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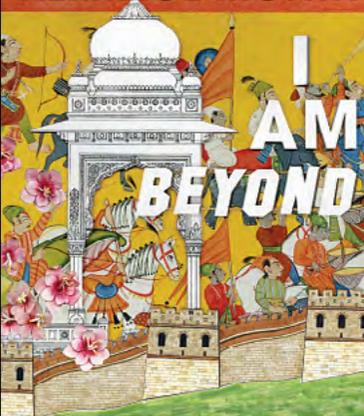


Vol. 20, No. 10

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

May 15, 2014

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH



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Newest Master Chief at NHCCC

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Skipper Column

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Honoring the 'Greatest Generation' - and my Grandfather

by Lt. Cmdr. Richard McDevitt

Sometimes, if you are very lucky, you get a chance to be humble and proud all at the same time – and honor those who came before.

I grew up knowing that my Grandfather was a part of the “Greatest Generation,” a special group of men who defended and built our nation during the time of its greatest struggle.

Learning about WWII, I gained a profound understanding and appreciation of what so many sacrificed during those times.

I knew my Grandfather served in the Navy during WWII, but he did not openly talk or brag about his service or sacrifices. He was a very proud and humble man and I learned to respect his privacy in this matter.

When I joined the Navy, it opened a new chapter in our relationship. He told me how proud he was to have served in the Navy and how much it meant to him that he now had a grandson in the same service.

When I talk about hardships in my service, he would share stories of what he had to endure and how he got through the hard times.

WWII continued on page 10



Lt. Cmdr. Richard McDevitt with his Grandfather, Edwin Niedhammer - a World War II veteran - at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Contributed photo



Earth Day Cleanup 2014

Volunteers collect trash and debris along Ocean Drive between the North Gate and TAMU-CC during the May 2 Earth Day Base Cleanup. Overall, volunteers collected about 2,500 pound of trash – the largest collection to date in the annual cleanup.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Skipper's Column Planning for Handling Disasters

by Capt. Dave Edgecomb



Edgecomb

As you read this, we should be wrapping up our two-week hurricane exercise, Citadel Gale 2014.

If you were involved with the exercise, as part of the Air Station command or one of the tenant organizations, you know it was a big one for us:

we simulated a direct hit from "Hurricane Quinn," a Category 4 storm with 110 knot winds gusting to 130 and a storm surge of 14 feet.

In an actual case, we could expect all of the Air Station to be flooded – so for the exercise, I ordered a simulated evacuation

of everyone, including those normally considered essential personnel.

This week, the focus is on figuring out how to get a team back on base to assess the damage and plan a recovery.

Such exercises can be range from barely useful to very good.

Within the constraints of not spending money or actually moving people, I think this one has gone very well for the Air Station and its tenant organizations – because we used it as an opportunity to consider and discuss a variety of "what if?" questions.

That's something I'd like each of you to do as well – look at the basic measures you are supposed to take at the various Condition of Readiness (COR) levels if a storm approaches.

The basics for each level are on the Air Station website's Emergency Management section: http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/nas_corpus_christi/om/emergency_management.html

Look at the COR guidelines, and then see how they apply to your workspace, section or department.

At the command level, we have checklists of things to do at each COR level.

I recommend you make your own for your unique situation and requirements.

Assess your particular situation and figure out what else, besides the basic guidelines, you would need to do at each level to be ready.

Do you need plastic trash bags and tape to wrap computers? Get some ahead of time.

Documents or other sensitive materials? Think about where to store them – and what you may need to take along if ordered to evacuate.

Here, I'm talking about the workplace. Next issue, I'll make some recommendations for what to do at home.

Hurricane season begins June 1.

Don't wait for a crisis to start making plans.

Chaplain's Message

by Lt. Cmdr. Stephen Warne, Chaplain

Rain makes me feel good!

As a kid growing up in the country, I dreaded those raining days, stuck indoors with seemingly nothing to do.

But as an adult, I have grown to appreciate the rainy days.

Rain means getting the lawn and garden watered free of charge, a free carwash, and an excuse to stay indoors and relax.

A summer rain cools the day (humidity not included) and clears the air.

Have you ever noticed that your first inclination after a rain storm is to walk outside a take a deep breath?

A good rain is cleansing for the environment and somehow demands that we take notice.

A good rain is a signal for dormant seeds to spring to life and for plants to bloom.

Even as a kid, I could look forward to the rain filling the creeks and ditches, which brought out the crawfish.

There are numerous analogies that we could use to compare rain with events in our personal lives; I will expound on only one.

You have probably heard the old adage, "A good cry makes you feel better."

There really is a physiological reason to explain why this is true during times of pain and suffer, but I wanted to focus on times of laughter.

Have you ever laughed so hard that you cried?

A few days ago we found ourselves sitting around the table with friends playing a game in which bogus definitions for obscure words are made up.

Game play quickly transitioned from

competitiveness to corniness, and accompanying the hysterical laughter at the absurdity of our definitions were tears – tears of joy and happiness!

I'm not sure if science has an explanation for why we cry when we laugh or experience great joy.

But after wiping my eyes and gaining my composure, I took a deep breath and thanked God for the time.

Cleansing Rains



Warne

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

If you've seen me lately, you may have noticed me hobbling a bit.

That's when I'm not pulling my hair out trying to do both jobs in the PAO shop, of course.

Anyway, I have some joint damage from my days in the Army,

but normally it's not much of a big deal.

Yeah, I'm old – but I'm about 20 years past the point where the docs told me I'd start having serious problems with traumatic

arthritis – and most days I don't even feel a twinge.

