



Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

Vol. 49 No. 06

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

March 29, 2012

**Month of the Military Child
Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt**
April 7, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Athletic Fields across from Fitness Center

NPC officials travel to Gulfport to discuss post-ERB matters

By Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Representatives from Navy Personnel Command will conduct a Post Enlisted Retention Board (ERB) fleet engagement April 2, for Sailors, families and leadership in Gulfport, Miss., to discuss ERB processes and transition assistance.

"I would encourage any Sailor, spouse and command leader affected by the ERB to attend," said Capt. Steven Holmes, director, community management branch, Bureau of Naval Personnel. "We'll provide the latest information on programs and policies impacting Sailors separating as a result of ERB."

New topics the team will address include recently approved Post 9/11 GI Bill transferability for eligible ERB affected Sailors, Temporary Early Retirement Authority and authorization of short-term extensions for Sailors whose end of active obligated service date is prior Sept. 1.

The fleet engagement team is composed of representatives from the enlisted distribution division, enlisted community management division, career de-



Representatives from Navy Personnel Command will conduct a Post Enlisted Retention Board (ERB) fleet engagement April 2, for Sailors, families and leadership in Gulfport, to discuss ERB processes and transition assistance. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 3rd Class Cassie Locke/Released)

velopment program and the Navy's transition assistance coordinator. A representative from employment outplacement firm Challenger Gray and Christmas will also be on hand to meet with Sailors and enroll eligible

See POST ERB page 28

Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield comes to a successful conclusion

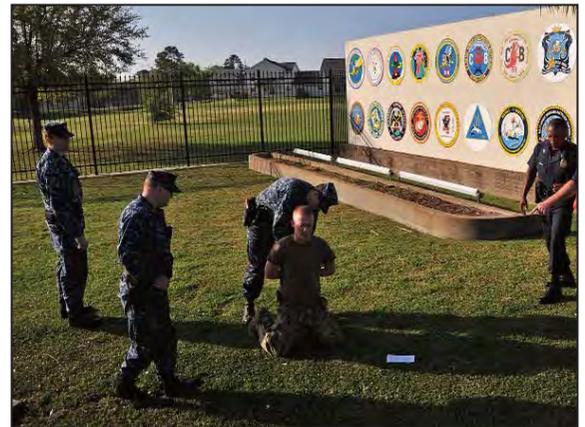
By MCC (SCW) Ryan G. Wilber
NCBC Public Affairs

Personnel on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport successfully completed Exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012 (SC-CS 12), a week force protection/anti-terrorism exercise, March 23.

SC-CS 12 was led by Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and Commander, Navy Installations Command, and executed on all Continental U.S. Navy installations. It was developed to enhance the training and readiness of Navy security personnel, and established a learning environment for players to exercise functional plans and operational capabilities.

For installation commanders, personnel security and emergency response capabilities are always in the forefront. SC-CS 12 tested those capabilities through several real-world scenarios that let leaders know realistically where they stood.

"As Commanding Officer of NCBC Gulfport, it is important to me that we provide a safe, secure place for everyone who lives or works on base. Exercises such as Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield give us the chance to demonstrate our ability to respond to potential threats. Over-



Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Miss. Security personnel simulate detaining an individual during exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012 (SC-CS 12). SC-CS 12 is force protection exercise conducted by Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and Commander, Navy Installations Command on all Continental U.S. Navy installations. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

all, the exercise was a great success, thanks in large part to the expertise and professionalism of our security and emergency personnel, said NCBC Commanding Officer Capt. Rick Burgess.

Al Jones, NCBC training officer, said that through two distinct exercises running concurrently SC-CS 12 tested base plans and personnel

during heightened force protection, how Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff performs and their ability to communicate with higher commands.

"[Commanders are] trying to develop one clear picture of what's going on in our Region and the

See EXERCISE page 18

INSIDE

NMCB 11 hydrates Afghanistan Region, page 6

NMCB 7 Det Pasab continues progress in Afghanistan, page 7

NMCB 74 completes successful training at Camp Shelby, page 17

Skipper's Log

It's who we are, it's what we do

NCBC/20SRG
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Public Affairs Officer
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 Capt. Kathryn A. Donovan
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC Jason Carter

25 NCR Commander
 Capt. Darius Banaji
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC (SW/AW) Scott Boyle

NMCB ONE
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Mike Saum
Public Affairs Officer
 Lt. Jonathon Charfauros
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC1 (AW/NAC) Aron Taylor

NMCB SEVEN
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. James G. Meyer
Public Affairs Officer
 MCC (SCW/AW/SW) Yan Kennon

NMCB ELEVEN
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Maria Aguayo
Public Affairs Officer
 Ensign Timothy Palik
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC1(AW) Jonathan Carmichael

NMCB SEVENTY FOUR
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Richard Hayes
Public Affairs Officer
 Lt.j.g. John Parizek
Mass Comm. Specialist
 MC2(SCW) Michael Lindsey

NMCB ONE THIRTY THREE
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Nicolas D. Yamodis
Public Affairs Officer
 MC1(SW/AW) Steven Myers

NCTC Gulfport
Commanding Officer
 Cmdr. Bill Whitmire
Public Affairs Officer
 Chaplain (Lt.) Rob Guilliams



By Capt. Rick Burgess
 CO/CBC/CMDR 20TH SRG

The events of the last few weeks have truly showcased the talent and dedication of the people who make up the Naval Construction Battalion Center!

As everyone is aware, Exercise Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield took place across the Navy's stateside bases last week. All involved here in Gulfport performed their duties superbly, bringing the base to a higher readiness condition. Bravo Zulu to the entire Anti-terrorism/Force Protection team for a stellar performance! And to all the families who were affected, thank you for your patience and understanding. Exercises like these give us the opportunity to practice our readiness and response procedures to ensure we are ready for the real thing, should it occur. Our next training evolution will be the Hurricane Exercise (known as HURREX), schedule for April 19-27. It will be a very active time here as the scenario will directly affect Gulfport. This exercise will give the Gulfport team a great opportunity to prepare for the upcoming hurricane season.

We also had a number of units in the field over the past weeks. BZ to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 27, 74, on successfully completing their field training exercises. The old adage "If it ain't raining, it ain't training"

was all too true in their case! The Officers and Chiefs from NMCB 1 and 133 also completed the "Khaki FEXs." In each case, the training they are receiving prepares them for success as they get ready for their next deployment.

Rear Adm. Mark Handley, First Naval Construction Division (1NCD), paid us a visit this week and was able to present NMCB 1 the well deserved Battle "E" award for their efforts over the past year. Bravo Zulu, ONE!

A "Well Done" also goes out to our Diversity Committee for putting together another great program this month. We celebrated Women's History Month with a program recognizing how far women have progressed in today's Navy. Our history is filled with the extraordinary accomplishments of female Sailors.

Finally, four of our Navy Gateway Inns and Suites team members were recognized for their outstanding achievements over the last year as 2011 Navy Lodging Program "Employee of the Year" Finalists. These folks competed with others across the Navy Lodging program, including Navy Getaways and Fisher Houses. There were a total of 12 nominees throughout the Navy; which means a third of the nominees were from Gulfport!

During a ceremony March 28, Laurie McMurtry learned she captured the coveted Housekeeper of the Year award, Simone Tomlin was first runner up in the Manager of the Year category, Fanny Crispell was the first runner up in the Supervisor of the Year category and Twanna Reece was the first runner up in the Housekeeper of the Year category. BZ to our outstanding NGI&S employees!

I am very humbled to be surrounded by such an outstanding group of people who make up this base community. Thank you for all you do every day!

Recently at the Courthouse...

Courts-martial in Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) recently heard the following cases:

At a General Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Chief Petty Officer pled guilty to four specifications of aggravated sexual contact of a minor. The court-martial (officer members) sentenced the CPO to 25 years confinement, reduction in rank to E-1, and a dishonorable discharge. A pre-trial agreement suspends confinement 12 years.

At a Special Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer First Class pled guilty to stealing \$500 from a Sailor, failing to pay his debt to a Sailor, and four specifications of obstructing justice. The Military Judge sentenced the PO1 to 30 days confinement, 45 days hard labor without confinement, and reduction in rank to E-4.

At a General Court-Martial convened on board NS Mayport, a Petty Officer Third Class was found guilty, contrary to his pleas, of attempted sexual contact, sexual harassment, and two specifications of assault. The court-martial (officer members) sentenced the PO3 to 60 days hard labor without confinement, forfeiture of \$1,133 pay per month for six months, and restriction to the limits of his current duty station for two months.

