

WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

April 4, 2013

April is the Month of the Military Child



Training to Fight Aircraft fires

page 10



'Stingrays' at the Child Development Center sing 'The World is a Rainbow' during the April 1 ceremony in which Capt.

Dave Edgecomb proclaimed April as the 'Month of the Military Child' on board NASCC. Photo by Rod Hafemeister



Estella Jimenez retires

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NAS Corpus Christi receives 2013 iAchieve Award

Story & photo by Mary Jane Garza, School Liaison Officer

Corpus Christi Independent School District on March 26 presented Naval Air Station Corpus Christi with an iAchieve Award Partners in Education.

Smith Elementary nominated NASCC for the "Service Learning for Achievement Award."

The award was presented to Capt. David Edgecomb by Smith Elementary student, Charles Everett Stuart.

"On behalf of Corpus Christi Independent School District and Smith Elementary School, this year's Service Learning for Achievement Award is presented to Capt. David Edgecomb and all the wonderful heroes at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi," Stuart announced.

CCISD received more than 100 nominations for the coveted iAchieve Awards; 11 recipients were honored.

Stuart, a fifth grader, told the audience of 400 attendees why the Air Station had been nominated.

NASCC military men and women visited Smith Elementary weekly and made a big difference in their lives.

Smith children looked forward to the military men and women, in uniform, walking into the school building to help students with math, reading – or to play basketball.

The Sailors invested of themselves to learn about Smith Elementary students and encouraged them to aim for the stars.

Master Chief John Leonard and Dr. Mary Jane Garza, NASCC Military School Liaison Officer, created the "Military School Outreach Program."

Leonard got approval for the project from Edgecomb and Garza found a school principal willing to participate in this pilot project.

Thus began the partnership; Sailors reading to Smith Elementary kindergarten students, dancing with special needs students, encouraging reluctant learners and eating the

Award continued on page 9



I. to r. CCISD Superintendent Scott Elliff, Charles Stuart and NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Dave Edgecomb



Sexual Assault Awareness Month

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Skipper column, page 2

Skipper's Column Courage... to stop sexual assaults

by Capt. Dave Edgecomb



Edgecomb

the victims of sexual violence is a year-round, 24/7 responsibility for everyone, military and civilian.

For 2013, DoD has a theme of "We own it...we'll solve it...together."

The Navy has made it clear that commands are to take ownership of the problem and is supplementing the DoD theme with its own: "Courage."

According to the chief of naval personnel,

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time when the Department of Defense puts special emphasis on preventing sexual violence.

Of course, it's not just one month of the year – preventing sexual violence and supporting the

the idea is to "underscore the courage it takes to intervene when shipmates see inappropriate behavior, as well as the courage to step forward as a victim to seek help, the courage of shipmates to support victims to make them feel safe in their units and the courage necessary to do the right thing – both for yourself and your shipmates."

Throughout the month, the Navy will be highlighting weekly subthemes: courage to learn, courage to prevent, courage to intervene, courage to support and courage to commit.

The ongoing goal is to change the culture, to create a climate where sexual assault is unacceptable in any situation – and everyone in the Navy stands ready to intervene and protect their shipmates and co-workers when necessary.

It's up to each and every one of you to step up and intervene when you see inappropriate behavior.

That's especially important whenever alcohol is involved; overwhelmingly, alcohol is a factor in sexual assaults reported to the

Navy.

When you see a shipmate under the influence about to do something stupid, or heading down a path that could make them a victim, don't just stand by – say or do something to stop it.

It's called "bystander intervention" – the same thing you are expected to do when you see an unsafe act or a shipmate getting ready to drive after drinking: Prevent the bad thing from happening in the first place.

Reporting assaults is important, but preventing them is even more important.

The Navy – and Naval Air Station Corpus Christi – has zero tolerance for sexual assaults. Those who commit them are criminals, and will be treated as such.

For those who are victims, we have a strong Sexual Assault Prevention and Response team, ready to help and support you however you need.

Sexual violence is everyone's problem. Don't do it – and don't look the other way.

Our Sexual Assault Response Coordinator can be reached at (361) 961-1670.

Chaplain's Message Dangers of Procrastination

by Cmdr. Gabriel Mensah, Chaplain

There is a hard lesson I learned in my freshman year in college.

We were given a 25-page term paper that had to be submitted in a month.

I kept putting it off, somehow naively convincing myself that, "I work better under pressure."

Unfortunately I found myself, on the eve the paper was due, pulling an all-nighter to write a 25-page paper.

Needless to say the outcome wasn't pretty.

A lot of people are world class procrastinators.

I heard that they even have their own club – Procrastinators Anonymous. They haven't met yet, but they are planning on it.

All jokes aside, the problem with procrastination is that it puts undue pressure on ourselves to complete a task at the last

minute.

When we do this, we assume, of course that nothing will happen to prevent us from completing or even beginning our task.

Unfortunately, in life, sometimes things don't always turn out the way we planned them, and as a result we never really get around to finishing our task.

The Dallas Morning News ran a front-page story in November 1988 about a house that burned down killing five people.

What made the story especially tragic was that the house-owner knew that the batteries for his smoke alarm were out and that they needed to be replaced.

But he kept putting it off because he "was too busy with other things".

And now, sadly, five of his loved ones were dead.

