

# SEABEE COURIER

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## NMCB 74 Det Guam



NAVAL BASE GUAM, Guam - Equipment Operator Third Class Justin Miller of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74's Detail Guam operates a bulldozer to place material brought in by a seven-ton Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement (MTVR) dump truck at the base's firing range. The Seabees are constructing three 250-foot long berms at the firing range to be used by special forces deployed to the island. NMCB 74 is operating forward deployed throughout the US Pacific Command (PACOM) area of operations supporting Navy and Joint Forces. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator Constructionman Laura Trommer/Released)



Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 install solar powered energy panels on Containerized Living Units (CLUs) at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Sept. 21. Camp Lemonnier Public Works and NMCB 1 worked together to finish phase one of the installation. Phase two of the project is expected to begin sometime next year. (U.S. Navy photo courtesy of NMCB 1 Public Affairs)

## NMCB 1 Seabees help Camp Lemonnier go green

### From NMCB 1 Public Affairs

CAMP LEMONNIER, Djibouti – Service members on board Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, are one step closer to entering the renewable energy frontier now that workers have begun the first phase of installing solar-powered energy panels.

Sailors from Camp Lemonnier Public Works and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion One are working together to finish phase one of the installation, which they started in September, and will begin phase two sometime next year.

Initially, the participating construction crews are installing panels on 12 of the camp's

Containerized Living Units (CLUs) from three brands of panels installed at two different angles and directions.

The effectiveness of the panels will then be observed and compiled into useful data that will help the camp assess how efficient a larger-scaled project could be.

"The main goal of the project is to conserve energy and lower costs," said Petty Officer 1st Class Jean Guerrier. "However, the data needed to determine how effective these panels can be won't be available for about one year."

The panels offer another key See **GREEN** page 2

*~Everyone is Invited~*

*MWR Tree Lighting & Holiday Gift Village*

*Dec. 7, 6 - 8:30 p.m., Youth Activities Center*

*Featuring a snow playground, children's games, free prizes, vendors, warm cookies & milk and a very special visitor! Call 228-871-4010 for details.*



# 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 Petty Officer Third Class pled guilty to wrongful use of marijuana and he was found guilty of unauthorized absence terminated by apprehension. The court-martial sentenced the Accused to seven months of confinement, reduction in rate to E-1, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a General Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer Second Class was found not guilty of assault and willfully and wrongfully discharging a firearm.

At a Special Court-Martial convened on board NAS Pensacola, a Petty Officer Third Class pled guilty to assaulting a child under the age of 16 years. The military judge sentenced the Accused to 12 months of confinement, reduction in rate to E-1, forfeiture of \$994 pay per month for 12 months, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a Special Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer Second Class pled guilty to fraternization, dereliction of duty, failing to obey a lawful order, and wrongful appropriation of a government vehicle. The mili-

tary judge sentenced the Accused to 100 days of confinement, reduction in rate to E-1, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a General Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Lance Corporal pled guilty to wrongful use of marijuana (three specifications), having sexual intercourse with someone incapable of declining participation, and engaging in a sexual act with someone incapable of declining participation. The military judge sentenced the Accused to 12 years of confinement, reduction in rate to E-1, and a Dishonorable Discharge.

At a Special Court-Martial convened on board NAS Jacksonville, a Petty Officer Second Class was found guilty of attempting to steal military property. The court-martial sentenced the Accused to be restricted to base for 60 days and to forfeit \$1,244 pay per month for four months.

*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.*

## LADD . . . Leaders Against Drunk Driving

LADD is a program sponsored by the NCBC/20th First Class Association. The mission of LADD is to prevent drunk driving on board NCBC Gulfport by providing rides for any service member who needs assistance getting home after an outing that involved alcohol.

- ~ It is strictly confidential. NO REPRISAL!
- ~ Will take individual home only, no stops.
- ~ Volunteers who stand the watch are on call 24/7.

It is always important to have a plan in place when going out in tow, but if your plans fall through, please call LADD and we will pick you up! 100 percent confidential, zero reprisal.

**Call 228-239-9007**

### 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: SZU5 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](http://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.*



From **GREEN** page 1

benefit to those stationed on board Camp Lemonnier—a healthier environment.

"These panels are eco-friendly," said Constructionman Jeremiah Carnes. "If they enable us to reduce the work load of the generators, the air quality on camp should only improve."

Additionally, the solar panels' current and cumulative energy output and avoided-cost savings are displayed continuously on a computer, viewable by everyone on base.

"It's great to be able to see the daily savings. This investment in renewable energy is well worth it," said Guerrier.

The lessons learned during the initial installation are also important to the process. By utilizing information gathered during the set up and construction of the solar panel rigs, workers will be able to

streamline the evolution and speed up the installation process if the camp decides to expand the project in the future.

"This was a completely new ordeal for us," Carnes said. "Most of us working here have never installed a system like this, but it was a great learning experience and there are several techniques we picked up along the way that will help us going forward."

Although the installation of solar-powered rigs is a relatively unfamiliar process to many of the crew, Guerrier isn't surprised at the level of success that these sailors have had making it all work.

"If there's one thing that we know about our guys, it's that they can adapt to anything," Guerrier said. "I think they proved that here."

The expected completion date of the project is October 2012.

Arrive alive - Don't drink and drive!

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## Buzz on the Street

By **CECN Lucinda Moise**  
 NCBC Public Affairs  
 What are you thankful for?



"Having a beautiful and a wonderful host of family and friends."

**UTCN (SCW) Sharif Vadon**  
 NMCB 11  
 Hometown: New York, N.Y.



"I'm thankful for my family, friends and my loving puppies."

**CMCN Cela Sibley**  
 MWR/NMCB 28  
 Hometown: Seaside, Ore.



"My family, good health and all the simple things in life."

