

Flying K



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Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

www.cnic.navy.mil/kingsville

January 14, 2011

Inside ...

3 PW employees' service exceeds 100 years
-- page 6

Kingsville resident earns commission
-- page 9

Hawks Landing claims Platinum Award
-- page 10

Branch Health Clinic closed Jan. 20-21
-- page 10

Energy Conservation Efforts: Electrical Consumption

The chart below shows the energy conservation progress for NAS Kingsville by comparing electrical consumption figures for FY-10 and FY-11.
Month: **NOVEMBER**

Megawatt Hours per 1,000 Kilowatts

NOV FY-10 Goal: 2,684

NOV FY-10 Actual Use: 2,790

NOV FY-10: 106 OVER goal

NOV FY-11 Goal: 2,500

NOV FY-11 Actual: 1,906

NOV FY-11: 594 BELOW Goal

Editor's note: We will be providing energy consumption data regularly so that readers can see how their energy conservation efforts make a difference aboard NAS Kingsville.

Personnel recognized for volunteer efforts

The Kingsville Council of the U.S. Navy League recognized Navy personnel for their volunteer efforts in the local community on Wednesday, Jan. 12, at the annual Combined Services Luncheon.

Recognized were: Lt.j.g. Danielle Thiriot, of Training Squadron 21, as Junior Officer Volunteer of the Year; HM2 Steven McKinley II, of Branch Health Clinic Kingsville, as Enlisted Volunteer of the Year; and, Melissa Brooks, wife of Capt. Mark Brooks, Commander, Training Air Wing Two, as Military Spouse Volunteer of the Year.

Thiriot received the award for the numerous hours she devoted to the local community, both inside and outside the squadron.

"Lt.j.g. Thiriot is a role model and mentor both for flight students and community members," said Cmdr. John Kelsey, commanding officer, Training Squadron 21.

Thiriot serves as the squadron's public affairs officer and assistance mess officer. Her volunteer efforts in the community include: Habitat for Humanity, painting and finish work on a home for a needy family, and working with the local Girl Scouts of America. She also served as a mentor for Leading Edge Naval Aviation, giving four base tours to aspiring female pilots interested in jet training, and participated in two career mentoring sessions for student Naval Aviators undergoing primary flight training at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

McKinley serves as the Clinic's Administration Department leading petty officer. He holds 20 collateral duties and continually volunteers

in the local community. Since arriving on board in early 2008, McKinley promoted community relations between the Naval Air Station and the local community by volunteering more than 300 hours to Kingsville and surrounding communities.

"Petty Officer McKinley is a superb Sailor who is truly deserving of being recognized as the 2010 Kingsville Enlisted Volunteer of the Year," said Capt. Mark McLaughlin, NAS Kingsville commanding officer.

"He consistently strives to better his junior Sailors, his peers, the command and himself. I can say with all confidence that Petty Officer McKinley has a bright future and is an example for all."

McKinley's volunteer efforts in the local community include: mentoring 9th grade students in the Junior Achievement program, reading

to Kingsville Elementary School first grade students; coaching a Rivera Little League team; assisting in the Navy Ball golf tournament, City of Kingsville trash clean-up days, and Texas A&M Kingsville's ROTC physical fitness day.

Additionally, he was selected as the Clinic's Junior Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2010 and Junior Sailor of the Year for 2010. He was selected as the Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi overall Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2010. He was also awarded the Branch Health Clinic Kingsville Customer Service Award.

Brooks was selected as Military Spouse Volunteer of the Year for her commitment to the military community in Kingsville and her ongoing volunteer work



Lt.j.g. Danielle Thiriot



HM2 Steven McKinley



Melissa Brooks



A T-45 Goshawk training aircraft lands aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) during training wing carrier qualifications. Nimitz was conducting routine exercises off the coast of Southern California. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 James Mitchell)

see *Recognition* on page 6

From the Bridge



Capt. Mark McLaughlin
Commanding Officer



Greetings Team Kingsville.

I am dedicating this column to a mini "State of the Station" address.

