

WINGSPAN



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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

July 1, 2010



Happy Independence Day!



Conditions of Readiness

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Capt. Bennett retires
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New CCAD Deputy
page 5



One of the yachts racing the 2009 Regatta.

48th Annual Navy Regatta due to be largest in recent history

Story and photo by Bob Torres

The 48th Annual Navy Regatta is right around the corner on the calendar, scheduled for August 7 and 8.

Registration is held at the downtown Bay Yacht Club, Friday, Aug. 6, for sailboats and crew members who want to volunteer to race in the event.

For those of you not familiar with this mariner miracle, it begins with a flotilla of sailboats (five different classes) sailing from the downtown marina to the Naval Air Station's Sunfish Beach on that Saturday morning.

Depending on how much wind there is that day, sailboats and their crews will tack back and forth across the Corpus Christi Bay until they cross the "finish" line just before our Sunfish Beach breakwater wall.

There are other boats, "cruisers" that make it from the downtown marina to the base as they cheer, cajole and give advice to sailboat crews as they race. Often they enjoy cold beverages enroute to the race line.

There will be refreshments and music at the Sunfish Pavilion and plenty of entertainment as intrepid "Sailors" from the base will then race in the Titanic Cup at 4 p.m.

The Titanic is where "Sailors" build an anything-that-floats craft, attach a sail to it and race it from the pier to the Pavilion to win the coveted "Titanic Cup Trophy."

At least one NAS team is talking about beating last year's "Bedpan Bullet" for the

trophy!

Sailors use their imagination to build a boat (pontoons, beer kegs, mattresses, tubes), as long as no more than \$75 is spent to build it.

The Marines last year had a "boat" (floating platform with a parachute used for a sail) that promptly rammed another boat (made of PVC and cellophane) that precluded either of them from being contenders.

Remember, no entry can be an actual boat or have boat parts.

Military members and civilians working on base, registration for the 48th Annual Titanic Cup Competition is going on now! If you have the "guts" to build your own boat and compete, contact the Marina at 961-1293 to register.

Oh, and if your boat sinks before getting to the finish line, it's your responsibility to get it out of the water by the end of the day. Recent history (in the past five years) at least three boats have not made it to the finish line.

Then there is a "Hawaiian Luau" at the Bay Club beginning at 6 p.m., with an awards presentation by Capt. Randy Pierson for the winners of the day's events. Dinner is served and, last year, music by the "Deadbeats" inspired some to the dance floor and continued the revelry throughout the evening.

On Sunday, sailboats – this time with a military member serving as "Captain" of the

Regatta continued on page 11

Saturday flights helping TW-4 get back on track

by Lt. Sheila Baber and Rod Hafemeister

Folks around Naval Air Station Corpus Christi have been seeing something unusual of late: training flights on Saturdays.

Starting in late May, Training Air Wing 4 and NASCC have been engaged in a cooperative effort to clear a backlog of student pilots.

It's taken a tremendous effort by maintenance teams, instructor pilots, squadron and Wing personnel, as well as the base personnel who operate the airfield on what would normally be a weekend day off for Sailors on shore duty.

"You can't say it's been really good for morale, but people are

making the best of it," said AC1 Jose Silva, who supervises air traffic controllers.

"We do what the mission requires."

Wing leaders say the extra flying hours are allowing them to make progress and that the number of training flight "X's" has risen markedly.

According to Wing leadership, the Wing started lagging behind on training flight numbers due in large part to a commercial maintenance contract implemented a few years ago.

Flying continued on page 17



Training aircraft on the NASCC flightline awaiting student and Instructor Pilots.
Photo by Bob Torres

Skipper's Column Getting the Mission Done

by Capt. Randy Pierson



Pierson

I would like to spotlight our successes supporting the recent decision to conduct weekend manned airfield flight operations and student pilot training here at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi through this Fall.

A couple of months ago, the Naval Air Station

was asked by CNATRA and TRAWING-4 to examine opening up the airfield on Saturdays.

Training backlogs and limited aircraft availability – more pilots required training than there were aircraft to fly – created a need to increase available flying hours.

Working closely with TRAWING-4, a manageable plan was developed which shortened the Friday fly-day and introduced a Saturday fly-day with full NASCC Air Operations support.

From the outset, I could not have been happier with the can-do attitude of our ground electronics, flight support, air traffic control, base operations and Fire/Emergency Services. The attitude and the technical specialties, both military and civilian, have ensured Saturday success.

And success is critical!

The future of Naval Aviation depends on TRAWING-4's ability to efficiently train their

student pilots.

Furthermore, our international partners and sister services of the USMC, USAF, USCG also depend heavily on us.

In this effort, success is the only option.

And our numbers of flight operations completed over the weekends is proof of that.

One recent Saturday, in a 10-hour day, almost 600 flight operations were completed here at Truax Field...most importantly, completed safely!

And finally, a thank you for TRAWING-4 for their efforts and accomplishments in getting their students classed up, through ground school and joined with an on-wing instructor and taking to the skies over NAS Corpus Christi as has been done here since 1941.

Chaplain's Message No Shortcut to Glory

by Lt. Cmdr. Gabriel Mensah, Chaplain

We live in an era of the instant product – instant soup, instant tea...

Pretty well instant everything.

Deep down we know that the quality of these instant products suffers, but we are willing to sacrifice that for the time saved.

The result of living in a world like this is that we want results and want them fast. We grow impatient and frustrated if we have to wait.

What we tend to forget is that there are certain things in life that cannot be rushed. They need time and patience.

Those of you with green thumb, if you plant a seed in your garden you must wait for it to grow.

Our age might also be called the age of the push button. Today all we have to do is to push a button or turn on a switch and *viola!* things begin to happen without any further efforts on our part.

The push button, undoubtedly, encourages the shortcut approach to everything.

