



Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

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July 15, 2010

'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' surveys hit service members' inboxes

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael J. Carden
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Defense Department officials e-mailed surveys to 400,000 service members at noon July 7 as part of a special review to prepare the military for a potential repeal of the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that bans gays and lesbians from openly serving, Pentagon officials announced.

Army Gen. Carter F. Ham, commander of U.S. Army Europe, and Jeh Johnson, the Pentagon's top lawyer, head the review panel that's assessing the current law.

"The voice of the service members is still vitally important," said Ham, noting that although amendments to the current law were approved by legislators in May 2010, lawmakers still require the Pentagon review.

"This is draft regulation, it is not yet enacted into law, and there are several hurdles yet to come," said Ham.

The group has been meeting with troops and family members since February 2010. Surveys also were

distributed because time and financial constraints precluded meeting with every single member, Ham explained in a recent Pentagon Channel interview.

The surveys will give the panel a baseline of information that best represents the military's 2.2 million service members and their families, said Ham, stressing the importance of service member feedback.

Engaging the force may be more important now than before the amendments were passed, said Ham.

Half of the surveys went to active-duty service members, and half were sent to the Reserve components. Troops who received the surveys were selected based on age, rank, service, component, military specialties, education, marital status and other factors to ensure broad and thorough feedback on a potential repeal, Ham said.

The working group also plans to continue meeting with service members and families, said Ham.

Ham and Johnson have met with troops at "a large variety of bases, posts, camps and stations around the country," said Ham, adding that they're planning to meet with troops stationed overseas as well.

Such sessions have proven invaluable to the working group, Ham added.

"What these sessions do afford is an opportunity for Mr. Johnson and myself to speak directly to service members, to hear in their own words what their assessment

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NMCB 7 Det HOA Seabees bring fresh water to villagers in Ethiopia



DIRE DAWA, Ethiopia -- Seabees assigned to NMCB 7's Detachment Horn of Africa (HOA), Soldiers assigned to the Army's 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment, and villagers of Adgia Falima celebrate the successful completion of a fresh water well in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia. The water well is the first of seven hand-pump operated wells scheduled to be drilled in the Dire Dawa and Shinele regions of Ethiopia. NMCB 7 and its detachments are currently deployed to various locations throughout Europe and Africa as part of the battalion's regularly scheduled 2010 deployment, with the main body of the battalion operating from Camp Mitchell at Naval Station Rota.

(Official U.S. Navy photo/Released)

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Apollo astronaut speaks to Seabees



Former astronaut Fred Haise, a lunar module pilot on Apollo 13, gives a motivational presentation to service members at the Training Hall at Naval Construction Battalion Center June 29. Apollo 13, launched April 11, 1970, experienced a technical malfunction that ruptured an oxygen tank, forcing the crew to abort a moon landing to return home. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Demetrius Kennon/Released)

Sailor's Creed

I am a United States Sailor,
 I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and I will obey the orders of those appointed over me,
 I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy and those who have gone before me to defend freedom and democracy around the world,
 I proudly serve my country's Navy combat team with Honor, Courage and Commitment,
 I am committed to excellence and the fair treatment of all.

Skipper's Log

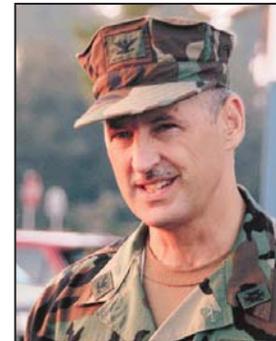
Get moving

By Capt. Ed Brown
 CO, NCBC/CMDR 20TH SRG

This week I was honored to again congratulate one of our outstanding Sailors as they earned their college degree. I asked how long it took and they said they started in 1993. That's 17 years! At least two out of three people I talk to seem to take more than 10 years. It is so great to see that they have stuck to it because now they get to choose their own future. For those graduating I always hear the same thing, "Oh I ended up with two degrees and I'm continuing for my masters."

Seventeen years for one and you are going on for a master's degree; how does that make sense? The point is that once you get past starting a task and dedicate yourself to finishing, action becomes a habit. When action is a habit, success follows.

We've all experienced those down times where we have no energy and sit around. After a few days we get more lethargic



Capt. Ed Brown

and start down the spiral. Finally, something happens that spurs us to action, we break the cycle of doing nothing and quickly can't imagine not being in action.

Doing more isn't hard, but you have to start; you have to commit. Every one of us can do it. Step away from the games or use the remote to turn off the TV for a few hours a week and make your own choices. Control your future.

NCBC Gulfport Environmental Meeting

A meeting on the Proposed Plan for the Northwest Landfill (Site 3) will take place July 15 at the Isiah Fredericks Community Center at 3312 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Gulfport. A poster session will take place from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., followed by a presentation from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This meeting will open a 30-day Public Comment Period for this cleanup proposal. For more information, please contact the NCBC Gulfport Installation Restoration Program Manager at 228-229-0466 or e-mail gordon.crane@navy.mil

Command Action Line:

Due to limited IG resources throughout the Southeast Region, all Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline work will now be handled by the Region. To report Fraud, Waste and Abuse, contact the Region at: Toll Free 1-(877)-657-9851 Comm: (904) 542-4979 DSN 942-4979 FAX: (904) 542-5587, E-mail: CNRSE_HOTLINE@navy.mil

Training specialist retires



As well-wishers look on, Martha Rounsaville (left) and Charlotte Williams cut the celebratory cake at Rounsaville's retirement reception July 1 at the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, Headquarters building. Rounsaville retired from her position as a training specialist with 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG) and was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award for 45 years of dedicated federal service. Her plans for the future include new educational challenges and investigating opportunities to see what's on the "other side of the fence." (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 2nd Class Elizabeth Jacavone/Released)

Sailors can now enroll in women eMentoring program

By Lt. Laura K. Stegherr
Diversity Directorate Public Affairs

The NavyWomen eMentoring Program, a web-based tool that connects uniformed Navy women for mentoring relationships, has begun a new open enrollment period that was announced in NAVADMIN 226/10 July 7.

The program, now in its third year, is designed to support the personal and professional development of women by building productive mentoring relationships between mentors and proteges.

Four hundred new slots are available for mentors and mentees during the open enrollment period, which will last until Aug. 15.

The program is open to all active duty and Reserve Navy women, to include officers, officers-in-training and enlisted members.

The program features a user-friendly interface that offers several options for Navy women to create mentoring relationships. In addition to the basic one-on-one mentor to protege matching, mentees can also take part in situational mentoring for more short-term, situation-specific needs. This function allows mentees to select one or more mentors to assist them with a particular situation or to post the situation, allowing mentors to volunteer their support.

A new feature of the program beginning in late summer 2010 is group mentoring, where mentors can post a topic for discussion. Mentees can then join the group and participate during a designated time frame.

The program currently has 1,250 participants enrolled, including 800 mentors from nearly every designator and rating. Members include women of all ranks and reflect a broad range of designators, experiences and expertise.

Stefanie Goebel, NavyWomen eMentor Program director, is pleased with the momentum the program has gained throughout the past two years.

"I am very excited about the way Navy women have embraced the NavyWomen eMentor leadership program," said Goebel. "The ongoing high numbers of enrollees clearly show the great need and desire for this kind of mentoring. Participants tell us again and again how grateful they are to have such easy access to more experienced women who understand firsthand their

unique brand of challenges."

Participants surveyed about their impressions of the program indicated that they had positive experiences with the program. The survey indicated that 82 percent of mentees and 84 percent of mentors were highly satisfied with their initial experiences and that 80 percent of all participants said they had improved career satisfaction since using the program.

"The best thing about the mentoring program so far is that I have an awesome mentor who is caring and practical, helping me to put some items into perspective so that I can work them out and move on," said one survey respondent. "She is able to address both my professional and personal goals, which is a huge plus."

"I am finally able to talk to someone with confidence and confidentiality about my experiences, questions and concerns and am able to receive valuable and actionable advice - from someone who's been in my shoes!" said another respondent.

