



Seabee Courier

HOME OF THE ATLANTIC FLEET SEABEES

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Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

February 24, 2011

MCPON message to the Fleet: No second chances for drug abuse

Special from Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW)

Rick D. West

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy MCPON Rick D. West, released the following message on drug abuse, which focuses on "Spice," herbal products and other so-called designer drugs, to the fleet, Feb. 11:

"Shipmates,

There has been an alarming rise in the number of Sailors who are choosing to use 'Spice,' herbal products and other so-called designer drugs; and this must come to an immediate stop.

More than 150 Sailors are currently being processed for 'Spice' use, possession or distribution, and this is UNSAT.

Overall, the Navy has separated 1,374 Sailors in FY09; 1,308 Sailors in FY10; and 302 Sailors during the first quarter of FY11, for drug abuse. These unexpected losses negatively affect our commands' manning levels, which in turn affects the commands' operational and warfighter readiness. The Navy's policy on drug abuse is simple and clear - zero tolerance, and there are no second chances.

NAVADMIN 108/10 states the following on drug abuse:

'Drug abuse includes the wrongful use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of a controlled substance. Drug abuse also includes the unlawful use of controlled substance analogues (designer drugs), nat-

See MCPON page 11

The 'Mighty Builders' of NMCB 18 return to joyful reunion in Gulfport



Builder 2nd Class Sean Duvall of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18 is welcomed home by his wife Emily and son James upon arrival at the Naval Construction Battalion Center Training Hall Feb. 16. NMCB 18 recently completed a 7 month deployment to the Central Command Area of Operations. The battalion, which is homeported at Fort Lewis, Wash., will demobilize through Naval Mobilization Processing Site here before heading home where most of its members will return to their civilian lives. (U.S. Navy photo by Rob Mims/Released)

For more on the return of NMCB 18, go to: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Naval-Construction-Battalion-Center-Gulfport/161404016711>



Gulf Coast to celebrate first Navy Week in a big way

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NCTC Gulfport
Commanding Officer
Cmdr. Bill Whitmire
Public Affairs Officer
Chaplain (Lt.) Rob Guilliams

From NCBC Public Affairs

America's Navy is "coming home" to Mississippi March 19-27 for the first Mississippi Navy Week. Several events are scheduled the entire week throughout Mississippi and here on the Gulf Coast.

Community Support - All businesses are encouraged to use their marquees, store front, etc. to display a messages of support for the Navy in South Mississippi during the week.

Air Show - Here on the Gulf Coast the week begins at the Keesler Air Show featuring the Navy Blue Angels March 19-20. Gates open each day at 9 a.m. See more information at <http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/keeslerairshow/index.asp>

Poker Run - There will also be an Inaugural Run for Relief Poker Run March 19 with registration beginning at 10 a.m., first out at 11 a.m. and last in by 2 p.m. There will monetary prizes for best hand, first and second place. There will be live music by the Gulf Breeze Band, door prizes and an after party at the Armed Forces Motorcycle Club. All proceeds benefit the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society. For more info, call 228-342-0029, 228-342-0205 or visit www.afmcmcs.com.

Proclamation signings - March 21, Mayoral Proclamations will be signed in Gulfport, Long Beach and Biloxi.

PCU Mississippi crew - Members of the pre-commissioning unit Mississippi, a Virginia Class Submarine named after the state, will be on hand at several events along the coast including proclamation signings.

Band performances - The Navy Band New Orleans will perform at several local schools and Sailors will read to students

during the week.

Parade - There will be a Navy Appreciation Parade in Gulfport March 25 beginning at 6 p.m. at Hardy Court Shopping Center on Courthouse Rd. Participants are asked that their entries have a military, camouflage and/or Navy Appreciation theme. The parade will go south on Courthouse then east on 16th St. and north on Teagarden. Participation in the parade is encouraged and appreciated. Sponsorships are still available. Call Lisa Bradley at (228)575-7794 or Rebecca Kajan at (228) 868-5810.

Seabee Day 2011 - The events on the Coast will wrap up with Seabee Day 2011 March 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on board the Naval Construction Battalion Center (Seabee Center) in Gulfport. The Public is encouraged to attend the free event and are asked to enter through Pass Rd. Gate. Seabee Day 2011 is a celebration of the U.S. Navy Seabee and the presence of the Navy on the Gulf Coast for more than 70 years.

This year's Seabee Day will take place at the Seabee Center on the athletic fields adjacent to the Fitness Center and will feature a one mile and 5K run (beginning at 8:15a.m.), a festive atmosphere, the Gold Coast Skydivers, a Car, Truck and Motorcycle show, musical guests Autumn Risen (country) and Red Room Arrangement (Top 40 variety), free games, free fun, food, free carnival rides, lots for free kids activities, vendors and much more.

Multi-level Sponsorships and Vendors slots are still available. To become a sponsor, call Nicole at 228-871-4010. To be a vendor, call HollyJo at 228-871-3000. Learn more at www.seabeeaday.org

Mississippi Navy Week celebration 2011, gives residents an opportunity to



meet some of the Navy's Sailors and learn about the Navy's critical mission and its broad-ranging capabilities. The U.S. Navy conducts approximately 20 Navy Weeks each year, reaching out to communities across the country to show Americans the investment they have made in their Navy. During a Navy Week celebration, the Navy concentrates a variety of outreach events in an area for a week, sharing the Navy story with as many people as possible.

Other areas that have been selected to host a 2011 Navy Week include: Tampa, Fla., Austin, Texas; Dallas-Fort Worth; Denver; New Orleans; Philadelphia; Chattanooga, Tenn.; the Quad Cities; Chicago; Rochester, N.Y.; Detroit; Los Angeles; Fargo, N.D.; Indianapolis; Cincinnati; Omaha, Neb.; New England; Albuquerque, N.M.; El Paso, Texas; and San Antonio.

The 2011 Navy Week season will also help commemorate the Centennial of Naval Aviation, which kicks off in 2011 and continues as a year-long celebration with a variety of commemorative events planned across the country throughout the year. For more information on the Centennial of Naval Aviation latest information, visit <http://www.public.navy.mil/airfor/centennial/Pages/welcome.aspx>.

For information on local events, please contact Rob Mims, NCBC Public Affairs Officer, at 228-871-2699 or email Robert.c.mims@navy.mil

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Seabee Courier

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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.

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

Leading from the Front



Do You Know? Sailors/Seabees are not authorized to go grocery shopping off base in the Camouflage Utility Uniform (CUU) or Navy Working Uniform (NWX). However, patronizing eating establishments during the prescribed workday and making routine short-term stops while transiting between work and a place of residence via POV or public transportation is authorized. Examples of authorized short-term stops include drop off/pick up for childcare, dry cleaners, gas stations, banks and convenience stores. For more information about uniforms visit www.npc.navy.mil/commandsupport/usnavyuniforms/uniformregulations.

The NCBC Multi-Cultural Diversity Committee presents...



AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND THE CIVIL WAR

COME OUT AND CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THE MCDC

February 24th, 2011 from 11:00-12:00 at the Base Chapel

We will be giving a presentation celebrating the service of African Americans during the Civil War

Guest speaker: Mr. Lanier Phillips who served on the USS Truxton and is the only African-American survivor from the ship's mishap.

Please join us for a cake cutting ceremony at the Colmer Dining Facility right after the event.

Questions? Please call 311 Solares -President - 228-596-4009

Black History Month Celebration Meal ...

