPV strain and therefore can't prevent all cervical cancers and genital warts. With approximately 100 different strains it is difficult to protect against all of them. Additionally, it will not protect people who are already infected with HPV. For this reason it is important that females continue to get annual pap smears to screen for cervical cancer and always practice protective sexual behaviors. It is also not clear

*Health continued on page 10*

## Wingspan

NAS Corpus Christi  
"Exceeding Expectations Through  
Pride In Performance"

Commanding Officer  
Capt. T.E. Coolidge

Public Affairs Officer  
Robert D. Torres

Writer/Photographer  
LI2 Paul Hewitt

*Wingspan* is an authorized publication for members of the military services, civilian personnel and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, Department of the Navy or the Department of the Army, and do not imply endorsement thereof. *Wingspan* is published every other week by D.J. Young Publishing, 3601 Tripoli, Corpus Christi, Texas 78415, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Navy, under exclusive written contract with Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas. Stories and photos not otherwise attributed are written by the *Wingspan* staff. The address is: Commanding Officer, NAS Corpus Christi, Attn: *Wingspan*, 11001 D St. Suite 143, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78419-5021. All news releases should be sent to the above address. Please call (361) 961-2674 for deadline information.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Army, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, or D.J. Young Publishing, of the products and services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

To advertise in *Wingspan*, please call D.J. Young Publishing at (361) 774-4162.

## Worship Services

CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICE  
Base Catholic Chapel  
Sunday Mass - 8:30 a.m.  
Daily Mass:  
Monday - Friday - 11:30 a.m.  
Religious Education: Sunday - 9:45 a.m.

PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE  
Base Protestant Chapel  
Protestant Worship Service:  
Sunday - 10 a.m.  
Sunday Bible Study - 8:45 a.m.

JEWISH WORSHIP SERVICE  
\*Temple Beth El (4402 Saratoga Blvd.)  
Friday at 7:30 p.m.  
(with dinner to follow)  
For further information call  
Temple Beth El at 857-8181

ISLAMIC WORSHIP SERVICE  
Islamic Society of South Texas  
(7341 McArdle Rd.)  
Jumrah Service - 1:30 p.m.  
For other worship service times,  
call 992-8550

## The Real Estate Hotline

NO PRESSURE - NO HASSLE  
JUST EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW  
ABOUT REAL ESTATE, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK  
361.779.3430

WWW.THEREALESTATEHOTLINE.ORG

ASK ABOUT THE TEXAS VETERANS HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (VHAP)!

Log On & Get Free Tips on Buying & Selling Your Home

For Buyers:  
Buy with Zero Down  
6 Buying Mistakes  
Danger - Buyer Traps  
Free Pre-Approval  
Prices in Your Area

For Sellers:  
27 Tips for Selling Your Home  
How To Sell For More!  
Avoid These Mistakes  
Pass Your Home Inspection  
When Will it Sell

SPONSORED BY:

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REALTORS

BUYING A HOME - GET CASH BACK!

SELLING A HOME - PAY ONLY 3.99% COMMISSION

361.883.8871



GALLERY OF HOMES

Building Strong Families, One Home At A Time



OUR PHONES.  
YOUR EXPERTISE.  
BIG BUCKS.

Put your sales and business experience to good use with one of the nation's fastest-growing wireless providers. We'll provide the support and training to help you become a Nextel Authorized Representative.

What's In It For You?

- >> Rewarding, multifaceted commission structure
- >> No inventory requirements
- >> Unlimited earnings potential
- >> Co-op Marketing/Advertising program
- >> Top-notch Sales Training

Every Nextel phone has a built-in Nationwide Walkie-Talkie to help everyone get more done. Instantly.

We are aggressively expanding our Dealer Network.  
Opportunity knocks...

CALL 361.533.7702 TODAY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS LUCRATIVE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY.

NEXTEL

© 2005 Nextel Partners, Inc. NEXTEL and NEXTEL DONE are service marks, trademarks and/or registered trademarks of Nextel Communications, Inc. MOTOROLA and the Stylized M Logo are registered in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. All other product names and services are the property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.

- Hairstyling ● Facials
- Waxing ● Perms
- Hilites ● Colors ● Nails



Boutique  
By Du Jour  
Total Image Salon

Quality is not expensive... It's priceless!

1220 Airline (Next to Toys 'R Us)  
855-2323

50% OFF

ANY ONE SERVICE  
AT BOUTIQUE DU JOUR  
1st Time Clients Only.  
Offer good Tues.-Friday only.  
One coupon per person.  
Not valid with any other specials.  
Expires 12/31/06.

AVAILABLE  
24 HOURS

CALL US FIRST  
THIS SIDE OF THE  
OSD INSURANCE

GRAND  
OPENING  
SPECIALS



Friendly Service • Knowledgeable Agent  
Visit Our Website: [tsoinsurance.com](http://tsoinsurance.com)



Carl Weber - Owner / Agent

937-SAVE  
(7283)

SR 22's Same Day • DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE  
ACCURATE QUOTES • IMMEDIATE COVERAGE

2136 WALDRON Road

EST. 1949

HOWARD'S

BAR-B-Q

New Weekend Hours

Friday & Saturday 11am - 8pm  
"Best Dang Bar-B-Q In Texas!"

Friday Night & Saturday Only  
Buy 1 Plate, Get Second Plate Half Off\*  
Must present coupon at time of order.

\*Restrictions Apply  
Mon-Thur. 11am-3pm • Fri-Sat 11am-8pm

1002 ANTELOPE - 882-1200

ALSO VISIT US AT:  
AMERICAN BANK CENTER AND  
WHATABURGER FIELD

## Diesel Mechanic Houston, TX

Inspect, repair and maintain engine and mechanical components of diesel electric locomotives. Four years diesel mechanic experience required. Related experience (aircraft, power plant, marine, etc.) will be given full consideration.

## Locomotive Electronic Technician-Diesel Electrician Houston, TX

Repair, maintain electrical/electronic components on diesel electric locomotives. Four years industrial electrical experience required. Related experience (aircraft, power plant, marine, etc.) will be given full consideration.

UNION PACIFIC, North America's largest railroad is a high tech, Fortune 200 company in an expansion mode offering a competitive compensation and benefits package.

Apply online at  
[www.unionpacific.jobs](http://www.unionpacific.jobs)  
(Select "View Positions/Apply Now")



**BUILDING AMERICA**  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

## Del Mar College Transportation Training Services

(West Campus) Old Brownsville Rd.  
& Airport Rd.

**Earn your Class A CDL  
in just 3 weeks!**

**Classes starting every 2 weeks  
M-F 7am to 5:30 pm  
Night and refresher  
courses also available.**

✓ **Tuition reimbursement  
from sponsored  
companies**  
✓ **Military tuition  
assistance available**  
✓ **Government Grants**  
✓ **Job placement  
assistance**

**Call Now To Register  
(361) 698-2707  
[www.delmar.edu/trucking](http://www.delmar.edu/trucking)**

**Ask about our  
new Bus Program**



## CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE:** 2006 Kawasaki Ninja 250R, \$3900, 1200 miles, black with Muzzy exhaust. Garage kept, mint condition. Tom 361-991-0733.

