

SEABEE COURIER

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Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

March 14, 2013

SEABEE FAMILY DAY 2013

U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN
CONSTRUCTIONMAN LUCINDA MOISE/RELEASED



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Recently at the Courthouse

From Navy Region Southeast Public Affairs

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

At a General Court-Martial convened on board Naval Air Station Jacksonville, a Marine corporal was acquitted of engaging in sexual contact with an incapacitated person and committing indecent conduct.

At a General Court-Martial convened on board Joint Base Charleston, S.C., a lieutenant junior grade was found guilty of failing to obey a lawful general order, making a false official statement, and conduct unbecoming of an officer and gentleman. The military judge sentenced the Accused to 60 days confinement and to be

dismissed from the naval service.

At a General Court-Martial convened on board Naval Station Mayport, a first class petty officer was found guilty of wrongfully sexual contact, indecent exposure, wrongfully requesting to engage in sexual activities, and false official statement. The court-martial sentenced the Accused to 10 months confinement, reduction in rate to E-1, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a Special Court-Martial convened on board Joint Base Charleston, S.C., a first class petty officer was found guilty of unauthorized absence. The military judge sentenced the Accused to 60 days confine-

ment and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

At a General Court-Martial convened on board Naval Air Station Pensacola, an ensign was found guilty of rape. The court-martial sentenced the Accused to four years confinement and to be dismissed from the naval service.

Courts-martial in Navy Region Southeast are tried with few exceptions at NAS Jacksonville, NAS 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. Adjudged sentences may be modified by pre-trial agreement or clemency.

In Memory of



Russel Loren Edwards III, 30, passed away on Saturday, March 9, after a stoic and courageous battle with cancer. He proudly served his country in the United States Navy for 12 years.

Petty Officer Edwards' family includes his wife, Roxanne and five children. Visitation and a wake were held March 12 at Clayton Funeral Home, 5520 W. Broadway, Pearland, Texas 77581. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.claytonfuneralhomes.com.

A memorial service is scheduled to be held March 14 at 2 p.m., at the Seabee Memorial Chapel on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC).

Communicating In Your Child's Love Language Workshop
Open to all parents and expecting parents...
April the 11th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Base Chapel

Come & strengthen your relationship with your child by learning how to communicate in your child's "love language"...and for the children, there will be:

- *FREE childcare for ages 6 and under
- * an Interactive FOCUS Workshop for ages 7 to 12
- FREE dinner for participants!

To sign-up, please contact CDR Goldberg at 871-4906 or Bet Ramsey of FOCUS at 822-5736.

WE BUILD ★ WE FIGHT

SEABEE

Online
United States Navy

OFFICIAL ONLINE MAGAZINE OF THE SEABEES SEABEEMAGAZINE.NAVYLIVE.DODLIVE.MIL

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

Buzz on the Street

By CECN(SCW) Lucinda Moise
NCBC Public Affairs

"What was your favorite part of Seabee Day?"



"The prizes. I won a superman and other prizes too."

Matt Forrest
Hometown: Gulfport, Miss.



"The motorcycle ride."

Jayla Agee
Hometown: Gulfport, Miss.



"The humvees."

Matt Goodrich
NCTC
Hometown: Foxboro, Mass.

Around the



Center

Students from Gautier High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) were on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport for a base tour, March 8. During the tour the NJROTC students had the opportunity to use the rifle, convoy, excavator and welding simulators of Naval Construction Group (NCG) 2 and Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Gulfport, have lunch at the Colmer Dining Facility and learn about how Navy Seabees work and train. (U.S. Navy photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)



Construction Electrician 3rd Class Jared Townsend, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, Detachment Gulfport, receives a donation of Girl Scout cookies from Girl Scout Brownie Troop 5511 of Long Beach, Miss., at the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) on board NCBC, March 6. This is the third consecutive year that the troop has donated cookies to a deployed Seabee battalion. (U.S. Navy photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

Kirk Kelly, Moral Welfare and Recreation (MWR), liberty program manager, explains the Military Saves 2013 Poker Run to Seabees and Sailors attached to NCBC as the Poker Run kicks off at the Liberty Center, March 5. The Poker Run is in conjunction with Military Saves Week and includes five deal stops and two optional draw stops, all on board NCBC Gulfport. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)



NCBC Gulfport welcomes CMDDCM Thomas

By MCC(SCW/SW/AW)

Ryan G. Wilber

NCBC Public Affairs

If you have not already met him, you will find a new face sitting behind the command master chief's (CMC) desk at Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport. Command Master Chief (SCW/FMF) Mark Thomas checked on board in February, relieving Command Master Chief (retired) Wade C. Howk.

Thomas comes to NCBC Gulfport after serving his first tour as a CMC with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1. As the senior enlisted leader and advisor to the commanding officer, Thomas said the assignment is a long-term goal realized.

