

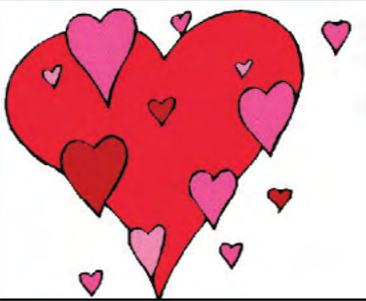
# WINGSPAN



Vol. 18, No. 3

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

February 9, 2012



**Valentine's Day**  
February 14



**New NASCC  
Ombudsman**  
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**Electric Cop Cars**  
*page 5*



**New Fire Station at  
Cabaniss**

*page 3*

## Seabees train, NASCC Marina gets new boat ramp

Story and photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Scott B. Boyle, 25th Naval Construction Regiment Public Affairs

Training to be a Seabee requires more than studying manuals or sitting in a classroom.

To excel in all aspects of construction, today's Seabees need real world, hands-on experience – and the Construction Training Exercise (CTX) is designed for that very purpose.

Currently, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, from Gulfport, Miss., has a team

of 23 Seabees building a boat ramp to support Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

The homeport project gives Seabees an opportunity to maintain their core construction skills outside of a classroom, while giving NAS a new Marina boat ramp to replace World War II era one that was no longer safe to use.

"It gives them a sense of  
*Seabees continued on page 8*



(above) Steelworker 3rd Class Alan Moiles trims rebar from pilings used to support boat ramp. (right) Utilitiesman 3rd Class Daniel Trump builds a frame from rebar for the boat ramp.



## Two Engineers of the Year for NASCC Public Works

Story and photo by Rod Hafemeister

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi got a double honor this year: Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southeast selected both the Military and Civilian Engineer of the Year from NAS Corpus Christi's Public Works Department.

Lt. Cmdr. Craig Clutts, the Public Works Offer, was selected as Military Engineer of the Year and Marcos Castaneda, a construction manager, was selected as Civilian Engineer of the Year for the Southeast Region for 2012.

The awards were announced Jan. 24.

"This was the first time I was nominated," Clutts said. "It was a very cool surprise – very humbling and very flattering."

Castaneda, who was recently licensed as a professional engineer, didn't even know he was nominated.

"I was really surprised by the award," he said. "I had a busy year last year."

When supervisors recommended Castaneda for the award, he was the clear choice, Clutts said.

"It was pretty easy to write up an award for Marcos – it pretty much writes itself," Clutts said.



Lt. Cmdr. Craig Clutts, NAVFAC SE Military Engineer of the Year, and Marcos Castaneda, Civilian Engineer of the Year

*Engineers continued on page 9*

# Skipper's Column Our new Ombudsman

by Capt. Dave Edgecomb



**Edgecomb**

He replaces Jeri Nix, who left NAS last fall when her husband was reassigned.

Michael's background, in his own words:

It is my pleasure to announce that NAS Corpus Christi again has a Command Ombudsman: Michael Lovelace.

Michael (his photo is on the front page) is the husband of ET1 Lemanda Lovelace.

"I have been around the Navy as long as I can remember. The son of a Command Master Chief, I joined the ranks as a Sailor myself.

"Now, I have been married to my Sailor wife for 10 years this June. We have 9-year-old son.

"As for my experience in helping my fellow Navy dependents, I have chaired both the treasurer's position and the vice president position for the Family Readiness Group of my wife's last command.

"I look forward to working with you all. Thank you for letting me serve you."

By definition, an Ombudsman "is a volunteer who is a spouse of an active duty or selected reserve command member that is designated by the Command to serve as a link between the command and families, assisting the command in its functions of providing

information and related services to families regarding sources of assistance available to them, Navy and command policies, and activities of interest to family members."

Essentially, the Ombudsman is my connection as commanding officer to spouses and other family members – a way for me to get information to you and for you to find information and assistance when you need it.

The Ombudsman also provides a confidential way for spouses and other family members to contact me if the need arises.

Although he has a job, Michael said he will be arranging his schedule so that he is on base at least one day a week. He also can be reached by email at: [nasccomb@gmail.com](mailto:nasccomb@gmail.com).

Please feel free to contact him, use him as a resource, and welcome him to the job.

## Chaplain's Message United we stand

by Lt. Cmdr. Gabriel Mensah, Chaplain

This year, 2012, is a Presidential Election year; and thus, as one of the candidates in the last election cycle put it succinctly, "the silly season of politics" has begun in earnest.

I don't profess to be an expert in politics, neither am I a student of political science. What follows is just my musings and observations of the political landscape the past couple of decades.

The process is already in full swing with the Republican primaries. For those who have been following the primaries, it has been vicious and downright nasty, to say the least.

The level of vitriol being hurled around by the candidates can leave a bad taste in one's mouth. And this is just the beginning.

By the time both Democrats and Republicans have their conventions in late

summer, we might already have election fatigue.

Without sounding too melodramatic, I believe we, as a nation, as a people, are at a crossroad economically, politically and socially.

But looking at the way both Republicans and Democrats are going at each other, it appears we have a bumpy ride ahead.

This is evident by the labels each party has for the other: "conservative," "liberal," "progressive," "and far-right."

These are loaded terms. Calling someone a conservative, liberal, progressive or far-right, may elicit negative reactions from some segment of the public.