At a Special Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer Third Class pled guilty to three specifications of indecent conduct and three specifications of disorderly conduct. The Military Judge sentenced the PO3 to confinement for nine months, reduction in rate to E-1, and a bad conduct discharge.

Courts-martial in Navy Region Southeast are tried with few exceptions at NAS Jacksonville, NS Mayport, and NAS Pensacola. Therefore, the location of where a court-martial described above was convened does not necessarily correlate to the command that convened the court-martial.



NCBC Blood Drive, April 12

8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Chapel

Noon - 5 p.m. Liberty Center

Donors with appointments will be given priority. To schedule an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code SEABEES for the Chapel or SEABEESLIBERTY for the Liberty Center site.

Fraud, Waste and Abuse

Hotline: 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

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Around the Center



NCBC Gulfport's 3rd Annual St. Patty's Day Party for the Shields RV Park patrons was held March 14 from 4-6 p.m. Menu items included corn beef and cabbage, sausage, potatoes and beer bread. More than 75 patrons came out to enjoy the food and fun. Some dressed in costume for the occasion, while others simply enjoyed the company and spirit of the party. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

Navy Retirees Richard Neideffer and Charles Bassett practice putting at the MWR putting green located by Seabee Lake, March 20. Seabee Lake is a family-oriented recreational facility where military personnel and their families can go to relax and have fun. Activities at the site include catch and release fishing, barbecuing, paddle boating, sports and more. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman Constructionman Daneia Johnson/Released)



Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE), Rear Adm. John Scorby, Jr. is given a tour of Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) during his visit to Naval Construction Battalion Center, March 8. During his visit Scorby sat down for a working breakfast with the Command Master Chiefs attached to NCBC, toured base facilities and held a working lunch with NCBC department heads. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)



The Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Child Development Center (CDC) St. Patrick's Day celebration was filled with green, gold and lots of laughter as our festive Leprechaun visited the classrooms and showered everyone with shamrocks. More than 34 parents joined their children to participate in an arts and crafts session followed by decadent desserts. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



The revised Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Gulfport website now features links to the Society's Facebook page and Twitter feed. In addition, benefactors now have the ability to donate online. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

New NMCRS Gulfport website now online

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

A new website for the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Gulfport, on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) went online recently. The website offers the ability to donate online, as well as links to the NMCRS Gulfport Facebook page and Twitter feed.

According to NMCRS Gulfport Director Alice Huffman, the website was created to give people a personal link to what is happening at their local NMCRS office, and give those who would like to donate, but who are not active duty military an opportunity to do so.

"The online aspect of the ability to be able to donate is new in that we have not had it here locally before. The idea behind [having the online donations] is to give retirees, civilian personnel that work on the base that have always wanted to support the Society or the service members on this coast, but have not been able to through the active duty fund drive, and our outside the fence community the opportunity to donate year round," said Huffman.

The online donation link includes a lump sum donation option through the "donate" button, as well as an option for 12 monthly withdrawals through the "subscribe" button.

Both types can be processed securely using a PayPal account or credit card. Active duty military are requested to continue using the paper donation form during the Active Duty Fund Drive, which runs until the end of April.

NMCRS Gulfport has had an active Facebook page for a while, but Twitter is a new way for the Gulfport office and the public to stay connected.

According to NCBC Gulfport Active Duty Fund Drive Coordinator Ensign Patrick Bergstresser, the goal of the Twitter aspect is to capture the public conversation about NMCRS Gulfport and the Seabees, and continue that conversation to raise awareness about the Society on a larger scale.

As NMCRS Director, Huffman said she has three goals for the website: link people to the Society, educate the public about what NMCRS does locally and throughout the world, and offer an opportunity to support the society through the online donation link.

Visit the new website at: nmcrs-gulfport.org, like the Facebook page by searching: NMCRS Gulfport, and follow the Twitter conversation through handle: @nmcrsgulfport to stay connected and support the society this Active Duty Fund Drive season and throughout the year.

Balfour Beatty Communities is Blogging!

By Balfour Beatty Communities

Balfour Beatty Communities just launched a new community blog for the residents at NCBC Gulfport

"This marks our latest effort for getting important, timely, and engaging information to our residents," said Courtney Collier. "In addition to our new blog, we also have a community website, our very own Facebook page where residents can chat with our staff, as well as a Twitter account. It is our goal to be able to connect more quickly and seamlessly with residents on the platform of their choosing."

The blog is designed to serve as an online portal where residents can exchange recipes, read reviews about local restaurants and area attractions, as well as articles promoting healthy living. Residents will also find important resident messages and other happenings around town. In addition to engaging articles, the blog includes helpful links to movie theaters, public transportation information, local review and discount sites, a Walk Score map of the immediate area, and a link to local restaurants.

"We want residents to be informed, utilize these tools to make their busy lives easier, engage with their neighbors, and have fun," says Collier "For us, it's all about putting our residents first in all that we do and creating an environment that they are proud to call home."

Please join us by visiting your community blog at <http://blog.ncbcgulfporthomes.com/>

Children learn what they live

By Sue Maters

Fleet and Family Support Center Gulfport

There is much to be said for guidance, basically teaching right from wrong, so that children can learn the consequences for misbehaving. So many times you hear a parent say, "You had better mind me, or else...!" or "If you don't do what I just said, then watch out, because you are going to get it!"

These harsh comments are often aimed at children, individuals much smaller than their parents.

Children often learn a great deal through simply observing others. As adults, we need to lead by example and teach children how to respond to the situations that they might encounter.

Develop a set of rules and consequences that are appropriate for the age of the child.

Be very clear about what is expected. Young children do not need long explanations. Make it short and obvious about what they should or

should not do. Explain the consequences without threats and be consistent. They can only learn when the rules are clear and consequences consistent.

Don't hit and don't shout.

If you are angry, take time to cool off. Give yourself a "parent time-out" (counting to 10 does help) and then deal with the misbehavior. Adults are much stronger than children and can easily harm a child. As adults, we have learned to handle our problems with words and showing respect to others, not using our hands and fists.

Praise good behavior.

When communicating, look at each other. This tells children that you are paying attention and that you are proud of what they did, no matter how small the task. Not only is praise a great teaching tool, it fosters self-confidence in children. As they get older, they will learn to praise others and one day, their own children.

Give children a choice.

Providing appropriate



choices to children is a wonderful way to develop cooperation. It shows respect and teaches them to make responsible choices. It is important to only offer choices that are appropriate to the child's age and actually available.

Take time for fun.

Spend time with your children. Share fun activities. Take time to laugh, you will not regret it.

Being a parent is the easy part but being a good parent takes

time. The goal is to raise a child to become a responsible, respectable adult who will one day tell their own children that they are loved even when they misbehave.

If you would like more information, please contact Sue Maters, the New Parent Support Home Visitor, at the Fleet and Family Support Center Gulfport where she can be reached at 228-871-4720 or by email at sue.maters.ctr@navy.mil.

Safety is like a lock, but you are the key . . . Before you do it, take time to think through it!

Ad Space

Ad Space



NCBC Gospel Sound Choir Extravaganza 2012

The NCBC/2011 SRG Multi Cultural Diversity Committee invites all members of the Seabee community to its upcoming Gospel Sound Choir Extravaganza 2012. This FREE event will be held Saturday, March 31, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Training Hall.

For more information, please contact RP2 De'Angelo Wynn at 228-871-2454 or Cmdr. Ruth Goldberg at 228-871-3504.

Due to unexpected circumstances, the MCDC regrets the Gospel competition has been cancelled.



Patrons should plan on hoppin' down to the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Commissary early for holiday shopping. The commissary will be closed Easter Sunday, (April 8).

Ad Space

Ad Space

NMCB 11 Seabees harness earth's resources, sustain Afghan Region for years to come

By MC1 (AW) Jonathan Carmichael
NMCB 11 Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 harnessed a natural source of water from 680-feet below the earth's surface March 17, in the Panjwai district of Zangabad, Afghanistan, to create a well that will sustain U.S. and allied forces there for years to come.

Immediate plans for the well are to provide water for facilities such as showers, sinks, and toilets. Water for those facilities is currently being trucked in by local hired contractors.

Future plans could include treating the water to make it safe to drink. Currently, bottled water is brought in by the truckload to sustain all who live and work on the forward operating base (FOB).

