

# WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

October 8, 2009

1775 - 2009  
U.S. Navy's 234th Birthday



NAS Bay Club  
Corpus Christi Navy Ball  
October 17, 2009



Hispanic Heritage  
Month

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**ASBP**

Armed Services Blood Program

Blood Drive Oct. 23

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## Media event kicks off MWR Guest Card campaign

Story & photo by Rod Hafemeister

Country Boy Don Williams was holding his cell phone to his ear, trying to do a live broadcast, when he was shot in the head.

Luckily for Williams, it was a paintball that hit the protective mask he was wearing. Still, he was chagrined as he stood, yellow paint dripping off his facemask and his hand.

"They got me," he said.

Williams was one of several local media representatives who toured Naval Air Station Corpus Christi the morning of Oct. 2 as the base officially kicked off its new MWR Guest Card program.

The program allows civilians not affiliated with the military to purchase an annual card and vehicle sticker that allows them access to

a number of popular recreational facilities on base.

The program is both a way to pay back the community and to help keep open recreational facilities that are required to be self-supporting, said NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson.

"We have the excess capacity and we want to open it up to the most supportive community, the community we have here," Pierson said. "Taxpayers paid for it and we would like to go back to where we were in 2001 before 9/11 – where we can invite people back on the base."

The program is run by the NASCC Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) program.

*Guest Card continued on page 8*



KOUL radio personality Country Boy Don Williams calls in a live report after being 'killed' on the Combat City Paintball Course Oct. 2.

## Sizemore takes command as Chief of Naval Air Training Guadagnini leaves 'best one-star job in the Navy'



(l. to r.) Vice Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline Jr., Rear Adm. Mark D. Guadagnini and Rear Adm William G. Sizemore II salute during the National Anthem at the Chief of Naval Air Training change of command Sept. 24. Sizemore relieved Guadagnini, who leaves for a carrier strike group.

Story & photo by Rod Hafemeister

With a simple reading of orders, one Chief of Naval Air Training stepped down and another took his place Sept. 24.

Rear Adm. Mark D. Guadagnini turned over the leadership of all Naval pilot and flight officer training to Rear Adm. William G. Sizemore II in a ceremony that also honored Guadagnini's accomplishments during his two-year tenure.

In his parting speech, Guadagnini said he wanted to express his gratitude to all who helped him along the way – and the people of the command.

"This tour has been all about the people," he said, expressing admiration for his staff.

He also joked about his other "hat" as chief of human resources for the Naval Aviation Enterprise – for which nothing in his career had prepared him, he said.

"My training was to stay in a Holiday Inn Express the night before," he said.

*CNATRA continued on page 11*

## Skipper's Column

by Capt. Randy Pierson



Pierson

Greetings! This edition of the Wingspan, I would like to take a moment to emphasize the improved MWR venues that we have available to us.

Additionally, I would like to convey the importance of using our venues and the critical

nature of your feedback. Your support will ensure our continued operations and success

and give you very enjoyable venues for the years to come.

This past month we opened four new and existing MWR venues (Combat City Paint Ball, Bay Club, Marina and the RV Parks) to not only our base community, but also to the public.

The change in patronage was approved by the Navy with the concurrence of the City of Corpus Christi.

Opening Navy MWR venues to the public is rare and was done to offset MWR revenue losses from the latest BRAC and as well as to demonstrate our appreciation for our very supportive community.

These specific venues must generate revenue to offset their costs or face shut-downs.

## MWR better for all

I cannot over-emphasize how critical it is that we operate these venues to the expectation of you, our customer. With just a modest revenue flow we look forward to continued improvement and expansion.

As we seek to be the best, we are preparing to open a new venue at the former location of the "Game On" (corner of Lexington and D Street).

The Grand Opening will be this month. Restaurant services will be offered all day to include breakfast options, ice cream, and pizza. We will proudly brew Starbucks®, offer beer, wine and free wireless internet.

Please keep us informed on how we are doing. Our MWR Director, Mr. Dave Sullivan (tel 961-2267) is looking forward to your feedback.

## Chaplain's Message

by Fr. John Mc Kenzie, Chaplain

Making decisions is part of daily life. Some decisions have to be made quickly; others can wait.

Some have lasting consequences; others do not. Still, we have to make decisions.

I have seen many people who bitterly regretted having made a hasty decision without giving it sufficient thought.

I remember one friend who quit a job right after having had an argument with his supervisor.

As the bills continued to arrive and he still had no work, he wished that he had not acted so hastily.

In another situation, I remember a mother having regretted her quick decision to make her son get rid of his dog after the neighbors complained about it getting into their yard.

She did not look for a solution that she

and her son could have sought.

At the moment, she was not open to a solution other than her son getting rid of the dog he loved.

Her son gave the dog away and was grief-stricken.

The mother later admitted that she made a terrible mistake.

She wished that she handled the situation differently.

The situations mentioned above had lasting consequences and they are the kinds of situations that happen a lot.

In both cases, those who made these hasty decisions had to live with the consequences.

Dire consequences from hasty decisions can be avoided by thinking ahead.

The Bible counsels us to weigh our decisions. "The shrewd man measures his

## Avoid hasty decisions

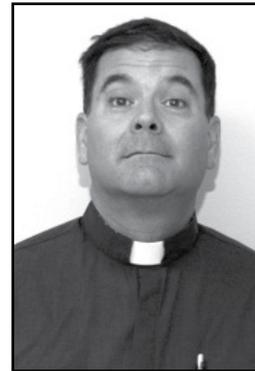
steps" Prv 14:15.

Also, "Give careful thought to your ways" Haggai 1:7.

Yes, there will be times when we have to make decision because of the nature of the situation.

Still, we can avoid regretful consequences by thinking ahead.

While we might not find easy answers, we can find workable solutions. This will do much to help us to have peace in our hearts and minds.



Mc Kenzie

## Editor's Corner More raptors than you can count!

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

I've spent a lot of time outdoors over the years and I've seen a lot of critters.

I've heard monkeys howling in the Panamanian jungle. I've seen elk in the temperate rain forest of the Pacific Northwest.

I've watched sea lions frolic in the California surf and even had one swim right up to me.

But just a few miles from my house in Calallen, I've seen one of the most incredible sights of my life: hundreds of hawks swirling and soaring in a "kettle" – a blur of wings and bodies riding the thermals and other air currents.

One of the things most people discover rather quickly upon arriving in Corpus Christi is that there is an incredible diversity of birds here. In fact, this region is considered one of the best bird watching sites in the country.

But the interest goes up exponentially in late summer and early fall – basically Aug. 15 – Nov. 15 – because of a quirk of raptor personality.

Raptors – eagles, hawks, falcons, vultures and their kin – are designed to soar, riding the thermals of warm air rising. It's a way to conserve energy.

But water doesn't have many thermals, so they tend not to fly over large stretches of it. And like many birds, most raptors migrate in the fall to escape the cold up North.