I know this is an extreme and tragic

example, but the point being made here is that there is a human tendency in all of us to put things off for one reason or another.

Whatever you think you need to do in your life – whether it is deepening the relationship with your loved ones, or picking up the phone and calling an estranged relative, do it NOW.

This might be a missed opportunity.

You know the old adage that goes something like: "Whatever you can do today should not be postponed until tomorrow."



Mensah

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

But this month feels like the Powers That

Putting this issue together, I felt a little like I was the target of a massive April Fool's Day joke.

Every month, the Navy and/or DoD has something to commemorate, something to honor, something to drive home a message.

Be are trying to cram several months into one.

I don't mean to dismiss the importance of each – but the sheer volume has a tendency to make one's eyes glaze over.

Let's start with the ones I ~did~ get into this issue.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Can't argue with that; it's a problem the military (and society) has been wrestling with for years.

You think there's progress, then you see a story like that high school football team and you know there's a long way to go.

Month of the Military Child. I didn't have kids until I was off active duty, but I knew plenty of folks who did.

April - Month of Everything

Being a kid can be tough; being a kid whose parent is deployed can be a lot tougher.

National Child Abuse Prevention Month. As a reporter, I've covered stories of abused kids. Those stories stay with you a long time.

What I missed includes National Autism Awareness Month, Alcohol Awareness Month, Stress Awareness Month, National Humor Month... you get the idea.

Then comes the Navy News story that April 1 is the birthday of the Chief Petty Officer.

April 1.

As an old Army E-7... I'm not going to touch that.

Belated Happy Birthday, Chiefs.

Wingspan

NAS Corpus Christi

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Red Cross Volunteers praised for contributions to Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi staff and patients

Story and photo by Bill W. Love, NHCCC Public Affairs

Staff at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi (NHCCC) honored its Red Cross volunteers March 21, during an observance of Red Cross Month at morning formation, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony on the quarterdeck.

Betty D. Weber, office coordinator, American Red Cross – Coastal Bend – Texas, helped distribute NHCCC Letters of Commendation, after an introduction by Capt. Gina M. Jaeger, commanding officer.

“Betty has a long, rich affiliation with the Navy, and she is here today to help us recognize our seven volunteers that provide valuable time here, and we have a bunch more up at Dallas-Ft. Worth clinic as well,” Jaeger said.

“Betty is a Navy Wife and she has been volunteering and working for the Red Cross for over 35 years. So she’s given a lot of time and dedication to her country as well, and we appreciate everything she’s done for us.”

South Texas, the Navy and the clinic have witnessed many dramatic changes over the years, but the heart of caring for people has never changed, and that is largely due to the dedicated Red Cross volunteers.

Although many commanding officers have come and gone, countless Sailors and their families have served their time, through deployments, base closures, and severe weather the volunteers have remained loyal, dedicated, and caring, freely giving their time and compassion to patients and staff.

“We are forever grateful for having had the opportunity to work with you, learn from you, and more importantly to know you as friends and co-workers,” Jaeger said.

Calling each volunteer to center stage individually, Weber and Jaeger presented certificates to Frances Edmonds, Carla



Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi (NHCCC) honored its Red Cross volunteers during an observance of Red Cross Month at morning formation, followed by a cake-cutting ceremony on the quarterdeck. From left, Frances Edmonds, Carla Patterson, Lt. John Dischert, director, Clinical Support Services, Betty D. Weber, office coordinator, American Red Cross - Coastal Bend - Texas, Capt. Gina M. Jaeger, commanding officer, John Murphy, Cathy Murray, Rafael Rodriguez, and Mary Boswell.

Patterson, John Murphy, Cathy Murray, Rafael Rodriguez, and Mary Boswell. Robert Virgil was not able to attend.

“On behalf of the entire Naval Health Clinic staff, especially the pharmacy department, I extend to you the

traditional Bravo Zulu for a job well done!” Jaeger said.

“It is with sincere gratitude and great pleasure that I thank you for your countless contributions to our patients and staff and laud you for your outstanding service to this command.”

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NHCCC Medical Home Port recognized by NCQA

by Bill W. Love, NHCCC PAO

Medical Home Port (MHP) at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi (NHCCC) advanced into the spotlight March 18 after achieving National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Level II Recognition by demonstrating compliance and scoring high in all “must pass” elements of nine respective NCQA standards.

Those standards are:

- Access and Communication;
- Patient Tracking and Registry Functions;
- Care Management;
- Patient Self-Management and Support;
- Electronic Prescribing;
- Test Tracking;
- Referral Tracking;
- Performance Reporting and Improvement; and
- Advanced Electronic Communication

Included in these standards are 10 “must-pass” elements. To get the achievement Level I Recognition, practices must successfully comply with at least five of the elements.

Achieving Level II or III depends on overall scoring and compliance with all “must-pass” elements.

Level II is the highest that a MHP outpatient facility like NHCCC can achieve, according to Cmdr. Timothy Quiner, the

clinic’s director, Health Services.

Capt. Gina M. Jaeger, commanding officer, in her announcement to the staff, credited Quiner and his team.

“Each of you had a vital role in making Level II recognition a reality,” said Jaeger, “from the corpsmen, nurses and providers working together as a team in managing our patients; and the IT (Information Technology), Business Operations, Medical Records and Disease Management personnel contributing to the records management, referral management, and performance improvement efforts required.

“You all stepped up to the plate to get the job done!”