If you have been following the *Flying K* for any time now, you should be familiar with the projects ongoing to improve the infrastructure and the facilities of NAS Kingsville.

Here's a summary of our MILCON projects.

The Jet Engine Test Cell on the north end of the base will undergo a small modification to the air intake and exhaust structure to create the desired flow to test the Rolls Royce engines in the T-45. This contract modification has been awarded and we should see completion of this project in the summer of 2011.

The new \$12.1 million Fitness Center contract has been awarded and includes an extra \$1.6 million in energy efficiency modifications to include parking lot plug-ins for electric vehicles. Site work started on Dec. 13 and the completion date is expected

in May 2012.

NASK will have a Solar Powered Generation Plant near the current DASR-11 RADAR on south field. The contract was awarded in September and completion of the 550KW project will be October 2011.

Additionally, NASK has a number of ongoing or contracted Special Projects; to summarize:

Building/Hangar 760 (Hangar with the arched roof), listed on the State Historical Preservation Office's historic buildings list for Texas, will be completed this month with a ribbon-cutting ceremony expected very soon. Negotiations with the U.S. Army are underway for their Medevac unit to occupy part of this hangar once it is completed.

The new 96-room Navy Gateway Inns and Suites, Building 3755, is progressing well. Due to a required progressive collapse test, the expected completion date for the new NGIS has been moved from June to August 2011.

NALF Orange Grove recently completed the resurfacing of both 8,000 foot runways and the NOG is now open for TW-2 and TW-4 use.

Last on the Special Projects list is the newly awarded contracts to repair the Corrosion Control Hangar and the flight line Fire Crash & Rescue Station.

Besides MILCON and Special Projects, NASK has major Maintenance projects; to summarize:

Building 3775, better known as the

Branch Medical Clinic, has been renovated on the interior and the BHC will be relocating back into the building next week (Jan. 20). Exterior work to the building's foundation is underway and will be completed by the end of the month.

A nearly \$1.8 million contract has been awarded to replace the installation's sewage digester and lift station. Without going into great detail, this is essentially the holding tank for sewage and the sewage pumps to move waste over to the treatment plant on the east side of the base.

The last major maintenance project involves renovation of the VT-21/VT-22 Hangar (Building 3757) bathrooms. Work began on this project in October, and during the course of repair, it was discovered that the fire suppression system needed alterations. Thus, the completion date for all the bathrooms and fire suppression systems in the bathroom areas in Hangar 3757 is projected to be the end of February 2011.

The last area I'd like to focus on is the installation's energy efficiency plans. To date, we have installed all 119 Advanced Electrical Meters with the software and wireless reporting systems and computer server to be completed this month. These meters will allow Public Works to track energy usage by building and zero-in on energy efficiencies to be gained per building.

see *From the Bridge* on page 5

NAS Kingsville personnel ahead of the Navywide advancement curve

By IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth
Public Affairs Assistant

NAS Kingsville personnel finished ahead of the advancement curve as displayed in results of the September 2010 advancement exams. Of the 44 Kingsville Sailors who took the exam, 29.5 percent advanced to the next paygrade.

The Navywide advancement percentage was lower, advancing only 16.4 percent of the 98,951 Sailors who took the exam.

"I would like to congratulate the 13 Sailors on board NAS Kingsville who were selected for advancement," said CMDCM (SW/AW/FMF) Charlie Ratliff. "Advancement has become extremely competitive in the Navy. However, the opportunity to advance still exists."

Sailors who strived for the rank of 3rd Class had the highest rate of advancement: 24.1 percent throughout the Navy advanced to E-4, 50 percent of NAS Kingsville Sailors who took the exam were among them.

The advancement rate lowers throughout the Navy with each higher paygrade. Navywide, only 15.6 percent of those taking the E-5 exam advanced to 2nd Class. More than 53.5 percent of NAS Kingsville Sailors advanced, allowing eight candidates to pin on a second chevron.