In general, there are three or four things I try to either avoid doing or do very carefully to keep from aggravating the knee.

But I have daughters. Three, in fact. Who are in dance classes, and have been for several years.

They're all rather good; as a Dad, I get a big kick out of watching the two recitals a year and how well they do.

A few years ago, the instructor decided to try a Daddy-Daughter dance.

Just one age group; I danced with the middle daughter and, thankfully, my role was mostly to stand there and make her look good.

This year, there's one available for all classes of dancer.

The Things We Do For Our Kids

And while all the other dads will dance with one daughter, I'm dancing with all three, in sequence.

And since they each get a short segment that way, I "volunteered" to do the "fun dance" with all three.

N'Sync? You gotta be kidding me!!!

And that's not even the craziest set of moves I'm supposed to master!

The last couple practices have had me limping for days; about the time the aches go away, we do it again.

And now we're doing more, with the recital the end of the month.

If you see me limping...moaning and groaning... just toss me some Ibuprofen, willya?

It's gonna be a long couple weeks.

Wingspan

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Leaders converge at CCAD for Organic Industrial Base Summit

by Brigitte Rox, CCAD Public Affairs

Army commanders from depots, manufacturing arsenals and ammunition plants throughout the country gathered in South Texas, April 21-25, to discuss best business practices and lessons learned as part of the Army Materiel Command's Organic Industrial Base (OIB) Summit.

The exclusive forum gave commanders an opportunity to engage in a peer-to-peer discussion of business operations strategies as they transition to post-war workloads.

Army Materiel Commander Gen. Dennis L. Via said in a teleconference that this type of summit will assist the OIB through this transitional period by building trust, competency and transparency.

"It connects the headquarters and our subject matter experts down to where the rubber meets the road. Nothing replaces being on the floor with the people doing the hard work," Via said. "We have to reset our Army. We have declining budgets. It's a period of transition and transitions are hard."

Corpus Christi Army Depot Commander Col. Billingsley Garner Pogue III hosted the summit and a Depot Assistance Visit.

"As we continuously assess ourselves, it is important to learn best practices from each other within the organic industrial base," Pogue said.

"[The summit] gave us the opportunity to talk to other commanders in a formal forum and an informal forum – to talk about

things we're wrestling with," said Col. Brent Bolander, commander of Anniston Army Depot.

The summit encouraged industrial facility commanders and key leaders of the Materiel Enterprise to interact more with each other to fully understand the strategic issues facing the OIB and maximize AMC's effectiveness and viability in a challenging resource environment.

"We are trying to speak with one voice," said Lisha Adams, AMC's director for Logistics Integration.

"Too many times people approach things between interdependent organizations as a problem that needs to be solved," Adams said, describing a "stovepipe" mentality where each facility becomes its own island and fails to communicate effectively with its peers and partners.

"We have to learn to work together and that's an ongoing process," she said.

Commanders quickly learned that their different command missions made collaboration a challenge.

"There is no cookie-cutter approach," said Col. Joseph Dalessio, commander of McAlester Army Ammunition Plant.

The plant is the premier bomb loading facility and stores one-third of DoD's ammunition stockpile.

AMC Deputy Commanding General Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuiston urged the Industrial



CCAD Commander Col. Billingsley Garner Pogue III speaks at the OIB Summit, where commanders engaged in a peer-to-peer discussion of business operations strategies transitioning to post-war workloads. Photo by Ervey Martinez, CCAD PA

Base to think through all the imminent cultural and business changes ahead and prepare for the game changers.

"Change is inevitable," McQuiston said. "People don't like change imposed upon them so you have to make them part of that change, which is what this group is about."

Opening lines of communication and speaking the same language were themes of the summit. The commanders realized that terminology needs to be streamlined to keep them engaged.

"It's important that we all get on the

same sheet of music so when we start having the same set of problems, we're not all using different dictionaries to talk about them," said Col. Victor Hagan of Letterkenny Army Depot.

By the end of the week, AMC leadership was pleased with the discourse occurring at the Army depot.

"I think these summits will help us through this transitional period," Via said. "We're taking best practices and lessons learned that will help us be a better Army as we go forward."

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Outgoing CO of VT-31 reflects on a great squadron, a great experience

Story and photo by Rod Hafemeister

Cmdr. Todd Copeland says commanding the Wise Owls of VT-31 has been the best job he's ever had.

But it's time to move on.

Copeland arrived in the squadron in March 2012; he had a short XO tour and became CO in January 2013.

He will turn over command of the squadron to the executive officer, Cmdr. Matthew Foster, in a ceremony May 16.

Copeland, wistfully, says he suspects it will be the last flying job he'll have in the Navy and he will miss it "badly."

"A week from today will probably be the last time I ever fly a Navy aircraft," he said.

So what's his plan?

"It will be special; I'll be instructing a student as one last event.

"I'll miss it terribly."

Copeland said he's just looking to get all the enjoyment he can in his final weeks – and it's been a great experience.

"It's a unique experience for me, coming from a very traditional career path in the P-3s, coming to Training Command.

"The opportunity to participate in the wings, to be part of that part of their lives – the most significant thing that ever happened to me in my military career was the day I got

wings – not the day I took command.

"That's the hardest thing to say goodbye to – welcoming them into Naval Aviation."

At the May 2 winging ceremony, his last, Copeland presented his personal wings to the best student in the class.

"I'm so happy I got this squadron," he said. "We get them right here at the end of their training.

"My goal was to develop them as officers first and foremost, and then as aviators."

He believes the instructors in the squadron are "the best in CNATRA."

"They really made my job easier."