The father of two is no stranger to Gulfport. Besides his first tour at Public Works and a recruiting assignment in Pittsburgh, Pa., Thomas has served the majority of his 27 years stationed on board NCBC Gulfport as an equipment operator.

Thomas said he has learned a lot about the base services and tenants in the short time he has been on board, and plans to pass that information to operational leaders serving on base.

"My goal now is to learn as much I can about all the facilities, and opportunities and services that we provide on

the base, and to promote them through that operational Seabee chain," said Thomas. "It will benefit first and foremost our Sailors and their families, our services and providers and the base. Overall, I think it's going to be stronger and we will be able to do more things together."

The limited duty program is another area that has quickly captured Thomas' attention, citing the health of the individual and the health of the force as his goals for it.

"If they [limited duty personnel] are over here, there is nothing wrong with that. I want them over here. I want them to get healthy, and get better and get back out to the force, so the force is strong and we have all the right people in the right places, so we can complete the mission. In the meantime, while they are here they still need to be actively involved, they need to be employed, they need to feel like they have a purpose and that they have a sense of accomplishment everyday when they come to work," said Thomas.

Thomas said he wants his legacy as NCBC CMC to be a positive one, resulting from his approach to the job and good he does for the assigned personnel.

"I want to be known as the Command Master Chief that



Command Master Chief Mark Thomas works from his office in building 1 on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport. Thomas checked on board as Command Master Chief in February, relieving retired Command Master Chief Wade C. Howk. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

anybody feels they can come to and get help and guidance. I don't want to be just the guy that was up there and never got out and saw anybody. I want to get out, I want to know people and know what they do and help in any way I can," said Thomas.

Pride in your daily work, ownership in your area and staying current to remain relevant are the phrases Thomas uses to encourage success.

"Take pride and ownership in your area of expertise, whatever that might be, to make it the best it can be every day of

the year, and know that we will give you the backing and the support you need to help you be successful. Never stop trying to be the best that you can be, and stay current on Navy and base policies or you cannot be relevant to the success of the mission."

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Furloughs can begin April 26, DOD Comptroller says

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, March 11, 2013 – Unless Congress acts to end sequestration, furloughs for Defense Department civilian employees can begin April 26, the department's comptroller said here today.

Robert F. Hale discussed the furlough planning process with a Pentagon audience. The comptroller also took questions sent in via Facebook and Twitter.

DOD is the only agency in the U.S. government that has to notify Congress when it wants to impose furloughs. Officials did that Feb. 20. "There is a 45-day waiting period after we submit that notification before furloughs can start," Hale said.

The department asked commands to identify civilians who would be excepted from furloughs. That information is back in the Pentagon, Hale said, and officials are reviewing the recommendations.

Their goal is to complete that review by March 15, he added.

After notifying Congress, the department began legally required bargaining with unions. About a dozen unions have national consultation rights, Hale said, and local commanders are in the process of notifying several local unions. "The unions, in this case, don't have the right to bargain not to do the furloughs, he said. "They do have the right to bargain how they are implemented."

If Congress does not act on

sequestration, later this month the department will send letters to the excepted employees and propose furloughs for the rest, Hale said. There is a seven-day period for people to reply to their letters, followed by a 30-day waiting period.

"At the end of that period, we can send decisions of furloughs, and those furloughs can start," he said.

When the formal notice is sent, civilian employees have the right to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

"We've never done this," Hale said, "and I hope we never do. ... It's not quite clear what this appeal right will be, but the appeal right is there."

If Congress does not act, civilian employees will be furloughed without pay for 22 days -- one day a week through the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year. For affected civilian employees, this amounts to a 20 percent cut in pay from the beginning of furloughs through the end of the fiscal year.

Team NCBC wins Can Do challenge



Captain Rick Burgess, left, commanding officer Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC), accepts a plaque declaring Team NCBC, the winners of the Can Do™ Weight Loss Challenge over Team Keesler Air Force Base from Jim Jinske, Keesler Fitness Center director at Seabee Family Day, March 9. The Weight Loss Challenge kicked off Jan. 14 with 102 participants but ended after six weeks with 32 participants. Women's individual challenge winner Tawana Troup, second from right, is an ITT Recreation Aid. Men's individual challenge winner Danny Brody, (not pictured), is an Information Technology Specialist with NCBC. Team Can Do lost a total of 7.9 percent of body weight, while Team Keesler lost a total of 3 percent. Also pictured are Joan Hudson, CBC fitness director, Donna Flynn, Keesler fitness instructor; Dorothy Coleman, Information Technology employee and civilian competition representative; and Linda Peterson, NCBC Security employee. Throughout the Challenge Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) offered a lunchtime group workout class and managed weekly weigh-ins. This was the first Can Do challenge between the bases and planning is already underway for next year. The CBC Fitness Center has two goals for next year - to increase participation and to ensure NCBC retains the "biggest loser" title. (U.S. Navy photo courtesy of MWR/Released)