In addition to improving the quality of life and making the FOB self-sustaining, eliminating the need for contractors and truckloads of bottled water will free up U.S. money that can be utilized elsewhere.

This well does not require a man-made pump to bring water to the surface. Instead, it is pushed to the surface at 70 gallons per minute as a result of its own pressure built up beneath the earth. This self-pressurization classifies it as a flowing artesian well, according to hydrogeologist Graham H. Johnston of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

Johnston deployed from Savannah, Ga., to Afghanistan as a site representative of USACE and subject matter expert on well construction. His role is to assist in water well development by pinpointing the best aquifer zones to be screened by the well and to run pumping tests to evaluate well performance. Johnston assists in areas of Afghanistan as dictated by the 22nd Naval Construction Regiment.

This well water should be a welcomed quality of life improvement for people using these facilities as the current source is known to be contaminated with diesel fuel.

The Seabees had a two week setback early in the mission due to a downed well rig and need for supplies.

"Getting materials and supplies has been difficult due to the location," said detachment officer in charge, Ensign Andrew B. Anderson from Jacksonville, Fla.

"This is the first deployment for most of these guys," said Tower-1 Leader, Equipment Operator 1st Class Jon M. Wawrek from Syracuse, N.Y. "The crew is constantly working, and we've got to keep being reminded what day it is; and that's a good thing."

Amenities are few. Mail is significantly delayed due to the location, and the Seabees always look forward to packages from friends and family as well as items that they might be able to order online such as portable video game consoles.

There is a small store that carries a very limited supply of

See **HARNES** page 28



Equipment Operator Jon M. Wawrek and Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Michael A. Castaldi, both assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11, cap an artesian water well in the Panjwai District of Zangabad, Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jonathan Carmichael/Released)

March 29, 2012

Seabee Courier

21st Century Sailor and Marine comes to Kandahar

By MCC Jason Carter
22 NCR Public Affairs

The Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Honorable Juan M. Garcia, III, and the Chief of Naval Reserve, Vice Adm. Dirk J. Debbink visited Seabees from Task Force Stethem which included 22 Naval Construction Regiment (NCR) and Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCB) 7 and 11.

Both Garcia and Debbink were carrying the latest message from the Secretary of the Navy, the 21st Century Sailor

and Marine. They thanked all the Seabees, and wanted them to get the "ground truth" on all five parts of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative. They explained the initiative consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Department of the Navy.

Sailors from Task Force Stethem were happy the two came to visit, and say they un-

derstand the 21 Century Sailor initiative better now.

"I thought it was really informative. It made the 21st Century Sailor easy to understand for everyone," said Petty Officer First Class Aubrey Stalling from 22 NCR.

Task Force Stethem's Commander and the Commodore for 22 NCR, Capt. Kathryn Donovan, said the visit was especially valuable for Reserves deployed here.

"The visit today and the in-

See **NMCB 11** page 28



Vice Admiral Dirk J. Debbink, Chief of Naval Reserve, enjoys breakfast with Sailors from Naval Construction Regiment 22. He is visiting Sailors and Marines overseas with Honorable Juan M. Garcia III, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, to personally thank them for their service, and highlight the wide range of personnel programs covered in the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Jason Carter/Released)

NMCB 7 Det Pasab 'Bees carry on the 'Can Do' spirit in the Task Force Spartan/Fury Area of Operations

By CE3 Angela Penton
NMCB 7 Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 Detachment Pasab continue strategic construction operations at Forward Operating Base (FOB) PASAB in the Task Force Spartan Area of Operations, enhancing mission readiness for TFS and incoming soldiers assigned to the 82nd Airborne and Task Force Fury.

The Seabee's primary tasked project at PASAB is the construction of a 60 foot by 90 foot concrete maintenance pad, initially scheduled for completion in late March. Since breaking ground on the project in late January, Builder 2nd Class Dina Beale, project supervisor and a native of Niceville, Fla.; and project crewleader Builder 3rd Class Joshua Messer, a native of Houston, Texas, have led a crew of Seabees and local Afghan workers in the placement, finishing and curing of more than 150 cubic meters of concrete. Their diligence and dedication led to project completion and turnover to 508th Special Troops Battalion more than a week ahead of schedule.

"This was a great opportunity to cross-train skills and obtain valuable concrete experience," said Equipment Operator Constructionman Matthew Loper, a native of Charlevoix, Mich. "If asked to place concrete again, I'd feel very comfortable with my knowledge to do so."

Tactical infrastructure construction is

another important support area the Seabees have provided to TFS and TFF warfighters.

Builder 3rd Class Nathaniel Callaham, a native of Henager, Ala., has led a crew of Seabees in the construction of three guard towers, two 4-hole burnout latrines and six tent decks to improve security and life support facilities for an Army infantry unit located at a nearby Strong Point (SP).

NMCB 7 Seabees are also assisting the Special Troops Battalion in the fight against the growing and harvesting of illegal drugs in Kandahar Province.

Steelworker 3rd Class Shannon Archuleta, a native of Thornton, Colo., has directly contributed to TFS/TFF's objectives by working with Army personnel to train local Afghan welders in the construction of eradicators, mechanisms similar to farming plows that are pulled behind tactical vehicles to disrupt marijuana and poppy production.

Profits from these illegal drugs in the TFS/TFF area of operations have been known to fund Taliban operations, and the elimination of this income is essential in defeating their efforts.

In addition to FOB construction and tactical infrastructure support, Detachment Pasab Seabees have continued to focus on Table of Allowance equipment maintenance and management, Office in Charge discretionary projects, and material and tool management to maintain constant mission readiness in a dynamic environment.

Class Kathleen Fowler, Equipment Operator 2nd Class Sharon Maul, and Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Tony Campbell all felt privileged to honor the veteran and said they really enjoyed participating in the special event.

Hames joined the Navy in 1945. Leaving home with only his toothbrush, he said he rode his bicycle to the recruiting station. Prior to his enlistment he worked for a large manufacturing company. His employer had told him that it took six men back home to support one fighting man overseas. Shortly thereafter he told his employer goodbye, he was off to become one of the "ones."

He served in the Navy as a First Class Petty Officer where he became a Carpenter's Mate with the Seabees. During WWII he was deployed to Okinawa,



Equipment Operator Constructionman Matthew Loper and Construction Electrician 3rd Class Danny Hartless, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7, place concrete with an Afghan Local National worker during the construction of a 60 foot by 90 foot concrete maintenance pad at Forward Operating Base (FOB) PASAB. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

The efforts of Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Manuel Iglesias, of Utuado, Puerto Rico, and Construction Mechanic Constructionman Evan Lederer, of Hackettstown, N.J. ensure maintenance and repair work is kept up to date on 17 pieces of Civil Engineer Support Equipment (CESE) and constant improvements are made to the functionality and security of the main-

tenance yard. Concurrently, Utilitiesman 2nd Class Jeffrey Walter, a native of Reseda, Calif., who works as the detachment Material Liaison Officer (MLO) and Central Tool Room (CTR) Manager, maintains accountability for 18 construction toolkits, miscellaneous tools and project materials, ensuring the detachment remains poised to take on any tasked assignment.

Greenville Det 'Bees surprise World War II Veteran on his birthday

By UT1 (SCW/EXW) Kathleen Fowler
NMCB 24

Franklin Rupert Hames, a World War II Seabee Veteran, recently celebrated his 90th birthday. He was pleasantly surprised when Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 24 out of Greenville, S.C. showed up to join him in the celebration.

Hames was genuinely taken back and entertained by the arrival of the Seabees, which was planned by his children. The group of Seabees, which included

Lt.jg. David Ducharme, Utilitiesman 1st

New Guinea and various other locations.

While serving with his battalion, he took part in various projects including the building of several hospitals, building and maintaining runways, as well as the construction of an amphitheater which was used as a stage for performances that would ultimately boost troop morale.

Hames broke into a wide grin as he reminisced and shared the adventurous details of an R&R trip to New Zealand and how it was a great break from the rigors of war.

Spending time with Carpenter's Mate Hames and his family was not only a treat for him, but for the Seabees fortunate enough to be a part of it.

Hames said he truly appreciated the Seabees joining him on his special occasion. He offered heartfelt words to the

Seabees and thanked them for coming. In return, the Seabees offered a parting salute to honor a true living part of history.