In 2011, NHCCC began offering MHP to enroll TRICARE eligible patients into primary care.

MHP is a continuous, comprehensive and integrated health care model that fosters an ongoing, personal relationship between a patient, a primary care manager (PCM) and the patient’s care team.

At NHCCC, patients are assigned to Team Comfort or Team Mercy, each consisting of military and civilian family medicine doctors, pediatricians, family nurse practitioners and nursing support staff.

All are committed to improving primary care services by focusing on the patient-primary care manager relationship.



Staff member discusses preventive screening with a patient visitor in the NHCCC lobby. NHCCC file photo

“Medical Home Port allows us to improve and to strengthen this dynamic model through a more comprehensive approach to patient care, better access, and more active patient involvement,” Quiner said.

In addition to assigning patients to one of two teams, NHCCC offers Relay Health to all patients for an additional secure communications tool they can use to communicate directly with their health care team.

“The best medicine is to find problems early and take care of them before they can cause damage” Quiner said.

“Your Medical Home Port team reviews your records and contacts you through Relay Health or by phone. You may also receive a reminder call about future appointments.”

Relay Health contributes to NHCCC’s success of meeting NCQA standards because it allows patients to request their lab results; request a medication refill; access health care information and allows them to create their own health care record to help manage their own care, all from the comfort of home.

Sign up at: www.relayhealth.com to begin communicating securely with your MHP Team.



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Spring into Action as a Ready Navy Family

from Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- For many, spring brings a resurgence of energy and activity with the milder temperatures.

It is a perfect time to practice your family emergency plan and to re-evaluate and restock your emergency supply kit for the changing season.

Although winter storms are becoming a fading memory, it is important to remember that weather and other hazards can be unpredictable.

So spring into action as a Ready Navy Family and be ready for any hazard.

Be and Stay Informed: Learn about hazards that are common in spring months and most likely to happen in your area. The Ready Navy website "Be and Stay Informed" tabs offer specific instructions, information, and resources you may need to know regarding floods, tornadoes, man-made hazards, and emergency actions. Learn what you should know if you need to evacuate or take shelter in your home.

Make a Plan: As a family, make and refine your emergency plan so that everyone in the family understands what to do, where to go, and what to take in the event of any emergency. Practice your plan by conducting a drill where all family members must gather at your designated meeting place, exiting by various doors. Your emergency plan should also 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. Place a call to your designated contact person to be sure he or she is willing to serve in that role. The Ready Navy website provides printable forms and contact cards to guide you in your planning.

Build a Kit: The best way to prepare for the unexpected is to have on hand 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 any emergency more effectively. Make a game of kit building with your children. One idea is to have your children go on a scavenger hunt to find and gather necessary supplies around your house. Make note of items you are missing and shop together at your local installation commissary and NEX to complete your kit. History shows that children who are involved and informed with emergency planning are better able to react safely in an emergency.



An emergency kit is an effective way to prepare for unexpected events. Having the entire family prepare the kit will help children better cope with emergencies and ensures everyone knows the emergency kit contents. Models are posed in this staged photo to illustrate an emergency preparedness story.

U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Monique K. Hilley

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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Scorby signs Child Abuse Prevention, Sexual Assault Awareness and Military Child Proclamations



Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), signs a proclamation in support of sexual assault awareness in front of members of the CNRSE Family Advocacy Program on board Naval Air Station Jacksonville. The proclamation recognizes April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month throughout the Southeast Region. Scorby also signed a proclamation in support of child abuse prevention and the Month of the Military Child.

Story & photo by MC1 Greg Johnson

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), signed proclamations March 29 in support of child abuse prevention, sexual assault awareness and the Month of the Military Child.

The proclamations coincide with National Child Abuse Prevention Month, National Sexual Assault Prevention Month and the Month of the Military Child, which are all recognized during the month of April.

“These proclamations are in support of some very important issues that leaders at all levels in the chain of command should be aware of,” Scorby said. “Sexual assault is something that should never happen and cannot be tolerated in our Navy and child abuse is in the same category, as well. While April is a month that we look to raise awareness of these issues, we need to remain constantly vigilant to ensure the safety of our children and family members.”

According to Commander, Navy Installations Command, the Navy recorded approximately 1,000 substantiated reports of child abuse for Fiscal Year 2011. While this represents a steady decrease over the past decade, many incidents still go unreported, said Jeanette Werby, CNRSE counseling and advocacy coordinator.

“There are many reasons that abuse goes unreported,” Werby said. “Many people who know about abuse don’t report it because they think it’s none of their business or are concerned about the stigma a report creates and the damage it may cause to one’s career. Also, many children do not report abuse because they worry they will not be believed, have been threatened with further physical harm or simply feel responsible themselves for the abuse.”

According to Werby, the best way to combat child abuse is to raise awareness.

“Raising awareness about child abuse underscores that the problem is still here and so are the people who care about its resolution. Affirming at the highest levels that child abuse has serious, long-term outcomes for children and their families adds a compelling dimension to the message that child abuse is unacceptable. Those in leadership roles set the tone and course for awareness, response and intervention,” she said.

To find out more about how you can help prevent child abuse or to report an incident of child abuse, contact your installation’s Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC).

Like the child abuse prevention and military child proclamation, the Sexual Assault Awareness Month proclamation is intended raise awareness about sexual assault.

