



# WINGSPAN

2015 Russell Egnor Navy Media Award winning newspaper



Vol. 22, No. 9

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

May 5, 2016



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Corpus Christi Mustangs, right, serve Eddie Garza, left and Robert the Bay during the 74th anniversary celebration of the USO. (Photo by Adler barbecue and all the fixings aboard USS Lexington Museum on Fifi Kieschnick)

## USO celebrates 75 years of serving military, families

Since 1941, the United Services Organization has been supporting service members and their families.

The local USO of South Texas, which opened its doors in Corpus Christi on April 2, 1941, celebrated in style aboard USS Lexington Museum on the Bay.

The 1940s-themed event included a free

barbecue meal provided by the Corpus Christi Mustangs, live entertainment, and presentations honoring "hometown heros." Those recognized were Gen. Marc Cisneros, USA (ret); Adm. Jim Scott, USN(ret); Maxine Flournoy; Robert Adler; Harry Plomarity, Ram Chavez; Former Corpus Christi Mayor Betty Turner; and Jack Rice Turner.

"It took a team of dedicated volunteers to plan and execute this most successful event," said Nancy Allen, president, USO of South Texas. "Thanks to all who helped in any way."

"Serving on the USO board has been the most rewarding group I have served with," said John Pasch, chairman of the board, USO of South Texas. "The young people, the retired people and all the local supporters in South Texas make for a tremendous organization. It pleases me when every gathering turns into a celebration and party -- that is a good sign."

The USO of South Texas was originally established in the former Kenedy Home on Broadway and Lipan Street in Corpus Christi to assist the men and women serving in World War II. The city of Corpus Christi eventually built a new "home" for the USO on Shoreline Blvd., where the Art Center is now located.

The USO had been housed in several other

locations until it moved on board NAS Corpus Christi in Building 3 in the 1970s.

In 1991, at Naval Station Ingleside, more than \$1 million was raised by the community to build the first privately-funded USO on a federal facility. When the installation closed in 2010, the USO closed its doors there and resumed a centralized support for the military from the NASCC facility.

In 2015, the USO served more than 15,000 military and more than 3,000 family members at NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville.

Some of the support the USO provides is free baby items to those in need; Cinderella's Closet for military balls, proms and special occasions; computer library; free WiFi; game room; connection of employment opportunities and more.

Evolving technology has changed some of the programs the USO provides. For example, during World War II, service members could record "V-Mail" discs at a nearby USO and send the greetings home. Today, the messages are sent via e-mail. Yet, the core of the USO's mission has remained the same over the years -- making connections and bridging the distance between service members and their families, home and country.



John Pasch, chairman of the board, USO of South Texas, addresses guests at the anniversary celebration held April 21.

## Executive Officer's Column



Cmdr. Scott Wilmot  
Executive Officer

The time to prepare is now – for the upcoming hurricane season.

Hurricanes are massive storm systems that form over the water and move toward land. Threats from hurricanes include high winds, heavy rainfall, storm surge, flooding, rip currents and tornadoes, and have the power to cause widespread devastation.

Annually the Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30, with the peak occurring between mid-August and late October. These storms can cause loss of life and catastrophic damage to property according to the size and wind intensity of the storm, the amount and duration of rainfall, the path of the storm and other factors. The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale classifies hurricanes into five categories based on their wind speed, central pressure and wind damage potential. Forecasters are predicting 12 named storms this year.

Because hurricanes can be detected and tracked well in advance of making landfall,

we often get several days' notice. But just because we can see the storm's historical path, doesn't necessarily mean we can predict what it will do next. So plan now.

Know your evacuation routes, plan your transportation and identify a place to stay. Know who you need to contact – in your command and your family. Prepare necessary supplies so you can get them quickly if you need to evacuate. Keep in mind "the five Ps of evacuation" for your "Go Bag:"

- People. (and pets)
- Prescriptions. (medicines with dosages; medical equipment; batteries or power cords; eyeglasses; and hearing aids)
- Papers. (including important documents, either hardcopy or saved on external hard drives)
- Personal items. (clothes, food, water, flashlights, first aid kit, cash, phones and chargers, items for those with disabilities, or baby items)
- Priceless items. (including pictures, irreplaceable mementoes and other valuables)

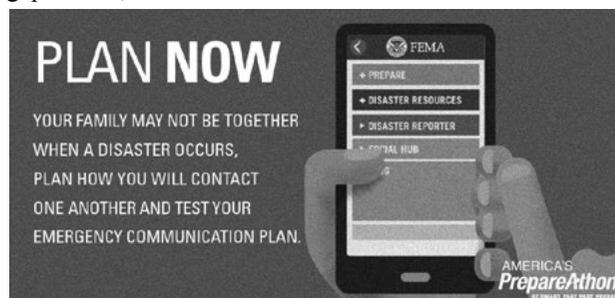
You should have a well-stocked disaster kit in case you find yourself at home without power. Even if not told to evacuate, storm damage could include loss of power. You should also be prepared with water, canned goods, manual

can opener, batteries, and other basic needs. A full list of supplies for your emergency supply kit can be found at [www.ready.gov/build-a-kit](http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit).