**PARTNERS WANTED. LUCRATIVE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES GET MORE DONE WORKING INDEPENDENTLY IN A FAST-PACED INDUSTRY WITH EXTREME GROWTH AND INCOME POTENTIAL. PUT YOUR SALES AND BUSINESS EXPERIENCE TO GOOD USE AS A NEXTEL AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE/DEALER. WE PROVIDE TRAINING AND SUPPORT. REWARDING COMMISSION STRUCTURE. NO INVENTORY REQUIREMENT. RESIDUAL INCOME STREAM. NEXTEL PARTNERS, INC. - 361-533-7702**

**BEACH FRONT CONDO AT VILLA DEL SOL:** North beach. Furnished 1 bedroom. Pools, hot tubs, gated complex. All bills paid. \$795 per month. (210) 710-4185 - Tom.

**FOR SALE:** "Trek Mountain Track 830 Bicycle with Front RST suspension. \$100 used but well cared for. email pictures upon request. Ryan 361-595-0834.

**FOR SALE:** Queen Mattress set \$25.00; Ping Pong Table (like New) \$100/OBO; Surfboard, nice \$100/OBO. 353-4421.

**FOR SALE:** PALM HARBOR '03 EXCEL (1,330 sq. ft.) Like new. Many upgrades. Hurricane shutters, covered carport, Maytag washer & dryer. Nice location. 361-852-0465.

**Free Puppy to loving individual or family!** Daisy is a 7 mth. Black & White Border Collie Mix. Neutered female with all shots. Housebroken! Can't give her the attention she deserves! Call: 361-949-0188.

**FOR SALE: BIKE RACKS:** Two upright bike racks. Never used. Will sell for \$100 OBO. Jogging stroller-(InStep 5K) \$50 OBO. L-COUCH-2 recliners-fold out table-Full fold-out-bed, \$450 OBO! CALL: 361-949-0188-leave message.

**FOR RENT:** 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, on water with dock. Padre Island sunroom, no smoking, pet considered, \$1850.00 mo. Furnished or not 361-949-0170.

**FOR RENT:** Beautiful 1 and 2 bedroom townhomes, quiet, swimming pool, paid basic cable, water, trash, close to schools, shopping transportation. 5 minutes to base. 813-9073. 1/2

**FOR SALE:** Two seater Pelican Kaya, 13' 4" long, paddles/seats, 8 months old. \$360. Living room, L shape sofa, sleeper, 2 recliners, 2 carved end tables, carved coffee table with 3/4" marble tops; paid \$1875, sell for \$800. 361-442-2134.

### HOW TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Free classified ad in Wingspan for all Military and DoD Personnel (non-commercial ads only) submit via e-mail to: [wingspannewspaper@yahoo.com](mailto:wingspannewspaper@yahoo.com) or fax to 361-884-9019. No phone calls for free ads please. Please restrict free ads to 25 words or less.

**Paid Classified Ads - 50¢ per word - with a 24 word minimum.** Please call D.J. Young Publishing at 361-814-0866 with credit card information. Paid ads may be e-mailed to: [wingspannewspaper@yahoo.com](mailto:wingspannewspaper@yahoo.com).

# New CPO's at Naval Hospital Corpus Christi coordinate and host the POW, MIA recognition ceremony as first official chief's act

Story and Photo by Bill Love

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, an MIA wife and member of the National League of Families, recognized the need for a symbol of our POW/MIAs. Prompted by an article in the Jacksonville, Florida *Times-Union*, Mrs. Hoff contacted Norman Rivkees, Vice President of Annin & Company, which had made a banner for the newest member of the United Nations, the People's Republic of China, as a part of their policy to provide flags to all United Nations members' states. Hoff found Mr. Rivkees very sympathetic to the POW/MIA issue, and he, along with Annin's advertising agency, designed a flag to represent our missing men. Following League approval, the flags were manufactured for distribution.

On March 9, 1989, an official League flag, which flew over the White House on 1988 National POW/MIA Recognition Day, was installed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda as a result of legislation passed overwhelmingly during the 100th Congress. In a demonstration of bipartisan Congressional support, the leadership of both Houses hosted the installation ceremony.

The League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever displayed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda where it will stand as a powerful symbol of national commitment to America's POW/MIAs until the fullest possible accounting has been achieved for U.S. personnel still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

On August 10, 1990, the 101st Congress



**Four new Chief Petty Officers at NHCC core facility celebrated National POW/MIA Recognition Day Sept. 15 at 1 p.m., in the hospital auditorium by hosting a short ceremony for the staff. Chiefs Randy Rincones, Jorge A. Lafuente, Bradley T. Vonnahme and Mitchell D. Woods, coordinated the highly meaningful event, as a first official act as Chief Petty Officers, to honor our POW and MIA brethren.**

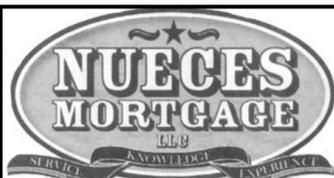
passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, which recognized the League's POW/MIA flag and designated it "as the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation."

The importance of the League's POW/MIA flag lies in its continued visibility, a constant reminder of the plight of America's POW/MIAs. Other than "Old Glory," the League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever to fly over the White House, having been displayed in this place of honor on National POW/MIA Recognition Day since 1982. With passage of Section 1082 of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act during the first term of the 105th Congress, the League's POW/MIA flag will fly each year on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day on the grounds or in the public lobbies of major military installations as designated by the Secretary of the Defense, all Federal national cemeteries, the National Korean War Veterans Memorial, the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the White House, the United States Postal Service post offices and at the official offices of the Secretaries of State, Defense and Veteran's Affairs, and Director of the Selective Service System.



**Sales & Service Are One  
2937 S.P.I.D.**

**KAWASAKI YAMAHA**  
**(361) 852-7368 • Fax: (361) 851-2460**

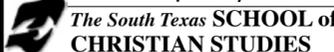


6802 Saratoga Blvd.  
Corpus Christi, Tx 78414  
**(361) 985-9999**  
Fax (800) 934-9691



**"Specializing in VA Loans"**  
Conventional, VA, Stated Quick Credit Approvals  
Bad Credit, Investment Rate/Term Reduction  
Condo, Multi-Family Home Equity/Cash-Out  
Existing and Construction First Time Homebuyers  
MEMBER OF THE MORTGAGE GROUP OF INC. AFFILIATE

### Certificate in Ministry Training Bachelor of Arts in Christian Studies Master of Divinity



offers a variety of academic opportunities in association with Howard Payne University and Logsdon School of Theology at Hardin-Simmons University. If you are interested in a Christian Studies education from a fully accredited SACCS and ATS institution here in Corpus Christi come see us. Our tuition is remarkably reasonable, our professors are eminently qualified, and our location is convenient. Many of our classes are taught in the evening, typically one night a week.

**You will find our class schedule on our Web Site at [www.stscs.org](http://www.stscs.org)  
Come see us at 7000 Ocean Drive,  
just past TAMU-CC, or call us at 991-9403**



Missi Trejo-Andrade  
Realtor



Mary Alvarez  
Realtor



Emily Gomez  
Realtor



Becky Salinas  
Realtor/Owner

**Colonial Unlimited Realty, L.P.C.**  
5959 S.STAPLES • SUITE 229 • CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78413



*We Make Dreams Come True!*

**LET US SAVE YOU MONEY! (361) 334-2280**

### Santa Maria Acres



**Santa Maria Acres Country living 15 minutes from shopping! Come see this beautiful community with horse trails. Hurry only a few 1 acre lots available.**

**Beautiful Island home, Granite countertops, open floor plan, jet tub, custom cabinets. Make your Island Dreams come true.**

## Maria A. Cisneros Realtor

cell (361) 232-3121  
office (361) 993-3932

- Over 22 years as a military wife
- Committed to help you find your Dream Home, or market your existing home



*Loyalty and integrity  
are my greatest assets*



Realty Executives  
Of Corpus Christi

## Countrywide leads the way as the #1 VA lender.<sup>1</sup>



Countrywide® is the nation's #1 VA lender for a very good reason. We have over 30 years experience in streamlining the VA loan process. Enhanced VA guidelines mean we can offer you more:

- No down payment required with full entitlement
- Loans to \$417,000 with 100% financing
- Seller contributions allowed up to 4%
- More flexible income, employment and savings requirements
- Fixed and adjustable rate programs available

Plus, as part of your local Countrywide team of VA loan experts, I can offer you personalized service, from application to closing. See for yourself why we're the "veteran lender." Call me Today!