“Leadership input is of the utmost importance with sexual assault awareness and prevention efforts,” said Julie Mooney, regional sexual assault response coordinator. “The Secretary of the Navy established the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) in 2009 and it has significantly raised awareness. In 2011, SAPRO hosted a SAPR summit with the primary focus of raising leadership’s awareness of sexual assaults that occur within the ranks and the need for increased prevention efforts. I am optimistic that support from leadership in regards to those prevention efforts will have a significant impact on the effectiveness of the Navy’s overall efforts,” Mooney said.

While raising awareness is one of the primary tools in preventing sexual assault, the Navy SAPR program also focuses on supporting victims. The Navy offers a variety of support services, including clinical counseling and legal services.

Scorby continued on page 7

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

by Pat Kapitan, SARC

This April, the Department of Defense observes the ninth annual Sexual Assault Awareness Month with the theme "We own it... We'll solve it... Together."

Preventing sexual assault requires sustained vigilance and a steadfast team effort.

Senior leadership commitment must be matched throughout the Services with a personal commitment from every Service member to treat each other with dignity and respect.

We must collectively instill a climate that does not tolerate, condone, or ignore sexist behavior, sexual harassment or sexual assault.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is an excellent opportunity for every command team to engage their unit to underscore their personal commitment, discuss the importance of supporting victims and reinforce the importance of bystander intervention to help stop unsafe behavior.

On March 31, 2011, the President of the United States issued a proclamation honoring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

He urged all Americans to respond to sexual assault by creating policies at work and school, by engaging in discussions with family and friends, and by making the prevention of sexual assault a priority in their communities.

Every community is affected by sexual violence.

President Obama explained, "Working together, we can reduce the incidence of sexual assault and heal lives that have already been devastated by this terrible crime."

This April, honor those you know and love who have been affected by sexual assault.

Get involved with your Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program (SAPR) to find out what YOU can do to help end sexual assault.

For additional information on the SAPR Program, contact your Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) at (361) 961-1670.

Scorby continued from page 6

Each installation has a 24-hour SAPR victim advocate line. These numbers are advertised throughout the installations and may be dialed to ask questions, inquire about resources or report a sexual assault. In addition, each installation has a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) located at the FFSC to ensure victims receive the support services they need, Mooney said. People may also contact the DoD Safe Helpline at 1-877-995-5247 or via <http://www.safehelpline.org>

To find out more about the Navy's SAPR program, contact your local FFSC or SARC, or visit http://cnic.navy.mil/CNIC_HQ_Site/WhatWeDo/FleetandFamilyReadiness/FamilyReadiness/FleetAndFamilySupportProgram/SexualAssaultPreventionandResponse/index.htm

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Officials Urge Planning Early for Household Moves

WASHINGTON - For many military and federal government workers, spring signifies not only flowers in bloom and warmer weather, but also a good time to get the jump on peak moving season, which typically runs from May to August.

Mitch Chandran, an Army Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command spokesman, said he encourages military members to request a preferred move date as soon as they get their orders.

Peak moving season, he said, is a moving industry phenomenon in which government moves compete with private-sector moves for the same resources during busy summer months, with peak moves between Memorial Day and July 4.

"The competition [occurs when] transportation service providers try to accommodate government and nongovernment move requests during summer months, [and more] move requests occur within a relatively short amount of time," Chandran said.

"The sooner you start the move process upon receiving orders, the better chance you will have to lock in your preferred move date."

SDDC's personal property directorate manages the Defense Personal Property Program for the Defense Department.

Each year, SDDC manages about 520,000 booked household-goods moves per year, of which about 225,000 occur during peak moving season.

John Johnson, SDDC's personal property directorate quality assurance division branch chief, said the moving process should begin with military members contacting their transportation or personal property shipping office to explore their options, including a personally procured move.

A personally procured move is a do-it-yourself arrangement in which a service member with orders can opt to move



household goods and either be reimbursed up to the government's cost or collect an incentive payment from the government.

While the drawdown in Afghanistan through 2014 will space some moves throughout the year beyond summer, military members moving to another base upon their return from deployment could experience summer congestion in the commercial moving industry, including capacity shortfalls to accommodate requested pick-up and delivery dates, Chandran explained.

But as moving season nears, military members can better ensure smooth transport of their goods by being flexible with move dates, planning for unforeseen circumstances and keeping contact information current in the system.

"Create a personal moving calendar with checklists, phone numbers and links to critical moving processes and information at <http://apps.militaryonesource.mil/MOS/f?p=PMM:ENTRY:0>," Chandran said.

He also noted that military members must confirm move dates by coordinating with their transportation service provider and completing a pre-move survey.

For more information about the moving process, contact the local personal property shipping office or installation transportation office: call 800-462-2176 or 618-220-SDDC or visit <http://www.move.mil> or email safb.dpshd@us.army.mil.

For questions and/or additional relocation information, contact the Relocation Program Manager at FFSC, Rick Speller, at (361) 961-2861.

Let's celebrate **MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD**

WHO: Military Children & Families

WHAT: Free new books for military children

WHERE: NASCC Library and Resource Center, Bldg. #1872, Midway Drive and Ocean Drive

WHEN: Sunday, April 28, 2013
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Guest readers will read at 3:15 pm and 3:45 pm

Blue Star Families welcomes you to celebrate Month of the Military Child at the NASCC Library and Resource Center. We will host a memorable event with special guest readers. All children attending will receive a free book! Books are intended for children from preschool to 11 years old. We hope to see you there!