Create a family emergency communication plan. Collect contact information for your family and other important contacts. Make sure everyone carries a copy with them. Hold household meetings to review and practice your plan.

There is so much more to know and do to prepare for hurricane season. The time to do so is now – before it's upon us. When faced with a fast-approaching storm, we won't be able to prepare adequately – either stores will sell out of necessary items or we'll rush and forget something that may be needed later.

Additional resources are available on line – [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov); [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org); [www.ready.gov/hurricane](http://www.ready.gov/hurricane). Or talk to your command's emergency manager or NASCC's at 961-1725 for resources and information.



## Chaplain's Message



### Mothers still make a difference

Lt. Kevin Jackson  
Command Chaplain

When you are feeling low and do not know what to do, who are you going to call? Mom, of course!

I am convinced that mothers still make the world go around. As Mother's Day quickly approaches, I could not help but to reflect on the women who have been so instrumental in my life. Those three women include my mother, Shirley Jackson; my grandmother, Irene Washington; and my wife, Nila Nash-Jackson. Each has played a significant role in me becoming the chaplain, naval officer, husband and father that I am today.

My mother has always been my standard bearer for hard work and commitment. I cannot remember a time when she has not worked without giving a 100 percent effort. As a matter of fact, my mother continues to work at a high level of efficiency and quality even as she approaches retirement in a few years. My mother's dedication to her work and those whom she serves has always encouraged me to give my employer the very best productivity possible.

**Allow me to celebrate those mothers who continue to provide high ideals and**

**an impeccable work ethic example for their children and those within their sphere of influence. Please know that your efforts whether in the home or on a secular job are appreciated and valued.**

The next significant woman in my life was my grandmother, Irene Washington. My grandmother was the most instrumental in helping me develop a strong sense of spirituality and faith in Christ. She taught me everything that I know about scripture, prayer, church and how to lead a family with intentionality and vision. I still reflect on her words of wisdom and example even until this day.

**I want to celebrate all of the mothers who have taken the charge to develop their children's spiritual foundation and their role as leaders within the family structure. Your efforts to prepare your children spiritually will reap unbelievable dividends as they grapple with the struggles of life. Be comforted in the fact that you have and will continue to provide your children with the tools they will need to become resilient through their faith during challenging times.**

Finally, I have been blessed to be married to my lovely wife for almost 22 years. In those 22 years, my wife has been a strong advocate for betterment through education and a quiet agent of change. It was because of her dedication to education that I decided to continue my pursuit of higher education. As an educator for more than 15 years, Nila understands the importance of preparing not

only our children, but all children for the future. Her insistence for quality education and extraordinary student performance ignited the potential within myself, our children and a multitude of students who have had the privilege to experience her as a teacher.

**Thank you to the mothers who read, instruct, tutor and review homework with your children. Your investment today will reap great benefits in the future of your children. Thank you to the women who advocate for children who do not have someone to speak-up for them. Also, thank you to the women who did not have children of their own, but saw the need to parent children who did not have someone to inspire them, push them forward and provide the necessary resources for success. Your efforts are so crucial to a growing population of children who do not have active mothers in their lives.**

In closing, allow me to encourage you to reminisce about the women who have had tremendous impact in your life. On this Mother's Day, take the time to call them, send a text or e-mail, visit them or communicate via social media to show how much you appreciate their contributions to your life.

Happy Mother's Day! Mothers still make a difference.

#### CATHOLIC WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Catholic Chapel  
Daily Mass Mon-Thurs & 1st Fri: 11:30 a.m.  
Sunday Mass: 9 & 11 a.m.

#### PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICE

Base Protestant Chapel  
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

## Wingspan

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**Capt. Steve Banta**  
*Commanding Officer*

**Fifi Kieschnick**  
*Public Affairs Officer*



Wingspan



NASCC Facebook



This paper is published for people like ACAN William Collins, a native of Columbia, S.C. Collins transferred to NASCC's Air Operations from 'A' School in Pensacola, Fla., in June 2015.