At the same time, Copeland as CO made time to fly with students on a regular basis and has 12 different "on wings" during his tour.

"I wanted to see what they do out there; that helps when I'm back here in the office, knowing what they do," he said. "My self and XO Foster, we've done 30 hours a month every month we've been here."

Copeland said he feels his biggest accomplishment was seeing the instructor pilots become a community.

During his command, the squadron had a flight emergency – part of the landing gear wouldn't deploy on a T-44.

Copeland continued on page 8



Cmdr. Todd Copeland with the painting given to him by the members of VT-31. The painting reflects various parts of his life and his time as commanding officer. Copeland will turn over command to the squadron's executive officer, Cmdr. Matthew Foster, on May 16.



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NHCCC CSC transforms Crew's Lounge into Hotdog Haven

Story and photos by Bill W. Love, NHCCC PAO

The entire staff at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi got a rare treat from Command Senior Chief Mike Richardson in the form of a free hotdog lunch April 25.

With a catchy subject line, "Lunch on Senior," Richardson extended the invitation to All Hands in an email.

"As a gesture of my gratitude for the hard work you exhibit daily, I would like to offer each of you a lunch snack on my dime," he wrote.

"Tomorrow from 1100-1200, I will be offering you a hotdog with or without chili and a bag of chips in the Crew's Lounge. Ketchup, mustard and relish will be available as well. I'm looking forward to seeing you for lunch tomorrow."

Besides the generous offer, Richardson's footnote struck a humorous chord.

"See small print below, this deal is only good while supplies last and remember it's only a snack not dinner! :-)"

The little smiley face following his polite caveat reinforced his friendly tone, an obvious subtlety no doubt intended for the familiar pot luck luncheon diners who expertly rush the serving line, balancing their heaped plates of vittles back to their table in order to chow down.

And within minutes after Richardson's invitation, Commanding Officer Capt. Jimmy A. Bradley seized the opportunity to express his approval via a return email, as well as put in a pitch for some famous brand dogs saying, "Well alright all 300 plus of us will see you at lunch tomorrow at 1100!"

Richardson was in the Crew's Lounge bright and early the following morning grilling frankfurters on an electric grill amidst a sizeable amount of hotdog fixings and condiments.

One bystander remarked about the sheer volume of groceries and Richardson responded with his usual friendly smile.

"It was more work than I expected, especially getting all of the supplies together," he said.

"I thought that I was going to be able to one-stop-shop by getting all of the supplies at [a well-known warehouse].

"But they didn't have everything that I needed, including enough buns so I had to drive to [a famous shop-for-less retailer].

"After stopping there I had to go to the super market and get the rest."

Richardson was well prepared to host the staff that wasted no time lining up for their free lunch.



Command Senior Chief (CSC) Mike Richardson turned the NHCCC Crew's Lounge into a hot dog stand April 25, serving 300 hot dogs to Clinic staff.

Most were as ready for chow as they were appreciative of his generosity.

"I think that it is a great thing for the CSC to cook and serve the entire command," said Petty Officer 1st Class Sam McCoskey.

"It shows how personable he can be and especially how easy he is to approach for the junior Sailors."

And how about the hotdogs? Did Richardson succeed at pegging the crew's satisfaction meter?

"I had an original hotdog with ketchup and mustard and free food always tastes good!" said Petty Officer 1st Class Erickson

C. Salonga.

"The taste was great," said McCoskey, "I think that it was cooked well and I had chili and mustard on my hotdog."

By the end of the lunch period all 300 wieners were gone.

And not surprisingly there were plenty of satisfied staff, including civilian employees.

"It's good for morale when leadership does these things, especially for the active duty," Rachel Bravo said.

"It was nice that Senior took the time and grilled inside, without the smoke and sweat. Smart move, Senior!"

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NHCCC welcomes newest Master Chief



NHCCC's newest master chief, Master Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW/FMF) Rikki L. Brown flanked by her son, Ethan, and Senior Chief Hull Technician Mike Richardson, NHCCC command senior chief, during her frocking ceremony.

Story and photo by Bill W. Love, NHCCC PAO

One Sailor at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi was frocked to the rank of master chief petty officer at a pinning ceremony on the quarterdeck May 2.

The new master chief is Master Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW/FMF) Rikki L. Brown, a native of Conroe, Texas.

"This is amazing news. I am totally jazzed about it," said Brown after receiving news of the FY-15 master chief results.

Following the frocking orders at the ceremony, Brown credited her Sailors who were in formation nearby.

"You're the reason I'm here today; it's easy to lead when you have good people," she said.

"Thank you for making this possible for me."

During the ceremony Brown's son, Ethan, proudly pinned his mom with her new rank.

That proud moment was matched by NHCCC's Senior Chief Hull Technician Mike Richardson, command senior chief, as he ceremoniously placed Brown's new hat on her

head, now bearing the anchor with two stars.

The chief petty officer rating was first established April 1, 1893, and senior chief petty officer and master chief petty officer were established June 1, 1958, under a 1958 Amendment to the Career Compensation Act of 1949.

The chief petty officers emerged as the deck plate leadership, training junior officers and enlisted men and women to become the best Sailors possible.

That leadership is still evident today in every aspect of the Navy life, especially in the rich tradition of the Chiefs Mess.

Brown is the senior enlisted leader of NHCCC's Director for Health Services, a directorate that encompasses Medical Home Port, Operational Medicine, General Dentistry, Optometry and Audiology, and Behavioral Health.

Prior to reporting to NHCCC in December 2013, Brown served for three years aboard USS New Orleans (LPD 18), a San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock where she mentored 284 enlisted and junior officers.

