

WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

January 10, 2013



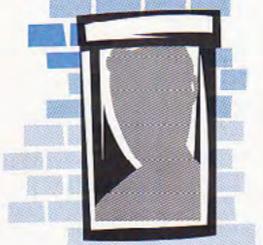
**Martin Luther
King Jr. Day
Jan. 21**



New CO for VT-31

page 3

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What you **NEED** to
know about . . .

STALKING

page 11

2012: A Year of Changes and Improvements

by Rod Hafemeister

A number of changes came to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi in 2012: New and refurbished facilities, new senior officers, visits from senior leadership – and the long-awaited arrival of the T-6B Texan II aircraft, which will be used starting this year for Initial Pilot Training.

Add in events like the Beach to Bay race and the annual Navy Regatta, plus the usual seasonal festivities, and the Air Station had a busy year once again.

The first ribbon cutting was for a refurbished aircraft wash rack on Jan. 12. Two weeks later, the ribbon was cut for the new fire station at NALF Cabaniss, which also became the first NASCC facility to receive Leadership in Energy and Design (LEED) Silver certification.

In March, base leaders cut the ribbon for solar electric panels on

2012 continued on page 4



A T-6B Texan II takes off from NOLF Goliad on Dec. 17 as part of the formal opening ceremonies for the airfield. The airfield had been closed in 1992, but was reacquired by the Navy and improved to provide a training field for the T-6B, which will become the primary initial training aircraft in 2013.

Photo by Bob Torres

'Last Dance' at Bay Club rings in the New Year



With the old Bay Club soon to be replaced by the new, almost completed club, MWR threw a casino-themed 'Last Dance'

to ring out 2012 and the old club. The new club is expected to open in February.

Photo by Bob Torres

Skipper's Column

by Capt. Dave Edgecomb



Edgecomb

As we move into 2013, we're going to be making a traffic change affecting the Main (Flour Bluff) Gate – reducing the speed limit on Lexington Blvd. near the gate.

The new speed limit will be 20 mph between the gate and just before

the traffic light by the NEX gas station.

The new limit will apply to both inbound and outbound traffic.

Signs reflecting the new speed limit will go up later this month.

While I realize this may, at times, slow traffic through the gate, we've determined that it is necessary for the safety of everyone.

As you probably know, we use a variety

of security measures to control access to the base, some obvious, some not.

One that is fairly obvious is the denial barrier near Building 1740 that can be deployed to stop "gate runners."

Twice in 2012, deployment of the barrier resulted in injury accidents that required transport to a hospital – in both cases, injuries to people in vehicles other than the one the barrier was deployed to stop.

In July, a driver without proper identification was directed to turn around the guard building and exit the base. Instead, the driver proceeded to drive onto the base and the sentry deployed the barrier.

The driver of another vehicle, in front of the suspect's, heard the siren and saw the flashing lights – but was unable to stop in time and hit the barrier.

In October, a driver disregarded instructions to pull into Pass & Tag, attempted to drive onto the base and a sentry activated the barrier.

A vehicle in the outbound lane struck the barrier and was then rear-ended by another

vehicle. One person was evacuated to a hospital for treatment.

Subsequent investigations indicated that, in both cases, a lower speed limit may have reduced the likelihood of other vehicles hitting the barrier and, if they did hit it, reduced the severity of any possible injuries.

So we are reducing the speed limit.

Future plans include installing a speed bump to also slow traffic.

As always, I ask everyone to understand that sentries at the gates are following procedures required by policy and regulations – and by me.

That includes physically examining your ID.

If you have a concern or complaint about gate procedures, contact me and I'll discuss it with you.

Arguing with or abusive behavior toward the sentries will not get you through the gate faster, and may cause you much more difficulty.

Remember, the goal is to have a safe and secure environment on the Air Station.

Safety Changes at the Gate

Wingspan

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Chaplain's Message

by Lt. Cmdr. Gabriel Mensah, Chaplain

The year 2013 is barely a week old and, traditionally, a great number of people start a new year with big aspirations and goals, usually in the form of a list of resolutions.

