

SEABEE COURIER

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Summer Fun at CDC



Children at the Morale, Welfare and Development (MWR) Child Development Center (CDC) on board NCBC play in the sprinklers during water play, July 17. CDC offer center based care for children up to 5 years of age. CDC is located in Building 31 and is open Monday – Friday 6 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. For more information call the staff of the CDC at 228-871-2323. (U.S. Navy photo by Construction Electrician Constructionman Lucinda L. Moise/Released)

Great Green Fleet Sailing toward SECNAV Energy goals during RIMPAC 2012

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy's Great Green Fleet demonstration is underway as part of the 2012 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise, the world's largest international maritime exercise.

Beginning July 17, alternative fuels, including nuclear power, will be used in an operational setting, fueling helicopters and jets from the deck of an aircraft carrier, and refueling a cruiser and two destroyers during an underway replenishment. The demonstration will also incorporate prototype energy efficient technologies designed to enhance the combat capability of Navy warships.

We can't afford not to do this. First, our dependence on foreign sources of fossil fuel is rife with danger for our nation and it would be irresponsible to continue it. Second, paying for spikes in oil prices means we may have less money to spend on readiness, which includes procurement. We could be using that money for more hardware and more platforms," said Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus.

A \$1 change in the price of a barrel of oil, for example, results in an approximately \$30 million change in the Navy budget. These increases must be paid for out of existing funds, which means our Sailors and Marines may fly less, steam less or train less.

Procurement of critical platforms and other technology may also be impacted by these price spikes.



"I track energy very closely and the most efficient use of it at sea and ashore -- from our piers to our facilities," said Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Jonathan Greenert. "As we bring newer ships in and bring forward requirements, it's clearly to me a factor in security."

This demonstration will achieve one of the Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus' five energy goals: to demonstrate a Great Green Fleet in local operations by 2012 (http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/files/2012/03/20120309_SECNAVEnergyGoalsFactsheet1.pdf).

Biofuel 101

The ships and aircraft will be powered by alternative fuel, either nuclear or advanced biofuel blends. The biofuel blends are 50-50 mixtures of biofuel (made from waste cooking oil and algae) and petroleum-based marine diesel or aviation fuel.

To prepare for this demonstration, the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) purchased 450,000 gallons of advanced biofuel in November 2011. This fuel was blended with equal

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 MC1(AW) Jonathan Carmichael

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Public Affairs Officer
 Lt. j.g. John Parizek
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC2(SCW) Michael Lindsey

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Public Affairs Officer
 MC1(SW/AW) Steven Myers

NCTC Gulfport
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 Cmdr. Bill Whitmire
Public Affairs Officer
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Getting Educated ... NOW

By Rob Mims

NCBC Public Affairs Officer
 Off and on throughout my military career I was fortunate enough to be able to take some college courses. I admit, I waited entirely too long to start and took too long to finish, but, I did finish ... sort of.

At the end of a 20-career, I walked out the door with two associate degrees. That is equivalent to a bachelor's degree, right? The unequivocal answer is NO.

Upon retirement, the job search began. Fortunately I was blessed and was able to secure my current position. I know my selection was based almost entirely on experience (and military training) and not education; however, if I ever want to move up, the education part is a must. Many resumes don't ever make it in front of the hiring teams' eyes unless it lists a degree, especially in management level positions.

Currently, I am using the 9/11 G.I. Bill and attending Tulane University of Continuing Studies. I am taking four classes a semester. It is tough and

takes away from family time. There are several civilians on this base that are doing the same thing. Most of us admit that it was a long time coming and we should have done more while we were in the military. There are also plenty of examples of people on active duty who are making those sacrifices daily. One just finished his doctorate and another finished his bachelor's while on individual augmentee duty in Cuba.

This leads me to the point of this diatribe. Go to school, now. Use every avenue and opportunity the military has given you to finish your education. I know it is a sacrifice and I know it is a tough gig; however, school will not last forever and you will be better for it. When your final DD214 is signed and you walk out the proverbial door into the "real" world, your resume will have a better chance of being in the interview pile. Now is the time. This is the place. You can do this. A visit to the Navy College office in building 60 can get you started or call them at 228-871-2785.

Good luck!

Active Shooter Exercise on NCBC July 24

By Rob Mims

NCBC Public Affairs Officer

People inside and outside the fence line of the Naval Construction Battalion Center may hear weapons fire and flash bang detonations July 24 in the Ladd Circle housing area on base as security personnel and local law enforcement conduct an active shooter exercise.

Many people on board the installation will be affected by the exercise as the gates will be closed for a short period of time between 8:15 and 9:30 a.m., and others will be required to shelter in place.

Everyone is encouraged to avoid 1st Street near Ladd Circle housing from 8 to 10 a.m.

This exercise is required annually. It gives first responders a chance to practice their skills in case of an actual event. Base personnel should react as if this was a real event and their safety is threatened.

If gunshots are heard or a lock-

down is ordered:

- Seek cover in a safe place
 - Lock doors and windows
 - Barricade the door
 - Turn off lights to help make area appear unoccupied
 - Contact the chain of command
 - Stay put until authorities give further instructions or the lockdown has been lifted.
 - Take action against the perpetrator if there are no other options and danger is imminent.
- Nearly every facility on board NCBC will be affected to some extent during this exercise.

It's important for people to understand that the exercise will affect all facilities on base. Base officials apologize for any inconvenience the exercise may cause; however, they are necessary.

Everyone is reminded that if gunshots are heard on or in adjacent to the installation, they should immediately call 228-871-2333 to report it.



Navy Announces Suicide Prevention Video Contest

From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Navy is seeking tech savvy, creative Sailors to share their skills while helping communicate an important message in the Suicide Prevention Public Service Announcement Video Contest (SPPSAC), officials said July 18.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Sailors to promote seeking help as a sign of strength," said Cmdr. Robert Dews, director of Sailor and Family Readiness, Community Support, OPNAV N135F.

"Whether it's a Sailor reacting to work-related stress who talks to a fellow shipmate, or a spouse seeking help for a Sailor who seems withdrawn from family life, we must be supportive during stressful times by advocating that it's okay to speak up and get help," Dews added.

The goal of the contest is to promote awareness of suicide warning signs and bystander intervention from a Sailor's point-of-view. SPPSAC video submissions must convey at least one of the two 2012 core suicide prevention program messages: "It's Okay to Speak Up When You're Down" and/or "Life is Worth Living."