There will be a special Black History Month Celebration Meal at the Colmer Dining Facility Feb. 24 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The menu includes: Southern Fried Chicken, BBQ Spareribs, Blackened Fish, Hoppin' John Rice, Baked Three Cheese Macaroni, Candied Yams, Seasoned Green Beans, Corn-on-the-Cob, Spiced Apples, Chicken Gumbo, Cornbread, Fresh Salad Bar and Assorted Dessert. All military, civilians and retirees are invited to attend.

Around the Center



Chief Builder Joe Franz, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18, a reserve battalion, is welcomed home by his wife after returning from a seven-month deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. NMCB 18 was deployed to Afghanistan in support of the surge ordered by President Barack Obama. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator Constructionman Shakenia Ceazer / Released)



Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Seabee Ball committee hosted a "Go to Jail" fundraiser near the Broad Avenue Gate Gazebo Feb 16. Monetary donations were taken in support of the upcoming Seabee Ball which will take place at the Gulf Coast Coliseum April 2. The committee raised approximately \$3,000 during the event. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Terry Spain/Released)



Portia Flott, an American Red Cross phlebotomist, prepares to draw blood from Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Kenneth Trice, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion One (NMCB 1). The blood drive was held at Seabee Memorial Chapel on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Feb. 10. Sailors who gave blood received a T-shirt for their contribution. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 3rd Class Cassandra Secher/ Released)



Lee Electric workers install street lights on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Feb. 16. Light installation is one of the finishing touches of the recapitalization projects that have taken place on board the Seabee Center since hurricane Katrina in 2005. U.S. Navy photo by Builder 3rd Class Cassandra Secher/Released)



Feb. 20 -27, 'Military Saves' Week; Start small, Think big

By Saudi Rodgers
Personal Financial Mgmt.
Program Specialist, FFSC Gpt

Would you like to become financially stable through saving, debt reduction, and wealth-building over time? Active duty, National Guard and Reserve service members, DoD and Coast Guard civilians, retirees, veterans, Defense contractors, and family members of all ages are encouraged to create and implement a plan for financial security. At www.militarysaves.org you can click on the "Resources" tab for information about how to begin your journey to financial freedom and take the Saver's Pledge.

During the week of Feb. 20-27, Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) is hosting various functions on base and in the community to promote Military Saves Week. For more information please contact the FFSC at 228-871-3000.

Tons of improvement on NCTC's horizon

By CM1(SCW) Joshua Perry
NCTC Public Affairs

It has been said that the only thing you can count on in the military is that nothing stays the same. Change is an inevitable part of service to our country. We maintain our traditions, but uniforms, people, and equipment seem to be in a constant state of flux. Even for those things that have stuck around for years or even decades without changing, time eventually catches up with them and the call for change is finally heard.

For the past 30 years, Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) Gulfport has instructed thousands of the Seabee's finest Equipment Operators on a 40 Ton P & E Crane. That is about to change!

This past December, NCTC received a Link Belt LS 108 50 Ton Hydraulic Lattice Boom/Free Crane. The new crane is currently in the assembly and testing phase. Once fully assembled and certified,

it will be utilized in EO C1 Advanced classes as well as Specialized Construction Battalion Training (SCBT) courses covering the drag line, hook block, clam shell and pile driving curriculum. This new equipment is a giant step forward for the training of Seabees assigned to one of the battalions on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC).

Equipment Operator 1st Class Paul Parker commented that the function and operation between that of the older 40 Ton and the newer 50 Ton crane are still very similar. The main difference is that now the students will find modern controls and features that many people do not normally associate with Seabee construction equipment. With features such as a larger operating cabin, air conditioning, a hydraulic lattice boom and the fact that the new crane is a tracked/crawler this new crane will have Seabees using equipment that is on par with that being used



A 40 ton P & E Crane is used to conduct clam shell operations on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC). The 40 Ton crane will soon give way to a new Link Belt LS 108 50 Ton Hydraulic Lattice Boom/Free Crane which will vastly improve the opportunities for Seabees going through training at the Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC.) (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

in the civilian industry. Parker described the new 50 Ton crane as "The Cadillac of Cranes."

The anticipated assembly and certification, which will be per-

formed by CED Crane Certifying Officials, is later in Spring.

For questions regarding these or any other courses offered by NCTC Gulfport, contact Paul Brunelle at 228-871-2534.

Inaugural Poker Run for Relief

A Poker Run for Relief will take place March 19, sponsored by the Armed Forces Motorcycle Club, Mississippi Chapter, and Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. Registration begins at 10 a.m., first out 11 a.m. and last in by 2 p.m. There will be monetary prizes for best hand, first and second place. Live music by Gulf Breeze Band, door prizes and an after party at the AFMC. For more information, call 228-342-0029, 228-342-0205 or visit www.afmcms.com.

Benefits Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society



The Savings Pledge

I will help myself by saving money, reducing debt and building wealth over time.

I will help my family and my country by encouraging other Americans to Build Wealth, Not Debt

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"Project Flag Raising"

NSVA Island X-1 is initiating a flag-raising program. We would like to help you, your family and neighbors fulfill a dream of proudly displaying our national ensign. For more information, contact Don Galster at 228-239-7326 or dgalster@gulfport-ms.gov

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Seabees Forward! Objective Bakersfield - The Battle in Jelawur

By MCC Leif HerrGesell
NMCB 18 Public Affairs

When Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18, the "Mighty Builders" deployed to Afghanistan in August of 2010, they started receiving projects even before they touched down at Kandahar Air Field. One of the earliest projects was the construction of a Combat Outpost (COP) in the Argandab River Valley. It was planned for the COP to be placed alongside a road that was essential for U.S. and coalition forces to control. Domination of the road and approaches were considered crucial by coalition commanders and would limit Taliban access to a Forward Operating Base, three other Combat Outposts and the district city of Jelawur.

Objective Bakersfield jumped off July 30, 2010. The first phase of the offensive by U.S. Army and Afghan forces was to drive out the insurgents, and seize the road and surrounding countryside. Army forces met with fierce fighting, encountering small arms fire, vehicle born improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs) and anti-personnel mines. In the initial clash, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Kyle Stout, a squad leader was killed by a blast from an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). For five days U.S. Army troops of the 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment (FAR), 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, Canadian Infantry and Afghan National Army (ANA) forces of the 1st Kandak, battled with Taliban fighters. Nearly 100 coalition forces were in place contesting for the ground. Casualties during the heavy fighting of the first two days reached nearly twenty percent. Due to the extreme number of battle losses, reinforcements from U.S. Army Air Assault forces were brought in to bolster the 320th and break enemy resistance.

Tactical planners immediately recognized the need to establish a permanent outpost to support ongoing patrols and provide long term jurisdiction over the byway. Objective Bakersfield was appropriately renamed COP "Stout" in honor of the Staff Sergeant who gave his life to control that vital roadway.

A team of four Seabees from NMCB 18, led by their team leader, unrelated to the fallen soldier but ironically named Equipment Operator 1st Class Trevor Stout, were rapidly put in motion to build up the initial 50-by-100 meter COP compound, allowing the

remaining effective forces of two platoons of the 320th and an equal number of ANA to safely hold the ground. The Seabee COP team arrived on station to begin construction July 31. The four Seabees from NMCB 18 assigned to the job would focus first on the construction on the west side of the road. The new compound had to be capable of sustaining the 40 plus personnel of the coalition force.

When they got to the embattled coalition forces the Seabees found them dug in, occupying hasty fighting positions. Unable to fill their HESCO barriers, Army forces had thrown up empty barriers to simply block the enemy's line of site. Taliban forces had also mined the roadbed with anti-personnel mines to deny foot patrols ease of movement.