It can easily lure us into a false sense of security, into always seeking the easy option, even if there is not one.

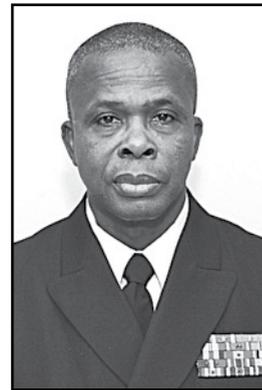
The truth of the matter is that even in the era of the push button, old problems still remain.

For example, there is the problem of bringing up one's children well. There is no magic switch for that.

There is the problem of passing an exam demonstrating an acquired skill. There is no magic wand for that.

As a matter of fact, all the worthwhile things in life require a lot of patient effort.

Let us beware of going for the quick result or taking the false shortcut. We should not settle for the cheap imitation.



Mensah

Editor's Corner

by Rod Hafemeister



Hafemeister

This is supposed to be an Independence Day column – but first let me extend my fondest wish we all are safe and dry and Tropical Storm Alex didn't come visiting.

Such is the burden of a biweekly editor: You're never sure what will happen

between the time you put it to bed and the time it hits the stands.

Now, my intended topic: The Fourth of July and the Declaration of Independence.

If you remember even a little high school history, you probably know that we celebrate on July 4 because that was the date in 1776 that the draft Declaration was approved and sent to the printer and, according to most of those there, that was the day it was signed.

There's still some historical dispute about that, but it's the official holiday.

That grumbling you hear is John Adams. Although the language wasn't approved until July 4, the formal vote to declare independence from Britain – 12 colonies for and one (New York) abstaining – was on July 2.

Adams was convinced that would become the holiday.

Most people recognize the beginning of the Preamble when they hear it: "We hold these truths to be self-evident..."

But have you ever actually read the entire Declaration closely?

It is one of the most radical documents ever written – a formal announcement that people could choose their own government, not have it imposed from above.

"But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security."

A Radical Declaration

Open conflict had been going on between colonists and British troops for more than a year – but this was a formal declaration of war. Yet throughout the Revolution, the actual Declaration was largely ignored. Actually fighting a revolution took precedence over a sheet of paper.

It didn't really become a public issue until the beginning of political parties in the 1790s during the Age of Federalism. As time went on, the focus when people talked about the Declaration was on the rights of man.

But go read the list of grievances against the British Crown and the "in your face" declaration of independence from British rule. It's pretty radical.

During the height of Vietnam War protests, some radicals rewrote the list of grievances in modern language and tried to get people to sign their "petition." In almost every case, they were denounced as "anti-American."

When you hear today's political rants, remember: It started with a bunch of radicals.

Wingspan

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Capt. Paulison says goodbye to Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi



Capt. Robert Paulison ended his three-year tour and turned over Coast Guard Sector Corpus Christi to its new CO, Capt. John Pasch, on June 17. (left) Paulison goes through the ranks, shaking the hand of every Coast Guardsman present. (Bob Torres) (above) Two days earlier, he thanks the 'gauntlet' after receiving the traditional 'wetdown' on his final flight as CO. (Rod Hafemeister)

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whose God is the Lord.*

- PSALM 33:12



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CCAD Earns Superior Unit Award

by Ed Mickley, CCAD Public Affairs

Employees and guests waiting for Corpus Christi Army Depot's recent change of command received an unprecedented surprise when the guest speaker added the unit's first Superior Unit Award streamer to the depot's flag.

Maj. Gen. James R. Myles, Commanding General, Aviation and Missile Command, presented one of the highest awards a unit can earn to Col. Joe Dunaway moments before the depot's change of command, June 2.

"This depot is the lifeblood of Army aviation," Myles said.

"By any measure, CCAD sets the world standard for an aviation depot."

The streamer, awarded during wartime to units not geographically located in the combat area, was presented to CCAD for outstanding meritorious service in support of the Global War on Terrorism from Oct. 1, 2006, to Oct. 1, 2007.

"The unit performed above and beyond the call of duty to meet the growing and changing demands of the joint services at war," read the citation from Pete Geren, Secretary of the Army.

"By implementing the tenets of Lean/Six Sigma and partnering with private industry, the unit significantly reduced cost and turnaround time and improved the quality of its product."

Moments later, Dunaway relinquished command of CCAD to Col. Christopher Carlile.

Dunaway gave the credit for the award to CCAD's workers.

"The employees of this great organization are truly a unit and among the very best civilian soldiers I have served with," Dunaway said.

"The Army Superior Unit Award (ASUA) defines superior unit excellence and I can find no greater example of this than Corpus Christi Army Depot."

Celebrating its 49th year, the depot tripled production during Dunaway's three year tenure and grew to more than 5,500 employees while contributing more than \$1 billion to the local economy.

"As the Army's only Depot Aviation Repair facility, CCAD produces more than 30,000 components annually and has met 100 percent of War Fighter requirements since the war began," Dunaway said.

"There is no greater example of a superior unit in support of our nation's finest."

Military personnel assigned to CCAD during the award period may wear the award for as long as they remain in the Army.

Civilians are authorized to wear a lapel pin signifying CCAD's selection as a superior unit.

Dunaway left to become Director, Distribution and Deployment Operations Center, US Forces-Iraq.

Carlile comes to CCAD from Fort Rucker, Ala., where he commanded the Army's Unmanned Aerial System Center of Excellence.



Maj. Gen. James R. Myles, Commanding General, Aviation and Missile Command, presents the Army Superior Unit Award certificate, one of the highest awards a unit can earn, to Col. Joe Dunaway, June 2 at the Texas A&M Corpus Christi Performing Arts Center.