This is highlighted especially in an election year.

The question I have always asked

myself is: Do both Democrats and Republicans genuinely represent the country's best interest, for the common good?

Or do they intentionally confront each other on hot button issues like taxes, immigration, abortion and foreign policy in order to create friction and rally the troops in a way that is highly divisive and destructive.

In other words, is this a "divide and conquer" tactic?

*Chaplain continued on page 13*



**Mensah**

## Editor's Corner 1812 - Before it started

by Rod Hafemeister



**Hafemeister**

I'm dusting off my history again this issue.

The War of 1812 didn't spring full-blown in June 1812; the pressures had been building since the end of the Revolutionary War.

As happens often in history, the American Revolution had an unanticipated consequence in international relations – it led to the French Revolution, which led to the rise of Napoleon – which in turn led to a war between Britain and France.

The young USA was caught in the middle; both Britain and France attempted to keep US merchant ships from reaching their

enemy's ports.

Cargoes were seized and ships were confiscated and sold. Both nations did it, but the British were much more effective because they had a much stronger navy than France.

The British also had a nasty habit of grabbing sailors from American ships, claiming they were deserters from the British navy – and were doing it for most of the decade preceding the war.

On the other hand, American hands were not always clean. Those settling the western frontier (Ohio, Michigan, Indiana) were frequently in conflict with Native Americans – who in some cases were armed by the British through Canada.

The "war hawks" argued that the solution was to drive the British out and make Canada part of the US.

Down South, southern war hawks salivated at the prospect of taking Florida from Spain, which was a British ally.

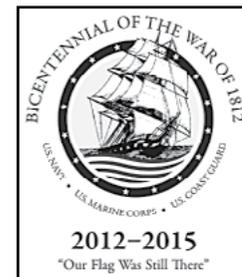
So for several years leading up to 1812, there was a growing movement to confront the British.

That fire got fueled on Feb. 8, 1812, when President James Madison purchased the Henry Letters by John Henry for \$50,000.

The letters stated that the British government, operating in Canada, had employed Henry to persuade the New England states to leave the US and join Canada.

The letters were frauds, but Henry successfully deceived the President and United States Congress, increasing tensions with Great Britain.

The stage was set; then Napoleon pulled the curtain with a clever scam.



## Wingspan

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*Wingspan* is published every other week by D.J. Young Publishing, 145 Naples, Corpus Christi, Texas 78404, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Navy, under exclusive written contract with Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas.

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

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\* All services will be held at the Catholic Chapel, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bldg. 332, due to renovations to the Protestant Chapel, Bldg 117. **Protestant Bible Study is cancelled until further notice.**

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# New Cabaniss fire station opens

Story and photo by Rod Hafemeister

In less than two years, Navy Auxiliary Landing Field Cabaniss went from a hole in the ground to state-of-the-art \$1.3 million, energy efficient fire station.

Even the top fire official from Commander, Navy Installations Command showed up for the Jan. 26 ribbon cutting.

"It's great to have Carl Glover, CNIC's Director of Navy Fire Protection, here," said NAS Corpus Christi Fire Chief John Morris.

"And this is a great facility for our personnel."

The design/build contract, to The DLP Group Inc., was awarded in February 2010.

The result is a building that houses both the fire equipment and the emergency personnel required to be on station when the airfield is in use.

Living quarters consist of a day/training room, a fully equipped kitchen to support the three-person crew, two dorm rooms (sleeping quarters), a restroom with shower, a workout facility, and a station office with a fold-down "Murphy Bed"

so that it also functions as a third dorm room.

The Apparatus Bay houses a primary fire vehicle, a secondary back-up vehicle, equipment storage and a building mechanical room.

The design also maximized energy efficiency, said NASCC Public Works Officer Lt. Cmdr. Craig Clutts.

"This is the first LEED Silver certified project at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi," Clutts said. "It means a dramatic reduction in utility consumption compared to what it replaced."

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is a rating system devised by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) to evaluate the environmental performance of a building and encourage market transformation towards sustainable design. Silver is a step above basic LEED certification.

The new fire station replaced a 1969 fire station, which was inadequate and had significant operational deficiencies.



Officials cut the ribbon opening the new \$1.3 million Fire Station at Navy Auxiliary Landing Field Cabaniss on Jan. 26. From left: Carl Glover, Director Navy Fire Protection, CNIC; Ensign Keenan Harris, Public Works Construction Manager; NASCC CO Capt. Dave Edgecomb; Arnold DeLaPaz, President, The DLP Group Inc.; Fire Chief John Morris, and Public Works Officer Lt. Cmdr Craig Clutts.

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## French takes helm at CNIC

by Patrick Foughty, CNIC Public Affairs

WASHINGTON - Vice Adm. William D. French relieved Vice Adm. Michael C. Vitale as Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) during a Change of Command ceremony in CNIC Headquarters at the Washington Navy Yard, Feb. 3.

Vitale has served as the chief officer leading the Navy's entire shore infrastructure for nearly three years and was the third Commander in the history of CNIC.

This infrastructure, known as the CNIC Enterprise, includes 11 Navy Regions, 70 Installations, and 127 Naval Operations Support Centers, and is responsible for 31 business lines and 122 critical shore capabilities across three major categories; operations, quality of life, and facilities management.