Mentors also found much value in the program.

"Being able to assist someone with concerns I've already faced reminds me how small our Navy is," said a surveyed mentor. "And I believe keeping that idea in mind helps us all."

Goebel explained that the mentoring program serves an important role in the overall development of women in the Navy.

"Mentoring is not simply a feel-good activity. It is 100 percent about valuing human capital," said Goebel. "The existence of this program clearly sends the message that the Navy cares about the professional and personal growth of uniformed Navy women. And the women are hearing the message."

Navy women are encouraged to register at www.academywomen.org/-emmentor/signup. Within two days, registrants will receive an email instructing them to create an account and profile, and for mentees, to search for and select a mentor.

The Navy recognizes mentoring as a valuable and necessary component to job satisfaction and performance.

More information on the Navy Women eMentor Program and other Women's Policy initiatives can be found at www.npc.navy.mil/AboutUs/BU-PERS/WomensPolicy/.

Thousands of DON civilians transitioned from NSPS

By Linda Dent Mitchell
DON Transition Management
Office Public Affairs

The Department of the Navy (DoN) successfully completed its first phase of the transition of employees from the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) to the General Schedule (GS) July 2.

Approximately 18,000 employees have made the transition from NSPS in this first phase.

"The transition's success can be attributed to the tremendous collaboration across the department at all levels," said Tony Torres-Ramos, director of the DoN Transition Management Office.

The DoN plans to transition about 45,000 employees to the GS by the end of 2010.

"We remain committed to a strategic and orderly approach to

the transition, which best enables us to avoid disruption of our mission and minimizes negative impact to our employees," said Torres-Ramos.

Non-bargaining unit employees transitioning from NSPS to GS will be covered by the DoN Interim Performance Management System approved April 20. The system provides a framework for commands to recognize and reward employees in meaningful ways. The system leverages the capability of a two-level performance management system.

More than 70,000 DoN employees will transition from NSPS by Jan. 1, 2012. Of this number, about 15,700 NSPS positions from Naval Air System Command and Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) will transition to newly developed

Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory demonstration projects.

Approximately 2,100 NSPS positions located within Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity; Marine Corps Systems Command; Direct Reporting Program Manager, Advanced Assault Amphibians; Naval Sea Systems Command Program Executive Office Carriers; and Department of the Navy/Assistant for Administration; will transition to acquisition demonstration projects.

Approximately 880 NSPS positions located in SPAWAR will return to their alternative personnel system, and specific healthcare positions across the DoN have been identified for transition to

See TRANSITION page 11

Military improves personally procured move process

By Henry Bailey
Fleet and Industrial Supply
Center Jacksonville Household
Goods Director

After extensive testing and evaluation, the military has added to the Defense Personal Property System (DPS) an improved system to better compensate service members who use the Personally Procured Move (PPM) process for their household goods when on permanent change of station orders. This new web based system replaces the former system known as SMARTWEB-MOVE, or DITY (Do-It-Yourself Move) move. The new PPM tool may be accessed via the DPS online at: www.move.mil

All services began using the new system for processing PPMs on April 15. Moves initiated prior to that date will continue to process under the terms in place at the time of initiation. The PPM give service members a choice. They may elect to personally move some or even all of their personal property and receive an incentive for doing so. The system calculates for reimbursement using a "best value" method. Most moves will fall into one of three scenarios:

(1) Service members will receive 95 percent of the "best value" the government would pay to move the goods as an incentive for a PPM; or

(2) Actual Cost Reimbursement (ACR) will pay service members actual cost not to exceed the "best value" of the move and is used for pre-approved special handling such as assembly and disassembly and packing fragile items; or

(3) When a government-furnished moving service is not available, ACR pays the actual



cost for the entire move subject to service headquarters pre-approval.

Service members are reminded that the DPS online system should be used for setting up their moves, regardless of whether it is a PPM or a government arranged move. However some moves will not qualify for the new system, so it is important to access the DPS Smart Book at www.move.mil for the rules.

Questions about any of the DPS programs may be directed to the FISCJ HHG Call Center by calling (800) 762-4221, option #2; or by sending an email to: HHG_southeast@navy.mil.

Project Homefront



Builder 2nd Class Clayton Condon, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, and his wife, Michaela M. Condon, former Navy air traffic controller, are interviewed by co-anchor of the local WLOX News Jeff Lawson about the trials of their military-to-military relationship as a part of Project Homefront on board Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, June 29. Project Homefront is a WLOX News series featuring deployed military families and their unique stories and challenges during post-deployment. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Demetrius Kennon/Released)

Ad Space

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Seabees, Marines join forces to save lives in Timor-Leste

By HM2 Stacy Pruitt
NMCB 11 Public Affairs

It has been roughly six weeks since Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 has been here on the island of Timor-Leste and with only 25 Seabees here, there's not a lot of injuries or sicknesses to keep the Det. corpsman busy. So I was quite happy when I heard about the MEDCAP that would be going on in the coming week. MEDCAP is Medical Civil Action Program, a type of operation designed to assist an area by using the capabilities and resources of a military force or civilian organization.

Using medical doctors and specialists with equipment and supplies, a temporary field clinic is set up to provide limited medical treatment to the local population. MEDCAPs are generally narrow in scope and usually provide targeted assistance, providing high-quality first-level medical and dental screening to support the local medical infrastructure.

On June 20, the USS Pearl Harbor, and the USS Peleliu arrived in East Timor.

The two ships combined carried thousands of Sailors, Marines, supplies, cargo, and hard-armored vehicles.

One of the missions was for the medical personnel of the USS Pearl Harbor to come off the ship and spend a week here, offering a free clinic to the local Timorese here in Dili.

This became a great opportunity for me to get out and do something I love, which is helping those who are sick and injured.

The clinic was set up in the Chefe Succo office in Fatuhada. Among the medical crew, there were surgeons, physicians, nurses and, of course, corpsmen.

The first day seemed to be very hectic. Many of the locals already were lined up at the door and ready to be seen before the clinic was set up. But once the interpreters arrived and the clinic was set up, the patient flow went very well.

More than 200 patients were seen the first day. It was very challenging but extremely gratifying at the same time. It was difficult to understand what the exact symptoms and

complaints were because of the cultural and language differences. Many were chronic symptoms and hard to treat, but with the immeasurable assistance of the interpreters, we were able to give them outstanding care.

The simplest little things that we as Americans take for granted were tremendously appreciated by the Timorese, even a simple toothbrush and toothpaste.

To see the children smile with gratitude was unforgettable for the corpsmen and other medical examiners.

During the exercise, there were a variety of illnesses that included ear infections, tuberculosis, skin diseases, and upper respiratory infections. Most of the ear infections and skin diseases the children suffered from were the result of a lack of food, malnutrition and poor living conditions.

They were given basic medicine, like antibiotics, Tylenol, and vitamins that they would otherwise never receive.

This country is extremely impoverished and this type of care is something they would-



Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Stacy Pruitt of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 diagnosing a child with tuberculosis during a Medical Civil Action Program on the island of Timor-Leste. NMCB 11 is currently deployed to Okinawa, Guam, and several other parts of the Pacific theater. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

n't normally see.

The locals seemed very happy and appreciative of the services we provided.

During the MEDCAP, care was only able to be provided to them for one week, but that

one week made a difference to over 600 local Timorese, from newborns to the elderly.

One corpsman, HMSN Brunson, from USS Pearl Harbor said, "This is what being a corpsman is all about."

NMCB 11 helps clean Okinawa beach

By MC1 (SCW) Nicholas Lingo
NMCB 11 Public Affairs Officer

A group of nearly 50 Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 gave up one of their off Sundays on deployment to participate in a community relations project on the Japanese island of Okinawa.

The Seabees of Eleven rose early Sunday morning and piled into busses and vans to make the 45 minute journey to the Heishikiya District to take part in a beach and community clean-up project.

These Seabees worked side by side with locals in the dis-

trict to help beautify parts of the community including picking up garbage along a large strip of beach and cleaning up grass clippings and weeds along streets that had been pulled and cut prior to their arrival.