"I was so blessed to be there to witness this happy occasion," said Maul. "Listening to Retired World War II Seabee Veteran Hames, at the age of 90, . . . recalling all of his events with such gladness and how he was determined to serve his country in spite of his color-blindness was amazing. This will be an event I will cherish for the rest of my life."

NMCB 24 is headquartered in Huntsville, Ala., with detachments in Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and West Virginia. The Battalion's most recent deployments include deployments in 2005 and 2009 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ad Space

March 29, 2012

Seabee Courier

8



Interested in celebrating humanity?

The Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Multi Cultural Diversity Committee would like to increase their membership numbers. 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 more information.

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: 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.

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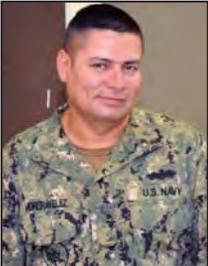
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Buzz on the Street



By UTCN Daneia Johnson
NCBC Public Affairs

What is your most memorable April Fools' moment?



"The birth of my son is my most memorable April Fools' moment."
BUCN (SCW) Juan Moreiravelez
NMCB 133
Hometown: Chester, N.Y.



"I played a prank on my family and told them I was in a car accident."
EOCN Andrew Adams
NMCB 1
Hometown: Leadore, Idaho



"My niece was born on April Fools' Day."
Dr. Jamie Williams
FFSC Clinical Counselor
Hometown: Meridian, Miss.

NCBC FRAMES

Construction Electrician 1st Class (SCW) Nerissia Lowers, 20th SRG (R76)

By BU3 (SCW) Cassie Locke, NCBC Public Affairs

FF: What single experience during your career stands out the most and why?

CE1: The first week of CE C1 Advanced school. Eleven years after A School, I was not looking forward to climbing poles again, and was sure I couldn't do it in the time allotted. I did it, proving to myself that I can do anything I set my mind to.

FF: What has been your biggest motivation throughout your career?

CE1: My family. Their dependence on me and their unconditional love have motivated me through the roughest places in my career.

FF: What advice would you give to future Seabees/Sailors?

CE1: Take charge of your career. Pay attention to what's going on in your Command, in your Navy and in your Country. Know what's new, especially if it will affect you and later on your subordinates.

FF: What is your favorite thing about working with the Seabees?

CE1: The opportunity to help people. Knowing you've

built a clinic in a community that did not have one makes you feel like you've made a difference in people's lives.

FF: Who was your most influential mentor during your career, and why?

CE1: BUCS(SCW) David Sapp (Ret.) He showed me that by knowing your people and recognizing their strengths and motivation, it is possible to be a great leader without changing your personality.



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Follow Seabee Center on Facebook & Twitter and Subscribe to Inside the Gate for all of the latest information

**Retired Seabee
Reunion**

Navy Seabee Veterans of America is sponsoring a Retired Seabee Reunion May 4 – 6. The Reunion will kick off with a Welcome Back at Anchors and Eagles May 4, a Dinner and Dance at Donal Snyder Community Center May 5 and conclude with a Farewell Picnic at Anchors and Eagles May 6. Deadline for purchasing tickets is April 13. Contact Bob Smith, 228-424-1185 or Rich Brown, 601-938-6488 for tickets and more information.

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FOCUS on EDUCATION

Local youth to represent Navy at national conference

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

Aaron Morris, a local Gulfport youth attached to Naval Construction Battalion Center and Junior at Gulfport High School, recently won the Southeast region's nomination to attend the 2012 National Keystone Conference held in Fort Worth, Texas March 22-25 and represent the U.S. Navy.

The 2012 Conference brochure states that the National Keystone Conference provides Keystoneers with a positive leadership experience in which they can engage and socialize with peers, explore relevant teen issues and develop skills that support and enhance their efforts in their Boys & Girls Clubs and communities.

The 17-year-old, who is originally from Jacksonville, Fla., said he looks forward to gaining experience through his interactions with other teens at the conference to benefit his local club.

"I hope to bring to other kids in

Texas new ways to help themselves in the future, and I can bring back new ways to help our teens here solve problems that I don't know anything about," said Morris.

According to the Boys and Girls Club of America's website, Keystone participation offers a unique leadership development experience that provides opportunities for young people ages 14 to 18 in which youth participate in activities in three focus areas: academic success, career preparation and community service. Morris is an active participant in the Keystone Club on board NCBC Gulfport.

"Aaron is here at the Youth Activity Center (YAC) three days of the week out of the five helping the younger kids, and five days of the week at the Teen Center. That's on top of maintaining good grades and participating in football and track. He facilitates games and discussions and makes up his own games," said J.J.

Atkinson, YAC recreation and youth sport coordinator and teen coordinator.

Morris's stepfather, Willie Battle, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1, and mother, Nekisha Battle, said they are proud of their son and happy to know that others also recognize what they see in their child.

"Personally I'm honored that he was chosen, because it goes to show that not only do we see it as parents, but people outside the house actually see him as this overall good child," said Willie Battle. "It is a great accomplishment for him," added Nekisha Battle.

Morris, who describes his professional goal as becoming a Naval Officer in a law enforcement capacity, said he feels great about his selection, and intends to apply to work as a Counselor-In-Training at the YAC for the third consecutive summer when he returns.



Aaron Morris, a local Gulfport youth attached to Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport and Junior at Gulfport High School, packs for his trip to attend the 2012 National Keystone Conference held in Fort Worth, Texas March 22-25. Morris was the only teen selected to represent the U.S. Navy from the Southeast region. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

March 29, 2012

Seabee Courier

12

Day at the Movies

Gaston Point Elementary School 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students prepare to enjoy a movie and refreshments at the Training Hall on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), March 16. The children were rewarded for making the Honor Roll and having perfect attendance at the Gulfport school. Great job and keep up the good work!!! We are proud of YOU! (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

NCBC School
Liaison Officer
MWR
Building 352
1706 Bainbridge
Ave., NCBC
228-871-2117
email:
kevin.r.byrd@navy
.mil

Health Watch

Support the person who supports you . . .

By Naval Branch Health Clinic Gulfport

As Sailors, our home front is an important place of support whether we are here or away. Many of us have a spouse who supports us through deployments, exercises and PCS moves.

The Navy spouse has one of the toughest jobs imaginable as they stand by, always prepared to give assistance and support.

We as Sailors have medical requirements that we must follow in order to maintain mis-

sion readiness. One important aspect of readiness is family readiness.

At the Gulfport Naval Branch Health Clinic (NBHC) we are ready to support the mission readiness of our Sailors and their families. We offer the Navy spouse and eligible dependants' high quality preventative woman's health options.

NBHC Preventative services include cervical, breast and colorectal cancer screenings. We can also provide mammogram referrals for those 40 and over and those with a positive



screening.

As a Sailor, providing support to our spouse by assisting with child care arrangements and appointments is an important part of readiness and care for our spouse.

Please call Ms. Rudolph (Health System Specialist) at 228-822-5058 to assist with arrangements.

TRICARE Service Center is Moving . . . Effective April 1, the TRICARE Service Center will move from its current location on Pass Road to its new location at 284 Debuys Road, Biloxi, MS 39531. The TRICARE Service Center hours are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4: 30 p.m. For more information call 800-444-5445.

Seat Belts Save Lives . . . Buckle Up Every Time!

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Underwater Construction Team (UCT) ONE is searching for highly motivated Seabees and CEC Officers looking for a career and lifestyle change.



Join an ELITE force and travel as a small, professional team. Execute specialized construction, diving and demolition skills with the latest and greatest technology and equipment.

Contact UCT CCC/Diver recruiting team @ (757) 462-3988/4313 or Email YNC Aberle at christopher.aberle1@navy.mil; EA2 Potamitis at marios.potamitis@navy.mil; or visit www.facebook.com/seabee.diver for more information

Observe posted speed limits on board NCBC. Unless otherwise posted, speed limit is 25 m.p.h.

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SEABEE DAY 2012



Naval Construction Battalion Center
Gulfport, Mississippi

Food

Exhibits

Games

Saturday
May 5, 2012
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Free Community Event
Open to the Public
www.seabee.org

Fun for the whole family!