**CMCN (SCW) Jeff Mitchell**  
 NMCB 11  
 Hometown: Chicago, Ill.

# Around the Center



Military members and civilians assigned to NCBC Gulfport and 20th SRG came together at the Tactical Training Facility on board NCBC Gulfport for a Winter Safety Stand Down, Nov. 19. Twelve topics were covered during the training, including holiday driving, motorcycle, child and holiday lighting safety, designed to inform and familiarize people with common safety concerns during the winter holiday season. (U.S. Navy photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

Technical Specialist Jeff Esposito from Fire Trucks Unlimited gave familiarization training on the newly acquired fire truck to NCBC Fire Department personnel at the grinder on board NCBC, Nov. 14. The 1996 recently refurbished fire truck has been added to the NCBC Fire Department inventory, which will increase their response capabilities. Call (228) 871-2333 from any landline phone for emergencies on board NCBC and dial 911 if using a cell. (U.S. Navy photo by Construction Electrician Constructionman Lucinda L. Moise/Released)



After more than 30 years of dedicated naval service, NCBC Gulfport Command Master Chief Wade C. Howk retired during a ceremony held at the Seabee Memorial Chapel on board NCBC Gulfport, Nov. 16. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

# Retired Seabee shows KAFB hospital staff his appreciation with 'victory bell' presentation

**By Steve Pivnick**  
81st Medical Group Public Affairs, KAFB

Roger Salois had undergone chemotherapy at the Keesler Hospital Hematology/Oncology Clinic for six weeks and wanted to show his appreciation to the staff.

Salois, a retired Navy Seabee senior chief petty officer, decided to donate a special "Chemotherapy Victory Bell" to the 81st Medical Operations Squadron team that he and other patients can ring upon completing their regimen. A smiling Salois did just that Nov. 7, as his wife Holly and the "Hem/Onc" staff looked on.

He explained, "I had seen the bells at other cancer-treatment hospitals I've been at. I asked the staff here if they had one. When they told me they didn't, I ordered two -- one for them and another for the radiation oncology clinic."

He and Holly donated the bell Oct. 17.

Along with the bell, the Gulfport resident gave the staff a certificate that stated,

*"This victory bell is presented to (the department) for their relentless dedication in providing lifesaving therapies while simultaneously improving the quality of life of their patients. The victory bell is to be rung by the patients that have so bravely completed their prescribed treatments and in honor of overcoming the emotional roller coaster of fighting to obtain a life free of cancer.*

*The victory bell is to be rung three times in celebration upon completion of their final chemotherapy treatment."*

In addition to the bell for the clinic, Salois gave each staff member a special bronze coin.



**Roger Salois receives a round of applause from members of the hematology/oncology clinic staff and his wife Holly, second from left, after he rang the "Chemotherapy Victory Bell" he had donated to the clinic Nov. 7, at the 81st Medical Group, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. From left, staff members are medical technician Airman 1st Class Staci Simpson, Maj. (Dr.) Louis Varner, nurse Jeannie Edge, NCO-in-charge Staff Sgt. Kristopher Iovieno and Maj. (Dr.) Owen Roberts.**  
(U.S. Air Force photo by Steve Pivnick/Released)

## NCBC FRAMES

**Logistics Specialist  
1st Class (SCW/SW)  
Chad Alan Bechhold  
NMCB 11 Supply LPO**

**By CM3(SCW) Katchen Tofil**  
NCBC Public Affairs



**FF:** What single experience during your career stands out the most and why?  
**LS1:** Making Third Class since it was the day I feel was the most important in my career due to proving that I should be given responsibility and the earning of respect from my peers.

**FF:** What has been your biggest motivation

throughout your career?  
**LS1:** To provide for my family.

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

**LS1:** To study hard and take on the jobs no one else wants to do which in the end gets you recognition and

## FREEZE FRAME



**puts you above your peers when it comes time to rankings.**

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

**LS1:** The quick pace of work, there is never a boring day down in Supply.

**FF:** Who was your most influential mentor

during your career, and why?  
**LS1:** Aviation Storekeeper 1st Class Mitchell Henry taught me from the first day at my first command in the Navy to study rating material daily. He also taught me how to be a fair leader who watches out for his people, which I have never forgot and have used throughout my career.



Left: **STATEN ISLAND N.Y.** - Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 load a skid steer with debris from a residential road during Hurricane Sandy relief efforts in Staten Island, N.Y. While deployed, NMCB 11 operated under the U.S. Northern Command Defense Support of Civil Authorities mission and worked closely with civil authorities and the Federal Emergency Management Agency following the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Martin Cuaron/Released) Above: **SEASIDE HEIGHTS, N.J.** - Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 use a forklift to move a speedboat that was damaged by Hurricane Sandy. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Martin Cuaron/Released)

# NMCB 11 completes East Coast Disaster Relief mission

By EOCS Matthew P. Dooley  
NMCB 11 Public Affairs

Ninety Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 returned home to Gulfport Nov. 19 after spending the past two weeks providing disaster response support in New Jersey and New York.

NMCB 11 was ordered to support federal, state, and local authorities in disaster recovery operations in the New Jersey and New York areas affected by Hurricane Sandy. This monumental undertaking came just days after the battalion's Air Det reorganized into its traditional structure of 89 personnel who are ready on a moment's notice to respond worldwide to contingency, disaster and humanitarian relief operations.

The Air Det was able to mount out a total of 90 personnel, 94 pieces of Civil Engineering Support Equipment including front end loaders, backhoes, pumps, generators and storage containers. Additionally, over 75 various tool kits and other support equipment were safely loaded for the convoy north.

Upon arrival at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, located in

Lakehurst, N.J., the Air Det hit the ground running under operational control of Coastal Riverine Group (CRG) 2, task-tailoring multiple teams with various capabilities that were ready to deploy throughout the affected areas.