Some element of Ask Care Treat (ACT), an acronym to remind Sailors and their families of what they can do if they encounter a shipmate, friend or loved one who may need help, should be incorporated into all submissions.

The contest begins July 20 and individual and team submissions will be accepted postmarked or uploaded to the FTP site through Aug. 24. Criteria for evaluating entries will include storytelling ability, originality, creativity and technical quality. The SPPSAC is open to active-duty, Reserve and full-time-support Sailors.

The winning entry will be announced Sept. 28, to coincide with Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. The winning submission will be broadcast on Direct-to-Sailor Television and provided to the American Forces Network and Pentagon channel.

For more details, official contest rules and entry information read the SPPSAC Standard Operation Procedure, available on www.suicide.navy.mil.

Direct any contest rule or technical questions to suicideprevention@navy.mil.

NCBC Base wide
 Housing Yard Sale
 July 21

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Housing residents can
 put their sale items in
 their front yard.

Buzz on the Street



By CECN Lucinda Moise
NCBC Public Affairs

What is your dream vacation?



"Bahamas with my best friend."

UTCN Latina Billings
NMCB 74

Hometown: Chesapeake, Va.



"Going to Hawaii to sight see and swim."

Tiffany Howard
NCBC

Hometown: Slidell, La.



"Barcelona Spain, watching bull fighting and enjoying the night life."

BUCN Jamarius Becton
NMCB 74

Hometown: Memphis, Tenn.

Around the Center



Capt. Rick Burgess, commanding officer, NCBC, and commander, 20th SRG, presents Capt. Stan Wiles, executive officer (XO), NCBC, a Meritorious Service Medal during morning quarters on board NCBC, July 12. After serving as executive officer for two years, Wiles will depart NCBC at the end of the month for Naval Facilities Engineering Command Europe Africa Southwest Asia (NAVFAC EURAFSWA), where he will assume responsibilities as Operations Officer. (U.S. Navy photo by Construction Electrician Constructionman Lucinda L. Moise/Released)



Capt. Rick Burgess, commanding officer, NCBC, and commander, 20th SRG, presents Alice Huffman, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society Gulfport Chapter director, with a 15-year service pin on board NCBC, July 12. (US Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 practice conducting a search of a high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicle during Basic Combat Skills (BCS) II Class on board NCBC, July 11. Part of a battalion's homeport training cycle, BCS II teaches basic combat skills to Seabees going to theater. (U.S. Navy photo by construction Electrician Constructionman Lucinda L. Moise/Released)

Comedy personalizes Sexual Assault, Suicide Awareness training on board the Center

By MCC (SCW) Ryan G. Wilber
NCBC Public Affairs

Seabees attached to Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport received a unique form of sexual assault prevention and suicide awareness training when Comedian Bernie McGrenahan presented Comedy is the Cure at the NCBC Training Hall, July 11.

The comedy infused presentation was the culmination of U.S. Fleet Forces Command's (USFFC) annual Sexual Assault and Response (SAPR), and Suicide Prevention and Awareness Training Workshop held on NCBC July 10-11. Lessons learned through tragedy and reporting cause Navy leadership to continually revise their training and response methods to sexual assault and suicide awareness and prevention. Marie Parker, USFFC's SAPR program manager and her

team traveled to Gulfport to ensure Seabees are working with the newest information.

"[The purpose of the training is] to provide leadership, program managers, the mid-level leadership and all hands with the most current, updated information on the SAPR and suicide programs. We also educate the mid-level leadership on the newest things they need to know for their positions in the command structure," said Parker.

Rear Adm. Mark Handley, commander, First Naval Construction Division, and commander, Naval Construction Forces Command, gave opening remarks.

"Leadership has to tackle the toughest issues, and these are probably two of the toughest issues we have to tackle. Historically, we are not good as a Navy

at dealing with these problems. There are a number of tough challenges associated with them, and why we're here today is to give you, as leaders, the tools to be successful in the future as we go forward," said Handley.

Handley cited numerous stressors that today's military members face, such as the uncertainty of individual augmentee assignments, military downsizing through perform to serve and enlisted retention boards, and battalion decommissionings, that can potentially lead a person to commit suicide, but encouraged leaders to recognize these stressors early to effectively address the issues.

"If you can change one thing within your units, how you talk about and how you support people that are having these chal-



Rear Adm. Mark Handley, commander, 1st Naval Construction Division, and commander, Naval Construction Forces Command, addresses command leadership attached to Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport during the Command Leadership session of U.S. Fleet Forces Command's annual Sexual Assault and Response, and Suicide Prevention and Awareness Training Workshop held at NCBC Tactical Training Facility, July 10. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

lenges so that you can intervene before something happens, that probably makes the biggest difference," said Handley. "Suicide is a permanent solution to a very temporary problem. How leaders approach those stressors makes a huge difference. I think it's important as leaders that you understand the stresses that your people are under so you can best support them and help them as they go forward."

According to Parker, bystander intervention plays a crucial part in preventing sexual assault and suicides.

"The most important thing is looking out for each other . . . being aware of the things that are going on, watching out for each other, taking care of your shipmates and being a good buddy when you're out there," said Parker.

Parker said USFFC likes to go further than a routine general military training when hosting a workshop, so she includes Comedy is a Cure, a unique, entertaining all-hands training in the two-day workshop.

Comedy is the Cure is part of McGrenahan's Happy Hour, Comedy with a Message presentation, designed to discuss the dangers and risks of high-risk drinking, drug abuse, sexual conduct, DUI reduction and suicide prevention, and inspire people to make smart, safe decisions.

"Comedy is the Cure tries to

open people's minds to listen to some truths about alcohol, and truths about self-destructive behavior, and how alcohol can affect your quality of life. I think if I can use comedy to break the ice you will maybe listen to where I would also like to take you regarding my experiences with alcohol and high risk drinking, and the negative impact it had on my life . . . my character, my reputation," said McGrenahan.

The comedian's training was well received by the audience who repeatedly commented on the effectiveness of the presentation over straight lecture.

"I liked the way he made it personal. He put his personal spin on it, warming up with jokes, but there was an actual message that came with it. He's able to keep everyone entertained, as well as get his message out there about what it was really about, not drinking and taking advantage of women," said Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Sean Roberson, assigned to 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG), Armory.