Or, as a friend of mine jovially put it, "a wish list."

The reality is come Jan. 31, most people will have already forgotten the resolutions they made or ditched whatever goal they set for themselves.

The plain truth is that making a resolution without a strategic, specific plan of going about achieving it becomes just a dream or a wish list.

Most experts advise that the secret to successfully achieving your New Year resolutions is to have a SMART plan – i.e. Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely.

The following are just three of my top 2013 resolutions that I believe are achievable

with a little discipline:

Maintain your weight and keep fit.

This is always a very popular New Year's resolution. After weeks of overindulgence during the holiday season, it is time to get back to a healthier, reasonable diet. In other words lose the weight sensibly.

Fitness experts advise that combining a reasonable diet and even a moderate exercise regimen will put you back on the path of a healthy lifestyle.

Sort out your finances. If your family is like the average American family, you probably maxed out on your credit card limit during the holiday shopping spree. Now is the time to put your financial situation in order. Paying off the credit card debt, coupled with a manageable budget will guarantee a much more secure financial future for your family.

Resolve to spend more time with your family. This is usually easier said than

2013 Resolutions

done. In these hard economic times, most couples have to work to make ends meet.

This year, make a concerted effort to find a little time to do things with the family. Watch a movie together, go for a walk, etc.

The time you spend with your family can be very rewarding, and the truth is you can spend quality time with your family without spending a dime.

With a little planning, ingenuity and determination most of your New Year's resolutions can be attainable.

I wish you and your family a wonderful 2013!



Mensah

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

As I write this, we're awaiting the first big storm of 2012.

Predictions are this could be a doozy – but we should all know if it was by the time you read this.

As I head into my fifth year as editor, I'm already planning

this year's hurricane prep stories, and how to handle the new website design (expected to go "live" in February... maybe).

But looking back on the 2012 issues, and thinking back, I realized that we probably should do more to prepare for the storms outside of hurricane season, because they are the ones that have done the most damage in recent years.

A storm in May flooded much of the base – and did a lot more damage in areas off base.

High winds took down a part of the fence at my house; branches and whole trees were downed, taking out power for hours in parts

Stormy Weather...

of the area.

January 2011 brought an ice storm that shut things down for more than a day.

Think back a little more, and you may recall the late night wind storm that flipped several RVs in the RV Park and tossed a boat shed into the Laguna Madre.

Towards the back of this issue, there's a CNIC story about preparing for winter.

It mostly focuses on those farther North, dealing with snow and ice – but it's worth a read for ideas how to prepare for the sometimes strange weather of South Texas.

Stay dry and stay warm.

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Islamic Society of South Texas
(7341 McArdle Rd.)
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Tellado departs VT-31; Copeland takes over as Commanding Officer



Cmdr. Anthony Tellado, who had commanded VT-31 since March 2010, passed the command to Cmdr. Todd Copeland on Jan. 4. Left, Tellado receives the

Meritorious Service Medal from Training Wing 4 Commodore Capt. Rex Curtin. Right, Copeland salutes Curtin after assuming command.

Photos by Bob Torres

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2012 continued from page 1

two warehouses – panels that feed electricity back to the grid and reduce energy costs.

In April, Hanger 58 – which had once been thought would be condemned and demolished – was reopened after extensive renovations.

Also in April, the Veterinary Clinic cut the ribbon on its expansion.

May brought City of Corpus Christi leaders to the base for the ribbon cutting on the effluent water system for the golf course. The system uses treated sewage that would have been discharge into the Laguna Madre to keep the course green – and save an estimated \$67,000 a month.

After more than a year of construction, most of it by Navy SeaBees, the ribbon was cut on the new boat ramp for the NASCC Marina on Nov. 8.

And the final ribbon cutting was Dec. 17 – the formal opening of NOLF Goliad.

Along the way, a number of senior leaders visited the Air Station, starting with the Naval IG, Vice Adm. James P. Wisecup in February.

He was followed by Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Naval Installations Command, in April.