Photo by Ervey Martinez



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Local CCAD engineer selected to head Depot Maintenance Operations

by Ed Mickley, CCAD Public Affairs

Kresten Cook, most recently the Corpus Christi Army Depot Director of Engineering Services, was appointed Deputy to the Commander for Maintenance Operations, effective June 28.

Cook started his career at CCAD in 1983 as an Industrial Engineer.

In his previous position, he was responsible for maintenance, capital improvement, construction programs and all engineering services for the depot.

As part of the trio of leadership, Cook will work alongside CCAD's Commander, Col. Christopher Carlile, and William Braddy, Deputy for Support Operations.

Cook's new responsibilities as Deputy Commander includes oversight of the depot's world-class helicopter maintenance, repair and overhaul operations and coordinating with the Department of Defense, major commands, program managers and customers.

This includes responsibility for planning, direction, and implementation of programs, techniques, and logistics for the aircraft and component recapitalization, repair and

production capabilities at the depot.

During his 27 years at the depot, Cook advanced through several engineering, business development and production leadership positions.

Cook's experience at CCAD includes initiating the Business Development Office, where he established the initial wave of partnerships between CCAD and Original Equipment Manufacturers and the depot's world-wide operations.

He also led CCAD's Production Control and Programs Divisions, and was CCAD's Deputy to the Commander, acting, in 2003.

He has served as Senior Engineer and Chief of the Logistics Management Division, supporting both the Directorates of Maintenance and Directorate of Engineering Services.

And he was selected as the first Chief of the CCAD Corporate Performance Office.

Cook possesses a degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Houston, an MBA from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, and will graduate

next month from the United States Army War College with a Masters Degree in Strategic Studies.

Corpus Christi Army Depot, the world's largest helicopter repair operation is a recognized industry leader in rotary wing maintenance and repair operations in addition to being the DoD's choice for overhaul, repair, modification, recapitalization, retrofit, testing and modernization of helicopters, engines and components for all service and foreign military sales.

CCAD also serves as a training base for active duty Army, National Guard, Reserve and foreign military personnel and provides depot field teams for on-site maintenance services for units deployed worldwide.

Celebrating its 49th year, the depot employs more than 5,500 DoD Civilians and contractors while contributing more than \$2 Billion to the local economy.

(right) Kresten Cook, new Deputy to the Commander for Maintenance Operations at Corpus Christi Army Depot.



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COR: What does it mean and what should you do?

from NASCC Emergency Services

As this issue went to press, Tropical Storm Alex was expected to become a hurricane – and possibly hit the Corpus Christi area.

On Monday, June 28, NASCC went to COR IV, the second level of preparation for hurricane.

COR stands for Condition of Readiness. The levels start at V (5), the normal “know what you’re going to do if a storm comes” state that starts with the beginning of the Atlantic Hurricane Season on June 1. It remains the minimum COR throughout hurricane season, which officially ends Nov. 30.

Lower numbers indicate a condition of increased readiness and are based on the likelihood that “destructive force winds” – defined as sustained winds greater than 50 mph – will arrive within so many hours.

These are the COR levels, with general guidance on what to do; officials may give additional instructions as warranted:

Before an impending emergency (**Condition V**), Command expects all personnel to have completed the following:

- Plan several escape routes that lead well inland.
- Get the proper insurance for your residence. The government will not reimburse you for hurricane damage to your household goods in military quarters.
- Gather all important insurance and

identification papers and put them in a waterproof container/bag.

- Choose someone well outside the affected zone (preferably out of the state) that everyone in your family can contact should you get separated.
- Ensure your vehicles are in good working order.
- Update your evacuation information with your chain of Command. Login to NFAAS to update your Personal / Recall information.
- If you live near a river, beach, inter-coastal waterway, in a mobile home, or in a flood plain, you should plan to leave.
- If you live away from any large bodies of water, on high ground and in a very sturdy house, you might consider staying depending on the category of the storm.

What to do if you are staying:

Condition IV – Hurricane forecasted to strike within 72 hrs.

- Clear debris around house
- Secure loose equipment/boats
- Stock up on non-perishables
- Prepare the items on your Disaster Supplies checklist
- Review shelter locations/evac routes
- Ensure you have propane and fuel for

vehicles

- Move valuables upstairs or store inside closets
- Have adequate CASH on hand
- Follow instructions from official sources only
- Notify family of your emergency plans
- Backup your hard drive.

Condition III - Hurricane forecasted to strike within 48 hrs.

- Check with your chain of command for specific orders
- Board up your house, if necessary
- Check medical supplies
- Expectant mothers (37+ wks) consult with doc
- Gather water containers, clean bathtubs (to collect water)
- Tune in to radio/TV

Condition II - Hurricane forecasted to strike within 24 hrs.

- Board windows, close shutters, blinds, and drapes
- Containerize water, fill bathtub
- Set refrigerator to coldest setting and pack with extra water containers
- Set brakes, put antenna down, close windows and doors in car, park away from trees and poles
- Stay off roads



- Evacuate to shelter, if needed
- Tune in to radio/TV

Condition I - Hurricane forecasted to strike within 12 hrs.

- Stuff towels around doors and windows
- Conserve water
- Stay indoors, avoid windows
- Bring in pets and put in a room with no windows if possible
- If you lose power, disconnect or turn off all appliances
- If you smell gas, find where the gas line enters the house and turn the small valve clockwise
- Tune in to radio/TV

The current Condition of Readiness status is posted on various displays around the base and on the Naval Air Station Corpus Christi public website: www.cnic.navy.mil/CorpusChristi/index.htm.

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Navigating through Unfamiliar Seas – Transitioning from Military to Civilian Life (Part 3 of 5)

Planning and Preparation: Getting ready for Embarkation

by Tito Perez, TAP Manager, F&FSC

“Plans are nothing; planning is everything.”