NCBC FRAMES

**Logistics Specialist 2nd Class
(FMF/SW/AW) Adan Manjarrez**
NCBC Gulfport
Laundry Petty Officer and Warehouse
Manager for Unaccompanied Housing

**By MCC(SCW/SW/AW)
Ryan G. Wilber**
NCBC Public Affairs

FF: What single experience during your career stands out the most and why?
LS2: An experience that stands out the most in my career is being able to serve and work alongside the Marines. As an LS there are many places that we can go to, but being with them is different because you get to be with a group of guys that carry on the tradition of being the

best at what they do.

FF: What has been your biggest motivation throughout your career?
LS2: My wife and kids, they're the reason I come to work every day.

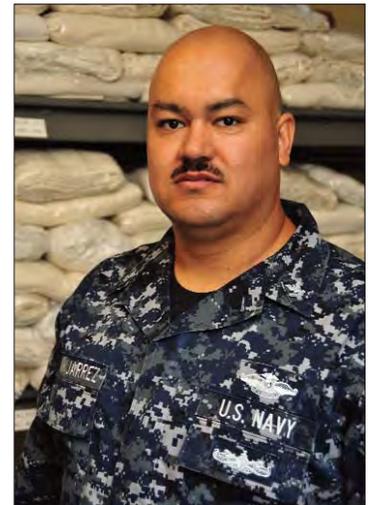
FF: What advice would you give to future Sailors?
LS2: Think about the choices you

FREEZE FRAME



make now because they will affect you the rest of your life.

FF: What is your favorite thing about working with the Seabees?
LS2: I don't know a whole lot about the Seabees, I've been on ships most of my career, but being here for only 4 1/2 months has been a great experience by working with some of the



guys at different volunteer places, and just dealing with them on a day to day basis.

FF: Who was your most influential mentor during your career, and why?
LS2: HMCS(FMF/SCW) Flowers because he's always been there to give me advice no matter what the problem is.

NAVFAC, Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps celebrate unique military heritage

From Naval Facilities Engineering Command Public Affairs

More than 500 people assembled in Crystal City, Va., March 9 for the annual celebration of the anniversaries of the Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps (CEC), and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC).

NAVFAC Commander and Chief of Civil Engineers Rear Adm. Kate Gregory hosted the special occasion to honor these organizations' past, present and future.

"As we celebrate our storied past and many accomplishments, let us always remember to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and those wounded in service of our country. I am truly blessed to serve with each one of you. May god bless you and your families, the United States Navy, and our nation," Gregory said.

This year's ball marks the 71st anniversary of the Seabees, the 146th anniversary of the Civil Engineer Corps, and the 171st anniversary of NAVFAC, which was established in 1842 as the Bureau of Navy Yards and Docks.

Joan Bennett, widow of Seabee Medal of Honor recipient Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Marvin Shields, was the guest of honor and keynote speaker at the event. Shields was the first and only Seabee to receive the Medal of Honor. He was also the first Sailor to receive the Medal of Honor for action in Vietnam. She spoke of his accomplishments.

"Seabees believe he exemplified the ideals of a construction man and a fighting man by making the ultimate sacrifice to save his team members," Bennett said. "Marvin would have been embarrassed and humbled (to receive the Medal of Honor), and would



Naval Facilities Engineering Command Commander and Chief of Civil Engineers Rear Admiral Kate Gregory and retired Rear Adm Benjamin Montoya present Builder 1st Class (SCW) Nicholas Mileham, Naval Mobile Construction Command (NMCB) 11, the 2012 Steelworker 2nd Class Robert D. Stethem award for his outstanding achievements during the year. The Stethem award recognizes outstanding individual moral courage in support of Seabee traditions while conducting actual operations. U.S. Navy photo by MC1(SW/AW) Chris Thien/Released)

have been the first to say that so many people did heroic things that day."

During the anniversary celebration, two Seabees were recognized for their outstanding achievements.

The Steelworker 2nd Class Robert D. Stethem Award, recognizing outstanding individual moral courage in support of Seabee traditions while conducting actual operations, went to Builder 1st Class (SCW) Nicholas Mileham of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11.

The Rear Adm. Lewis B. Combs award, named for the Assistant to the Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks under Adm. Ben Moreell during World War II, and is presented to the individual who has made the most outstanding contribution in perpetuating the legacy of Seabee, CEC, and NAVFAC accomplishments and traditions, went to Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Vollmer of the 30th Naval Construction Regiment.

Also during the event, the Peggy B. Craig Lifetime Service Award was presented to 11 NAVFAC and Naval Construction Force employees, who were recognized for 20 or more years of "selfless and dedicated" service to NAVFAC, the 1st Naval Construction Division, the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering, or any subordinate unit.