Throughout his tenure, Vitale lead efforts to standardize, align, synchronize and innovate new methods and processes that furthered CNIC's mission to deliver effective and efficient readiness from the shore that sustain the fleet, enable the fighter, and support families.

Vitale praised the numerous accomplishments of the personnel under his command and of the entire CNIC Enterprise; from molding the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) into the model Personnel Accountability System used across the services, to the development

of new shore integration methods and a Total Workforce, capable of continuously supporting operations and services.

"The personnel here at the Headquarters, and throughout the entire Enterprise have faced growing numbers of issues and challenges," said Vitale, "I've had the pleasure of witnessing this Enterprise solve complex and dynamic problems, some self-imposed, some caused by outside forces, and forge a way ahead toward a model of shore integration that has forever changed how we do business and provide service the Fleet, Fighter and Family."

Vitale also thanked the many Navy communities throughout the world that support and allow the Navy to operate in close proximity to their homes and livelihoods, acknowledging the importance of maintaining close ties from the smallest Installation to the Headquarters level.

"It's the communities, both in the U.S. and abroad, that invite us to live and operate in their backyard, and it's the communities, both within the Navy and outside, that are the anchor of our ability to maintain and operate the best Naval force in the world, and I want to thank each one for their support, patience, and welcoming spirit," said Vitale.

French thanked Vitale for his wisdom and guidance.

"During the last six years I have been



**Vice Adm. Bill French gives his remarks at the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Change of Command ceremony while the Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Jonathan Greenert (left), and Vice Adm. Michael Vitale. French relieved Vitale as Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) at the Washington Navy Yard February 3.**

photo by MC1 Monique Hilley

with the CNIC Enterprise I have learned that we have some of the best, brightest, and most talented professionals in the Navy," said French. "Under Vice Admiral Vitale's leadership the CNIC team has set the example

for how an Enterprise should function and have established immense credibility on how you are meeting customer needs. I'm honored to be taking command at this point in the history of the command."



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# NASCC Cops 'Go Green' with electric patrol vehicles.

NAS Corpus Christi Security Office Lt. Jack Stanley with a new electric vehicle outfitted for police duties. The GreenTruck Crew Cab EVR1000 is the first of four that are joining the Security Department fleet, replacing two SUV 'gas guzzlers' and two old sedans with maintenance issues. With a top speed of 25 mph and four hours on a single charge, the EVR1000s will be used for patrol, parking enforcement and administration. Outfitting the electric vehicles with lights and sirens costs \$1,950; the SUVs used an estimated \$28,800 in gas annually. Charging stations are being installed at the Security Department parking lot and the vehicles also get a partial charge from roof-mounted solar panels.



Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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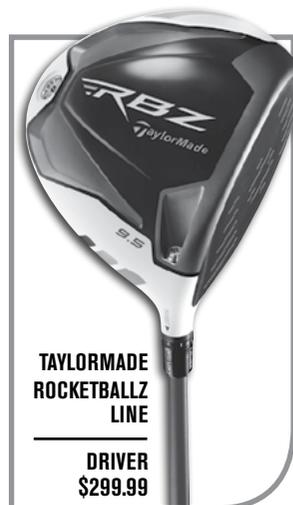
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## Branhams accept Public Service Award for support at Bugg Springs



**Bugg Spring, home of the Navy's Tactical Towed Array Calibration Facility.**

Story and photos by MC2 Greg Johnson, Region Southeast Public Affairs

OKAHUMPKA, Fla. – Dr. Joe Branham and his wife, Margaret, accepted the Department of the Navy Superior Public Service Award from Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., Commander, Navy Region Southeast, during a ceremony at Bugg Spring in Okahumpka, Fla., Jan. 26.

Scorby presented the award in recognition of the Branhams' five decades of support to the U.S. Navy.

The Branham's were the long-time owners of Bugg Spring and surrounding areas. The family purchased the 69-acre property in 1923 and began leasing a portion of it to the Navy for sonar testing purposes in 1956.

On Dec. 30, 2011, the Branhams sold the entire property to the Navy for \$2.4 million.

Throughout the years, the property has become the Navy's standardizing activity in the area of underwater acoustic measurements.

As the home to the Underwater Sound Reference Division (USRD) of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, the research conducted at the spring is a crucial support element for the Navy's submarine and surface fleet, and the Branhams' have been instrumental in making that research possible,

Scorby said.

"I wanted to come here and personally thank the Branhams for their commitment support to our Navy," he said.

"This one-of-a-kind facility is so important and we really owe our gratitude to Dr. and Mrs. Branham for their generosity and patriotism throughout the past 60 years."

Although Joe said it was an honor to accept the award, the true pleasure was having the opportunity to meet those who were in attendance.

"It feels very good to be able to accept the award today and we really enjoyed the company of all of the fine men and women from the Navy who came here today," Joe said.

According to Tony Paolero, USRD technical program manager, the 175-ft. deep Bugg Spring is not only a perfect setting for sonar testing, it is one-of-a-kind due to its isolated, noise-free environment.

"It's the perfect place for low-frequency calibrations," he said.

"We can calibrate at ambient conditions that are below sea state zero, which is ideal and not in existence anywhere else."



Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., Commander, Navy Region Southeast, presents the Department of the Navy Superior Public Service Award to Dr. Joe Branham and his wife, Margaret, at their home near Bugg Spring.