For more information contact:
Lisa Curtin
(207) 751-1295
rexliisa1@gmail.com



We thank Blue Star Families and AutoTrader.com for making the NASCC Books on Bases event possible! These friends make Month of the Military Child a special time! For more information about Blue Star Families, visit <http://www.bluestartam.org>.



Philosophy of the NMCRS

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society's overriding goal is to help each person seeking our help deal with the crisis at hand.

Our long-term mission is to help Sailors and Marines become financially self-sufficient by helping them learn to better manage their personal finances and prepare for unplanned expenditures.

For more than a century, NMCRS has helped Sailors and Marines and their families deal with financial crises, prepare for the future through sound budgeting and personal financial management, and find peace of mind when in need of emergency financial assistance.

Each year, the Society's 3,600 volunteers and 200 employees provide nearly \$50 million in interest-free loans and grants, budget counseling, financial management workshops for expectant parents, and free home visits by registered nurses to thousands of active duty and retired Sailors and Marines, their families, widows, and survivors.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has consistently maintained very low administrative and overhead costs because of the dedication of our trained volunteers who support our work as budget and financial counselors, thrift shop workers, knitters of baby blankets, and office administration.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is available to you and your family throughout your active duty career and into retirement. Retired Sailors, Marines and their eligible dependents can also apply for assistance.

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With 50 full service offices co-located with Navy and Marine Corps installations, and nearly 200 emergency service offices staffed by volunteers on ships and deployed units, Marines and Sailors have access to emergency assistance 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, from almost anywhere in the world.

Your local NMCRS Office is located on the 5th floor of the Naval Health Clinic. For additional information, please contact Tambi or Lisa at 361-961-3482.

Award continued from page 1

school cafeteria lunch – telling students that the spinach on the school lunch tray was delicious.

The Sailors also planned a field trip, bringing fifth graders to visit the Air Traffic Control tower, Coast Guard search and rescue, Customs and Border Protection, and a building with inflatables where students could jump and play. Lunch was at the Flight Deck; pizzas with the Sailors.

Smith Elementary students heard the message loud and clear, “Stay in school, do your best, graduate, and stay away from drugs.”

Smith Elementary school attendance has had a dramatic improvement because of the military presence.

Now, Edgcomb is asking how the program can be expanded to reach more schools and more students.

THIS is the local “hometown” newspapers for our Naval Air Station,

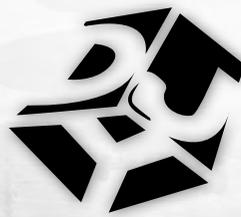
containing vital day to day information that military personnel and their families can obtain through no other source: changes in regulations, Exchange and Commissary sales, transfers, promotions, daily military base movie listings, entertainment schedules, religious services, on-base classified ads, and much more.

This military base newspaper is the ONLY publication that is allowed by the military to be distributed through "official channels" - to individual family housing units, barracks, offices and other work areas that are used exclusively by base personnel. These areas are off-limit to other publications. Circulation is tightly controlled by the military. Generally, one copy is printed for every four people attached to the base.

Additional copies are printed to be distributed in high traffic locations in the community to reach retired military and those with an interest in base activities.

As an added convenience to our Reader (and an added VALUE to our ADVERTISERS) this newspaper is also posted on line: including the ads at no additional charge.

It is smart business to reach OUR READERS by advertising in their newspaper. New issue every other week.



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Training to Fight Aircraft Fires



Just like Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi International Airport sees dozens of flights a day. So periodically, CCIA gets together with NASCC Fire and Emergency Services to practice fighting aircraft fires. In mid-March, the two departments trained on the mock aircraft at the fire training tower.

Photos by Bob Torres



Awards and Achievements

Winging — March 22



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Alex Harris, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce; Lt. Stephen Warne, Chaplain; Cmdr. Brian Hamling, Chief Staff Officer, TRAW-4; Lt. Cmdr. Brian Eckley, USCG, Training Officer, TRAW-4; Cmdr. Todd Copeland, Commanding Officer, VT-31; Col. David Krebs, USMC, Commanding Officer, MATSG-22; Capt. Samuel Creech, USCG, Commanding Officer, Sector Corpus Christi; Cmdr. R. Scott Kramarik, USN, Commanding Officer, VT-35.

Wingees, in alphabetical order: 1st Lt. Samuel Jens Bruggeman, USMC; Lt. j.g. Matthew David Chase, USCG; Ensign Kevin William Dunn; Ensign Eric Joseph Grooters; Lt. j.g. Janelle Briann Kibler-Silengo, USCG; Lt. Ryan Scott Lloyd, USCG; Ensign Tyson Drew Roser; 1st Lt. Daniel Harris Zimlich, USMC.

Farewell, Estella Jimenez - retiring after 28 years of civil service

Capt. Dave Edgecomb, commanding officer of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, presents Estella Jimenez with a retirement plaque at her retirement luncheon March 29. The dining room seats 72 – and couldn't hold all the family, friends and other well-wishers who came to help her celebrate.



Photo by Rod Hafemeister



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Vet Tech Shauna Moyer leaves



Veterinary technician Shauna Moyer with one of her patients. Moyer left for a new job in New York the end of March. Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Editor's Note: I've run into Shauna several times a year, often at things like school programs where she brings Border Patrol dogs and handlers to teach kids not to use drugs.