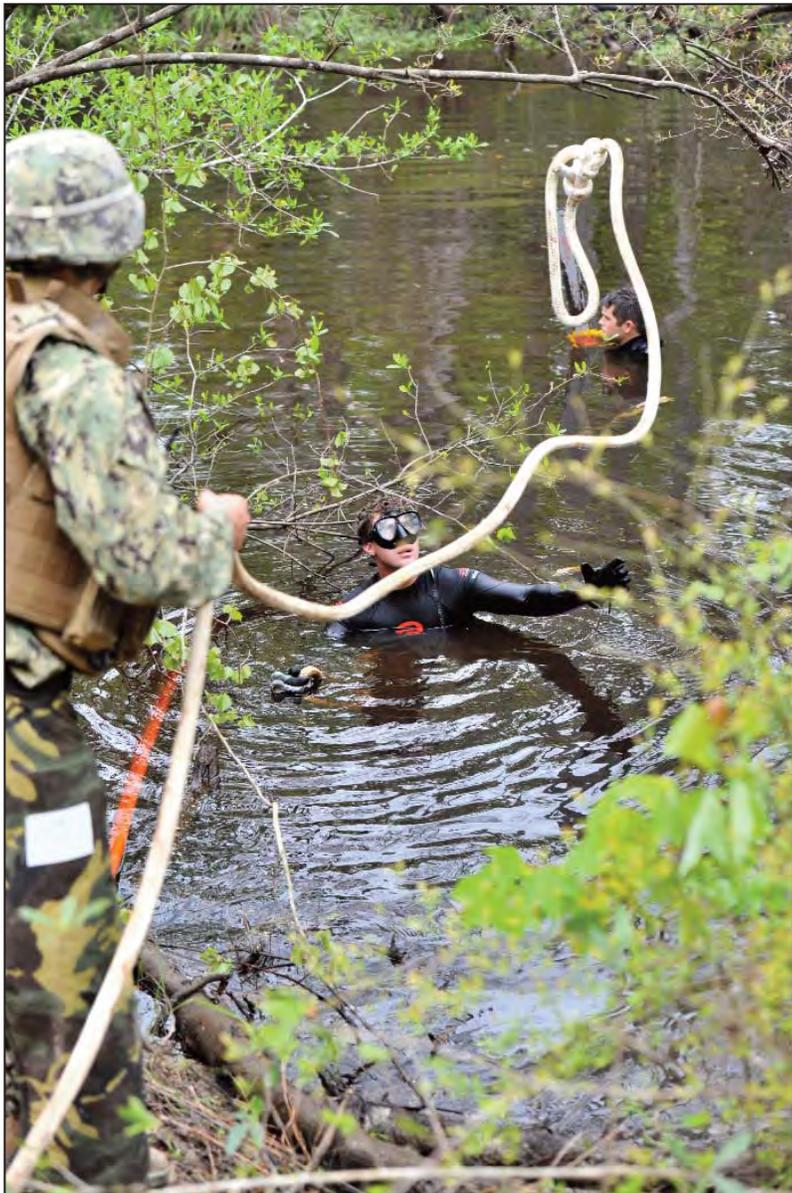
**Join us for Free Carnival Rides, Great Food,
Mountains of Military Displays,
Free Kids Play Area
Petting Zoo, Music and More!**

Free Parking

**Enter the base via the Pass Road Gate
and follow the signs to free parking.**



UCT 1 trains to remain deployment-ready



Stennis Space Center Mississippi - Steelworker 1st Class Ryan Dohse throws a line in preparation to pull a log out of the river during a Field Training Exercise for Underwater Construction Team (UCT) 1. UCT 1 is undergoing their Field Training Exercise and Final Evaluation Phase to prove they are ready to deploy. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Scott A. Raegen/Released)



Afghan Air Force firefighters help each other prepare their firefighting gear prior a firefighting training mission which showcased recently certified AAF firefighters putting out live fires as well as rescuing and aiding training dummies. The AAF firefighters were trained by Soldiers from the U.S. Army's 683rd Engineering Detachment Firefighting HQ. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Jason Carter/Released)

Task Force Stethem pairs U.S. Army/Afghan Air Force firefighters for live fire training exercise

By MCC Jason Carter
22 NCR Public Affairs

Afghan Air Force firefighters demonstrated their proficiency in a live fire training exercise on Kandahar Airfield earlier this month.

The recently certified firefighters were trained by the U.S. Army's 683rd Engineering Detachment Firefighting HQ in conjunction with U.S. Air Force's 738 Air Expeditionary Advisory Group. The 683rd falls under Task Force Stethem which is lead by the 22 Naval Construction Regiment.

The Commodore of the 22 Naval Construction Regiment (NCR), Capt. Kathryn Donovan, was impressed by the firefighters' skills as well as their passion for their new career.

"This is what partnering with our Afghan counterparts is all

about. I am very confident that these firefighters are capable of keeping this flight line safe after we leave," said Donovan.

The Soldiers that trained the Afghans, and the leadership of Task Force Stethem are confident that their students will keep the airfield safe long after Afghanistan takes over operations within their country.

"They are up to par with us. They have passed all the standards that we pass," said U.S. Army Spc. Christopher Minix. "Even well after we are long gone, they will continue to perform," he said.

The Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the 683rd, Staff Sgt. Jeffrey M. Jensen, explained that the Afghan Air Force firefighters have expressed to him that are proud to be firefighters and able to protect their brothers.

Personal firearms are
PROHIBITED
on the installation

NMCB 74 head for Camp Shelby to conduct Field Training and Certification Exercise

By MC2 (SCW) Michael Lindsey
NMCB 74 Public Affairs

The FEARLESS Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 successfully completed the first phase of their Field Training Exercise (FTX) Operation Bearing Duel 03-12 at Joint Training Facility Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, March 17.

For FEARLESS 74, the end of their FTX marks the beginning of their Final Evaluation Problem (FEP) which, if completed successfully, will confirm that the Battalion's readiness to de-

ploy anywhere in the world and its capability of executing assigned contingency construction missions.

Cmdr. Richard Hayes III, NMCB 74's Commanding Officer said that despite the dramatic March temperature changes and the rain and mud, so far the bees performed just the way they were trained.

"We started off with some wet weather that brought some challenges but I am impressed with the effort and motivation everyone had to push through, establish our defense and focus on the train-

ing this week."

The FTX/FEP is a 24-hour, 2-4 week exercise that trains and evaluates a battalion's capability to perform construction tasking in the adverse and contingency conditions. Construction projects must be completed despite hostile activity as role players attempt to penetrate camp defenses and instructors drop tear gas and simulated grenades to disrupt operations.

This particular scenario-based exercise tasks NMCB-74 with a deployment to a fictitious Asian country to provide



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 use a three dimensional terrain map to plan for a reconnaissance patrol during their Field Training Exercise (FTX) conducted on Camp Shelby. Prior to every deployment Seabee Battalions must successfully complete a 2-3 week field exercise that challenges all of their skills in a tactical environment. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 take turns donning their Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) suits and gas masks while maintaining security during a tear gas attack on their camp. NMCB 74 is conducting a 2-3 week, round-the-clock, Field Training Exercise (FTX) on Camp Shelby, Miss., which tests their skills in a tactical environment. (US Navy Photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)

humanitarian assistance following an 8.0 magnitude earthquake. According to the scenario, the earthquake has destabilized the nation's government, allowing for conventional and guerilla forces to take advantage of the unrest.

"We do this Field Training Exercise to train and make the Battalion ready to execute our full capabilities in preparation for our upcoming deployment," said Hayes. "While in this scenario we are providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, we train across the entire spectrum of our contingency and tactical skills to ensure we are ready when called upon."

Now that the FTX is complete and the Battalion is beginning

their FEP phase, the 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG) instructors will begin grading the Battalion's performance. Successful completion of the FEP will result in NMCB Seventy-Four certification and readiness to deploy as an independent unit.

"Through the first week of our field training exercise our focus has been on rehearsing our tactical skills and contingency construction in a field environment", said Hayes. "Throughout the week we have shown great improvement and made strides that will increase our readiness. I'm very confident in our abilities as we go forward into the evaluation phase."

Special Event - Month of the Military Child

MWR's Month of the Military Child Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt is April 7 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Athletic Fields across from the CBC Fitness Center, Building 361. This event is for children ages 12 and under. Special events and activities include: Stennis Astro Camp, CBC Fire Dept. Fire

House, Carnival Games and Prizes, Spider Climb/Moon Bounce, FOCUS Project, Balfour Beatty, CBC Chapel, FFSC, and Mobile Games2U.

Times for Egg Hunts will be posted at the carnival that day. Easter bags will be provided for the hunt! Please call 228-871-2251 for more information.

