



WINGSPAN



CPO selectees undergo training
-- page 4



75th celebration planning underway
-- page 5



Bldg. 1700 helps move CCAD forward
-- page 10

Valdes takes helm of health clinic

From NHCCC Public Affairs

U.S. Navy Capt. Guido F. Valdes took the helm as commanding officer Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, relieving Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley in a change of command ceremony Aug. 27.

Rear Adm. Terry J. Moulton, Commander, Navy Medicine East, presided over the ceremony aboard the USS Lexington (CV 16) Museum on the Bay.

Moulton praised Bradley's leadership.

"I specifically want to thank Capt. Bradley for his service over the last two years. He has done an outstanding job with the crew. He has been a caring and trusted leader who has inspired his staff and set the bar high," remarked Moulton. "Jimmy, you leave your mark on the command and can be proud of the lives you touched, mentored, and led, Congratulations! And well done!"

Moulton also presented the Legion of Merit to Bradley for exceptionally meritorious conduct while serving as CO from April 2013.

The award recognized Bradley *see Health Clinic on page 6*



Adm. Terry J. Moulton (right), congratulates Capt. Guido F. Valdes during a change of command ceremony Aug. 27 aboard USS Lexington. Valdes becomes the 38th commanding officer of Naval Health

Clinic Corpus Christi in its 74-year history after relieving Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley (center), who transfers to Chief Business Operations Tricare Regional Office-South, San Antonio. (U.S. Navy photo by Bill W. Love)

NAS Corpus Christi personnel run together for suicide awareness

By Brigitte Rox
CCAD Public Affairs

The combined service members of the Navy, Army, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard set off on a formation run to promote Suicide Awareness aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Sept. 2.

At 7 a.m., while most Army civilians in the Corpus Christi Army Depot were hard at work repairing and overhauling helicopters and components for the military, a squad of active-duty Soldiers and non-commissioned officers led by Sgt. Patrick Gallagher represented the depot, carrying the CCAD guidon along the 5K route in support of Suicide Awareness. *see Awareness on page 7*



Personnel taking part in the Suicide Prevention Awareness run assemble in front of Naval Health

Clinic Corpus Christi Sept. 2. (Photo by Ervey Martinez, CCAD)

Command Master Chief's Column



CMDCM(SW)
Jeffery Tidwell

Howdy! We live in a world revolving around a self-centered mindset and self-sufficiency; we forget we are an integral part of the humanity puzzle.

Anywhere we go, we are part of a group -- whether it's a meeting, religious service or physical activity. We find ourselves fitting into the group inadvertently and sometimes we purposely try to enter a particular inner circle.

However, reflecting on the nature of the job in the military and its inherent leadership capabilities, it's our responsibility to protect our country from any external or internal potential threats, which endanger our freedom and our way of life. We are at

the line of defense and must come to the reality that unity of force, combined with interactive relationships, are devastating against intentional acts to disrupt our operations and way of life. This reminds me of a very simple activity, the "last man up."

The "last man up" is a running drill most of us have experienced at some point during our physical training. It consists of a group of people in a single file line, slowly jogging, where the last person has to sprint to the front of the line in a continuous rhythm, without stopping. This simple physical drill depicts, in certain form, our military force. There are different people who have different strides, height, weight, endurance, etc. Interestingly, everybody has to follow a jogging pace, keeping the group united and each person has to give 100 percent effort during the travel from the back to the front.

Similarly, the military keeps moving forward regardless of the size of the team. Within the force, each team member contributes with their own particular set of skills, ideas, experiences, and point of views. According to their motivation level, as in the

"last man up," people sprint from the back at different speeds. Still, the team keeps moving forward. If some are falling behind, the rest cheer for them to continue the race. Some feel impatient because of the urgency to move faster, but that's part of the battle rhythm.

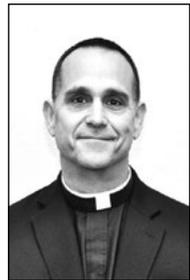
Motivational Speaker John Maxwell says, "The way to the top is slower when we take along the people around us."

A true leader will concentrate efforts building people up.