Former U.S. President and WWII Supreme Allied Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower was reflecting on the need for planning while realizing that even the best, most detailed plans can go awry.

He implied it is the mettle you exhibit when things do not go according to plans that exemplifies who and what you are. Realize that not everything may go according to plan or that your expectations and the reality of an outcome may differ.

Nonetheless, to succeed you must commit to staying the course, to accomplishing your mission even if it means temporarily changing direction in rough, turbulent oceans of uncertainty or in the face of sudden, unexpected gales of anxiety.

Are you prepared to weather possible storms? When it comes to planning and preparation who, other than your self and your family, can best decide what happens after leaving a military life? The onus is on you to decide an appropriate course of action.

Letting others make choices for you, or succumbing to pressures to do what others think is best, negates your preferences and desires, sending you on a course where you may only find unhappiness, discontent, and dissatisfaction.

The planning process need not be arduous, convoluted, or complicated.

There are two basic elements to planning. First, clarify, in detail, what end result you wish to achieve.

What are your objectives and goals? What do you want to see happen as you begin your quest and what are your expectations when you arrive?

Second, decide what methodology you need to achieve your intended end result.

In this stage you detail strategies, tactics, or activities that will mark your intended waypoints (milestones), estimate your needed resources, and target mission starting, midway, and ending timelines.

Be aware of some keys like time management and prioritizing to successful plan and prepare.

Time is an attitude.

Your mental approach to scheduling, creating time tables, and establishing threshold datelines are important to helping you keep your bearings to ensure you do not deviate too much from your intended route.

Time is also a precious commodity that can easily slip through your hands. Avoid wasting it along with your efforts.

It is easy to become distracted and lose focus with you spending inordinate amounts of time on activities that are irrelevant to

your task.

Ideally, you should begin preparing for transition at least 18 months out.

Navy Career Counselors, Transition Assistance Program (TAP) staff, and Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) specialists can provide guidance and direction to ensure you allocate appropriate time for all the mandatory and necessary things that need resolution.

Advanced, long-term planning will give you more than enough time to make important decisions like where you want to live; the kinds of jobs you would like and the types of companies you would like to work for.

Prioritize to maximize.

After listing all the actions that you must take prior to leaving active duty, prioritize each item, taking into account all factors while focusing on the ones most important and critical to you.

Making “To Do” lists, establishing datelines, and adhering to your schedule will ensure you are addressing and dealing with each item in a timely and appropriate manner.

Be prepared to make mid-course adjustments as unexpected events arise. The degree by which you can change course in the advent of unforeseen circumstances reflects directly on the amount of planning and preparation you have invested upfront



The foolish prepare for a predictable future; the wise prepare for the unknown. Knowing who to turn to when you run into difficulties or when you are facing unresolved issues will ensure you will get the right help and at the most opportune time.

Proper planning and preparation will help you overcome almost anything that you may experience in often choppy and unpredictable seas of change.

The next installment in this five-part series will explore understanding and overcoming stress: something that is as natural as the tides.

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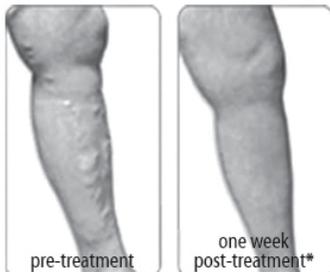
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Capt. Holly Bennett receives MSM, retires after 22 years Navy Nurse



Capt. Holly S. Bennett, Nurse Corps, was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (Second Award) for outstanding meritorious service while serving as Director, Branch Health Clinics, and Senior Nurse Executive, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, Texas from April 2007 to June 2010. Capt. Kevin T. Kalanta, Medical Service Corps, acting Commanding Officer, (left) presented the award June 18. Bennett was praised for blending seasoned experience, exceptional nursing and clinical knowledge. Her combined efforts proved critical to the command's achievements of high quality economic health care and supporting Navy Medicine East Whole Goals. Her superb performance of duty in a position of considerable responsibility was key for several significant process improvement projects. She directly oversaw an annual budget of \$7.5 million, \$3 million worth of medical devices, and three buildings located at sites across the state of Texas. She oversaw the growth of mission, personnel, and budget; her dynamic leadership and superb management, enabled her command to accomplish its mission, enacting force health protection at its finest. Her superior performance of duty during this tour is the hallmark of a career devoted to accomplishing broad and diverse tasks which highlighted the culmination of 22 years of honorable and dedicated Naval Service. When Bennett retired in a small ceremony June 28, friends and co-workers treated her to gifts and a cake in the shape of her favorite burger (below).

Photos by Bill Love, NHCCC PAO



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Contractor shortage causing delays in household goods moves

A shortage of contractors is causing some military members problems getting household goods moved this summer, officials say.

The months of June, July and August are prime months to execute household goods (HHG) moves. But the contractor shortage means some members are seeing delays.

Currently, NASCC officials are advising that members who have arranged or been contacted by a contractor and set a pick up / pack up date, should re-confirm those dates as some contractors are canceling due to the shortage of trucks.

The NASCC HHG office has contacted all potentially affected personnel by phone and/or e-mail.

However, they have not received confirmation from all. Any member scheduled to move between June 25 and July 9 should confirm their appointments with the NASCC HHG office and the carrier. NASCC HHG contact number is 361-961-3742.

Additionally, USTRANSCOM has changed their HHG webpage to setup a HHG move to www.move.mil.

Members should disregard PCS orders indicating www.smartwebmove.mil as the website to execute a HHG move; ensure you are using www.move.mil.

Most PCS orders are distributed to the member 90-days prior to their report date to their next duty station.

However, there are situations that require short fused - less than 90 days - orders.

To ensure your HHG moves are executed in a timely manner requires being proactive - applying for a HHG move upon receipt of orders with three (3) alternative dates is optimal.