"Powerpoints . . . I think are really boring and don't get a lot of people's attention, but having everyone to get together and have it start off with comedy and then get real serious, it's a lot better training. There was a lot of humor in it, and a lot of emotion in it, it was a lot better than just

See **CURE** page 12



Comedian Bernie McGrenahan engages the audience as he presents Comedy is the Cure, a comedy infused training designed to discuss the dangers and risks of high-risk drinking, drug abuse, sexual conduct, DUI reduction and suicide prevention, and inspire military and civilian personnel to make smart, safe decisions, to Seabees attached to NCBC, July 11. The Comedy is the Cure presentation served as a unique training experience, and was part of U.S. Fleet Forces Command's annual Sexual Assault and Response, and Suicide Prevention and Awareness Training Workshop held on NCBC July 10-11. (U.S. Navy photos by Construction Electrician Constructionman Lucinda L. Moise and Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

Seabees break ground with Royal Cambodian Armed Forces on new maternity wards during Pacific Partnership 2012

By E03 (SCW) Bethany Spinney

NMCB 74 Public Affairs

Navy Seabees and members of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) broke ground at two separate locations for maternity wards scheduled to be completed July 18 as part of Pacific Partnership 2012.

The wards will expand the scope of care offered at local health clinics in Cambodia.

After a traditional Buddhist blessing at both sites, Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCB) 40 and 74 and engineers from the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) worked hand-in-hand in preparation for the mission's future engineering civic action programs (ENGCAP).

Led by Builder 2nd Class Daniel Reckers, a combined crew of 11 Seabees and 13 RCAF engineers, broke ground on a two-room maternity ward which will provide pre- and post-partum care for eight villages in the Kampot Province.

The project in the Prey Slek province has proven to be more of a challenge than the Kampot project. When the combined crew of 11 Seabees and 12 RCAF engineers arrived at the proposed site, they found little more than a poorly drained rice field. Undaunted by the poor soil conditions, the team coordinated with a local service to excavate nearly 1,100 cubic yards of marshy soil which was then back-filled with 2,200 cubic yards of clean earth.

Meanwhile, a combined team

led by Steelworker 2nd Class Myra Golden, NMCB 74, cut and bent more than 15,000 linear feet of rebar which will provide structural integrity to both projects.

Once the project area was compacted and leveled, holes and trenches were dug so that the forms which will give shape to wet concrete could be placed. Despite early setbacks, the "Can Do" spirit of the Seabees and ingenuity of the RCAF engineers quickly put the project back on track.

Builder 3rd Class Casey Noble, crew leader, expects to have this project completed by July 31. The Prey Slek project includes a new four room maternity center as well as repairs to existing facilities which serve 17 villages in the Takeo province.

Leadership from the two countries remarked on the cohesiveness of both units. Lt. j.g. Logan Parmele, officer in charge of NMCB 74, was impressed with how quickly the two nations are able to work together.

"These projects have proven the value of multinational engineering civic assistance projects. Seeing Seabees and RCAF engineers learning from and teaching each other is a rewarding experience," said Parmele.

Sgt. Chhun Vi Chai, RCAF engineer, has worked with other Seabee units in the past and looks forward to future opportunities to work with the Seabees.

"Working with the Seabees is



Equipment Operator 1st Class Dennis Hill and Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Charles Poplin lay concrete masonry blocks with a Royal Cambodian Armed Forces engineer during a Pacific Partnership 2012 engineering project at the new Kampung Kreng Health Clinic maternity building. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Bethany Spinney/Released)

always a memorable experience, both parties always learn so much from each other," said Chai.

As Pacific Partnership 2012 continues, the Seabees of NMCB 74 and the engineers of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces will be joined by other Sailors and members from partner nations to complete a third maternity suite in the Si-hanouk province.

Now in its seventh year, Pacific Partnership is the largest annual humanitarian civic assistance mission that works with and through host nations, and in conjunction with part-



Combined U.S. Navy and Royal Cambodian Army engineers finish the grade beam to stabilize walls of the new Kampung Kreng Health Clinic maternity building during a Pacific Partnership 2012 engineering project. Now in its seventh year, Pacific Partnership is an annual U.S. Pacific Fleet humanitarian and civic assistance mission that brings together U.S. military personnel, host and partner nations, non-government organizations and international agencies to build stronger relationships and develop disaster response capabilities throughout the Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Bethany Spinney/Released)

ner nations and non-government organizations, in order to strengthen alliances, promote regional security and build partner resiliency against, and

capacity to respond to disaster. For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

July 19, 2012

Seabee Courier

Morale Minder Telephone System . . . Morale Minder (MM) is a

system set up to allow armed forces to place a call to home/work/business using the Defense Switched Network (DSN). There is no charge to the service member if they use DSN, however, if they place a call from a commercial line there will be a charge for the call. MM calls last a maximum of 15 minutes. To use MM:

~ Place a DSN call to 868-4614; ~ Select 1 from the prompt; ~ MM will then ask for the commercial number you are trying to reach. (Remember to add the area code of the number you are dialing.)

MM begins tracking the time as soon as a call is made. When the call approaches the total number of minutes allotted, the software notified both parties of the impending limit with a voice message. Once time expires, MM disconnects the call.



3rd Annual Joppa Shrine
BBQ & Sportsman's Giveaway
Sept. 22, 10 a.m.

Joppa Shrine Temple
13280 Highway 67, Biloxi
Lunch Served 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Eat In Only)



For more info, call Bill Sloan, 228-261-6109

CBMU 202 conducts Expeditionary Medical Facility Exercise

By CBMU 202 Public Affairs

Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 202 completed an integrated exercise with Naval Construction Force and medical support staff May 10, 2012, at Camp Pendleton as part of their Fleet Response Training Plan.

The CBMU team from Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek/Fort Story, Va., and from Detachments Jacksonville, Fla., Kings Bay, Ga., and Washington, D.C., joined forces with their sister unit CBMU 303 in San Diego, Calif., and Expeditionary Medical Facilities team ONE out of Dallas, to erect and operate a field hospital at the Navy Expeditionary Medical Training Institute.

"The team proved to be a winning combination and provided a fantastic training opportunity for both the NCF and BUMED (Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery)," said Lt. Cmdr. Russell Bates, CBMU 202 commanding officer.

