

# Flying K



Vol. 68, No. 25

Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

[www.cnic.navy.mil/kingsville](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/kingsville)

December 17, 2010

## NAS Kingsville selected as Region's 'most excellent'

Naval Air Station Kingsville has been selected to represent Navy Region Southeast in the Navy's Installation Excellence Award competition, which will be decided in mid-February at the Navy Installation Command level.

The command received notice of its selection Nov. 22 from Rear Adm. Tim Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Southeast.

In an e-mail to NAS Kingsville's commanding officer, Capt. Mark McLaughlin, Alexander praised the NAS Kingsville team for its enhancements in readiness, quality of service, and business processes across operations, facilities management and quality of life core competencies.

"Our cross-functional panel of experts considered 13 packages from our installations," Alexander said, "and the competition was fierce. But overall, the NAS Kingsville submitted the best package, showing how they utilized imaginative and innovative management actions that directly supported Fleet, Fighter and Family." In addition, Alexander added, "The command highlighted the air station's significant accomplishments in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of their installation."

The air station will now move on to Navywide competition as the Regional nominee for the Navywide award. Judging at that level is expected to be completed in early February.

NAS Kingsville's package focused on a number of significant evolutions during the past year, from facility and infrastructure improvements, to tenant command support for flight training, runway repairs, energy conservation, community outreach, facility improvements, and customer service, to name but a few.

On the construction side, NAS Kingsville continued to see exponential growth during the past year. Topping the initiatives

is a \$13.5 million project to renovate the old enlisted barracks building and turn it into a premier Navy Gateway Inn and Suites (NGIS) facility. This project not only utilizes unused and outdated building space, but also reduces the base footprint by 53,680 square feet in alignment with CNIC's Strategic Priorities. The new NGI&S facility is expected to be completed in the summer of 2011.

Huge Quality of Life wins included the completion of an extensive \$1.4 million mold remediation and HVAC work for the only permanent party barracks on base, and the refurbishment of McFall Memorial Chapel, a \$1.5 million project.

Additionally, NAS Kingsville has taken

an aggressive approach to meeting the Navy's challenge of reducing 3 percent energy consumption per year by reducing it 8 percent this year alone and receiving the FY10 SECNAV Energy and Water Management Gold Award. With the planned installation of Rooftop Building Integrated Photovoltaic systems and the Solar Photovoltaic Array field, NAS Kingsville will continue this successful trend of improved energy savings. Our command Building Energy Monitor Program is expected to lead to additional energy savings of \$1.5M over the next 10 years.

see *Excellent* on page 5

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### Holiday wishes

Happy holidays South Texas from the command staff (from left) Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff; Cmdr. Scott Wilmot, executive officer; Janie Ramos, CO/XO secretary; and Capt. Mark McLaughlin, commanding officer. (Photo by Jon Gagné)

## From the Bridge



Capt. Mark McLaughlin  
Commanding Officer



Greetings Team Kingsville.

This Holiday Season is a time for all of us to reflect and enjoy the traditions that abound with Christmas. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for a superb year of service to NAS Kingsville, our Navy and our Nation. Now is the time for each of you to share and

enjoy the time over the holidays to celebrate with family and friends. You have certainly earned it!

Our Armed Forces are still engaged in combat operations overseas, and our tenant command from U.S. Customs and Border Protection is ensuring the security of our borders daily very close to home. Please take a moment to remember our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Border Agents who are unable to share this joyous season with their families.

As we break next week for the traditional government observed holidays, I ask each and every one of you to follow three simple guidelines. First, take care of yourselves remembering that safety is paramount

whether on the road or in the home. Second, take extra special care of your families, for the ability to perform our mission hinges on support from the home front. Third, take care of your shipmates. Whether military, government employee or civilian contractor, our support for each other ensures we can navigate the challenges that face us in the future.

Kristin and I personally extend a holiday blessing to each and every one of you that make this base "Team Kingsville." I look forward to the New Year and the incredible achievements I'm sure will be coming soon.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
~Skipper Mac

## Deckplate Leadership



CMDCM (SW/AW/FMF)  
Charlie Ratliff  
Command Master Chief



Greetings Team Kingsville,

In May 2005 I began my tour as Command Master Chief of USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53). My tour in that great warship was undoubtedly the highlight of my career. Capt. Andy Culley, Lt. Cmdr. Mike Misiewicz, and yours truly served as the command leadership triad for 325 of the finest Sailors in the Navy. I worked very closely with Lt. Cmdr. Misiewicz on a daily basis to ensure the ship and its crew were ready to meet all mission requirements. Like the other Executive Officers I've worked with, Lt. Cmdr. Misiewicz was a hard-working Naval Officer who was completely dedicated to the Command and its Sailors.