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## Enhancing your relationship

by Carrie Myers, MS, LMFT, LPC, Clinical Counselor, Fleet and Family Support Center

How many of you ever look at the person sitting next to you on the couch and wonder, "What happened to us? We used to have fun, we used to laugh together and we used to TALK!!?"

You may be surprised at the number of marriages that go through this thought process, but you may even be more surprised by the simple things you can do to help rectify these situations. Hopefully no one gets married to the person they love just to ignore each other.

Why not try to get your relationship out of the rut and move forward with a happy, healthy relationship.

Here at Fleet and Family Support Center, that is part of our mission and we have the tools that couples need to reach their relationship goals.

The Couples Communication workshop is currently taking reservations to learn skills such as how to really hear what your spouse is saying, how to voice your concerns in a positive way that will be heard, how to resolve a conflict and come to a compromise, how to offer and receive appreciation from one another, how to fight fair, and most importantly how to be a connected couple again.

Please call Cindy at 961-1301/2372 today to reserve your spot.

Classes begin February 15 from 4-6 p.m. in the Fleet and Family Support Center classroom, on the fifth floor of the Naval Health Clinic.

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### Seabees continued from page 1

ownership and they are enjoying what they are doing," said project Assistant Officer-in-Charge, Senior Chief Construction Electrician Raquel Jeffers.

"It gets them out of the classroom and they get the hands-on experience. To see them work through the challenges is really rewarding."

Steelworker 3rd Class Alan Moiles said the boat ramp project is complex but it gives the young Seabees a great opportunity to improve their skills.

"It's very different since we don't get the mud and the water in the classroom," he said. "I've done rebar work before, but nothing like this."

In the classroom, even during the labs in class, everything is controlled said Construction Electrician 2nd Class Joshua Guerreiro, the project crew leader.

"The things we have encountered out here, building the boat ramp, the demolition, the rain and mud, it has made us think outside the box and come up with things they don't teach you in the classroom to overcome obstacles," he said.

Jeffers said learning to adapt to and overcome environmental changes, while still completing a project, is a skill all Seabees need.

The different skills needed to build the boat ramp also translate to projects Seabees take on during deployments, such as building schools and airfields.

Practicing those skills during homeport projects makes the Seabees more efficient when they are in harsh, deployed environments.

"Most everybody on this crew has come out of the desert, so we're good at building Southwest Asia (SWA) huts," Guerreiro said.

"This project will give us a lot of rebar work, a lot of concrete work, things we have

never done before and it will really expand our skills."

NAS Corpus Christi Public Works Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Craig Clutts, sees the project as a great training opportunity for the battalion Seabees.

"In my two years with NMCB 74, back in 2006-07, we were deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and Guam," he said. "We had three personnel out of 600 trained to oversee quality control of overhead concrete pours, the type of work these Seabees are executing on this base today."

The quality of life improvement on the base is also a big part of the CTX concept, since these projects, while giving the Seabees an invaluable training experience, also leave something behind the customers can use.

Clutts said the base on Corpus Christi has lost several units over the past few years and this boat ramp will be extremely important in supporting base operations and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's mission of supporting the service members stationed there.

"This project will revitalize MWR for the base," he said.

Since the project began Jan. 4, people working on NAS Corpus Christi have been clear in their appreciation for the Seabees' efforts.

"Everyone knows us now," Moiles said. "They see the uniform, and there aren't a lot of Seabees here, so they are really appreciative of what we do."

"Every day we get praise out here, people saying 'Seabees, we can't thank you enough,'" Jeffers added. "It is a big morale boost."

The NAS Corpus Christi boat ramp project, scheduled for completion in May, is just one of several CTXs planned or ongoing at bases throughout the continental United States.

## NAS Kingsville's 2012 air show needs volunteers

by Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

The NAS Kingsville air show committee is currently looking for volunteers for this year's show, which takes place April 14-15.

Individual and group volunteers are needed. Vendors who will have booths on the midway will need staff assistance, and this is a great opportunity for volunteers to earn a little extra cash while they help support the air show.

"We are already collecting names of individuals and organizations that would like to volunteer to work the concession operations at the Air Show this year," said David Haigh, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department (MWR) director and air show marketing coordinator. "We will need at least 16 booths staffed with a daily requirement of about 160 people, depending on what the particular booths are selling."

Each volunteer will be paid the same percentage of the profits that are made from the air show, regardless of the type of booth that they work, minus cash and inventory

shortages from sales.

Food vouchers will be provided to volunteers each day and will only be valid for food purchase on the Midway. It may not be used for merchandise or beer purchase. A cup will also be supplied, so unlimited soft drinks will be available.

You must be 16 years of age or older to work at any booth, and you must be 21 years of age or older to work at booths that sell alcohol. No alcohol may be consumed during the work shifts. Beer servers must comply with all Texas and U.S. Navy requirements. All food booth staff must have a valid Texas Food Handler's Sanitation Card and they must meet all Texas and Navy requirements. For more information on Navy food handling requirements, please contact Daniel Rackley at (361) 516-6196. Volunteer group applications are available for download on the Wings Over South Texas web site at <http://wingsoversouthtexas.org> and completed forms emailed to [KNGV-PAO@navy.mil](mailto:KNGV-PAO@navy.mil).