If you've used the on-base vet clinic, you've probably met her – and seen how she cares for your pets. When she asked to be allowed to say “Goodbye,” we obliged.

Well, the day has come that I must say goodbye. It has been an amazing six years at the NAS Corpus Christi Veterinary Clinic.

I am starting a new chapter in my life. I took a position at an Emergency/Specialty Clinic in New York City.

I have grown so much as a technician as well as a person.

When I started this job I never thought it would change my life, but it did.

I could not have done this by myself. I have had a number of people to guide me in the right direction.

Each Veterinarian I have worked with has taught me something new and encouraged me to take the next step in life.

Each Army technician has taught me something new, like how to use a stethoscope or how to read a poop sample from a sick puppy.

When there was no staff, I was here holding down the fort. I cannot forget to mention my new receptionist who taught me how to be a teacher.

I have enjoyed sharing my knowledge with others, which has made me a stronger technician in the process.

All these people are more than just co-workers, they are my friends.

Let me not forget to mention the Military Working Dog and Border Patrol handlers and all the dogs. It was never a dull moment when you guys were around!

Every client that walks through the door with their furry friend, I hold close to my heart.

Without all of you I would have never learned anything.

“Annie” taught me how to draw blood quickly and gently. “Chloe” was a sick puppy that came in and needed help fast. If we didn't save her, the child of the household would have lost her best friend.

Without “Maggie May”, “Tessa” and “Tatum,” I may have never learned how to read an ear cytology. Senior canine care is extremely important and “Blue” is a perfect example of an amazing senior dog with lots of love left!

“Sharma” was an amazing dog that was great with all the kids for Red Ribbon Week. “Peanut” taught me compassion and that these animals are more than just animals, they are family.

It took time to earn the trust of all my clients and their furry friends.

I want to thank everyone who has been a part of my life while working here at the NAS Corpus Christi Veterinary Clinic. I will miss everyone.

Each and every person that I have come in contact with has made an impact in my life some way or another, and for that I am grateful.

Sincerely,
Shauna Rose Moyer

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Saturday, April 6 through Saturday, May 25 STEP RIGHT UP! BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE CIRCUS BIG TOP, 1890-1965 will be on display in the John E. Conner Museum, Kingsville, TX. This traveling exhibit will be on display for the first time in the United States at the John E. Conner Museum. It aims to take the visitor back to childhood days when the circus came to town, complete with a circus train packed with canvas, exotic animal menageries, strongmen, fat ladies and roustabouts. Museum hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Admission to the museum and the exhibit is free, but donations are welcome. FMI 361-593-2810.

The Janet F Harte Library in Flour Bluff will be hosting a pre-release book signing and reception for Larry Running Turtle Salazar for his recently published book "The Pipe and the Pen" on Saturday, April 13 at 2:00 pm. The event is free of charge and public is invited to attend.

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Join us the first Sunday of each month for Bridge Walk and Fitness Sunday at Heritage Park. Begin the morning with a walk over the Harbor Bridge with Bridge Walk. Throughout the morning enjoy yoga, fitness classes, wellness demonstrations, family fun and Art in the Park. Bring the whole family.

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8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Toe Joint Exercise

Program by Dr. Murad

9:30 a.m. Yoga by Youga Yoga

8:45 - 9:30 a.m. Tai Chi by Taoist Tai Chi

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Heritage Park

9:00 - 9:45 a.m. Zumba by Z-Live

10:00 - 10:20 a.m. Capoeira by Corpus Christi

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10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Art in the Park: Art

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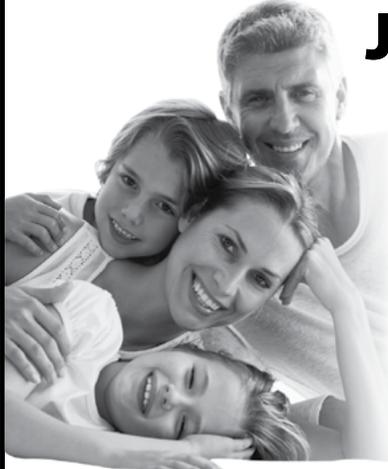

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Commissary Fast Facts – April 2013

Commissaries look to minimize effects of sequestration

The Defense Commissary Agency is thoughtfully developing its plan to minimize the impact of sequestration on commissary patrons, should furloughs be implemented.

If the Department of Defense implements furloughs, commissaries are likely to close one day per week, in addition to their current operating schedule.

While there will be definite impacts to commissary patrons - and certainly to employees - if furloughs are implemented, the principles guiding DeCA's planning efforts are to lessen the impacts of sequestration wherever it can.

Because the agency's planning for sequestration is fluid and subject to change, commissary patrons can quickly find out about any changes to their local store's operating schedule by using www.commissaries.com. The "Locations" link and subsequent "Alphabetical Listing" leads them to their "Local Store Information" page.

Commissaries celebrate April - Month of Military Child

April is the Month of the Military Child, and your commissary is celebrating with giveaways and savings for the whole family - pets included!

"Children in military households face unique challenges because of the demands of military life," said Joyce Chandler, DeCA's acting sales director.

"So, at the Defense Commissary Agency, we want to acknowledge them and do all we can to provide their families with great values on quality products they can depend upon."