This year's winners were: James Aitken, NAVFAC Public Works Dept. Millington, Tenn.; Louis DiFilippo, NAVFAC Headquarters; Patricia Hankins, NAVFAC Atlantic; Ernesto Hinojosa, NAVFAC Southwest; Mary Ellen Kuhn, NAVFAC Atlantic; Ronald Matsuo, NAVFAC Far East; Arthur Mosley, NAVFAC Public Works Dept. Jacksonville, Fla.; Carolyn Richard, 1st Naval Construction Division; Ernest Richardson, NAVFAC Public Works Dept. Washington, D.C.; Raymond Taylor, NAVFAC Public Works Dept. Silverdale, Wash.; Robert Whitehorne, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic.



VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.- Sailors assigned to Amphibious Construction Battalion (PHIBCB) 2, march in column formation during a five-mile march at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jonathan Pankau/Released)

PHIBCB 2 marches on Seabee Birthday

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SCW/SW/AW) Jonathan Pankau

Amphibious Construction Battalion TWO Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (NNS) -- After unveiling the freshly painted "Can Do Dozer" and cutting the Seabee birthday cake, Amphibious Construction Battalion (PHIBCB) 2 stepped off for a five-mile march on Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story (JEBLC/FS), March 5.

Rear Adm. Ben Moreell stood up the first Naval Construction Battalions Jan. 5, 1942, but they were not officially named Seabees until their observed birthday, March 5.

PHIBCB 2 celebrated the Seabee's 71st birthday by marching five miles and camping on JEBLC/FS' Anzio Beach.

"This is a spectacular event for the Seabee birthday because it builds confidence in the ability to push farther than you think you can," said PHIBCB 2's commanding officer, Capt. Joseph A. Campbell.

Campbell said that Seabees are expected to meet these conditions for any given operation, marching with 45 to 60 pounds on their backs and in adverse weather conditions.

"The temperature was below 30 with 20-25 mph winds and two inches of rain at the campsite," said Campbell. "The PHIBCB 2 Seabees still executed with excellence."

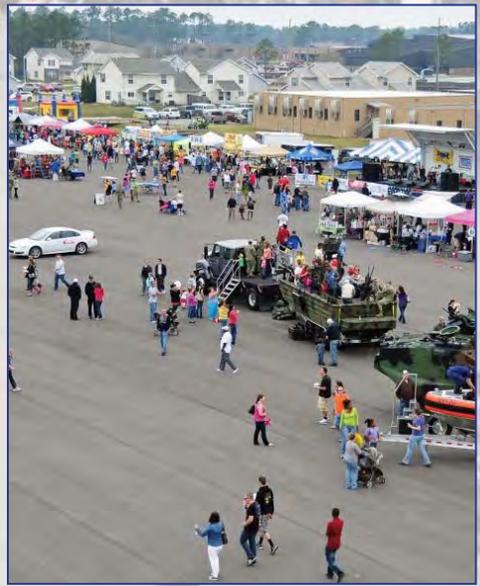
"Physical and mental readiness are important factors to consider before any operation," said PHIBCB 2 Operations Leading Chief Petty Officer Senior Chief Builder (SCW/EXW) Jonathan Ring. "A Seabee's body needs to be accustomed to walking long distances and supporting all of their essential gear and, after completing the exercise, each Seabee's confidence level is increased."

Ring said that knowing all of the gear needed to complete any mission is in working order is a big confidence boost. He added that nothing lowers morale quicker than showing up for a cold weather evolution without the entire cold weather sleeping bag system or without a rain fly in a monsoon.

"It was good exercise," said Personnel Specialist Seaman Andrew Gansauer. "The weather was really bad, but I feel like after that the field exercise will be easy; and I got a new pair of boots."

Seabee Family Day 2013

Seabee Family Day was a free day of fun for kids of all ages. The day featured military Convoy Security Element exercises and military displays, dozens of games and carnival rides for kids. The annual hot wing eating contest was held, with Carey Parker once again taking First Place honors after consuming 44 wings in 10 minutes. On the other end of the nutrition scale, "Team Seabee" was victorious over "Team Keesler Air Force Base" in the Can Do Weight Loss Challenge. Entertainment was provided by the Myles Sharp Band and more than 80 vendors offered crafts, food and beverage for the estimated 8,000 people in attendance.



'The Meat & Potatoes of Life'

By Lisa Smith Molinari
Military Spouse Contributor

Kiss me, I'm Irish today



St. Patrick's Day is one of those ambiguous special occasions that can be quite confusing for non-Irish adults like me.

As a kid, the purpose of St. Patrick's Day seemed clear to me: wear something green to school and get my mom to take me to McDonalds for one of my all time favorite treats – The Shamrock Shake. Mildly green, with a hint of mint, I savored that delectable annual delight and looked forward to this little tradition every year.