No one can do what Countrywide can <sup>SM</sup>.

### DONNA MENARD

Branch Manager  
361-985-6222 ext. 225  
361-230-3366 cell  
1-888-252-7838 toll  
donna\_menard@countrywide.com  
6537 S. Staples #110  
Corpus Christi, Texas



Countrywide Financial Corporation is America's #1 home loan lender\* and a member of the prestigious Standard & Poor's 500 and Fortune 500.

1. Based on 2000 Peer Mortgage Data which includes loans originated and purchased.

\*Source: As ranked for 2005 by Inside Mortgage Finance (Jan. 27, 2006) Copyright 2006.

Equal Housing Lender ©2006 Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., 4500 Park Granada, Calabasas, CA 91302. Trade/servicemarks are the property of countrywide Financial Corporation and/or its subsidiaries. Arizona Mortgage Banker License Number BK8805; Licensed by the Department of Corporations under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act; Georgia Reg. #5929; Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee; Massachusetts Mortgage Lender License No. ML 1623; this is not an offer to enter into an interest rate lock-in agreement under Minnesota law; Countrywide Home Loans of Minnesota, Inc. makes all HELOCs of \$100,000 or less; Licensed by the New Hampshire Banking Department; New Jersey (818) 313-6526, Licensed Mortgage Banker, NJ Department of Banking and Insurance; Licensed Mortgage Banker, NYS Banking Department; Registered with the Pennsylvania Banking Department; Rhode Island Lender's License. Some products may not be available in all states. This is not a commitment to lend. Restrictions apply. All rights reserved. 060112 (02/06)



Cassidy

## Small Claims Court- how does it work?

By Lt. Cassidy

**Pro se** (proh say or see): adv. & adj. [Latin] for oneself; on one's own behalf; without a lawyer.

Have you ever had to spend your own money to fix another person's mistake? When this happens, people often think to themselves: "it's simply not worth the expense of hiring an attorney to get my money back." Well, you may be able to get your money back without hiring an attorney...

Small claims court gives people the opportunity to litigate on their own behalf. It doesn't require an attorney or legal training. If you have a claim worth \$5,000 or less, Small Claims Court may be for you. Any person eighteen years or older can file a Small Claims case. A parent or guardian can file on behalf of a minor child.

To start an action, the first step is to figure out who or what you are going to sue. This entity is known as the defendant. When an individual person has wronged you, this step should be fairly easy. However, when suing a business, corporation or partnership, it can be difficult to determine who you need to name as the defendant and where to have them served. You should research this information before filing. If in doubt, assistance can be sought through the Secretary of State, Business Tax Department. This entity maintains a central registry for almost all business activity occurring in the state of Texas. One can reach the Business Tax Department at phone number 512-463-5555.

Once you have identified a defendant, the next step is to file the complaint. To do this one must fill out the proper paperwork, pay the appropriate fee and file the paperwork in the applicable county courthouse. In Nueces County this occurs at the Justice of the Peace office, Precinct 1 in Corpus Christi. The self-help coordinators located on at this building will provide you with the necessary paperwork to start your Small Claims action.

How much is the filing fee for a Small Claims action? The cost depends upon the amount for which you are suing. Any claim from \$1 dollar to \$5,000 dollars carries a \$12 dollar filing fee and a \$45 dollar service fee. It shall be noted that you can add the cost of these fees to your claim.

Once you have signed the complaint in the presence of a deputy clerk (or signed it in the presence of a notary), paid the requisite fee, and filed it with the clerk, you must then arrange to have the opposing party served. It will cost you \$45 to have the Sheriff's office serve your adversary. You can arrange for

service at the same time you file your complaint. Be aware that you can pay the filing fee by cash or through a personal check, but the Sheriff's service fee can be paid only by a money order made out to the Nueces County Sheriff's Department.

In the next step, the case will be scheduled for mediation. This usually occurs within two months of filing suit. At mediation, an impartial third party will attempt to iron out an agreement between the sides. If an agreement is reached, this agreement is binding on the parties and carries the same weight as if the case had been tried. If an agreement cannot be reached, the case will be referred to a judge for a final hearing.

Litigants can expect to receive notice of their final hearing approximately two weeks prior to the hearing date. The date of the final hearing will depend upon the court's calendar, but one can expect it to occur between six to eight weeks after mediation.

In the event you wish to compel the appearance of witnesses at the hearing, you will need to have subpoenas issued. If you provide the clerk's office with the correct name and addresses, they can assist with having the necessary subpoenas issued. Each subpoena will cost \$70 with a witness fee of \$10 dollars. Witness's can only be served within a 150 mile radius.

Every case is unique, but the person who succeeds in Small Claims Court is usually the one who has kept the best documentation. As such it is important to keep all bills, contracts, invoices and/or correspondence relating to your case. You will typically use this information, not only to establish who is at fault, but also to assist in determining how much one party owes the other.

At the final hearing both parties will have the opportunity to present their respective sides of the case. Either side can call witnesses, introduce documentary evidence and make arguments as to why they should prevail.

After hearing all of the evidence, the judge will issue a decision as to whom, if anyone is at fault, and if so, how much that party owes the other. This decision is reduced to a legal document known as a final judgment. A successful litigant can then use this document to collect against the other party's assets.

If you have additional questions regarding Small Claims Court or how to collect on a final judgment, call the Naval Legal Service Office Central at 361-961-3765 to set up an appointment.

## Legal Corner

MWR continued on page 13

\$30 other government employees and Navy League members, \$10 unlimited group exercise for retired military and all dependents, \$3 guest/daily charge and locker fees from \$3 to \$5 per month.

### GLC

Stop by and visit the Gonzalez Liberty Center and watch one of the many Navy Motion Picture Service movies they have to offer. The "new releases" include: The Ant Bully; Cars; Click; Fast and the Furious 3; Lady in the Water; The Lake House; Monster House; Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest; Waist Deep; You, Me and Dupree.

### October Programs:

**Monday Night Football:** Don't miss a minute of the hard-hitting action that is **Monday Night Football** every Monday night. Get some friends together or come join us while we watch the big game on one of our big screen TV's. And rest easy the GLC will stay open until the game ends.

**October 12& 31: Last Buck Night:** Dinner & Move at 5 p.m.

**October 28:** the Gonzalez Liberty Center is hosting a **Ghoulish Adult Halloween Party** on October 28<sup>th</sup>

Costumed in your best costume to enter the costume contest and enjoy a night of spooks and goblins, tricks and treats and all around scary fun as the GLC is hosting a Halloween party. There will be free food, const, prizes, DJ, and a cash bar. Must be 18 years or older to attend.

**The Gonzalez Liberty Center is located at Building 1260 E Street.**

**Hours of Operation are: Sunday thru Saturday 11a.m. to 10 p.m.**

**For more information on these or any other GLC events, please call 961-6405.**

### Lighthouse Lanes

Come join the fun at Lighthouse Lanes! Come by and get your new bowling equipment for the new leagues. Pro Shop will be waiting for you. If we don't have it we can order it.