DeCA's industry partners - vendors, suppliers and brokers - are collaborating with commissaries in April to offer discounts beyond everyday savings.

Overseas stores may have substitute

events for certain promotional programs.

Customers are asked to check their local commissary for details on dates and times of the promotions in their stores.

"As we honor the Month of the Military Child, don't miss out on these opportunities to save even more," Chandler said.

"For everyone in the family, the commissary is always worth the trip."

For promotion details, visit http://www.commissaries.com/press_room/press_release/2013/DeCA_23_13.cfm.

Commissaries selected fruits, veggies champions

The Defense Commissary Agency has been chosen by the Produce for Better Health Foundation as one of their retail fruits and veggies champions for 2012.

Every year, Produce for Better Health names the top retailers that supported their "Fruits & Veggies - More Matters" national campaign.

In 2012, DeCA was among 15 retailers chosen as leaders in the produce world.

"We take our military's health very seriously, and supporting this campaign to eat more fruits and vegetables is a great way to get our patrons interested," said Joseph H. Jeu, DeCA director and CEO.

"It also speaks to the commissary's commitment to provide healthful options for military families."

The Produce for Better Health Foundation measured the agency against criteria such as how DeCA promoted national "Fruits & Veggies - More Matters" Month and supported the campaign through its website, in print and through online circulars. All retailers were evaluated against the same criteria.

For the latest news and links to more savings, subscribe to Commissary Connection at www.commissaries.com/subscribe.cfm.

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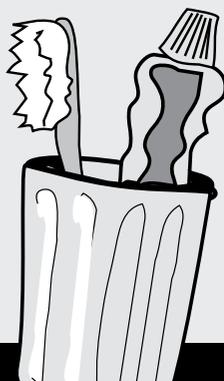
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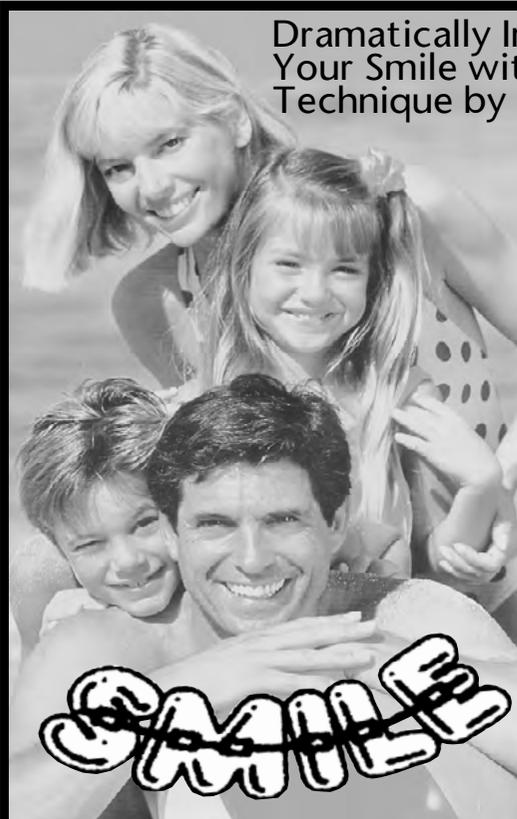
Rita is a woman
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She goes out of her way to do whatever she can to help the poor defenseless strays in the streets. Rita, who works full time, still finds the time, energy, patience and kindness to rescue so many helpless dogs. She often uses her own money to finance their vet care herself.

We would like to thank Rita Ross for all she has done for the innocent animals and for opening her home to foster them.





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Captain's Cup B-Ball Champs



First Place in the annual Captain's Cup Basketball Tournament went to Billy's Bunch: bottom row left to right - Sam Gray, Payton Haynes, Jarred Haynes; second row left to right - Gilbert Cantu, Javier Herrera, Jeff Hernandez; back row left to right - Scott Lendner, Ian Cobb, Bill Stephenson, Arudis Drasutis, Otis Terrell.
MWR photo

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Flea treatment	\$10

Our weight limit on dogs is 30lbs. Vaccines, tests and microchips are only done at the time of surgery and are not offered as separate services at this time.

- 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.
- *Gulf Coast Humane Society sponsors a clinic day each month by giving out vouchers that reduce the cost of spay/neuter surgery and a Rabies vaccines to \$10. Please call them at 225-0845 to inquire.
- **Feral cats must come to clinics in traps. The package includes spay/neuter surgery, ear tip, microchip, and Rabies vaccine.
- We have been awarded a grant from Petsmart Charities to do targeted spay/neuter surgeries with a Rabies vaccine for a \$5 fee on free roaming (indoor/outdoor pets, stray or feral) cats for the 78404 zip code.
- We currently have traps to loan for those of you wanting to spay/neuter neighborhood cats! There is no fee, but we do require a \$50 refundable deposit!

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Good Luck, E-6 Hopefuls



Capt. Bill Davidson, executive officer, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi (right), extends good luck wishes to Information Systems Technician Devin L. Marshall prior to the Fleet-wide E-6 exam at the new Bay Club March 7. Also on hand to greet the First Class Petty Officer hopefuls were Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Command Master Chief Ricky Mathis (center) and NHCCC Command Senior Chief Mike Richardson.