"We dropped gear, rolled in and they (Army) started filling," said Construction Mechanic 1st Class, Tim Lytle, NMCB 18. "They told us it was hot- really, really hot!" The Seabees began working in the dark of the 31st. Army leadership warned the Seabees not to work on the far side of the road. An abandoned compound had been heavily wired with explosives and the ground around it was salted with IED's.

The fire was constant, said Lytle. "They'd hit us (meaning coalition forces) and we'd hit em back and then they'd fall back," said Lytle. The four Seabees scraped up fill soil for the Army's 863rd Engineering Battalion, who filled the HESCO's using an old scoop loader. They worked for 36 hours straight, eating and grabbing a soda as they pushed dirt - erecting HESCO's on the north, east and south sides of the future COP. Access to the east side was denied by a six foot mud wall that ran parallel to the road and was broken by an old farm access point. Stout and Equipment Operator 1st Class Nick Larson assisted the Army with operating the scoop loaders. Equipment Operator 2nd Class John Taylor worked alongside Lytle with another dozer, scraping out soil with D7G Catapillers with rippers. Lytle and Taylor stockpiled the fill.

Equipment Operator 3rd Class, Eliude Loucel was the first Seabee from NMCB 18 on site for the second phase of the fortification project. The Afghan farm compound on the west side of the road allowed enemy fighters an overview down into the first phase COP - it had to be leveled.

"I was a little overwhelmed and didn't know what to think," said Loucel. He slept



Seabee bulldozers from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18 standby as Army explosive ordnance technicians detonate mine clearing line charges in order to clear an area of unexploded ordnance and land mines during Operation Outlaw Wrath in Afghanistan. NMCB 18, a reserve component battalion from the Pacific Northwest was responsible for establishing combat outposts and forward operating bases throughout the Regional Command South provinces of Afghanistan. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

in the dirt the first night, duly warned about the gaps in the perimeter.

"The Army looked at me as a professional and asked me what I wanted to do," said the 23-year-old Fontana, Calif., native.

Loucel decided to take on the job. EOD explained what he needed to look for in terms of large explosive devices. Army EOD personnel set security and surveyed the site with their commander. His first push into the compound would doze a path in an easterly direction along the south wall of the farm compound. He dropped his blade and made a pass, ripping and dozing a path about two feet deep and nine feet wide. The path allowed EOD safe access in case Loucel encountered a large explosive device. Roads and compounds that have been demined often still yield unexploded ordnance or mines, despite EOD's best efforts. Bomb sniffing dogs, sub-surface detecting equipment and Mine clearing Line Charges don't always get everything. It is the reality of this war.

Next, Loucel ramped soil from a burn-pit against the west end of the compounds wall so that he could more safely remove the building without having to demolish two stories simultaneously. He took out large bites - starting high and working low.

"It was most definitely built for war," said Loucel, referring to the durability of the

structure.

Elimination of the building gave Taliban fighters no place to hide and opened up lanes of fire from the COP that Lytle and the rest of the first team had built.

The third construction campaign at COP Stout began Sept. 12. The COP's confined spaces had been determined to be inadequate. The plan called for expanding it to the opposite side of the road, designing it to be bisected by the highway with gun towers covering both the route and the surrounding battle space. When completed, ANA forces would occupy the new compound to the east and U.S. troops would continue to occupy the original, shared west side compound.

Eight additional Seabees from NMCB 18 assigned to Forward Operating Base Terra Nova, were sent to assist in expanding COP Stout and install basic amenities for coalition forces. The team Lead by Chief Construction Mechanic, David Umana arrived in the pitch black and bedded down in tents with the Army. Shrapnel and small arms fire had pierced the tent's ceiling in many places allowing the starlight to shine through.

The new construction schedule was set to clear the eastern site of garbage and debris

Seabees of NMCB 28 support Tradewinds Exercise

By Equipment Operator 1st Class (SCW) Lori Roberts

NMCB 28 Public Affairs

Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 28 Det. Gold, based in Shreveport, La., are completing barracks renovations and constructing a Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) training facility in Antigua.

The renovations will eliminate unsafe electrical conditions and prevent leaky plumbing causing water damage. Interior lighting will also be improved, and more electrical outlets will become usable again. With the plumbing repairs and improvements, the camp will be able to manage a larger group during training evolutions.

"The repairs and renovations we are making are a tremendous quality of life improvement for the ABDF," said Lt. Matt Lopez, officer in charge of the mission. "With the funds that Southern Command is providing for the Tradewinds Exercise, we will improve certain base facilities to nearly 100 percent of their intended function and allow the

ABDF to increase their training capabilities."

The MOUT facility will consist of four, two-level block buildings that will be used for cross training multi-national military groups during the Joint Task Force Tradewinds Exercise hosted by the ABDF.

The Seabees will also benefit greatly from the training involved in this project.

"This is a great opportunity for our Seabees to put their construction skills to use," said Lopez. "For some this is a new trade they are learning for the first time, but it is one that is a great tool for their personal toolbox because CMU block wall is a construction activity that Seabees perform around the globe."

The projects are expected to be completed before the end of February, and the Tradewinds Exercise will begin in March 2011, featuring at least thirty military, law enforcement, and governmental agencies from at least twenty-two different partner nations.

NMCB 28 is expected to be deployed as part of the Southern Command until August 2011.



Builder 2nd Class Joshua Helton, left, and Construction Electrician 2nd Class Michael Hollingsworth, both assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 28, weld a support beam for a roof at Escuela Campamento LaBarrita during a construction project supporting Southern Partnership Station (SPS) 2011. SPS is an annual deployment of U.S. ships to the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility in the Caribbean and Latin America. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jeffery Tilghman Williams/Released)

25 NCR takes command Task Force Overlord

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan - Capt. Allan M. Stratman, Commodore, 25th Naval Construction Regiment (25 NCR), unfurls the command flag during the regiment's Transfer of Authority ceremony, Feb. 15, 2011. 25 NCR is the command and control element for Task Force Overlord which is responsible for all construction engineering and engineering support in Southern and Western Afghanistan. Task Force Overlord includes construction units from the Navy, Army and Air Force. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Scott B. Boyle/Released)



2nd Annual Ball Gown Fashion Show and Sale donations needed ...

Mark your calendar! It's the 2nd Annual Seabee Ball Gown Fashion Show and Silent Auction March 11 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the NCBC Training Hall. Don't let your old ball gowns sit in the closet another year collecting dust. Donate your gently used gowns to NMCRS for the Fashion show. We are now accepting donated gowns, shoes and accessories Monday-Friday at Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, building 30. Please call 228-871-2610 for more info.