Bates said Seabees led the project from the beginning of

the build, to the installation of power distribution systems and environmental control units. Chief Utilitiesman Kenneth Kammer, the EMF Detachment officer-in-charge, led his team through 11 days of training and operations which included a period of classroom instruction, container familiarization, Table of Allowance equipment inventory and an EMF build consisting of more than 40 insulated temper tents, which provided emergency operating rooms, triage centers, X-ray facilities and 38 beds for inpatient care.

"This was invaluable to be able to go out and set up a fully functional EMF," Kammer said. "Most of the troops on the Detachment have never worked with some of the equipment and they received good, hands-on training, not only for the EMF but as a Seabee installing field equipment," he said.

In addition to the hospital facilities, Seabees also erected a field galley, portable showers

and restrooms. Bates said this was the first time in more than seven years that Seabees participated in an EMF exercise.

Led by Kammer and Chief Construction Electrician Robert Mendez, the CBMU team of 30 Seabees made quick work of the projects while gaining valuable EMF skills, which helped re-establish the NCF/EMF relationship and core capability.

"The interaction between the two communities was seamless," Mendez said. "Motivation and a sense of ownership on both sides was the key recipe for mission completion," he said.

Mendez said the familiarization and on the job training with the EMF TOA was essential for building the teams' confidence and speed, and it greatly reduced the "fog of war" troops might have if they deployed during a real-world scenario.

"Troubleshooting techniques have always been sharpened in a training environment



Construction Electrician Constructionman Derek Sexton connects power to a tent being used during an integrated Expeditionary Medical Facilities exercise. During the exercise, Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 202 from Norfolk, Va., teamed with CBMU 303 and EMF Team 1 to erect and operate a field hospital at the Navy Expeditionary Training Institute. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Raul Cuevas/Released)

where time is a luxury," Mendez said.

CBMU 202 is currently in their Basic phase of their F RTP cycle and completed the EMF exer-

cise in conjunction with the Unit's field training exercise, held at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek/Fort Story April 26 to May 6.

NMCB 74 FRG Fundraiser Newk's Cafe' Gulfport, July 19, 5 - 8 p.m.

Wear your Seabee/Military Pride and join us. Newk's will donate 10 percent of all food purchases to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 Family Readiness Group

For more information, contact Sarah at 757-705-3896

The appearance of this ad does not necessarily imply endorsement by the U.S. Navy or Naval Construction Battalion Center



NEXs change return policy

By Kristine M. Sturkie

NEXCOM Public Affairs Specialist

The NEX has changed its return policy to make it easier for customers. Effective immediately, the NEX will no longer collect customer information, such as name, address and telephone number, when requesting a refund with a receipt. Now, customers returning merchandise with the original receipt will receive either cash back or a refund to their credit card, depending on how the original purchase was made.

"This change was implemented to improve the shopping experience by speeding up the transaction and making sure the customer is satisfied with their purchase," said



Richard Dow, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) Senior Vice President, Store Operations. "We are continually reviewing our processes and procedures to make the customers' shopping experience easier."

Customers returning merchandise without the original receipt will continue to receive a NEX Gift Card with the refunded amount.

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NMCB 1 changes command



Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Command Master Chief Mark Thomas passes the battalion flag to incoming Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Chad M. Brooks as NMCB 1 outgoing Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Mike Saum stands by. The change of command ceremony was held at the Training Hall on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) July 13. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Aron B. Taylor/Released)

D.A.V. Disabled American Veterans Chapter 5

2600 23rd Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39501
228-871-5463

Monthly meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. Visitors are welcome!

To all Veterans and future Veterans:
Come and visit our Service Officer, Silva Royer. Please contact our Service Officer for available times by calling 228-324-1888.

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Focus on Education



Save money: Mississippi Tax Free weekend approaching

Mississippi's Tax Free Weekend Event is just around the corner. The annual event takes place July 27 - 28. Parents are reminded that the tax break applies to clothing and shoes under \$100.

Accessory items such as jewelry, handbags, luggage, umbrellas, wallets, watches, backpacks, briefcases, and garment bags do not qualify for the savings. While skis, swim fins, roller blades, skates can be worn on the feet, they do not qualify as shoes.

Using common sense will help you save even more during tax free weekend. For example, take the time to compare prices at different stores, either in person or on the internet, and use coupons to save even more when possible.

In addition, make sure you're not buying things you don't need, just because of the tax free weekend. After all, the sales tax rate in Mississippi is 7 percent, so that's the amount -

in addition to any local sales tax, if applicable - that you would be saving by shopping during the sales tax holiday.

It may turn out that you can save even more during the week before or the week after Mississippi's tax free weekend if you shop around and pay attention to sales and promotions. Keep in mind, too, that individual municipalities can choose to opt-out of Mississippi's tax free weekend, so you will need to check with your town hall or municipality office to ensure that the sales tax holiday is indeed taking place in your area.

For more information about Mississippi's Tax Free Weekend, visit:
<http://www.dor.ms.gov/secondsalestaxholiday.html>

Editor's Note: Information for this article was taken from About.com and www.dor.ms.gov

BBC volunteers for Operation Homefront's 'Back to School Brigade'

From Balfour Beatty Communities

Throughout July, Balfour Beatty Communities (BBC) is collecting School Supplies for military children at drop off boxes located at Dollar Tree stores throughout the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Once all the supplies are collected they will be given out at

Balfour Beatty's National Night Out and Back to School Party scheduled for Aug. 7, at 6 p.m. at the Community Pool on Hol-loway Drive in the Magnolia Place neighborhood.

Mark the date on your calendar for this event. For more information, contact the Community Management Office at 228-863-0424.

School Registration Dates:

Biloxi Schools - July 23 - 24 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. - All schools
Gulfport Elementary/Middle Schools - All summer from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m./Friday until 10:30 a.m.

Gulfport High School - Pick up registration packet/ask for time to register

Harrison County Schools - July 23-Aug. 3 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. - All schools

Long Beach Schools July 23-July 31 from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. - All schools

Pass Christian Schools - All summer from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. - All schools

Ocean Springs Schools- All summer from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday close at noon - All schools.

Documentation needed:

Two (2) proofs of residency-lease agreement or anything with current address like utility bill, cable, etc. Balfour Beatty can provide proof of residency letter to their residents.