The Seabees' first mission, comprised of approximately 45 personnel along with heavy equipment support, involved clearing hundreds of tons of debris from Seaside Heights, N.J. In addition to debris, the team removed over 80 cars, boats and other large objects which had been swept away and displaced during the storm surge. They also successfully tackled a more than 210,000-gallon dewatering project to aid local authorities in gaining access to water and gas lines for repair, and to reach road ways inaccessible from sink holes and storm damage.

Led by Chief Construction Electrician Robert F. Barrett, the team provided several days of support working a 50-block area alongside other military and civilian counterparts. "I'm happy we are able to assist the people of New Jersey during a very challenging time. Our troops are doing a fantastic job and making a positive impact

here in the communities," explained Barrett.

In addition to the efforts in the Seaside Heights area, another detachment worked diligently in the Sea Bright area assisting residents with debris removal and boarding up local businesses to prevent further damage to 165 structures and assistance in moving personal property in and out of homes for residents who were affected by heavy flooding.

On Staten Island, a 40-person crew led by Ensign Wesley M. Allen and Chief Builder Cortny G. Johnson worked with local authorities to clean up the areas around Miller Field and surrounding neighborhoods. Hundreds of cubic yards of displaced sand were removed from the area along with 50 tons of trash and debris.

The Seabees also worked feverishly to unearth and completely clean up a local World War II Veterans Memorial adjacent to Miller Field in time for Veterans Day.

"The entire memorial was buried in sand," explained Johnson. "Our troops took a personal interest in ensuring this memorial was restored to its original condition. It took a full day's work with heavy

equipment and multiple personnel to accomplish the task. It's extremely rewarding being able to help so many people affected by the storm and being able to clean up this memorial is an added bonus for us and the city of Staten Island," continued Johnson.

Meanwhile, three Seabees provided around-the-clock assistance at the Hoboken, N.J. Ferry Terminal providing nine light plants which illuminated the terminal and allowed safe passage of traffic during peak commuting hours.

Elsewhere at Floyd Bennett Airfield in New York, a team of 25 Seabees supported clean up and debris removal operations in and around the Breezy Point area along with multiple other military and civilian support teams. As relief efforts in the New York and New Jersey area continue the Seabees will head back to their home station and are confident they provided a critical support function assisting federal, state and local government.

Logistically speaking, moving a detachment this size has significant challenges to face over the near 1,400-mile journey to the New Jersey and New York area.

Because the Seabee trucks and equipment run on military jet fuel, refueling must be done at military bases along the route. Additionally, suitable berthing must be sourced as troops must be well rested for their driving and daily operational commitments.

With the assistance of the Movement Control Center (MCC) East, under the direction of Mr. Mike Noggle as Operations Manager, NMCB 11 personnel uploaded cargo onto 20 Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacements (MTVR) tractor trailers and cargo trucks.

"We wanted to ensure the Battalion stepped off on time with the first of three convoy configurations; we offered our help" said Noggle. By providing two additional forklifts from their shop, two operators, a runner for additional cargo straps, shoring and chafing material MCC East was able to provide a much needed helping hand.

"Ground movements normally don't involve the Movement Control Center other than building the Time Phase Force Deployment Data and determining a mode/source for movement in the event aircraft became available

See **NMCB 11** page 12



**KUWAIT - Logistics Specialist Seaman Francis Brzezinski of Construction Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 receives his Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist qualification certificate from Cmdr. Nick Yamodis, NMCB 133 Commanding Officer, during an awards ceremony at Detail Bravo, Kuwait. The award was presented during a visit by the Commanding Officer and Command Master Chief David Garcia. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder Constructionman Jessica Smith/Released)**

## NMCB 133 'Roos Skipper visits Detail Bravo

By BUCN Jessica Smith

NMCB 133 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 Detail Bravo hosted a visit from Commanding Officer Cmdr. Nick Yamodis and Command Master Chief David Garcia, Nov. 15.

Detail Bravo used the opportunity to familiarize the visitors with the myriad of ongoing and completed projects where the Seabees had expended more than 2,400 man days of labor in construction, maintenance, and training.

One project highlighted was a Laundry Facilities Rehabilitation supervised by crew leader Builder 2nd Class Jesse Dupin that was the first to be planned and executed solely by the detail since the start of their deployment.

Yamodis also took advantage of the visit to present several awards.

Builder 1st Class Jesse Koehn was presented with a Navy Achievement Medal for his work as project supervisor on the Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi

boat ramp completed during the last homeport period. Logistics Specialist Seaman Francis Brzezinski was pinned as a Seabee Combat Warrior by his SCWS mentor, Construction Electrician 2nd Class Casey Cole and presented his certificate by Yamodis. Lt.j.g. Mathew Ward, the detail's officer in charge, also received his SCW pin.

NMCB 133 is currently deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility to support engineering operations.

Looking for a way to serve your community? Interested in a law enforcement career? If so, consider volunteering your off duty time and become a Gulfport Police Reserve Officer or a Reserve Community Service Technician. Call Lt. Phillip Kincaid at 228-868-5900, ext. 6189 or email him at [pkincaid@gulfport-ms.gov](mailto:pkincaid@gulfport-ms.gov) for additional information.



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# NMCB 5 completes annual SULC event

By MC2(SCW) Ace Rheaume  
NMCB 5 Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5 recently concluded their annual Small Unit Leadership Capstone (SULC) at Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) Dozer Field. SULC was a culmination of small unit leadership homeport training. Each company was represented and squads participated in activities and events over two days.

SULC was organized by the NMCB 5 First Class Petty Officers Association (FCPOA). Events during the competition that squads participate in range from mentally and physically challenging activities to include: marching drills, uniform and personnel inspection, professional military knowledge questionnaire and a gauntlet of team based activities in an obstacle course.