In September, Vice Adm. Matt L. Nathan, U.S. Navy Surgeon General and Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, visited the Naval Health Clinic.

The same month, Corpus Christi Army Depot hosted Gen. Dennis L. Via, Commander of U.S. Army Materiel Command.

And October brought Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Juan M. Garcia III to the Air Station, where he once had served as a Reserve Component commanding officer.

At Training Air Wing 4, Capt. Rex Curtin took over as Commodore from Capt. Scott Cooledge in June.

And in November, Rear Adm. William Sizemore II retired and Rear Adm. Mark Leavitt became Chief of Naval Air Training.

2013 promises to be just as busy, with the transition to the T-6B, opening of the new Bay Club and an Air Show in April.



Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Juan M. Garcia III greeted Sailors and Marines after an all-hands call at the Wings Auditorium.
Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA



Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Naval Installations Command, speaks to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi personnel.
Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Leadership Changes



Vice Adm. Allen G. Myers, left, shakes hands with Rear Adm. William G. Sizemore II, departing Chief of Naval Air Training, during a change of command ceremony Nov. 15. Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA



(l. to. r.) Capt. Rex Curtin, incoming Commodore, Training air Wing 4; Rear Adm. William Sizemore II, Chief of Naval Air Training; and Capt. Scott Cooledge, departing Commodore, TW-4, at the change of command June 8.

Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA

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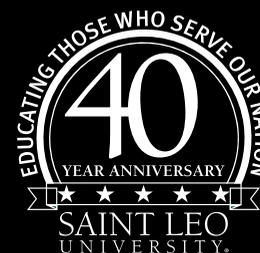
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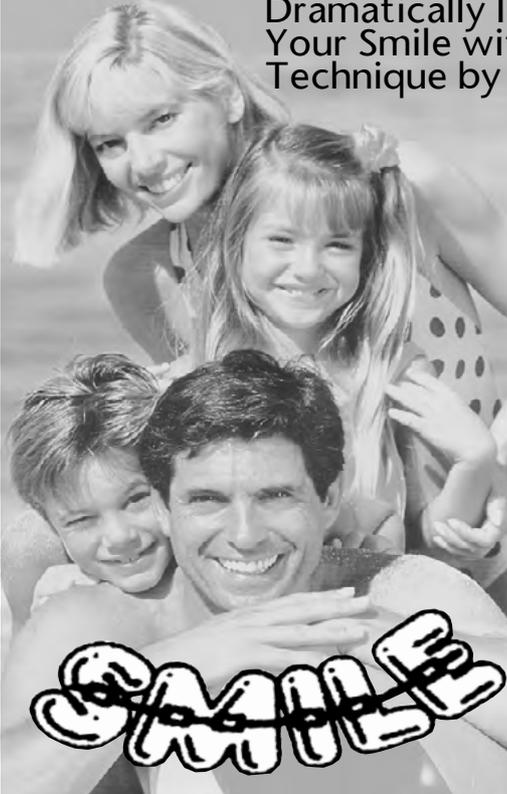
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Sharon Adams reacts as 'Wheel of Fortune' host Pat Sajak reveals she won \$100,000 in the game's bonus round. Adams won a total of \$110,500 on the show, broadcast in April. She is the wife of Marine Corp Maj. Samuel Adams, an instructor pilot with VT-31. Photo courtesy of 'Wheel of Fortune'

Hang Time

Members of the All-Navy Basketball Team practiced at NASCC in October before heading to San Antonio for the All-Military Tournament.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Security gets new wheels



(top) Lt. Jack Stanley in February stands with a new electric vehicle outfitted for police duties. The GreenTruck Crew Cab EVR1000 is the first of four that joined the Security Department fleet, replacing two SUV 'gas guzzlers' and two old sedans with maintenance issues. (center) Stanley shows one of the Security Department's new patrol cars to NASCC XO Cmdr. Dave Dargen in October. The department received two 2013 and one 2012 Chevy Impala Police Package Vehicles, renting from the General Service Administration for the same price as the maintenance intensive vehicles they replaced. Photos by Rod Hafemeister



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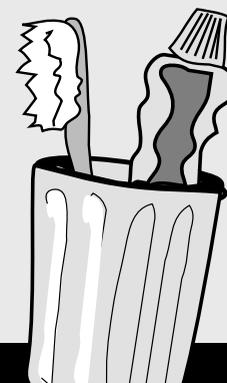
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Daedalian Anniversary Ball - March 23

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The party starts at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at the classic Parr Officers Club on historic Randolph AFB, Texas.