So are you the "Lone Ranger" who tries to get to the top by yourself, regardless of others, or are you the one who serves and brings others under your wings?

Finally, two big events are currently ongoing: the Navywide Advancement Exams and CPO 365 Phase II. Both events have direct impacts on Sailors' careers. For those taking the Navywide Advancement Exams, good luck and always remember you own this portion of your career. For the six Chief Petty Officer Selectees going through CPO 365 Phase II, you still have a distance to travel and a rapidly closing window to get there!

Chaplain's Message



Pilgrimages,
journeys
of fulfillment

Father John Vidal

Over the past two years I've tried to focus my *Wingspan* columns to different approaches and perspectives on spirituality. One aspect I've not addressed is the concept of pilgrimages.

Year-in and year-out across this country, and indeed the world, millions of people make their way on journeys of spiritual fulfillment. Pilgrimages transcend all faiths and locations, whether it be Mecca for Muslims or the Holy Land for Christians and Jews, Rome for Catholics and even pilgrimages like the Via de Santiago de Compostela, a hike across the countryside of Galicia ending at the Cathedral of St. James in Compostela, Spain.

Pilgrimages are an ancient tradition and serve to help us focus on some aspect of our

faith. A pilgrimage to Rome, for example, helps many Catholics reflect on the lives of the Saints through history and to be inspired in their faith by the many churches and objects of art that go back two thousand years. Similarly, a pilgrimage to the Holy Land helps us understand the context of the messages of the Old and New Testaments, the prophets and, most importantly for Christians, the events surrounding the life of Jesus. When we spend time in prayer and contemplation at these places and events, our faith cannot help but be deepened.

For many Christians a pilgrimage to the Holy Land is on their "bucket list." However, recently pilgrimages to the Holy Land have undergone a dramatic decline due to the fear generated by terrorism and the wars in the Middle East.

Last month (I can't believe it's September already!) Fr. Pierbattista Pizzabala, the minister provincial of the Middle East's Franciscans encouraged pilgrims saying, "There is no reasonable motive not to organize a pilgrimage to the Holy Places." He added, "Security in the shrines and in the areas where pilgrims go is guaranteed. And more than ever, we, the Christians of the

Holy Land, need the presence and support of pilgrims who come here in prayer from all over the world."

This plea and others I've heard over the last couple of years, combined with my belief that a pilgrimage to the Holy Land will spiritually benefit many of us at NASCC, have prompted me to organize a 10-day trip there departing Feb. 16, 2016. The trip is open to any and all, and I believe the price we've negotiated is very reasonable. You can get more information at www.pilgrimages.com/frvidal or you can give me a call at the Chaplain's office at 961-3751.

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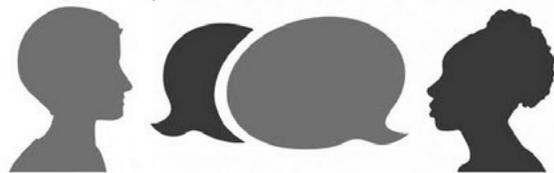
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- * Avoid camping or parking along streams, rivers, and creeks during heavy rainfall. These areas can flood quickly and with little warning.

Wingspan

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Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

Fifi Kieschnick
Public Affairs Officer



This paper is published for Mykkie Scott, sports and aquatics coordinator for NAS Corpus Christi. Scott is a native of Corpus Christi and has been working at Morale, Welfare and Recreation for a year.



Chief retires from the Navy with 22 years service

GSEC(SW) Juan Santa Cruz retired from the U.S. Navy with 22 years of service during a ceremony held Aug. 28, aboard NAS Corpus Christi. Cmdr. Amanda Brooks, public works officer, was the guest speaker and presiding official.

Santa Cruz, a native of Peru, enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1993. Upon completion of recruit training in Orlando, Fla., he reported to USS Seattle (AOE 3), homeported in Earle, N.J. Santa Cruz attended Gas Turbine Electrical A School in 1996, followed by duty aboard USS Bunker Hill (CG 2), homeported in Yokosuka, Japan. He also served an individual augmentee assignment in Afghanistan

from April 2006 to January 2007.