"I'm very proud of the fact that I got to help coordinate the obstacle course. All of those events are engineered to be team building events and lets squads know that without each other and working as a team, nothing can be accomplished," said NMCB 5 FCPOA President Utilitiesman 1st Class Jesus Escamilla.

These squads worked together throughout homeport honing their skills and knowledge to prepare for SULC. Teamwork was vital in completing each event.

"It basically takes all the training

and thought process that we've been putting together and puts it to the ultimate test trying to see how we come together as a team in the end. It feels great I'm learning a lot," said Headquarters Company squad member Equipment Operator Constructionman Apprentice Nathan Bryson.

"Most of Alfa company is pretty close, so it's pretty fun to get out here and compete with the guys we hang out with all the time," said Alfa Company squad member Construction Mechanic Constructionman Derek Ellis. Ellis added that some challenges during the obstacle course were tough but his squad enjoyed the competition.

After all activities and events were completed the NMCB 5 FCPOA hosted a luncheon for all personnel. The results of SULC were mentioned shortly after with NMCB 5 Alfa Company placing first, Charlie Company placing second, Headquarters Company placing third and Bravo Company placing fourth.

NMCB 5 strives on building small unit leaders and giving them the opportunity to grow and shine.

"I'm really proud to be a part of NMCB 5. I've belonged to previous battalions in the past and they didn't quite have the camaraderie that we have here," said Escamilla.

NMCB 5 is preparing for a scheduled PACOM deployment.



**Alfa Company Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5 participate in an ammo can carry event during Small Unit Leadership Capstone (SULC) at Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) Port Hueneme, Calif. SULC was a culmination of small unit leadership homeport training that tested squads mentally and physically in activities and events over two days. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Ace Rheaume)**

# MWR, USO, NEX host 'Month of the Military Family' Party



Photos courtesy of MWR  
and  
Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Katchen Tofil



In honor of the presidential proclamation declaring November, "Month of the Military Family," the Navy Exchange (NEX), Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) and United Service Organization (USO) collaborated in celebrating military families with a special event at the Training Hall on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), Nov. 15. Through the combined efforts of the sponsoring organizations, around 800 service members and their families enjoyed a variety of events including free food and beverages, games and special appearances by the Mississippi Surge Mascot and McGruff the Crime Dog. Children lined up to climb the rock wall and in-

vestigate the new NCBC fire truck. The adults, on the other hand, jumped in line for free gifts and gift certificate raffles as high as \$100. The evening was capped off with a special parade featuring the Budweiser Clydesdales. The procession began at the Child Development Center and as the exquisite horses made their way down Marvin Shields Boulevard, the children and the adults appeared to be in awe of their huge stature, bright eyes and spirited demeanor. The picture was made complete with the addition of the faithful spotted Dalmatian proudly perched high atop the red, white and gold wagon in the company of the two hitch drivers.

# 'The Meat & Potatoes of Life'

By Lisa Smith Molinari,  
Military Spouse Contributor

## Owww, Christmas Tree!



My hands looked like they'd been hit by shrapnel. The Persian rug was imbedded with sawdust, pine needles and sticky spots of sap. The trunk of our Christmas tree, which could be clearly seen through the sparse branches, was warped in the middle.

That's what I got for telling my husband to pick out the tree without me.

That day, base looked like a winter wonderland with fluffy white snow stuck to every surface. Neighbors merrily buzzed about, bundling kids for sledding and stocking up on holiday provisions.

I dropped my husband and our son off to help sell Christmas trees for the Boy Scout troop, and witnessed a sweet scene: twinkle lights draped, music playing, kids savoring candy canes, fire crackling. Dads could be heard wishing customers a "Merry Christmas" as uniformed boys loaded trees onto cars.

Whatever "cockles" are, mine were warmed, and I couldn't wait for them to come home with a beautiful tree. I had the perfect afternoon planned: bring decorations up from basement, put up tree, make hot cocoa, set up train, play Christmas music while whole family decorates, gaze at tree while snuggled in family room. I love this time of year.

Three hours later the boys came home with a wrapped tree, and started to put

the trunk in the stand.

My husband has never been handy, and moments like these are always tense. Sensing he needed assistance, I grabbed the top of the tree. "Ow!" I wailed, looking down at four tiny pinholes in my thumb. "What kind of tree is this, anyway?"

"I don't know...a fir, a spruce, how the heck do I know," he stammered.

Wearing gloves, we secured the tree in its stand and began to lift.

"Uh oh," I said when the tree was at ten o'clock.

"What?" my husband barked, nervously.

"It's not going to fit. How tall is this thing, anyway?"

"I don't know . . . but we have high ceilings, right?"

"No, Hon, we have low ceilings, remember?" I said, trying to remain calm.

My husband had always referred to hardware stores as "haunted houses," so home repairs were generally handled by me. But in the spirit of holiday tradition, we thought it best to not reverse conventional gender roles, especially while the kids were watching.

My husband emerged from our basement with a saw, and stood befuddled over our tree. I'd seen this look on his face a thousand times, and knew he had no clue what to do.

Quickly measuring the tree and ceiling heights, I declared, "According to my calculations, you need to cut off one foot eight inches."

He took a step forward, and I yelled, "No! Not from the top!"

Wincing, I held the spiky middle while my husband timidly sliced at the barbed trunk. A few painful minutes later, the bottom of the tree surrendered, and we were able to get the tree upright in the stand.

"It looks so small now," our son observed as we gawked at the maimed tree surrounded by sawdust and needles. "And it's crooked too." Over the next hour, we disguised the problem with as many lights as possible.

"Are we ever gonna put the ornaments on?" our youngest whined for the thousandth time. After drowning their disappointment in several mugs of hot cocoa, the kids finally abandoned us and ran off to play.

Around five-o'clock, the tree looked OK, but my husband still lay on the floor with the train set, emitting various expletives. Having found the manual too confusing, he winged it. Not surprisingly, the train would not budge.