## Coast Guardsman advances



**Corey Dosmann, an Aviation Maintenance Technician at Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi, advanced to the rank of Petty Officer First Class on Feb. 1. His crowns were pinned on by his wife Stacey and daughter Carly.**

Photo by Lt. Steven Vanderlaske, USCG

### Engineers continued from page 1

"Marcos is very driven."

Besides earning his license and managing some significant construction, Castaneda has spent time mentoring local high school students.

"I'm trying to keep the Hispanic community engaged in engineering," he said.

Clutts said the awards were in part due to the increased visibility NAS Corpus Christi has received the last couple years as infrastructure problems were recognized and money directed to fix them - \$54 million in fiscal 2011 and \$64 million programmed for fiscal 2012.

"The other thing is, I've been fortunate throughout my career to be mentored by many people to look at all of my career, not just the job at hand," Clutts said.

"I've been able to stay engaged with engineering, not just management."

Castaneda has been a construction manager for six years, receiving larger projects year after year and currently managing \$44 million in projects.

"I have been asked to pursue a higher supervisory position," he said.

"However, I feel I have a lot to learn in construction engineering as the field is changing on year-to-year basis.

"I would be best to continue to be part of the Building 8 replacement program which is in 10 phases and apply the lessons learned from each phase to the others in order to provide the taxpayer and Corpus Christi Army Depot the best product possible to support

their mission."

According to NAVFAC Southeast, Clutts and Castaneda were selected on their education background, professional registration, continuing education achievements, professional and technical society activities, professional associations, awards or honors, civic and humanitarian activities, and engineering achievements.

Clutts is a mechanical engineer by education, a professional engineer and certified energy manager, a member of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE), and is the Vice President of the Coastal Bend Chapter of SAME. He has also published a paper on profitability versus construction equipment maintenance.

In his spare time, Clutts is an assistant coach for youth soccer, coaches T-ball for 4-6 year olds, serves as a chaplain at the Gideon camp, and volunteers at the Glenoak Therapeutic Riding Stables.

Castaneda graduated from Texas A&M - Kingsville, was the President of the Coastal Bend SAME chapter from 2008 - 2011 and continues on its board, is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and is a member of the Society of Professional Hispanic Engineers.

"Every year we recognize a military and civilian engineer who stands out in his or her profession," said Capt. John J. Heinzl, commanding officer, NAVFAC Southeast.

"The award recognizes their exceptional talent and achievements."

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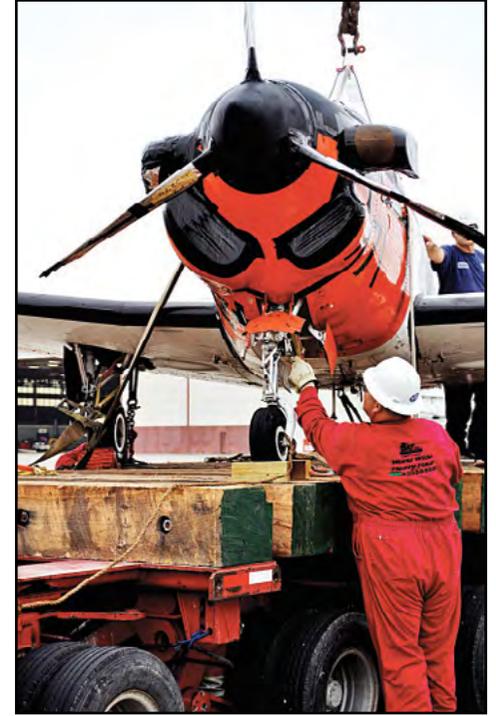
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# Final 'Flight' – By Flatbed



Two Training Air Wing Four's T-34C Turbomotors left NAS Corpus Christi for the last time Feb. 2, not in the air, but on a truck. The pair had exceeded their allowed flying life – one had entered Navy service in 1976 and the other in 1983; combined, they had more than 30,000 flight hours. Loaded on a flatbed by a crane, then tied down, they began their final journey to Corpus Christi International Airport – and new life as training aids. On Feb. 6, Chief of Naval Air Training Rear Adm. Bill Sizemore presented the aircraft logbooks to Del Mar College President Dr. Mark Escamilla during a ceremony at the Corpus Christi International Airport. The aircraft will be used to provide hands-on training to students in the College's Aviation Maintenance and Avionics Programs, ensuring that quality aircraft maintenance continues in South Texas. 'The Navy's generosity and vision will impact Del Mar College's Aviation Maintenance and Avionics students as they expand their skills with hands-on instruction using the aircraft we're accepting today,' Escamilla said. 'We're very excited about the new educational and workforce development opportunities these aircraft will provide to future workers and employers in the Texas Coastal Bend.' The two aircraft are the first the College has received from the Navy since the DMC Aviation Maintenance Program began in 2001.

Photos by Bob Torres (above) and Richard Stewart (right)



# Awards and Achievements

## Winging — January 27



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Kim Erwin, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce; Lt. Stephen Warne, Chaplain; Lt. Col. Nathan Neblett, Executive Officer, MATSG-22; Cmdr. Brian Hamling, Executive Officer, VT-31; Lt. Col. William MacLean, USAF, Commanding Officer, VT-35; Cmdr. Antonio Tellado, Commanding Officer, VT-31; Capt. Mark Springer, Deputy Director, JIOWC.