### Navy promotes resiliency afloat, ashore

Navy commands worldwide are observing Earth Day through events and activities that demonstrate good environmental stewardship among Sailors and civilian personnel.

Events range from tree plantings to shoreline and neighborhood base cleanups, nature tours, school presentations and recycling challenges. In many locations, Earth Day also provides an opportunity for the Navy to engage with local communities.

The Navy's 2016 theme, "Creating Resiliency Afloat and Ashore," makes the point that protecting the environment and using energy wisely helps us perform our mission more effectively. As examples, looking out for marine life and responsibly handling waste materials aboard ships, funding research to better understand whale physiology and habitat; and conducting environmental planning for our training and testing activities can help minimize our impact on the planet and maintain trust with regulatory agencies and the public.

Energy efforts such as optimizing fuel use in ships, aircraft and tactical vehicles; integrating renewable energy sources such as solar arrays at our installations; and improving the efficiency of our buildings improve our resiliency as well.

Operational platforms can then travel farther and get more mission capability from each gallon of fuel and shore facilities improve their ability to continue key functions when the commercial power grid goes down.

"For the Navy, Earth Day isn't simply a one day event," said Rear Adm. Doug Morton, director of the Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division. "Our stewardship of the environment is a full time commitment. Our total force demonstrates this everyday on every ship and at each installation." (From Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division Public Affairs)



**NASCC Base Wide Clean Up May 13<sup>th</sup>  
2016 - 08:00 to 11:00**



**Provided:**  
Water  
Gloves  
Safety Vest  
Garbage Bags  
Grabbers  
Breakfast

**Need to have:**  
Hat  
Closed toed shoes  
Sunscreen

**Volunteers are Needed  
Contact NASCC Public Works  
[adonna.clayton@navy.mil](mailto:adonna.clayton@navy.mil)  
961-3776  
or come to Sunfish Pavilion  
0745 on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2016**

### Help celebrate Earth Day with basewide cleanup

An Earth Day Annual Base Cleanup will be held Friday, May 13. The event will kick off at the Sunfish Beach Pavilion.

Volunteers are asked to gather at 7:45 a.m. at the pavilion. Free breakfast will be provided to all volunteers, then they will be divided into teams to clean various areas around the installation.

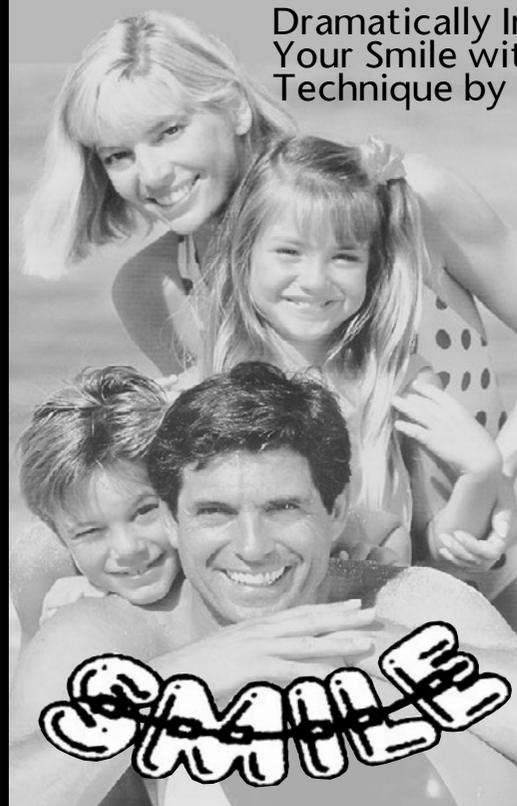
Public Works will provide volunteers with water, gloves, safety vests, garbage bags and grabbers. Volunteers are asked to wear a hat, closed-toed shoes and wear sunscreen.

In past years, volunteers aboard the installation have collected more than 2,000 pounds of trash during these events.

Earth Day has been celebrated since 1970, usually on April 22.

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, Calif. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Adonna Clayton at 361-961-3776 or [Adonna.clayton@navy.mil](mailto:Adonna.clayton@navy.mil).



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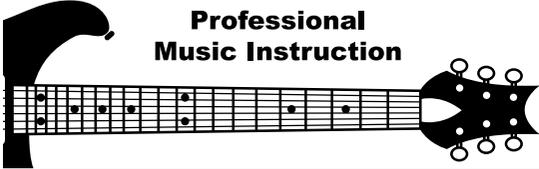
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## First phase unmanned aviation on CVN complete

USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) marked a historical milestone April 13 after installing the first unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) command center aboard an aircraft carrier.