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Transition - Goals, Plans, Success prepares you for live after service

by Tito Perez, FFSC

The DOD's Transition-Goals, Plans, Success (T-GPS) Program is now almost two years old and has begun to offer additional workshops to assist retiring or separating service members and their spouses prepare for the civilian world.

On June 9-10, NASCC's Fleet and Family Service Center will host an Accessing Higher Education (AHE) workshop.

A pre-requisite for the AHE workshop is prior completion of a Transition GPS Workshop.

Active duty service members and spouses who have not attended a T-GPS Workshop are

welcomed to attend on a space available basis.

The Accessing Higher Education Workshop guides participants through the process of determining career paths, selecting degree programs, comparing accredited colleges, examining funding options including the GI BILL and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and completing a college application package.

Service members and spouses attending the class will gain invaluable, timely information on choosing a college, on conducting strategic searches for scholarship and financial aid opportunities, and on

applying for admissions.

The Department of Defense actively encourages transitioning service members to attend one or all three of the optional Career Tracks available through T-GPS.

It is important to note that spouses of service members are encouraged and welcomed to attend any and all of the T-GPS related workshops.

For more information on the Transition GPS program or to schedule a workshop, call the Fleet and Family Service Center at 361 961-2372 (DSN: 861).




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Newest Ombudsmen graduate



New Ombudsmen trained in April, from left: Yvette Valdovinos, NRD San Antonio; Patti Hickey, NRD San Antonio; Lindsay Maw, TW4; Lynn Smith, VT-35; Magan Romano, FFSC Clinical Advocacy Program
Photo by Rod Hafemeister

by Corcynthia Williams, FFSC

Last month, five Ombudsmen were welcomed into the South Texas Ombudsman Team.

Command Ombudsmen from Naval Recruiting District San Antonio, Training Air Wing Four, VT-35, and a Fleet & Family Support Center employee completed Ombudsman Basic Training (OBT) at NAS Corpus Christi's Fleet & Family Support Center April 16-18.

OBT is a 16 1/2 hour training conducted over three days which provides Ombudsmen the solid foundation needed to support their respective commands and their families.

Ombudsmen are professional, command-appointed volunteers who offer a conduit

for official communication from command leadership to the loved ones of service members.

They additionally serve as confidential information and referral specialists who provide military and community resources to ensure families thrive throughout their time in a duty station.

If you'd like more information on becoming trained as an Ombudsman or would like to learn who your Command Ombudsman is, feel free to contact the local Ombudsman Coordinators, Corcynthia Williams and Susanna Del Llano at the NAS Corpus Christi Fleet & Family Support Center at (361) 961-2372.

Copeland continued from page 4

The whole squadron became involved; one IP went up to get a close look while others helped calculate how much fuel to burn off to minimize the chance of fire while retaining enough for a controlled crash.

"We had to determine what time they were going to crash," he said.

"I said after that day, 'If we weren't a family before, we are after today.' And I truly believe that.

"It's not something I did – it's just something I'm happy it happened while I was here."

The plane crash destroyed the props, but no one was hurt and the plane will fly again.

Although he's proud of his command tour, Copeland says he still wishes he could have done more to prepare instructors and students for their careers.

"You never feel like you gave them enough, you want to set them up for success, to never make the mistakes that I made," he said.

"I'd like to start over and do it again here. I'll get it right the next time."

He joked about his background driving the squadron members crazy.

"I'm an English major, which has been the bane of existence for the squadron because everything they send to me comes back with red ink," he said.

A graduate of the Naval Academy, Copeland has been a P-3 pilot most of his career.

But his English background has served him well in the various writing jobs he's had in staff positions.

Copeland's wife Heather is a teacher in Flour Bluff and their two children attend there. They will be living in Virginia while he does "a desk job" in Bahrain on the staff of the Navy component of U.S. Central Command.

"I wouldn't trade with the students; I wouldn't give up my experiences," he said.

"But I'm envious of the journey ahead of them."

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Navy Offers Sailors Limited Opportunity to Volunteer for Early Separation

From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Due to the excellent retention and outstanding recruiting success, the Navy is reinstating the Enlisted Early Transition Program (EETP), according to a message released May 8.

According to NAVADMIN 103/14, EETP allows eligible Sailors in targeted ratings to apply for a voluntary early separation up to 24 months prior to their End of Obligated Service as Extended (EAOS).

The new version of the program is ongoing, quota-controlled, and will help reduce the need for involuntary force management.

Early separation will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Available quotas are identified by rating, paygrade, year group and Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC).

A list is available at <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/enlisted/community/pages/eetp.aspx>.

Quotas will be reviewed periodically and updated as required.

Early Separation requests will not be approved for the following Sailors:

- With existing Permanent Change of Station orders,
- Identified to fill an Individual Augmentee assignment,
- In nuclear ratings,
- Assigned to a DoD area tour and have not completed the tour requirement, including overseas tour extension incentive programs for which a benefit has been received.

Commanding officers will maintain final disapproval authority and do not need to forward requests they cannot support.

Final approval authority rests with Navy Personnel Command, Performance Evaluation Division, with positive commanding officer endorsement.

For more information, read the message at www.npc.navy.mil or contact the Navy Personnel Command Customer Service Center at 1-800-U-ASK-NPC (827-5672) or at uasknpc@navy.mil.

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Honoring the 'Greatest Generation'

WWII continued from page 1

I was humbled, considering what my Grandfather and his shipmates went through.

My Grandfather has been there for me during every step of my current 10-year career, sharing in every accomplishment, feat, qualification, frustration, and set back.