As a college student, having Irish heritage was still pretty much irrelevant. No one I knew was interested in getting in touch with their roots. To the contrary, St. Patrick's Day was nothing but an excuse to drink green beer at the local bars until we made complete idiots out of ourselves.

But when I turned into a middle-aged adult, St. Patrick's Day's relevance in my life became muddled. My taste buds had lost their longing for fast food shakes, and it was inappropriate for a 46 year old mother of three to be drinking pitchers of green beer at the bars, so I had a hard time figuring out what I should do.

It's easier for people with Irish blood. Even if your only connection is that your great uncle thrice removed was one-seventh Irish. Even if the closest thing you ever had to Irish culture was a bowl of Lucky Charms. Even if you were born and raised on a chili pepper farm outside of Albuquerque. As long as you are technically Irish, you have clear rights and privileges on St. Patrick's Day.

You pseudo-Irish Americans have carte blanche to suddenly speak with

the rolling "Rs" and over-enunciated "Ts" of Irish brogue. You're permitted to utter phrases like "Top O' the mornin' t'ya!" and "She's a fine young lassie!" You can unattractively fist pump to U2's "Sunday Bloody Sunday" even though all you know is the chorus. Without the slightest bit of credibility, you can suddenly develop a hankering for the blandest Irish Soda Bread, and Crockpots full of fatty corned beef and mushy cooked cabbage.

On the other hand, we non-Irish, despite our identical American upbringing, are not afforded the same indulgences and liberties as our pseudo-Irish friends. We must stand back, dazed and confused, repeatedly listening to that insensitive saying about the only two kinds of people in the world – "the Irish and those who wish they were."

The only way for the non-Irish to avoid this annual humiliation is to concede defeat, no matter how unjust it seems. And don't try to reason with them because it simply won't work. I once drew a comparison between my Welsh heritage, with its Celtic language and similar way of life, to the Irish culture. My analogy was met with indignant outrage, "Who cares? You're not Irish!"

I have learned that, in order for we non-Irish to enjoy St. Patrick's Day, we need to tell a little white lie – or green as it were – and exclaim that we wish we were Irish too. Like amnesty for illegal aliens, simple surrender will authorize us to wear tacky green beads and silly plastic hats, to guzzle Guinness and slop stew, to adorn ourselves with buttons that obnoxiously demand "Kiss me, I'm Irish!" and to shamelessly dangle shamrocks from our ears and rear view mirrors.

In other words, when dealing with the "fighting Irish" on St. Patty's Day, it's always best to roll with the punches.

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

NCBC Recycling on hand for Seabee Family Day 2013



NCBC Recycling Center was represented at Seabee Family Day, March 9. Visitors were offered a variety of earth-friendly products including backpacks, magnets, Frisbees, coloring books and shopping bags. Guests were also invited to enter contests guessing the weight of recycled materials. The Recycling Center is located in buildings 275/276 behind building 200 off of McKinney. Hours of operations are Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Questions on recycling can be answered by calling 228-871-4031, 228-871-3336 or 228-323-3001. (U.S. Navy photos/Released)

Household Hazardous Waste collection site for Harrison County



Every day Harrison County residents unknowingly threaten our environment by throwing out household hazardous waste along with their regular trash or by pouring hazardous waste down their sinks, storm drains or sewers. This improper disposal can destroy our environment by polluting our air, water and soil. To provide residents with a safe and sanitary alternative, the Harrison County Household Hazardous Waste Collection is available.

Open the second Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. until noon at 10076 Lorraine Road next

to the Sheriff Department, this collection site is free to the public and accepts the following:
~ Latex or oil based paint, ~ Used cooking or automobile oil, ~ Antifreeze, ~ Household, marine and car batteries, ~ White goods such as freezers and refrigerators, ~ Fluorescent light bulbs, ~ Tires, ~ E-waste (electronics) such as computers, cell phones, telephones, televisions
If you have questions about whether an item can be accepted, please call 228-214-1405. Items are ONLY accepted during the hours of operation or by special appointment.

The PWD Gulfport Trouble Desk is Moving to the Regional Call Center

Move Date: April 1

Regional Call Center Phone Number: 1-855-462-8322

~ Call Center Operational 24/7

~ All Routine and Emergency Service Calls will be called into the RCC
~ Only Building Managers & Authorized Callers can place Routine Service Calls
(Anyone can call in an Emergency)

Transition brief and training will be March 20, 11 a.m. - noon, in the Training Hall (building 446). All details on the transition, with Q&A will be available. All Building Managers and authorized callers are encouraged to attend!