Check a topographical map, and you'll see that whether they start in Maine or British Columbia, the best overland route South goes through Texas – through Nueces County, to be precise.

Probably the best place to watch is the deck at Hazel Bazemore County Park where HawkWatch members count the raptors.

In one hour recently, we saw a kettle of several hundred hawks, several Peregrine falcons and some merlins and kestrels.

As of Sept. 30, half-way through the season, watchers had counted 301,104 raptors this year!

Watchers say they may see as many as 800,000 or more this season.

That is a LOT of birds!

At least once while you are here, take the kids and go watch the raptors. Pack a lunch, binoculars and a camera with a long lens.

You'll be glad you did.

For more information on birding in the Coastal Bend area and hawk watches specifically, go to <http://cbbirding.com/> and <http://www.hawkwatch.org/home/>.

## Wingspan

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# Preventing domestic abuse and violence top priority in Navy Region SE

Story and photo by Clark Pierce, Editor, JAX AIR NEWS

Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) Rear Adm. Tim Alexander underscored his concern for the emotional and physical well being of Navy families by issuing his Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation Oct. 1 as managers, counselors and educators from Navy Region Southeast Family Readiness Program looked on.

“Domestic abuse and violence awareness is vital to Navy readiness. No one should live in fear of the person they love,” said Alexander. “We have an obligation to be actively involved in prevention efforts so our Navy families can raise children in a safe, nurturing environment.”

Alexander urged people to learn the warning signs and descriptions of domestic abuse and violence.

“First and foremost we’re concerned with protecting our families from the impacts of domestic abuse and violence. We need to convey that as an organization, we care about our people and will not tolerate domestic violence or abuse.

“Domestic abuse is psychological rather than physical and is frequently denied or minimized, even though it can leave deep emotional scars. And all too often, people deny or don’t recognize signs of possible violence in a relationship,” added Alexander.



Commander, Navy Region Southeast Rear Adm. Tim Alexander signs his domestic violence awareness proclamation Oct. 1 as staffers from Navy Region Southeast Family Readiness Program look on. (From left) Erica Milton, Dianne Parker, Jeannette Werby, Kandi Debus, Teresa Merrell, Yolanda Munoz, Jane Williams, Hector Sepulveda and Carol Lucius.

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## Blood drive to collect for the troops overseas — Oct. 23 at NHCCC

Armed Services Blood Program is the DoD blood and plasma collection agency supporting deployed servicemembers.

by Rod Hafemeister

When the Armed Services Blood Program came to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi in June 2008, people rolled up their sleeves and donated 78 units of blood.

That was good, but they haven't been back – the Robertson Blood Center at Fort Hood is just too far away.

That's changing, because ASBP now has a Blood Donor Center on Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

And plans are to make regular visits to NASCC, said Tracy Palmer, blood donor recruiter at the Lackland Center.

"The Armed Services Blood Program is the only agency specifically delivering blood to U.S. military personnel – meaning military people are donating to other military people," she said.

The Lackland BDC's first blood drive in our area is scheduled for Oct. 23, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi.

If successful, Palmer plans to return every two months or so.

The basic requirements for donating include:

- At least 57 days since your last blood donation.
- Weigh at least 116 pounds.
- Be at least 17 years of age.
- Have been feeling well for at least three days.
- Be well hydrated.
- Have eaten something prior to donating.

There also are travel and medical restrictions; a listing can be found on the Lackland Blood Donor Center web site: <http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil/lackland>.

The web site also has information about blood types, donating platelets and tips for athletes who donate blood.

"With operations expanding in Afghanistan, we really need the blood," Palmer said.

"Almost everything we collect goes straight to the Central Command theater – you may be saving the life of a Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine by donating blood."

So, roll up those sleeves and GIVE!



A nurse collects blood from a donor at the June 2008 blood drive, the last time the Armed Services Blood Program came to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Photo by Ensign Nolan Lucas

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# On the move for HM-15

Story and photos by MC1 (AW/SW) Ruben Perez

Helicopter Mine Countermeasure Squadron Fifteen (HM-15) has called NAS Corpus Christi home since 1994.

In 2005 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) recommended the relocation of HM-15 to Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia.

On June 1, the HM-15 Blackhawks began the daunting task of moving personnel and supplies to Norfolk, with the majority of the move scheduled to be completed by Sept. 30.

Nearly 700 sailors and their families have been packing and preparing for this exciting yet difficult transition.

More than 60 Select Reservists are being utilized to help make the transition to Norfolk, Va., and they will remain with the unit by Flex Drill in 2010.

HM-15 provides continued support for "Operation Enduring Freedom" in the Persian Gulf with its Airborne Mine Counter Measure system, using Mark 105, magnetic influences mine sweeping and Mark 104, acoustic mine sweeping devices.

In addition, HM-15 provides extensive homeland security and humanitarian relief capability.

During Hurricane Katrina (New Orleans, LA) and Rita (Louisiana/Texas coast) in 2007, and Hurricane Ike (Galveston, TX) in 2008, HM-15 Sailors and pilots shuttled displaced residents and brought in vital supplies to the devastated areas.

HM-15 also provided global support and disaster relief in Central America in 2007 and in South-East Asia in 2004 following the Christmas Eve earthquake and tsunami.

HM-15's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Richard B. Hencke, noted that Sailors and Officers were preparing for new housing arrangements, schools, child care and career changes for spouses and that the Norfolk area will be new to many HM-15 Sailors and Officers.

This new geographical location provides opportunity to experience the city of Norfolk which is rich in American history and Navy traditions.

HM-15 is moving into a newly constructed hanger complex which will house aviation centric and AMCM support activities, as well as administrative support offices.

A feature of the new facility is a bird intrusion defense to deter unwanted birds on the flight line, according to Kendall Nelson, project manager for building contractor.

"The construction of this hanger is on budget and ahead of schedule," he said recently.

"We will be installing fixtures soon and turn it over to HM-15 in September 2009."

The biggest adjustment may be the withdrawal of readily available and mouth watering Tex-Mex flavors of Corpus Christi and South Texas cuisine.

Sailors will no longer have convenient access to the favorite Corpus Christi early

morning breakfast taquitos (flour tortilla with eggs filled with choice of bacon, potato, or sausage) or fajitas tacos.

HM-15 sailors and their families will have to introduce these delicacies to the Norfolk community.



Leadership from Helicopter Mine countermeasure Squadron Fifteen (HM-15) and construction personnel cut the ribbon opening HM-15's new hanger in Norfolk, Va. Ordered to relocate to the East Coast under BRAC, most of the squadron had left Naval Air Station Corpus Christi by the end of September.

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## A walk to remember that you're not alone

Story and photo by Brigitte Rodriguez, Corpus Christi Army Depot Public Affairs Office

Only hours before the big event, the First Annual Suicide Awareness Walk hosted by the Army Substance Abuse Program, a young man walked through the doors – ready to end his life.

The office staff, preparing for their first ever awareness event, dropped everything, shifting their full care and attention to the person in despair.