The only Navywide advancement percentage that Kingsville did not top was

those joining the ranks of 1st Class. The Navywide advancement percentage to E-6 was 10.3 percent, advancing 3,225 out of 31,285. On board NAS Kingsville, only 8.7 percent advanced. But, 50 percent of NAS Kingsville's Sailors striving for Electronics Technician 1st Class Petty Officer were advanced, compared to 2.4 percent Navywide. Out of the Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Petty Officers, NAS Kingsville's advancement rate was at 11.1 percent, surpassing the Navywide percentage of only 9.1 percent.

Overall Kingsville Sailors did an outstanding job this advancement cycle, with 100 percent of those taking the exam passing.

"The keys to advancement have not changed for years and will not change in the

future," Ratliff says. "First, work hard and earn a good performance evaluation. Second, use the bibliography for your rate to determine exactly what you should be studying. Third, dedicate yourself to good study habits so you are well prepared to take the advancement exam."

Congratulations to the following Kingsville Sailors on their advancement to the next paygrade: AC1 Martin Adrian Jr., ET1 Samuel Sanchez, AC2 Fomai Aokuso, AC2 Christy Collins, AC2 Jason Davis, AC2 Foy Fleming II, AC2 Matthew Hartopp, AC2 Trevor Leon, AC2 Jarrun Robertson, CS2 Erick Soliz, HM2 Peter Diaz, HM3 Corban Ege, AC3 Robert Chamberlain, and AC3 Andrew Eickmann.

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This newspaper is published for people like Sandy Garza, a supervisor at the NAS Kingsville Bowling Center. Garza, a Kingsville native, has been working aboard the air station for more than 17 years.

SecDef Gates announces Navy, DoD efficiencies saving \$\$\$

The Secretary of Defense announced Jan. 6 a series of efficiency decisions designed to save the Department of Defense more than \$150 billion during the next five years.

According to Secretary Robert M. Gates, the savings would be achieved primarily by reducing overhead costs, improving business practices and culling excess or troubled programs.

Most of the resulting savings will be used by the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force to invest in high-priority programs that strengthen warfighting capabilities. The intent of these proposed changes is to improve support to operational forces, and to reprioritize resources to fund the Navy of today while building the Navy of tomorrow.

No fleet area was exempt from this review.

"Secretary Gates charged the Navy and Marine Corps to scrub everything, eliminate the unnecessary or underperforming, find savings, and apply those savings to warfighting," said Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus. "We have done that. Hard choices were made, but they were necessary to make certain we are the most efficient and effective fighting force we can be.

"Secretary Gates' leadership has resulted in reasonable and responsible reforms that will ensure the Navy and Marine Corps remain the most formidable expeditionary

fighting force the world has ever known," said Mabus.

"The Navy enthusiastically participated in Department of Defense efficiency efforts," said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead. "I am pleased with the rigor undertaken throughout this process, the results of which will contribute to the Navy's warfighting capabilities."

A concentrated effort was taken to identify and eliminate excess overhead costs to protect force structure and invest in modernization. In broad terms, military manpower was enhanced by trading overhead staff and shore billets to buy fleet manning requirements. Specifically, the Department of the Navy is proposing to use efficiency savings to:

- Accelerate development of a new generation of electronic jammers to improve the Navy's ability to fight and survive in an anti-access environment.

- Increase the repair and refurbishment of Marine equipment used in Iraq and Afghanistan.

- Develop a new generation of sea-borne unmanned strike and surveillance aircraft.

- Purchase more of the latest model F-18s and extend the service life of 150 of these aircraft as a hedge against more delays in the deployment of the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF).

- Purchase additional ships, including a

destroyer, a littoral combat ship, an ocean surveillance vessel and fleet oilers.

In order to achieve efficiency savings of more than \$35 billion over five years, the Department of the Navy proposes to:

- Reduce manpower ashore and reassign 6,000 personnel to operational missions at sea.

- Use multi-year procurement to save more than \$1.3 billion on the purchase of new airborne surveillance, jamming, and fighter aircraft.

- Disestablish several staffs (but not the associated platforms) to include submarine-, patrol aircraft-, and destroyer-squadrons plus one carrier strike group staff.