Finally, one solution is a Personally Procured Move (PPM) - formerly known as Do It Yourself Move (DITY).

Flour Bluff I.S.D. offers tuition-free transfers to military

Flour Bluff Independent School District has amended their tuition-free transfer policy to include a student whose parent is employed on a permanent status at the Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi Army Depot, or is a tenant of the base.

Students may request transfer contingent upon initial screening and annual review of the students' disciplinary history, attendance records, grades and scores on the state-mandated assessment or other appropriate standardized testing.

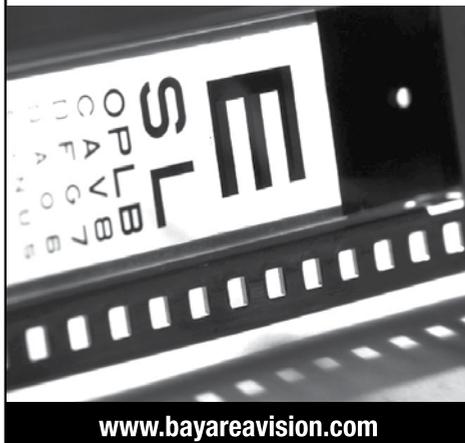
For more information on tuition and tuition-free transfers, contact the administration office at 694-9220 or 694-9713.



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Ask Dr. Garcia



Garcia

Q: My husband and I will be having our first child next Spring. Can this experience affect the level of marital satisfaction?

A: Social scientific research has focused mainly on the decline in marital satisfaction after birth of a first child.

Researchers have pointed to the increased psychological stress that results from the sudden restriction in the freedom to pursue personal interests (work, hobbies, friendships, recreation) and the decline in privacy, companionship, and communication between parents and newborns.

The physical and emotional demands of caring for an infant are boundless, especially if the mother is not well, the infant has a low birth weight, or the mother has had a multiple birth.

More recent research on marital satisfaction after the birth of a first child has taken a more positive turn.

Couples who like and respect one another, who were satisfied with their relationship before they became parents, and who planned and looked forward to having their first child continue to feel satisfied after they become parents.

In fact, these couples adapt better to all family transitions and are more likely to stay together, for better and for worse and for life.

Q: Why is there still that sense of sibling rivalry between my husband and his brothers and sisters?

A: In an article entitled, *Beyond Sibling Rivalry: An Empirically Grounded Theory of Sibling Relationships*, researcher Gerald Handel noted that sibling rivalry and hostility in adulthood are open and obvious among very few brothers and sisters (less than 10 percent).

And such rivalries seem to be strongly related to the feeling of having been unfairly treated by parents during childhood.

A younger child, for example may have been given more privileges and freedom by parents who were

more experienced and relaxed than they were with their first born child.

Or parents may have given more praise, support, and encouragement to a brother or sister who was physically, emotionally, or intellectually less strong (and more needy) or more gifted and talented.

Prolonged, irrational, bitter squabbling over an inheritance is usually a symptom of surviving feelings of parental unfairness and hostility toward a more favored brother or sister.

But most brothers and sisters are close and cooperative as they live out their lives, especially if their values and achievements do not turn out to be insurmountably different and incompatible.

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. You can also contact Dr. Garcia at (361) 814-4556.

Regatta continued from page 1

ship – leave Sunfish Beach at noon, heading back to the downtown marina.

The winners in each class compete for the “Military Cup” awarded to winners in each class as they return downtown.

It has to be an active duty servicemember at the helm of the sailboat to compete in this event.

An awards banquet and presentation is held at the CC Yacht Club (Cooper’s Alley) for the final event of the day.

Oh, tradition has it that the Base CO, Capt. Randy Pierson, is “thrown” into the pool at some time during the banquet.

For more information, or to sign up as a volunteer, contact Teri Ficken at Ficken78374@aol.com, or call her at: (361) 534-9019.



A losing 2009 Titanic Cup entry

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AROUND THE BASE

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Two Sailors prepare an F/A-18 formerly flown by the Blue Angels for static display aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. Removing the ejection seat are AME1 Kevin Swanner (on the ground) and AME1 Curtis Friesz (in aircraft).

Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs



Members of the Fredericksburg Junior ROTC program got a base tour June 9 that included a Military Working Dog Demonstration and a visit to the NASCC Fire Department.

Photo by Bob Torres



Credit Union officials attending a conference in Corpus Christi got a tour of NASCC on June 18, including the chance to sit in the cockpit of a T-34C Turbomotor.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister

AWARDS and ACHIEVEMENTS

Winging — June 11



Photo by Hugh Liecek Event Photography

Winging officials, from left: John Michael, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce; Lt. Robert Fasnacht, Chaplain; Maj. Matt Hoffman, Senior Marine, TW-4; Cmdr. Patrick Foley, Senior USCG Aviator, TW-4; Cmdr. Antonio Tellado, Executive Officer, VT-31; Lt. Col. Robert Blagg, USAF, Commanding Officer, VT-35; Capt. Tim Pedersen, COMSTRATCOMMWING ONE; Capt. Scott P. Cooledge, Commodore, TW-4.

Wingees, in alphabetical order: 2nd Lt. John Matthew Adam, USAF; 2nd Lt. Frank Carlo Badillo, USAF; 1st Lt. Christopher P. Boelscher, USAF; 2nd Lt. Cory Larry Bota, USAF; Lt. j.g. Eric William Gorden; Ensign Clint Farris Goslee; Lt. j.g. James Andrew Mardis; Lt. j.g. Jenna Rene Markham; 2nd Lt. Joshua Keith Martin, USAF; 2nd Lt. Derek T. Moser, USAF; 2nd Lt. Vincent Karl Murphy, USAF; Lt. j.g. Nicholas John Peranteau; Ensign Jordan Daniel Schneider; 1st Lt. William Mikell Seabrook, USMC; Lt. j.g. Patrick Adam Street, USCG.