The heat was a major factor since the actual clean-up didn't start until 10 a.m. "It was really hot and humid," said Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Dillon Parks, "but the heat wasn't a major problem, we had plenty of water to keep us hydrated. Plus, it was really great to get out and help out the locals and see where they live and visit

their community."

The opportunity to help out the local population when deployed to a foreign country is always of major importance to Seabee Battalions. "Due to the poor reputation that is often given to all military members for the action of a few, it is extremely important to show the locals that we are here to help the community and also learn the culture through interaction," said Chaplain Mark Coker, NMCB 11's Battalion Chaplain. "This also gives the Seabees who have the

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A large group of Seabees tackle the task of helping clean up a local beach in Okinawa Japan. Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 were assisting with a community relations project set up with CFAO to help clean-up the local area. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Nicholas Lingo/Released)

NMCB 7 brings fresh water to Dire Dawa with new water well

By HM1 Heather Watts,
ET2 Elizabeth Martin and
EA2 Gregg Morris
NMCB 7 Public Affairs

After 672 hours of around-the-clock operations, Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 Det. Horn of Africa (HOA) successfully completed the drilling of their first freshwater well in the village of Adgia Falima, located in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia, June 14.

A detail of 18 Seabees detached from Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, April 30 to establish a base camp in Dire Dawa and began operations shortly after.

The detail has been tasked with completing the construction of seven hand-pump operated wells in the Dire Dawa and Shinele regions, through the use of the mud rotary drilling technique, the most versatile and dependable method for drilling fresh water wells. Each completed well will possess the ability to pump nine gallons of fresh water per minute.

Det. personnel were divided into three separate crews, lead by Equipment Operator 1st Class Brad Williams, Equipment Operator 1st Class Jackie Hazeltine and Equipment Operator 2nd

Class Michael Chevere. Each crew, or "Towers," worked equal eight hour shifts, allowing drilling operations to continue 24 hours a day.

The completed well was drilled to a depth of 224 feet, consisting of 6-inch PVC casing, 2-inch galvanized steel draw pipe, sanitary seals, concrete base with catch basin, and a galvanized steel hand pump.

The Seabees' success did not come without minor setbacks. Delays in getting needed equipment across the border into Ethiopia, along with drill malfunctions were a couple of obstacles the Seabees had to hurdle.

"An important step of the drilling process was monitoring what type of surface we were drilling through," said Equipment Operator Constructionman Justin Flowers. "Sometimes clay, then sand, but most often we had to drill through solid rock, making the operation very difficult and time consuming."

Security for the water well operation was provided by a 14-man detail of Army Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment, who were also based out of Camp Lemonnier. The 1-65th Regiment is currently on de-

ployment, from their home base of Puerto Rico, to provide security to Camp Lemonnier and Forward Operating Locations throughout the AFRICOM Region.

Once completed, the Seabees provided valuable training on operation and maintenance of the well, to prevent misuse and mistreatment which may damage the well or cause a malfunction.

To celebrate the completion of the well, Ensign Craig Culbertson, detail mission commander, coordinated with the village leader to arrange an opening ceremony.

"This is the first well we have completed, but it's more than just a number to us," stated Culbertson during the brief ceremony.

The Seabees will use a two week maintenance period to make minor drilling rig and camp repairs before drilling their next water well in Legota Mirga, Ethiopia.

NMCB 7 and its detachments are currently deployed to various locations throughout Europe and Africa as part of the battalion's regularly scheduled 2010 deployment, with the main body of the battalion operating from Camp Mitchell at Naval Station Rota.



An Adgia Falima villager family enjoys fresh water from the recently completed water well in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia. Seabees assigned to NMCB 7 Detachment Horn of Africa (HOA) recently completed the nine water well in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia. NMCB 7 and its detachments are currently deployed to various locations throughout Europe and Africa as part of the battalion's regularly scheduled 2010 deployment, with the main body of the battalion operating from Camp Mitchell at Naval Station Rota. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



NMCB 74 continues rapid homeport training pace

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 wrap up a day of training while participating in the Mabey Johnson bridge class held at Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport. Students of the bridge class will learn to construct two types of bridges and be assigned to NMCB 74's Bridge Detail during the battalion's upcoming deployment. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)

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of the impact of repeal of the current law would be should Congress decide to take that action," said Ham. "Those sessions provide us context. They provide us substance to what we know we will get statistically from the survey and put it in real terms of how real service members feel about this."

An online inbox also is available for military and civilian members of the Defense Department. Troops can log into <http://www.defense.gov/dadt> with their common access card to provide their input. This site is not confidential; however, directions from the site, as well as in the survey, are provided for members who wish to continue a "confidential dialogue" with non-Defense Department members of the working group, said Ham.

Once service members enter the confidential site, they will be given an untraceable PIN number they then can use to log on from any computer.

This tool will allow gay and lesbian service members to remain anonymous and establish confidential communication, said Ham. It's available to all service members because some may not feel comfortable providing candid remarks.

"It is vitally important that service members continue to be open and frank and totally honest with us in their feedback," said Ham. "That certainly has been the case to date, whether it's been a large-group session or a small group or the online inbox. The service members and their families have been invaluable to Mr. Johnson and myself."

"We need that to continue in order to do our jobs and be representative of the force as we address the significant policy matters that would follow repeal of this law, if that is what Congress decides to do," said Ham.

Also, 150,000 surveys will be mailed to military spouses by the end of July 2010, said Ham.

Ham stressed the importance of promptly completing and returning the surveys. The hope is that that all of the surveys will be submitted within 45 days of receipt, said Ham.

The working group's final report is due to Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates by Dec. 1.

NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER
VOLKSLAUF MUD RUN 2010

NEW T-SHIRTS
NEW OBSTACLES
NEW MUD

SAT. SEPT 18 AT 8AM

Visit below web addresses
http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1863205
www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/index
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Bee in the Know . . . Visit <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/gulfport/index.htm> to find out what's happening on the Center!

Ad Space

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heart to serve the opportunity to get their hands dirty alongside the locals who need the help. It's also a morale booster for the Seabees who participate," added Chaplain Coker.

After the cleanup was completed, the locals served the Seabees a light lunch to show their appreciation for the assistance the Seabees of NMCB Eleven had given in respect to the Okinawan people.

Chaplain Coker has several more projects lined up for the battalion during this lengthy deployment to Okinawa, including a group of volunteers that will help teach English at Higa Elementary School, located near White Beach, Okinawa. This particular project will involve all 28 students of the school. The Seabees volunteering will help the elementary students make decorations for the local Tanabata Festival (Star Festival) celebrated on July 7.

Career Fair . . . Fleet and Family Support Center will hold a Career Fair July 15 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Call 228-871-3000 for more information.



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NCTC Senior Riders sponsoring Motorcycle Safety Awareness Day. . .

Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Senior Riders are sponsoring a Motorcycle Safety Awareness Day, July 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the courtyard in front of the Colmer Dining Facility. This event will provide awareness on proper safety gear and base safety regulations. There will also be vendors along with CBC Safety and the Gulfport Police Department in attendance with static displays of motorcycles, PPE, safety information, and helmet fit tests. For additional information, contact BUCS(SCW/AW) Brooks, james.c.brooks1@navy.mil.



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Buzz on the Street



By E02 (SCW) Elizabeth
Jacavone

NCBC Public Affairs

**What has been your
greatest experience
in the Navy?**



*"I get to travel everywhere; I
love the beaches at Guam."*

BUCN Phillip Jones

NMCB 1

Hometown: Florence, S.C.



*"When I got off the plane
from Afghanistan to Gulfport
and smelled the fresh air."*

CECN Danielle Wiggins

NMCB 74

Hometown: Vestaburg, Mich.



*"When I came back from de-
ployment and held my fi-
ance for the first time in 10
months."*

BU3 (SCW) Matt Richardson

NMCB 74

Hometown: Limcolnton, N.C.