Questions? Contact PWD Requirements or your Facility Management Specialists (FMS): PWD Gulfport, 228-871-4270/4288; Alan Walker, 228-822-5129; Rick Ricker, 228-871-3983; Stephen Murray 228-871-2192

Focus on Education

Sequestration pinch includes Tuition Assistance suspension

By Amaani Lyle

American Forces Press Service

Though budget woes led the Army, Marine Corps and Air Force to suspend their tuition assistance programs and the Navy continues to consider its options, the program is important to the Defense Department and to service members, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said March 12.

"The program enables the professional and personal development of our service members and facilitates their transition to the civilian workforce," Little said at a Pentagon news conference.

The press secretary placed the blame on a "sequestration" mechanism in budget law that kicked in March 1, triggering across-the-board spending cuts that Pentagon officials repeatedly had warned would harm the nation's military readiness.

"Let me be clear: we're here because of sequestration," he said. "If sequestration were averted, we may be facing a different set of choices on these and other programs."

Last week, Little said, the Defense Department's comptroller issued guidance suggesting the services consider significant reductions in funding tuition assistance applicants, effective immediately, for the duration of the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30.

"We're in a period of terrible budget uncertainty," Little said. "This department ... is making multiple decisions that aren't exactly to our liking, but we are having to swallow bitter pills not because we want to pop them, but because we're forced to make some very tough decisions."

Such decisions, Little explained, are the "unfortunate outcomes" of budgetary uncertainty and the need to ensure the availability of necessary resources to respond to crises around the world.

"We're ... walking soberly into the sequester period," Little said, before relating Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's direction on the matter.

"His very clear instructions have been for us to, in a very calm, cool and collected manner, deal with the hand we've been dealt, and it's an unfortunate hand," Little said.

Little maintained that DOD officials have been transparent, both within the department and with the American people, about sequestration's consequences.

"We've been very clear about impacts to readiness, [and the] services are making decisions on a broad range of programs," Little said. "It should come as no surprise to anyone that these kinds of decisions are coming down the pike."

Gautier High School NJROTC tours NCTC



Students from Gautier High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) were on board NCBC Gulfport for a base tour, March 8. One of the stops on their tour was Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Gulfport. The NJROTC program was established by Public Law in 1964 and may be found in Title 10, U.S. Code, Chapter 102. The program is conducted at accredited secondary schools throughout the nation, by instructors who are retired Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel. The NJROTC curriculum emphasizes citizenship and leadership development, as well as our maritime heritage, the significance of sea power, and naval topics such as the fundamentals of naval operations, seamanship, navigation and meteorology. (U.S. Navy photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

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

Commissaries proclaimed fruits, veggies champions

By Jessica Newby

The Defense Commissary Agency has been chosen by the Produce for Better Health Foundation as one of their retail fruits and veggies champions for 2012.

Every year, Produce for Better Health names the top retailers that supported their "Fruits & Veggies - More Matters" national campaign. In 2012, DeCA was among 15 retailers chosen as leaders in the produce world.

"We take our military's health very seriously, and supporting this campaign to eat more fruits and vegetables is a great way to get

our patrons interested," said Joseph H. Jeu, DeCA director and CEO. "It also speaks to the commissary's commitment to provide healthful options for military families."

The Produce for Better Health Foundation measured the agency against criteria such as how DeCA promoted national "Fruits & Veggies - More Matters" Month and supported the campaign through its website, in print and through online circulars. All retailers were evaluated against the same criteria.

"We help our customers realize



the importance of fruits and vegetables in their daily diet," said Bridget Bennett, DeCA's produce category manager. "Our produce teams are always supporting healthful options for snacks, meal solutions and quick convenience in our ready to eat selections."

The commissaries have been honored by the foundation before. In 2010 and 2011, the commissaries were designated as role models. This is the first time that it has been chosen as a champion. All 15 retailers will be recognized at a luncheon held during the general session of PBH's annual

conference in San Francisco.

In 2012, Produce Retailer magazine also selected DeCA as its "Retailer of the Year," another nod to the agency's produce excellence.

"We are proud to receive this recognition," said Jeu. "We work hard to make sure our customers have great produce to choose from and this award just proves that we are on the right path."

Stay connected with your commissary by visiting www.facebook.com/YourCommissary, DeCA's Facebook page, where you can post comments and share news and photos.



FREE Movie Program at the Training Hall: Take a load off. Sit back

and watch the big screen all by yourself for some alone time, or make it a family night and bring

Friday, "Killing Them Softly," R, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, "Wreck It Ralph," PG, 11 a.m.; "Rise of the Guardians," PG, 1:15

the whole crew! Stop by the Snack Bar on your way in to get that buttered movie popcorn and those other goodies that help you get lost in the moment. Forget what was playing? No worries - put the movie hotline in your phone, 228-871-3299 and call anytime!

p.m.; "Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part 2," PG13, 4 p.m.
Sunday, "Wreck It Ralph," PG, 2 p.m.; "Lincoln," PG13, 4:30 p.m.