Following our tour on JPJ, Misiewicz was promoted to commander and later went on to become the commanding officer of the Arleigh Burke class destroyer USS Mustin (DDG 89). For this week's column, I thought I'd share Cmdr. Misiewicz's personal story as I find it very heartwarming and inspirational.

Cmdr. Misiewicz's birth name is actually Vannak Khem. He was born, and spent his early childhood years, in the rice fields outside the capital of Phnom Penh, Cambodia. When he was a young boy, Cambodia was going through a period of tremendous political turmoil. Following a civil war, the brutal Khmer Rouge regime gained control of the county. Nearly two million people were executed, starved or trapped in prison camps.

Before the civil war began, young Vannak Khem's father, who was later executed, made the decision to have his son adopted by Maryna Misiewicz, an American worker at the U. S. Embassy. Ms. Misiewicz, along with her newly-adopted son Vannak Khem, narrowly escaped the Khmer Rouge regime and returned to the United States.

Once in America, young Misiewicz would cry almost every night, thinking about his family and what had happened to them. He had no idea at that point whether they had survived the Killing Fields. However, he worked hard in his adoptive country and enlisted in the Navy after graduating from high school. He became an Electronics Technician and applied for the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) program, and was eventually accepted and admitted into the U.S. Naval Academy. He has said that his studies at the Naval Academy really opened his eyes to the horrific events of his early childhood in Cambodia.

He searched for information about his family for years without success. In fact, at this point he felt guilty for being the only one in his family who was saved. He assumed the worst had happened to his parents and four siblings. Unknown to him, his mother and three of his four siblings were able to flee Cambodia in 1983, and were living in Austin, Texas. It was in 1989 that the family finally found him and they were reunited. Unfortunately, missing from the reunion were his father, who had been executed, and his infant sister who had died from malnutrition.

Cmdr. Misiewicz and his crew in Mustin, recently visited Cambodia where they participated in community outreach projects at the Cambodian Children's Goodwill Center and the Happy House Children's Shel-

ter. They also went to remote jungle areas, where 80 percent of Cambodians live, and did community outreach events with the Maddox Jolie-Pitt Foundation. Finally, they had members of the Somaly Mam Foundation, which is a group that rescues young women from sex trafficking, visit the ship and provide testimonials.

Misiewicz said in a recent interview, "America is truly the land of opportunity. It's the one country on Earth where you can start from the rice fields of a war-torn country and rise to command a U. S. Navy destroyer. It doesn't get any better."

In closing I'd like to congratulate Cmdr. Misiewicz on a very successful command tour in Mustin. I know it must have been a challenging but also a very rewarding tour. Sail safe shipmate!

V/R  
CMC



SIHANOUKVILLE, Cambodia (Dec. 3, 2010) -- Cmdr. Michael V. Misiewicz, commanding officer of the guided-missile destroyer USS Mustin (DDG 89), is greeted by members of his family as Mustin arrives in Sihanoukville, Cambodia. This is Misiewicz's first visit to his native country since he immigrated to the U.S. in 1973. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Devon Dow).

### NAS Kingsville Religious Services Offered

For more information, call 516-6331.

#### Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service at 5 p.m. followed by Christmas Eve Mass at 6:30 p.m. at McFall Memorial Chapel

#### Sunday at McFall Memorial Chapel

10:30 a.m. - Family Bible Services  
with Children's Church  
12:30 p.m. - Catholic Mass

#### Tuesday

11:30 a.m. - Lunch Bible Study  
in Bldg. 2741

#### Wednesday

7 p.m. - Officer Christian Fellowship  
Call Dr. Joe Humphrey  
at (847) 502-7085,  
for more information.

#### Thursday at McFall Memorial Chapel

4:30 p.m. - Catholic Choir Practice  
5:30 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

## Flying K

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*Commanding Officer*

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**Fifi Kieschnick**  
*Public Affairs Specialist / Editor*

**AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum**  
*Staff Photographer/Writer*



This newspaper is published for people like just-frocked AC2(AW) Fomai Aokuso, who is an air traffic controller aboard NAS Kingsville. The Long Beach, Calif., native has nearly 7 years in the Navy, 4 of which has been at Kingsville.

# NAS Kingsville's top civilian employees for 3rd, 4th quarter recognized

Naval Air Station Kingsville's top civilian employees for third and fourth quarter were recently announced.