I didn't want to reinforce his "if-I-screw-this-up-she'll-fix-it-anyway" habit, but I couldn't take it anymore. I opened the manual, found the diagram of track configurations, assembled an elongated circle, stripped the wires to expose fresh copper, inserted the wiring into the correct terminal, properly positioned the wheels, turned on the power, and away she went like the wind.

Exhausted by the fiasco, I ordered Chinese take away for dinner.

"Great job with the train, Dad," our middle child said as she crunched into a spring roll.

"And the tree looks terrific, too, Dad," our son offered with a mouthful of rice.

"Yea, thanks Dad!" our youngest exclaimed as she threw her arms around Francis' neck.

"You're quite welcome, kids," my husband said with a wink, "that's what dads are for."

Get more wit and observations from Lisa at her blog, <http://themeatandpotatoesoflife.com>.

## Turkey Day at Liberty



More than 150 patrons attended Liberty's Thanksgiving Day Dinner, Nov. 22. The NCBC MWR Liberty Program hosted the free dinner which included a traditional turkey and ham with sides and deserts. Patrons enjoyed plenty of activities throughout the day. Football fans were able to cheer on their favorite teams while others participated in Sumo wrestling. The annual event provided a comforting home away from home for single Sailors and geographical bachelors removed from their families for the holidays. (Photo courtesy of MWR/Released)

## NEX bringing back Bonus Bucks

### From NEX Public Affairs

Bonus Bucks are back at select Navy Exchanges (NEXs) this holiday season, including NEX Gulfport. On Dec. 8, from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., customers will receive one \$10 Bonus Bucks coupon for each \$100 of merchandise/service purchased, while coupon supplies last. A maximum of five Bonus Bucks will be issued to customers per single transaction.

"NEX customers have responded very positively to this promotion since we started it three years ago, so we're bringing it back again this year," said Mike Powers, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) Director Retail Operations. "We know there are many

placing our customers can shop during the holiday season. NEX Bonus Bucks are our way of thanking customers for shopping at their NEX and to encourage them to come back for extra savings."

NEX Bonus Bucks will be redeemable in any NEX from Dec. 26 - Jan. 1, on all merchandise and services except uniforms, gasoline, tobacco, alcohol, NEX and third party Gift Cards and concession merchandise. Purchases made on the All Services Catalog or myNavyExchange.com do not apply. One coupon will be redeemable on a transaction of \$50 or more. A maximum of five coupons can be used on a transaction of \$250 or more.

**Marine Toys for Tots** - Staff Sgt. Marvin Perez-Diaz, of I&I, 3rd Platoon, A company, 4th AABN on board NCBC is coordinating the area's annual Toys for Tots campaign. Your contribution of new, unwrapped toys or a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated. Drop off boxes are located throughout Harrison, Hancock and Stone Counties, Keesler Air

Force Base PX and on board NCBC at the Navy Exchange and the Navy Federal Credit Union. Donations are being accepted through Dec. 22. To make a monetary donation, or for more information on Toys for Tots, visit <http://gulfport-ms.toysfortots.org>.



## NCBC Branch Clinic News

Patients seen at NBHC Gulfport can now call the clinic directly to schedule **appointments** at 228-871-4033, Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. **Flu Immunizations** - NCBC Branch Health Clinic has flu immunizations available for to anyone with valid Government ID. Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Fridays, 7:30 a.m. - noon.

# Focus on Education

## Tips to help you raise a reader

**From StatePoint Media, Inc.**

There's no better time than the present to emphasize the importance of reading at home. Solid readers perform better in school and in the workplace, have a healthy self-image, and become life-long learners.

Research shows a whopping 45 percent of children ages 3 to 5, are not read to daily, and this lack of literature can take a negative toll on school performance. Luckily, there are many things parents can do to make kids passionate readers.

"Reading stimulates children's imagination and expands their understanding of the world," says actress Kate Beckinsale, who is teaming with "The Nestlé Share the Joy of Reading Program," to raise awareness about the importance of children's literacy and support the work of Reading Is Fundamental, the nation's largest children's literacy nonprofit.

If you're looking to make reading a bigger part of your children's lives, here are some great tips to get them motivated:

- Start young. Reading aloud to children at an early age is

the most effective way to help them attain critical language and communication skills and instill great habits.

- Take advantage of free online tools and resources that help make reading an engaging, shared experience for parents and kids. For example RIF's "Leading to Reading" website contains activities for children ages birth to 5. Visit [www.rif.org/kids/leadingtoreading](http://www.rif.org/kids/leadingtoreading) for more information.

- Variety is the spice of life! Be sure your house contains plenty of books to choose from on a variety of topics.

- Launch a children's book club with other parents. Take turns hosting your children's friends for snacks and a lively discussion on the book of the month.

- Kids love getting mail! Subscribe to children's magazines so they'll have something fun and beneficial to look forward to each month.

- Make sure children have their very own library cards and become frequent patrons at your local library.

- Be it the morning paper or your favorite novel, set a great example by making reading a daily habit for yourself.



- Many literacy programs supporting underserved communities are currently experiencing federal funding cutbacks, but everyone deserves a chance to read. Invest in the lives of other children who might not have the same opportunities as your kids. For example, right now, every time you enter a promotion code found inside specially marked packages of Nestlé and Wonka candy at [www.CelebrationCorner.com/RIF](http://www.CelebrationCorner.com/RIF), Nestlé will donate money to RIF, to fund purchasing books for kids.

Almost a quarter of public school fourth graders score below even the most basic levels on reading exams, according to National Assessment of Educational Progress. Don't let your children fall behind. Take steps to help your children and others to hone this basic tool for success.

## Scholarship Opportunities

### Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Scholarships:

Applications for Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) educational scholarships and interest-free loans for the 2013-2014 academic year are now available and can be downloaded at [www.nmcrs.org/education](http://www.nmcrs.org/education).