**Rock N Bowl on Saturday Nights:** 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. \$1 games.

Come to the "300 Fun Zone Game Room" for some video game fun.

**Want a command league, party or get together? Contact Russ Claus at 961-3805 or e-mail: Russell.claus@navy.mil for more information.**

If you care about her... encourage regular check-ups.

WOMEN'S CLINIC  
CORPUS CHRISTI  
Obstetrics • Gynecology • Infertility 851.5000

**FRESH SHRIMP at Good Prices**

**THE CRAB STORE**

9842 S.P.I.D.  
937-6618

- Soft Shell Crabs
- Stone Crab Claws
- Stuffed Jalapenos
- Deviled Crabs
- Live Crabs
- Crab Meat
- Crab Fingers
- Stuffed Flounder

**Fresh Fish, Oysters & Scallops**

Open Mon-Sat 10am-6pm • Sun 11am-6pm

**Humpal Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine Centers**

www.HumpalPhysicalTherapy.com

- Comprehensive Physical Therapy Outpatient Treatment
- Provider for Champus, ChampVA, and TRICARE
- Aquatic Therapy in Large Indoor Pools
- Free Injury Screening

1700 Wildcat, Ste.#C  
Portland, Tx 78374  
361-643-8243

2150 W. Wheeler  
Aranas Pass, Tx 78336  
361-758-5199

5026 Deepwood Cir  
Corpus Christi, Tx 78415  
361-854-2278

(also located in Calallen and Alice)

Help...only a phone call away

If you are considering a move- or know of someone who is - I can help.

**Lora Marksbury**  
Military Relocation Specialist

Lora specializes in military relocation as her 26 years of military life offer a unique insight and understanding of the complexities and frustrations of relocating and home ownership.

Please call me today.  
Office..(361) 992-9231 or (800) 825-5050  
Home..(361) 993-8648 or (800) 992-3439  
Mobile.....(361) 533-8648  
E-Mail: lmarksbury@corpuschristi-homes.com

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
PACSETTERSTEEL REALTORS

5034 Holly Road • Corpus Christi, TX 78411

**A.P.A.R.T.M.E.N.T Living**

Come visit any one of these three popular communities professionally managed by **ARI** and you will feel right at home!

**Don't Forget to Ask About Specials!**

**Let's Make A Deal...**

**Sunchase Apartments**  
5445 South Alameda  
(361) 991-7720  
FREE extended basic cable, water and gas

**Woodbury Place Apartments**  
802 Barry St.  
(361) 853-2161  
FREE electric, trash and cable

**Windrush Apartments**  
4322 Kostoryz  
(361) 854-9951  
\*ALL BILLS PAID  
\*electric, water, trash and free extended basic cable

## Attention ALL Military Personnel

Are you looking for a new or pre-owned vehicle? Call retired MA1 Thomas (Bill) at Champion Chevrolet/Cadillac. 361-654-2100 or at his direct line 361-549-5534 for details about special pricing.



Military personnel must bring this AD to qualify for special pricing and/or rebate. Rebates apply to new vehicles ONLY and special pricing will apply to all vehicles new and pre-owned. Call TODAY!



6650 South Padre Island Drive • At The AutoMall • Between Airline & Nile  
**1-866-242-2709**  
 STORE HRS: MON-FRI 8:30-6 • SAT 9-6 • SERVICE HRS: MON-FRI 7-6 • SAT 8-4  
**10,000 VEHICLES. 22 BRANDS. 1 CLICK. ChampionDealers.com**  
 From Sales To Service, Nobody Beats a Champion

## MWR News and Events

By Laurie Garcia, NAS MWR

### Corpus Christi Bay Club

Join the Corpus Christi Bay Club for a "Spooktacular" month in October! The following events are planned for this month.

#### Specials for October:

- Oct 6:** Shrimp A Peel buffet \$15.95 (All you can eat)
- Oct 7:** Prime Rib \$17.95
- Oct 13:** Chateaubriand Flambe for Two \$35.95
- Oct 14:** Surf n' Turf \$17.95
- Oct 20:** Flaming Kabobs \$17.95

All the above specials are served along with the A La Carte from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Prices are for club members. An additional \$1 per person is added for non-members. Ice tea or coffee is included with all the meals. Reservations are required for the specials in order to serve you better.

**Holiday Parties:** The holidays are right around the corner. Start planning your party, but let the Corpus Christi Bay Club take care of your catering needs. Deliveries for home and office on base and full catering at The Club and The Recreation Center are available. For more information call The Club today.

For more information, please call the Corpus Christi Bay Club at 961-2541.

### Fitness Express

#### Holiday Hours

Operating hours for Monday, October 9 will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in honor of Columbus Day. No group fitness classes will be held.

#### Active Duty Priority Times

Active duty members, who include all active duty, reservists, National Guard and Delayed Entry Program Personnel, will have priority in using the cardiovascular equipment for physical training Monday through Friday at 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Other patrons may use the cardiovascular equipment after active duty has been accommodated.

#### Fees

A fitness center usage fee will not be charged for active duty, retired or reserve military members and their dependents. Monthly membership fees include unlimited group exercise. The fees are \$20 for DoD/NAF working on base.

MWR continued on page 13

## Navy celebrates its Hispanic Heritage

Story by Joy Samsel, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Diversity is a hallmark of the U.S. Navy and is celebrated throughout the year in national heritage events. This year's Hispanic Heritage Month theme is "Hispanic Americans: Our rich cultures contributing to America's future" and will feature celebrations throughout the Navy.

The tradition of observing Hispanic Heritage began on September 17, 1968 when President Lyndon B. Johnson designated a week in mid-September as National Hispanic Heritage Week. Exactly thirty years later, President Ronald Reagan extended that week to a month-long observance beginning September 15 and ending October 15.

"Since before the United States was a sovereign nation, people of Hispanic descent have supported and defended this country's ideals of freedom and government of the people and by the people," said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr. "In 1779 Jorge Farragut, a seaman born on the Spanish island of Minorca, joined the South Carolina Navy and fought at the battle of Savannah and at the second defense of Charleston. Farragut is thought to be one of the first Hispanic Revolutionary War heroes."

Service to this nation by Hispanic Americans continues strongly today. According to the most recent census report, there are more than 42 million people in the United States who are of Hispanic origin. Of these, more than 43,000 are Sailors and civilians serving with the U.S. Navy. Hispanics are individuals who trace their origin or descent to Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central and South America, and other Spanish cultures. The term "Hispanic" does not refer to a race. Hispanic is recognized as an ethnicity and the people of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

"Hispanics were a part of this land long

before the founding of this nation and continue to be an integral part of America and the Navy," said VADM Kevin Moran, Commander, Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) and Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP). "Hispanics represent 7.7 percent of the active duty forces and 5.5 percent of the reserve forces today, and hold 39 Congressional Medals of Honor. There are approximately 129,000 Hispanics serving on active duty with honor at all levels in Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, many have paid the ultimate price."

NAVADMIN 244/06 encourages all Navy commands to increase their knowledge and awareness of Hispanic culture and contributions by celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month through programs, exhibits, publications and participation in military and community events recognizing the diversity of our American Heritage. Commands are also encouraged to support the Association of Naval Services Officers (ANSO) which recently completed 25 years of service to the Navy and its Hispanic community of officers, enlisted and civilians. Information on ANSO is available at their Web site [www.ansomil.org](http://www.ansomil.org).