Dance to Swing Music from the WWII era performed by the best Big Band in Texas, the Sentimental Journey Orchestra from Kerrville, under the direction of Ted Connerly.

Download request from www.stinsonsflight.org or call 210-556-7370 for info.

Looking Back on 2012



Beach to Bay, Navy Regatta/Titanic Cup, Beach Parties and seasonal festivals for Easter, Halloween and other events kept NASCC busy in 2012. But there also was time for three security exercises, including one with Corpus Christi Army Depot, and remembrance of the terrorist attack and those lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

Photos by Rod Hafemeister, Bob Torres, MC2 Maria Garza, Laurie Garcia and Richard Stewart



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NASCC Fire Dept. brings Santa to Flour Bluff 'Little Hornets'



Santa and his 'elves' from the NASCC Fire & Emergency Services brought presents to the Flour Bluff 'Little Hornets' on Dec. 18. Photo from NASCC F&ES



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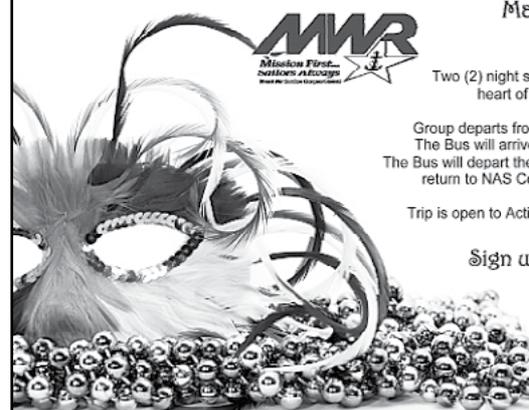
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Two (2) night stay at the Hotel Monteleone New Orleans located in the heart of downtown on Royal Street (Double Occupancy).

Group departs from ITT, Building 1785 at 4 am on Friday, January 25, 2013. The Bus will arrive at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans at around 3 pm. The Bus will depart the Hotel Monteleone at 11 am on Sunday, January 27, 2013 and return to NAS Corpus Christi at approximately 1 am on January 28, 2013.

Trip is open to Active Duty, Retired, Reservists, Guard Members, Contractors, DoD and NAFI Personnel.

Sign up at the ITT Office in building 1785.



For more information, please call 961-3961.

January is National Stalking Awareness Month

by Andrea Gutierrez- FFSC DAVA
(Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate)

Stalking is defined as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause at reasonable person to feel fear.

Stalking is a crime in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and in the U.S. territories.

Statistically, 6.6 million people are stalked in one year in the U.S.

One in six women and one in 19 men have experienced stalking victimization at some point in their lifetime.

These were times during which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.

When the term "stalking" is heard one often thinks of someone constantly calling another person, lurking around their home, following them to work, writing strange love notes, professing their undying love for them, etc.

Stalking, in these recent technological times, has become so much more sophisticated and can involve someone being stalked without even the other person being aware of it – cell phones, computers, and GPS can be dangerous weapons in a stalker's arsenal.

It is not uncommon for each of us to use multiple technologies on a daily basis.

Cell phones, computers, fax machines, and GPS navigation systems are part of our personal and professional lives.

In most cases, these technologies are used to assist us.

But in the hands of a stalker, these technologies can be used to monitor, track,



threaten, and terrorize a victim.

This type of stalking is what is termed as cyber-stalking.

Using the Internet has become a popular tool for stalkers to continually carry out their actions.

Using a social media website/outlet or hacking into an email account, stalkers are using these methods to track, follow and watch their victim's whereabouts and actions.