“That’s what we’re here for,” said Celia Cox, ASAP Prevention Coordinator. “We want people to know that they are not alone and that someone cares.”

That’s the focus of the Army’s Suicide Awareness Month – to remain vigilant of those around us who may be going through a difficult time.

There were 110 reported active duty Army suicides from January through August this year.

Economic troubles, rocky relationships, an inability to fit back in to your old life after a deployment – there are plenty of triggers for depression and suicidal thoughts.

ASAP hosted the one-mile walk on Sept. 25 to help bring attention to the issue.

Employees, volunteers, and those who have been personally touched by suicide gathered at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s Outdoor Track at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, for the evening walk.

The event, though somber was yet very positive.

Dedicating themselves to this moment, some shared their stories.

Others remained silent, opting to warm-up introspectively as the sun set on the track.

For everyone affected, Suicide Awareness Programs offer a chance to voice their worries and their grievances. It allows them to open up about this very real problem.

It is important to keep an eye on co-workers, friends, or loved ones and offer a place to talk, a place where they don’t feel alone.

Silence provides the isolation permitting suicide to be carried out. Only by breaking the silence can a life be saved.

If you are suffering from pain, reach out for help. There are people, like those in

the ASAP office, who are there specifically for you – to help end your pain through counseling and assistance.

“Thankfully, ASAP is there,” Cox said. “People walk into our offices every day, and it gives them hope.”



**Employees, volunteers and others personally touched by suicide gathered at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s Outdoor Track at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Sept. 25 for the first Annual Corpus Christi Army Depot Suicide Awareness Walk. Some shared stories, other spent time meditating, all enjoyed the moment for reflection.**

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# Hispanic Heritage Month: A reminder to look at local heroes

Story and photo by Brigitte Rodriguez, Corpus Christi Army Depot Public Affairs Office

Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, recognizes many contributions that Americans of Hispanic descent made in shaping the past, present, and future of the United States.

In the Coastal Bend, one can't ignore the rich Hispanic influence throughout the area. Taquerias line the streets offering some of the tastiest Mexican food, it's been home to some of the most influential Spanish musicians in the country, and the vast Hispanic population in the area keeps many traditions alive—tamales during Christmas, Tejano music playing during parades, Ballet Folklorico dancers at Bayfest.

Corpus Christi Army Depot is unique in that it employs a larger percentage of Hispanics than other Army depot — 57.5 percent of the CCAD work force is Hispanic; more than 2,200 employees.

Similarly, Hispanics lead the numbers for Wage Grade employees at 61.2 percent

Many Hispanics are remembered for amazing contributions to society. People like Dr. Hector P. Garcia, who's noted for his efforts on civil rights.

Garcia founded the American G.I. Forum, giving Mexican American rights in health care, education, labor agreements and the court system in a world where such things hadn't previously been offered to Hispanics.

Not only a humanitarian and crusader for Hispanic rights, he became a national

figure when he was appointed as alternate ambassador to the United Nations and the first Mexican-American to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

His statue stands on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus, serving as a reminder of what one person can do.

Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, a decorated warrior during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, was the first Hispanic four-star general. He hailed from Kingsville, Texas and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Texas Technological University.

Army Private David Barkley was the first Hispanic to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroism during World War I. He voluntarily swam the icy Meuse River in France to gather information behind German lines, but drowned on the way back.

Recently, the first Hispanic was appointed to the Supreme Court. Sonia M. Sotomayor is only the third woman to serve on the Supreme Court and has the distinction of serving as the first Hispanic Justice.

These are but four stories of the many interesting and dedicated members of the Hispanic community.

Take a moment during this month to look and value those around you and then see what you can do to add your name to the list of heroes.



**Statue of Dr. Hector P. Garcia on the campus of Texas A&M - Corpus Christi. Garcia founded the American G.I. Forum and was the first Mexican-American to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil rights.**



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## Guest Card continued from page 1

The Guest Card, which costs \$20 annually (\$10 for ages 16 and younger), allows use of the Gulf Winds Golf Course, the Corpus Christi Bay Club, the two base RV Parks and the Marina/Outdoor Recreation facilities, including the newly rebuilt Combat City Paintball Course.

Usage of the facilities has declined in recent years as the number of servicemembers declined, primarily because of actions by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Most recently, the 700 Sailors of Helicopter Mine Countermeasure Squadron Fifteen (HM-15) have left for their new home on the East Coast.

Although the Guest Card program officially began Oct. 1, a low-key public awareness campaign that began Sept. 1 brought in dozens of applications.

As of the media event, 92 Guest Cards had already been issued.

"It's great to have the variety," Guest Card holder Greg Smith told the Corpus

Christi Caller-Times.

Smith and his golf partner, Buddy Seeds, were playing in the Navy Ball Golf Tournament that morning.

"We'll be here a couple times a month."

MWR Director Dave Sullivan said that was the kind of thing he wanted to hear.

"We're pretty happy with the interest so far," he said. "Now we're hoping to get a lot more – the more the merrier."

"It's going to increase revenue, allowing us to enhance facilities and foster better relations with the community."

Applicants will undergo a criminal background check that usually takes less than a week.

Upon approval, they are issued the Guest Card and the vehicle sticker.

Applications are available online on the NASCC web site, [www.cnic.navy.mil/CorpusChristi/](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/CorpusChristi/).

Additional information is available by calling MWR at (361) 961-3961.



Capt. Randy Pierson explains the MWR Guest Card program to the media.

## MWR Guest Card Program

### Eligibility:

Any Individuals who meet the criminal history check and requirements. Minors 16 years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult MWR Guest Card holder at all times.

### Costs:

The MWR Guest Card costs \$20 per year; \$10 for children 16 years of age and under and is valid for one year from the date of issuance.

### How to apply:

It's Simple to apply for the MWR Guest Card!

Visit the Pass and Decal Office aboard NASCC between the hours of 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, complete the application and pay the MWR Guest Card fee. Application can also be printed or e-mailed online at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/CorpusChristi>.

Criminal history check will be conducted and takes approximately five days to complete.

Once approved, each applicant will be notified by phone and asked to come to the Pass and Decal Office to be issued their picture ID card, and MWR Guest Card Sticker. MWR Guest Card and MWR Guest Card Sticker will be valid for a period of one year.

*If you have further questions, regarding the MWR Guest Card Program, please call (361) 961-3961.*

# Immunization Clinic Information

*Education and preparation for the flu season for you, your family*

by Lt. Cmdr. Vicki L. Jernigan, NHCCC

Our beneficiaries' health and well-being at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi (NHCCC) is one of our highest priorities.

Moreover, we recognize that early education and preparation for the flu season is vital for you and your family.

The flu is a contagious disease.

Coughing, sneezing, or nasal secretions facilitate its spread, and symptoms may include muscle aches, fever, sore throat, coughing, chills, fatigue, and headaches.

According to Flu.gov, vaccination is the best protection.

For your convenience, NHCCC is administering the seasonal flu vaccines to enrollees on a walk-in basis.