Santa Cruz' other assignments include: Naval Weapons Station Concord, USS Oldendorf (DD 972), USS Curts (FFG 38), USS Jarret (FFG 33), Assault Craft Unit FIVE, and finally aboard NAS Corpus Christi as the Leading Chief Petty Officer for the First Lieutenants Division in Public Works.

His personal awards include two Navy Commendation Medals, three Navy Achievement Medals, an Army Achievement Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, NATO Medal, and various unit and service awards.

Fair winds and following seas.



Above, QMCS(AW/SW) Jacob Lozano presents GSEC(SW) Juan Santa Cruz with a shadow box representing his 22-year Naval career. Pictured top left, Cmdr. Amanda Brooks, public works officer, presents Santa Cruz with his third Navy Commendation Medal for his services as the Leading Chief Petty Officer, 1st Lieutenant Department, from November 2013 to November 2015. Santa Cruz' ability to train and motivate Sailors of different ratings to complete more than 200 construction projects saved the Navy more than \$3,000.

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Local Sailors undergo training to lead as Chief Petty Officers

Six local Sailors will be pinned Chief Petty Officers during a pinning ceremony Sept. 16, beginning at 10 a.m., at Wings Auditorium.

Attaining the rank of Chief Petty Officer is a significant accomplishment in the U.S. Navy. The CPO rank is often referred to as the "backbone of the Navy" because of the vast experience and high caliber of the Sailors who comprise this cadre of seasoned professionals.

The Sailors recognized during the ceremony are:

AMEC(Sel)(AW/SW) Rupert Cadena, of Navy Operational Support Center Corpus Christi; OSC(Sel)(SW/AW) Georgina Bijarro, of NOSC Corpus Christi; HMC(Sel)(SW/AW) Daniel Gunn, of NOSC Corpus Christi; AOC(Sel)(AW/SW) Gerardo Rios, of Navy Munitions Command Det. Fort Worth Component Corpus Christi; MAC(Sel) Mark Greer, NAS Corpus Christi; and MAC(Sel)(EXW/AW) Samantha Carpenter, of NAS Corpus Christi.

Cadena is a Texas native who enlisted in the Navy in July 1998. He has 10 years active-duty service and seven years with the Navy Reserves, then left active duty, joining the Navy Reserves in April 2008.

In May, Cadena began working for L-3 Communications at NAS Kingsville, where he works on the T-45 Goshawk.

As a Chief, Cadena said he hopes to lead today's Sailors into the future, helping



The six local chief petty officer selectees, along with area CPOs and family members align headstones as they help beautify the Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery. AOC(Sel) Gerardo Rios (front left) prepares to pour sand to help stabilize the headstones.

them strive to be better than they thought they could be.

Bijarro is a native of Richmond, Texas. She has 14 years of service. When she is not on active duty, Bijarro is a reading interventionist at Kleberg Elementary School. She substitute teaches for Kingsville Independent School District and Santa Gertrudis ISD and is working on her masters in psychology.

"I want to be the Chief that someone can approach and know that his or her issued with utmost care," she added.

Gunn was born and raised in Leeds, Ala., and served on active duty from 1999 to 2007. Gunn moved to Corpus Christi in 2008 and works at Christus Spohn Hospital as a supervisor in the Central Transport see Selectees on page 7

Advertisement for WINGSPAN magazine featuring a preview of the February 19, 2015 issue. The preview includes headlines such as 'Blue Angels return to NAS Corpus Christi for spring air show', 'Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield 2015 exercise tests responses to active shooters, gate runners and more', and 'Pilot for a Day "Doodlebug" Bily'. The ad also features the Wave Publishing logo and contact information for Ashley Kontnier at 361-552-9788 or afrench@plwave.com.



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NAS Corpus Christi is planning diamond anniversary

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi is planning to celebrate its 75th anniversary. The base began on June 13, 1940, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a \$25 million appropriation proposal. Construction began at the end of that month, and the base was dedicated by the Secretary of the Navy on March 12, 1941.

The naval air station had the main station at Flour Bluff and six auxiliary stations: Rodd, Cabaniss, Cuddihy, and Waldron at Corpus Christi; Kingsville Naval Auxiliary Field at Kingsville; and Chase Field at Beeville. The total station covered approximately 20,000 acres in three counties. It was initially used to train aviation cadets as pilots, navigators, aerologists, gunners and radio operators.