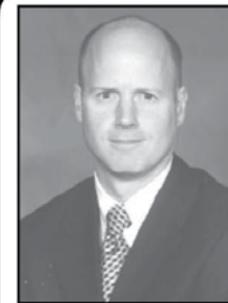
Cellular phones with GPS capabilities are also weapons used by an offender.

There are also other forms of technology being used without the victim even knowing, such as spoofing, key logging, and spyware.

For more information on cyber-stalking, laws on stalking, and prevention/intervention tips refer to the following website:

<http://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center>

Contact the local Women's Shelter @ 361-881-8888, or the Fleet and Family Support Center at 361-961-2372 for further assistance.



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What's Happening

Needed, two or three volunteer crocheting and knitting instructors to meet at the Garcia Public Library, 5930 Brockhampton Street, one evening a week. This is a free class to the public... For more information call 361-334-7300.

Hearing Loss Association of America meeting is Saturday, January 19, 2013 @ 10:00 a.m. at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center 5151 McArdle Rd. Our presentation is on looping technology and how it can improve your hearing experience. Come join us and bring a friend. For information call 361-815-7212

The Janet F. Harte Public Library will host a Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party on Saturday, January 26, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. Come celebrate the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series of books - we will be offering crafts, games, trivia and snacks. Free and appropriate for grades 2 and up. The library is located at 2629 Waldron Rd. in Flour Bluff. For more information call 937-6569.

KEDT Food & Wine Classic - Thurs. Jan. 31, 2013. 7-10 P.M. at The CC Museum of Science & History, 1900 N. Chaparral. This annual fund raising event is for public broadcasting station KEDT. Guests can sample an array of domestic and imported wines from a complimentary Food & Wine Classic wineglass while tasting the culinary creations from South Texas' finest food establishments. Tickets are \$80. 361-855-2213, 1-800-307-5338, www.kedt.org; or at KEDT studio 4455 SPID. Dress code is Sunday best or business attire.

Dr. Ernestine Garner to discuss "Positive Race Relations in our City" 8th YWCA Annual Racial Justice Forum - Programs addressing racism, cultural diversity and integration are considered a high priority in South Texas. The YWCA addresses these concerns with the 8th Annual Racial Justice Forum Monday, Jan. 21 from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the YWCA, 4601 Corona Drive. Guest speaker Ernestine Garner, Ed.D., discusses "Positive Race Relations in our City." The YWCA Racial Justice Forum creates appreciation of cultural and demographic diversity in the community and encourages conversation on the issues. The Forum includes a light continental breakfast with a sack lunch upon dismissal to the Annual MLK walk that starts downtown at 12:00 P.M. The forum is free and open to the community; \$10 donations requested. CEU's also available through Del Mar College. Online registration available: ywca.org/corpuschristi. For more information, contact 857-5661 X13 or ywacc@ywacc.org. Program sponsors include Coretta Graham, Velda Vela-Trujillo, Ph.D., Corpus Christi City Employees Credit Union, Del Mar College and the YWCA.

On January 19, 2013, the Organ Donor Dash will be held at Brewster Street Icehouse. The race will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will include a 2k, 5k and 10k certified races. At this race there will be chances to sign up to become an organ, tissue, blood and bone marrow donors. For more information, go to our website, organdonordash.org

We are looking for a few GREEN THUMBS! Apply today for a Community Garden Grant from the Mayor's Fitness Council Application Deadline is January 31, 2013. If you've been wanting to be a part of a community garden and are ready to dig in and put your "green thumb" to work to grow your own vegetables, you may be in luck for some green of another kind—\$eed money! The Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation is inviting everyone who is interested in starting a community garden to submit an application for the Mayor's Fitness Council Community Garden Grant. This grant is also open to established community gardens. Up to twelve grants of \$500 will be awarded to organizations, school groups, individuals or groups of individuals who live within the city of Corpus Christi. The funds can be used for tools, seeds, plants, irrigation equipment, raised beds, or soil improvement materials. Groups are encouraged to contact Talbert at 826-3461 or StacieT@cctexas.com to discuss their application prior to submission. This will insure suitability of sites and garden projects being proposed, as well as, provide an opportunity for advice and assistance in the completion of the application. Submit Your Application Today: Applications should be submitted in full and will only be accepted on the approved Mayor's Fitness Council Community Garden Grant Form. All applications are due to the Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation Department no later than Jan. 31, 2013. Late applications will not be accepted. Grant recipients will be notified by Feb. 15, 2013. For more information about the City of Corpus Christi Mayor's Fitness Council and this community garden grant, visit <https://www.facebook.com/#!/MayorsFitnessCouncil>.