Capt. Beau Duarte, program manager of Unmanned Carrier Aviation program office (PMA-268), inspected the site and recognized Carl Vinson Sailors instrumental in the security, logistics and installation of the UAV suite.

"This marks the start of a phased implementation of the MQ-XX system on an aircraft carrier," said Duarte. "The lessons learned and ground-breaking work done here will go on to inform and influence future installations on other aircraft carriers."

The work was performed during USS Carl Vinson's recent Chief of Naval Operations Planned Incremental Availability (PIA). The completion of all phases of installation is scheduled for 2022.

"We are carving out precious real estate on board the carrier, knowing that the carrier of the future will have manned and unmanned systems on it," said Capt. Karl Thomas, Carl Vinson's commanding officer. "This suite is an incremental step necessary to extend performance, efficiency and enhance safety of aerial refueling and reconnaissance missions that

are expending valuable flight hours on our strike-fighter aircraft, the F/A-18 Echoes and Foxtrots."

The MQ-XX program will deliver a high-endurance unmanned aircraft that will replace today's F/A-18E/F aircraft in its role as the aerial tanker for the Navy's carrier air wing (CVW), thus preserving the strike fighter's flight hours for its primary mission. It will also leverage the range and payload capacity of high-endurance unmanned aircraft to provide critically needed, persistent, sea-based ISR capability in support of the CSG and the Joint Forces Commander. The MQ-XX is scheduled to be operational in the mid-2020s.

"Having a UAV asset that provides persistent, potentially 24/7, surveillance coverage for the strike group is a game changer," said Commander, Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 1, Rear Adm. James Loeblein. "Putting additional ISR capacity into the warfare commander's hands increases the flexibility and warfare capability of the entire strike group."

The Carl Vinson Strike Group is scheduled to deploy on a Western Pacific deployment in 2017. Carl Vinson is currently pierside in its homeport of San Diego. *(From USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) Public Affairs)*

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AND PRIDE.**

**1:00 p.m. | MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016**

**4357 Ocean Drive • Corpus Christi, Texas • 361-992-9411**

**Bravo Zulu**

# Clinic Corpus Christi's new ombudsman is skillful family manager

By Bill W. Love  
NHCCC Public Affairs

Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi got a new Family Ombudsman April 22.

With over 15 years of experience as a Navy spouse, Idella Cutler is well-versed in Navy life. Taking care of six children and her husband, HTC (SW/EXW) Jared L. Cutler, has elevated her status as an insightful mother and wife, as well as a skillful family manager.

"Idella is a uniquely talented lady," said CMDCM (SW/FMF) Rikki L. Brown, "not to mention a very warm and approachable person. Very few people I've ever known can manage so many things at once, so effortlessly. And it's no secret that she doesn't mind taking on extra responsibilities."

That is why it is not surprising that when the NHCCC Commanding Officer Capt. Guido F. Valdes recently called for volunteers, Cutler's answer to serve as the command family ombudsman was immediate.

The Command Ombudsman Program is shaped largely by the commanding officer's perceived needs of his or her command. Commanding officers appoint ombudsmen who then work under their



The Cutler family in 2013 celebrating dad's CPO pinning ceremony. (Courtesy photo)

guidance as they determine the priorities of the program, the roles and relationships of those involved in it, and the type and level of support it will receive. This support often comes in the form of resource refer-

als to various Fleet and Family programs and even off base resources as well as assistance in resolving family issues before the issues require extensive command attention.

Supporting service members and families, and helping promote healthy, self-reliant Navy families just happens to be right up Cutler's alley.

Her Navy know-how and the significance she places on the family unit, as well as her first-hand experience regarding so many of the anxieties that Navy spouses endure makes her a seasoned veteran.

"Standing on the pier or in an airport terminal, waving goodbye to my husband for days, weeks, months and even years is not easy," said Cutler. "But when my husband comes home and I am standing there yet again only to welcome him after a long, successful journey; seeing my American hero returning with honor and knowing that I am a part of that, well, that is a pretty amazing feeling."

Cutler previously served as the ombudsman for Crew Swerve on the MCMs (mine countermeasures) in San Diego for nearly two years, one year of which her husband's crew deployed to Bahrain.

Because of the families' reliance on her ability to keep them informed during the absence of communication, Cutler says that she quickly learned work-arounds for getting things done.