Wingees, in alphabetical order: Lt. j.g. Daniel Ray Baker; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Joshua David Cohoon, USMC; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Tamara Dawn Cordero, USMC; Ensign Garrison Lee Erwin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Jason Thomas Grupp, USAF; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Christopher Lee Hanson, USAF; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Dustin Drew Hanson, USAF; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jameson Peter Hustek, USMC; Ensign Grant Edward LeMaster; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Zachary Ronald McCreary, USAF; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kevin Charles O'Malley, USMC; Ensign Erin Cory Rawlick; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James William Robertson, USAF; Lt. j.g. Adriano Monteiro Lopes Silva; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Marvin Smith, USAF; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Fidan S. Thornburg, USAF.

## Personnel Support Detachment Corpus Christi's People of the Year



Personnel Support Detachment Corpus Christi recognized their People of the Year of 2011 on Jan. 12. From left: PSD Director Hector Escajeda, Senior Sailor of the Year (CY 2011) PS2 Katti Burns, Contractor of the Year (FY 2011) Melissa D. Townsend, Senior Civilian (FY 2011) Raymond (Ray) L. Braden, Junior Civilian (FY 2011) Carmen G. Hernandez, and Blue Jacket of the Year (CY 2011) PS3 Victor Daniel Delgado.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister



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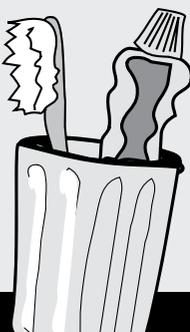
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## Sanchez gets Achievement Medal



Capt. Gina M. Jaeger, commanding officer NHCCC, presented the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2nd Award) to Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (Fleet Marine Force) Adam L. Sanchez Jan. 19, for professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as a general duty hospital corpsman at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi from July 2009 to January 2012. As suitability screener and Exceptional Family Member program coordinator, Sanchez processed more than 130 screenings in accordance with military guidelines. He was an integral part of the Integrated Disability Evaluation System implementation ordering over \$117,000 of supplies and equipment while overseeing logistical support.

Photo by Bill Love, NHCCC PAO

## AC2 Terrell Powell reenlists



Lt. j.g. Larry Sommers presents a Certificate of Reenlistment to AC2 Terrell Powell at his Jan. 24 reenlistment.

Photo by Bob Torres



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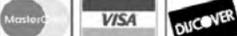
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*Chaplain continued from page 2*

If you have been following the way our political system has been working the past few decades or so, the answer is obvious.

All this, plus what the political pundits bombard us with on a daily basis, will give one the impression that there are more things that divide us than unite us.

I happen to think the opposite is true – i.e., we have a lot more that unites us than divides us.

I stated in one of my past articles that the mood of the country in the aftermath of 9/11 was phenomenal. You remember how we came together as a nation – not as Republicans or Democrats, not as fragmented ethnic groups, but as one nation, with a common purpose.

We all want a government that runs more efficiently. We all want the best opportunities for the future generation. We all want to live in the safest environment. And we all want to live in a peaceful country.

The truth is both parties have some great ideas to achieve this.

What we need is to get some people to Washington that can put party ideologies aside and truly work for the good of all Americans

**NWCA Scholarship Foundation deadline May 30**

The Navy Wives Clubs of America give 30 scholarships annually in amounts from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

The grants are presented with the knowledge that no repayment is expected from the recipient.

Those eligible for the grants are the natural born, legally adopted or stepson or daughter of an enlisted member of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard on active duty, retired with pay or the son/daughter of a deceased member of these categories.

The applicant must have a valid Dependent ID card (United States Uniformed Services Identification & Privilege Card). The applicant must show basis of need for financial assistance, have a scholastic standing of at least a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) and be a graduate of an accredited High School or its equivalent or will qualify for graduation prior to beginning eligibility for assistance.

The applicant should be physically capable of completing the course undertaken and be of good character. The grants are for tuition, room and board, fees, and books.

The deadline for Scholarship applications is May 30.

Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope when requesting an application. Scholarship applications can be obtained from:

Linda Hedden – Scholarship Director  
1300 Hampton Drive  
Summerville, SC 29483

Applications may also be downloaded from the Navy Wives Clubs of America Inc. website:

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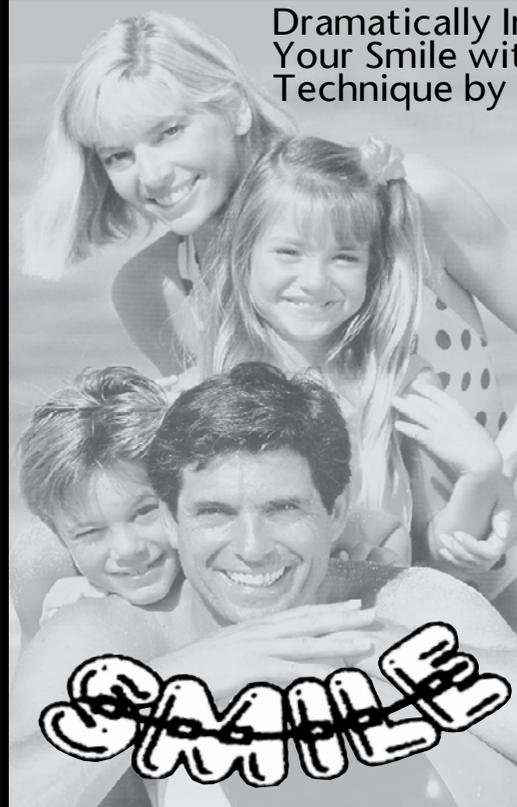
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## Uniform, Tailor and Dry Cleaning Shop gets new digs



### A dry cleaning worker prepares to move to the new shop in Building 249

Photo by Bob Torres

The NEX Uniform Shop is moving! Effective Feb. 10, the Uniform Department, Tailor Shop, and Dry Cleaning drop off will be operating in Building 249, adjacent to the Gym and Bowling Alley on Avenue E.