Coastal Bend Quilt & Needlework Guild presents "Kickin' Quilts of Texas" Quilt Show. February 15-16, 2013 at American Bank Center, Watergarden Room, 1901 N. Shoreline, Corpus Christi, TX Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Admission: \$6 contact: birrgonzalez@yahoo.com Website: corpuschristiquilters.com

The Texas Coastal Bend Bark For Life is seeking Participants, Venders, and Sponsors. The event is set for Sat, Feb 23, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Live Oak Park, in Ingleside. Participants may register online at www.relayforlife.org/aransaspassinglesidetx for \$25 for first dog and \$10 for second dog. After registration,

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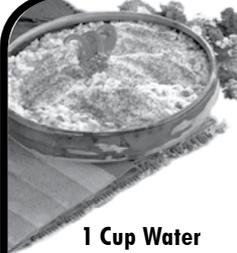


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1 - 10.75 oz. Can Condensed Cream of Mushroom Soup
1 - 10.75 oz. Can Condensed Cream of Celery Soup
1 - 4.5 oz. Can Mushrooms, Drained

1 Cup Water
1 Pinch Garlic Powder
1 - 1 oz. Pkg Dry Onion Soup Mix

1 Cup Uncooked White Rice
Ground Black Pepper to Taste
8 Skinless, Boneless Chicken Breast Halves

Serves 8 • PREP 10 mins • COOK 2 hrs • READY IN 2 hrs 10 mins

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). In a large bowl combine the mushroom soup, celery soup, water, rice, mushrooms, garlic powder and black pepper. Mix all together. Pour mixture into a 9x13 inch baking dish and spread on bottom. Lay chicken pieces over soup mixture and sprinkle dry onion soup mix over all. Cover tightly with aluminum foil and bake in the preheated oven for 1 to 1 1/2 hours or until chicken is cooked through and no longer pink inside.

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-- by Tina Konwerski

participants may participate in the Top Dog "beauty" Photo Contest. Vendors may register for \$0 to \$25. Fees based on whether non-profit, government, dog-related or other and whether they are selling food, providing a game for the participants or dogs, providing a service for the dogs or just selling their own items. We are eager to have artist, crafters, shelters, groomers, kennels, caterers, suppliers, organizations & businesses. After paying any fee, all proceeds belong to the vendor; no % required. We are still searching for sponsors and underwriters. We need \$2,500 to offset costs. For more information, visit the website or call Martha Habluetzel 361-776-7768.

Creative Connections Gallery & Studios' ART in the PARK on First Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Historic Merriman Bobys Home/Heritage Park 1521 N. Chaparral - S.E.A. District 361-883-ARTS or info@creativeconnectionscc.org Come out to Corpus Christi's S.E.A. District to the oldest home in Heritage Park. Open to the public for viewing as the second oldest home in Corpus Christi and the business office for the annual Festival of the Arts, enjoy great live musical entertainment for the weekend. ART in the PARK KidZone free art activities for the youth and unique new Art Gallery Exhibits.

Endangered Whooping Cranes Call Aransas Bay Home - Experience rare wildlife and an educational treat. From November to March, just under 300 Whooping Cranes call the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge their winter home. This Aransas-Wood Buffalo flock is the world's only wild migrating flock of Whooping Cranes.