"I learned how to network and get

*see Cutler on page 7*

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**Upcoming Community Events**

**Memorial Day Event**  
Seaside Memorial Park and Funeral Home will host their annual Memorial Day Event at 1 p.m. on Monday, May 30, 2016 at 4357 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, TX. Police Chief Mark Markle will be the guest speaker and there will be a snow white dove release, as well as many local organizations in attendance. Food and beverages will be served after the ceremony. Seaside asks that all vehicles please enter at the gate on Airline. All are welcome as they honor all military heroes.

TO HAVE YOUR EVENT INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION, EMAIL [AFRENCH@PLWAVE.COM](mailto:AFRENCH@PLWAVE.COM). THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT EVENTS IS 10 A.M. THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION. UPCOMING EVENTS ARE PUBLISHED AS SPACE PERMITS, THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES AS TO HOW MANY TIMES AN EVENT WILL RUN. QUESTIONS REGARDING EVENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ASHLEY AT 361-746-4341.

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(also located in Calallen & Alice)

## Bravo Zulu

# NASCC recognizes top achievers

Bravo zulu to the following Naval Air Station Corpus Christi personnel who were recently recognized for their achievements:

**RP1 Michael Clayton** was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his service as religious program management, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command, from April 2012 to November 2015. Clayton managed the command's religious ministry team's annual budget of \$308,000,



Clayton

writing many contracts for retreats, training events and travel. He directed the administration, contracting and logistics of 41 family retreats and training events that strengthened the relationships with the command's families and impacted more than 2,000 people. He developed the command family and spiritual resiliency program for deploying units, a pilot program supported by \$297,000. He was the command's only enlisted qualified applied suicide intervention skills training trainer. He delivered four two-day courses that certified 60 personnel in suicide prevention skills. He focused mentorship of four religious program specialists and their tremendous support to five chaplains ensured quality pastoral care to 3,000 Marines, Sailors and their families.

**Lt. Cmdr. Steve Warne** was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for public and volunteer service from July 2011 to July 2016. Warne dedicated more than 700 hours of time outside his assigned duties to support various community organizations and events.



Warne

**Lt.j.g. Kristin Piester** received the Navy Achievement Medal for her service as construction manager for NAS Corpus Christi from May 2014 to May 2016. Piester managed an \$11 million mission-critical Army military construction project, executing 16 bilateral modifications, resolving complicated unforeseen conditions and customer changes, while minimizing expenses and delays. She



Piester



Wilson



Henson



Francisco



Boynton



Hawkins



Liskey



Baca



Chiasson



Jacox

demonstrated exceptional problem-solving and superb leadership skills by ensuring optimal project execution on 24 other contracts totaling \$9.5 million and by leading the 1st Lt. Division's management of basewide construction projects, which saved the installation \$200,000.

**Lt.j.g. James Wilson** was awarded a Navy Achievement Medal for his service as construction manager for NAS Corpus Christi from May 2014 to May 2016. Wilson managed a \$17 million mission-critical Army MILCON project, resolving numerous unforeseen site conditions and design problems while clarifying funding challenges and finding innovative solutions to minimize expenses and delays. He also ensured technical and regulatory compliance with a variety of other construction and service contracts valued at more than \$15 million.

**AC2 Amanda Taylor** was awarded a Navy Achievement Medal for her efforts as team leader for the Veterans Memorial Services and Honor Guard Team, NAS Corpus Christi, from March 2015 to 2016. Her commitment to honoring the sacrifices and contributions



Taylor

of our national veterans resulted in the superior rendering of 35 military funeral honors. She also played a leading role in support in five command ceremonies and community events.

**ACAN Elizabeth Bequer** was recognized as Blue Jacket of the Quarter, second quarter, for her outstanding superior performance from January to March 2016. As flight planning supervisor Bequer aided aviators in documenting and processing more than 300 flight plans. As a member of the South Texas Navy Historical Committee, she contributed more than 80 hours creating bows for installation trees, placed flyers around the base, helped decorate for the 40s-themed gala and finalized many details for the command's 75th anniversary celebration. She also organized the participating of seven Sailors in the Eagle Scout beautification project at the chapel.



Bequer

**AC2 Amanda Taylor** was also recognized as Junior Sailor of the Quarter, second quarter, for her outstanding superior performance from January to March 2016. As training petty officer, Taylor dedicated

more than 100 hours to meticulously update and maintain 26 division training records. She tracked 1,371 training hours resulting in 32 air traffic control qualifications. As vice president of the South Texas Navy Historical Committee, she volunteered more than 150 hours in the planning and execution of six events, managed a budget of \$45,000 and helped organize the opening night gala commemorating the base's 75th anniversary.