NASCC Quarterly Civilian Awards — June 15



NASCC held a civilian awards June 15. Pictured, from left: Cmdr. Bruce Lankford, NASCC XO; Joseph Elliott, Senior Civilian of the Quarter, 1st Quarter 2010; Jeanie Evans, Civilian of the Quarter, 1st Quarter 2010; Ernest Rendon, 40 Years Federal Service; Daniel Mendoza, 40 Years; Joe (Albert) Hinojosa, 20 Years; Johnny Guerra, 30 Years; Catherine R. Jefferies, 20 Years; Capt. Randy Pierson, NASCC CO.

Photo by Rod Hafemeister



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What's Happening

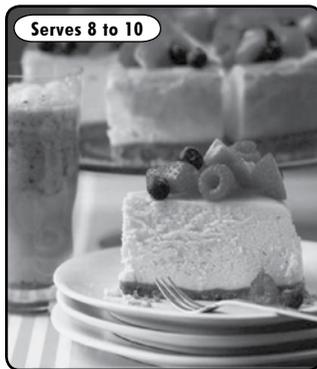
by Tina Konwerski

Tuesday, July 2, 2010 6pm to 8 pm "Fine Wines and Felines" - This is a wonderful casual experience. Come visit the kittens, sip a glass of wine enjoy delicious snacks while listening to soothing music. The Cattery, 8201 Weber. \$20 donation per person requested - or \$10 per person with a donation of hand sanitizer, bleach, postage stamps, dry swifter pads, or clumping litter.

Artist Exhibitors Sought for "Art's Better Outside" Expo in Athens The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center and Wildlife Forever invite artists to show, sell and demonstrate their art on **Saturday, July 17, 2010**, at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens, 75 miles southeast of Dallas. The art show and sale will be in conjunction with the Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest national expo, which will be attended by student artists from around the nation. Artists are encouraged to actively demonstrate their craft or offer a hands-on art-related activity for the visiting public. To learn more about becoming involved in the event, please contact Jim Booker at (903) 670-2266, or e-mail james.booker@tpwd.state.tx.us.

Join us for the second annual **"Coastal Bend Walk 'n Roll Celebration"** on **Saturday, July 17, 2010 at 8 a.m.** The 2K walk will focus on increasing community awareness of persons with disabilities in addition to celebrating the ADA's 20th anniversary. Regardless of age or ability, all residents are invited

Serves 8 to 10



New York Cheesecake

- 7 ounces graham crackers or chocolate wafers
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 tablespoons melted butter
- 36 ounces cream cheese
- 1 cup sour cream
- 5 eggs
- 1 spring form cake pan, 8" diameter

Grated peel and the freshly squeezed juice of 1 unwaxed lemon

Crush the graham crackers in a food processor then add the melted butter and mix well. Press the mixture firmly into the cake pan. Bake for 5 minutes, remove and let cool. Grease the sides of the pan above the crust.

In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese and sugar with an electric beater. Add the lemon peel, juice, sour cream, and vanilla extract. Mix until smooth and add the eggs one at a time until well combined. Put the flour in last and mix again. Pour the mixture into the cake pan. Bake for 70 minutes until it is firm and the top is turning light golden. Let sit in the oven with the door open until cool (about 2 hours), then refrigerate for at least 6 hours or overnight. Place your favorite fresh fruit on top and serve.

Fine Wines and Felines



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6 pm - 8 pm

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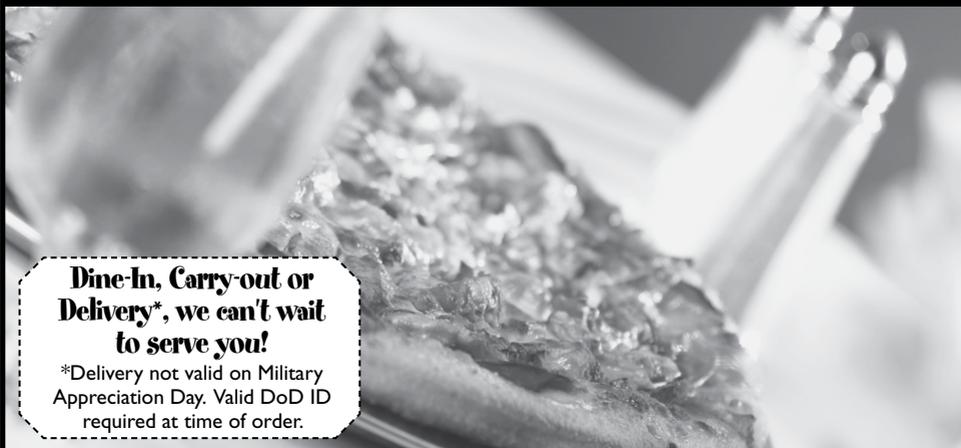
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What's Happening continued

to participate in this unique event. For participants in wheelchairs, using white canes or guide dogs, and anyone else who might need special assistance, volunteers will be on hand to help ensure everyone is able to participate. **To register in advance for the event, please contact Aurora at 361.289.8726.** Teams are highly encouraged to participate in this walk and share in our spirit of awareness.
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL St.

Peter's by the Sea United Methodist Church July 26-30 5:30PM-8:00PM ages: incoming kindergarten thru outgoing 6th graders **1541 Waldron Road (361)937-1456** to pre-register or for more information.

Island in the Son United Methodist Church will have a Craft Sale on Saturday, July 31, 2010 from 9 AM until 3 PM. Vendors are needed; fee for inside booth is \$35.

Continued on next page

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\$20 per person donation requested or \$10 per person requested with a donation of hand sanitizer, bleach, postage stamps, dry swiffer pads, clay or clumpable litter.