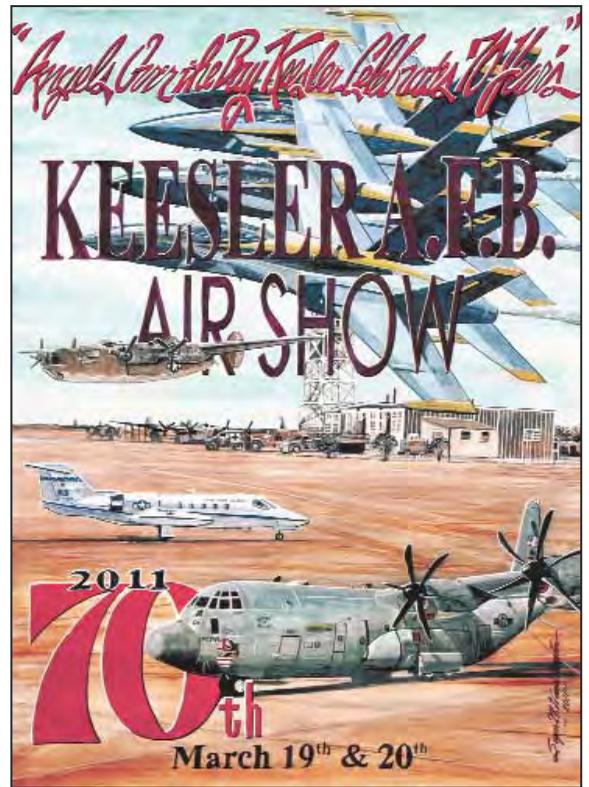
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VITA Center now open . . .

The VITA Center is officially up and running to offer free tax return preparation for active duty service members, dependents of active duty personnel, and activated reservists. VITA volunteers are all IRS-certified and they are qualified to prepare most military federal and state tax returns. The CBC VITA Center is located in building 60 (same building as Navy College), in Room 250. One-hour appointments are available Monday through Friday, and can be made by calling 228-822-5072. At this time, the VITA Center is operating at full capacity assisting active duty service members, their dependents, and activated reservists. As such, the Center is unable to see retirees at this time. However, retired service members and their eligible dependents may be able to obtain VITA services by calling the VITA Center at Keesler AFB at 228-376-8141 or by calling 1-800-906-9887 to arrange an appointment at one of the other area VITA sites.

VITA

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**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@caleone.net or log onto WWW.NSVA.ORG for an application.

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Buzz on the Street



By BU3(SCW)
Cassandra Secher

What was your favorite Valentine's Day gift, given or received?



"My son made me a heart shaped necklace out of red and pink beads."

HM2 Cameshia Newell
CBC Branch Medical Clinic
Hometown: Orange, Texas



"I received chocolates from my significant other."

EO3(SCW) Jose Aleman
NMCB 133
Hometown: El Salvador
City, El Salvador



"I gave my man silver Rosary beads."

SW3 Monica Berkey
CBC
Hometown: Danville, Pa.

NBC frames...

Hospital Corpsman
2nd Class Donna
Hellmers

By Builder 3rd Class(SCW)
Cassandra Secher

FF: What single experience during your career stands out the most, and why?

HM2: Sailor of the Year in 2009 at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NASJRB) New Orleans.

FF: What has been your biggest motivation throughout your career?

HM2: I've been lucky to have good leadership along the way.

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

HM2: Always seek out



information; knowledge is power.

FF: What is your favorite part about being/working with the Seabees, and why?



HM2: My interaction with the Seabees has been limited, but in my opinion the Seabees are a very hardworking group.

Who was your most influential mentor during your career, and why?

HM2: HMCS David Porter, Department Head of NMP5 Medical. Senior has always shown me what true leadership is all about.

Area Off-Limit Locations

Biloxi: Boulevard Night Club, Blue Note Lounge, Henry Beck Park, YaYa's; **Gulfport:** Bunk Small Apartments, Herbal Alternatives; **D'Iberville:** Guitars and Cadillacs; **Moss Point:** Tony's Lounge; **Ocean Springs:** Pugs; **Pascagoula:** Carver Village, Bunksmall Apartments, H&H Hide-away

Current "off-limits" establishments are agreed upon and approved by local Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board

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From MCPON page 1

ural substances (e.g., fungi, excretions), chemicals (e.g., chemicals wrongfully used as inhalants), propellants and/or prescribed or over-the-counter drugs or pharmaceutical compounds with the intent to induce intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of the central nervous system, and will subject the violator to punitive action under the UCMJ and/or adverse administrative action.'

Some examples of substances mentioned above where the wrongful use constitutes drug abuse includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Products that contain synthetic cannabinoid compounds, such as "Spice," genie, blaze, dream, ex-ses, spark, fusion, dark knight, yukatan fire, and K2.
- Natural substances such as salvia divinorum and mushrooms.
- Common items abused by inhaling or huffing, such as Dust Off, glue, paint thinner and gasoline.
- Over-the-counter products such as Robitussin and Coricidin HBP.
- Prescription medications such as Oxycodone, Vicodin, Adderall, and Valium.

If you didn't know, 'Spice' is a mixture of natural herbs and synthetic cannabinoids, that when smoked, produce a marijuana-like 'high' that decreases motor skills, impairs coordination and concentration, and effects short-term memory and senses. The effects of these substance is unpredictable when combined with alcohol, and since the chemical blends are continuously manipulated and the strength of the synthetic chemical used is unknown, there is no way to know what you are getting in the drugs nor what the long-term health risks are if used.

Some of the side effects from these drugs included uncontrolled vomiting, excessive sweating, flushed skin, increased heart rate and high blood pressure, and loss of consciousness. If this sounds like a good time to you, then go ahead and hand over your rank and paycheck, and possibly your life.

Bottom line: The use and even just the possession of 'Spice,' herbal products, designer drugs, chemicals used for huffing, salvia divinorum, or products containing synthetic cannabinoid compounds are prohibited. Leadership, along with Naval Criminal Investigative Service, is aggressively working to catch personnel who are possessing, using, or distributing drugs; and when you get caught, your career will be over.

Drug abuse goes against our Navy's core values and ethos, and it is a threat to lives, unit and mission readiness and morale. It is every Sailor's responsibility to deter drug abuse. If you do the crime, you will do the time ... remember zero tolerance and no second chances. HOOYAH!"

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Homefront in Focus: Need a 'LifT?'

By **Beth Wilson**
Military Spouse Contributor

This year we will mark the tenth year of 9/11 and that means ten years as a nation at war. While President Bush prepared us for an elongated conflict I think few of us believed it would extend beyond that of the first Gulf War. Yet here we are.

Though we are a nation at war I am sometimes surprised by the gulf between the military and civilian communities. I recently spoke at a university forum on military and military families. At the opening of my remarks I asked how many in the audience and on the panel had a relative serving in the military. Not one hand was raised. I asked if their parents or grandparents served. Several hands raised signifying grandparents served in the military, but surprisingly none had conversations with them about their experiences.

Today's military, which includes Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves, totals less than one percent of the total population. Isn't that an amazing figure? Less than one percent is entrusted with the security and defense of 99 percent. Let's contrast this figure with previous conflicts. It is estimated that 18 percent of the population served in the Civil War. World Wars I & II saw 14 percent of the population serving. In Vietnam eleven percent of the population served. In prior conflicts every community across the nation was impacted by the service of its young men and women. Not so today.

So how do we connect our two communities? How can the defenders connect with the defended? How can the defended enter the small, often confusing community of its defenders? One military spouse has a big, but creative, and this writer believes an effective idea to foster that connection.

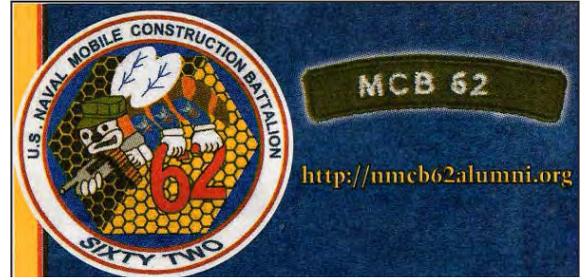
Military spouse and author, Kris Tsetsi is on a mission - to see

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Seabee Team 1, 'Most Fearless' in Cup action

By MC1(SCW) Ryan G. Wilber
NMCB 74 Public Affairs

Two basketball teams of Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction (NMCB) 74 went head-to-head in what was considered by many to be the biggest rivalry game of the season at the Naval Station Rota, Spain base gym Feb. 4.