Mississippi Immunization Compliance Form 121

Student social security card

Certified copy of birth certificate

Parents - Check the homepage of your child's school district for important back to school information . . .

~ Gulfport: http://www.gulfportschools.org/parent_center.htm

~ Long Beach: <http://www.lbsdk12.com/>

~ Harrison County: <http://www.harrison.k12.ms.us/>

~ Hancock County: <http://www.hancock.k12.ms.us/new/>

~ Jackson County: <http://www.jcsd.k12.ms.us/>

Need assistance with local schools? Contact NCBC School Liaison Officer Kevin Byrd, MWR building 352, 1706 Bainbridge Ave. NCBC, 228-871-2117 or e-mail: kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil



SLO has your Mississippi Gulf Coast School Guide

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) School Liaison Officer (SLO) Kevin Byrd has copies of the Mississippi Gulf Coast School Guide available for pick up. Parents who are interested in finding out valuable information on local public schools, private/parochial schools and home schooling can pick up a copy in the SLO office, building 352, Monday - Friday, 7: 30 a.m. - 3:39 p.m.



NMCB 74 assumes command in Okinawa



Above: Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 40 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Tim DeWitt and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Richard Hayes exchange salutes as the 'Fearless' battalion assumes command and control of Camp Shields, Okinawa during a change of charge ceremony at the camp's headquarters July 13. (U.S. Navy photo/Released) Below: Members of Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCBs) 74 and 40 participate in the change of charge ceremony on board Camp Shields, Okinawa. NMCB 74 will spend their scheduled six month deployment at more than 15 locations in the Pacific area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



Navy releases Voluntary Sea Duty Program update

From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Navy released additional guidance for the Voluntary Sea Duty Program (VSDP) which provides incentives to Sailors who extend at sea or return to sea duty early officials said, July 13.

"This program allows Sailors and their families to stay in their same duty location or relocate to a duty location of their choice," said Capt. Kent Miller, director, Enlisted Distribution Division, Navy Personnel Command (NPC).

"Applicants may also be eligible to defer Perform-to-Serve (PTS), providing an opportunity to enhance their record with operational duty."

VSDP was announced in January to support the Navy's war-fighting mission of operating forward and maintaining readiness. The program encourages highly trained and motivated Sailors to voluntarily extend their enlistment in their current sea duty billet beyond their prescribed sea tour, to terminate shore duty and accept new orders to a sea duty billet or to accept back-to-back sea duty orders beyond their prescribed sea/shore flow. The sea duty assignment may be on board ships, squadrons, or other qualified sea duty assignments.

NAVADMIN 205/12 clarifies 15 items from the initial message. Among the updates:

- * Sailors in the PTS eligibility window who wish to apply for VSDP must have their VSDP application submitted for consideration no later than the last day of the month, two months prior to their final PTS application.

- * VSDP orders will not be cancelled for Sailors who subsequently receive a PTS quota

after VSDP orders have been negotiated.

- * Sailors on shore duty must submit their VSDP request no later than 12 months prior to their projected rotation date.

- * VSDP requests for Sailors who have completed less than 24 months on their current shore tour will be considered on a case-by-case basis based on orders requested and current command manning.

- * Sailors serving overseas, or in a DoD-area tour, can request to extend their current sea tour, curtail their current shore tour if they remain in the same geographical area, or request back-to-back sea duty in any area of their choice with a valid billet. Consecutive Overseas Tour requirements may apply.

Volunteers will not be required to accept a billet they do not desire. Detailers will work with volunteers during two Career Management System/Interactive Detailing (CMS/ID) cycles to find desirable orders. If no match is found during this time period their VSDP application will expire and Sailors still desiring VSDP must reapply.

This program does not change eligibility or benefits for the Sea Duty Incentive Pay, which provides eligible Sailors an additional \$500 to \$1,000 a month for extending their sea tour or returning to sea duty early. Sailors may take advantage of both programs concurrently. Requests will be accepted until Sep. 30. All 1306/7 requests should be forwarded to NPC via the chain of command.

Sailors interested in applying for VSDP should read NAVDMINs 043/12 and 205/12 for complete details and talk with their chain of command.



At the MOVIES

July 20: Dr. Seuss' The Lorax, PG, 6:30 p.m.

July 21: The Three Stooges, PG, Noon; The Cabin in the Woods, R, 4:30 p.m.

July 22: Dr. Seuss' The Lorax, PG, 2 p.m.; Mirror Mirror, PG, 4 p.m.

All movies are FREE!

Be sure to call the Movie Hotline at 228-871-3299 to check for movie schedule updates.

STEALS & DEALS

JOIN ITT AS WE TAKE A TRIP TO GULF ISLANDS WATERPARK Aug. 19, 10 a.m. \$5 shuttle fee, \$18.50 per ticket. Children 6 and under must be in a passenger restraint device not provided by MWR. Minimum of six, maximum of 12 people. Sign up by Aug. 15. This is a joint trip with the Liberty Center Program so space is limited. Contact ITT at 228-871-2231.

ITT HAS YOUR 2012 – 2013 SAINTS TICKETS! Prices: \$10 for pre-season,

\$52.25 for regular season, and parking passes are \$40. Tickets go on sale two weeks prior to each game with first week of sales open to Active Duty only. During the second week tickets will be available for purchase to all eligible MWR patrons (Active Duty, dependents, Retirees, Reservists, and DoD) with proper identification. Limit two per Military ID Card. Call ITT at 228-871-2231 for more information.

Pre Season game:

Saints vs. Jaguars - on sale Aug. 3, 9 a.m., \$10 per ticket

Pre Season game:

Saints vs. Texans - on sale Aug. 13, 9 a.m., \$10 per ticket

Regular Season game:

Saints vs. Redskins - on sale Aug. 27, 9 a.m., \$52.25 per ticket.



LIBERTY'S PENSACOLA BEACH WEEKEND GET-AWAY, Aug. 24 – 26 (Staying at the Days Inn Pensacola Beach located on the Pensacola Beach. Last day to sign up is Aug. 14. ONLY \$85/person. Book now by calling the Liberty Center, 228-871-4684.



SHIP ISLAND FUN

Summer may be coming to a close, but Ship Island Excursions are still going until the end of October. Tickets are \$24/adults and \$15.25/children ages 3 – 10 years old. The vouchers are good for the entire 2012 Ship Island Season (now through Oct. 28), but will be void after the season is over. No refunds will be given for vouchers not used within this time frame.