The department will be closed Feb. 8 & 9 for the move.

However, anyone with a pressing Uniform issue during these times are encouraged to contact any sales associate who will be happy to assist.

Tailor and Dry Cleaning pick-up and drop off will continue to be available at the current location through Feb. 9.

Beginning on Feb. 10, the shop will observe the following business hours:

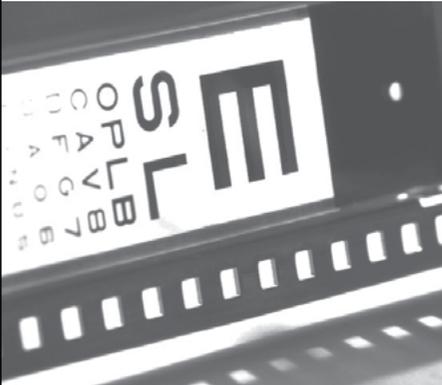
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## Help the Thrift Shop as it helps you

by Tambi Parker, NMCRS Director

Did you know that Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society operates a Thrift Shop on base?

We do – and we could use some more volunteers to keep it open more hours.

NMCRS Thrift Shops are operated by volunteers as a service to our military community. Shopping with us helps stretch your pay check.

You can find bargains on pots and pans, books, children's clothes, toys, house hold goods etc. – most for just \$1 per bag.

Uniform items are available to active duty and retirees for as little as \$3 per piece.

Donations can be dropped off 24/7 in the large blue drop box located in front of our building. Receipts for tax purposes are provided for donations dropped off during normal working hours.

Currently, the Thrift Shop is open Monday and Thursday between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

With the help of a few new volunteers, we can expand the hours of operation.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and available a minimum of four hours during the normal work week. Please stop by or call for further information.

The Thrift Shop is in Bldg. 1738, located at the end of E Avenue, just past the Auto Hobby Shop. The phone number is 961-3374.



## Filing taxes online requires email address

by ET1 Steven Short, NASCC Command VITA Officer

Internet tax filing programs require taxpayers to have an email address, to ensure the taxpayer can receive an email confirmation that the IRS has accepted/returned their return.

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*“Worry is like a rocking chair: it keeps you moving but doesn't get you anywhere.”*

*-Corrie Ten Boom*

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## Ask Dr. Garcia



Garcia

**Q:** I am drowning in work. My husband doesn't help much around the house, my kids are needy, and I am tired and irritable all the time. I don't like the person I'm becoming. Help?

**A:** The term that many marriage experts use is *self-care*.

Someone who makes self-care a priority is not a selfish person; she is a person who courageously finds room in her life to tend to her own needs so that she will have the energy to serve her family effectively.

Didn't someone once say, "All work and no play makes Jane a dull person?"

Tend the fire within your own soul and you will have enough left over to care for others. Look for ways to replenish your soul.

Build in times in your life where you are finding nourishment spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally.

Regarding your husband, he may be one of the people who are just dense about your workload; you may need to educate him about the situation.

Sometimes it is as simple as asking for his help by giving him a "to-do" list that you both create.

However, when you ask him for help don't do it when you are irritable. Wait until a cool, calm moment.

Also don't say it in a judgmental way that will put him on the defensive; simply ask and share your expectation.

You sound like you might already be in resentment and bitterness mode.

If so, remove the attitude and

press forward towards a new vision for your marriage.

**Q:** I love my spouse. I just can't stand the rest of her family, especially her mom and step-dad. What is the best way to deal with in-laws who really are bugging me?

**A:** You are not alone in this issue! Many couples struggle with problems with in-laws. When you married your spouse, you also took on her family as part of the package.

I realize that one of the reasons in-laws can bug us is because we see part of our spouse's issues wrapped up in their relationship with their parents or siblings.

Your wife is a product of her family of origin and you will never be able to wish it away.

Here are some of my thoughts: show honor to your in-laws, honor *on behalf* of your spouse.

You show honor to people at your job, people who you don't necessarily like, and it seems to work.

Showing honor to your in-laws may mean not engaging in tense conversation at the holiday dinner table.

It may mean that you help support a sick parent for a season to honor your spouse.

You will have to decide how to show honor because every situation is different.

You might need to begin creating healthy *boundaries*.

This means that you don't have to engage every conflict.

Be kind, but be strong about building the health of your own home.

It is amazing what a little kindness, understanding, gentleness, and firm boundaries will do to help the relationship.

Above all else, *honor your spouse*. In this situation it isn't about you.

Ruben G. Garcia, Ph.D., LMFT is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and co-founder of The Healing Institute.

Submit your questions to Dr. Garcia via email at [troubadour55@hotmail.com](mailto:troubadour55@hotmail.com) or (361) 814-4556.

## Commissary Scholarships application deadline Feb. 24

The final deadline for applications for the 2012 Commissary Scholarships for Military Children is Feb. 24.