Fitness

CDC Fitness Intramural sports makes working out fun. This season, sign up for softball or three on three lunchtime basketball. Get a group together and motivate each other to push that work out a little further with some healthy competition. Sign up today at the Fitness Center. Call today for details 228-822-5109.

Summer is right around the corner. Are you ready for the beach? The CDC Fitness Center has everything you need to help lose pounds, tone up target areas or just plain feel better. The Center has top of the line cardio and strength training equipment and plenty of it - so you don't have to stand around waiting for machines. There are also racquetball and basketball courts, softball and soccer fields, and a running track. Equipment is available for rental at the front desk. And don't forget to finalize that healthy routine with a relaxing visit to the sauna.

Information, Tickets and Travel

Design your own vacation at

ITT! Stop by now and learn how you can design a trip for a group and let ITT handle the arrangements. There's a world of possibilities and spring is just around the corner. Everyone needs a getaway every now and then!

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 Third Day Free tickets!

Getting ready for a Spring Break Getaway? Get up to 60 percent off lodging rates for military and DOD personnel at more than 450 hotels, resorts, condominium resorts, vacation homes, log cabin rentals and Bed & Breakfast Inns throughout the US. Available at ITT through the Military Ticket Voucher program! Call 228-871-2231 for more information.

Liberty Center

Take on March Madness with the Liberty Center. Stop by Sunday or Monday and fill your

bracket.

Are you a pool shark? If so, sign up today for the Liberty Center Pool Tournament on Thursday. Grab a group and see who's got the best skills. The tournament starts at 6 p.m. and prize goes to the winner!

Navy Outdoor Rec

St. Patrick's Day is around the corner. In celebration, NOR has a deal on anything green! Stop by or call 228-871-2127.

Food and Beverage

The Beehive is now open every day of the week! Watch the game on one of our seven flat screens, play a little pool, and enjoy good times with friends! With an excellent beverage selection, you are sure to find your preference.

Does all that rain make you want to stay in for lunch? Well that's okay because The Grill can bring lunch to you. The Grill offers lunch delivery Monday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call 871-2494 to place your order.

Got a morning meeting scheduled? Why not meet over breakfast at The Grill. The Grill is open as early as 6:30 a.m. and offers a variety of tasty options from French toast plates to breakfast burritos or traditional eggs and bacon. The Grill is located at the corner of Colby and 7th Street.

Anchors & Eagles: Great service and good times are what you can expect at Anchors & Eagles. Open Tuesday-Thursday 2 - 9 p.m. and designated for Chiefs and Officers. Stop by and shake off the day with comrades.

Youth Activities

Want to know where the WILD things are? Take a trip with your best pals through the Youth Activities Center to the Youth and Teen Global Wildlife Center this Saturday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. The trip only costs \$8 and seats are limited so sign up today! Call the YAC for more details.

Become an ALL-STAR! Sign up today for Iddy Biddy T-Ball -

from now until March 29. Children must be age three or older by April 1 to be eligible. The program is open to youth, 3 - 4 years old. A \$35 fee includes uniform, participation award and end of season banquet expenses. Call J.J. Atkinson, Youth Programs Supervisor, 228-871-2251 for details. If you haven't

taken the opportunity to check out the YAC's Before and After School Program Power Hour, then you are missing out. Stop by Monday for 2 - 5:30 p.m. and check out all of the fun.



MWR Program contact information . . .

Anchors & Eagles	228-871-4607
Auto Hobby	228-871-2804
Beehive	228-871-4009
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 -

West Harrison High School is in need of five volunteers to assist in proctoring and monitoring the hallways during the next administration of the Mississippi SATP tests March 19, 20, 21, 22 and 25. Volunteers are asked to report to West Harrison High School, 10399 County Farm Road, Gulfport at 7:15 am each day. Testing will be complete no later than 3 p.m. daily. Please contact Julie Hadley, jhadley@harrison.k12.ms.us if you can support this request.

ART IN THE PASS - Approximately 25 volunteers are needed for Art in the Pass April 5 - 7 at the War Memorial Park. Art in the Pass is a not-for-profit organization; made possible through the hard work and dedication of volunteers. Volunteers are asked to work two

hour shifts. Work includes setting up booths, carrying sound equipment, setting up tables/chairs/displays, park maintenance, handing out program pamphlets, working with food vendors, and selling tickets for water and other beverages. Volunteers are needed April 5 from 11 am - 4:30 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Ernestine Allison, 228-216-5741.

2013 ZOMBIE RUN - Ten volunteers are needed for the 2013 Zombie Run April 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Harrison County Fairgrounds. All proceeds raised during the race will help cover the cost of surgery for 15 children in need of cleft lip and palate repairs. The Zombie Run is new to the coast, but has been held in numerous cities throughout the United

States. Although there is a lot of fun and play throughout the race/obstacle course, the benefits are life changing. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact kirsty_cullumber@navyfederal.org, or stop by the Orange Grove Navy Federal Credit Union branch located in the Crossroads Shopping Plaza to sign up.