Standing over five feet tall, the stately white Whooping Crane is an endangered species. There is a story of survival - the wild flock numbered only 18 in 1938. The majestic birds mesmerize and capture the hearts of 8,000 people who travel from around the world to see them; these visitors are affectionately called "Whoopers." Viewing can be exciting as Whooping Crane families spar to mark their territories before the rest of the flock arrives. The juveniles have a lot of color and are amusing to watch as they still rely heavily on their parents to feed them. This natural event provides great family education and entertainment.

View the birds via land at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge observation tower. Excursions on boats with enclosed cabins, observation decks and restrooms provide an up close look at these magnificent birds. Tours are professionally narrated by ornithologists and master naturalists. Binoculars are available for rent or loan. Your best opportunity to view the birds is via water on a boat excursion in Aransas Bay. Scheduled trips start mid-November and continue through the end of March. FMI Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce at (361) 729-6445 or (800) 242-0071, or visit rockport-fulton.org. Select 'Birding'



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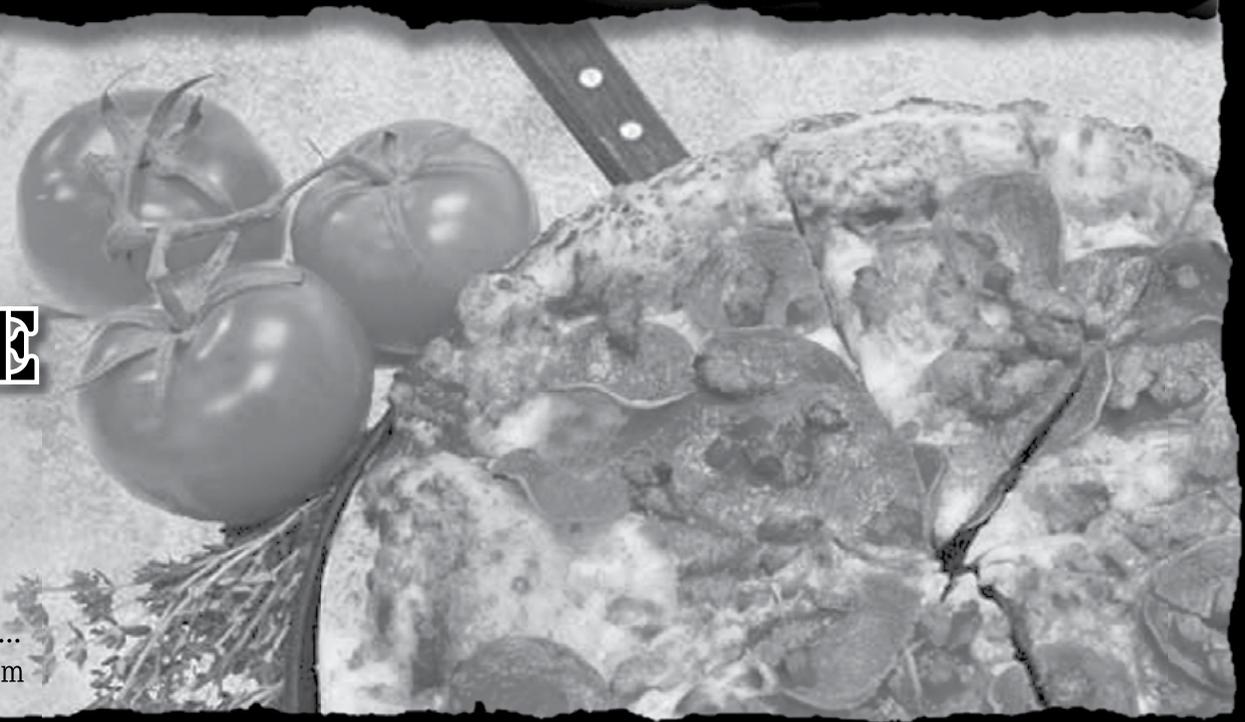
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- As we receive funding we will have special event days where all surgeries will be a reduced price, so please check back often!
- Owned and stray cats must be friendly and arrive in secure carriers. Only one cat per carrier.
- **Feral cats must come to clinics in traps. The package includes spay/neuter surgery, ear tip, microchip, and Rabies vaccine. We are working to obtain funding to reduce the feral cat package to \$10, so please check back for these specials.