Yet I still always felt uncomfortable when he told me how proud of me he was, because in the back of my mind I always felt I was way more proud of him for what he and countless others did for our nation during a time of war.

Several months ago he called, excited, and said he would be on an "Honor Flight" heading to Washington, D.C. for a day with other WWII veterans.

The Honor Flight Program is a not-for-profit organization that works in conjunction with Southwest Airlines to get WWII veterans to and from Washington D.C. so they have an opportunity to visit the WWII memorial.

I told my Grandfather I would try to make it up there for that special day. I knew that I would be, but set up the opportunity for a surprise.

I felt guilty the last few times we talked; I didn't give him a direct answer as to if I would be present. But I wanted to do something he would never forget.

On May 3, hundreds of family and friends gathered at Albany, N.Y., International Airport to give 46 World War II veterans a hero's sendoff, joined by the Freedom Riders, a VFW band and a state legislator.

The reception at Baltimore Washington International was no different, with more than 30 uniformed personnel from nearby duty stations, military support organizations, and a host of others greeting the veterans as they deplaned.

I waited at the end of the reception line – and when my Grandfather saw me, his eyes swelled and we embraced in a hug that neither one of us will ever forget.

Buses took us into the District and to the WWII Memorial. On a bright and beautiful day, escorting my Grandfather and his shipmates was by far the most gratifying

experience I ever had in uniform. The looks in the veterans' eyes were priceless as they examined the plaques and monuments of each theater, engagement, and major battle.

In no way could I ever capture their thoughts and feelings during that time, but it was apparent being at their memorial enabled them to go to a place emotionally like no other location.

Seeing the veterans with their family members, interacting with current service men and women, and the many children at the memorial really brought home how much their accomplishments have been felt by many generations and would not be forgotten.

Our next stops were Arlington National Cemetery and the Iwo Jima memorial. The Changing of the Guard ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the playing of "Taps" was emotional for many as they honored those who never came home.

All the white crosses were stark reminders of how lucky I was to have my grandfather come home so I could be there with him on this day.

Driving back to BWI, I passed VT-31 patches and letters of appreciation from our Skipper and XO and told the veterans how fortunate I felt having the privilege of serving in the same Armed Forces they did.

I told how much their legacy means to me and other current active duty members and how we honor them by serving with the same selflessness and devotion to our nation as they did.

Saying goodbye to my Grandfather at the airport as he left for NY was very emotional. We were both so proud, thankful and grateful not only for our time together that day, but also for the heritage we share in the United States Navy and service to our nation.

In many ways, our time together and with the other veterans and families brought a lot of closure to those men. They felt appreciated, they felt loved, they felt reassured that their legacy would live and sacrifices remembered.

But most of all, they truly felt like America's Greatest Generation.



(Top) McDevitt gives his Grandfather a hug after surprising him at the airport.

(Center) Washington, D.C., area service members welcomed the World War II veterans.

(Left) The 'Leatherstocking Honor Flight' veterans who helped defend the United States 70 years ago.

Contributed photos

Awards and Achievements

Winging — May 2



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Foster Edwards, President & CEO, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce; Lt. Cmdr. Stephen Warne, Chaplain; Cmdr. Todd Copeland, Commanding Officer, VT-31; Cmdr. R. Scott Kramarik, Commanding Officer, VT-35; Col. David Krebs, USMC, Commanding Officer, MATSG-22; Capt. Gordon Cross, VX-9 Chief Operational Test Director; Capt. Rex Curtin, Commodore, Training Air Wing Four.

Wingees, in alphabetical order: Ensign Bryant Daniel Alsup; Ensign Ryan Robert Clarida; Ensign Patrick Mount Davey; Ensign Gregory Charles Hase; Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Christian Henkel, USCG; Ensign Andrew Gerald Herring; 1st Lt. Jordan Gregory Kahrs, USMC; 1st Lt. Kevin Thomas Kolbay, USMC; Lt. Thiago Mendes, Brazilian Navy; Ensign Brandon Charles Merritt; Ensign Matthew Hatfield Milam; 1st Lt. Ashley Marie Myers, USMC; 1st Lt. John Taylor Nance, USMC; Ensign Elliott Thomas Peters; Lt. j.g. Kevin Matthew Schleicher; 1st Lt. Anthony Thomas Walters, USMC; Ensign Aaron David Wanner; Ensign David Ramon Wyche.

VT-35 Awards



Cmdr. R. Scott Kramarik, commanding officer of VT-35, on April 15 presented awards to three squadron officers. From left: Lt. Jason Orletski, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Lt. Kerry Bistline Navy and Marine Corps

Achievement Medal and Capt Matthew Stolzenberg, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal .

Photos by Richard Stewart, CNATRA PA



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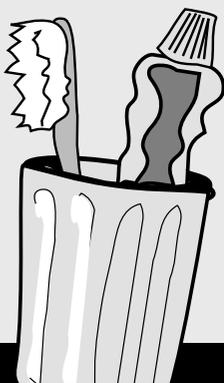
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SHCM William J. Shindledecker retires



SHCM William J. Shindledecker and his wife Debra cut a cake celebrating his retirement from the US Navy after 30 years during an April 26 ceremony at the NOSC. A Native of Galion, Ohio and a graduate from Galion High School, Shindledecker joined the US Navy in 1983.