The Immunizations Clinic is located on the first floor, room 1215 and is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with the last injection being administered at 4 p.m.

The exception is Thursdays, when the clinic closes at 1 p.m. for staff training requirements.

When visiting the clinic bring a valid ID and shot records, and be prepared to wait 15 minutes after all injections so that clinic staff can monitor possible sensitivities or allergic reactions.

Thermisol-free vaccine is available for expecting mothers.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that the risk of the seasonal flu vaccine causing serious harm is minute.

If you have any questions regarding the injection, ask your health care provider.

You are encouraged to visit and bookmark our website <http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhccc/Pages/default.aspx> and check our Flu Season Tips on the front page, including the link to Flu.Gov, a one-stop access to U.S. Government flu information.

The CDC's website at [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu) is also available for your information and education and you may call 1-800-232-4636, call your local health department or call the Immunization Clinic at 361-961-3158.

The CNIC Flu Information site is at [www.cnic.navy.mil/CNIC\\_HQ\\_Site/OperationPrepare/FluInformation/](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/CNIC_HQ_Site/OperationPrepare/FluInformation/) and also is linked from the NASCC web site, [www.cnic.navy.mil/CorpusChristi/](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/CorpusChristi/).



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## Out of sight, out of mind

by DCCS (SW) Ernesto Garcia, NASCC Emergency Manager

It's the middle of the night and your spouse wakes up, having difficulty breathing. They say their chest hurts.

Immediately, you grab the phone and dial 911.

Hearing the calm voice of a 911 dispatcher can be a welcome relief in a moment of distress.

Dispatcher Larry Garza, at NAS Corpus Christi Emergency Dispatch Center, is one of the nine dispatchers NASCC employs.

The first question the dispatcher will ask the caller is "What's the address of the emergency?"

The dispatcher will then ask for a call back number in case the call becomes disconnected.

Because of our unique situation on base, calls come into our dispatch in two different emergency numbers: 911 dialed from within the base and also 961-3333.

If dialing from a cell phone, your 911 call will be directed to a dispatch center out side of the base.

But NASCC enjoys good rapport with the city and your call will be redirected to us if you are located within our gated limits.

Dispatchers ask callers numerous questions. Garza said this is their way of assessing the emergency, and determining which services are needed.

The most common 911 medical calls, he said, are trouble breathing and/or chest pains.

Dispatchers have a list of questions specifically for these types of calls to get appropriate help to the location as quickly as possible.

Oftentimes, the dispatcher will continue to ask questions and relay updates to police and ambulance drivers as they head to the location to help the responders know what

they are walking into.

Garza said there is one call he would never forget. It was a weird call to begin with because he did not know how he got the call.

It was a mother calling on behalf of her daughter, who was being threatened at knife point by her soon-to-be-ex boyfriend.

What was so weird was that the call came from Delaware.

The woman was giving descriptions of her daughter's location – which was in downtown Corpus Christi.

As Garza noticed the call coming from out of state, he contacted the dispatch center for Corpus Christi.

Since he is familiar with the downtown area, Garza was able to give them the general location to find the daughter – and the police arrived in time to save her.

The mother called back later to say thanks.

Garza says his passion for the job comes from the respect he has for the responders.

He used to be that guy who entered the burning building; who was at the traffic accident saving someone's life.

Garza was a firefighter and now dispatches due to an injury.

His connection to the scene makes him a better dispatcher.

He said he would like to see all dispatchers take that opportunity to go on the call to understand what goes on the other side of the line.

It may be you calling 911 at any time and that will be when you rely on the dispatcher to get who you need to your location, or comfort you until help arrives.

NAS Emergency Services hopes you will never have to make that call – but if you do, we will be there for you.

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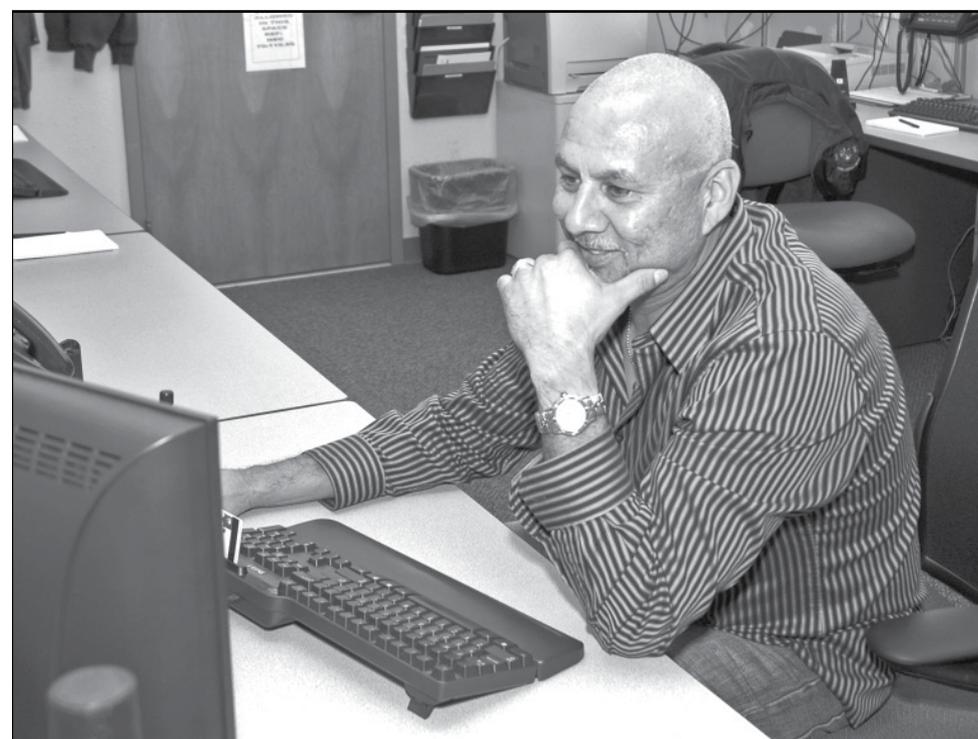
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NASCC Emergency Services dispatcher Larry Garza looks at the computer screen giving detailed information on an incoming call. Photo by Rod Hafemeister

CNATRA continued from page 1



**Guadagnini speaking at the CNATRA change of command Sept. 24**

He turned serious talking about the primary mission, training, and training safely.

Echoing the Navy's new slogan of "A Global Force for Good," Guadagnini said aviation is an essential part of that.

"Arguably, Naval Aviation is the most flexible arm of that 'force for good,'" he said.

"We can do a lot of things in Naval Aviation – and the only way we can do that is through training.

"We train to do everything, and how to do it well."

Recalling the time Guadagnini received an eye injury playing team sports and had to wear an eye patch, guest speaker Vice Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline Jr. said Guadagnini will forever be known in the Naval Aviation community as "the Pirate Admiral."

As Commander, Naval Air Forces, and Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Kilcline has been Guadagnini's boss during his CNATRA command.