Today, the base is host to nearly 40 tenants and has a population of more than 12,800 military, civilians, contractors and family members.

NASCC's celebration of the 75th anniversary will include several events leading up to a culminating event on March 12, 2016, in which we would like to invite all who have been stationed here over the years and surviving family members.

If you are interested in participating in the planning process, contact the Public Affairs Office. If you have stories and/or photos you would like to share, also contact PAO at 961-2674 or e-mail nascc-pao@navy.mil. You can also "register" to attend the event and follow what's being planned at www.facebook.com/NASCCAnniversary.



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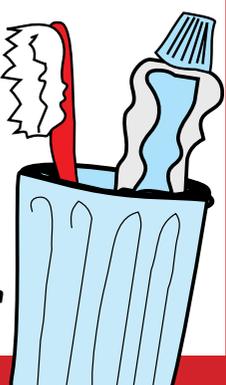
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Health Clinic from page 1

for increasing enrollment by 8 percent, recapturing approximately 1,000 beneficiaries: a potential network cost savings of \$1.85 million annually. Other achievements highlighted included transitioning NHCCC to the Medical Home Port model, achieving National Committee on Quality Assurance recognition. Full benefits of this model increased primary care manager continuity improving from 51 to 71 percent and emergency department utilization averaging 2.5 visits per 100 enrollees, both meeting Navy Medicine benchmarks.

Bradley's other accomplishments included implementing a Lean Six Sigma rapid improvement initiative that increased fully medically ready to deploy status of shore personnel for 90 units throughout Texas from 46 to 76 percent. And his emphasis on patient safety allowed NHCCC to exceed Navy Medicine targets for non-punitive environment and open communication measures, shaping a culture of patient safety throughout the command. Furthermore, Bradley's focus on customer service as a command priority, and implementation of staff recognition programs to encourage and motivate staff to serve beneficiaries with excellence, sustained an average customer satisfaction rating above 90 percent in the Information Collection and Evaluation System.

During Bradley's farewell remarks, he commended his staff.

"The past two years have been an incredible journey for Melissa and the boys and I. It has been the highlight of my naval career, and I have Navy Medicine to thank for that. We have witnessed a whirlwind of change, improvement and excellence -- all of which could not have happened without each and every member of the Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi team," Bradley said. "I leave here proud, humbled and grateful for the men and women in uniform, civil service and contract employees and volunteers alike with whom I have served. I hope that I made a difference, and I hope I left the place better than I found it. Continue to live with Honor, fight with Courage, and be committed to excellence, as you care for the world's most deserving patients: not our patients anymore, but your patients!"

Bradley will transfer to Chief Business Operations Tricare Regional Office-South, San Antonio, Texas.

Valdes, who previously served as executive officer Naval Hospital Pensacola, Fla., pledged his commitment to Navy Medicine's mission.

"Leading a command in this Navy is a rare and unique charge," said Valdes. "I intend to continue to lead this clinic to success. Adm. Moulton, I am grateful for the opportunity to command. Capt. Bradley, thank you and congratulations on a successful tour. You leave with the command in good stead and I will endeavor to continue the mission in such exemplary manner."

Valdes becomes the 38th commanding officer in NHCCC's 74-year history.



During a change of command ceremony aboard USS Lexington Aug. 27, Rear Adm. Terry J. Moulton, Commander, Navy Medicine East, presents a certificate designating Melissa Bradley a Yellow Rose of Texas. (U.S. Navy photo Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)



Rear Adm. Terry J. Moulton, Commander Navy Medicine East, presents the Legion of Merit to Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley for his performance while serving as commanding officer, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, from April 2013 to August 2015. Bradley's inspiring and exemplary performance significantly improved the quality and access to health care at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, its Naval Branch Health Clinics, and the San Antonio Military Medical Center Navy Detachment, servicing more than 14,400 beneficiaries throughout Texas and adjacent states. (U.S. Navy photo by Bill W. Love)



Capt. Guido F. Valdes; Commander Navy Medicine East, Rear Adm. Terry J. Moulton; and Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley prepare to cut a ceremonial cake following the Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi's change of command held aboard USS Lexington Museum on the Bay recently.