July Change of Command Ceremonies

July 15: NMCB 1 Change of Command, Cmdr. Wiles will be relieved by Cmdr. Saum, 9 a.m., Grinder

July 16: NMCB 74 Change of Command, Cmdr. Nevel will be relieved by Cmdr. Hayes, 8 a.m., Grinder

Ad Space

Ad Space

an alternative personnel system building on Title 38 authorities.

Consistent with the DoN's focus on communication and education, visit the human resources Web site at <http://www.public.navy.mil> to learn about current information, online resources and guidance.

For more news from Department of the Navy (Civilian Human Resources), visit www.navy.mil/local/donchr/.

Disposable Intelligence

Have you ever thought about what your garbage is saying about you? What types of intelligence can an adversary acquire just by looking through your trash can or dumpster? Tons upon tons of wastepaper are being shipped overseas on a daily basis for "recycling." Do you want someone, who could be a potential adversary, on the other side of the world learning about your interests or targeting you as a government employee or contractor? Think about your "disposable intelligence" - think OPSEC!

Hurricane season is here . . .



Do you know what you and your family will do if a hurricane is headed toward the Gulf Coast? — Visit Emergency Management at https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/Service_Organizations/EmergencyManagement/index.htm to help you answer the question. Do you know how to get info about current tropical cyclone conditions and base actions? There are several avenues to get accurate info quickly including the Base Website at www.cnic.navy.mil/gulfport; Facebook (sign up for SMS alerts) at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Gulfport-MS/Naval-Construction-Battalion-Center-ulfport/161404016711?ref=mf>; Twitter at <http://twitter.com/Seabee-Center>; Base Marquees; AtHoc (CAC card holders only); and 228-871-4777.

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Ad Space

Focus on Education

Parents net savings with Sales Tax Holidays

From Kevin Byrd
School Liaison Officer

The Mississippi Department of Revenue has declared that the 2010 Sales Tax Holiday will take place between 12:01 a.m., July 30 and midnight, July 31. A sales tax holiday is a temporary period when sales taxes are not collected or paid on purchases of specific products and/or services. A complete list of regulations on the Mississippi Sales Tax Holiday may be obtained by visiting <http://www.dor.ms.gov/second-salestaxholiday.html>. Questions may be also addressed by calling 601-923-7015.

The Alabama Department of



Revenue will hold its 2010 Sales Tax Holiday from 12:01 a.m., Aug. 6 through midnight, Aug. 8. A complete list of regulations on the Alabama Sales Tax Holiday may be obtained by visiting www.revenue.alabama.gov. Questions may be addressed by calling 334-242-1490 or 866-576-6530

Register NOW for Fall Session at Coastline Community College

Coastline Community College's online Fall Session begins Aug. 30 and ends Oct. 24. Students may register for classes until Aug. 4. Late registration begins Aug. 5 and concludes Aug. 18. For additional information, please contact Dr. David Drye at ddrye@coastline.edu or building 60, room 239 or call 228-871-3439.

Need a tutor? Tutor.com gives students of all ages FREE online help in math, sciences, English, social studies and a variety of other subjects. To access the program go to www.tutor.com/navy and then sign in to Navy Knowledge Online.

YAC sets sail with Voyage to Book Island

From MWR

Children and parents alike try to keep busy now that school is out for the summer. One option to stay busy is at the NCBC Gulfport Child & Youth Programs facilities. The Child Development and Youth Activities Center have kicked off the summer reading program, Voyage to Book Island. "The program is for the children, when they're out of school, or prior to entering school, to help keep their minds active," said Jill Paradise, Child & Youth Programs Administrator. "The purpose of the program is to encourage the youth and teen population of NCBC Gulfport to continue reading even though it is the summer and that is our vacation time," said Pamela Carlisle, Training and Curriculum Specialist. "We want to make reading fun by incorporating incentive based, fun activities to encourage them to appreciate the joy of reading." Reading should be done during the summer, because when these skills are not used, they are lost, she added.

The program is designed for children between pre-school and 12th grade, explained Carlisle. Activities such as story time, guest speakers, and crafts will take place for six consecutive weeks.

One of the ways they are planning on encouraging reading is by having the children compete to see who can read the most during the summer, said Carlisle.

Every Friday, participants will bring in their reading logs and see how many minutes and books they have read, continued Carlisle. At the end of the program, prizes will be awarded to the individuals who have read the most books throughout their Voyage to Book Island.

Post-9/11 GI Bill transferability requires obligated service

By Wm. Cullen James
Navy Personnel Command
Public Affairs

For those Sailors with children approaching college age, about to start higher learning or with spouses with college aspirations, now is the time to ensure your Post-9/11 GI Bill transferability is properly set up.

Qualified active duty and Reserve Sailors may elect to transfer benefits to a spouse or children, with some or all benefits allocated to those named.

"We still have a lot of Sailors whose transferability requests are being rejected because they don't have the four years of obligated service remaining," said Kathy Wardlaw, the Navy's GI Bill program manager.

The Navy announced the transferability process in NAVADMIN 203/09. Basically, it states that transferability requires two additional years for Sailors eligible for retirement between Aug. 1, 2010, and July 31, 2011, or three additional years for those with 20 years service between Aug. 1, 2011, and July 31, 2012.

Otherwise, Sailors generally must have served at least six years in the Armed Forces and agree to an additional four years. See the NAVADMIN for exceptions.

"Before submitting their transferability requests, their obligation requirement must be reflected in their electronic service record or the request will be rejected until corrected," said Wardlaw.

Sailors can review their ESR at <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil/>.

In addition to the ESR, the Defense Eligibility Enrollment System (DEERS) is used to validate a family member's eligibility for transfer.

For enlisted personnel that means having sufficient obligated service prior to their end of active obligated service. For officers, it means they must have an administrative remarks entry (Page 13) in their ESR agreeing to serve four more years from the date their transferability request is submitted.

After obligating service, Sailors must elect the transferability option while still serving.

"Sailors can allocate any percentage of their benefit to their spouse and children and change it any time, but if they don't elect the benefit while serving, they won't be able to go back and do it," said Wardlaw.

Family members must be in DEERS and eligible for benefits in DEERS before a Sailor can request transferability. This means those dual-military members whose children are reflecting under only one sponsor's record, must be reflected under both sponsors. For example, to establish a child as a family member under both military parents, the child should be enrolled in DEERS under one parent for benefits and under the other parent as a child drawing benefits from another military sponsor.

Navy career counselors are a valuable source of information and an important piece in the service obligation requirement.

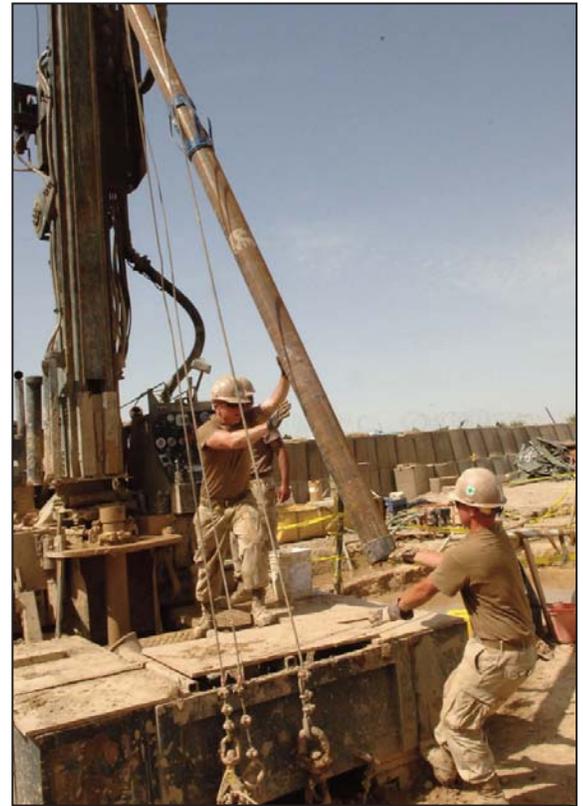
For more information, visit the Navy Personnel Command Post-9/11 GI Bill Web site at www.npc.navy.mil/CareerInfo/Education/GIBill/Post_9_11.html.