He said "Guad" is ready to move on to his next challenge, commander of Carrier Strike Group Nine in Everett, Wash.

However, Guadagnini said he was leaving "the best one-star job in the Navy."

Sizemore served as Kilcline's chief of staff in the 18 months prior to becoming CNATRA.

He recalled how, as a young ensign entering flight training, he kept hearing "CNATRA this and CNATRA that."

"I just couldn't figure out why Frank Sinatra cared so much about Naval Aviation," he said. "Of course, I soon learned the acronyms."

Sizemore has accumulated more than 6,000 flight hours in the F-14, F-18 and other aircraft and has performed more than 1,000 carrier arrested landings.

"He's been an air wing commander in combat," Kilcline said. "He's also been on the ground in the Horn of Africa.

"Size is a leader, he's an aviator and a warrior."

For his part, Sizemore said he was very happy to be here.

"It's a tremendous honor to follow in the footsteps of Adm. Guadagnini as the 30<sup>th</sup> Chief of Naval Air Training," he said.

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# AROUND THE BASE

## Media Day Paintball

Two teams of experienced paintballers staged mock battles for the media on Oct. 2 as part of the MWR Guest Card public awareness kickoff. And while television cameramen filmed it, only one media representative - KOUL radio's County Boy Don Williams (top right, white shirt & cell phone) - actually geared up and grabbed a paintball gun. Williams later said he 'had a blast!'

Photos by Rod Hafemeister



## Coast Guard holds remembrance ceremony for lost crew

Lt. Nick Leiter, Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi PAO

Personnel from Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi held a wreath-laying ceremony Sept. 21 in remembrance of the crew of an HU-16E Albatross, tail number 2123, which crashed in 1973.

The wreath-laying ceremony was held at Sherill Park to honor the crew of 2123. On Sept. 21, 1973, the crew of 2123 was involved in a search and rescue case approximately one-half mile off the Port Aransas coast.

The crew included Lt. j.g. Jerald M. Mack, a graduate of Irving High School and North Texas University.

The crew of 2123 began deploying flares during the search and rescue effort, when a flare was accidentally ignited inside the aircraft causing a fire and ultimately the Albatross' crash. All six crewmembers perished in the crash.

The crew included:

Lt. Cmdr. Francis W. Miller, Lt. j.g. Jerald M. Mack, Petty Officer 1st Class Harold D. Brown, Jr., Petty Officer 2nd Class Benjamin R. Gaskins, Jr., Petty Officer 2nd Class John F. Harrison and Petty Officer 2nd Class John P. Pledger.

"Of the many traditions of our service, there is none more important than the one we gathered for on Monday; to remember and honor the service and sacrifice of our comrades who went out to aid a mariner in distress, but did not return," said Capt. Robert Paulison, Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi.

"We are humbled by their example. Let us never forget their sacrifice, and remain ever mindful of the dangers of our profession and the fragility of human life."

(Top right) Ensign Scott Kimball, a Naval Air Station Corpus Christi pilot, salutes the memorial stone for the crew of an HU-16E Albatross, tail number 2123, on Sept. 21. All six crewmembers of 2123 perished Sept. 21, 1973, after the Albatross they were flying crashed off the Port Aransas coast. The crew was involved in an active search and rescue case by deploying flares. One of the flares accidentally ignited inside the aircraft causing a fire onboard 2123.

(Bottom right) Shane Russell plants an American Flag next to the memorial for the crew of 2123 as Capt. Robert Paulison, Sector Corpus Christi Commanding Officer, Elizabeth Hosier, the sister of the co-pilot and Lt. Nick Leiter look on.

Photos by Charles A. Dekle



# AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

## Winging — September 18



Photo by Hugh Lieck Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: Lt. j.g. Rob Fasnacht, Chaplain; Ruben Bonilla, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce; Cmdr. Kevin Nash, Executive Officer, Sector Corpus Christi Coast Guard; Cmdr. Dennis R. Crews, Commanding Officer, VT-31; Lt. Col. Bob Blagg, USAF, Commanding Officer, VT-35; Col. C. K. Hyde, USAF, Commander, 314<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Little Rock AFB; Capt. Dave Price, Commodore, TW-4.

Ensign Diego Aquilanti, Italian Coast Guard; Ensign Luca Di Capua, Italian Navy; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Tyler Paul Dohallow, USAF; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. James Paul Espy, USAF; Lt. j.g. Taylor Kenyon Eggleston, USCG; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Stephen Nicholas Linhardt, USAF; Ensign, Rosario A. Longo, Italian Coast Guard; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Logan Charles Marcucci, USAF; Ensign Andrew James Miller; Ensign Marco Mion, Italian Navy; Ensign Eric Michael Nuckols; Ensign Christopher Matthew Petersen; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Mark Ryan Riesenberg, USAF; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Christian Nicholas Rotter, USAF; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Austin David Rust, USAF; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert Thomas Strzelec, USAF; Lt. j.g., Jonathan Michael Sydow; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul Anthony Taggart, USAF; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. David Patrick Van Alstine, USAF.

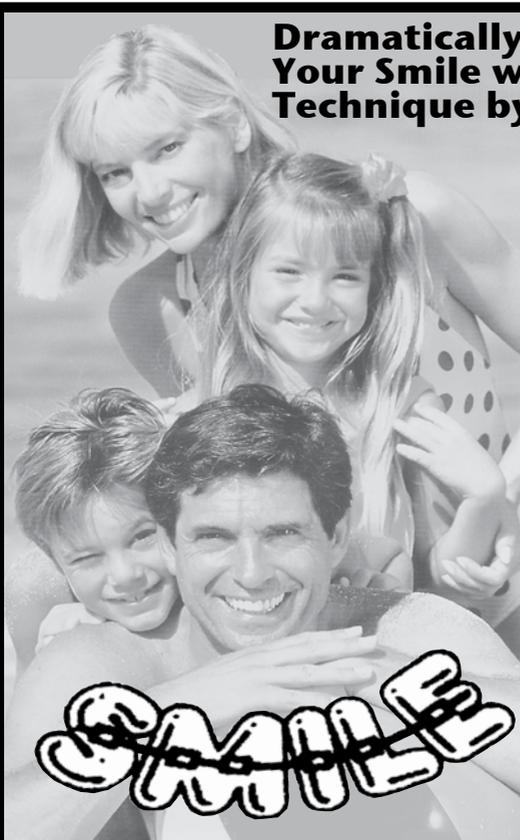
## NASCC Civilian Awards — Sept. 25



Photo by Rod Hafemeister

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi honored its civilian workers on Sept. 25. Awardees pictured include: Five Years Service – Joseph S. Beatty, Darnell Davis, Jeffrey L. Frawley, Rachel Hinojosa, Douglas K. Holm and Julio R. Ortiz Rivera; 10 Years Service – Jason T. Fallier; 15 Years Service – David Arzuaga, Loy Clary, Roy Gonzalez, Jason E. Krause, Elizabeth E. Love, Danny E. McElroy, Michael A. Plata; 20 Years Service – Brenda G. Dyckman, Arturo Garza Jr., Larry Garza, Edward A. Herschbach, Sharon F. Scott, Carla D. Young; 25 Years Service – Curtis A. Heffneer, Estella F. Jimenez, Diana Rocha, Kenneth M. Thorn; 30 Years Service – Burnette Jones, Thomas P. McKenna, Dean W. Santamoor; 35 Years Service – Jose Bazan. Civilian of the Quarter, First Quarter – Sean Feenaghty; Civilian of the Quarter, Second Quarter – Darnell Davis and Jennifer Rodela.