The Department of Defense will observe Hispanic Heritage Month with a luncheon and awards ceremony at the Hispanic Engineers National Achievement Awards Corporation (HENAAC) Conference October 5-8 in Anaheim, Calif. For more information on HENAAC visit [www.henaac.org](http://www.henaac.org).

More information on diversity conferences, events and observances is available at the Navy diversity web site [www.npc.navy.mil/commandsupport/diversity/](http://www.npc.navy.mil/commandsupport/diversity/).

For more information on the Naval Education and Training Command, visit [https://www.netc.navy.mil](http://www.netc.navy.mil).

## Navy Ball 2006 Tickets on Sale Now An American Salute

Come join us for the 2006 Navy Ball - 231 Years of Celebrating the Navy. This year's celebration will be held on Oct. 14 at the Omni Bayfront Tower, Corpus Christi Ballroom. The Schedule of events are as follows:

Cocktails	5:30 p.m.
Program	6:30 p.m.
Dinner	8 p.m.
Dance	9 p.m.

Tickets are on sale NOW and can be purchased from 1) Your Command Master Chief, 2) ITT Ingleside, or 3) ITT Corpus Christi. Ticket prices for the 2006 Navy ball are as follows:

E1-E4	\$20
E5-E-6, GS1-5, NF2	\$35
E7-O4, GS6-9, NF3	\$50
O5-GS11, NF4-UP	\$60
Civilian guests	\$60

The 2006 Navy Ball will include official ceremonies, dinner, guest speaker and dancing featuring the D.J. Services of Blue Moon Entertainment. For more information, please call 961-2268.



NAVAL AIR STATION  
CORPUS CHRISTI  
Fall 2005  
Winter 2006

All classes are eligible for Tuition Assistance and Montgomery GI Bill

**NETWORK PLUS PREPARATION COURSE**  
 Friday, 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM (13 weeks course)  
 NET 156 - NETWORK PLUS PREPARATION:  
 18 Nov05 - 24 Feb 06. This course provides a fundamental understanding of computer networks. Through hands-on training, students learn the networking skill and concepts that affect all aspects of networking, Internet Addressing, and User Management concepts of Data Protection, Network Security, and Network Troubleshooting and Maintenance. Room215. Instructor: TBD

hours, 1 credit hour. 12 Jan 06 - 09 Feb 06. The class consists of classroom and "hands on" laboratory instruction in the characteristic, preparation, and installation of Fiber Optics cable. Students are instructed in the various tools and techniques utilized to splice, test, and terminate fiber optic cable with additional emphasis placed on the application of learned skills. Students will be prepared to take the ETA Fiber Optics Installer Certification examination which is administered by the instructor on the last day. Room211. Instructor: Mr. Tim Erickson.

**"A" PLUS PREPARATION COURSE**  
 Tuesday's and Thursday's, 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM (10 weeks) CET 100 - "A" PLUS PREPARATION COURSE: 80 clock hours, 5 credit hours. 10 Jan 06 - 16 Mar 06. The course is designed to provide students with in-depth understanding of the operation and basic maintenance of personal computers and various PC operating systems with emphasis placed on DOS and Windows 95/98/NT/2000. Students are instructed in the methods and procedures required to upgrade, maintain and repair personal computers. Emphasis is placed on the use of diagnostic software, memory expansion, and hard drive replacement. Laboratory activities include upgrade and maintenance of PC systems. Room215. Instructor: TBD

**FIBER OPTICS DESIGNER COURSE BY ETA**  
 Monday and Wednesday, 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM (5 weeks course) CET 108 - FIBER OPTICS DESIGNER: 40 clock hours, 2 credit hours. 13 Feb - 15 Mar 06. This new course will provide an in-depth knowledge of optical local area networks. This course covers all aspects of a successful fiber optic system design from network protocols, network configurations, optical cabling, industry communications standards, determination of fiber count, hardware selection, splicing/termination methods, and cable system testing and documentation. All that is learned in class is put into practice through multiple and intensive case studies. Room211. Instructor: Mr. Tim Erickson.

**FIBER OPTICS INSTALLER COURSE BY ETA**  
 Thursday, 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM (5 weeks course)  
 CET 105 - FIBER OPTICS INSTALLER: 24 clock

Contact: Phil Salcido  
(361) 937-6382



### WILLIAM A. THAU III, P.C.

"Former U.S. Navy Lawyer"

- Divorce & Separation
- Child Custody & Support
- Adoption/Guardianship
- Paternity Cases
- Wills & Probate
- Military Law
- Auto Accidents
- Personal Injury
- DWI
- Criminal Defense
- Bankruptcy
- Debt Relief Attorney

9708 S.P.I.D., SUITE A-101 • CORPUS CHRISTI  
 (361) 937-5513 • Toll Free 1-877-888-1369

Licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas  
 Former President of the Corpus Christi Family Law Association (1999-2000)  
 Selected as a Texas "Super Lawyer" in November 2003, October 2004, and October 2005 issues of Texas Monthly

Don't Wait to lose control of your Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) upon retirement. Take control now before it's too late!

Call John at  
**DAVIS ACCOUNTING**  
 (361) 980-1553

Term Life Insurance is a great deal when you're young or Uncle Sam pays most of the cost. VGLI and FEGLI cost more than \$800 per month before your time is up. [life expectancy] Buy permanent life insurance now while you are young [under 55] and can afford it.

**NUECES MORTGAGE**  
 SERVICE KNOWLEDGE EXPERIENCE  
 6802 Saratoga Blvd.  
 Corpus Christi, TX 78414  
 (361) 985-9999  
 Fax (800) 934-9691  
 John Orr Broker/Owner  
 TMBLR58507  
 "Specializing in VA Loans"  
 Conventional, VA, Stated Quick Credit Approvals  
 Bad Credit, Investment Rate/Term Reduction  
 Condo, Multi-Family Home Equity/Cash-Out  
 Existing and Construction First Time Homebuyers  
\*A MEGABANK MORTGAGE GROUP, INC. AFFILIATE\*



### CHARLES C. SMITH

Attorney at Law  
 Former Judge Advocate US Navy

- Personal Injury
- Car Accidents
- Divorce
- Bankruptcy 7 - 13
- Child Custody
- Merit System Protection Board
- Sexual Harassment

615 North Upper Broadway Suite# 510  
 (361) 883-1055

Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Charles C. Robertson, Realtor  
 15217 South Padre Island Drive # 100  
 Corpus Christi TX, 78418  
 Cell: 361-443-0357  
 Toll Free: 866-376-1656

Visit me at: [www.corpushomesearch.com](http://www.corpushomesearch.com)

8 year U.S. Navy Veteran  
 GMAC Premier Service Agent VA loan information available  
 Quality Service Certified® Free house hunting services



**SPECIAL INCENTIVES FOR ACTIVE DUTY RESERVE • RETIRED MILITARY**



Children's Clinic  
 Since 1952, we've been helping Coastal Bend kids grow up healthy.

That's a lot of fevers, skinned knees and things stuck up noses. You learn a thing or two about how to help a child in 50 plus years of healthcare. That's why three generations of parents and children have let us be part of their families. It's a record we're proud of and it's experience you can count on.

[www.thechildrensclinic.com](http://www.thechildrensclinic.com) • Since 1952

<b>SOUTHSIDE</b> 992-6458 5945 Saratoga Across from Spohn Hospital South	<b>ALAMEDA</b> 855-7346 3435 S. Alameda Next to Driscoll Children's Hospital	<b>BAY AREA</b> 985-1418 7121 SPID In the Bay Area Medical Office Building	<b>CALALLEN</b> 241-9541 13725 NW Blvd Across from Calallen High School	<b>PORTLAND</b> 643-2518 1929 W. Hwy 181 In the Crescent Center Building
---	---	---	--	---

New Patients Welcome. Appointments preferred. Weekend office hours. Se habla español. We take all local providers, including Blue Cross/Blue Shield, CHIP, Humana, and Eetna, and a Medicaid Provider is on site to determine eligibility.