Are you ready for Winter?

by Patrick Foughty, CNIC Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – The arrival of January and winter means that we are bound for colder temperatures in the coming months.

Visions of skiing, curling up by the fire, watching snowflakes fall gracefully to the ground, and all their preparations create eager anticipation.

But the winter's frigid temperatures, blizzards, and storms make emergency preparedness especially crucial at this time of year.

With advanced planning in three key areas, you can be ready for any unexpected hazard that surfaces amidst winter's delight.

Ready Navy is here to help.

Visit www.ready.navy.mil.

Be and Stay Informed:

Learn about hazards that are common in winter months and most likely to happen in your area, such as winter storms and power outages.

The Ready Navy website "Be and Stay Informed" tabs offer specific instructions, information, and resources you may need to know regarding winter storms, power outages and home fires.

Make a Plan:

As a family, make an emergency plan so that everyone in the family understands what to do, where to go, and what to take in the event of a fire or any emergency.

Additionally, winter fire hazards, ice and winter winds can bring down power lines, making traditional communication difficult.

Your emergency plan should include how your family will communicate with each other, particularly if normal communication methods, such as phone lines or cell towers, are out.

Road conditions and other hazards can limit ease of movement. Have a contact person outside the area who each member of the family can notify that they are safe, if separated.

The Ready Navy website provides printable forms and contact cards to guide you in your planning.

Lastly, learn about the mustering requirements at your command and become



familiar with the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS).

(<https://navyfamily.navy.mil>).

Build a Kit:

The best way to prepare for the unexpected is to create one or more emergency kits that include enough water and non-perishable supplies for every family member to survive at least three days.

Keep a kit prepared at home, and consider having kits in your car, at work, and a portable version in your home ready to take with you.

These kits will enable you and your family to respond to a winter (or any emergency) more effectively.

Your various emergency kits will be useful whether you have to shelter-in-place, are stranded at work or on the road, or move to another location.

Be sure your kits address the needs of small children, individuals with special needs, and your pets.

In winter months, be sure to include blankets in your kits to bundle and warm family members should power outages knock out heat sources or should you get stranded in a car.

Additional winter items to consider are salt to melt ice on walkways; sand to increase traction; a broom and snow shovel to remove snow; plastic sheeting to keep winter winds from biting through windows; and hand warmers, hats, gloves, and seasoned wood for a source of warmth; as well as fire extinguishers for safety.

You can find a suggested list of other kit items under the Ready Navy website "Make a Plan" tab.

Be Winter Ready Navy!

I am.

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Freeze Winter Fires

Did you know that heating sources are the second leading cause of home fires every year, especially during winter months?

Kerosene heaters, candles, and wood burning fireplaces are big culprits, with December being the peak time for home candle fires.

Freeze winter fires by using these items safely:

- Keep anything combustible at least three feet away from any heat source.
- Use kerosene heaters only where approved by authorities, and refuel outside and only after the heater has cooled.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended or abandoned.
- Use fire screens to keep the fire in the fireplace and have your chimney cleaned every year.
- Make sure that your home has at least one smoke detector.

For information about Ready Navy and tips, forms, and guidance to be prepared for and stay informed about all hazards, visit www.ready.navy.mil.

Ready Navy is a CNIC-sponsored emergency preparedness program.

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Everyone has an opinion - Students now have a chance to voice theirs and earn a little cash while doing so! Area students from middle school through college are invited to explore their personal views on racial justice by answering "How can our country move forward in race relations?" Check out the contest guidelines at www.ywca.org/corpuschristi and submit entries to admin@ywca.org or ywacc.org by December 15th.

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On January 19, 2013 the **Organ Donor Dash** will be held at Brewster Street Icehouse. The race will begin at 8:30 am and will include a 2k, 5k, and 10k certified races. At this race there will be chances to sign up to become an organ, tissue, blood, and bone marrow donors. For more information, go to our website, organdonordash.org

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