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**DC1 Rehenia Bispham reenlists**



DC1(SW/AW) Rehenia Bispham, who has been the Assistant Command Career Counselor for most of 2009, reenlisted Sept. 18. Above, Lt. Cmdr. Jason Greene presents her discharge certificate prior to administering the enlistment oath.

Photo by Rod Hafmeister



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# ABH2 Kenneth Smith reenlists



Lt. Cmdr. Jason Greene (L) presents ABH2 (Aw/Sw) Kenneth W. Smith with his Certificate of Reenlistment after administering the enlistment oath on Sept. 25.

Photo by DC1 Rehenia Bispham

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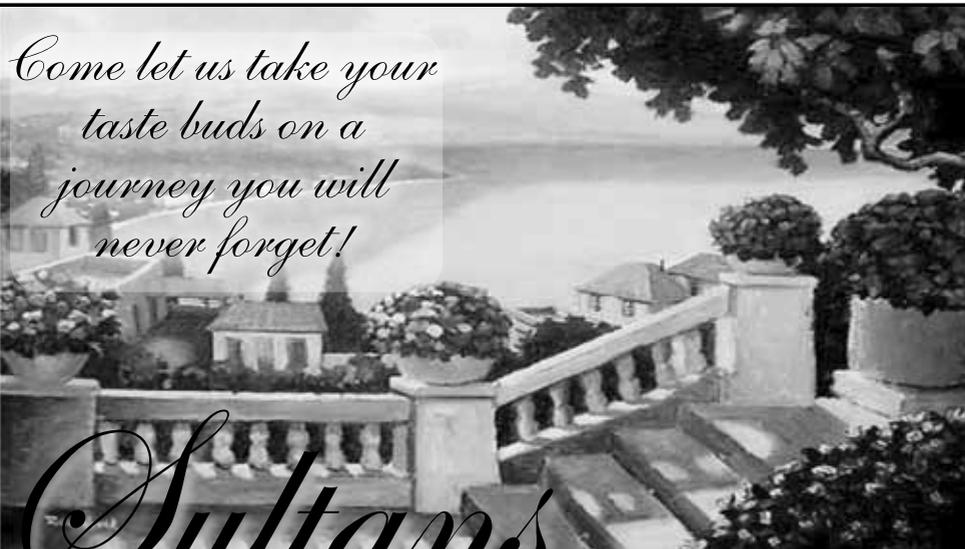
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# BEST BITES DINING GUIDE

## What's Happening

by Tina Konwerski

RIALTO THEATER is looking for PERFORMERS: Christmas Comes But Once A Year... as do Kwanzaa, Chanukah and the winter solstice. Looking for something to do to celebrate the winter holiday season? The Rialto Theater, Aransas Pass is having a variety extravaganza, and we need performers. Is there something you've wanted to sing, read dance or recite about the joys of the season? We have a place for you on stage. Call Jim Elder at 361-729-6388. The production will be open to the public on December 18/19, 2009.

Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Acoustic Music Jam Musicians, singers and audience members invited. Free Admission. Rialto Theater, 327 S. Commercial Street, Aransas Pass. Information: 361-758-0383 www.rialtotheater.org/calendar.

**Thursdays and Fridays from 10:30am-noon**, Heritage Park Guided Tours offered year-round starting at the Galván House, 1581 N. Chaparral. \$6/adults; \$2/children age 12 and younger. Call 361-826-3410 for reservations.

**History! Science! Technology!** Event runs **October 6th through October 16th**, Celebrate Columbus Days at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. Experience the Power of Simple Machines. See the power of levers, pulleys, gears, and inclined planes in action! Engage with history. Participate in demonstrations that highlight the science and the technology of the day aboard the Pinta and Santiago's Challenge. Help the crew hoist the cargo from the hold! Visitors will receive an Honorary Navigator Badge to wear with pride! The Museum will be open Columbus Day, Monday, October 12, 2009. Reservations are required. Call 361-826-4665 or visit www.CCMuseumEdRes.com to make a reservation or get more information on simple machines.

**Saturday, October 10, 2009 at 8:00 pm**  
The Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra at The Performing Arts Center at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive.

Continued on page 20

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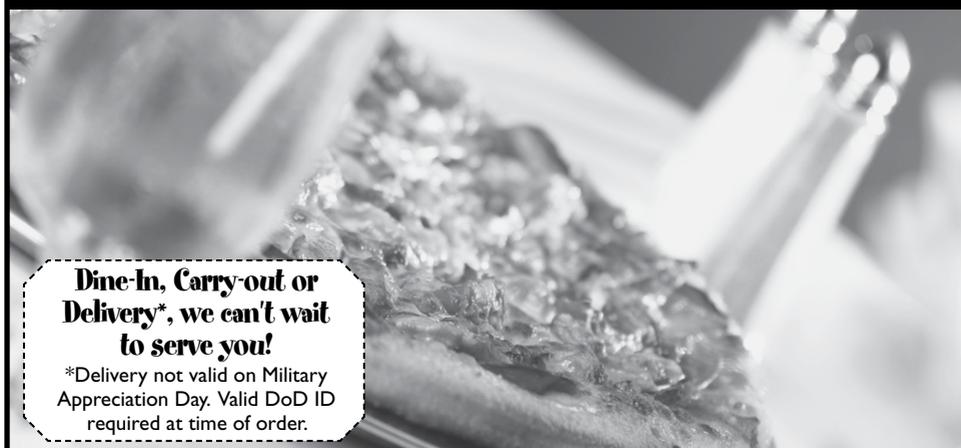


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CruiseOne invites you to join us for a very special event. Virtual Cruise Night will be available for the month of October. Please join us at <http://wlcn.cruising.org/cruiseoneawaters>

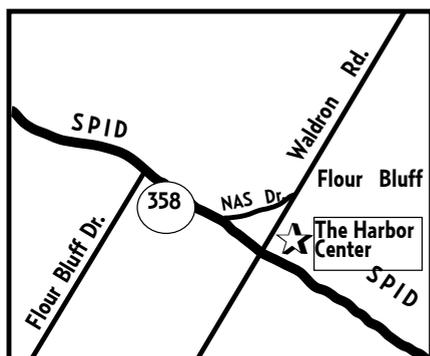
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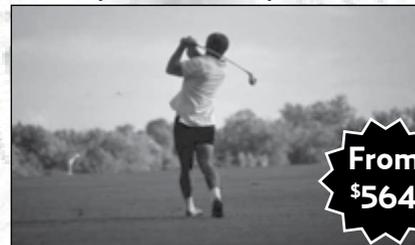


Cmdr. Kyle Gatzmeyer (right) salutes Training Air Wing 4 Commodore Capt. Dave Price after assuming command of the Boomers of Training Squadron 27 from Cmdr. Mark Edwards (center) on Sept. 24.