**AC1(AW/SW) David Boman** was recognized as Sailor of the Quarter, second quarter, for his outstanding superior performance from January to March 2016. His dedication as facility watch supervisor led to the execution of 59,331 incident-free flight operations. As veterans memorial service team leading petty officer, he managed a team of 30 Sailors, and he confirmed, scheduled and ensured superior rendering of 10 military funeral hours.



Boman

**Edward Henson**, of the Security Department, was recognized as Civilian of the Quarter for the first quarter 2016.

**Thomas Francisco**, of Ground Elec-

**Bravo Zulu**



Joslin-Denny



Pallers



Collins



Johnston



Frazee



Hunt



Lima



Mundy



Shackelford



Rodela

tronics, was recognized as Senior Civilian of the Quarter for the first quarter 2016.

**Nancy Boynton**, of MWR, was recognized for five years of government service.

**Ward Hawkins**, of Fire and Emergency Services, was recognized for 25 years of government service.

Several Sailors received a Letter of Commendation from Rear Adm. Dell Bull, CNATRA, for the restoration of the display planes. They refurbished and repainted the aircraft located at the Naval Air Station Static Display Park. Sailors commended were: **AT1 Benjamin Liskey, ET2 Jerome Baca, ET3 James Chiasson, ET1 Daniel Jacox, ET2 Lauren Joslin-Denny, ET2 Kevin Pallares, ACAN William Collins, and ACAN David Johnston.**

**AC1(AW/SW) Joshua Ottwell** received his third Navy Achievement Medal for his service as president, South Texas Navy Historical Committee, from January to March 2016. As committee president, he managed a budget of \$30,154, coordinated \$11,201 in merchandise sales and led a



Ottwell



Jones



Zamorano



Tagliabue



Baker

team of 68 volunteers to ensure the success of a 40s-themed opening night gala, anniversary ceremony, historical aircraft flyover, base tours and base beautification projects.

The following personnel received Letters of Appreciation for their efforts for the installation's 75th anniversary held March 11-13. Recipients included: **Lt. Cmdr. Troy Frazee, Lt. Cmdr. David Hunt, Cmdr. Al Lima, MAC Roger Mundy, AO1 Jasmin Shackelford, RP1 Michael Clayton, AC2 Amanda Taylor, AC3 Jody Miller, Jennifer Rodela, John Morris, Kass Varner, Matt Jones, and Monica Zamorano.**

**Tom Tagliabue**, with the city of Corpus Christi, was given a

plaque for his support of the air station's 75th anniversary.

**Barbie Baker** was given a plaque for her support of the air station's 75th anniversary, and 1940s-themed gala.



Morris



Varner

**Cutler from page 5**

information to families about their Sailors that comforted them until they were able to communicate themselves," said Cutler. "Plus being a mother of six children, keeping them occupied was a number one priority, so I would search out and share with my families all the activities offered to military families. I kept everyone informed of any and all resources I found that could benefit them in anyway. I became what you might call a 'resource junkie.'"

And now that she has assumed a familiar role, even though the command is not going to lift anchor and sail away, there is every reason for her to continue sharing resources with the NHCCC families under her care.

"I take this job seriously," she said, "and I want to make sure that no one is forgotten!"

"We are a command true, but we are also a family," said Cutler.

"I, like Master Chief Brown, also believe in 'Ohona' no one gets left behind. I don't expect to make a huge impact on the entire command, but if I can bring light and comfort to just one family, then I will have done my job."

Cutler hails from Bennington, Idaho. She and her family have been in the Corpus Christi area now for just a little over 18 months.

If you were to ask her what she would like others to know about her family she would respond without hesitation, "We believe in working hard, doing our best and being honest in the things that we do. We love having fun and enjoying each other's company. We feel home is not the house or state we live in, but the environment we create together."

## Celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander heritage, diversity aboard NASCC May 19

Navy Celebrates 2016 Asian American, Pacific Islander Heritage Month

The Navy joins the nation in celebrating the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month throughout May.

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi's Diversity Committee is planning a celebration on Thursday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Catalina Club. It will feature guest speaker Lt. Kevin Hoang, of Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi's Optometry Department. Entertainment will also be provided by Corpus Christi Chinese School performers. Food and drink will also be served.

The Navy encourages commands to embrace this year's national theme "Walk Together, Embrace Differences, Build Legacies." The three imperatives serve to promote equal representation and to remove barriers in developing diverse leaders, acknowledging the challenges that still exist today.