GULF ISLANDS WATER PARK

Beat the heat and relax at Gulf Islands Water Park! Day passes for only \$18.50. You may upgrade these day passes to season passes for \$25 plus tax at the water park front gate. Details - 228-871-2231.

July 19

WEIRD SCIENCE NIGHT: HOT AIR BALLOON MAKING, YAC, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Free

DINNER DASH TO D'IBERVILLE (Liberty Center), 6 p.m. Free shuttle

July 20

TEEN/YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT, YAC, Popcorn and drink included. 6 – 9 p.m., Limited to 50, Only \$2

VOLLEYBALL CHALLENGE (IM Sports) Best of three match, 12:30 p.m., Fitness Center

THE DARK KNIGHT RISES PREMIERE at Cinemark Theater (Liberty Center) Free shuttle, 6 p.m.

July 21

NEW ORLEANS AQUARIUM OF THE AMERICAS/IMAX THEATER (YAC) 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Only \$10; bring a lunch.

FLEA MARKET AT MENGE (ITT) \$5 shuttle fee, sign up by July 18

MISSISSIPPI ROLLER GIRLS TRIP (Liberty Center) Free shuttle, 5 p.m.

July 22

SKYDIVING (Liberty Center) 8:30 a.m., \$170

July 23

WATER WARS (Liberty Center) 6 p.m.

MONDAY - FRIDAY SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM, Monday – Friday Summer Camp Program, YAC, 6 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

July 24

IMAGE MAKERS PHOTOGRAPHY and outdoor activities (YAC) 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Free

PAINTBALL TRIP (Liberty Center) 6 p.m.



July 25

NFL PUNT, PASS AND KICK COMPETITION (YAC) 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Free

GULFPORT DRAGWAY (Liberty Center) Free shuttle, 6 p.m., \$7 admission at gate

July 26

BOYS ONLY NIGHT! Team Colors and Flag Football (YAC) 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Free



POOL TOURNAMENT (Liberty Center) Free, 1ST Place prize, 7 p.m.



HOW ABOUT THIS?

MWR has the perfect picnic area for you next function located at Seabee Lake with covered playground, basketball court, paintball course, dog park, barbecue grills, picnic tables, and more. Active Duty personnel and their dependents receive a 20 percent discount on all rental items. All Military, Retirees and their Dependents receive a 10 percent discount on all rental items. 228-871-2127

Outdoor Recreation Rental Center has a wide variety of gear ranging from tents to sports equipment. For those summer cookouts or rummage sales, the Rental Center offers tables and chairs, canopies and coolers for rent. The MWR Rental Center is offering new rental items for this season, such as new A-Liner Expedition Campers that include both heat and AC. Also available are kayaks and paddle boats.

MWR FACEBOOK is now easier than ever to access on your smart phone!



Resale Lot Advertise the car you want to sell for \$5/week, \$15/month. Display the vehicle you want to sell for up to 30 days or find a new car at an unbelievable price. Contact Auto Hobby at 228-871-2804 for list of vehicles for sale.

Naval Construction Battalion Center Helping Hands Volunteer Opportunities



FOSTER CARE PARENTS Youth Villages, a private nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children and families live successfully, is looking for caring adults, single or married, aged 25 years old and up to become foster care parents. If you are interested, please contact Jimmy Frazier at 601-572-3717 or jimmy.frazier@youthvillages.org

ANNISTON ELEMENTARY Anniston Elementary School is looking for 20 volunteers to assist with

some projects at the school, July 28. For more information, call Dr. Payne at 228-896-6309.

COAST SALVATION ARMY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS - Volunteers are needed for various projects throughout the year. The Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Biloxi is always in need of assistance in the Athletic Department, Fitness Center, Arts and Music Department, Aquatic Center, and marketing. Many other opportunities

are available with this organization. Contact Shawna Tatge at Shawna_Tatge@uss.salvationarmy.org for information.

HARRISON COUNTY YOUTH COURT - HCYC is looking for volunteers to make a difference in the life of a child. Volunteers who are bilingual in Spanish and Vietnamese are needed. You can help by becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate (C.A.S.A.) or volunteer to become a mentor for C.H.A.N.G.E. (Cultivating

Healthy Achievements in the Next Generation of Excellence). Contact Beth Casey at 228-865-7000 if you are interested in making a difference in the life of a child.

DEL 'EPEE DEAF CENTER, INC. - The del 'Epee Deaf Center, 1450 North Street, Gulfport is looking for volunteers to distribute food boxes to people in need. Involves creating boxes of food, stocking shelves and minor paperwork. Pantry is open by appointment only,

volunteers will set their own hours. Contact Greg Crapo at 228-897-2280 for details or to sign up and volunteer.

RED CROSS SOUTH MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER The Red Cross in Biloxi has an immediate need for volunteers to work in the front office assisting visitors and directing incoming phone calls and generally assisting staff. Call 228-896-4511 for more information on this volunteer request.

Seabee Memorial Chapel



Center Chaplains:

Lt. Cmdr. Paul Smith, Protestant Chaplain

Lt. Yoon Choi, Protestant Chaplain

For information concerning other faith groups, call the chapel office at 228-871-2454

Services:

Gospel Service: 8 a.m.

Sunday Catholic Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass: Tuesday, 11:15 a.m.

Divine Worship: Sunday, 11 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.



GULF COAST USO

**901 CBC 3rd St., Building 114
228-575-5224**

FREE Services:

Fax - Send/Receive:

228-575-5225

Copies

Snacks/Drinks

United Through Reading Program

Computers with web cams

Internet and Email Access

X-Box

Office hours:

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Closed Sunday)

Chapel Offerings:

Women's Bible Study takes place Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m.

LIGHT is a Young Adult Group for members of the military. Meetings are Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall.

Seabee Pantry - Donations are now being accepted to restock the Seabee Pantry. Everyone affiliated with NCBC is eligible to draw from the Seabee Pantry.

Praise and Worship members needed - The Seabee Memorial Chapel is looking for new members for the Praise and Worship Team for the Divine Worship Service at 11 a.m. Sundays. If you can sing or play an instrument, you are cordially invited to come share your gift.