The program provides at least one \$1,500 scholarship to a student at each commissary worldwide.

Information and a downloadable application, is online at: [www.militaryscholar.org/sfmc/index.html](http://www.militaryscholar.org/sfmc/index.html)

and at the NASCC Commissary. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 24, 2012.

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**-W. Clement Stone**

**32nd Y Women In Careers Awards Banquet Thursday, March 1, 2012 at 6PM** at the YWCA, 4601 Corona. Seats are \$80; reservations and sponsorships are available at [ywca.org/corpuschristi](http://ywca.org/corpuschristi). FMI 857-5661 X 17 or [devywca@ywcacc.org](mailto:devywca@ywcacc.org).

**February 18, 2012, Saturday - Annual Ethnic Festival at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church on 2233 Waldron Road in Flour Bluff; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Parish Hall. Highlights are the World Cuisine (American, Italian, Filipino, Polish, Irish, Mexican, Korean, Cajun, and Puerto Rican); raffle tickets with a 2011 Kia Rio grand prize; silent and live auctions that include 4 Southwest Airlines tickets; big car display; arts and crafts, country store, children's games and entertainment. Admission is free. Take-outs available. Call 937-3864 or 353-4233 fmi.**

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**The 1st Wednesday Book Club** meets the first Wednesday of every month at the Dr. Clotilde P. Garcia Public Library, 5930 Brockhampton, at 10:15 a.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 7. We will discuss "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford. New members and visitors are welcome.

My 14 year old son is interested in piano. He is a student at Flour Bluff Jr. High. We are looking for someone to come to our home \*on base, one evening a week or on Sunday afternoon for an hour. He needs music theory and beginner piano lessons. FMI call Ginger at 757-650-2327

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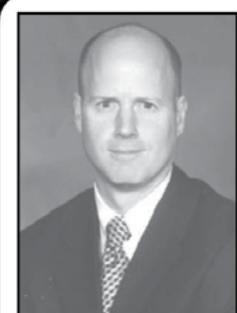
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**Weekly Peer Support Groups will meet at the NASCC USO Lounge** at 1600 on Mondays for any active duty, reservist, or veteran, and on Tuesdays at 1600 for females only of the above. This is a free and confidential program sponsored

by the Veterans Incentive Program. FMI contact 698-6702 or [Cynthia.bonifer@dhs.gov](mailto:Cynthia.bonifer@dhs.gov).

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----- by Tina Konwerski

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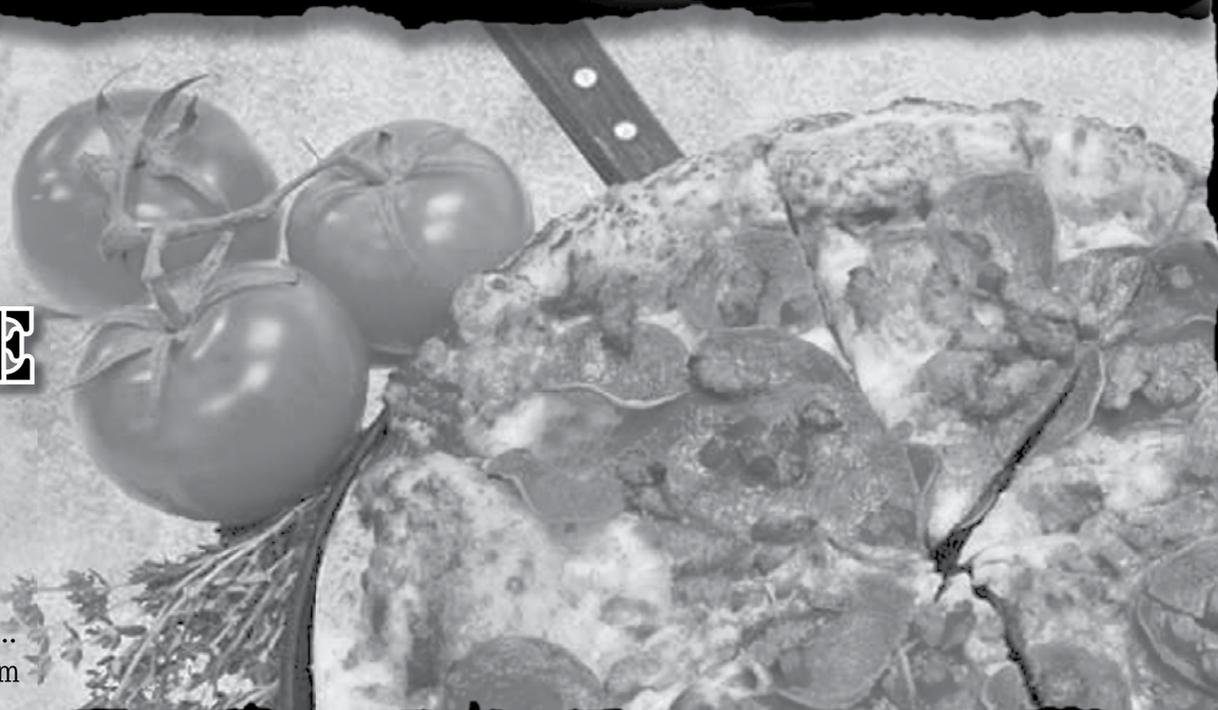
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