- Disestablish the headquarters of U.S. 2nd Fleet at Norfolk, Va., transferring responsibility for its mission to the Navy's Fleet Forces Command, also located in Norfolk, Va.

"The initiatives we have undertaken will allow the Navy to address readiness and warfighting capabilities, optimize organizations and operations and ensure that resources are optimized in operations and maintenance initiatives. These savings and changes will enable us to be the Navy the nation needs today and into the future," said Roughead.

During the Cold War, U.S. 2nd Fleet had distinct and significant operational responsibilities. Disestablishing this command



Secretary of Defense Robert Gates

would affect approximately 160 military positions. No ships will change homeport as a result of the disestablishment of 2nd Fleet. The Hampton Roads area, which includes the cities of Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Newport News, Hampton, Portsmouth, and Suffolk, is the location of the world's largest naval station.

see *Efficiencies* on page 5



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In the Break



Cmdr. John Kelsey
Commanding Officer
VT-21



As I sit here on Detachment in my newly renovated Combined Bachelor's Quarters room on NAF El Centro, Calif., I realize I had previously stayed in this exact room as a fledgling student pilot a long time ago. The outside looks pretty much the same, but the interior has been completely refurbished and is a modern hotel room, unlike its previous dilapidated state many years prior.

I always have a sense of comfort returning to previously visited Naval bases. As a former "Navy Brat," Naval bases have been a big part of my life. I was born on one, grew up shopping at the NEX and commissaries, and watched many a movie at the base movie theater. My mind drifts to how many places have closed and how much the Navy has changed since I have been associated with it.

My father served 26 years in the Navy and we moved many times. Almost all of his past duty stations have now been decommissioned. We were based at Naval Reactor Facility, Idaho. It closed in 1995. Mare Island, Vallejo, and NAS Alameda, also long since closed. Orlando Naval Training Facility, the Singapore Navy Office, and finally his last duty station, Sandpoint Naval Station in Seattle, all gone.

The Navy was a lot bigger back then --

almost 700,000 Sailors strong. When I received my commission, there were 550,000 Sailors in the Navy. We have been getting smaller every year. As the Navy shrinks, so do the bases. My first duty station after flight school was NAS Agana, Guam. It was decided by the BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure Commission) that it wasn't worth the cost to maintain and it shut down in 1995.

My next tour was at NAS Dallas, Texas: it too closed in 1999. I transferred to Hawaii and I flew out of NAS Barber's Point. It also closed during my tour there.

I moved to the great Northwest at NAS Whidbey Island and immediately heard whispers of it going away too. I was starting to think I had something to do with the bases closing, but NAS Whidbey Island was saved by BRAC.

I have been stationed at NAS Kingsville for two and a half years now and I don't see it going anywhere. Our mission is too vital to Naval Aviation for it to close its gates anytime soon. The numerous construction jobs on base, including the BEQ, Navy Lodge and new gymnasium are a good sign the Navy has a lot of future plans for NAS Kingsville.

The Navy bases we still have are more modern and better equipped than anything I saw in my youth or in my career.

The Navy now has 330,000 Sailors. With modernization, technology and more capable platforms that have smaller manpower requirements, it wouldn't surprise me if more bases close as we continue to become a leaner, smarter and more lethal force.

NPC search engine gives Sailors resources

By MC1(AW) LaTunya Howard
Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

In 2011, Navy Personnel Command (NPC) recommends that Sailors take advantage of the search engine available at www.npc.navy.mil.

This search engine, called "Knowledge Base," is available to answer Sailors' personnel questions.

"The Knowledge Base is really easy to use and it was created to supplement our customer service efforts," said Vincent Vuketich, of the NPC Customer Service Center (CSC). "A Sailor can call the CSC or e-mail us for information, but they don't have to. The Sailor can go to www.npc.navy.mil research and answer his or her own questions online 24/7."

NPC has a Knowledge Base team that works daily to keep the database current with continuous updates of Navy regulations and instructions.