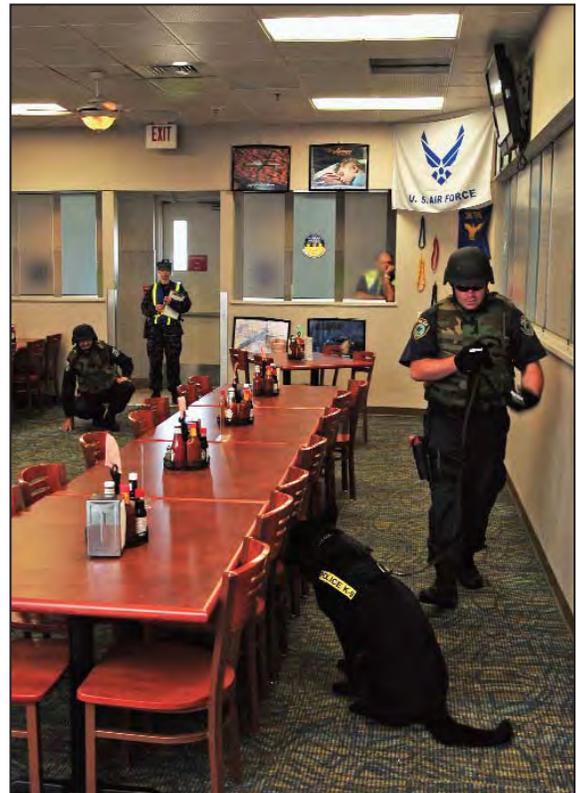


Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012, clockwise from upper left: (1) Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) security personnel respond to a base entrance scenario during exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012 (SC-CS 12) March 20. (2) Chief Master At Arms Alicia Curry and Al Jones, Installation Training Officer observe and grade a base entrance scenario during SC-CS 12. (3) Military Working Dog, Alicia, signals to her handler, K-9 Lt. Dominic Puzzo at the Colmer Dining Facility during exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012. (4) Emergency Operations Center personnel manage incoming and outgoing messages during the exercise. SC-CS 12 is an annual exercise and not a response to any particular threat. (U.S. Navy photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

From **EXERCISE** page 1
 entire Navy in the United States, and that's what this whole week did. It gave them one clear picture by all of us reporting to the next higher what's going on," said Jones. "We did a great job here at NCBC. We couldn't have expected any more. Everyone did a fabulous job." NCBC Security Officer, Ron Perry, said that he felt the scenarios were very close to real life, and got away from a 9/11-type scenario and closer to Fort Hood or Virginia Tech-type scenarios that gave security personnel the opportunity to put their

training into practice. "We did great. The troops out here are very motivated, well trained, well disciplined and very excited to go out there and show the installation training team what they've learned," said Perry. "Personnel responded great, took care of the situations and made all report requirements as needed." As is normal with any exercise, SC-CS 12 revealed lessons to be learned as the week progressed. "In some cases we were able to learn as we were going, we were able to implement those things and

test them along the way, and they worked out well," said NCBC EOC Officer Lew Fountain. Exercise SC-CS 12 was not in response to any specific threat, but was a regularly scheduled exercise. Training evolutions like SC-CS 2012 are important elements of the readiness area of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative which consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Department.



March 29, 2012

Seabee Courier

Seabee Day 2012

Softball Tournament Invitational



Open to All Civilians, Military, Dependents, and DoD Personnel.
Open Access for all Civilians!



NCBC Gulfport
Softball Fields
Located on 5th street aboard NCBC Gulfport

May 5, 2012
8 a.m.-2 p.m.
(1st Pitch at 8 a.m.)

Please make checks
payable to:
NCBC Gulfport MWR
1706 Bainbridge Ave.
Code 300 Building 352
Gulfport, MS 39501

This single elimination tournament will consist of 15 players max per team.
An 8 team minimum is needed for tournament and 12 team maximum will
be allowed. Deadline to signup is April 20 for signups and payment.

Contact Samuel Perkins at 228-822-5109/228-323-0994 or samuel.perkins2@navy.mil for more info.

Pitch In, Use the Bin! NCBC is a No Litter Zone!

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Lucky Eleven commanding officer visits Seabees of Camp Dwyer

By UTCN Marlene HOUNGBEDJI
NMCB 11 Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 hosted their commanding officer, Cmdr. Lore Aguayo and Command Master Chief Christopher Levesque on a two-day visit to Camp Dwyer March 21.

Made shortly after Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta's visit to Camp Leatherneck, the trip was part of routine operations and troop morale assessment.

Welcomed on base by Detachment Officer in Charge Lt. Seth D. Cochran and Senior Enlisted Adviser Chief Construction Mechanic Robert R. Crespin, Aguayo and Levesque were guided on a tour of the Camp Dwyer Seabee compound, from which U.S. Air Force Red Horse squadrons have recently been relieved.

A Commanding Officers' Call followed almost immediately in which personnel assigned to Det. Dwyer received news from other NMCB 11 teams spread throughout the country and inquired on the implications of the Secretary of the Navy 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative. Good Conduct Awards were presented to Equipment Operator Constructionman Jonathan D. Stover from Brookville, Ohio, and Chief Utilitiesman Chad L. Roach of Unice, N.M. Four command coins for outstanding job performances were also awarded.

"Having the CO and command master chief on board is a unique opportunity for the troops to see how they fit into



Cmdr. Lore Aguayo (right), commanding officer of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11, and Lt. Seth D. Cochran prepare to embark on a convoy around Camp Dwyer during a visit March 21. (U.S. Navy photo by Utilitiesman Constructionman Marlene HOUNGBEDJI/Released)

the overall effort in our area of responsibility and emphasize key guidance about our future on this deployment and beyond," said Cochran. "It also gives the troops a chance to voice their concerns and questions about what comes next."

Time spent with troops included an hour of participating in the intense cardio workout known as "Insanity," followed by a visit to one of two current working sites.

Impressed by the camp's general appearance and progress made on a road improvement project, Aguayo also congratulated troops on maintaining team cohesion, a factor she deems critical for morale and work efficiency.

"I have full confidence that things will go extremely well here," said Aguayo who lauded Det. Dwyer's increasing productivity of the past few weeks, with junior troops

learning quickly enough to contribute significantly.

It is an impression shared by Levesque who also commented on the tight bond between the troops he met with.

"They seem to understand what each other is thinking on the job site," said Levesque, crediting their performance on the various projects to strong cohesiveness.

Comprised of fewer than 40 personnel, Det. Dwyer is tasked with completing numerous road improvement projects during its seven-month deployment in Helmand province and has already accomplished far more than expected at this stage of the process.

As a caveat to her optimistic predictions, Aguayo cautioned her troops against complacency and recommended constant vigilance while in theater.

Understanding High Year Tenure to maximize your career

By MC3 Andrea Perez
Navy Personnel Command
Public Affairs

The Navy's High Year Tenure (HYT) program is a force management tool used to size and shape the active-duty and Reserve enlisted force, officials said March 26.

HYT sets the maximum number of years an enlisted Sailor may serve based on rank before he or she must advance, separate or if eligible, retire.

"High Year Tenure assists in force management by limiting the number of years a Sailor may serve without showing professional growth via the advancement system," said Senior Chief Personnel Specialist John Gigliotti, Navy Total Force Policy Advancement Planning for HYT Policy, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

By limiting how long Sailors can remain in the Navy, the HYT program increases advancement opportunity for high-performing Sailors across paygrades and Length of Service (LOS).

"HYT policy recognizes Sailor performance by separating Sailors who have not advanced after a set amount of time," said Gigliotti. This gives other Sailors who are performing at or above Navy standards better advancement opportunities, because the Navy advances Sailors to fill openings in the next higher rank. Actively working towards advancement to the next higher pay grade is critical, because advancing is the only way a Sailor can maximize the length of their career."

The following HYT LOS gates have been established by pay grade:

- ~ E1/E2 - Active-duty/Full-Time Support (FTS), 4 years; Reserve, 6 years
- ~ E3 - Active-duty/FTS, 5 years; Reserve, 10 year
- ~ E4 - Active-duty/FTS, 8 years; Reserve, 12 years
- ~ E5 - Active-duty/FTS, 14 years; Reserve, 20 years
- ~ E6 - Active-duty/FTS, 20 years; Reserve, 22 years
- ~ E7 - Active-duty/FTS/Reserve, 24 years
- ~ E8 - Active-duty/FTS/Reserve, 26 years

~ E9 - Active-duty/FTS/Reserve, 30 years

Command master chiefs may exceed 30 years of service with certain provisions, according to Gigliotti.