Photo by MC1 Ruben Perez

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Cody Garcia reenlists at NHCCC



Hospitalman Cody J. Garcia (right) reenlists for two years on the quarterdeck with Cmdr. David Stevens, director of Health Services, officiating. Garcia enlisted in March 2012 and reported to Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi Medical Homeport Team Mercy Dec. 14, 2014 following Field Medical Training Battalion West, Camp Pendleton, Calif. The Kansas City, Kan. native will detach May 9 and begin classes for X-Ray technician "C" school June 24. *Photo by Bill W. Love, NHCCC PAO*

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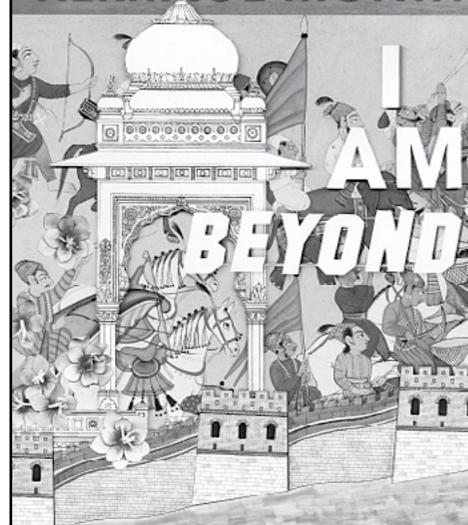
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PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – In observance of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrated each year during the month of May; the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announced on May 1 the availability of original artwork available for download from DEOMI's public website, www.deomi.org.

Each year, Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month recognizes the challenges faced by Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Native Hawaiians and their vital contributions to the American story.

This May, the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center theme for AAPI Heritage Month is "I Am Beyond."

The phrase captures the aspirations of the American spirit and how Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent have always sought to excel beyond the challenges that have limited equal opportunity in America.

"In researching the theme 'I Am Beyond,' my inspiration for the poster was The Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center's exhibit 'Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation,'" said Peter Hemmer, DEOMI Illustrator.

"I looked at the Art & Architecture of India as well as paper craft art which is very popular in many Asian countries (hence the Great Wall of China and the Japanese cherry blossoms).

"Shown in the background are two pieces of art from the Metropolitan Museum of Art including a piece entitled 'King Dasaratha and His Retinue Proceed to Rama's Wedding: Folio from the Shangri II Ramayana Series, Bahu Masters (active ca. 1680-ca. 1720).'

"King Dasaratha is shown surrounded by his army, traveling to the court of King Janaka in preparation for the weddings of his four sons. The Ramayana tells us that they carried a wealth of gems as wedding gifts.

"This folio was likely painted at the court of Jammu or possibly Basohli, from where the style derives. The robust yellow ground is a hallmark of this series."

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What's Happening by Tina Konwerski

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FREE FREE FREE: Your Non Profit organization's FUND RAISING Event listed in What's Happening with our compliments. Submit the info at least three weeks in advance to coastalbendevents@gmail.com Type as you would like to see it in print. Will appear on a space available basis.

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REGISTER NOW: Fun for area children ages 8 to 18. Golden Triangle Art Association's "Youth in Art Summer Camp." Will be held the week of July 14 - July 18 at The Golden Triangle Art Gallery located at 1485 Hwy 361 (next to the VFW Hall), Ingleside, TX. Hours: 9 a.m. to NOON Monday - Thursday. Friday the 18th there will be a reception for attendees family members. A completed application form and fee of \$0 is required to enroll. Come to the gallery Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 361-776-7883 if you have further questions.

The Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History Announces Family Fun on Saturday May 17, 2014, from 10am to 5pm, the museum will host the second annual **Engineering Egg Drop.** Create a safe casing for an egg with materials supplied by the museum, and then test the success of the creation by dropping the egg off our 2nd

See Happening, Next Page

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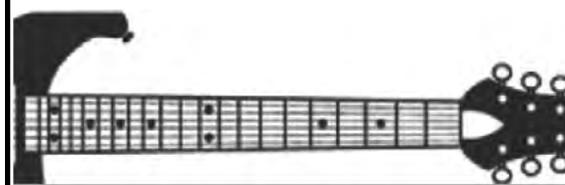
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\$8.00

#4) 7" Chicagoland Cheese Steak

Provolone Cheese-White American-Philly Cheese, grilled white onions, green bell peppers and mushrooms
\$8.00



Delivery Drop Zones at CCAD Building 8 Flagpole with more locations coming soon
Orders must be placed by Phone by the 9:30 am Deadline For: 11:00, 11:30, 12:00 Lunch
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Happening, from Previous Page

story balcony! Will it splat or not?! Prizes will be awarded for successful egg launches! Cost: General Admission plus \$1.00 for each egg. General admission: \$9 adults, \$7 for ages 3-12 and seniors, \$4.50 for active military with ID, children 2 and under are free. Members are free. For more information on this and other events at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science & History, visit www.ccmuseum.com or [facebook.com/ccmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/ccmuseum) www.ccmuseum.com

The next Island Moon Market® is Memorial Weekend, Saturday May 24th! 9am to 5pm in Cole Park! We once again have a sister event taking place in Cole Park: The Annual Rubber Duck Round Up Benefiting South Texas Lighthouse For The Blind! This is a family friendly event with lot's to do for the kids! The event runs from 10am - 1pm and will surely pump up the visitors to the Island Moon Market!

"FIZZ BOOM READ" IS THE 2014 SUMMER READING PROGRAM THEME. Readers of all ages will explore all things scientific this summer as the Corpus Christi Public Libraries present "Fizz Boom Read" during its summer library program. Activities may include programs involving fun science experiments, arts and crafts, and special guests who will demonstrate even more science experiments or present animals. The 2014 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through young adult, with programs, prize drawings, story hours, a reading club, and more. Registration for the Reading Club and programs for "Fizz Boom Read" begin on June 9, 2014. For more information, call the library at 361-937-6569 or visit our website, www.cclibraries.com All programs are free of charge.