Students eligible to apply include spouses or children (under the age of 23) of Sailors and Marines who: are on active duty, are retired or who died on active duty or in a retired status.

Consideration for selection is based on scholastic ability and financial need. Applicants must be graduating high school seniors or full-time (minimum 12 credit hours) college students working toward their first undergraduate degree. Applications must be received at NMCRS by May 1, unless the due date on the application states otherwise.

The NMCRS Education Program has provided scholarships and interest-free loans totaling more than \$60 million to more than 50,000 students over the last 30 years. It is based on the Society's mission "to provide financial, educational and other assistance." The program is supported entirely by donations and bequests to NMCRS.

For more information on the NMCRS Education Program, please visit [www.nmcrs.org/education](http://www.nmcrs.org/education) or email [education@nmcrs.org](mailto:education@nmcrs.org).

### DeCA 2013 Scholarships for Military Children:

In 2012, the Scholarships for Military Children Program celebrated a major milestone as it reached more than \$10 million in scholarships awarded to 6,742 students from around the globe.

It's time, once again, to add to these impressive numbers, as applications for the 2013 Scholarships for Military Children Program will be available starting Dec. 3 at commissaries worldwide. You can also find them online through a link at <http://www.commissaries.com> and directly at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>.

Scholarship awards will be based on funds available, but the scholarship program awards at least \$1,500 at each commissary. If there are no eligible applicants from a particular commissary, the funds designated for that commissary will be awarded as an additional scholarship at another store.

To apply for a scholarship, the student must be a dependent, unmarried child, younger than 21 — or 23, if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university — of a service member on active duty, reservist, guardsman, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty or survivor of a retiree. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database.

Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are enrolled in the DEERS database and have a current military ID card. The applicant must also be planning to attend or already attending an accredited college or university, full time, in the fall of 2013 or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applicants must submit an essay on a topic chosen by the Fisher House. The essay topic will be available Dec. 3 on <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by Feb. 22.

**FFSC December Classes . . .** The Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) invites you to check out their December class schedule at: <http://www.slideshare.net/Seabee-CenterGulfport/ffsc-classes-december-2012>. Please call FFSC at 228-871-3000 to pre-register.

## Save the Date!

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) Professional Development Institute presents: "Living in the New Normal: Helping Children Thrive in Good and Challenging Times,"

Dec. 5, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center

No cost to participants Funded by OSD/DA. Must be in attendance 95 percent in order to receive institute credit and course materials.

For more information, contact Myriam Virella, 254-953-1923, X 1119 or [myriam.virella@MilitaryChild.org](mailto:myriam.virella@MilitaryChild.org)

Please visit [www.MilitaryChild.org](http://www.MilitaryChild.org) and click the Upcoming Training tab to register

## Specialized Training of Military Parents (STOMP)

STOMP is an organization dedicated solely to addressing the needs of military families who have family members with special medical or educational needs. STOMP will be on the Gulf Coast for a free two day workshop at Keesler Air Force Base Dec. 3 - 4, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Bay Breeze Event Center. To register for this FREE workshop or for more information, please contact the Fleet and Family Support Center Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Liaison, 228-871-3000.

NCBC School Liaison Officer, Kevin Byrd is located at: MWR Building 352, 1706 Bainbridge Ave. NCBC, 228-871-2117 email: [kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil](mailto:kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil)



### Special Event

Come out and light up the season with MWR at our annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Gift Village event, Dec. 7, 6 – 8:30 p.m. at the Youth Activities Center. There will be a snow play area and lots of fun games for the children, along with cookies and milk. Adults can shop for gifts at the Holiday Gift Village which includes brand new vendors this year. And of course, Santa will be waiting to hear what is on everyone's wish list. Call 228-871-4010 for more details.

### Fitness

Do you like tennis or is badminton more your style? Sign up for Lunchtime Intramural Pickleball. Pickleball is a racquet sport which combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Head to the CBC Fitness Center and sign up through Nov. 30. The league starts Feb. 6 and the games will be held 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Fitness Center gymnasium. For more information, call the Fitness Center.

The CBC Fitness Center invites all active duty military to participate in its Twelve Days of Christmas. The event will start Dec. 3 and run through Dec. 14. Find a fitness assistant during operational hours and perform an activity specific to each of the twelve days. Complete all 12 activities of the Christmas Fitness Challenge and get a souvenir workout towel. For more information, call the Fitness Center.

### Recreation

Movie Theater: **FREE** every weekend. Grab some popcorn and sit back and enjoy the movie!  
**Friday**, "The Watch," R, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday**, "ParaNorman," PG, noon; "Bourne Legacy," PG13, 2 p.m.; "Expendables 2," R, 5 p.m.  
**Sunday**, "The Odd Life of Timothy Green," PG, 2 p.m.; "Premium Rush," PG13, 4:30 p.m.

### Information, Tickets and Travel:

Active Duty, Reservist, National Guard, USCG and Retirees are now eligible for a complimentary Universal 3 Day Park-to-Park ticket and Blue Man Group Ticket at children's price! All dependents and DOD personnel are eligible for discounted Universal 2 Day, with 3rd Day Free tickets! Call ITT for more information!

Your ITT Office now carries select Hornets games!! Upcoming games on sale are, Oklahoma City Thunder, Dec. 1, Memphis Grizzlies, Dec. 7 and Indiana Pacers, Dec. 22. Call ITT for pricing and info!

Looking for a great holiday event for the family? Look no further, ITT is taking you and your family to Mickey's Music Festival in Mobile Dec. 15 for only \$25! Departing from the ITT parking lot at 11 a.m., and returning approximately 7 p.m. Space is limited- sign up today! (Children ages 6 and under must be in a passenger restraint device, not provided by MWR.)