Awareness from page 1

“It was a great turnout,” said Gallagher, who works in the Army Civilian Acculturation Program of CCAD’s Workforce Development Division. “It was a very pleasant day and an easy run for the Army. This serves an important purpose and highlights a significant

problem.” NASCC, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, CCAD, and MATSG-22 cosponsored the event to raise awareness of programs in all services that foster command environments where suicide prevention is a shared

responsibility. NAS Corpus Christi Chaplain, Lt. Cmdr. Stephen Warne, and CCAD’s Prevention Specialist, Ruben Ramirez, spearheaded the effort, with help from other prevention coordinators, support services, and other base tenants.

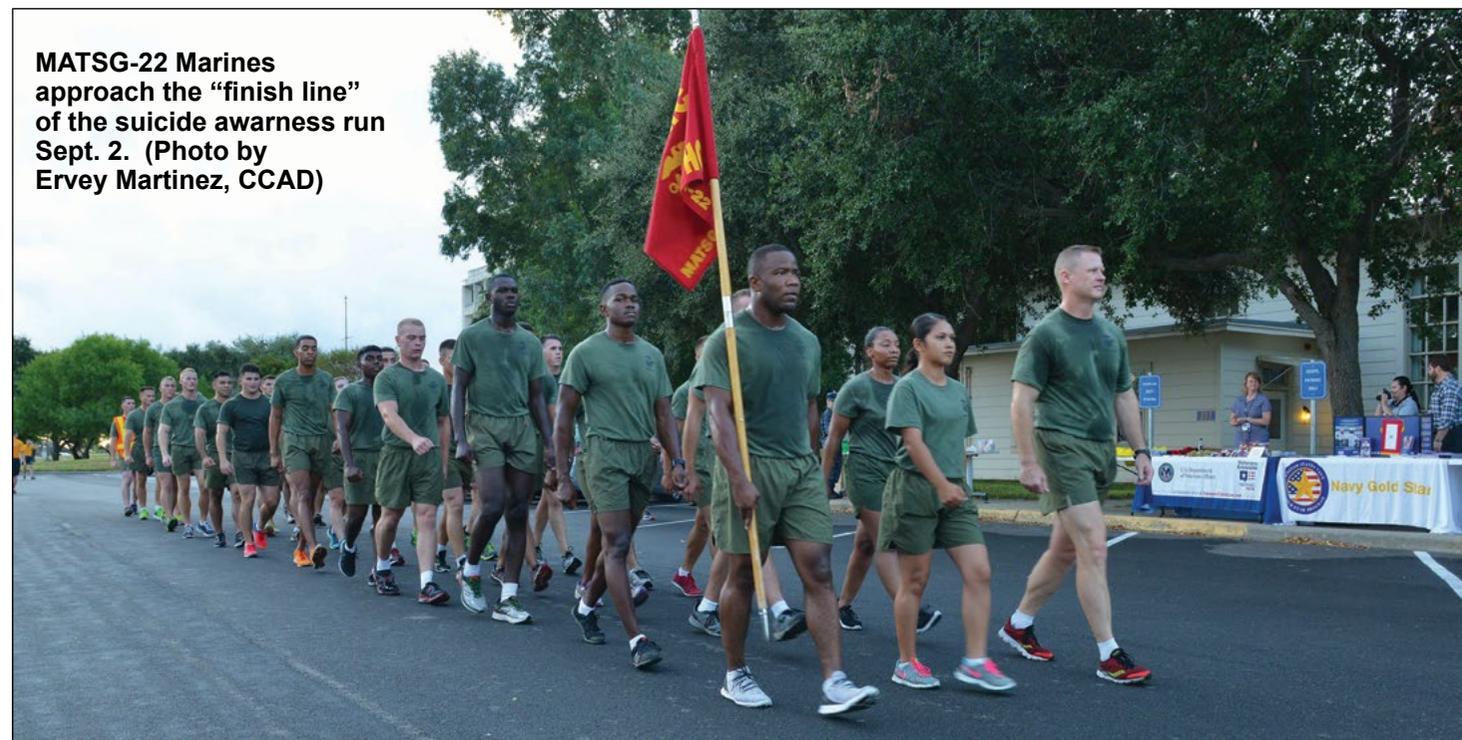
More than 22 veterans and service members lose their lives to suicide each day and, given the associated stigma with suicide, this epidemic is not often spoken about.