Photo by Bill Love, NHCCC PAO



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What's Happening

RUMMAGE SALE on Saturday, Apr. 6, 2013 from 9 A.M. until 2 P.M. Children's clothes, toys and household items! Island in the Sun United Methodist Church, 10650 Highway 361, on Mustang Island between Newport Pass Road and Beach Access Road #3.

KJT (Catholic Union of Texas) DISTRICT X FAMILY DAY Sunday, Apr. 7, 2-5 P.M. - 11802 Up River Road on Nueces River. Food, fun, fishing (bring bait & pole). Easter Egg Hunt with special prizes, door prizes and a short district meeting. Family event/non-members welcome. RSVP - 992-4501.

Snakeman Visits Harte Library - An exciting, educational interactive program with live snakes of various ages and sizes and both local and exotic species will be presented at the Janet F. Harte Public Library on Saturday, Apr. 20 at 2 p.m. Thomas the Snakeman, experienced animal keeper and public speaker will lecture on all aspects of snake behavior, identification, habitat, medical uses and more! Interesting myths and legends will also be included throughout the presentation. Everyone in the audience will get a chance to touch a snake if they want to. The 1-hour lecture and presentation is appropriate for children and adults. Admission is free. The Janet F. Harte Public Library is located at 2629 Waldron Rd. in Flour Bluff. For more information, call 937-6569.

First United Methodist Church of Corpus Christi will host "Seniors by the Sea: Embracing the Aging Adventure," a senior ministries conference for persons interested in creating or enhancing a ministry for older adults, on Friday and Saturday, APR. 12-13, 2013. The Rev. Dr. Richard H. Gentzler, Jr., director of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministries for the General Board of Discipleship (GBOD) of The United Methodist Church, will be the keynote speaker. Friday evening will feature a dinner with entertainment by Viva Voce. Participants will also have the option of registering for a free tram tour of the public art in Corpus Christi. Saturday will feature Dr. Gentzler presenting ministry ideas for older adults. Wilma Williams, chair of the Council for Older Adult Ministries for the Southwest Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church will review the book *One Hundred Days of Successful Aging* by Barbara Bruce. Dr. Gentzler is author of numerous books on adult and older adult ministry, the latest being *Gen2Gen: Sharing Jesus Across the Generations*. FMIawoolsey@ccfumc.com

Arrr You Ready?! Here come the Pirates! And, yes, here come the Cowboys too! Buc Days starts with a PRO Rodeo. Come experience this great family friendly event. The Buc Days PRCA Rodeo tickets start at just \$10. Apr. 18-21. www.ticketmaster.com. Then put on your pirate wear and come on down to the Buc Days Festival & Stripes Carnival Apr. 25 - May

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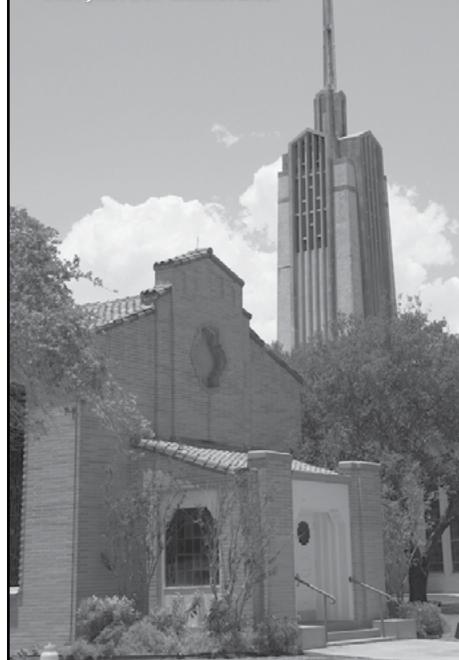
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Clay 101- Intro to Clay \$75.00 2nd and 4th Tuesday monthly(2 Session class) 5:30- 8:00 p.m. Instructor: Patty Rios Cost: \$75 includes instruction, clay, and kiln firing. Class Size is limited! Must sign up in advance! **HAND BUILDING** is the fundamental construction method for creating ceramic forms. Learn the basics in this introductory class. Maximum 5 students. Sign up here or call 361-884-6406 for more information. Art Center of Corpus Christi, 100 N. Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi info@artcentercc.org.

Every Wednesday: Citizenship Classes from 4:00 P.M. - 05:30 P.M. at Janet F. Harte Public Library, 2629 Waldron Road, Corpus Christi, TX 78418. Former teacher helps students study for Citizenship Exam. Just bring a note pad and pen/pencil to take notes. FMI (361) 937-6569 for more information.

PLAN NOW TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THE CORPUS CHRISTI PARKS & RECREATION'S **Summer 2013 Sports Camps Online Registration Starts May 1!** The Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation Department is offering a variety of **Sports Camps** with professional instruction for boys and girls ages 6-18 from June 3 - July 18, 2013 at the Corpus Christi Gym (3202 Cabaniss Parkway), and Cabaniss Sports Complex. The cost for each camp is \$60 per camp per youth. Registration will be offered **ONLY** on Wednesdays from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Corpus Christi Gym during May 1 through July 15, 2013 (may register until the first day for each camp). **ONLINE REGISTRATION** is available for an **added 24-hour convenience** to our customers starting **May 1!** FMI call the Corpus Christi Gym at 826-1726 or the Athletics Office at 826-3478, or visit www.ccparkandrec.com (click "What's Happening").

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