Saints vs. Buccaneers tickets will go on sale Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. for just \$52.25/ticket! The first week of sales will be open to Active Duty only. During the second week of sales tickets will be available for purchase to all eligible MWR patrons (Active Duty, Reservists, Dependents, Retirees and DOD employees) with proper ID. Limit two tickets per Military ID card.

**MWR**  
**Tree Lighting & Holiday Gift Village**  
 Friday, December 7  
 6 – 8:30 p.m.  
 @ the Youth Activities Center  
 Offering a Snow Play Area,  
 Warm Cookies & Milk,  
 Children's Games,  
 Free Prizes & Vendors.  
 Call 228-871-4010 for details,  
 or ask us on Facebook. Scan here  
 or search NCBC MWR.

Guest Starring  
 Santa Clause

Parking passes are \$40 for inside the Superdome Parking Garage and are available on a first come first serve basis. (No refunds or exchanges. Ticket prices are subject to change without warning. ITT is not responsible for lost, stolen or laundered tickets and will not replace them. Due to government agency discounts, resale is prohibited and not authorized.)

### Liberty Center:

Hop on the Liberty shuttle with your pals and let us take you to the 27th Annual Christmas on the Water Boat Parade! The shuttle is FREE and departs the Liberty Center Saturday at 4 p.m.

Get out of town and visit the U.S.S. Alabama with the Liberty Center. The FREE shuttle departs Sunday at 9 a.m. Tour admission is FREE with a military ID.

### Outdoor Recreation:

Do you have holiday parties scheduled this season? Outdoor Recreation offers all kind of equipment for gatherings from grills and cookers to children's bounce houses at very affordable prices.

Calling all fishermen! Navy Outdoor Recreation presents the Fishing Rodeo at Seabee lake, Dec. 22. To sign up or for more details, call ODR.

*FREE Batting Cage:* No more to-

kens needed. Stop by and take a swing! Rent bats and helmets at no charge from Outdoor Recreation during business hours.

### Food & Beverage

Monday Night Football: Grab a buddy and head to the "BeeHive" on Monday to catch all the action.

The Grill: Open Monday -Friday 6:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Stop and check out The Grill's new menu, full of mouth-watering breakfast and lunch options. Call ahead for take-out - avoid the wait.

Anchors and Eagles: Open Tuesday - Thursday, 2 - 9 p.m.

### Youth Activities

Want to surprise family and friends with gifts this holiday season? Then catch a ride with the Youth Activities Center to Edgewater Mall. The trip is open to ages 12 and older.

Seats are limited so sign up now – only \$4. Go this Saturday from 4 – 10 p.m. Money is needed for shopping and food court purchases.

It's time for the Family Feud Night at the YAC, Wednesday from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Come out and enjoy the fun for FREE.

Need a little time away from the ladies, fellas? Well, get to the YAC for Boys Only Night and enjoy some FREE flag football and other outdoor games; Thursday, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### For more information about MWR programs and opportunities, contact:

Anchors & Eagles	228-871-4607
Auto Hobby	228-871-2804
Beehive	228-871-4682
Child Development Center	228-871-2323
Fitness Center	228-871-2668
Information, Tickets & Travel	228-871-2231
Liberty Center	228-871-4684
Seabee Heritage Center	228-871-3619
Navy Outdoor Recreation	228-871-2127
RV Park	228-871-5435
The Grill	228-871-2494
Training Hall	228-871-4750
Youth Activities Center	228-871-2251
Main Office	228-871-2538

## NCBC Helping Hands volunteer opportunities

### WEST HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL

WHHS needs 12 volunteers to assist with proctoring the Mississippi SATP Tests the Dec. 10 - 14. The school is also looking for six volunteers for Dec. 17. Volunteers should report to West Harrison High School at 10399 County Farm Rd, Gulfport no later than 7:30 a.m., and should be finished around noon. Volunteers may dress in civilian clothes or uniform. If you are interested, please e-mail Julie at JHadley@harrison.k12.ms.us

### LONG BEACH ALTERNATIVE

**SCHOOL SEEKS MENTORS** - Long Beach Alternative School on Old Pass Road in Long Beach is looking for mentors for three high school girls and four high school boys. Mentor duties will include providing direction on assignments, increasing personal ac-

countability and other life skills.

Please call Michelle Harrison at 228-865-1956 for more information or to volunteer.

### WOOLMARKET ELEMENTARY

**SCHOOL SEEKS MENTORS** - Woolmarket Elementary School on John Lee Road in Biloxi is looking for mentors for their male students as they prepare for middle school. Please contact Shirley Hardman at 228-392-5640 for more information or to volunteer.

### COAST SALVATION ARMY NEEDS

**VOLUNTEERS** - Volunteers are need for various projects throughout the year. Contact Shawna Tatge for info, Shawna\_Tatge@uss.salvationarmy.org

### DRIFTWOOD NURSING HOME

- Want to make a difference in the life of the elderly then volunteer this fall with Driftwood Nursing Home located



right outside the Broad avenue gate. The contact for this volunteer opportunity is Christina at 228-243-3421.

**VOLUNTEER WITH USO** - Volunteering is both fun and rewarding. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please visit <http://www.usovolunteer.org/>. Volunteers are needed at both USO locations - (NMPS 2nd Floor, NCBC and Gulfport Biloxi International Airport.)

## CAN DO Christmas

### CAN DO Silent Baked Good Auction . . .

The CAN DO Christmas Charity is holding a Silent Baked Goods Auction throughout the day, Dec. 13. Anyone who is interested in supporting the charity can stop by CCCT/building 260A and submit a written bid, complete with contact information, on a baked item of interest. The bidder can stop by throughout the day to check on their bid and add to their bid if they have been outbid by someone else. All bids begin at \$5.