Looking for a church? The Seabee Memorial Chapel holds services every Sunday that might just suit your needs. Protestant Services include a Gospel Service at 8 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., and Divine Worship Service at 11 a.m. Catholic Services include Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m. There is also a Catholic Mass Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m.

Feds Feed Families Food Drive - The annual DoD, Feds Feed Families Food Drive is taking place through September. Seabee Memorial Chapel is leading the base-wide effort to raise over 5,000 pounds of food. This year collected donations will be given to Saint Theresa Hospital. NCBC food donation drop off locations are battalion building spaces, CBC Commissary, Seabee Memorial Chapel, Navy Exchange, Fleet and Family Support Center and Building 1. For more information, call the Chapel at 228-871-2454.

July 19, 2012

Seabee Courier



SUPPORT

Family Readiness Groups

NMCB 1 FRG invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Monday of every month at the Youth Activity Center, building 335. A potluck dinner is served at 6 p.m., followed by a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided during deployment. Contact FRG President Mary Belanger, e-mail nmcbonefrg@gmail.com.

NMCB 7 FRG remains available to assist NMCB 7 families. Although the NMCB 7 Family Readiness Group is no longer conducting general meetings, the Ombudsmen and FRG officers continue to serve the battalion's family members. For information or assistance contact the FRG at nmc77frg@gmail.com or visit the NMCB 7 FRG facebook page.

NMCB 11 FRG For more information regarding the NMCB 11 FRG, please visit the FRG and Ombudsman website at <http://nmc11.webs.com>.

NMCB 74 FRG All families of NMCB 74 are invited to the 74 FRG meeting the third Monday of each month. Meetings are at the MWR Youth Activities Center, building 335, behind the Grinder on NCBC. Socializing begins at 5:30 p.m., and meetings begin at 6 p.m. Bring a covered dish to share at our potluck dinner. Children are welcome. Email nmc74fsg@yahoo.com or visit our Facebook page at "NMCB74 Fearless FRG" for more information.

NMCB 133 FRG invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information contact FRG President Jaime Royal at 317-730-4064 or send an email to NMCB133fsg@gmail.com. To receive updates, log on to the FRG site at <http://www.wix.com/NMCB133FSG/133frg>

Gulfport Officer's Spouse Club

The Gulfport Officers' Spouses' Club is a social organization that has FUN while helping our community. We meet monthly and have special interest groups for almost everyone! For more information, please email noscgulfport@yahoo.com. We hope to see YOU soon!

NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop is located in building 29 on Snead Street. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers, and child care and mileage are reimbursed. Retail hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome. Visit the NMCRS offices at the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 30, suite 103 or call 228-871-2610 to find out how to become a part of the NMCRS volunteer team!

Gambler's Anonymous

The Fleet & Family Support Center offers GA meetings every Thursday at 11 a.m. GA is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other. All meetings are confidential and facilitated by GA. Come to a meeting or call Jim Soriano at 228-871-3000 for information.

TRAINING

COMPASS is a team of trained seasoned military spouses mentoring other Navy spouses. Classes are intimate and informative. The three-day course is offered the last week of the month. The course and child care are FREE! Contact Kim at 228-832-5343 to sign up.

Naval Sea Cadets

The Gulfport branch of the Naval Sea Cadets are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nation-wide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 1, 2nd floor conference room. Contact Lt.j.g. Bowling at 228-313-9035 or coachcb@yahoo.com for information.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association is seeking new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 3 p.m. at CBC's Beehive, building 352. Call BU1 Tony Boldrey 228-871-2577 for more information or just come and join us at a meeting.

CBC/20SRG Second Class Petty Officers Association is seeking members. Meetings are Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the Fitness Center classroom. Contact the Association's Public Affairs Officer LS2 Matthew Wasson at matthew.t.wasson@navy.mil or Presi-

dent LS2 Earl Simpson at earl.simpson@navy.mil for information.

NCBC Multi-Cultural Diversity Committee is seeking members. Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m., at the Seabee Memorial Chapel. Contact BU1 Jerma Cloude at 228-871-2454 for details.

VFW Post 3937 Long Beach is open Monday - Thursday from Noon until 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from Noon until 10 p.m., Sunday from noon until 7 p.m. The first Friday of the month is Seafood Night, the remaining Fridays are Steak Night. Breakfast is served from 7 to 10 a.m. on Saturdays. VFW meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. Contact Post Commander Bill North at 228-863-8602 for information.

VFW Post 4526 Orange Grove is open daily from Noon to 10 p.m. and located at 15206 Dedeaux Road, Orange Grove. Meetings are the first Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call 228-832-0017 for more info.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. To become a member, go to <http://nmc62alumni.org> or for links to Seabee historical sites.

Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport are seeking Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Seabees who left the military after a short period of time. Island X-1 Gulfport meets the first Thursday of each month at Anchors & Eagles at 7 p.m. Contact Joe Scott (secretary) at 228-669-8335 or elevenoaks58@cableone.net or log onto www.nsva.org for information.

Navy Ball Committee needs help to put on this year's Navy Ball The 2012 Navy Ball Committee is looking for six volunteers to work on the committee for this year's Mississippi Gulf Coast Navy Ball. Committee members will be expected to attend monthly meetings to discuss fundraisers and ideas for the Navy Ball. If interested, contact AG1 Jordan at 228-871-3667.

HERITAGE

The Seabee Gift Store is located in the Seabee Heritage Center Training Hall, building 446. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, books and DVD's. Contact the museum at www.seabeeuseumstore.org/-/shop/index.php or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for information.

From **CURE** page 4

sitting in a class room," added Construction Electrician 3rd Class Brooke Miller, assigned to 20th SRG.

McGrenahan said he wanted people to realize the dangers that can be associated with high-risk behavior, and the resiliency that humans have to make changes when needed.

"Alcohol is a drug, and it is to be consumed responsibly and respectfully, however it is cunning, baffling and powerful. It will cun and baffle people into denial, that it's not an issue, that it's not a problem in their life, that it's not a factor, when in truth it is. Don't be afraid to be brave and do a self-inventory. Take a fearless and moral self-inventory, and if we need to make a change, make it, because you can," said McGrenahan.

Having sexual assault offenders talking about their offense, starting small peer-to-peer focus groups and founding a Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD), Gulfport chapter, where some of the suggestions given when Capt. Rick Burgess, commanding officer, NCBC, and commander 20th SRG, asked leaders their thoughts on dealing with these issues in their commands. Burgess acknowledged the difficulty of completely eliminating these behaviors from the Navy, but said persistence will pay off.