BUY ONE for yourself and/or BUY ONE AS A GIFT

Have Plans to Head to the Beach? Don't Forget Your 2014 Beach Parking Permit
The Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation Department offers a reminder and encouragement for beachgoers to purchase their **2014 Beach Parking Permits** for beach access and enjoyment. Permits are required on most areas of the gulf beaches which are posted on-site. The permits need to be displayed on vehicle windshields. Permits are sold on the beach every week during the summer season, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and year-round at the following locations: Academy Sports store, Stripes stores, Central Cashiering at Corpus Christi City Hall, H-E-B stores (in the Coastal Bend), Dick's Sporting Goods store (in Corpus Christi), Naval Air Station-Corpus Christi/ITT Department, Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Centers, Nueces County Padre Balli Park Headquarters Office and Texas Star (on Padre Island). The cost for the permit is \$12. City Beach Operations officials say they want all beach visitors to have a wonderful experience and to avoid the \$154 cost of a citation for parking on the beach without a Beach Parking Permit. For more information, please call **361-826-4188** or visit www.ccparkandrec.com (click 'Beaches'). We invite you to Live.

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ACC Wagenfeiler retires



ACC Nikolaus Wagenfeiler and his family are 'piped ashore' for the last time at his May 2 retirement ceremony in the 'Fouled Anchor.'



EARLY DINING
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.*
(Place your food order by 5:30 and receive a complimentary small salad or soup)
*Excludes Holidays

WEDNESDAY IS HERO'S NIGHT at
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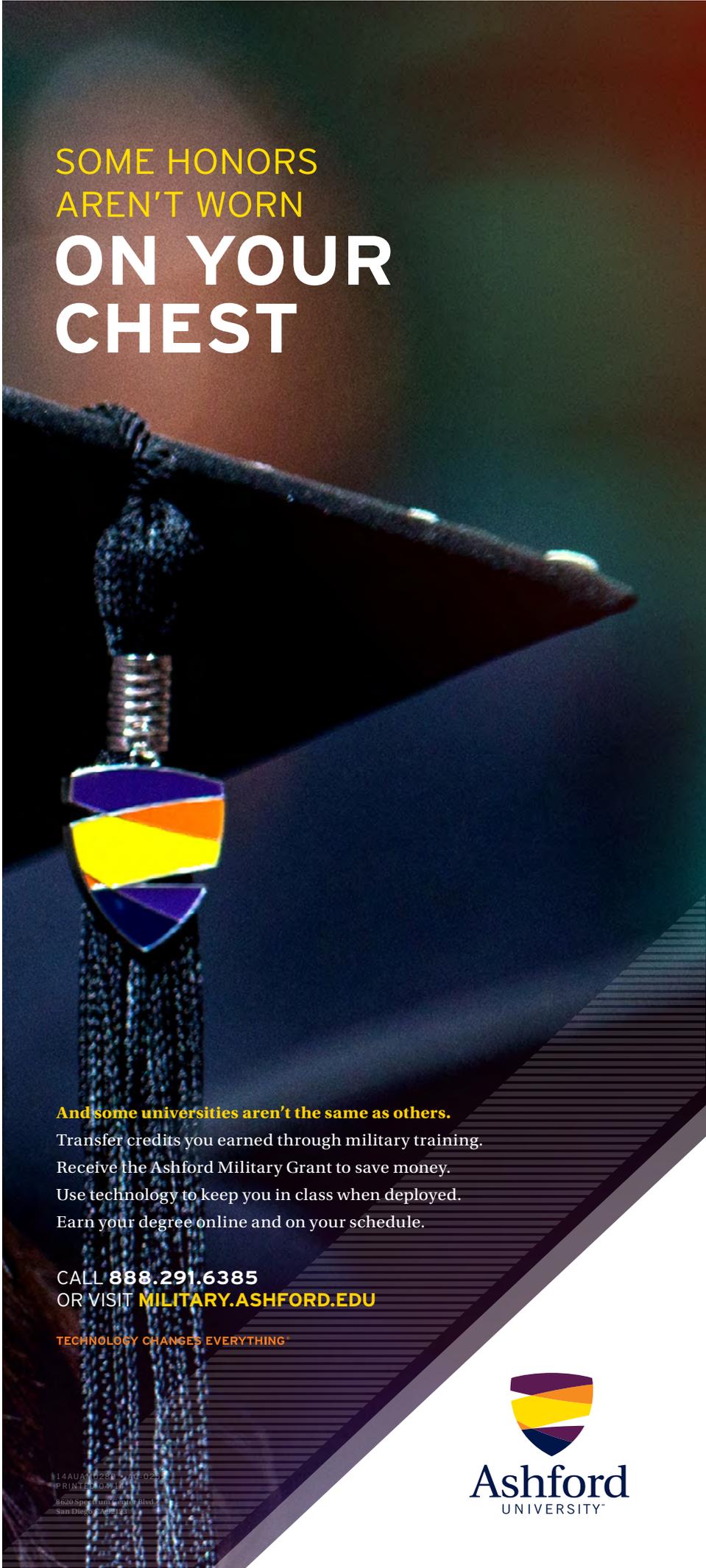
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Embry-Riddle Worldwide to launch master's degree in unmanned systems

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Worldwide will offer a Master of Science in Unmanned Systems starting this summer.

“Interest in the unmanned systems industry is growing at an incredible rate,” said Brent Terwilliger, program chair and assistant professor of aeronautics. “The Master of Science in Unmanned Systems will challenge students to seek innovative solutions to issues in this developing field.”