School Liaison Officer
Location: MWR, Building 352
1706 Bainbridge Ave., NCBC
(228) 871-2117
or e-mail kevin.r.byrd@navy.mil

The School Liaison Officer's main objective is to serve as a link between parents, educators, and the command so the military-connected child can make a smooth school transition. Other duties include creating partners in education, home school linkage, post secondary preparations, and to act as a conduit connecting educators to Navy deployment and to serve as a subject matter expert for education-related issues.



Above: Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Lucas McCleery left, and Equipment Operator 1st Class Jose Martinez from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133's Water Well Detachment raise a section of pipe while drilling a 1,210 feet deep water well at a combat outpost in Toor Ghar, Afghanistan. The well produces 60 gallons per minute and is known as an "Artesian" well since the water is pressured to the surface without the use of a pump. NMCB-133 is currently in the Central Command's Area of Operation while on deployment in Afghanistan. Right: The Seabees raise a section of pipe while drilling a 1,210 feet deep water well at a combat outpost in Toor Ghar, Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photos by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan C. Delcore/Released)



NMCB 133 reaches new depths!

By E02 Desirre Maybee
NMCB 133 Public Affairs

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133's Water Well Team successfully drilled a water well for a Command Outpost at Toor Ghar, Afghanistan this May.

The Seabees overcame many obstacles and stayed focused in order to complete the well and many other projects for the United States Marines at Toor Ghar.

Drilling wells are very important tasks that need to be completed in Afghanistan due to the expansion of many Forward Operating Bases (FOB's) and Command Outposts (COP's) that are without water. Water well teams push out to drill wells that will improve a camp's daily operations and quality of life while saving massive amounts of money spent on bottled water. The water provided by a well is used for laundry, cooking, vehicle wash racks, and most importantly to the troops for "showers."

Water wells greatly improve the morale of the people located in these places. The well that NMCB 133's Water Well Team drilled at

Toor Ghar was a success that greatly improved the everyday life of personnel on that COP. The team hit many obstacles while drilling the well.

Upon arrival to Toor Ghar, the T2W, which is the drilling rig was broke and waiting for parts to be repaired. The backhoe had a flat tire and the 11k Skytrak forklift was leaking hydraulic fluid, making all the equipment inoperable. Receiving parts at the location was a lengthy process. Convoys were limited due to the location's threat level and scheduling helicopters to transport the required items was a tedious process.

The team continued to improve the camp by creating a gym for the Marines while they waited for their parts to arrive. The gym was crafted from materials found around camp. The pull-up bars were made out of pipe that was welded together, the punching bag was made out of a sea bag which the military uses to pack their gear, and there was also a tire that could be flipped and chains that could be dragged for building strength.

The camp also had a drainage issue that the Seabees corrected by digging up the leech

field and placing new pipes underground that allowed the liquids to travel and be distributed evenly throughout the ground so that the waste water wouldn't create a pool underground.

The Marines were living without air-conditioning. The Seabees increased the comfort level for the Marines by installing twelve air conditioning units in their berthing tents.

The Bees' kept busy and their parts to repair the equipment were finally received. The equipment was fixed and the drilling was ready to begin.

The water well drilling rig has a mast that allows a piece of steel to spin while it drills down into the ground. There is a steel bit on the end of the drill that breaks up the earth allowing a hole to be created. A pump on the rig pumps the mud that's created up to the surface through the hollow steel piping that the bit is attached to. As the mud is pumped to the surface, it keeps the hole clear and flowing freely by carrying and propelling large pieces of clay and gravel up to the surface. The excess mud that doesn't get pumped to the surface surrounds the piping,

forming a durable wall that keeps the hole moist, preventing the hole from collapsing.

Mud is a very important part during the creation of the well. The mud is constantly tested for proper pH levels. The viscosity, which is how fast the mud flows, is tested using a stopwatch and a funnel. The sand content of the mud is measured with a test vial and the thickness is measured with a pressurized cylinder.

The drilling process took seven days to be completed while working twenty-four hours a day with three teams consisting of five people. The well reached a total depth of 1,210 feet deep and required 65 sections of steel piping, six collars, which are heavier pieces of steel piping, two subs which connect the drill bit to the piping and the bit. The team began developing the well once they had reached their final depth.

Developing is the process of getting the hole cleaned and placing filtration screens. The screen is a steel pipe with small slits to allow

See DEPTHS page 21

July 15, 2010

Seabee Courier



Seabees assigned to NMCB 7 Det. Senegal perform daily training regiment for obtaining Marine Corps Martial Arts Program (MCMAP) Green Belt Certification. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder Constructionman Zachary A. Wallace/Released)

Seabees of NMCB 7 bring MCMAP to Senegal

By BUCN Zachary A. Wallace
NMCB 7 Public Affairs

Marine Corps Martial Arts Program (MCMAP) is the teaching of physical, mental, and character discipline that helps form the modern day Marine warrior. This no longer applies solely to Marines. It has now become widely accepted by Naval units throughout the Fleet, to include Seabees.

NMCB 7's own, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Adrian Riley, a black belt instructor and current Independent Corpsmen (ID) for a Det. Senegal, is currently helping others achieve the characteristics associated with the MCMAP program. "I truly enjoy watching my students grow and apply this knowledge to become more disciplined and have a more humble outlook in all aspects of their life," said Riley.

"Doc" Riley, as he is commonly referred to by the Seabees assigned to Det. Senegal, is a two year MCMAP instructor who has prior experience in the martial arts disciplines of Kempo, Tae

Kwon Do, Capoeira, and Jiu-jitsu. "Doc" Riley originally became attracted to Marine Corps Martial Arts, not just for the combat skills, but also the training in leadership aspects of this program. "When I was stationed at the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot (MCRD), I originally viewed it as a hand-to-hand combat course. But after further research, I found that it was a defined leadership course which really sparked my interest in the program," states Riley.

HM2 Riley recently completed the instruction of a MCMAP class for Det. Senegal, for a group of volunteer Seabees. Beginning at Tan Belt qualifications, the students grasp the basic techniques, placing emphasis on teaching moral, character, and leadership skills. Immediately following Tan Belt instruction and qualification, the Seabees moved right into the Grey and Green Belt course of instruction.

Extensive training was required from the Seabees who participated. The participants

See MCMAP page 16

Hamramba School opens in Moroni, Comoros Islands

By EA2 Gregg Morris
NMCB 7 Public Affairs

Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 who were assigned to Detail Comoros completed construction of the Hamramba School in Moroni, Comoros; the first major Seabee construction project in the Comoros Islands.

The Seabees endured countless days of sweat in 120 plus degree heat indexes to ensure the successful completion of the Hamramba School, a humanitarian project that is sure to have a lasting impact for decades to come.

"This was an outstanding team effort and partnership with the local military and government of Comoros," said Chief Builder Hippolito Quiles, Mission Commander for NMCB 7 Det. Horn of Africa project in the Comoros Islands. "The teamwork and hard work to make this project a success was truly impressive."

NMCB 7 was tasked with the completion of two 300-square-meter concrete masonry unit block school buildings with three separate classrooms each. In addition, the Seabees were tasked with constructing a 25-

square-meter male and female latrine facility to include associated electrical and plumbing finish work. The entire project began four NMCB deployments ago, with NMCB 7 completing the final 15 percent.

The capital city of Moroni, located on the Grande Comore Island, is the largest city in the Comoros Islands and is known for its beautiful beaches and tropical rain forest climate, in which the Seabees experienced first hand. Being a smaller self-sufficient island, the typical construction methods that the Seabees regularly use were not available to the detail.

"Working on a project with numerous challenges, as well as the prevalent language barrier between us and the local military assisting, provided a level of difficulty that many of the young Seabees here have never dealt with," said Quiles.

Upon arriving at the site, the Seabees immediately went to work, occasionally using methods that even the more experienced Seabees have never used. For instance, concrete batch plants were nonexistent; instead the Seabees mixed all their con-

crete by hand. Even equipment such as pump trucks, vehicles used to assist in more difficult concrete pours, were not an option.