Excited with anticipation, fellow Seabees began to fill the stands as the teams began to warm-up in preparation for the big game.

"Everybody came out to show their support for Seabee 1 and 2," said Yeoman Seaman

Anthony Brown. "So either way, win or lose, we're going to have fun."

While having fun is what both teams had in mind, they each felt that their respective teams would come out victorious.

"My prediction is that the most fearless team will win," said NMCB 74 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Richard Hayes III of Seabee Team 2.

By the end of the first half, Seabee Team 1 was in the lead with a score of 21-19 amidst cheers and shouts of support.

"I am excited. I'm rooting for

both teams," said Construction Mechanic 1st Class Saint Record. "I can't just go with just one team, because I know people on both teams."

While both teams continued to give it their best, Seabee Team 1 proved to be the "most fearless" team, winning the game 47-40.

Seabee Team 1, considered the younger of the two teams and led by Team Captain Builder 2nd Class Christopher Owens, was made up of Utilitiesman Constructionman Akini Alexander, Builder Constructionman Jamarius Becton, Yeoman Seaman Anthony Brown, Builder Constructionman Creadell Burns, Construction Electrician

Constructionman Cedric Carson, Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Christopher Davidson, Construction Electrician Constructionman Emmanuel Lemmon, Steelworker Constructionman Colton McCasland, Builder 3rd Class Robert Newell, Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Jack Richards and Engineering Aid Constructionman Chanaqua Robinson, and coached by Engineering Aid 1st Class John Piper.

Seabee Team 2, led by Team Captain Chief Hospital Corpsman James Burnett, was made up of Chief Construction Electrician James Blue, Cmdr. Richard Hayes III, Logistics Specialist 1st Class Lester Hurst, Yeoman Seaman Joshua



Yeoman Seaman Anthony Brown, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 and member of Seabee Team 1, squeezes between two members of Seabee Team 2 for a lay-up during the Captain's Cup basketball tournament being held at the Naval Station Rota, Spain gym. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ryan G. Wilber/Released)



Construction Electrician 2nd Class Kelton Mortis, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 and member of Seabee Team 2, shoots a jump shot while being defended by Construction Electrician Constructionman Cedric Carson, assigned to NMCB 74 and member of Seabee Team 1. The two rival NMCB 74 teams went head-to-head during the Captain's Cup basketball tournament being held at the Naval Station Rota, Spain gym. Seabee Team 1 emerged victorious 47 to 40. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ryan G. Wilber/Released)

Maddox, Yeoman Seaman Jordan Marbury, Construction Electrician 2nd Class Kelton Mortis, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Jesse Palacios, Builder Constructionman Erryl Roches, Lt. Cmdr. Omarr Tobias, Builder Constructionman Christopher Vance, Lt. j.g. Tommy Vaughn and Construction Electrician 2nd Class

Randal Walker, and coached by player/coach Construction Electrician 1st Class Jean Guerrier.

"I'm glad for the guys," said Engineering Aide 1st Class John Piper, coach of Seabee Team 1. "They came out, they played, they gave all they had and they played their butts off, and I'm proud of them."

February 24, 2011

Seabee Courier

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7th Annual Run for Relief Challenge 5K . . .

Do you have the fastest runners in your command? Are you ready to run for an individual award? The Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, invites you to the 7th Annual Run for Relief Challenge 5K, March 26 at 8:30 a.m. The Command with the fastest three-person team will take home the

Championship Trophy for one year and bragging rights forever. Awards to first overall male and female and solo runners in age groups. T-shirts to registered participants. Proceeds benefit the Annual Active Fund Drive in support of Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. Contact Alice Huffman, Director, NMCRS Gulfport, 228-871-2610, or alice.huffman@nmcrs.org for more information about the Run for Relief Challenge 5K.





MAE SOT, Thailand - Builder 3rd Class Daniel Meier, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11, plays with students at Pa Ka Mai School during exercise Cobra Gold 2011. NMCB-11 provides contingency construction, disaster relief, and humanitarian assistance in support of Combatant and Component Commanders worldwide. NMCB-11 is deployed to the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Kevin Burnett/Released)

‘Building the intangible bridges of trust’

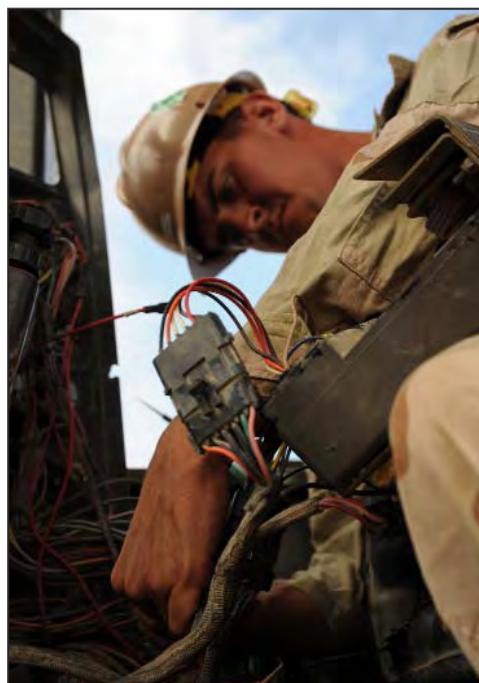
S E A B E E S



Equipment Operator 3rd Class John Guillen-Agudero, right, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 28, adjusts a drill bit prior to repairing a fence with members of the El Salvadorian navy at Anexo Centro Escolar Club Deleones during a Southern Partnership Station (SPS) 2011 subject matter expert exchange. SPS is an annual deployment of U.S. ships to the U.S. Southern Command's area of responsibility in the Caribbean and Latin America involving information sharing with navies, coast guards and civilian services throughout the region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jeffery Tilghman Williams/Released)



OKOSUKA, Japan - Construction Electrician 2nd Class Marvin George, left, and Engineering Aide Constructionman Andrew Chubb, both assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11 review blue prints at a construction site. NMCB-11 is building a Fleet Industrial Supply Center office on Azuma Island. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Andrew Ryan Smith/Released)



CAMP LEMONNIER, Djibouti - Construction Mechanic Construction Apprentice Christopher Jensen, a Seabee assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 Detail Horn of Africa troubleshoots an electrical wiring issue for the transmission of a grader in the Seabee Alfa Yard on Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti Feb. 1. NMCB 74 Det. HOA is deployed to Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa to assist in building partner nation capacity and promoting regional stability through construction engineering support. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Lindsey/Released)



Fitness Center
228-871-2668

The Next CFL course is scheduled for April 25 - 29. All information and application can be found on <http://www.navyfitness.org> select Fitness and then CFL information: CFL Certification Course Registration Instructions. Prior to requesting a seat all pre-requisite courses/training (CPR certification and NKO course) must be completed and all supporting documentation must accompany the application. The application must be received two weeks in advance of the course start date to allow adequate time for review. Fill out all requested information on the CNIC application. The following documents are a required part of the application and should be included with your submission: Copy of current CPR card. A memo or formal course roster with completion data from the course instructor is acceptable if the cards have not been issued; Copy of the commanding officer's appointment letter designating you as the Command CFL or ACFL; Print out of PRT results from PRIMS. This must include results from the most recent PRT cycle. If you did not participate due to a legitimate waiver your Command may conduct a mock PRT and write up the results on command letterhead which can be forwarded along with the PRIMS printout which should include the score from the last cycle

you completed; Copy of NKO course certificate. The NKO CFL Pre-requisite course can be found at www.nko.navy.mil under Navy e-learning. Go to the advanced search function and type in catalog number CPD-CFL-010. The course title is: CFL Certification-NAVPERSCOM (CPD-CFL-010). (Tip: You may need to hold your shift key down when you click on Navy e-learning to disable your pop up blocker.) Send completed and signed (by CO and yourself) application along with all aforementioned supporting documentation as a single PDF attachment to the following email address: CFLTraining@navy.mil. Please do not email multiple attachments, but be sure and include the last name of the attendee in the subject line of the email. Important notice: The cardiovascular assessment of the PRT will include the 1.5 mile run/walk only (no swim, treadmill, bike or elliptical will be substituted). If you do not meet BCA requirement for a CFL (one percent below age-gender standard) and do not score an overall Excellent low or higher on the PRT you will be removed from the course. No Exceptions.