Congratulations to: Senior Civilian for the third quarter, Jeanie Alexander. Civilian of the third quarter, Janie Ramos. Senior Civilian for the fourth quarter, Christopher Code. Civilian of the fourth quarter, Laura Jo Crosnoe

**J**eanie Alexander, school liaison officer, was recognized for excelling in developing an outreach program and partnership with the local school districts. Alexander developed an active communication link with the local schools that directly led to a positive increase in attendance and success of this year's air show. She single-handedly coordinated a Blue Angels Rally for school-age children that more than doubled expectations. Alexander works in seven school districts, more than 20 schools. She provides the com-



manding officer a wider outreach than ever before to ensure that military families' voices are heard, relative to their special needs and concerns regarding the education of their children.

Alexander says she loves her job and the best part is the people -- getting to meet and talk to people from all over the world and staying involved in the education 'world.'

The love for children and their success is what motivates her. "I want to make sure that all children are given the opportunity to reach their potential in life," Alexander says. "They are our future leaders and we need to make sure they are prepared to lead us in the right direction."

**J**anie Ramos, CO/XO secretary, stays on top of things that are critical to the command. She is well organized, extremely efficient, professional and dedicated to the command. She ensures the successful flow of information and correspondence to the



command suite -- from internal and external organizations -- as well as assists various departments in preparing paperwork and ensures they are aware of prioritized assignments and suspense dates. Additionally, she flawlessly coordinated VIP visits for Congressional and state staff members.

Ramos also managed every aspect of the Wings of Gold Chalet in support of the 2010 air show, to include preparing the VIP invitation list, mailing invitations, preparing credentials and parking passes, arranging seating, checking credentials at the entrance and greeting more than 500 guests each day of the air show.

Ramos who has been a member of Team Kingsville for 10 years says she loves her job because "every day I learn something new and every day is a challenge." She adds that the favorite part of her job is helping others and she is motivated by challenge. "I enjoy working several projects at one time and ensuring the command meets all deadlines on the projects that are required," she says.

**C**hris Code, NAS Kingsville's agency program coordinator, was recognized for restructuring the APC program. While working on the various credit card programs he manages, he stepped in as the station's training officer, a critical position that he had previously held. Code was able to maintain the

workload in both jobs as well as meet all the reporting requirements for both jobs without complaint.

Code has been aboard NAS Kingsville since 2007 -- first as an active duty member, then as a civilian contractor, prior to working as the APC. Code ways the favorite part of his job is "knowing that I'm part of a team -- the Navy Team. My job allows me the opportunity to continue serving my country by supporting the men and women serving in our Navy."



Code adds that the challenges he faces on the job is what keeps it appealing, but adds, "take your work seriously, but don't forget to have fun while doing it."

**L**aura Jo Crosnoe, accounting technician for MWR, is a "huge asset to the MWR organization," says Amy Howden, MWR's chief financial officer. Crosnoe was recognized for her outstanding work ethics. Her

see *Civilians* on page 5

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## TOOTH TIPS by C.A. Clements, D.D.S., M.A.G.D.

### Wisdom Teeth Surgery Doesn't Have To Be A Big Deal

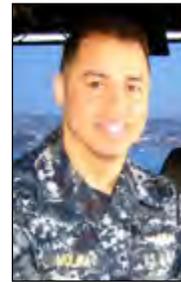
Unfortunately, this is one surgery most of us have to face in life. Statistically, most people have wisdom teeth — also called 3rd molars — and they fail to erupt properly causing many potential problems. The most common are infections, decay, gum disease, cysts and crowding among the remaining teeth, which can lead to a need for orthodontics. Removal of the wisdom teeth is the best option in most cases, and hospitalization and general anesthesia are usually NOT needed for this. Great outcomes, at lowered expense and risk can be obtained by using only mild sedation and local anesthesia. This is how we routinely do this surgery at our clinic. If you or a loved one would like a free screening exam to see if you need this service, call Sue to schedule an appointment. And don't worry about losing your wisdom. It has nothing to do with those teeth, just a name only!



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## In the Break



Cmdr. Rey Molina  
Chief Staff Officer  
Training Air Wing TWO



Greetings all,

Over 200 students a year report to Training Air Wing TWO (TW2) for Undergraduate Jet Pilot Training. These students report to one of two training squadrons: Training Squadron 21 or Training Squadron 22. Throughout the year, the Training Air Wing is responsible for providing the fleet with newly winged Navy and Marine Corps aviators. The make-up of the Air Wing consists of approximately 250 Student Naval Aviators, 75 Instructor Pilots, 80 civilian personnel, and 100 T-45A and T-45C "Goshawk" aircraft. We pride ourselves on training the highest quality aviators safely and efficiently.

As many of you know, it takes a team effort to make the mission and goals of an organization a success. However, every now and then the efforts and dedication of one person rises to the top of the collective whole and is noteworthy of special praise and attention...in the Wing Spotlight: Fran Lanzone.