Capt. Steve Banta, NASCC commanding officer, said he was proud to support the run, saying that events like this brings the problem to light.

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month runs throughout September.

The following resources are available for anyone wishing to learn more about suicide prevention:

- CCAD Employee Assistance Program (361) 961-6570
- NASCC Chaplain (361) 961-3751/3752, (757) 650-3184
- Navy Fleet & Family Service Center (361) 961-2372/3722
- NASCC Security (361) 961-2288/2480
- Military One Source (800) 342-9647
- National Suicide Prevention (Lifeline) (800) 273-8255 (Talk)
- www.militaryonesource.com
- Emergency 911
- Poison Control (800) 222-1222



MATSG-22 Marines approach the “finish line” of the suicide awareness run Sept. 2. (Photo by Ervey Martinez, CCAD)

Selectees from page 4

Department.

“The best part of the Navy is leading junior Sailors and watching them excel in their careers,” Gunn said. “I had great leaders throughout my career and that helped set me up for success along with the hard work of my junior Sailors.

The 16-year Navy veteran adds, “I want to be a great leader for my junior Sailors. It’s important to me because they are the future and my impact on them can help create the attitude and leadership qualities to carry on the heritage and traditions of the Navy.”

Rios is a native of Waller, Texas, and has 13 years of Navy service. In July, he transferred to Naval Munitions Command aboard NAS Corpus Christi. He, too, would like to make a difference in the lives of the Sailors he leads. “I will set the bar high, yet let them know that their goals are attainable,” he said.

Greer has served in the U.S. Navy for 12 years and looks forward to mentoring, leading and guiding Sailors just as his mentors have done for him. He is a native of Mansfield, Ohio, who joined the Navy in July 2003. Greer is currently serving as the security leading petty officer.

Carpenter is a native of New Orleans who joined the Navy in June 2002. Each day, she hopes to help Sailors and help them succeed in their careers.

“I enjoyed being a career counselor,” the 13-year Navy veteran said, “because I felt that I was making a difference in Sailors’ careers. But, I have learned that you don’t have to be a career counselor to help a Sailor



NASCC Chiefs and Chief Petty Officer Selectees participate in the Suicide Prevention Awareness Run Sept. 2. Front row, from left are: AOC(Sel) Gerardo Samantha Carpenter and MAC(Sel) Mark Greer.

succeed. I am looking forward to doing that as a chief.”

The six Sailors have been going through CPO 365 Phase II, a roughly six-week process designed to foster teamwork, resilience and hone leadership skills.

“Being selected to chief petty officer is never about the individual,” said CMDCM(SW) Jeffery Tidwell, NASCC command master chief. “It’s about the Sailors they will continue to mentor and lead. There are chief petty officer selectees around the world who are training together, learning together and growing as Sailors together.”



OSC(Sel) Georgina Bijarro, weeds flower beds at the Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery. Helping to beautify the cemetery was one of several community projects the Chief Petty Officer Selectees completed during CPO 365 Phase II, designed to foster teamwork, resilience and hone leadership skills.

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Young commissioned Chief Warrant Officer

CSC(SW/AW) Glenda Young was commissioned a Chief Warrant Officer 2 during a traditional ceremony held Aug. 27. Young enlisted in the Navy in March 1999 and advanced through the enlisted ranks to Chief Petty Officer. During the ceremony, friends and family members assisted in the transition. Once removed, Young presented her anchors to CS1 Bernice Meno (pictured below right). Young's son, Richard Woods, placed her officer's cover on her head (pictured above). Capt. Steve Banta, NAS corpus Christi commanding officer, served as the commissioning officer. Pictured right, he gives her the oath of office. Young has headed to Newport, R.I., for officer indoctrination. Upon completion, she will serve as the food service officer aboard USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) homeported in Mayport, Fla.