*Aim Higher.  
Reach Further!*

On-base classes starting:  
October 16, 2006  
January 15, 2007  
March 19, 2007

\*Online classes start every month.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Corpus Christi Campus offers associate, bachelor, and master degrees on-base and on-line. Let us help you with the first steps down an exciting career path.

**Undergraduate:**

- Professional Aeronautics
- Aircraft Maintenance
- Technical Management
- Aviation Maintenance Management

**Graduate:**

- Aeronautical Science
- Management

Current students are employed by: Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, Army, Marines, CCAD, Boeing, AMCON, L3, Sikorsky, DLA, LSI, and Robbins Gioia.



361-937-4951 ext. 124  
corpus.christi.center@erau.edu  
www.embryriddle.edu/corpuschristi



**Executive for Realty Executives of Corpus Christi and the Island. Margarit has been in the local real estate market for over 13 years, and is a multi-million dollar producer. She prides herself on professionalism and friendliness. Whether buying or selling a home, finding the right real estate professional is the key. Please give her a chance to earn your trust and your business. You'll be glad you did.**

Hablo Español  
Margarit Haggard  
G.R.I.  
(361) 549-5094  
(361) 993-3932



10537 S. Padre Island Dr.  
Suite A  
Corpus Christi, TX 78418



Broker for Realty Executives of Corpus Christi & T.E.B. Mortgages. Offices located in Corpus Christi and on the Island. Realty Executives of Corpus Christi has over 36 years of combined real estate experience. Trevor has been in the local real estate market for more than 5 years. He prides himself on experience, loyalty, and hard work. He is available to meet all real estate needs. His support team of Executives includes: 12 Buyer Agents, an Executive Assistant, Loan Officers, Loan Processors, and a Marketing Specialist.

Trevor Belch, A.B.R.  
Real Estate,  
Mortgage Broker,  
Owner  
960-8607

**Experience the Executive difference!**

## Flight Surgeon likens deployment practice to relative's medical experience in rural Wisconsin

By Bill W. Love, NHCC Public Affairs Office



**Hessert**

Lieutenant David D. Hessert, Medical Corps, flight surgeon and the department head of the Flight Medicine Clinic at NHCC, published another article last month in *Federal Practitioner*: A peer-reviewed journal for health care professionals of the VA, DoD, and PHS.

The four page commentary, "A Navy Flight Surgeon's Experience in Iraq," appeared in the "Notes from the Field" section beginning on page 31 of the August 2006 edition volume 23, number 8.

In summarizing his story Hessert likens

his experience in Iraq to his step-grandfather's and great-grandfather's medical practice in rural Wisconsin that they told him stories about.

"In treating their patients, they made do with the limited tools and medications available in their offices, which were an hour's drive away from the nearest hospital," he said.

Hessert also explained how refreshing it was to participate in tasks such as positioning patients for x-ray imaging, casting fractures, viewing laboratory samples under the microscope, and browsing the pharmacy shelves to see what was 'on formulary' because those duties are usually handled by support staff here in CONUS.

"This tour helped me to grow as a physician and improve my diagnostic skills without the benefit of many technological tools available at home," he stated. "By forcing us to adapt from practice in a sophisticated, tertiary care center one month to a level-one aid station in a remote combat zone the next, deployment presents military physicians with a unique opportunity as well as a challenging responsibility."

### HM-15 continued from page 1

capabilities of the AN/AQS-14A and the upgraded AN/AQS-24A mine hunting, towed sonar arrays used to detect and classify mine threats in the ocean. Both systems send sonar images back to the operator; however, the AN/AQS-24A provides better resolution. As part of the exercise, the squadron compared images from the same columns of water to provide an apples-to-apples comparison of the two systems.

As was the case with RIMPAC, PanamaX provided another opportunity to operate in the shipboard environment with realistic mission tasking that has greatly improved HM-15's capabilities and readiness to combat real-world threats. The pilots were able to complete necessary deck landings for qualifica-

tion and proficiency, and in turn, provided the opportunity for the shipboard air traffic controllers to qualify newly assigned personnel. PanamaX 2006 provided valuable training for a variety of units involved from the various participant countries.

In addition to the major summer exercises in which HM-15 participated, the Blackhawks continue to provide a permanent four aircraft detachment to the Middle East area of operations. HM-15 DET Two provides Vertical On Board Delivery and logistical support to all U.S. ships operating in the region in addition to being available for disaster relief efforts on an as-needed basis. The personnel of HM-15, both at home and abroad, expect to be busy right through the holidays with various exercises and deployments.



An HM-15 MH-53 helicopter gets ready to launch for a mission in support of RIMPAC 2006. (Photo by L.L. j.g. Greg Paules)

## Ramadan: For some, a month of fasting

By Chaplain Chin Van Dang

Ramadan (The Month of Fasting) is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar. This year, beginning September 23, 2006, Muslims will observe Ramadan and Eid-UL-Fitr (The Festival of Fast Breaking) on October 23, 2006. During the Fast of Ramadan which lasts 30 days, strict restraints are placed on the daily lives of Muslims. They are not allowed to eat or drink during the daylight hours. Smoking and sexual relations are also forbidden during fasting. At the end of the day the fast is broken with prayer and a meal called the *iftar*. In the evening following the *iftar* it is customary for Muslims to go out visiting family and friends.

The good that is acquired through the fast can be destroyed by five things: the telling of a lie - slander -denouncing someone behind his back - a false oath - greed or covetousness. During Ramadan, it is common for Muslims to go to the *Masjid* (Mosque) and spend several hours praying and studying the Quran. In addition to the five daily prayers, during Ramadan Muslims recite a special prayer called the *Taraweeh* prayer (Night Prayer). The length of this prayer is usually 2-3 times as long as the daily prayers. On the evening of the 27th day of the month, Muslims celebrate the *Laylat-al-Qadr* (the Night of Power). It is believed that on this night Muhammad first received the revelation of the Holy Quran. And according to the Quran, this is when God determines the course of the world for the following year. When the fast ends (the first day of the month of Shawwal) it is celebrated for three days in a holiday called Id-al-Fitr (the Feast of Fast Breaking). Gifts are exchanged. Friends and family gather to pray in congregation and for large meals. In some cities fairs are held to celebrate the end of the Fast of Ramadan. The word Muslim (Moslem) means "one who gives himself to God" in Arabic. Islam means "submission or obedience to God". Islam gives guidance to all aspects of life. Muslims cannot eat pork. Other meats must be *halal* (allowed) - the animals are slaughtered in a way that gives the least pain, and "In the name of God" is recited before it is killed. Muslims should not drink alcohol. They should not fight except for Islam. They must not gamble. Muslims should give to the poor and less fortunate and must be kind to strangers. Muslims believe that during the month of Ramadan, the Holy Quran (Koran) "was sent down from heaven, a guidance unto men, a declaration of direction, and a means of Salvation". These revelations continued for 10 days. The first revelation occurred on the night of the 27th day of Ramadan. This night is called the *Laylat-al-Qadr* (Night of Power). And according to the Quran, this is when God determines the course of the world for the following year.



THE MILITARY MEANS  
**COMMITMENT,  
SERVICE  
AND SACRIFICE.**

**WE OFFER TWO OUT OF THREE.**

Go with GEICO and you sacrifice nothing.