Beginning in August, unmanned systems coursework will examine the application, development, management and policies of unmanned systems and address issues including regulation; systems design; policy and ethics; education and training; and human performance and machine interaction.

The degree has concentrations in the following areas: unmanned aerospace system (UAS); aeronautics and design; human factors; space systems; safety/emergency response; operations; education; aviation/aerospace management; and aviation/aerospace research.

Embry-Riddle Worldwide also offers a minor in unmanned aerial systems as part of a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics and a specialization in unmanned aerospace systems in the Master of Aeronautical Science. For more information on the Master of Science in Unmanned Systems, visit worldwide.erau.edu/unmanned.

DoD MWR Survey coming

Beginning May 12, DoD will conduct its military services' Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Customer Satisfaction Survey.

A personalized invitation to participate in the DoD survey will be emailed from the Claes Fornell International (CFI) to randomly-selected service members worldwide.

The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential, and will appear as being from the CFI Group “on behalf of DoD.”

The invitations will be emailed in batches over the course of several days, beginning on May 12.

Not every Sailor will receive an invitation to participate – only randomly selected active-duty Sailors. Two reminder emails will be sent following the initial invitation.

Survey participants will be asked questions about nine MWR programs they have used: fitness, libraries, auto service centers, outdoor rec, recreation centers, single service member programs, swimming pools, leisure travel, and sports and athletics.

They then will be asked additional questions in three randomly-selected program areas.

MWR programs and services improve readiness, retention, and unit cohesion.

The results of this DoD survey are important for developing the future of MWR across the services.

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Saint Leo University is a diverse, values-based Catholic university founded in the Benedictine tradition. Saint Leo enrolls more than 16,000 students through 20 regional locations in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, California, and Texas. With innovative technology in online delivery for undergraduate and graduate programs, Saint Leo is one of the fastest growing universities in the country.

Saint Leo University admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.

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Are you waiting for an Organ Transplant? Have you received a Transplant? If so, the Transplant Support Group of South Texas, serving the Coastal Bend's Transplant Community for 21 years, would be happy to have you join us at our meeting- first Tuesday of EVERY Month: Potluck at 6:30PM in the Dr. Spohn conference room at Shoreline Hospital - 2d floor, follow the signs toward the Chapel - FMI or to meet privately call 361-880-5371; "A Friend to help in time of Need"

Volunteer at The Cattery - Do you love cats, but you're allergic? Volunteer in our gift shop! Do you want to volunteer, but don't have time to come to the shelter? Help us add pictures of new cats to our website from home! The possibilities are endless! Hours available for volunteering at the shelter are as follows: Monday and Tuesday, 9-12pm Wednesday and Thursday, 9-12pm and 3-5pm and Friday - Sunday 9am-5pm Adult volunteers can work any amount of time during these hours. Youth Volunteers are limited to 3 hours per day.

We are also at Petsmart 11am-5pm, Saturday and Sunday and need volunteers there as well. Our shelter has limited staff and the amount of work that needs to be done to keep the shelter running exceeds the amount of employees that we have! Especially since we do adoptions at two locations! We rely heavily on our volunteers and ask for only serious commitments, therefore we ask for a minimum of 6 hours of your time each month. It might be hard work, but your reward is helping homeless kitties find new homes! During your volunteer shift at the shelter 1/2 your time will be spent working (cleaning or other shelter things that need to be done) and the other 1/2 will be spent playing with kitties! For list of Volunteer Needs please visit: www.thecatterycc.org/volunteer/volunteer-information

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EVERY Saturday: The Farmer's Market offers a variety of organic and affordable food that is healthy and sold exclusively. Open every Saturday, located in the parking lot of "The Market on Everhart Shopping Center, 5800 Everhart, Corpus Christi. FMI www.farmersmarketcc.org

Join a Park Ranger for a BEACH WALK every Sunday weekly and every Saturday weekly through 05/31/14. Location: Malaquite Beach from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Park Entrance FEE only. This leisurely, 45 minute stroll on the beach is suitable for all ages. The program explores our coastal ecology.

CLASSIFIED

Wanted: Female Roommate - Flour Bluff - 361.960.7668.

For sale: crib \$45.00, 1 computer desk & chair \$25.00 ea, baby gate \$10.00, 1 kennel \$15.00. Call 361.960.7668

senior racketball players (age not skill) every mon wed fri (aches & pains willing). call pete 9399374 or bob8531480.

Over 20 VENDORS. Mark your CALENDAR to ATTEND. You'll have a good time and you will HELP Send a Youth to Work on Houses This Summer - Mid-May Benefit Trade Fair and Bake Sale - May 17th 9 am - 3 pm, Garden Center, 2740 Mustang Drive, Ingleside TX. Door Prizes * Silent Auction * Jewelry * Crafts * Art & Crafts * Vegetables * Children's Books * Food and Beverages * Etc. Proceeds benefit the UMARMY teens who will work on the homes of poor, elderly and disabled individuals this July.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC; Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a retail outlet where stores (like Home Depot, Sutherlands, Lowe's), contractors, and individuals donate building materials, supplies and gently-used household items for resale to the general public at bargain prices. The proceeds help build more affordable houses. Location: 1901 Lipan St, Corpus Christi, TX 78408 (intersection of Coke & Lipan, one block off Crosstown. Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday 361-885-7944 www.corpuschristihfh.com/restore.php

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Good Samaritan Rescue Mission serving the Homeless with help from people like you. Please visit <http://goodsamcc.org/> to learn more.

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