Bravo Zulu



Capt. Charles Hayden, left, assistant chief of staff, Chief of Naval Air Training's Training Department, administers the oath of office recently during a promotion ceremony. Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Pratt, right, was promoted to commander. Cmdr. Sidney Fooshee was promoted to captain. Bravo zulu. (Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)

Cmdr. Robert Denton, CNATRA Reserve Operational Support Officer (OSO), has his captain's eagles pinned on by his two children Audrey (left) and Elly, along with his wife, Laura, during a promotion ceremony earlier this month at Chief of Naval Air Training Headquarters. (Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)



Thank you for your service -- Chief of Naval Air Training personnel were recognized recently for their years of service. From left are, Angelina Hahnert, 5 years; Elizabeth Aquilar, 5 years;

Amy Higgins, 5 years; Michael Donnahoo, 5 years; James Hooper, 10 years; and Daniel Cyr, 30 years. (Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)

Annual Navy Ball Golf Tournament 2015

Gulf Winds Golf Course
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi
11001 D Street,
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CORPUS CHRISTI COUNCIL

Friday, September 18, 2015

Entry Fee Includes: Cart, Green Fees, Lunch (Burger, Fries, and a Drink) as well as a \$5 contribution toward the Navy Ball

Entry Fee: \$35 per person
0800 & 1400 Shotgun starts

Registration Available at Gulf Winds Pro Shop.

Payment accepted on day of the event, CASH ONLY

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MORNING

0700: Check-In Begins Driving Range Opens

0745: Announcements Starters Briefing

0800: Shotgun Start

AFTERNOON

1200-1400: Lunch Available

1300: Check-In Begins Driving Range Opens

1345: Announcements Starters Briefing

1400: Shotgun Start

Mulligan Package Available for \$5

Format: This is a 4-person Scramble. Golfers may sign up as individuals or as a team. There will be prizes for Closest to the Pin as well as for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams. Event is open to the first 40 paid teams. Deadline for entry is September 15th.

For more information contact Matt Jones, Director at 961-3250. Contact AO1 Shackelford regarding base sponsorship at 961-1442 or by email at jasm-shackelford@navy.mil

Hosted by NAVY LEAGUE Corpus Christi Council

This is not an official DOD event. Neither the Navy, the Department of Defense, or the US Government endorse any non-federal entity, including the sponsors of this event.

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Bldg. 1700 helps move CCAD toward the future

Story & photo by Jose E. Rodriguez
CCAD Public Affairs

Working at the Corpus Christi Army Depot for 12 years, Manuel Muro could not be happier.

"I'm in a new building with air conditioning, natural light and plenty of room; I love it here!" he exclaimed as he builds an AH-64 Apache transmission.

Manuel is one of the CCAD Directorate of Powertrain artisans who have recently moved from Building 8 to their new "home" in Building 1700, more commonly known as the Dynamic Component Repair Facility.

Last April, the first artisans from the Powertrain Gearbox and Rotor Head along with Robert Kunicki, division chief, moved into Bldg. 1700 as the advance echelon to begin transitioning production into the new facility. Marco Garcia, powertrain director, met with his division chiefs and strategized a phased approach to moving their team into the new building.

"We began with smaller components to see how the process would work," Garcia said. "Moving our production into the new location worked out smoothly, even when accounting for physically having to move parts into the new location, then moving the completed components back to Bldg. 8 for testing and sale."

After evaluating the first move for four months, Garcia and his team proceeded on the next phase of moving larger components to Bldg. 1700. Eventually, all elements of DPT, including transmission testing, will move into the new facility.

Bldg. 1700 will replace a portion of CCAD's original WWII era buildings. Six additional phases are scheduled for the facility during the coming years. Designed for streamlined production, Bldg. 1700 is a departure from the confined and inefficient area currently housing most of DPT. The many hours of planning and hard work that have gone into this new building realize payoff through CCAD artisans producing components and generating revenue in the new location.