That's because GEICO is committed to giving our military customers auto insurance that's second to none: 24-hour service, simple payment plans, money-saving discounts, vehicle storage options and storage protection plans, whether you decide to store it yourself or store it on base.

For seventy years, GEICO has been serving the special needs of the special people who serve our country. We're ready to do it for you. Call us anytime.

**GEICO**

Call our local office - coverage available by phone.

(361) 992-4955 | 6410 S. Padre Island Dr. | Corpus Christi  
Next to Penske Truck Rental

Military discounts not available in all states or in all GEICO companies. Government Employees Insurance Co. GEICO General Insurance Co. • GEICO Indemnity Co. • GEICO Casualty Co. • These companies are subsidiaries of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. • GEICO auto insurance is not available in Mass. GEICO, Washington, DC 20076. © 2006 GEICO

TXI

**TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE WINGSPAN  
MILITARY NEWSPAPER CALL (361) 814-0866**

# BRACES

for children and adults

- No Down Payment
- Affordable Monthly Payments
- Most Insurance Accepted

**Please Call for a Free Exam and Consultation**  
**(361) 993-2288**  
 Padre Palms Square • 6500 S. Padre Island Drive, Suite 25

Coastal Orthodontics 1-800-4BRACES

**DANIEL TORRES, D.D.S.**  
 ORTHODONTIST



**6802 Saratoga Blvd.**  
 Corpus Christi, Tx 78414  
**(361) 985-9999**  
 Fax (800) 934-9691

John Orr Broker/Owner  
 TMBL#58507

**"Specializing in VA Loans"**

Conventional, VA, Stated Bad Credit, Investment Condo, Multi-Family Existing and Construction

Quick Credit Approvals Rate/Term Reduction Home Equity/Cash-Out First Time Homebuyers

• A MEGAMERICA MORTGAGE GROUP, INC. AFFILIATE

## Piano Lessons

992-6517

With **Mrs. Ronnie Gerberich**  
 National Music Teachers Assoc.  
 University of Rochester BA

Pre-school to Adult  
 Beginners thru Advanced  
 Country Club  
 Staples/Saratoga/Everhart

**Captain continued from page 2**

Logistics Agency (DLA) Mobile Depot exercise on the base. Both the SAR and Mobile Depot exercises received on-base media attention.

Folks, Solid Curtain provided the means for your Security team to put into play many procedures that haven't been exercised in years. The training was outstanding – lots of good stuff came out of it. It proved to me, NASCC's Commanding Officer, that our guys and gals know what they're doing. We can all relax a bit knowing the procedures work, our Security Force is well trained and observant, and they have our safety as a priority in this Global War on Terrorism.

I'd like to express my appreciation to you, the readers, for your patient adjustment to the inconveniences the exercise imposed. We tried to do this as safely as possible. I know access to the base took more time than usual. I know traffic backed up onto SPID – and that's never a good thing. I can tell you that we coordinated our moves to higher FPCONS with the Flour Bluff schools, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) and, of course, the Corpus Christi Police and Fire Departments.

When you see a NASCC Security Team member – please let them know you appreciate their service and, if you have the time, let them know that you know they did an outstanding job during the exercise!

See you on the beach!

**Chaplain continued from page 2**

even than our social identities, we are spiritual beings that should nurture and develop our spiritual lives—and the sooner the better!

I think it is very interesting that it was for the very purpose of rebuilding the Jerusalem Temple under a Persian King's authority that started the restoration of the exiled Jews to the land they left in slavery, misery and shame. It was the beginning of hope, new life and a new future. Rebuilding a life of faith may be the very first order for rebuilding a life beset by circumstance. It may be the beginning of a discovery of a whole "you" whom you have not yet come to know—the best you.

**Health continued from page 2**

how long the immunity provided by the vaccine will last. Studies have demonstrated it to be effective for at least five years; however the endpoint of protection is not yet known.

The vaccine against HPV offers tremendous potential for preventing both cervical cancer and genital warts in females and so far all indications are that it is safe and well tolerated. It is currently recommended for females aged 9-26 years old and is most effective when given before the onset of sexual activity. However, it is not for everyone. Talk with your doctor today to see if it is right for you or your family. For more information on this subject go to <http://www.cdc.gov/std/HPV/STDFact-HPV-vaccine.htm>

# Get 15% Off

your Total Food Bill with your Military ID

Valid at participating Landry's locations only. One coupon per table. Must present valid military ID with coupon. Alcohol, tax and gratuity not included. Not valid with any other offer, discount or promotion.



Corpus Christi • 600 North Shoreline Drive • 361-882-6666



**We Cater to Cowards With Bad Breath and Crooked Teeth**

- Gentle Family Dentistry
- Financial Arrangements
- Delta Dental & United Concordia
- Medicaid Accepted
- Non-Surgical Gum Treatment

**ORTHODONTIC EVALUATION FREE**

- 0 Down Payment
- \$88.00 Per Month WITH COUPON First Visit Only.

**EXAM & X-RAYS \$1900**

WITH COUPON First Visit Only.

**TOOTH WHITENING \$19900**

WITH COUPON

*Pleasing You Is Our Primary Concern*

Evening and Saturday appointments available

**SUNRISE MALL FAMILY DENTAL CENTER**  
 994-GUMS (4867)

**Dr. Scott Barton**

## Cyberspace: Welcome to the 21st Century

By Kelli Kirwan for LIFELines.navy.mil/LIFELines.usmc.mil

Bad-hair days, laundry piled to the ceiling, and fear of (or irritation at) holiday shopping crowds are only a few reasons to shop online. In today's world, convenience often drives your decision as to where you'll spend your hard-earned dollars, so the Commissaries and Exchanges have gotten online with the rest of the world.

**Shop Online and Benefit Your Base**

Navy Exchanges (NEX) has a great site that helps you locate Exchanges and Navy Lodges overseas and stateside. You can shop online and have your purchases shipped directly to you. Uniforms and ships stores are available through the NEX web site as well. Spending your money online with your Navy Exchange generates 70 percent back to your military community in the form of MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) distributions. Marine Corps Exchanges are easy to access through Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS). There you can shop online and buy uniforms right from your own home (no matter what your hair looks like today). Money spent online with your Marine Corps Exchange also enriches your community, with a percentage being put back into MCCS to provide recreation facilities and other benefits for Marine Corps bases. AAFES stands for Army, Air Force Exchange Services but it is available to

Navy and Marine Corps families as well. All active-duty and retired military and their families can shop at any of the locations around the world. In order to take advantage of online shopping, you must be a registered authorized user. The web site will walk you through the steps of choosing your user name and password, and there are safeguards in place if you lose or forget either one.

**Don't Forget the Commissary**

Exchanges are not the only military facility to enter the new Web age. When you've finished buying all those goodies online, surf on over to Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) and check out the great savings, coupons, contests, and more. It's not just about groceries anymore (though you'll save almost 30 percent on your overall shopping when you use the Commissary). You can stroll down the virtual aisles and create a shopping list straight from your closest Commissary. DeCA has always sought to bring you the best possible products at the lowest possible prices. Now they're bringing you a new convenience — you can organize your shopping without leaving home. When you begin to take advantage of all that cyberspace has to offer, you save time and money — two things we can all use more of.

## Housing vacancies at NAS Corpus Christi



Two bedroom homes like this one aboard NAS Corpus Christi might soon be "rented" by civilians. For more information, contact the Base Housing Office.

Private-Public Venture Housing at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi presently has a number of two-bedroom townhouse-style units available for occupancy.