Photo by Richard Stewart

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# Commendation for Vierra



Senior Chief Culinary Specialist Isaac Vierra (l.) receives the Navy and marine Corps Commendation Medal from NASCC Commanding Officer Capt. Randy Pierson on Sept. 25.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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## Mutt Strut

**Date: November 7th**

10:00 am-3:00 pm

### Entry fees:

Free to just walk around with your pet!

\$10 for each walker

\$25 for each vendor

\$25 for each advertiser (minimum amount to be listed on t-shirt)

There will be a pet food drive to benefit animals in our area. Please drop off whatever you can!

Mutt Strut will begin at McCaughan Park (next to Coliseum) on Shoreline. Walkers will have option of 1 mile or 2 mile walk.

### Other Fun Activities Include:

- Free Dog Training Classes by K9 Coach
- Dog Contest
- Low Cost vaccination by City of Corpus Christi
- BBQ plates (vegetarian available)



**Texas Humane Legislation Network**

### South Texas Chapter

Texas Humane Legislation Network (THLN) is a mainstream voice for the animals of Texas. THLN now has a chapter in Corpus Christi. Our goal is to make South Texas more aware of our organization and obtain more members to be a voice for animals.

[www.thln.org](http://www.thln.org)

1-888-548-6263

For more information, entry forms or to purchase tickets in advance call Cheryl at 855-7387 or email [cmmutt70@aol.com](mailto:cmmutt70@aol.com)



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

CC Symphony Continued from page 17

The concert opens with Aaron Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man, highly recognizable due to its frequent use in television (CBS Sports Spectacular and The Simpsons. Violin Concerto, one of the greatest romantic violin concertos. Ms. Gomyo won the 1997 Young Concert Artists International Auditions just one week after her fifteenth birthday. She delights audiences with her passionate, virtuosic performances. To close the program, the orchestra performs the lushly orchestrated and emotional "Pathétique" Symphony, Tchaikovsky's last composition. For complete program notes, see the Education and Outreach section of the CCSO's website at [www.ccsymphony.org/program\\_notes.cfm](http://www.ccsymphony.org/program_notes.cfm). Ticket packages may be purchased by calling the Symphony office at 883-NOTE (6683) or toll free at 877-286-6683. Season tickets start at \$160 and are offered at a substantial discount over the purchase of single tickets. Single tickets start at \$20. For more information, visit [www.ccsymphony.org](http://www.ccsymphony.org).

**Saturday and Sunday, October 10-11, 2009 SAXET Gun Show**, 9 a.m. to 6 pm, Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds, Robstown. Guns, Knives, Ammo, Coins, Militaria, Cameras fmi 361-289-2256 [www.saxetshows.com](http://www.saxetshows.com).

**Saturday and Sunday, October 10-11, Corpus Christi HEATWAVE Custom Truck & Car Show Sound-Off**. American Bank Center, Saturday 10 am to 7 pm, Sunday 10:30 am to 6:00 pm fmi [www.heatwaveinc.com](http://www.heatwaveinc.com) 512-252-0283.

**Wednesday, October 14, Southern Style Cooking Demonstration from 10:30am to noon**. Historic Galván House, 1561 N. Chaparral at Heritage Park. Join award Winning Chef Buddy Toepfer as he prepares Ultimate Fried Chicken Breast, Red Potatoes with herb oil, Sautéed Vegetables, Grand Slam Biscuits and Mocha Pecan Cookies. The cost of \$7 per person which includes the demonstration, recipes and food samples. Reservations are requested as seating is limited; call 361-826-3414 to reserve space. Don't miss this one. Sign up now.

**October 16 to 18, 2009 – 49th Annual Texas JAZZ FESTIVAL ... FREE** at Heritage Park. Friday 5pm to midnight, Saturday 1pm to 1 am, Sunday 1 pm to 10 pm.

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## Ask Dr. Garcia



Garcia

**Q:** I often hear people say that they regretted marrying their spouse. Why would people regret their choice of mate?

**A:** There are a number of reasons people regret their choice of mate.

One reason is they don't really get to know the other person. People who are in too much of a hurry to get married may not give the relationship enough time to develop.

Some people choose the wrong mate because they live in a fantasy world. Their concept of marriage has been gleaned from romantic movies and the media, and marriage represents an escape from their own humdrum existence.

Other people choose the wrong mate because they look for the wrong qualities in a person. They emphasize physical characteristics and attractiveness without regard for important personal qualities. They are also looking for the wrong things in their relationship – perhaps for excitement instead of stability.

Some people make the wrong choice because they confuse sex with love. Their relationship focuses primarily on sexual passion, and so they assume they are much in love.

Another common reason for marrying the wrong person is a poor self-image and lack of self-esteem. Such people can't believe that anyone desirable would really love them and accept them, so they settle for less than they might.

Some people succumb to pressures to marry. One pressure is from their biological clock. Other people have a "now or never" attitude. They are afraid if they don't get married to this person, they may never get another opportunity.

Another pressure is that of pregnancy. The number one reason for marrying while still in school is pregnancy.

Pressure to marry may also come from parents who want their son to marry "that nice girl down the block." Or a couple who is living together and the parents pressure them to marry.

Pressure to marry can also come from relatives and friends. When two people have gone together for

some time, friends begin to ask, "When are you two going to get married."

**Q:** My parents are divorced. Does this mean that my marriage is more susceptible to divorce as well?

**A:** It is commonly believed that people whose parents are divorced are more susceptible to divorce themselves.

A longitudinal study entitled *Trends in the Intergenerational Transmission of Divorce* found that prior to 1975, people from divorced families were 2.5 times more likely to divorce than were those from intact families.

However, by 1995, the likelihood of divorce for the children of divorced parents had fallen to less than 50%, with divorce more likely for girls than for boys from divorced families. Much of this difference is attributed to the tendency of girls from divorced families to marry younger and to have less education.

If both spouses experienced parental divorce, their risk of divorce is increased.

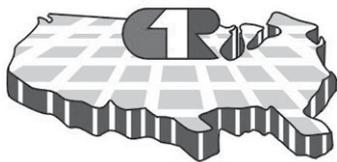
The risk of divorce is particularly high if parental divorce occurred when the spouses were 12 years of age or younger.

Spouses whose parents divorced are more likely to have problems with anger, jealousy, hurt feelings, communication, infidelity, and so on.

As children, they may have been exposed to poor models of behavior and may not have learned the skills and attitudes that facilitate successful functioning within their married role.