"KB (Knowledge Base) is an online tool, public facing, and can be accessed from anywhere in the world," said Vuketich. "Sailors, retirees and their families can ask essentially any question they want about the Navy. The

system uses keywords to generate a solution to their question."

Sailors can access the Knowledge Base by visiting the NPC website and by clicking on the 'Ask NPC a Question' icon in the upper right corner of the page. In fiscal year 2010 the self-help page received more than 14,000 visits.

"This system has been up and running for approximately eight years now," said Vuketich. "We currently have nearly 1,000 solutions, but we are always interested in hearing from the fleet about additional solutions that are needed."

Solution categories range from advancement and promotions to education or career information. Sailors can also search for Navy programs, pay and benefits or NAV-ADMINS.

"Our goal is to meet Sailors' needs by providing them instant access to relevant Navy information any time they need it from anywhere in the world," Vuketich said.

For more information, contact the CSC at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC, via e-mail at CSCMailbox@navy.mil or online at the NPC web site. For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/npc/.



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Efficiencies from page 3

It is homeport to 77 ships, which includes aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, large amphibious ships, submarines, and a variety of supply and logistics ships, as well as 300 aircraft, 35 aircraft squadrons, 356 tenant commands.

In addition, a number of flag officer billets and Senior Executive Services or equivalent positions will also be eliminated or downgraded. Monetary savings from reductions in senior personnel will be relatively modest and will create fewer, flatter, more agile and effective organizations. Furthermore, U.S. Navy Europe, like other service components, will eventually be reduced to a three-star command, but will take place over a longer period of time because of that command's unique role in the NATO transformation effort.

"This Department simply cannot risk continuing down the same path - where our investment priorities, bureaucratic habits, and lax attitudes towards costs are increasingly divorced from the real threats of today, the growing perils of tomorrow, and the nation's grim financial outlook," said Gates, at the conclusion of the announcement.

"These times demand that all of our nation's leaders rise above the politics and parochialism that have too often plagued considerations of our nation's defense - whether from inside the Pentagon, from industry and interest groups, and from one end of Pennsylvania Avenue to the other," he said.

"I look forward to working through the next phase of the President's defense reform effort with the Congress in the weeks and months ahead - to do what's right for our armed forces and what's right for our country." (*Navy News Service*)

From the Bridge from page 2

Additionally, I just received word that the Commander, Navy Region Southeast, has received approval for two energy special projects to be applied to NAS Kingsville. These two projects will be designed in FY-11 and funded in FY-12, and will improve HVAC systems in 17 of the station's buildings, install energy efficient lighting in 16 buildings, water efficient fixtures in 17 buildings and solar water heating equipment in six buildings.

Energy conservation is a very high priority throughout the Department of Defense and I need everyone's fullest support in doing our part to conserve. At present, the installation's utility bill for water, sewer, electrical and gas is over \$9,000 per day.

Keep watching the *Flying K* for we will be producing a running graph (see the graph on page 1) to show current usages compared to last year; it is my effort to keep all aware of the ongoing energy consumption and conservation plans. So assist me please by shutting off your lights when you leave the office and secure your computers at the end of your workday. It all adds up.

Until next time~Skipper Mac

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3 Public Works employees' service totals more than 100 years of Federal service

by Jon Gagné
 NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

Three longtime NAS Kingsville Public Works personnel closed out their civil service careers in December at a retirement ceremony held at the Captain's Club. Cmdr. Troy Hamilton, Public Works Officer (PWO), and Stephen Phalen, Deputy PWO, presided over the ceremony for the employees, whose combined length of Federal service equals more than 100 years.

Closing out their careers were Les Henry, PW Transportation Officer; Ricardo Cisneros, PW Transportation equipment operator, and Raymond Wilburn, command locksmith and carpenter.

"Les, Ray and Ricardo served their country honorably for many years," Hamilton said as he presented Letters of Commendation from NAVFAC Southeast at the ceremony. "Most of those years were at South Texas bases. Their friendship, hard work and total of over 100 years of experience will be sorely missed. We wish all three of them 'Fair Winds and Following Seas' as they enjoy their retirement."