Lanzone is one of the many civilians assigned to the Air Wing supporting the command's mission of providing Naval Aviators to the fleet. A retired Senior Chief, she is intimately familiar with the Navy mission and structure. As the Wing's Analyst, Lanzone provides Naval Aviator Production Process (NAPP) analytic support to the Commander of Training Air Wing TWO (CTW2) and Task Group Tactical (TGTAC), Capt. D. Mark Brooks, including analytic support to develop Integrated Production Plan (IPP) for CTW2 and TGTAC Fleet Replacement Squadrons (FRS). As TGTAC, TW2 is the lead for all strike production at TW1 and TW2. The total output of production for

TW2 averages over 35,000 flight hours and 29,000 sorties per year.

Continuously monitoring TW2's training program, Lanzone skillfully aligns Wing production goals and optimizes efficiency through meticulous tracking and monitoring ensuring students transitioning through the training syllabus are on pace to meet FRS target start dates. At a time of constrained resources and funding, she uses all available data to advise TGTAC leaders on allocation of resources to optimize production efficiency saving thousands of tax-payer dollars while ensuring students are trained just-in-time for their FRS seats. An exceptionally impressive analyst and manager, her superb coordination, timely management analysis, and communication across all departments and senior leadership guarantee the most accurate information is available to decision makers. She often works overtime to meet changing production requirements and shortfalls, always making certain the data she analyzes is accurate, timely and relevant. Her pride, professionalism and performance are evident in her quality of work and positive impact to TW2's mission accomplishment.

Lanzone consistently demonstrates superb attention to detail by monitoring and analyzing data from numerous external and internal sources with stellar results. Her meticulous tracking, process, and analytical abilities always paints a realistic picture of the Wing's total production effort. Her exceptional foresight and proactive communications with key communicators greatly enable leadership to make real-time decisions that affect mission success. In the end, her outstanding analytic support and technical acumen have greatly contributed to Wing's mission of providing Naval Aviators to the fleet -- on time! The best pilots in the world are not born, they are trained here...in large part with the help of people like Fran Lanzone. Her tireless dedication, unsurpassed technical expertise, and unwavering commitment to excellence are a shining example for all to see and earn her the Wing Spotlight for December 2010.



### Rope 'em Ride 'em Fly 'em

Congratulations to the VT-21 Fighting Redhawks for their float entry in the La Posada Parade: "Rope 'em Ride 'em Fly 'em." VT-21 won the "Most Patriotic" entry award. VT-21 would like to thank all those who helped to construct the float, walk in the parade, and pass out candy and stickers along the way including: Cmdr. Quino Alonzo, Joy Alonzo, Lt.j.g. Scott Lindahl, Rhonda Lindahl, 1st Lt. John Hinton, Nikky Hinton, 1st Lt. Cory Frederick, Erika Frederick, 1st Lt. Anthony Peters, and Annette Berardino. (Courtesy photo)

*Civilians from page 3*

work is thorough, accurate and on time. She is dependable, loyal and admired by her co-workers for whom she is always willing to give a helping hand.

Crosnoe says one of her favorite work mottoes is, "Plan your work, work your plan. That includes working to the best of your ability."

She added that she is motivated by the responsibility given to her for her job. "There is always that challenge to try to find better ways to make my job more efficient without sacrificing quality," Crosnoe says.



*Excellent from page 1*

Air Station departmental accomplishments also played a significant role in the selection.

The Fire & Emergency Services Department was selected as the Navywide Fire Department of the Year for medium sized commands, and Fire Chief Ruben Perez was selected as the Navy's top Fire Chief.

The command BASH Program manager, Eddie Earwood, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the 2010 Annual Bird Air-strike Symposium in Salt Lake City, Utah. Speaking before more than 500 experts from all over the world, Earwood presented the successful tactics and techniques utilized by the NASK BASH team while integrating the use of avian radar technology. Earwood was also recognized for his efforts in promoting the command's BASH Program in the public sector by compiling an informational BASH flyer and distributing it to landowners in the local counties. The flyer provided dozens of simple steps that can reduce attractants to large flocks of birds, which in turn could affect flight training on the air station.

NAS Kingsville has also continued to work a solid action plan addressing the key issues of Encroachment, Energy Conservation, and Excess Footprint. Through continued communication and involvement with the City of Kingsville and Kleberg County, encroachment issues –including wind farm construction – is being addressed through the command and community Joint Land Use Study and Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) plans.

McLaughlin passed along the congratulatory remarks from the Region to his department heads, thanking them for overall contributions.

"I cannot begin to express my gratitude to each and every one of you for your dedication and work ethic," McLaughlin stated. "This recognition is testament that all of your efforts have paid off; 'Well Done!' to all of you."