Donations of baked goods for the auction are needed. Cakes, cookie, cup cakes, brownies and pies would be most welcomed. Anyone interested in donating a baked good is asked to contact one of the CAN DO coordinators listed below by Dec. 10 and bring the item to CCCT/building 260A the morning of the Silent Auction (Dec. 13.) Monetary donations would also be welcomed.

**CAN DO coordinators: UT1 Deangelo, 757-513-8001, UT1 Rygh, 228-547-7240, CE1 Troup, 571-331-0043**

## 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.**

## NCBC Angel Tree

The NCBC Angel Tree program is an opportunity to help children of military members in need that may not otherwise receive a Christmas gift. Children of active duty and Reserve military members E-5 and below are eligible for the program. Deadline for signing up a child is Dec. 12. at the Seabee Memorial Chapel. To choose a child to help, select an angel from the tree at the Navy Exchange near the Customer Service Desk, purchase appropriate gifts and return the gifts to the NEX Customer Service Desk or drop them off at the Chapel by Dec. 15. For more information contact the Chapel, 228-871-2454.



## Chapel Offerings

### Looking for a church?

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

### Seabee Pantry

The Seabee Pantry needs restocking. During the holidays, the need for food donations is at its highest level. Please donate as many canned goods and other nonperishables as possible. Donation drop-off sites are located at the Navy Exchange, Chapel, Commissary, Fleet and Family Support Center and Armed Forces Retirement Home. The Seabee Pantry is for anyone affiliated with NCBC.

### Praise and Worship

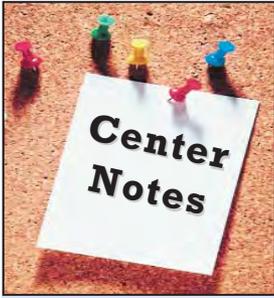
The Seabee Memorial Chapel is looking for new members for the Praise and Worship Team for the Divine Worship Service at 11 a.m. Sundays. If you can sing or play an instrument, you are invited to come share your gift.

**Women's Bible Study** Women's Fall Bible Study is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at the Seabee Memorial Chapel. The Fall Bible Study is conducting a six-week study by Jennifer Rothchild - Missing Pieces." Free child care is available.

### Angel Tree Program

Sign up sheets are now available at the chapel for the annual Angel Tree Program for children. Deadline for sign up is Dec. 12.

**For more information**, contact the Chapel at 228-871-2454.



**SUPPORT**

**Family Readiness Groups**

**NMCB 1 FRG** invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first 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 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 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 [nmcb74fsg@yahoo.com](mailto:nmcb74fsg@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](mailto: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, email [goscgulfport@yahoo.com](mailto:goscgulfport@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 and 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**

**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](mailto: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 mem-

bers. 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](mailto:matthew.t.wasson@navy.mil) or President LS2 Earl Simpson at [earl.simpson@navy.mil](mailto: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://nmcb62alumni.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](mailto:elevenoaks58@cableone.net) or log onto [www.nsva.org](http://www.nsva.org) for information.

**D.A.V. - Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 5** invites Veterans and future Veterans to monthly meetings held the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Call Service Officer, Silva Royer at 228-324-1888 to find out more about our organization and all that is offered to members.

**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.seabeeuseumstore.org/-/shop/index.php](http://www.seabeeuseumstore.org/-/shop/index.php) or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for information on all that is available for customers.

From **NMCB 11** page 5 but under these unusual circumstances of going from an air movement to a ground movement at the 11th hour we felt the need to assist in any way we could. We pride ourselves in customer service and work very well under pressure to meet short fused time lines such as sending Seabees forward to provide disaster relief efforts to the East coast," added Noggle.

In addition, NMCB 11's Alfa Company, partnering with the 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG), R43 Equipment Management Department, led the way with equipment preparation, joint inspection and operational testing of all heavy equipment needed for the mission.

Working 24-hour operations, they were able to safely work with

the embarkation team and allow Air Det personnel the much needed time to prepare personal gear and get affairs in order before deploying.

"The entire mount out process was an unbelievable collaboration of teamwork and dedication on multiple fronts. Alfa Company being the equipment specialists, supply department personnel, Table of Allowance managers, Embarkation professionals, Intelligence Specialists and supporting staff personnel all made this process a resounding success," explained Lt. Edward Fosson, the Air Det officer in charge.

On Oct. 31, just 39 hours after initial notification the first chalk of vehicles and equipment left Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport. Three other groups of personnel and equip-

ment followed over a 24-hour period.

Fosson expressed the battalion's gratitude for the cooperative efforts that helped them achieve the successful haul from Gulfport to the affected areas.

"The assistance we were provided with from Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, Dobbins ARB in Georgia, Fort Gordon, Georgia, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Fort Lee, Virginia, Andrews AFB in Maryland, and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst here in New Jersey has been absolutely phenomenal."

NMCB 11 returned home to Gulfport in September following a successful eight-month deployment to Afghanistan. The battalion continues training and exercises in preparation for its next deployment less than a year from now.

**PORTRAITS OF LOVE**

Take advantage of a FREE portrait session sitting and FREE portrait done by world renowned photographers to send your loved one whether they are currently serving overseas or have returned home. In addition to your free family photo, you will also receive your sitting photos via e-mail from the photographers. The goal of Portraits of Love is to provide military families with portraits to have and share with those serving both near and far. Portraits of Love will be available Dec. 8 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Dec. 9 from 10



a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn Gulfport located at 14108 Airport Road, Gulfport, MS 39503. Sittings will be done in 10 minute increments with a 5 minute transition period between families. To schedule a sitting please e-mail the [usogulfcoast@uso.org](mailto:usogulfcoast@uso.org) or call the USO Gulf Coast office at 228-248-0533. \*\*Families must be Active Duty, Guard, or Reservist.

**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](mailto:CNRSE_HOTLINE@navy.mil).

. . . Follow Seabee Center on Facebook and Twitter . . .