Although active-duty military with families have priority, applications are currently being accepted from single service members. Military roommates are also welcome to apply.

Rent (including utilities) for military with families is an amount equal to the service member's BAH. A fair market rent (which includes utilities) has been established for other eligible applicants.

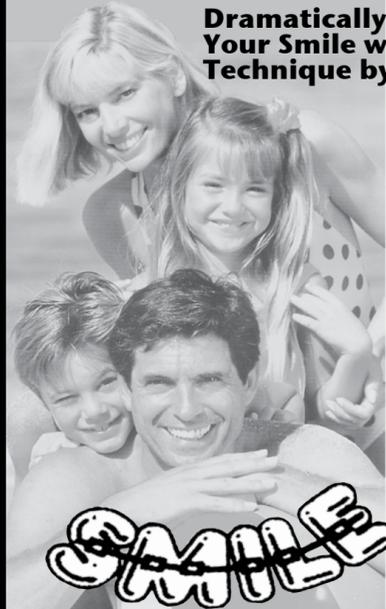
The Navy Housing office maintains a referral list for the three- and four-bedroom PPV

homes for eligible military families. The wait time for the larger units is six to nine months for some of these units, so applications should be submitted in a timely manner in order to plan for a convenient move-in date.

If you want to live close to work, save on gasoline expenses, and avoid paying the high utility bills for an off-base rental, then contact the Navy Housing office today, at 961-3337 for more information.

Or stop by and visit the Housing office, located in Bldg 3600, at the corners of E Street and Dimmit Drive. A housing application, copy of orders to the local area, and Page 2 or RED (Record of Emergency Data) are required to process your application.

## Dramatically Improve Your Smile with the "Super Smile" Technique by Dr. Joseph Coniglio



**Quality Treatment with**

- Reasonable Fees
- Free Initial Exam
- No Down Payment
- Low Monthly Fees

*Less Treatment Time  
 Fewer Treatment Visits  
 Computer Assisted Technology with Fixed or Invisible Braces to Shorten Treatment Time and Achieve the Best Possible "Super Smile" with Minimal Discomfort and Lower Costs*

**Neighborhood Offices:**

- Corpus Christi
- Kingsville
- Portland
- Rockport
- 5 Points

**Dr. Joseph Coniglio, D.D.S., M.S.**  
 Orthodontist  
**(361) 993-2333**  
 5756 S. Staples • Corpus Christi

*Military Provider and most other major insurances accepted*

## F & T BODY SHOP

ELECTRONICALLY LINKED TO ALL MAJOR INSURANCE COMPANIES

**Complete Auto-Body Repairs & Paint**  
 Frame Repair • Insurance Claims

**937-1831**

721 N.A.S. Drive (@ The Y) e-mail: [astaup@msn.com](mailto:astaup@msn.com)

**Frank Staup, Owner**  
 Serving Flour Bluff, Padre & Mustang Island and Port Aransas Since 1984

**East-Facing Canal Home for only \$339,900!**  
 Approx. 1700 s.f. 2-story stucco home with a large deck to entertain guests. Boat lift. Downstairs master has french doors that open to deck & jet tub/shower combination. Open kitchen has breakfast bar & island range. Breakfast nook looks onto private front courtyard. 3/2.5/2

**15350 Bowsprit Court**

Victoria Prince (Veteran)

**(361) 991-3145 or (361) 442-3436 (Cell)**  
 www.victoriaprince.com RE/MAX Metro Properties  
 5242 Holly Rd • Corpus Christi, TX 78411 • (361) 994-9393



**6802 Saratoga Blvd.**  
 Corpus Christi, Tx 78414  
**(361) 985-9999**  
 Fax (800) 934-9691

John Orr Broker/Owner  
 TMBL#58507

**"Specializing in VA Loans"**

Conventional, VA, Stated Bad Credit, Investment Condo, Multi-Family Existing and Construction

Quick Credit Approvals Rate/Term Reduction Home Equity/Cash-Out First Time Homebuyers

• A MEGAMERICA MORTGAGE GROUP, INC. AFFILIATE

# AROUND THE BASE

*How do you prepare for Halloween*



It's getting close to "that time" when witches and goblins fill the air. At the NEX, cashiers and employees of the Exchange "greet" shoppers, as they come in to buy. This was part of a "fun dress-up" day for everyone and there were plenty of swords, hooks and eye patches to go around. (Photo by Bob Torres)

*A moment of silence for those who have fallen*



NASCC fire fighters take a moment to pray for those who have fallen and thier families during the 9/11 ceremony held in the Wings Auditorium. (Photo by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

*Last Buck Night*



Last Buck Night has come and gone again, but not to worry the next one will be held on the 29th. Come and enjoy a free meal, and stay for the fun and excitement. (Photo by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

*Time for a round up*



Porsches, Corvettes, Lotus, and a myriad of cars sports cars lined up at Cabaniss Field, Sept. 9 for the first time in years. The event, that will be held monthly, allows drivers to try out their skills in a controlled, instructor- assisted course. Speeds upwards of 140 mph were recorded during the event. For more information, contact the Porsche Club. (Photo by Bob Torres)

*Pilot For A Day*



As the Pilot For A Day Anthony Rusakov and his twin brother Phillip dance to a song played by Sparky the newest member of the NASCC Fire Department. Anthony has heart problems, but has more than enough heart to go around. He is 7 years old and is from Corpus Christi. Anthony toured the base with excitement with his brother Phillip and mother Olga. (Photo by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

# AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

*NASCC welcome in new Chiefs*



(Above) Newly selected "Chiefs" were honored at a "pinning" ceremony at Wings Auditorium, Sept. 15. This ceremony, with the traditional pinning of their anchors, initiates them into the Chief Community. Congratulations - Chiefs! (Photo by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

*NASCC Security personnel are awarded*



(Left) Security Department personnel received awards, Sept. 12, ranging from Good Conduct awards, to the Navy Marine Corps Achievement medal. The recipients, from left to right are: MAC Binning, MAC Teal, MA2 Twohig, MA2 Mclerran, MA2 Martin, MA2 Wills, FC1 Barber, MA2 Rolle, MA1 Burch, SHSN Vela, MA1 Blakely, MA3 Toal , MA2 Percle, MA2 Reynolds, MA3 Knox, and MA1 Evans. (Photo by Bob Torres)

*NHCC personnel are awarded*



(Left to right) Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (Surface Warfare/Fleet Marine Force) Jacques B. Garrett, Good Conduct Award; Capt. J.P. Rice, Commanding Officer; (front) Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Suzanne R. Chapman, Military Outstanding Service Medal; Ms. Erlene J. Moreno, Twenty-five Years Service Award; (back) Lt. Junius E. Dural, Nurse Corps, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (Second Award); Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (Fleet Marine Force) Robert W. Hickey, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and Flag Letter of Commendation from Commander, Navy Medicine East; and Mr. Alan C. Sayles, The Secretary of the Navy Career Service Award for forty-five years of faithful service. (Photo by Bill Love)

*NASCC bids Fair Winds and Following Seas to Banaag*



Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (Fleet Marine Force/Air Warfare) Alfred Banaag (right), a biomedical repair technician (Advanced) at NHCC since July 2004, transferred to the Fleet Reserve Sept. 21, 2006 in a 10 a.m. ceremony at the Protestant Chapel fellowship hall on base. Capt. J. P. Rice, Medical Corps, the commanding officer at Naval Hospital Corpus Christi, presented Banaag with the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and a Certificate of Retirement for 20 years of faithful and honorable service. (Photo by Bill Love)