SMOKIN' THE SOUND AND SMOKIN' THE LAKE - Smokin' the Sound and Smokin' the Lake, May 4 - 5, are returning to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Race organizers are asking for volunteers to sell and attach wrist bands to event spectators, director spectators to viewing areas and perform other volunteer services. Volunteers will be provided with a meal. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact

Chief Ryan Wilber at ryan.wilber@navy.mil or stop by the NCBC Public Affairs Office, building 1, room 205, no later than March 30 to sign up for a shift.

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 accountability and other life skills. Please call Michelle Harrison, 228-865-1956 if interested.

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 info.

COAST SALVATION ARMY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS - Volunteers are need for various projects throughout the year. Contact Shawna Tatge for info, Shawna_Tatge@uss.salvationarmy.org

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

DRIFTWOOD NURSING HOME - Want to make a difference in the life of the elderly then volunteer with Driftwood Nursing Home located right outside the Broad Avenue gate. Contact Christina to volunteer, 228-243-3421.

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, 10:30 a.m.

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 10:30 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 10:30 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 Bible Study is held Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at the Seabee Memorial Chapel. Free child care is available. For more information on all offerings that are available, contact the chapel at 228-871-2454.

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 involves alcohol.

~ LADD is strictly confidential. NO REPRISAL!

~ LADD 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 town, but if your plans fall through, please call LADD and we will pick you up!

100 percent confidential, zero reprisal!

Call 228-239-9007





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 babysitting 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://nmc11.webs.com>.

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

NMCB 133 FRG invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and babysitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more in-

formation contact FRG President Jaime Royal at 317-730-4064 or email NMCB133fsg@gmail.com. Log on to the FRG site, http://www.wix.com/NMCB133_FSG/133frg.

FOCUS

Families OverComing Under Stress (FOCUS), provides resiliency training to service members and their families by teaching practical skills to help meet the challenges of military life, including how to communicate & solve problems effectively and to successfully set goals together. Confidential and free with family-friendly hours, contact FOCUS today! Call 228- 822-5736 or email Gulfport@focusproject.org

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. We hope to see YOU soon!

Navy Wives Clubs of America, Inc. The Navy Wives Clubs of America, Inc. is interested in reestablishing a club in the local area and will be hosting a meeting for new member, Feb. 16. If you are interested in joining an organization that promotes the health and welfare of any enlisted member of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, please contact Darlene Carpenter at 228-342-2271 or Tina O'Shields, 228-357-0513. Visit www.navywivesclubs-of-america.org for more info on NWCA.

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 details.

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 for details.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association is always looking for new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 2:30 p.m., at the Fitness Center classroom. For more information, contact Association president, CE1 Daniel Shaver, 228-871-2145.

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, 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 info. **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 of the month at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call 228-832-0017 for more info.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. To become a member, go to <http://nmc62alumni.org> or for links to Seabee historical sites. Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport are seeking Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Seabees who left the military after a short period of time. Island X-1 Gulfport meets the first Thursday of each month at Anchors & Eagles at 7 p.m. Contact Joe Scott (secretary) at 228-669-8335 or elevenoaks58@cableone.net or log onto www.nsva.org for information.

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.

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 or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for information on all that is available.

To publicize your organization, send information to seabeecourier@navy.mil

Race Engines, Dirt Bikes, ATV's, Cigarette Boats, Zodiacs

Are you up to the challenge of hard work and repairing unique SOF equipment?

Naval Special Warfare Development Group is seeking active duty Construction Mechanics and all other Seabee rates.

- Motivated/Volunteer
- Pass Navy PFA
- E4 - E6
- No NJP
- No bankruptcy
- Obtain Secret/TOP Secret clearance



Email us at DEVGRURecruiting@vb.socom.mil or contact your detailee to request additional 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:

1. Go to www.NCIS.navy.mil, click on the "Report a Crime" tab and select the icon for "text and Web tip Hotline."
- There is a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to a felony arrest or apprehension.



Cyber security warning regarding Apps

The Thrift Savings Plan posted a notice on its website warning account holders away from an unsanctioned smart phone application. According to TSP, the Apple App Store lists a free iPhone application called TSP Funds that asks TSP participants for their account login information. TSP said that the application is not being offered through TSP, and that TSP does not recommend using the app to access accounts. The app could represent a security risk.

VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance . . .

The VITA office is open to help with your tax preparation. VITA is located in building 60, room 265.



Appointments for self-service tax preparation are being offered Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and appointments for full-service for certain circumstances are being offered Mondays and Thursdays. VITA is open Mondays - Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., and Fridays, 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. For general questions or to make an appointment call 228-822-5131.