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\*Online registration closed December 24 - 25

Payment deadline: January 4, 2011  
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## Classes start January 18, 2011

Del Mar College offices are closed for winter break  
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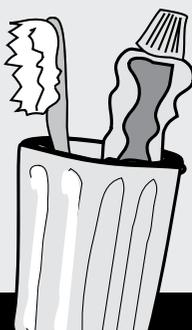
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## TW2 makes record-breaking CFC donations

by Lt.j.g. Danielle Thriot  
VT-21 Public Affairs

Training Wing Two wrapped up its 2010 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) with record setting numbers bringing in \$21,414: 134 percent of the annual goal.

The Coastal Bend chapter of CFC, which covers federal employees from 11 South Texas counties, brought in a total of \$1,101,324 in the 2010 campaign.

“Our federal employees throughout the Coastal Bend Area have demonstrated enormous generosity over the years, through both the good times and periods presenting challenges” said Shannon Chaves, director of the Coastal Bend Combined Federal Campaign.

This year’s campaign was no exception, in spite of a challenging economy the average annual personal contribution increased from \$210.00 to \$246.00. Total donations from the Coastal Bend area totaled

\$1,198,512.43, according to Chaves.

Training Air Wing TWO’s participation in the campaign set a new fund-raising record for the command.

“There are many folks in need who will greatly benefit from the generosity of TRAWING TWO personnel,” said Forrester Patton, TRAWING TWO CFC coordinator.

CFC is the largest and most successful workplace philanthropic fundraiser in the world supporting thousands of local, national and international non-profit organizations. CFC allows federal employees to donate through payroll deduction to pre-approved organizations of their choice. Employees can designate single or multiple charities to receive a portion of their monthly donation, which is deducted from their pay over the course of 12 months.

To apply for CFC, non-profit organizations must meet stringent Office of Personnel Management accountability requirements ensuring cost efficiency and effectiveness.

## Flight Plans

### CO’s Suggestion Box

Have an idea that can make Naval Air Station Kingsville a better place to work? Don’t know how to get that idea to the right person?

NAS Kingsville now has two CO Suggestion Boxes placed just to get your input. One is located on the quarterdeck of the Headquarters Building 2740 and the other is on the quarterdeck of Air Operations.

### Safety offers Teen Driving Course

A Teen Driving/AAA Class for youths 15 years of age and older will be held Dec. 21 and Dec. 28 on board Naval Air Station Corpus Christi at the Navy College Building.

For more information, contact Charles Young at 361-516-6397 or [Charles.e.young1.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:Charles.e.young1.ctr@navy.mil).

### Retroactive stop-loss special pay extended

The Department of Defense announced Dec. 6 that the deadline for eligible service members, veterans and their beneficiaries to apply for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP) has been extended to Dec. 18.

The last deadline was Dec. 3.

To apply, or for more information on RSLSP, including submission requirements and service-specific links, go to <http://www.defense.gov/stoploss>.

The deadline extension is included in the continuing resolution signed by President Barack Obama Dec. 4, providing funding for federal government operations through Dec. 18.

RSLSP was established to compensate military members whose service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009.

Eligible members or their beneficiaries

are required to submit a claim to their respective military service in order to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a Stop Loss status.

When RSLSP began Oct. 21, 2009, the services estimated 145,000 service members, veterans and beneficiaries were eligible. Because the majority of those eligible had separated from the military, the services have engaged in extensive and persistent outreach efforts throughout the year. Efforts including direct mail, engaging military and veteran service organizations, social networks and media outlets, will continue throughout the period of eligibility. (*Navy News Service*)

### Lost

Lost: gold and silver woman’s watch. If found, contact Diana Gonzalez at 516-6637.

### Social networking connects Sailors to advancement results

The Navy Advancement Center’s (NAC) page on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) saw an exponential increase in ‘hits’ as the Active Duty Advancement Cycle (Cycle 208) results were published to the fleet Nov. 22.

“The NAC Facebook page added 2,500 fans in the two weeks prior to the Cycle 208 (results) being published,” said Tom Updike, enlisted exam team leader at the Navy Advancement Center. “When our Facebook page advised results were available on NKO, the NAC NKO page received over 212,000 hits that day, many redirected from Facebook.”

NKO and its variations were the 1st, 7th, and 9th largest Google search hits after the advancement results were released. NKO activity levels were approximately 2.5 times the historical peak. (*Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs*)

# Corpus Christi Animal Control

Saturday, December 18th  
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Far right, Naval Air Station Kingsville's Color Guard leads a local parade. Right, AC3 Trevor Leon and AC2 Fomai Aokuso rehearse for an upcoming ceremony. Below, The Color Guard members stand at attention, eyes focused straight ahead during a recent ceremony.