What's Happening

by Tina Konwerski.

For more information contact Patty Baker (361-949-3276) or Ronnie Shea (361-949-0632).

Saturday, August 7, 2010 2nd Annual Fishing Tournament presented by Boozefighters MC and benefiting The Lighthouse for the Blind. Marker 37@ The JFK Causeway. Fishing Tournament with weigh in at Marker 37 ending at 4 p.m. Tournament hours Daylight to 2:00 p.m. Entry Fee \$50.00 -- CASH PRIZES, Lottery Drawing/ Auction Raffle. Food provided by Snoopy's Pier. fmi Carl Whitener 361-290-9855 or Darrell Pollard 361-816-1129.

Rockport Art Festival

A weekend of beautiful juried fine arts such as pottery, watercolor, wood carvings etc. Food and beverage vendors. Sun Jul 4 10am - 5pm. ACND Festival Grounds.

Showtime on the Showboat or "Don't Throw Garbage in the River"

A summer melodrama FMI 361-758-0383. Fri Jul 9 7:30pm - 9:30pm. Rialto Theater, 327 S Commercial, Aransas Pass.



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A SHIRT

JUNE 11, 2010

You guys are the Best!! Thank you so much for taking care of our family during and after our tornado experience. You literally gave us the shirts of your backs + a pair of socks. May God Bless You for all you do! Garcia Family

NASCC Fire & Emergency Services recently received a 'thank you' postcard from one of the families they helped during the storm on June 2-3. The family had abandoned their RV and took shelter at the fire station.

10th Annual Blackhawk Memorial Golf Tournament

Four-man Best Ball Scramble

Monday, 9 August 2010
Padre Isles Country Club
0700 Registration
0800 Shotgun Start

\$75 Entry Fee Includes:

- Cart Rental
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- Putting Green Practice
- Beverages
- Lunch

Prizes for:

- First, Second & Third Place
- Longest Drive
- Closest to Pin

For more information: 992-2100 Proceeds benefit Navy Marine Corps Relief Society

Flying continued from page 1

Its terms were insufficient to produce the required RFT (ready for training) aircraft.

These aircraft are at the end of their service life. Though T-6's are slated to replace the Wing's aging T-34's, this won't start until 2012 - with full implementation not complete until 2014.

Another issue has been the weather; Corpus Christi, with its high salinity air, has meant more unscheduled corrosion repairs on the aging aircraft.

Earlier in the year, Navy leadership recognized the need for additional maintenance support of the aging aircraft and added a supplemental maintenance contract to alleviate the commercial maintenance workload.

NAS Corpus Christi and Training Air Wing 4 have worked closely to open homefield when production demands dictate.

The trick was to cut back on Friday flying hours.

"We close earlier on Fridays," Silva said, "We use a single eight-hour shift on Saturdays with about 25 people."

Base support also includes ET rates; fewer people but longer hours with two military and two civilian employees typically working a Saturday shift.

"We're here two hours before flying starts and one hour after," said ET2 David Lane.

ET1 Bobby Jones said everyone takes shifts in rotation, so everyone shares the load.

"That's my job," he said.

"We have a duty ET who rotates weekly; he gets the Saturday for that week.

"If they come in on a Saturday, they will have the following workday off, if possible."

Sometimes satellite airfields need to be opened; but Truax Field, aboard NAS Corpus Christi, always has to be opened when flying is scheduled.

How busy the airfield crews are depends on what kind of flying training is scheduled.

"It varies," Silva said. "Sometimes maybe you're real busy in the morning and then it slows down.

"Some days you're busy the whole watch."

For experienced Sailors, it's just part of the job.

"If it was a ship, you'd stay out there for a week or a month," ET1 Steven Short said. "Here, at least you get to go home when you're done."

For younger Sailors on first assignment, it's just doing what they are told.

"They point, I follow," said AC3 Keoki Chee.

No one is saying when the Saturday flights will end.

But they are helping clear the backlog of student pilots.

So do a couple winter detachments to Roswell, N.M.

And then there are the 15 additional T-34s the Wing is starting to receive, in increments of three, from Wing 5 in Pensacola, Fla.

Wing leaders say things are steadily improving and, more importantly, will continue to improve.

And the support folks?

"It's routine for us," Jones said.



Open letter from Angela Powell...For the Love of Strays

Dear Fellow Coastal Bend Residents

Recently, we had several rescue situations requiring more than just routine vet care of spay/neuter, shots, etc. Normally we keep our head above water while providing for necessary expenses from our adoption fees and random donations that keep us going from week to week.

Last Friday, Nina, a sweet corgi mix, lost her battle with distemper. I'm really beating myself up over this one. I've wanted to save her from the streets for at least 2 years. But there was never enough room for her; finally I take her just in time to die a few days later in a vet clinic. I try to console myself with the thought that instead of dying under an old truck in the heat, she died while being well cared for at Windsor Park Animal Hospital. Our vet bill for Nina is \$420.

Also last Friday, Ariel, our tiny rescue puppy, had surgery to repair a fractured hip. She should heal just fine and have a normal life. Her vet bill is \$699.

Chills was found by a caring person who decided to help find him a home. After a few days Chills started getting sick. He stayed at Windsor Park and was treated for parvo. He was released last week and even has a forever home pending! His vet bill is \$350.

In addition to the above emergencies, we had (and paid for) 5 spays/neuters last week and 1 this week. Hanna's spay scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed until we can raise funds.

On top of money worries, we are in urgent need of at least two foster homes! Some times our foster homes have emergencies or their situation changes and they request we pick up animals immediately. This makes it difficult and at times our only choice is to pay for the animal to be boarded. We don't like our dogs in boarding for longer than just a few days, as they don't get the socialization they need and also we just can't afford it.