Continuing beyond 30 years isn't associated with the advancement system like E1 to E9, but it is associated with incentivizing professional growth and increased responsibility for senior enlisted leaders in command leadership positions for flag/general officers.

Officers are not subject to HYT, but instead limited to statutory service limits by paygrade.

In addition, the Navy uses other force-shaping initiatives to manage the officer community, including the Selective Early Retirement Board and Probationary Officer Continuation and Redesignation Boards.

HYT waiver requests are considered on a case-by-case basis for approval. Requests to continue beyond a Sailor's current HYT date in support of an urgent and immediate operational requirement, in a deployed or soon to be deployed unit, or in an undermanned rating have the best chance of being approved.

All waiver requests for active-duty and Reserve Sailors must arrive at Navy Personnel Command (NPC) ten months prior to the service member's HYT date.

Gigliotti encourages Sailors to take advantage of every advancement opportunity possible. Command Career Counselors can advise Sailors on what's required to be advancement eligible, show them how to study and assist them with getting the study material they need for their rate and pay grade.

MILPERSMAN 1160-120 is a revision of the HYT policy that will incorporate both active-duty and Reserve policy, and will be effective July 1, 2012.

For more information, visit the HYT Web Page on the NPC website at

www.npc.navy.mil/CAREER/RESERVEPERSONNELMGMT/ENLISTED/Pages/HYT.aspx or call the NPC Customer Service Center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC or 1-866-827-5672.



The Department of Defense is making it easy for you to ensure your vote is heard. The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) is designed to assist all service members, family members and citizens living outside the United States cast a ballot for their candidate of choice.

To get started, log on to: <http://www.fvap.gov/> to register to vote or to request an absentee ballot.

Helping Hands Volunteer Opportunities

Art in the Pass - The City of Pass Christian is still in need of volunteers to work the annual Art in the Pass event at War Memorial Park on Scenic Drive in Pass Christian March 30 - April 1. Volunteer for this event by e-mailing Sandy Shaver at smdkr4@hotmail.com or call her at 228-324-1697.

Senior Games 2012 volunteers are needed. Four volunteers are needed for help with Shuffleboard, April 11, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Westside Community Center; eight volunteers are needed April 13, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Track and Field events at the Gulfport High School Track; and five male volunteers are needed April 14, 7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. for the Woolmarket Senior Center Cycling Event. If you are interested in volunteering for the Senior Games, contact Brittany Dyess at 228-860-4444 or email ballen@gulfport-ms.gov.

9th Annual Smokin' the Sound and Smokin' the Lake - Volunteers are needed April 26 to 29 to assist with Smokin' the Sound at Point Cadet in Biloxi and Smokin' the Lake in Gulfport, May 5 to 6 at the Dock Bar and Grill on Seaway Road. Duties include selling wrist bands and directing spectators to viewing areas. Various shifts are available and lunch and t-shirts will be provided. To sign up or to receive more information on this request, contact Chief Ryan Wilber at 228-871-3663 or email ryan.wilber@navy.mil.

Orange Grove Elementary needs 30 volunteers per day May 8, 9 and 10 for the yearly MCTII test. This is the state mandated standardized test. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 7 a.m. daily. Please contact Stephanie Schepens at sschepens@harrison.k12.ms.us or call 228-365-0204 if you are interested.

Long Beach School District (LBSD) Volunteers - The LBSD needs 30 proctors to assist them with the administration of the MCT2 (Mississippi Curriculum Test) May 8 - 10 from approximately 7:20 am until 1:30 pm. The MCT2 is given to all students at Harper Mc Caughan Elementary grades 4-6, Long Beach Middle School grades 7 and 8 and all 3rd grade students at both Reeves Elementary and Quarles Elementary. Training will be administered prior to the testing dates. Contact Christi Spinks at 228-861-0588 if you are interested in volunteering.

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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 welcomes service members, family and friends to attend FRG meetings the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the MWR Youth Activities Center, building 335. Child care is provided during deployment. Please contact the FRG at nmcb7frg@gmail.com for more information.

NMCB 11 FRG For more information regarding the NMCB 11 FRG, please visit the FRG and Ombudsman website at <http://nmcb11.webs.com>.

NMCB 74 FRG All families and friends of NMCB 74 are invited to the 74 FRG meeting the third Monday of each month at the MWR Youth Activities Center, building 335 off Bainbridge Ave., behind the Grinder on base. Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. Bring a covered dish to share at our potluck dinner. Children are welcome and child care is provided during deployment. For more information regarding the NMCB 74 FRG please email nmcb74fsg@yahoo.com. Check out the 74 FRG website at <http://nmcb74frg.zymichost.com>

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!

Gamblers 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. For more information, contact AGCS Enrique Acosta-Gonzalez at 228-688-5288 or enrique.acosta@navy.mil, or Lt.j.g. Bowling at 228-313-9035 or coachcb@yahoo.com.

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.was-son@navy.mil or President LS2 Earl Simpson at earl.simpson@navy.mil.

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 each month at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. Contact Post Commander Bill North at 228-863-8602.

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 of the Alumni Group may go to <http://nmcb62alumni.org> for information 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@cablone.net or log onto www.nsva.org for information.

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 11a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, books and DVD's. Contact the museum at www.seabeesmuseumstore.org/shop/index.php or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for more information.

Ad Space

Chapel Offerings:



Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC)/20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG) Multi-Cultural Diversity Committee Gospel Sound Choir Extravaganza 2112 - All members of the Seabee Community are invited to this FREE event, March 31, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Training Hall.

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.

Drummer needed – The Chapel is in need of a drummer for the Protestant Service Worship Team.

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.

Friday Fish Fry – The final March Fish Fry will be held at the Chapel Fellowship Hall, March 30 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and 3 - 6 p.m. Menu features Fried Catfish, Hush Puppies, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Bread, Iced Tea and Coffee for \$7 per plate, including drink.

Blood Drive - April 12, two locations: Chapel Fellowship Hall 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., and Liberty Center, Noon - 5 p.m.

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 a.m. There is also a Catholic Mass Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m.

For more information, call the Chapel at 228-871-2454 and visit the Chapel Facebook page at "Seabee Memorial Chapel."

Ad Space

Environmental Tip of the Week:

Reduce purchases . . . Think before you buy any product - do you really need it? how did the production of this product impact the environment and what further impact will there be with the disposal of the product?

If you decide you need to make the purchase, consider buying used merchandise.

Sources to check include:

- Local thrift stores
 - Ebay
 - Craigslist
 - Amazon (search for refurbished products)
 - Freecycle
 - Local newspaper listings
 - Yard sales, flea markets
 - Neighborhood swap meets
 - Used furniture Stores
 - Consignment Shops
- Getting the maximum use out of an item is an easy way to make a difference.

Did you know?

A used aluminum can is recycled and back on the grocery shelf as a new can, in as little as 60 days. That's closed loop recycling at its finest! Used aluminum beverage cans are the most recycled item in the U.S., but other types of aluminum, such as siding, gutters, car components, storm window frames and lawn furniture can also be recycled. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours -- or the equivalent of a half a gallon of gasoline.



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Movie Schedule

Movie Hotline
228-871-3299

March 30, *The Muppets* rated PG, 7 p.m.

March 31, *Due to the Gospel Choir Competition* no movies will be shown

April 1, *Adventures of Tintin*, PG, 2 p.m., *The Artist*, PG13, 5 p.m.

April 6, *Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol*, PG13, 7 p.m.

April 7, *Hugo*, PG, 12 noon, *The Darkest Hour*, PG13, 3 p.m., *Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, R, 5:30 p.m.

April 8, *War Horse*, PG13, 2 p.m., *Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows*, PG13, 5 p.m.

Upcoming March/April Events

March 29
•IMAGE MAKERS AND WII TOURNAMENT (Youth Activities Center) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Free

•BARRACKS BASH WITH DECADENT NATION (Liberty Center) 5 - 9 p.m., Free food and games



March 30
•MOVIE NIGHT AND POPCORN (YAC) 6 - 9 p.m., \$2 and limited to 50

•GULFPORT PREMIUM OUTLETS (Liberty Center) 6 p.m., Free shuttle

March 31
•GLOBAL WILDLIFE (YAC) 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., \$8 and lunch is included

•WWII MUSEUM TRIP (Liberty Center) 9 a.m., \$3 for transportation



Mission First... Sailors Always

April 1
•PAINTBALL ON BASE (Liberty Center) 1 p.m., \$5

•ART IN THE PASS (ITT) \$5 shuttlefee, 12:30 p.m.