# Parading the Colors

Volunteer members of Honor Guard represent command, the Navy

Part 1 of a 2-part series

by Jon Gagné  
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

You see them at ceremonies and events throughout the year but hardly ever hear them announced by name. Their uniforms are neatly pressed; their ribbons and medals in perfect order. They stand at attention, eyes focused straight ahead, and they blend into the background almost unnoticed.

Their presence adds a calming order to the event schedule, and an official tone to the proceedings. Their role in these events takes only a few minutes and yet the event wouldn't be the same without them. They bear the names of every Sailor, Marine or civilian employee on board the air station on their shoulders, and never ask for anything in return.

To those who are not familiar with the military, they represent not only the command – but also the world's strongest Navy – their Navy.

That's how the members of the Naval Air Station Kingsville Color Guard view their responsibilities. It's their charge to represent not only the command but also the commanding officer and all base personnel.

They are NAS Kingsville and the United States Navy. And, they are all enlisted volunteers.

"The Sailors who serve on our Honor Guard team exemplify the Navy's core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment," said NAS Kingsville Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff. "These young men and women are proud of their service to our country and our Navy. They perform at Veterans' funerals, parades and official ceremonies, both military and civilian, throughout South Texas. And the amazing thing is they do this in addition to their full time jobs.

"These Sailors are outstanding representatives of what we as a Command and a Navy stand for. Their pride and professionalism is second to none."

There are 20 Sailors who are a part of the NAS Kingsville Color Guard team with four or five usually selected for each assignment. They are comprised of a variety of ratings from air traffic controllers to hospital corpsman. They represent the command and the Navy at events throughout South Texas, from as far south as Harlingen and Brownsville to as far north as Austin, performing at more than 50 events each year. The squad's assignments are coordinated through Navy Region Southeast in Jacksonville, Fla. AC1(AW) Jarred Lee, the NAS Kings-

ville Senior Sailor of the Year, serves as the leading petty officer for the Kingsville team.

"I take a great deal of pride being in charge of such a respectable group of Sailors," Lee said. "We are blessed to have members who want to do this on a volunteer basis. They represent the command and the Navy at each evolution, and they are always willing to adjust their work schedules to step-in on short notice for special events."

Lee says that the recognition the team receives when they perform at special events – from military and civilian personnel – is priceless. "Our team members are always grateful and appreciate of the way they are received in public," Lee added.

The team rehearses on a weekly basis, focusing on both Color Guard and Honor Guard duties. In addition to flag folding, marching, parading the colors and presenting the flag. They also practice on the firing range for funeral details. They work on timing, team work and maintaining their uniforms and equipment. The goal is to make the very best impression they can while at the same time provide the best service possible.

"We know what we do is important," Lee acknowledged. "We take what we do seriously because we know we are representing the command. We want to perform well, as a team, and show that we care about what we're doing."

Members serve an average of 12 months on the team, although some have been participating longer than that. AC2(AW) Trevor Leon is one of the most senior members of the unit, having been a part of the team for 18 months. He says funeral details are the toughest assignments due mostly to the emotional aspect.

"Passing the flag to the mother or father of a young Sailor, Marine or Solider is very emotional. But this task is the one that I take the most pride in doing. I feel that I am helping the family in their time of hardship, while at the same time leaving a lasting impression of what their son's or daughter's service stood for."

Leon's feelings are shared by all the members of the NAS Kingsville unit. Although funeral details are only about one-third of their assignments each year, these Sailors know that they are helping families deal with the loss of a loved one, and that's what makes it all the more important.

*In our next issue: Preparing these Sailors for those types of assignments is where the training comes in to play. We'll focus on that aspect of "Parading the Colors" in part two of our series.*

It's beginning  
to look  
a lot like  
**Christmas!**



The Christmas Tree Lighting held Dec. 2, aboard NAS Kingsville, was one of several activities planned by Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department personnel to help celebrate the holiday season. Above are photos of the event held at the Tree Lighting held at the Captain's Club, complete candy, elves, a visit from Santa Ken Moses, and more. (Photos by Jon Gagné)



The First Class Association and Junior Enlisted Association put together the float pictured left for the Dec. 4 Parade of Lights held during the annual La Posada de Kingsville.