The next major milestone will be the startup of new Smart Transmission Test System currently undergoing installment and testing. Leading the industry, a team of CCAD engineers, spearheaded by Gary Hogg, CCAD chief engineer, developed an unprecedented system for testing powertrain components and transmissions. In the old building, test cells are restrictive in that each allows testing of only a single type of transmission. The process of testing with the old system is labor and time intensive in several aspects. Using the old system, CCAD artisans must hook up each transmission inside its unique test cell, tying up that cell during the arduous task of set-up. The process requires dedicated test cell operators whose full-time focus on testing restricts their opportunities to work in other areas of their job series -- such as building powertrain components. If a test



Manuel Muro, an aircraft mechanic with 12 years at CCAD, pulls a spacer out of liquid nitrogen to place into an AH-64 planetary gear for the main transmission.

cell is down, production comes to a standstill.

In contrast, the streamlined STTS allows for transmission connections outside in the pre-staging area on a cart, which artisans later move into the test cell. This process eliminates the single choke point of the old system and allows maximization operational time. In addition, the new test cells have the flexibility to test multiple types of transmissions, helping to eliminate bottlenecks and production downtime. Describing the STTS, Robert Kunicki stated, "This flexibility is a game changer for CCAD. It allows us to dramatically reduce the time required to test transmissions." DPT estimates a savings of sixty-six percent by utilizing the improved workflow and new test cells in Bldg. 1700.

The new building and STTS cells will produce another significant benefit by allowing artisans to build and test their components themselves. By following their own work through each phase of the building process, CCAD artisans will have the advantage of legacy knowledge and be able to apply lessons learned on each stage of production. In the old area, this simply was not possible due to persistent congestion at the test cells and space configuration of the area.

Aircraft Mechanic Helper Sara Botello, said she is excited. "I like learning new things and I take pride in my work. I like that we're going to start testing our own components! I can see this new approach being used at other shops in CCAD." She is not alone in looking forward to this new, streamlined process.

"Right now, if there's a problem, we accept it or pass it on for someone else to fix. By building the component ourselves from start to end, we can catch and resolve our own issues before final sale," said Muro. "I've only been in this new building a couple of weeks, and I can already see big improvements."

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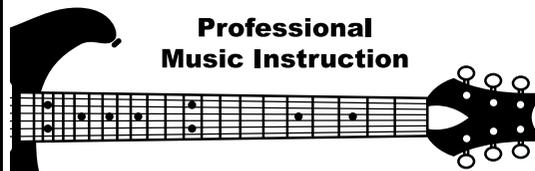
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361-552-9788 or afrench@plwave.com



Feds Feeds Families -- Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville NAS Corpus Christi personnel sell bags of freshly popped popcorn recently in support of the 2015 Feds Feed Families campaign. This is the first of several fundraising events planned. The team raised \$85 from the popcorn sales. Pictured are Lt. Cmdr. Shannon Harrell, FLC site director, as he operates the popcorn machine and fills the bags for sale. Esther Haigood, management assistant, sorts the bags on the cart, and Patty McGee, mail clerk, (right) waits to take the bags around to sell. (Courtesy photo)

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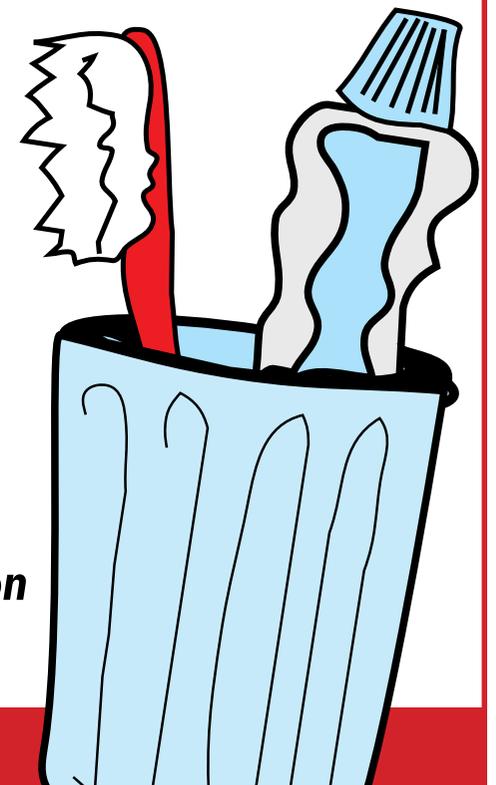
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