After hand mixing their concrete, the crew was forced to use two-gallon buckets and wheel barrels to transfer the material to the actual area of placement.

"This was the toughest project that I have encountered since joining the battalion," said Equipment Operator Constructionman Thomas Welker. The austere location of the project provided many of the crew a chance to learn all facets of construction techniques. Steelworkers mixed concrete, mechanics were operating the equipment they typically fix and electricians were placing finishing work. It was this display of camaraderie that was the driving force to the Seabees completing the project on time.

The Hamramba School was officially completed on May 12. A ceremony, to commemorate the school completion, was held on site. In attendance were Comorian President Ahmed Abdallan Mohamed Sambi and Rear Adm. Brian Losey, commander of Combined Task Force-Horn of Africa. Many city residents were on hand to witness the ceremony, including a local school choir that sang the Comorian national anthem to begin the ceremony. Local government officials, Mr. Niels Marquadt, U.S. Ambassador to the Comoros and Madagascar, and Rear Adm. Losey delivered speeches during the ceremony.

In his speech, Ambassador Marquadt thanked the Seabees for their work and the legacy they will leave behind. President Ahmed Abdallan Mohamed Sambi stated "This school is certainly a privileged place for the education of our children."

See SCHOOL page 20



Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 7 Detail Comoros Seabees present a commemorative plaque to Comorian President Ahmed Abdallan Mohamed Sambi to be displayed in the school, during the ceremonial ribbon cutting ceremony June 3, 2010. (Official U.S. Navy photo/Released)



ANCHORS AND EAGLES

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Anchors and Eagles is a club for all members E7 & above. Multiple TVs, darts, pool table & covered patio all await you while enjoying your favorite drink. All other days are available for reservation. Call 228-424-6892 for information.

AUTO HOBBY

Have your tires balanced and rotated free of charge. Please contact the Auto Skills Center to set up your appointment by calling 228-871-2804.

BEEHIVE

Open six days a week, the Beehive Lounge is located in building 352 behind the NEX. The Beehive offers cold drinks, great atmosphere and entertainment. Come by to meet Wendy and Maria, the friendliest bartenders on the Coast. Call 228-424-6892 for info.

FITNESS

Freedom 5K, July 21 at 6:30 a.m. Meet behind the Fitness Center.

Bench Press Competition – Aug. 11 at 4 p.m. in the Fitness Center. Male Weight Classes are: 150 and under, 150-180, 180-200, 200-230, and 230 plus. Female Weight Classes are: 120 and under, 120-140, 140-160, and 160 plus. For rules please contact Xavier at 228-871-2668.

Do you have the strongest core, hamstrings, and quads on base? Squat Contest – Aug. 25 at 4 p.m. in the Fitness Center.

INFORMATION, TICKETS, AND TOURS

Disney's Armed Forces Salute

Movies . . . Get out of the heat and catch a blockbuster! Movies are FREE and shown 7 days a week! Stop by the Training Hall for a schedule or call the Movie Hotline at 228-871-3299.



has been extended to Aug. 31, but all tickets must be used by Sept. 30. This offer is good for all Active Duty, Retirees, and Reservists and each Military Member may purchase up to six tickets.

Gulf Islands Water Park one Day tickets are still available for only \$18. For only \$25 more you can upgrade to a Season Pass at the gate.

Wet Weekends in July: Gulf Islands Water Park in Gulfport, July 17; Big Kahuna Water Park in Destin, Fla., July 24; Flint Creek Water Park in Wiggins, July 31

Don't forget about our Senior Specials available to everyone 55 and older now until July 31.

Audubon Zoo tickets are \$8.75, Aquarium of the Americas tickets are \$12, and I-MAX tickets are \$6.25. Tickets are available while supplies last.

Come and find a bargain! The next Base Wide Yard Sale will take place Sept. 18 in the Training Hall parking lot. Join us from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.! Register your booth today for only \$15 which gets you two tables, two chairs, and one canopy.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Would like to try a Bowling League on Keesler AFB? Sign-ups are July 26 – Aug. 23.

Join the Seabee Bowling league on Tuesday nights. Individual units put in as many 5-man teams as they want and they compete for the "Commanders Cup" within the individual units on base. Typical bowling leagues are 30 to 34 weeks long starting the week after Labor Day and running through May. Summer leagues start in May and run till late August. Teams can have as many bowlers on it as they would like but only five per team will bowl per night.

Fees: Intramural league bowlers will pay \$10 per bowler per night. \$7 goes to the bowling center for the three games of bowling, \$2.50 goes to their prize fund, and \$.50 goes to the treasurer/secretary for expenses. The league will follow Keesler AFB Standard by-laws. Play will be held at Guade' Lanes, a newly renovated 24-lane bowling center with a great atmosphere, great food, drinks, pool tables, music, darts, adult beverages, sports lounge, 14 large flat panel TV's and a staff ready to ensure bowlers have fun. And being

a NAF facility means that all money generated in this facility goes right back into the military community.

LIBERTY CENTER

Liberty has tons of great opportunities for you to get off base and have some fun! The Liberty bus will be headed to Mobile, Ala., July 16 to see a Mobile Bay Bears Baseball game. Trip departs at 5:30 p.m. and is FREE (must bring Military ID).

Blood & Sand VIII "Cage Fighting Championship" will be held at the MS Coliseum July 17. The Liberty bus departs for this event at 6 p.m. Tickets are only \$30 and includes transportation, but you MUST sign-up by noon, July 16. Try Skydiving - July 18 - depart from the Liberty Center at 9 a.m. Cost is \$150. All interested participants must sign-up by noon, July 16. Throw some strikes as we go bowling July 21 at 6 p.m. Cost is only \$5. Flip Flop Friday is July 23 and we are shuffling you to the beach with departure times of 6 p.m., 7 p.m., and 8 p.m. Flip Flop Friday is FREE! July 24 is our trip to Big Kahuna Water Park in Destin, Fla., leaving at 8 a.m. Cost is \$33. Come volunteer for our Habitat for Humanity Trip July 31 and earn a Letter of Appreciation!

If you're more interested in on-base activities we have plenty of those for you as well and they're all FREE! July 20 is National Lollipop Day so come get your lollipop from the Liberty Center!!! Show off your skills in Flag Football July 26 at the softball fields by the Fitness Center. The fun starts at 6 p.m. Join us for a huge "Water Wars Fight" July 28 at 5 p.m. on the lawn behind the Liberty Center. We saved the best for last . . . July 30 is National Cheesecake Day, come get cheesecake in the Liberty Center while supplies last.

Our tournaments include; Foosball - July 19, Arm Wrestling - July 22, Ping Pong - July 27 and a Poker Tournament July 29. All tournaments begin at 6 p.m. in the Liberty Center, are FREE to enter, and prizes are awarded to First and Second Place!

OUTDOOR RECREATION

This month's rental special is Jammin' July - Free table and six chairs with any canopy rental
5 Rivers Sunset Cruise and Wine Tasting July 16 at 5 p.m. Trans-

Refreshing dip



A patron takes advantage of an opportunity to cool off in the Fitness Center swimming pool. A complete listing of hours of operation for the pool as well as other MWR facilities is available at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/index.htm> (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

portation provided to 5 Rivers Alabama to board onto our sunset cruise. Enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres. Must be 21 to attend! \$60/person or \$100/couple. Signup by July 9. Minimum of 10/Maximum of 20 people.

Cool summer fun is coming your way! Gulf Islands Water Park, July 17 at 10 a.m. - \$20.
Blood and Sand VIII at the MS Coast Coliseum, July 17 at 6 p.m. - \$25.

Enjoy the sights and sounds of New Orleans on our day trip July 18 at 9 a.m. Enjoy the Aquarium of the Americas, IMAX Theater, shop the French Quarter, visit Café du Monde or the Audubon Zoo! Minimum of six people.
Comedian Charlie Murphy will be performing at the IP Casino July 23 at 7 p.m. MUST be 21. Tickets range from \$28-\$38.