Therefore, they may be more likely to become divorced themselves.

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**Ruben G. Garcia, Ph.D., LMFT** is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and co-founder of The Healing Institute. Submit your questions to Dr. Garcia via email at [troubadour55@hotmail.com](mailto:troubadour55@hotmail.com). You can also contact Dr. Garcia at (361) 814-4556.

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## Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Navy raising awareness of services for victims

from Navy Installations Command PA

Domestic Violence Awareness Month as an opportunity to inform Sailors and Navy spouses about domestic violence prevention efforts as well as reporting options for victims.

Domestic violence cuts across all age groups and social classes. It happens to Sailors as well as spouses; to men as well as women.

Domestic violence goes beyond physical abuse. It includes emotional abuse such as threats, isolation, extreme jealousy and humiliation. It also includes sexual abuse. Whenever an adult is placed in physical danger or controlled by threat or use of physical force by their spouse or intimate partner, she or he has been abused. The risk for abuse is greatest when victims are separated from supportive networks.

The theme for Domestic Violence Awareness Month this year is, "Have you crossed the line? End domestic violence before it starts."

"Our goal is to prevent domestic violence by encouraging people to examine their own behavior and take steps to learn and practice more healthy behaviors," said Kathy Turner, of the Fleet and Family Support Program's Counseling Advocacy and Prevention Program.

Much is misunderstood about what happens when a Sailor or spouse seeks help for their relationship before domestic violence occurs. All couples have arguments. Making an appointment for couple's counseling does not automatically result in the creation of a Family Advocacy Program, or FAP, case. Nor does family or couple's counseling harm one's career or security clearance.

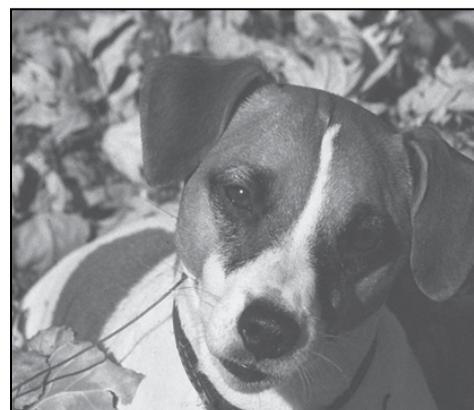
The Defense Department changed the question on its long-standing security clearance form referencing an applicant's mental health history; it no longer asks for mental health treatment details if the care involved only marital, family, or grief counseling, not related to violence by the applicant, unless the treatment was court-ordered.

Another myth is that counseling is only sought by people who have been arrested or are filing for divorce. Through counseling, however, adults can learn to treat their partners with compassion and respect and avoid manipulation and criticism, even during arguments.

Professional services of licensed counselors are available free of charge at Fleet and Family Support Centers for active duty and their family members – even Sailors who are unmarried can have couple's counseling with their partners.

If you think you may be a victim of domestic violence, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE or visit your installation Fleet and Family Support Center for information on available resources.

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NEWSLETTER OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI COUNCIL, NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

October 2009 ISSUE



USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705)

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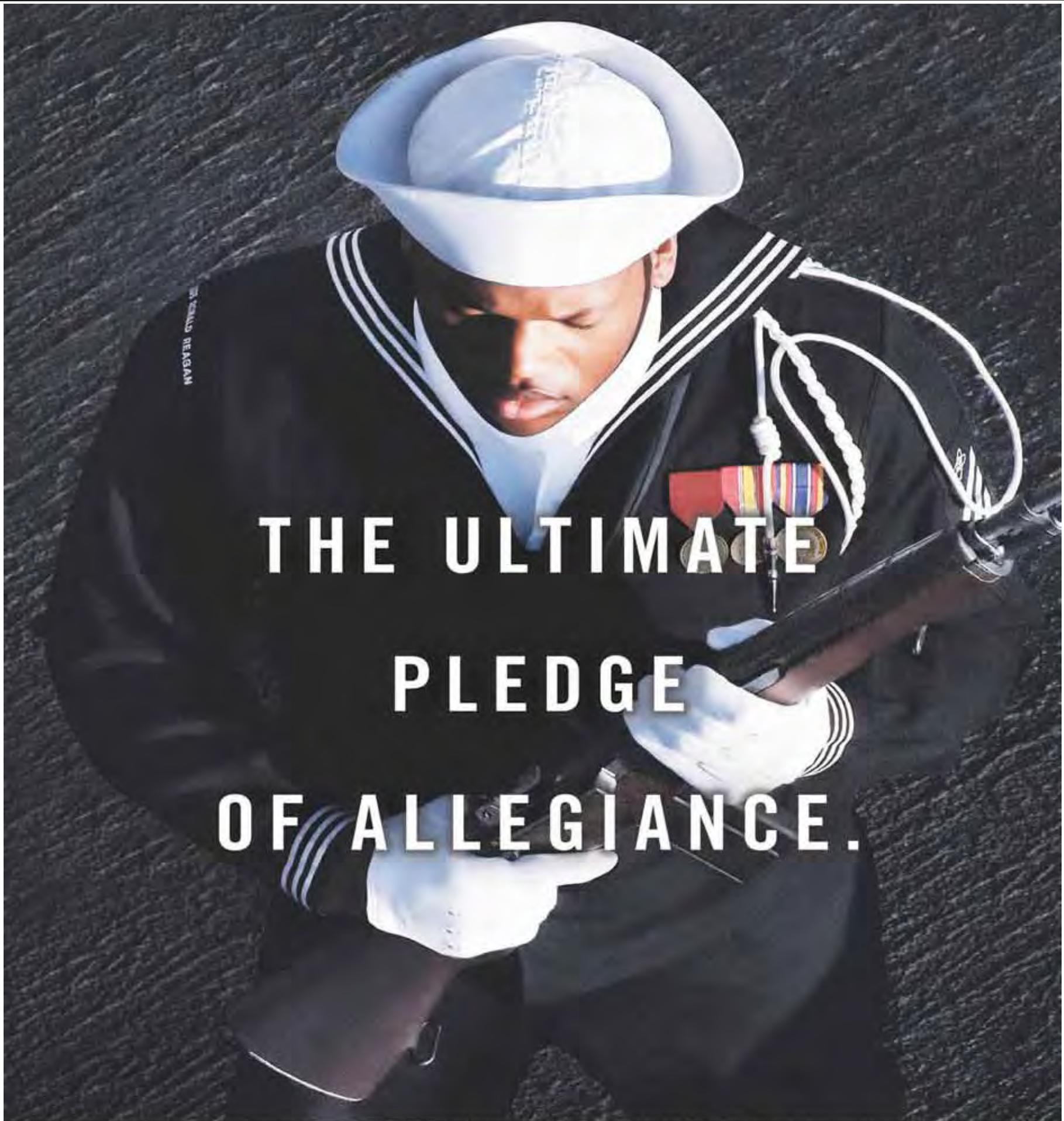
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