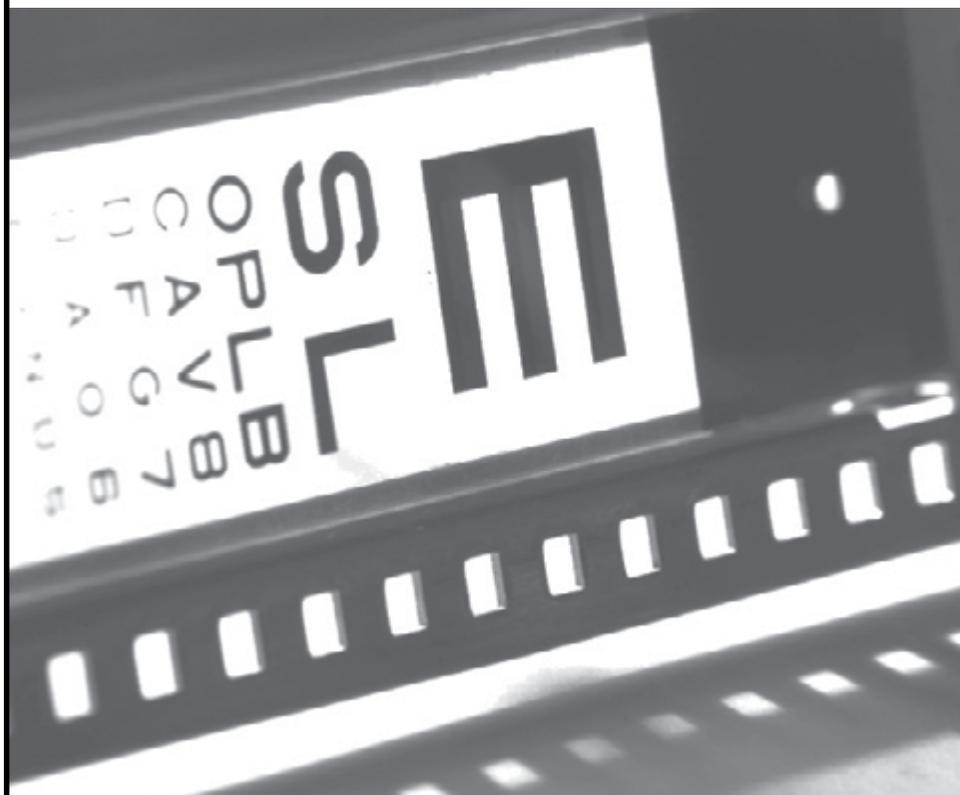
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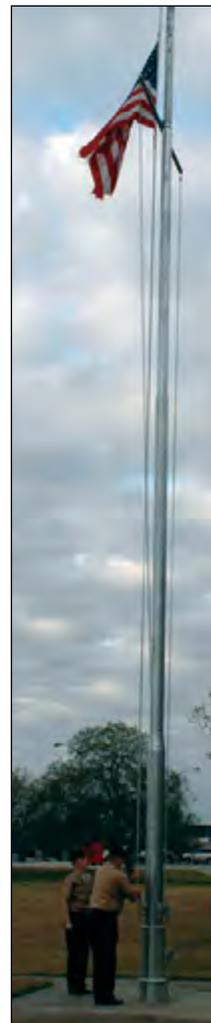
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On Dec. 7, MA3 Joseph Morabito (left) and ACAN Drew Wittmeyer prepare to raise the national ensign and place it at half mast in recognition of the lives lost at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. (Photos by Jon Gagné)

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Navy Federal Credit Union's Cynthia Cantu (right) accepts Toys for Tots donations from NFCU member Debra Retzlaff. Retzlaff donated a 20-inch boy's bike and a 20-inch girl's bike, along with other toy items to the Kleberg-Kenedy County U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Campaign. The NFCU office aboard NAS Kingsville was just one of a multitude of drop-off points for toy donations. (Courtesy Photo)

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### CRANBERRY-PINEAPPLE HOLIDAY PUNCH

*1/2 cup sugar*

*1/2 cup water*

*2 cups cranberry juice, chilled*

*1 cup fresh orange juice, chilled (about 3 oranges)*

*1 cup unsweetened pineapple juice, chilled*

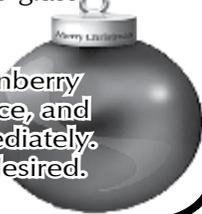
*3/4 cup fresh lemon juice, chilled (about 4 lemons)*

*1 2-liter bottle ginger ale, chilled*

*Cranberries and lemon slices (optional)*

1. For syrup, in a small saucepan combine the sugar and water. Cook and stir over medium heat until sugar is dissolved. Transfer to a small bowl or 1 cup glass measure. Cover and chill for 1 hour.

2. In a large punch bowl stir together the cranberry juice, orange juice, pineapple juice, lemon juice, and chilled syrup. Stir in ginger ale and serve immediately. Garnish with cranberries and lemon slices if desired. Makes 14 (about 8-ounce) servings.