"We change these things through dedicated effort," said Burgess.

Parker said continued training and personalization of the issues are key to success in SAPR and suicide prevention.

"We need to personalize this. We have to look at our shipmates as our brothers, our sisters, our mothers, our fathers, our daughters and our sons, because if that was your brother or your sister in that situation, would you stand by and let it happen? No. "Just like we train to put a fire out on a ship, we need to train to pull our shipmates out of bad situations," said Parker.

Victims of sexual assault are encouraged to seek support by contacting your command's victim advocate or Sexual Assault Response Coordinator to learn about unrestricted or restricted reporting options. Live, confidential assistance is also available anywhere, 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a week, through the Safe Helpline toll-free at 877-995-5247, by chat at www.safehelpline.org, or by text to 55-247 (202-470-5546 outside the U.S.).

United States Marine Corps 237th Marine Corps Ball



When: Nov. 10, 2012, 6 p.m.

Place: Hollywood Casino, Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Price: \$50 (per ticket)

Uniform: Marines - Blue Dress "B" or Blue Dress "A"
Army - Army Blue (Bow Tie)

Navy - Dinner Dress Blue Jacket or Dinner Dress Blue

Air Force - Mess Dress, Civilians - Black Tie

See I&I First Sergeant, 1st Sgt. Coston, building 114 (NOSC) or call 228-871-3104

NCBC Gate Hours

Pass Road: 24 hours, 7 days a week

Broad Avenue: 5 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat/Sun and Holidays

28th Street: 5 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday-Friday and 5 - 7 p.m., Outbound Only

Commission Road: CLOSED

amounts of conventional petroleum-based fuel, producing a total of 900,000 gallons of a 50/50 alternative fuel blend. When the fuel was blended with equal amounts of conventional fuel, the cost of the 50/50 blends amounted to approximately \$15 per gallon, less than half the cost of the advanced biofuels purchased in 2009.

The fuel purchased for the Great Green Fleet demonstration is part of the test and qualification program; fuel produced from non-conventional sources for operational use will be purchased only at prices that are competitive with petroleum-based fuel.

"The Navy needs the flexibility to continue testing all alternative fuel sources in order to reduce fuel price volatility," said Greenert.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy Tom Hicks empha-

sized that biofuels can become a viable alternative for petroleum.

"DON investments in biofuel will encourage a competitively priced, and domestically produced, alternative to conventional fuel," said Hicks. "The prices for biofuel have already dropped dramatically since we first began purchasing it for testing. Such investments help the Navy and the nation become less dependent on foreign oil, and thus less subject to volatility in oil prices that directly affect our readiness."

Saving Energy Saves Lives

During the Great Green Fleet demonstration, certain energy efficiency technologies will be employed, such as solid state lighting, which is more efficient and lasts longer than incandescent or fluorescent fixtures, stern flaps designed to help reduce hull resistance when underway, a shipboard energy dashboard which displays energy usage to the operators in real time and in-

forms energy efficient decisions, and gas turbine on-line water wash which improves engine efficiency.

Participants in the demonstration are:

* USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) and Carrier Air Wing ELEVEN

* USS PRINCETON (CG 59)

* USS CHAFFEE (DDG 90)

* USS CHUNG HOON (DDG 93)

* USNS HENRY J KAISER (T-AO 187)

"Our platforms take years to build, cost millions or billions of dollars, and operate for decades. By making these platforms more efficient and using alternatives that will run in today's engines, we are providing a tactical and strategic advantage to the Navy's fleet and aircraft for the foreseeable future," said Mabus.

For more news about the Great Green Fleet and the Department of Navy's overarching energy program, visit

<http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/energy>.

Program seeks cost-saving ideas from Federal Workforce

By Amaani Lyle

American Forces Press Service

To achieve additional cost savings and improve operations throughout the government, the White House this week launched the fourth annual SAVE Award competition.

In 2009, President Barack Obama established the Securing Americans Value and Efficiency Award program to seek cost-cutting ideas from the federal workforce.

Elizabeth A. McGrath, DOD deputy chief management officer, said the program has become a mainstay in an era of budget uncertainty.

"The SAVE Award is particularly relevant in austere times," McGrath said. "In the face of fiscal constraints, the department must continue to seek innovative ways to save money, eliminate redundancy and optimize our operating environment."

The SAVE Award program, McGrath added, provides an opportunity for everyone to contribute ideas and make a difference.

Participants can submit and vote on ideas via the SAVE program website. Judges then narrow the best ideas to a final four and citizens vote online to choose the winner who will travel to Washington to present the idea to the president.

More than 75,000 cost-cutting ideas have been submitted during the past three years. Scores of the most promising and innovative ideas have been included in the President's budget, officials said, specifically in the Cuts, Consolidations, and Savings volume.

The SAVE Award competition will run through July 24. For more information on the SAVE Award, visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/save-award>.

SEABEE MUD RUN 2012 is just around the corner, register now!

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport will host SEABEE MUD RUN 2012 Sept. 8. Registration/check-in begins at 6:30 a.m. and the race begins promptly at 8 a.m. The course is just over four miles with mud, water, mud, dry obstacles, mud, water slide, mud,



hills and of course ... mud standing between the runner and finish line. To register for this event, visit <http://www.active.com/running/gulfport-mudrun-2012>

Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline Information

Due to limited IG resources throughout the Southeast Region, all Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline work will now be handled by the Region. To report Fraud, Waste and Abuse, contact the Region at: Toll Free 1-877-657-9851 Comm: 904-542-4979 DSN 942-4979 FAX: 904-542-5587, E-mail: CNRSE_HOTLINE@navy.mil.

See Something Wrong Do Something Right!

NCIS has two new anonymous ways to report crimes or suspicious behavior with the use of discreet and secure online or texting tip lines.

To report information by Cell text:

1. Text "NCIS" to the short code 274637 (CRIMES) from any cell or smart phone.
2. Receive a response, for example: "Your alias is: S2U5 Call 911 if urgent! If replies put you at risk, text "STOP"
3. Begin dialogue

To report information Online:
1. Go to www.NCIS.navy.mil, click on the "Report a Crime" tab and select the icon for "text and Web tip Hotline."

There is a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to a felony arrest or apprehension.