Big Kahuna Water Park in Destin, Fla., July 24 at 8 a.m. Bring the kids and enjoy the spills, thrills, and chills! Only \$40/person, minimum of 10 people.

Blueberry Picking in Vandeave July 25 at 9 a.m., \$2 for transportation for groups of six or more. Bring the family for a fun and fruitful event. You will have a blast!

Create a work of art with Kids and Canvas at Outdoor Recreation July 30 from 2 - 4 p.m., \$5/child.

Flint Creek Water Park, July 31 9:30 a.m. Water fun for the whole family! \$15, 10-person minimum. County and Rock Legend Charlie

Daniels will be performing at the IP Casino July 31 at 8 p.m. Tickets range in price from \$38-\$54.

Get away Aug. 20 - 22 and join us as we relax in the beautiful Panama City Beach. Soak up the sun for only \$375/room (which can accommodate up to 2 adults and 2 children). Last day to sign up is Aug. 6.

For more information on any of the listed trips please contact ODR at 228-871-2127.

RESALE LOT

Have a Vehicle, Motorcycle, RV, Boat or Utility Trailer you want to sell? Put it in the MWR Vehicle Resale Lot located on 5th Street. The cost is \$5 per week or \$15 per month. Location is in a high visibility area and is lighted for extra security. For more information please contact your MWR Auto Hobby Shop today at 228-871-2804.

VEHICLE STORAGE LOT

Deployment Special! Free storage for first vehicle and 50 percent off each additional vehicle this includes all RV's for all deploying troops. Must present a letter of deployment from your command. For more information and space availability please contact your MWR Auto Hobby Shop at 228-871-2804.

Youth Activities Center School Age Care Program Before & After-School Program

See MWR page 18

From MCMAP page 14

logged in excess of 16 hours a week, with qualifying tests administered on Sundays. In all, the five MCMAP participants achieved their Tan, Grey and Green Belt qualifications.

"These belts were earned with blood, sweat and determination," said HM2 Riley. "The student's clearly demonstrated sustained proficiency at all levels." The knowledge and skill the participants obtained at the Green Belt level, classified as intermediate, states that the student understands the core fundamentals of the MCMAP program, which also allows the student to become an instructor.

While much different in style than traditional martial arts, MCMAP proves to be an effective disciplinary program, combining ground fighting, joint manipulation and armed or unarmed combat. "One of the reasons I enjoy MCMAP is that it takes the characteristics of all disciplines and molds

them together into a style that is adapted to a military setting," said Riley.

Achieving the qualifications of Green Belt were: Builder 3rd Class Daniel Hutchinson, Utilitarian 3rd Class Justin Na-

tale, Construction Electrician Brooke Thompson, Builder Constructionman Zachary Wallace, and Construction Mechanic Constructionman Joshua Adams.

With qualifications complete,

these MCMAP graduates are eager to share their new knowledge and help shipmates grow through team cohesion and the Navy Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment.

New NFCU ATM opens on NCBC . . . A Navy Federal Credit Union ATM is now open in the vending area of the Navy Gateway Inns & Suites, building 313

Ad Space

Ad Space



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**WANTED:
Seabee
Divers!
Underwater
Construction
Team ONE**

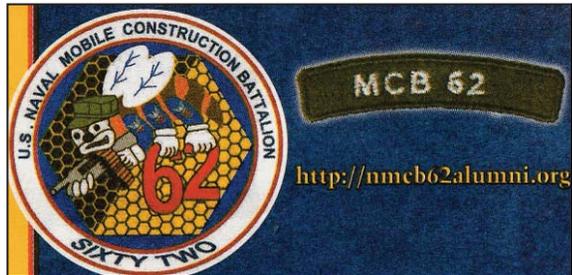
**Contact:
S1/CCC@
(757) 462-
3986/3988**



Attention NCBC Fire Wardens . . . In addition to the monthly Fire Warden Training which is normally completed on the last Thursday of the month from 2 - 2:30 p.m. at the Fire Department, Fire Wardens will now be responsible for completing annual on-line refresher training from the Navy Fire Emergency Services prior to attending the monthly training session. The training is available at https://esams.cnmc.navy.mil/ESAMS_GEN_2/LoginEsams.aspx. After signing in, select "Web Training" and select "Annual Fire Warden Refresher Training" - the first training class listed. The training will take approximately 30 minutes. After completing the training, print out the certificate and bring it to the monthly in-house training at the NCBC Fire Department. Please contact Inspector Billy Ducote at 228-871-3083 if you have questions.

NEX Offers Online Sweepstakes to Win ACER Netbooks . . . Navy Exchange Customers have the chance to win one of ten ACER Netbooks, valued at \$279.99. From July 12 - Sept. 8, NEX customers have a chance to win an ACER Netbook by filling out an entry form located in participating stores or online at www.myNavyExchange.com. No purchase necessary to win and only one entry per authorized patron. All entries must be received by midnight Sept. 8, 2010. Winners will be selected in a random drawing on or about Sept. 24, at the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) headquarters. NEXCOM will notify winners and develop a winners list which will be available on line at www.MyNavyExchange.com.

Ad Space



Ad Space

Ad Space

Registration The Before and After-School Program registration has begun and will continue until all spaces are filled. At the time of registration you will need to bring the following items: Current LES or pay stub, Family Care Plan for Dual or Single Active Duty, Proof of age (5-12) and dependent status. Weekly fees are based on Gross Total Family Income. Please call the Youth Activities Center at 228-871-2251 for more details! Transportation will be provided to limited schools in the Gulfport and Long Beach City School Districts.

Youth Recreation Program
Reminders to All Parents: Fees for all field trips must be paid in advance and spaces are available

on a first-come first-serve basis. Refunds will only be given if a minimum of 24 hours notice is given to Youth Center Staff. Also, please remember all youth and teens must have a current registration form on file.

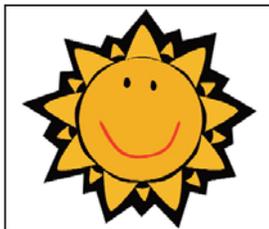
July 16, 30 - Youth and Teen Movie Nights: Come out for a movie, fun & food! Bring a friend or make some new ones! Only \$2 per person.

July 17 - Dunk the Counselors and Wet & Wild Field Day: This day will be a day full of fun water games and activities! Please remember to pack your swimsuit, towel, sunscreen and a lunch. Get ready to have a BLAST! Only \$3 per person.

July 23 - Luau Pool Party! All youth and teens are invited to join us for this night of food, friends

and FUN! Please drop off and pickup children at the Fitness Center. Don't forget to pack your towel! Only \$4 per person.

July 24 - Mobile Exploreum and IMAX Theater: Come with us to Alabama's premier children's science center to see the Adventures in Wild California IMAX movie and the Reptile World exhibit! Only \$10 per person and a lunch is needed.



Community Notes

SUPPORT

Family Readiness Groups

NMCB 1 FRG invites friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the second Monday of every month at the Youth Activity Center, building 335. A potluck dinner is served at 6 p.m., followed by a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided during deployment. Contact FRG President Mary Belanger, 228-273-4158, e-mail nmcbonefrg@gmail.com or Secretary Krystin Canipe, 704-726-5751, e-mail nmcbonefrg@gmail.com.

NMCB 7 FRG welcomes friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the NCBC chapel. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided for children four and under. For e-mail updates, send an e-mail to nmcb7frg@gmail.com or contact FRG President Deanna Salter at 228-206-0377.

NMCB 74 FRG welcomes all friends and family members to join the NMCB 74 FRG. Meetings are the third Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the Naval Reserve Training building #114. Bring a covered dish to take part in a potluck dinner. Contact FRG President Angela Boyd at 832-579-8422 or Vice President Tanieka Roshell at 414-530-4189. To receive updates, log on to the FRG website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb-74-fgr/index.html>.