"I'm proud to be part of the tremendous history of Asian-Pacific Americans who've served our Navy and our nation -- Navy leaders and heroes like Gordon Chung-Hoon, Robert Kihune, Ming Chang, Raquel 'Rocky' Bono, Bette Bolivar, Pete Gumataotao, Alma Grocki and Brian Losey," said Adm. Harry Harris Jr., commander, U.S. Pacific Command, and the highest ranking Asian-Pacific American in U.S. Navy history.

"Americans of Asian-Pacific descent simply want to be successful on our merits and not held back by our genetics. So as we remember the accomplishments of Asian-Pacific Americans this month, let's celebrate that our Joint Force is a team where men and women of every race, religion, economic background, and sexual orientation proudly take the lead, bringing their different skills and talents to bear

every day to defend our great nation."

Today, there are 24,500 Asian American and Pacific Islander Sailors serving in the Navy, including eight admirals and 235 master chief and senior chief petty officers. These Sailors represent more than 56 ethnic groups, speaking over 100 languages from Asia and the Pacific Islands, living in the United States.

Asian American and Pacific Islanders of various nationalities and ancestry have been serving in the Navy since the early 19th century. The rich history of these cultures, their struggles against adversity to achieve equality, significant contributions to the American experience, and the opportunity to build the foundation for a bright future are made reality by some great leaders who share the same heritage.

Some of the senior leaders serving in the Navy today, who are Asian American and Pacific Islanders, are:

Adm. Raquel C. Bono is the director of the Defense Health Agency. Of Filipino descent, her brother, Anatolio B. Cruz III, was also an admiral in the Navy until he retired in 2013.

Rear Adm. Peter A. Gumataotao, a native of Guam, is the deputy chief of staff, Strategic Plans and Policy, NATO Supreme Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk.

Rear Adm. Jonathan A. Yuen is commander, Naval Supply Systems Command and 47th chief of Supply Corps.

Another is Capt. Sunita L. Williams, currently serving as an astronaut for NASA. She served as the flight engineer for the Expedition-14 crew and science officer at the International Space Station in 2007. In 2012, she served as a flight engineer on Expedition-32 and then commander of Expedition-33. Her seven space walks set records for women. (From CNP Public Affairs)

### ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH



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## What's Happening?

### Out & About

#### May 5

**Cinco de Mayo Celebration**  
6-10 p.m.  
Heritage Park  
Free admission

#### May 6-8

**Mothers' Day Free Weekend for Moms**  
South Texas Botanical Gardens  
www.stxbot.org  
Call (361) 852-2100

#### May 6-7

**Fiesta de la Flor**  
Corpus Christi  
Wwfiestadelaflor.com

#### May 7

**Free Comic Book Day**  
9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Comics Plus

#### May 7

**Mother's Day Concert by the Del Mar Master Chorus**  
7:30 p.m., Richardson Hall, Del Mar College East, Ayers at Baldwin, free.

#### May 7-8

**Orchid Show**  
South Texas Botanical Gardens  
Call (361) 852-2100

#### May 11-25

**Dine Island**  
Participating restaurants on Padre Island  
Facebook.com/DineIsland for details

#### May 13-16

**Art Fiesta Weekend**  
Port Aransas  
Call (361) 749-7334 for info.

#### May 28-29

**20th annual Rockport Wine & Food Festival**  
Texas Maritime Museum, 1202 Navigation Circle  
texasfestivalofwines.com

#### May 30

**Memorial Day ceremony**  
1 p.m., Seaside Memorial Park

#### Summer Camps

Available through C.C. Parks & Recreation.  
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*If you have or know of an event to list, e-mail nascc-pao@navy.mil.*

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**9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

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3-6 yrs...1/2 mile • 7-9 yrs...1 mile • 10-15 yrs...2 miles  
Event Located at the Youth Activities Center, Building 1756

Pre-register online at [www.americaskidsrun.org](http://www.americaskidsrun.org).  
Under registration select "NAS Corpus Christi."

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There will be a costume contest -- come dressed as your favorite super hero or villain!  
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For more information, call 961-2355.

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# Upgrade to Navy COOL mobile app includes advancement BIBs

By Ed Barker  
NETPDC Public Affairs

The Navy Credentialing Opportunities Online (COOL) app for mobile devices received a significant upgrade April 28 with the addition of advancement exam bibliographies (BIBs).