April 2
•NCAA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME - BRACKET WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AFTER THE GAME (Liberty Center)

•MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM AND SPRING BREAK CAMP (YAC) 6 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

April 3
•WALMART SHUTTLE (Liberty Center) Free, 6 p.m.



•TORCH CLUB AND INDOOR HIDE-N-SEEK (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Free

April 4
•PING PONG TOURNAMENT (Liberty Center) 7 p.m., Free, Prize for 1st place

•SPRING ARTS AND CRAFTS AND DODGEBALL (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

April 5
•TEXAS HOLD EM POKER TOURNAMENT (Liberty Center) 7 p.m., Free, Prize for 1st place



April 5 continued...
•WII FITNESS CHALLENGE AND ART CLUB (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Free

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

•BIG SCREEN MOVIE AND POPCORN NIGHT (YAC) 6 - 9 p.m., \$2, limited to 50

April 7
•NEW ORLEANS DAY TRIP (Liberty Center) 8 a.m., \$7 for transportation, Joint trip with ITT



•MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD CELEBRATION AND EASTER EGG HUNT (YAC) 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Children ages 12 and under are welcome, Free

•NEW ORLEANS DAY TRIP (ITT/LIBERTY CENTER) \$7 shuttlefee, 8 a.m.

April 8
•CINEMARK THEATER TRIP (Liberty Center) Free shuttle, 12 noon

April 9
•FFSC'S FINANCIAL WORKSHOP (Liberty Center) 6 p.m., Free food Learn how to be financially fit!

April 10
•POOL TOURNAMENT (Liberty Center) 7 p.m., Free, Prize for 1st place



•CLAY SCULPTURE NIGHT AND NEWCOMER ORIENTATION NIGHT (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Free

April 11
•EDGEWATER MALL TRIP (Liberty Center) Free shuttle, 6 p.m.



•SMART MOVES AND SCOOTER RACES (YAC) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., Free

Galley to hold Menu Review Board



Colmer Dining Facility will be hosting a Menu Review Board April 3 at 9 a.m. in the Galley. All commands are invited to attend. This is a great opportunity to provide feedback and sample food items. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



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From **HARNES** page 6

toiletries, snack foods and various other items.

A Morale, Welfare, and Recreation room includes 10 computers with internet access and five telephones for everyone on the FOB. Use is limited to 20 minutes at a time. There are a couple of gyms with weight lifting and cardio equipment that get a lot of use by Seabees and soldiers assigned here.

There is one tent for males and one for females in which the Seabees sleep in on cots. This leaves no room for privacy, but everyone has learned to live and work well together according to Constructionman Steven R. Hubler from Lake Havasu City, Ariz., one of the Seabees assigned to detachment water-well. When workload permits people find some degree of solitude underneath a set of headphones connected to a portable music player or

getting lost in the pages of a book.

"Music, books, and movies are what most of us keep ourselves entertained with," said Hubler who is on his third deployment yet his first in a contingency environment.

"It hasn't really been tough yet," stated Hubler. "I know it will get worse when the heat kicks in, but I'll do fine, and so will the rest of the crew."

Climate and other factors have added to the difficulties endured by the detachment. A multitude of heavy sandstorms, four consecutive days of freezing rain, and frequent drastic temperature changes from one day to the next are all part of life out here.

"These guys have met all the challenges we've seen out here. They've done their name proud and added to the Seabee legacy," said detachment assistant officer in charge, Chief Equipment Operator Toby A.

Davis from Panama City, Fla., whose tone of voice expresses pride in his Seabees and the work they've done. "These are the guys and girls that people are going to be talking about 10 to 15 years from now."

This well was the first of this deployment for the detachment. They will soon gather all their supplies, materials, equipment, and personal belongings and relocate to another site with even more primitive living conditions. Following completion of a well there, the Seabees will pick up and move to a new location to begin the process all over again.

Despite the dangers, challenges, separation from family, and lack of amenities, the Seabees remain positive and enthusiastic about the deployment.

"It's been fun. This is what we train for. This is what we do. I think everybody here



Equipment Operator 1st Class Jon M. Wawrek, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11, prepares a water sample for lead and pesticide testing. The water is from a flowing artesian water well that NMCB-11 capped the previous day in the Panjwai District of Zangabad, Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jonathan Carmichael/Released)

feels a great sense of job satisfaction when we complete a well and there's fresh water coming up out of the ground," said Tower-2 leader, Equipment Operator 1st Class Brice

A. Nash from East Wenatchee, Wash.

Detachment water-well is one of multiple detachments that NMCB-11 has operating throughout the country.

From **NMCB 11** page 6

formation the Sailors received was outstanding. We are very fortunate to be able to have members from our chain of command to visit us here with the latest information geared towards helping our Sailors succeed," Donovan said.

The visit ended with some handshakes, photos and smiles. Two members of the Navy's top chain of command have a better feel for the deckplates, and the deckplates are now armed with latest information straight from their leaders.

Less pollution is the best solution . . . Give a hoot, don't pollute!



From **POST ERB** page 1

Sailors not yet signed up for the Navy funded service.

To date only 1,682 of 2,941 Sailors separating from ERB have signed up for services provided by CGC which offers job search assistance, personal interview coaching and custom resumes. Those who have not yet enrolled may contact CGC at 1-800-971-4288 or via e-mail at cgc-usnavy@challengergray.com.

The fleet engagement team will also conduct a leadership roundtable for commanding officers and their command teams.

"It is imperative that every

leader in the chain of command take an active role in the transition process to ensure each Sailor is optimally prepared whether they leave the Navy after four years of service or 30," said Holmes.

Sailors should contact their command career counselor for local briefing times and locations.

For more information about transition benefits visit the Transition Assistance web page available under the Hot Links section of the Navy Personnel Command at www.npc.navy.mil.

NEXs accept manufacturers coupons

By Navy Exchange Public Affairs

Customers know they can save money every day by shopping their NEX. In addition to the average 23 percent savings and no sales tax, customers can also save money by using manufacturers' cents off coupons on their NEX purchases.

"Redeeming coupons provides our customers another way to save money when shopping at their NEX," said Richard Dow, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) Senior Vice President Store Operations. "Coupons are a great way to save even more when shopping for the necessities your family needs."

NEXs accept current valid manufacturer's coupons for the item featured on the coupon, subject to its terms and conditions. This includes on-line Internet coupons, except for those coupons offering free products, coupons for Proctor & Gamble (P&G) products or those determined to be

fraudulent. The NEX does not "double" or "triple" the face value of a manufacturer's coupon.

The NEX accepts scratch-off, percent and cents-off coupons from the Army Air Force Exchange System (AAFES), the Marine Corps Exchange System (MCX) and the Coast Guard Exchange System (CGX). These can be percent and cents-off in-store coupons, coupons presented in a coupon book, or printed from Facebook. All coupon terms and conditions apply. The NEX also accepts a manufacturer's coupon and NEX coupon, or coupon from another Military Exchange Service, on the same item. The combination of the two coupons cannot exceed the price of the product; money is not returned to a customer on the redemption of two coupons which exceeds the price of the product. In fiscal year 2011, over 1.6 million coupons were redeemed by NEX customers

worldwide with a value of \$2.3 million.

"When you combine our percentage savings with the extra savings from using coupons, customers save a considerable amount of money when they shop at their NEX," said Dow.

Become a Facebook fan and follow the NEX on Twitter.

NEX customers can help NMCRS through NEX purchases . . .

Navy Exchange Gulfport is now selling Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) benefit sales ticket to customers for \$5. The money collected from the sale of each ticket will be given to NMCRS to help Sailors, Marines and their families in need. When purchased, the sale ticket will entitle customers to specific percent-off discounts for a one-time purchase April 16 or 17. The ticket entitles customers to tiered discounts depending on the type of merchandise with some exclusions. Contact your Navy Exchange for more information.



GULF COAST USO
3001 6th St., Building. 306,
(228) 575-5224
Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
(Closed Sundays)



Seabee Memorial Chapel

Services:

Gospel Service: 8 a.m.

Sunday Catholic Mass: 9 a.m.
Weekday Mass: Tuesday, 11:15 a.m.

Divine Worship: Sunday, 11 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

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**