NMCB 11 FRG welcomes all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Seabee Chapel Fellowship Hall. For more information contact FRG President Sarah Edwards, Vice President Robin Coker, Secretary Krysta Thomas or Treasurer Jennifer Babb via email at nmcb11frg@gmail.com. Visit the ombudsman and FRG website at

<http://nmcb11.webs.com>.

NMCB 133 FRG invites all friends and family members to attend FRG meetings the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Youth Center. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information contact FRG President Kelli Clarke at 727-504-4408 or e-mail han-sonk154@yahoo.com. To receive updates, log on to the FRG website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb133fsg>

Naval Officer's Spouse Club

The Naval Officer's Spouse Club meets the fourth Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Youth Center. Children are welcome and child care is provided. E-mail noscgulfport@yahoo.com or visit NOSCGulfport.org for information.

NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Thrift Shop is located in building 29 on Snead Street. The Thrift Shop is staffed entirely by volunteers. Child care and mileage are reimbursed. Retail hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome. Visit the NMCRS offices at the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 30, suite 103 or call 228-871-2610 to find out how to become a part of the NMCRS volunteer team!

Gamblers Anonymous

The Fleet & Family Support Center offers GA meetings every Thursday at 11 a.m. GA is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other. All meetings are confidential and facilitated by GA. Come to a meeting or call Jim Soriano at 228-871-3000 for more information.

TRAINING

COMPASS is a team of trained seasoned military spouses mentoring other Navy spouses. Classes are in-

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FOCUS on FITNESS

Stroll-N-Stride

By E03 Mikayla Mondragon
NCBC Public Affairs



Seabee spouses work out, while their children enjoy fresh air during the Stroll-N-Stride class. The class gives parents and their children the opportunity to get fit while building an everlasting bond. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mikayla Mondragon/Released)

Fit Tip:

Get fit with your child though the Stroll-N-Stride class

Stroll-N-Stride is a medium intensity class that you and your child can enjoy. The class includes outside cardio and circuit exercises, such as sit-ups, running in place, and jumping jacks. Children of all ages are welcome to attend, and strollers are encouraged.

So if you're a stay-at-home parent and find it hard to get to the gym, try out the Stroll-N-Stride class. The class is held every Wednesday and Friday at 9 a.m. near the baseball fields. For more information on Stroll-N-Stride or other fitness opportunities, contact the Fitness Center at 871-2668.

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timate and informative. The three-day course is offered the last week of the month. The course and child care are FREE! Contact Kim at 228-832-5343 or Amanda at 228-328-1352 to sign up.

Naval Sea Cadets – Gulfport branch are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nation-wide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 60, room 105. For more information contact Lt.j.g. Bowling at 228- 313-9035 or coachcb_yahoo.com; or AGC Enrique Acosta-Gonzalez at 228- 688-5288 or enrique.acosta@navy.mil.

SOCIAL

Miss. Gulf Coast First Class Association is seeking new members. Meetings are every Wednesday at 3 p.m. at CBC's Beehive, building 352. Call BU1 Tony Boldrey 228-871-2577 for more information or just come and join us at a meeting.

VFW Post 3937 Long Beach is open Monday - Thursday from noon until 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from noon until 10 p.m., Sunday from noon until 7 p.m. The first Friday of the month is Seafood night, the remaining Fridays are Steak night. Breakfast is served from 7 - 10 a.m. on Saturdays. VFW meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Post Commander Bill North at 228- 863-8602.

VFW Post 4526 Orange Grove is open daily from

noon to 10 p.m. and located at 15206 Dedeaux Road, Orange Grove. Meetings are held the first Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call Post Commander Bill McNicholas at 228-832-0017 or Sr. Vice Commander Ben Barker at 228-832-3798 for more information.

NMCB 62 Alumni Group Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 62 was recommissioned in Gulfport in 1966, and decommissioned in 1989. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Alumni Group may go to <http://nmc62alumni.org> for information or for links to Seabee historical sites.

Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport are seeking Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Seabees who left the military after a short period of time. Island X-1 Gulfport meets the second Thursday of each month at Anchors & Eagles at 7 p.m. For more information contact Joe Scott (Secretary) at 228-669-8335 or elevenoaks58@cableone.net or log onto WWW.NSVA.ORG for an application.

HERITAGE

The Seabee Gift Store is located in the Training Hall, building 446. Hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, DVD's and books. Gift store proceeds support the construction of the new museum in Port Hueneme, Calif. Contact the museum at www.seabeemuseumstore.org/shop/index.php or call the gift shop locally at 228-871-4779.

Seabee Recreation Park . . . The transition from old golf course to new REC Park continues. The driving range will be fully operational July 15, with tokens available for purchase at the new Outdoor Rec. located in building 456. A new Soccer/Football Field is now open, as are the Chip and Putt golf holes #1, #2, #8 and #9. Paintball will open soon and be located on old golf hole #7. A new Dog Park located on old golf hole #6 is expected to open very soon, along with a one-half mile Walking Trail. The trail will begin at old golf hole #18, and wind through #17, #5, #4, and end back at #18. Stay tuned for updates!

The gratitude from the local population was evident on all their faces. Children expressed excitement to be able to begin classes in what many called the nicest school on the Island.

Music played and people cheered as the Comorian President toured the completed buildings for final approval.

Steelworker 3rd Class Justin Holloway and Construction Mechanic Constructionman Robert Perrine, the last Seabees to leave Moroni, had the honor to present President Sambu a commemorative plaque to be hung on the exterior of the school.

"Seeing how much the community appreciates our work really makes it all worth while," said Perrine.

Detail Comoros Seabees will return to Camp Lemonnier to rejoin the rest of the Det.Horn of Africa Seabees, assigned to NMCB 7, where they will continue to operate throughout the rest of their scheduled deployment.

Interested in volunteering? Check out www.volunteermisssissippi.org for information on volunteer opportunities in your community.



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the water to flow into the pipe while filtering out debris like sand and clay. The screens are placed at the furthest depth of the well where the water is clean and uncontaminated due to its depth. Regular piping was screwed into the screens to prevent the piping from falling into the hole and collapsing after the screens were placed.

The hole was flushed with clean water after the depth was filled with pipe. The team flushed the hole until the water was clean insuring future water from the well wouldn't be contaminated with debris left over from the drilling process.

The space around the piping was filled with gravel, sand and concrete to hold the piping in place. Gravel was placed on the outside of the screens to filter large materials from the water before reaching the screens where the smaller material is filtered from the water.

The team placed a concrete pad

around the well. A shut-off valve was placed on the well to control the flow of water. The valve can be connected to hoses in order to route water to other areas. Toor Ghar's well had a hose ran directly to the showers.

Toor Ghar's Artesian Well produced 60 gallons of water per minute without a pump. Wells that don't require pumps are called artesian wells.

"Despite what may seem to many as harsh living and working condi-

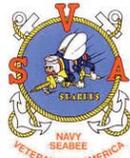
tions, the morale and energy that our people brought everyday kept the project going," said Equipment Operator 1st Class Jose Martinez.

The well was an outstanding accomplishment for Toor Ghar allowing the Marines there to have

showers every night which improved their morale.

The well provided many great learning experiences for the Seabees and was NMCB 133's first successful well to be drilled in 13 years.

Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport



Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-1 Gulfport are seeking Active Duty, Reserve, Retired or Seabees who left the military after a short period of time.

Island X-1 Gulfport meets the second Thursday of

each month at Anchors & Eagles at 7 p.m.

For more information contact Joe Scott (Secretary) at 228-669-8335 or elevenoaks58@cableone.net or log onto WWW.NSVA.ORG for an application.

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Seabee Memorial Chapel

Services:

Sunday Catholic Mass: 9 a.m.

Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 11:35 a.m.

Protestant Service: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Gospel Service: Sunday, 11:45 a.m.

Center Chaplains:

**Lt. Cmdr. Michael Brown,
Protestant Chaplain**

**Lt. Leticia P.J. Rouser,
Protestant Chaplain**

**For information concerning other faith groups,
call the chapel office at (228) 871-2454**