Outdoor Recreation
228-871-2127

Outdoor Recreation trips and events are open to all Active Duty, Dependents, Reservists, Retirees, and DoD employees. Join Outdoor Rec. for several family fun events. Sign up to

visit the original "Swamp People" at Kleibert's Alligator and Turtle Farm in Hammond, LA. March 6. Tickets are \$11 for Adults and \$8 for Children 2-12. Transportation is provided as well as your ticket into the farm. Also ODR will be going on a Shrimp Tour aboard the Sailfish on Saturday, March 5. Tickets are \$15 for Adults and \$11 for Children under 11. The family Rock Climbing indoors at Slidell Rocks. Transportation is \$2 and depending on what you want to climb and your equipment rented the price varies from \$8 - \$16. Stop by building 456 to pick up our calendar of events or call 228-871-2127 for more information.

Vehicle Storage
228-871-2804

CBC Base Housing Residents - All vehicles and RV's receive 50 percent off the regular storage rate, but you must present proof of residency (i.e. phone bill, cable bill, ect.) Vehicle Storage Deployment Special-All deploying troops receive free storage for 1st vehicle and 50 percent off each additional vehicle this includes all RV's. Must present a letter of deployment from your command. For space availability please contact your MWR Auto Hobby Shop. Auto Hobby Shop 228-871-2804 The Auto Hobby Shop now has an ASE mechanic on duty during normal working hours to assist customers. For any automotive questions, feel free to give us call. Hours of operation are Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., and closed Sunday and Monday.

Auto Skills Center Special of the Month: Stop by the Auto Skills Center during the hours of noon - 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and let us check your brakes before you start your spring travels.

Seabee Recreational Park Area
228-871-2127

The Seabee Rec. Park Area many things to offer for your outdoor enjoyment such as pavilions, BBQ grills, large covered kid friendly playground area, basketball court, sand volley ball court, four practice golf holes, chipping and putting green, driving range, paintball field, Seabee lake with paddle boats, dog park and walking trail.

MWR Vehicle Resale Lot
228-871-2804

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 in a highly visible and well lit area for extra security. The cost is \$5 per week or \$15 per month.

Car Wash
228-871-2804

The car wash is located at Marvin Shields Blvd and Rodgers Ave. with suction powered vacuums, stain remover, shampooer and fragrance selections. Each wash bay has tire & wheel cleaner, pre soak, high pressure soap, foam brush, high pressure rinse, clear coat protectant and marine flush for outboard and inboard boat motors.

Shield's RV Park
228-871-5435

The MWR Shield's RV Park is located on 9th St. in the north east corner of the installation just north of building. 452 the NCBC Welcome Center/ Metro Housing facility. The park has 68 full service sites with 53 pull through sites and 16 back in sites, but all sites have full hook ups. These hook ups include 50, 30, & 20 amp outlets, phone service hook up, sewage, potable water, free cable TV, WI-FI, pet walking areas. The park also has coin operated laundry facilities and full ADA restroom and showers. Hours of operation are Monday - Sunday, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. year round. The Shield's Shed is now open to all RV Park residents and has a big screen TV, cards, board games, and limited seating.

anchors and Eagles
228-871-4750

Located in building 303 and is open Tuesday-Thursday from 2 p.m.-9 p.m. with a full service bar and covered patio for your enjoyment. The rental fee is only \$25/hour. So, call and book your special event. You won't find a better place.

Beehive Lounge
228-871-4009

Located in building 352 (next to the Grinder). With the friendliest bartenders, lowest prices and within

walking distance to anywhere, the Beehive is your BEST choice. Also, FREE WIFI! Call 228-871-4009 (after 3:30p.m.)/228-871-4750 for info. **Information, Tickets and Tours (ITT)** 228-871-2231

New Orleans Day Trip-March 12 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and is only \$5/person. Minimum of 10 people needed. Last day to sign up is March 4. **Base Wide Yard Sale**-March 19 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Training Hall Parking Lot. Minimum of 10 people. \$10 for two tables/two chairs, \$10 for one canopy, or \$15 for two tables/two chairs/one canopy. Last day to sign up is March 17. **Seabee Day**-March 26 from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Be sure to stop by the ITT booth at Seabee Day and register to win family of four tickets to WWII Museum and IMAX Theater or Senior tickets to the Zoo, Aquarium, and IMAX Theater. **Global Wildlife Center Safari Tour**, April 9 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Only \$20 for Adults, \$15 for Children 2-12, and Children 2 and under are free. Last day to sign up is March 25. **Mississippi Surge** tickets are still available for only \$12 each.

Liberty Center
228-871-4684

Gear up for an exciting month in the Liberty Center! The Liberty program has set up some thrilling activities and trips to get you excited! So get out of your Barracks and let's have some fun!! Liberty has exciting activities going on both on and off base such as: Pool Tournament March 2 at 6 p.m., Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournaments Feb. 24 and March 10 at 6 p.m. with prizes for the 1st and 2nd place winners. Join us for Board Game Night Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. and challenge your friends to a game to see who can still dominate those games you played as a kid! We're starting off the month of March with some FREE food in the Liberty Center! On March 1 you'll be able to make your own Sub sandwich with all the fixings. Liberty is also offering some really great and affordable off-base trips. Check out the Hornets vs. Rockets Feb. 27. Tickets for the game are \$22, includes FREE transportation to the game from Liberty. Liberty is also going to two Mississippi Surge games Feb. 25 and March 3. Tickets are only \$6 and that includes a ride to the game and ticket! Liberty has a great opportunity to get off base and enjoy some local BBQ! We'll be providing FREE shuttles to various events such as the BBQ Throwdown, Dinner Dash to Crossroads, Mobile Classic Car Show, Mo Joe Festival, and Mardi Gras Parades.

Movie Ticket

Training Hall Theater, Movie Hotline 228-871-3299

Feb. 24, For Colored Girls, R, 6 p.m.

Feb. 25, Red, PG13, 6 p.m.

Feb. 26, Paranormal Activity 2, R, 11:30 a.m.; My Soul to Take, R, 1:30 p.m.; Unstoppable, PG13, 4 p.m.; Case 39, R, 6 p.m.

Feb. 27, Secretariat, PG13, 11:30 a.m.; Megamind, PG, 2 p.m.; Alpha and Omega, PG, 4 p.m.; Red, PG13, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 28, Life As We Know It, PG13, 6 p.m.