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## FLYING K DINING GUIDE

### What's Happening

by Tina Konwerski

**NOW thru December 22, 2010** Christmas Tree Forest **Corpus Christi, TX** - Art Museum of South Texas (361) 825-3500. [www.ArtMuseumofSouthTexas.org](http://www.ArtMuseumofSouthTexas.org) One of the Museum's most popular traditions is back! Reflecting the theme Christmas Around the World, the forest will be made up of 20 individual trees representing various countries. Museum visitors will be able to cast their votes for their top three favorite trees.

**2011 Beach Parking Permits Make Great Holiday Gifts!** On sale NOW! Are you thinking about what would make a great holiday gift for several family and friends on your list? ON SALE AT Academy Sports store (over 60 locations), Stripes stores, Central Cashiering at Corpus Christi City Hall, local H-E-B stores, Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Centers, Nueces County Padre Balli Park Headquarters Office, and Texas Star (on Padre Island). Permits are required on most areas of the gulf beaches which are posted on-site. The permits need to be displayed on vehicle windshields. For more information, please call 361-826-4188 or visit [www.ccparkandrec.com](http://www.ccparkandrec.com) (click on What's Happening).

**Calling All Seniors: 2.5 Million Texas Seniors need your help!** Come join us for "Senior Day at the Capitol" a biannual event sponsored by the Texas Senior Advocacy Coalition. On February 8, 2011, thousands of Seniors from across Texas will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the front steps of our State Capitol in Austin, Texas. The purpose of this event is to show our legislators that Seniors of Texas care about issues affecting them. These will be the issues addressed: Mandatory Geriatric Training For Health Care Practitioners, Funding For Assisted Living Ombudsmen, No Cuts in Medicaid Reimbursement, Reinstate Utility Assistance For Seniors of Modest Means, and Full Funding For Home-Delivered Meals. Seniors will meet with our State Officials and be recognized for the contributions made by Texas

Senior Citizens. The City of Corpus Christi's RSVP and Senior Companion Programs are the local sponsors for this bus trip to Austin, Texas. 02/08/11 a bus will depart from City Hall at 5:30 a.m. \$40.00 per person. **Full payment is due by January 7, 2011. First come, First Served.** Fmi 361-826-3199 or visit [www.ccparkandrec.com](http://www.ccparkandrec.com).

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**EVERY TUESDAY - "Rialto Rhythms"** - Open Acoustic Jam - 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For everyone who loves to listen and/or play acoustic music. Musicians should arrive by 6:45 to sign up and tune. Concessions available. Rialto Thater, 327 S. Commercial St., Aransas Pass, TX 361-758-0838.

**CORPUS CHRISTI PARKS & RECREATION IS Seeking Presenters** for Monthly Cooking Demonstrations for the general public. The demonstrations are held on the second Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Galván House in Heritage Park. 25 to 30 people attend these demonstrations and presenters are welcome to bring materials to help promote their business. Past demonstrations have featured the following wide variety of cultural cuisine: German, Jewish, Mexican, French, Native American, Chinese, Cajun and many others. The program expanded to include alternative, health conscience, and vegetarian dishes, which are also crowd favorites. For more information about this program or to schedule a demonstration, please call 361-826-3417. The Cultural Center is located in the Galván House in Heritage Park at 1581 N. Chaparral, Corpus Christi.

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Congratulations to Veggie Burger, pictured above, this year's Flag Football Champions. Comprised mainly of students from VT-22, they came out strong in the second half of the season and stayed undefeated in the playoffs to claim the championship. They faced runner up Da Bears in the Championship game on Wednesday, Dec. 8. Pictured below, Branch Health Clinic Kingsville's Trauma Dawgs travelled to Corpus Christi to play flag football against their top all-military team for the Gulf Coast Championship. Unfortunately our guys did not come out on top, but a good time was had by all. (Photos by Kristin Lokken)



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**In the Doghouse League Standings as of Dec. 7**

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Lane Breakers	37	23
2	Alley Cats	34	26
3	The Other Guys	32	28
4	Tumbalos	28	32
5	DNA	28	32
6	The Players	27.5	32.5
7	The "HR's"	27	33
8	Minds in the Gutter	26.5	33.5

**Wednesday Nite Mixed Standings as of Dec. 8**

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Slow Rollin	29	23
2	Big K Rollers	28.5	23.5
3	Rat'Lers	28	24
4	Pete's Angels	27	25
5	Laugh Out Loud	25	27
6	DUH's	24	28
7	Pin Bangers	23.5	28.5
8	Bad Ass	23	29

**High Score Game-Men:** Lindy Conner, 250; Jerry Brooks, 245.

**High Score Series-Men:** Jerry Brooks, 630; Lindy Conner, 575.

**High Score Game-Men:** Frank Goff, 268; Roberto Herrera, 246; Jerry Clark Jr., 245.

**High Score Game-Women:** Doris Wallis, 212; Dina Kangas, 201; Delia Monroe, 198.

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