Added to the Navy COOL website last month, BIBs on COOL allows Sailors, including the Reserve forces, who are preparing for advancement examinations to access their references without the need for a Common Access Card (CAC). The direct links to the Navy COOL website BIBs enhance the functionality of the COOL app for mobile devices.

"Adding the BIBs to the Navy COOL CAC-free website was a major win for the Sailor," said Master Chief Electronics Technician - Nuclear Power (SS) James Berhalter, command master chief for the Naval Education and Training Professional Development Center (NETPDC). "Adding that same tool to the Navy COOL app makes it even more convenient, with the ability for active-duty and Reserve Sailors to prepare for advancement exams virtually anywhere."

According to Keith Boring, Navy COOL program manager, adding the BIBs to the app is a major accomplishment, but is just one of the upgrades.

"Many of the documents in the app have

been compressed, making downloading it easier," said Boring. "We've also added supporting files for the Learning and Development Roadmaps, Rating Information Cards and Joint Service Transcript files. App users should see noticeable improvements after downloading the update."

The Navy COOL app is a bring-your-own device tool designed to work on personal devices outside of the NMCI domain.

Users can download the Navy COOL app from the Apple store and Google Play Store at no cost.

To find the free Navy COOL app, search "Navy COOL" in app stores or in your web browser. To update the existing Navy COOL app on your mobile device (if you haven't received a notification), check the page in the device store and there will be an upgrade option -- choose 'upgrade' and download.

The Navy COOL office is located at the Center for Information Dominance at Naval Air Station Pensacola Corry Station. CID is the Navy's learning center that delivers information warfare professionals to the Navy and joint services, enabling optimal performance of information warfare across the full spectrum of military operations.

NETPDC, located on board NAS Pensacola Saufley Field, provides products and services that enable and enhance education, training, career development, and personnel advancement throughout the Navy.



Students from the Aerospace Medical Technician School explore Naval Education Training Command (NETC) smart phone applications to find out more about advancement with the "FMS Calculator" and command recourses with "New to the Navy." NETC's newest app, NavyCOOL, provides Sailors with a set of credentialing and career tools to help make professional development decisions throughout their Navy career and beyond. Other tools within the app include in-service civilian and industry certifications, road maps to career advancement and retention, and civilian career occupations after life in the Navy. (Photo by Ensign James A. Griffin)

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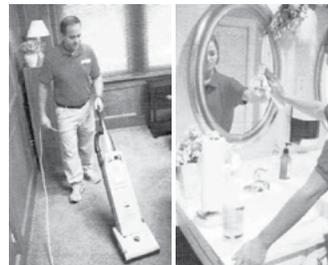
Books will be provided, or bring your own.

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CASA of the Coastal Bend is making an urgent plea for the community to step up and speak up for Children who are victims of abuse and neglect. In 2015 741 children which equates to about 30 classrooms - right here in our local community found themselves in foster care. Why should I step up and speak up? Simple these children are the future of the Coastal Bend and each child deserves a dedicated CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocate who will commit to finding them a safe, permanent and forever home. CASA volunteers get to know the children and speak to everyone involved in the children's life, including their family members, teachers, doctors, lawyers, social workers, and others. The information the CASA volunteer gathers and their recommendations help the court make informed decisions.

Voices For Children



**CASA holds 6 trainings a year call 884-2272 or visit our website [www.casaofthecoastalbend.com](http://www.casaofthecoastalbend.com) to receive an information packet.**

**Next Training Dates:**  
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May 17th, 18th, 19th, 24th, 25th, 26th - 5:30P to 9:30P (T,W,TH)  
July 13th, 14th, 15th, 20th, 21st, 22nd - 9:00P to 1:00P (W,TH,F)



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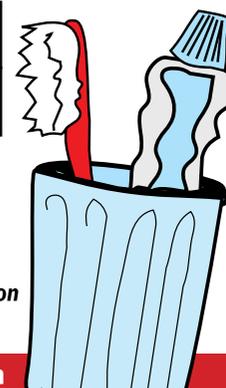
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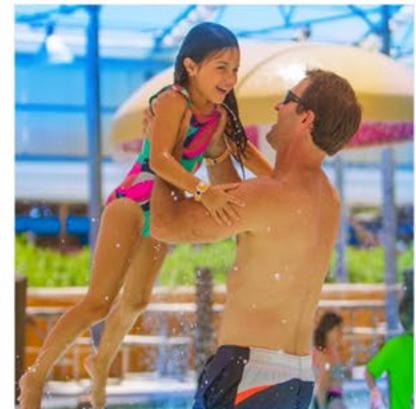
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