March 1, Skyline, PG13, 6:30 p.m.

March 2, Due Date, R, 6:30 p.m.

March 3, Morning Glory, PG13, 6:30 p.m.

March 4, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's

Stone, PG, 6:30 p.m.

March 5, Harry Potter: Chamber of Secrets, PG, Noon; Harry Potter Prisoner of Azkaban, PG, 3 p.m.; Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, PG13, 5:45 p.m.

March 6, Harry Potter: Order of the Phoenix, PG13, Noon; Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince, PG, 3 p.m.; Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows, PG13, 6 p.m.

March 7, The Warrior's Way, R, 6:30 p.m.

March 8, The Tourist, PG13, 6:30 p.m.

March 9, How Do You Know, PG13, 6:30 p.m.

March 10, Love and Other Drugs, R, 6:30 p.m.

Movies contingent upon training requirements

F O C U S E D U C A T I O N

Interested in Engineering?

SAME/ARMY Engineering, Construction Camp opens in June

Provided by Kevin Byrd
NCBC School Liaison Officer

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) is accepting nominations for qualified high school students interested in attending the SAME/Army Engineering and Construction Camp, June 19-25, in Vicksburg, Miss. To qualify for consideration, students must:

- Have completed their sophomore or junior year in high school before June, 2011.

- Be on a high school track that will provide a basis for attendance at an accredited college or university (i.e., taking appropriate math and science courses).

- Have an expressed intent to pursue a degree in engineering or associated field (architecture, environmental science, civil, mechanical, electrical or other engineering curriculum).

- Have demonstrated leadership characteristics through participation in extra-curricular sports, and/or community activities.

- Be physically fit, (requires a doctor's statement)

- Be of high moral character.
- Be an American citizen.

Forty students will be competitively selected to attend the camp. The students will be housed at the 412th Engineer Command Building and will engage in hands-on engineering and construction activities under the mentorship and supervision of SAME professionals and other volunteers from the local engineering community. The program includes interaction with representatives of architecture/ engineering firms, construction companies, Military leaders, and Corps of Engineers' employees.

Applicants should mail or deliver completed applications to Henry Dulaney (EC) at 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Miss. 39183. All applications must be received by March 18, 2011. Successful applicants will be notified by April 8. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Dulaney at 601-631-7724.

Coastline Community announces College Spring "B" registration

Registration for the Spring "B" Term which runs from April 4 - May 29, began Feb. 7 and will continue until March 11. Additional information can be obtained in the Navy College Office, building 60, room 239 or by contacting Dr. David Drye at 228-871-3439 or e-mail DDRYE@DDRYE@COASTLINE.EDU

March 2011 Navy-wide exam dates

E6 Exam: Thursday, March 3
E5 Exam: Thursday, March 10
E4 Exam: Thursday, March 17

The exam test site will be at the old gym. Candidates should report to exam site NLT 6:30 a.m. in uniform of the day with ID card. Cell phones and watches are forbidden. Contact Personnel Specialist 1st Class Handy at 228-871-2883 or via email at vincent.handy1@navy.mil.

NMCB 1 assists budding scientists at Gulfport Central Middle School

Twenty five Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 volunteered to judge science projects entered in the Gulfport Central Middle School Science Fair Feb. 9. The school was adopted by "The First and the Finest" as part of the battalion's Adopt-A-School program. NMCB 1 holds a Partnership in Education charter with the school.

The school was extremely grateful for the help with the judging. "Great help, great assistance," said Natasha Mays, the school's Science Director. "The Seabees' presence has really made a positive impact on the students here in supporting the school's goal of creating an interest in the various disciplines of science amongst students so as to increase their chances of success in the future."

Upon arrival at Gulfport Central, the Seabees were split up and dispersed to different areas to judge the projects. A maze of cardboard folds stretched across the school gym, separated by entries by category. The Seabees used score sheets to judge nearly 100 science fair projects in categories ranging from originality and creativity, to how well procedures were followed and how effective of a controlled environment was in place.



Construction Electrician 3rd Class David Gross, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 judges entries during Gulfport Central Middle School's annual Science Fair. NMCB 1 and NMCB 133 share a Partnership in Education charter with the school. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)

"Showing these kids we care is very important in order to support indulgence in the creative and intellectual mind," said Constructionman Electrician 3rd Class David Gross. "Many personnel with NMCB 1 have children of their own, which means they can relate to others in only wanting the best for their children. That is why it is important to help encourage these kinds of things as much as possible."

The Seabees assisted in judging the science projects all morning and were in high spirits which demonstrated their dedication and willingness to go above and beyond to help those who are in need, even for the little things.

Hoorah NMCB 1!

NEX rewards students through A-OK program

From Navy Exchange Public Affairs

The Navy Exchange wants to help its customers pay for their children's college education through its A-OK Student Reward Program. Four times per school year, four students will be the recipients of a U.S. Savings Bond with denominations of \$5,000, \$3,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 at maturity. The next drawing will be held at the end of February 2011.

Any eligible full-time student that has a B-grade point average equivalent or better, as deter-

mined by their school system, may enter the drawing. Eligible students include dependent children of active duty military members, reservists and military retirees enrolled in first through 12th grade. Dependent children without an individual Dependent Identification Card must be accompanied by their sponsor to submit their entry. Each student may enter only once each grading period and must re-enter with each qualifying report card.

To enter the drawing, stop by any NEX with a current report

card and have a NEX associate verify the minimum grade average. Then fill out an entry card and obtain an A-OK ID, which entitles the student to discount coupons for NEX products and services.

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) has been offering students a chance to win a savings bond through its A-OK Student Reward Program since 1997. Since the program began, NEXCOM has awarded \$504,000 in savings bonds with the help of its generous vendor partners.

NCBC School Liaison Officer Kevin Byrd is located in building 352 and may be contacted by calling 228-871-2117 or by e-mail at kevin.byrd@navy.mil.

From **LifT** page 12

today's military spouse named Time Magazine's next Person of the Year. Time's website states the Person of the Year is not an honor In fact, their definition of the designation includes: "The person or persons who most affected the news and our lives, for good or for ill, and embodied what was important about the year, for better or for worse."

Kris has established a Facebook fan page for her movement and a website for her initiative with the acronym; LifT or Like it for Time (www.likeitfortime.wordpress.com). You can follow her efforts on Twitter (@likeitfortime). Kris is coordinating a letter writing campaign to bolster her efforts.

I realize that the Military Spouse may not be as familiar to the public as a president or Mark Zuckerman. But it is easy to realize and argue the impact the military spouse has on the news - for good or for ill. They are the unseen strength and backbone of the military.

The military spouse is the unsung hero of this war. By keeping the home front functioning - and thriving

ing - our military is enabled, empowered, to accomplish its mission. After ten years they are still supporting their service member. They are finding strength and courage to endure multiple deployments, care for their families, maintain a long-

distance and part-time marriage, and raise the kids as single parents for months on end and still volunteer in their local school and community. And they accomplish this without accolades and limited support. Often, okay DAILY, we hear,

"I don't know how you do it."

And far too many have faced the ultimate loss, becoming today's military widows with courage equal to that found on the battlefield.

Won't you join me in supporting Kris's heroic efforts to make Time's

next Person of the Year today's Military Spouse?

Hear Kristen Tsetsi on *Enlisted Spouse Radio* at www.blogtalkradio.com/nht. Connect with Beth at beth@enlistedspousecommunity.com.