While driving to work today, I reminded myself, through my tears of despair, that these tears will soon be washed away by tears of joy when one of our rescues goes to that forever home and starts a whole new wonderful life!



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EN1 Romero reups in engine room



EN1 Richard Romero (r.) shares a laugh with Lt. Cmdr. Jason Greene as his wife and children look on after Greene administered the Oath of Reenlistment to him on June 15. Romero reenlisted in the engine room of the USS Lexington, saying the heat and humidity 'felt like home.'

Photo by Rod Hafemeister



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CW3 Stewart retires; gets MSM



CW3 William Stewart (r.) receives his Meritorious Service Medal Certificate from NASCC CO Capt. Randy Pierson. Stewart retired in a small ceremony with family and friends in Pierson's office on June 25. Photo by Rod Hafemeister

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Cmdr. Thomas Wheaton retires



Capt. James Crabbe (l.) presents Cmdr. Thomas J. Wheaton with a Letter of Appreciation from the President at Wheaton's retirement ceremony June. 11. Wheaton retired after 30 years of naval service, with his final assignment at CNATRA.
Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs

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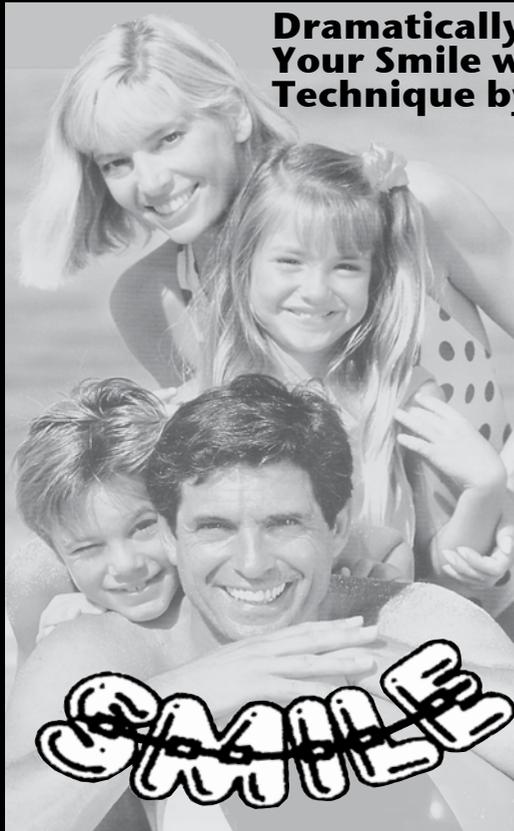
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Elmore promoted to First Class



Petty Officer 1st Class Erica Elmore was promoted on June 10 at CNATRA Headquarters. Capt. James Crabbe (left) and Cmdr. Scott Laedlein do the honors.
Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs



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VA makes filing claims easier & faster

WASHINGTON—As part of Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki's effort to break the back of the backlog, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is reducing the paperwork and expediting the process for Veterans seeking compensation for disabilities related to their military service.

"These reductions in paperwork, along with other improvements to simplify and speed the claims process, symbolize changes underway to make VA more responsive to Veterans and their families," said Secretary Shinseki.

VA has shortened application forms to reduce paperwork for Veterans. The new forms, which are being made available on VA's Web site at www.va.gov/vaforms, include:

A shortened VA Form 21-526 for Veterans applying for the first-time to VA for disability compensation or pension benefits.

It is immediately available to Veterans via Web download, and will be available through VA's online claim-filing process later this summer at <http://vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp/main.asp>.

VA Form 21-526b for Veterans seeking increased benefits for conditions already determined by VA to be service-connected. It more clearly describes the information needed to support claims for increased benefits.

In order to make the claims process faster, VA has also introduced two new forms for Veterans participating in the Department's new fully developed claim (FDC) program, which is one of the fastest means to receive a claims decision.

Gathering information and evidence needed to support a Veteran's disability claim often takes the largest portion of the processing time. With all of the available evidence, the remaining steps in the claims-decision process can be expedited without compromising quality.

To participate in the FDC program, Veterans should complete and submit an FDC Certification and VA Form 21-526EZ, "Fully Developed Claim (Compensation)," for a compensation claim, or a VA Form 21-527EZ, "Fully Developed Claim (Pension)," for a pension claim.

These six-page application forms include notification to applicants of all information and evidence necessary to "fully develop" and substantiate their claims so Veterans and their representatives can "fully develop" their claims before submission to VA for processing.

Disability compensation is a tax-free benefit paid to a Veteran for disabilities that are a result of, or made worse by, injuries or diseases that happened while on active duty, active duty for training or inactive duty training.

Pension is a benefit paid to wartime Veterans with limited income, and who are permanently and totally disabled or age 65 or older.

For additional information, go to www.va.gov or call VA's toll free at 1-800-827-1000.



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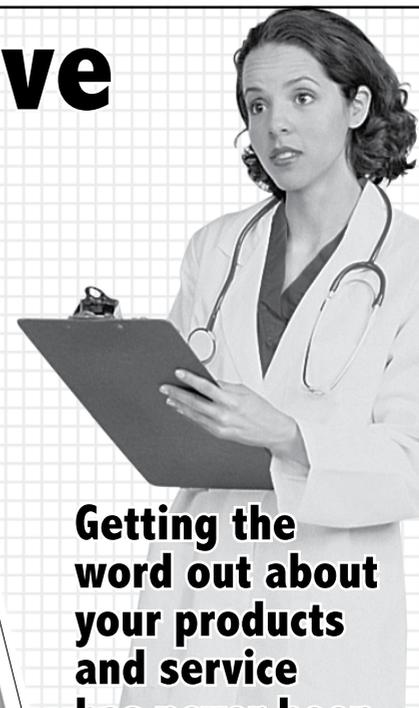
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