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Motorcycle Safety Training... Building 60, room 224 Motorcycle Safety, 871-4343 or Sign up on line at: <http://www.navymotorcyclerider.com>. In order to improve the skills and knowledge of motorcyclists, it's mandatory for all Sailors who are motorcycle riders to attend motorcycle safety training courses. Courses are available at no cost.

Earth Day volunteers needed . . . Six volunteers are needed to plant sprigs of grass in support of the Storm Water Program on board Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC). The project is in conjunction with Seabee Day 2011 and Earth Day 2011. The planting will take place March 25. Interested volunteers may contact Ted Ingram at ted.ingram@navy.mil or call 228-871-2373 from 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

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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 Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the NCBC chapel. Children are welcome and baby sitting is provided for children four and under. Please contact FRG President Dawn MacKenzie at 850-748-6242 or Vice President Laura Linder at 402-369-4090 for more information.

NMCB 11 FRG For more information regarding the NMCB 11 FRG, please visit the FRG and Ombudsman website at <http://nmc11.webs.com>.

NMCB 74 FRG 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 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 sit-

ting is provided. Please bring a dish to share. For more information contact FRG President Kelli Clarke at 727-504-4408 or e-mail han-sonkl54@yahoo.com. To receive updates log on to the FRG website at <http://www.orgsites.com/ms/nmcb133fsg>

Naval Officer's Spouse Club

The Gulfport Naval Officers' Spouses' Club is a social organization that has FUN while helping our community. We meet monthly and have special interest groups for almost everyone! For more information, please email noscgulfport@yahoo.com. We hope to see YOU soon!

NMCRS

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

Gamblers Anonymous

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

TRAINING

COMPASS is a team of trained seasoned military spouses mentoring other Navy spouses. Classes are intimate 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 to sign up.

Naval Sea Cadets

The Gulfport branch of the Naval Sea Cadets are recruiting youth ages 11 to 17 for Sea Cadets, a nation-wide organization that help youth achieve personal success through nautical training. Meetings are the third Saturday of the month from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m., building 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. 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 the first Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information call 228-832-0017.

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 and is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. The shop has a variety of Seabee related memorabilia, books and DVD's. Contact the museum at www.seabeesmuseumstore.org/shop/index.php or call the gift shop at 228-871-4779 for more info.

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From **BAKERSFIELD** page 6

that had collected over the last 30 days, erect HESCO barriers and crow's nest gun towers on the east compound and build tent pads and latrine facilities on the west compound.

The other 'Bees worked quickly to clean the site, while Umana stayed in a gun truck providing a security over-watch and medical support. The troops took a lunch break at 11:30 a.m., just in time to receive incoming small arms fire.

Enemy rounds snapped sharply against the up-armored earth moving equipment. The Seabees quickly took cover behind their equipment. Army troops perched in a crow's nest, manning an M240B, 7.62mm machine gun opened up with suppressing fire from the existing COP.

"All I could think about was one of my guys getting hit while on my watch or for that matter Army guys, said Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class, Rodney White, NMCB 18. "Stout was no joke. It was the front line - outside those walls all hell breaks loose."

On the seventh day of construction at around 7 a.m., a combined ANA/U.S. patrol sortied from the U.S. compound, headed south and then west out of the COP. As they readied to set an ambush, small arms fire erupted from a nearby tree line, one of the Afghan Army troops began to panic. Cpl. Gervais Vera grabbed the soldier to calm him, stepped back and triggered a pressure plate. Regrettably Corporal Vera was seriously wounded by the blast, losing one leg and severely injuring the other. The ANA soldier remained unscathed as Vera took the brunt of the explosion.

White assisted Army medic Fontenot, a member of the patrol, who had already placed a tourniquet on Vera's leg. After helping place two additional tourniquets, White provided additional medical aid to control the bleeding of additional wounds sustained to Vera's back. A Blackhawk helicopter arrived within 15 minutes, evacuating Vera directly to the ROLE 3 medical facility at Kandahar Air Field.

White remembers that Vera remained conscious throughout the

ordeal and even cracked a joke as he was loaded into the chopper, telling medic Fontenot to "... get a haircut."

As fate would have it, U. S. Navy Captain, Dr. Donald Bittner, a reserve component surgeon assigned to NMCB 18 was one of the members of the emergency medical team that treated Vera when he arrived on KAF. Vera survived his wounds and is recovering at Walter Reed Army Medical Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland.

NMCB 18 built COPs - and it also saved lives and mended bodies as COP Stout evolved into a safer position.

In the final week of construction the Seabees, working long shifts into the night, transferred their efforts back to the original compound. They constructed new tent decks for berthing, a Southwest Asian Hut to be used as a morale, welfare and recreation facility and also converted a steel CONEX box into a latrine facility which included a separate laundry and 2 shower stalls. All of this was compliments of Construction Electrician 1st Class, Christopher Fink.

Fink utilized the tools and materials at hand to improve the quality of life for the veteran 320th. An old Afghan farm tractor motor provided the power to pump a well that supplied the non-potable water for the washing machines, showers and toilets. The Army had received the appliances, but had neither the tools nor skills to install them. Fink nursed the tractor motor back to life and gave the Army their first showers and flush latrine facilities on Stout. Some of the troops had been weeks without a shower- washing instead with bottled water or baby wipes.

The Seabees who carried out three separate missions to COP Stout returned to FOB Terra Nova and continued to provide security and quality of life improvements for embattled Army troops. As missions progressed they would see more kinetic activity and were often in the line of fire, which can erupt anywhere at any time in the rugged landscape of Afghanistan.

Editor's Note: Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18 recently completed its deployment and is in the process of demobilizing on board NCBC.

Seabee Food Pantry . . .

Is looking for donations of non-perishable food items such as baby food, canned goods, peanut butter, mayonnaise, dried fruit, spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, sugar, cereal and the like. Drop off points include Seabee Memorial Chapel, CBC Commissary, Navy Exchange, Fleet and Family Support Center, Navy Gateway Inn and the Armed Forces Retirement Home. For more information, please call the Chapel at 228-871-2454.



Installation Antiterrorism Note . . . All personnel should be alert and inquisitive about strangers, especially those seen loitering, taking photographs or notes near the installation's perimeter or gate areas. Be suspicious of items that don't belong in the area and be alert for abandoned parcels. All suspicious activity should be reported immediately to Security at (228) 871-2361.

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GULF COAST USO
901 CBC 3rd St.,
Bldg 114 Office hours:
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. -
5 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. -
7 p.m. Call 228-575-
5224 for more info.

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Seabee Memorial Chapel

Services:

Sunday Catholic Mass: 9 a.m.

Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 11:15 a.m.

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

Protestant Sunday School, 9 a.m.

Center Chaplains:

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

**Lt. Yoon Choi
Protestant Chaplain**

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

NCBC Public Safety Info . . .

Did you know that the Department of Public Safety uses the NCBC website to keep you advised of the most current Navy wide and Installation based security concerns? For a better understanding of Warning Indicators involving Violence in the Work Place, go to <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Gulfport/index.htm> and visit the Department of Public Safety's programs which were developed by the Security Division for your information. Under the link for Crime Prevention you will find Disgruntled Employee and Domestic Terrorist Warning Indicators. Additionally, the Anti-Terrorist and Force Protection link provides detailed information involving Warning Indicators for Insider Domestic Terrorism. The Public Safety page also provides a wide range of emergency telephone numbers, as well as other valuable information posted with your safety in mind.

SEATBELTS are required at all times while operating or riding in a vehicle on board NCBC in accordance with OPNAVINST 5100.12H.

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