Henry has been the go-to-guy for transportation issues for a number of years on board the air station. He joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as a marine oiler, shortly after graduating from high school in 1972 at Beeville, Texas. A year later, Henry transferred to the Navy at Chase Field in Beeville, where he was promoted to boiler plant operator. In 1992, he transferred to NAS Kingsville as the Transportation Equipment work leader – and later as BSVE commodities manager, and he has spent the last 18 years taking care of transportation issues for the command and tenant activities.

"Henry was always willing to go the extra mile to ensure customer satisfaction

regardless of circumstance," Capt. John Heinzl, NAVFAC Southeast commanding officer wrote in the award citation. "[In every task], Henry exceeded all of NAVFAC's expectations as a team member and supervisor."

Cisneros started his career in government service with a two-year stint with the Marine Corps from 1968-1970. After his discharge he moved into civil service at NAS Chase Field, where served in a number of different positions over the next 22 years. In 1992, his time at Chase Field came to an end when the base was closed and Cisneros joined Henry in making the move to NAS Kingsville.

During his career, Cisneros has served as a supply technician, firefighter, tractor operator, motor vehicle operator, asphalt worker, and lastly as an engineering equipment operator. Those who worked with Cisneros over the years, say he was easy to work with and determined to do the best job he could possibly do. Capt. Heinzl echoed those words in the award citation by stating, "Throughout [Cisneros'] civil service career, he was a vital team member contributing to our success as an organization."

Wilburn's government service began in the military where he served as a Mobile Communication Electronics Technician from 1973 to 1977. In 1989, Wilburn began a 21-year civil service career as a carpenter at Chase Field in Beeville. He transferred to NAS Kingsville in 1991.

"Mr. Wilburn exhibited tremendous initiative and self motivation during his career with NAVFAC Southeast," Heinzl wrote in the award citation. "He handled job orders in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible with minimal supervision and always provided excellent customer service, regardless of the size or difficulty of the request."

Since 2001 Wilburn held the position of command locksmith.

Recognition from page 1

and community contributions. Her dedication to the service members of Training Air Wing Two and their families exemplifies the kind of devotion to active personal engagement in command and community issues that stands as a model for military spouse achievement.

Currently, Brooks is the secretary of the

Kingsville Council of the U.S. Navy League and she was instrumental in planning the Navy League's Navy Ball Golf Tournament held this past summer. The golf benefit raised funds to defray the cost of tickets for junior Sailors and student officers attending NAS Kingsville's annual Navy Birthday Ball held in October.

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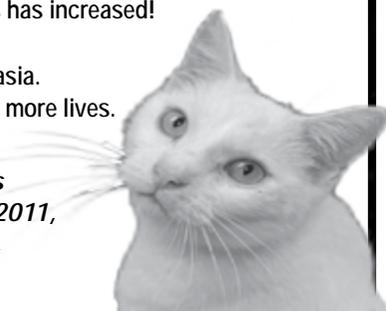
This is the season to tell those close to us how important they are and how much they are valued.

We want to share a brief list of 5 reasons your support is so important and valued at The Cattery. If you have already given a give to help, thank you so very much. These are 5 reasons to feel good about the work you are supporting. If you have not given a gift to the kitties this year, these are 5 great reasons to support The Cattery with a donation today!

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players

Photos by AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum

Naval Air Station Kingsville volunteers helped serve barbecue dinner to college football all-stars who were in town to play in the Division II Cactus Bowl on Friday, Jan. 7. Volunteers who helped serve barbecue dinner to the all-star players included: Lt. Ricardo Cerna, Phyllis Bell, CS2 Chris Crocker, CS2 Jeff Hall, AC1 Jarred Lee, CSC Pearline Myers, Anna Carvajal, Jeanie Alexander, Linda Koenig, HM2 Steven McKinley, HM2 Jeremy Stack, and AOC Mike Kistler. Top photo: Volunteers from NAS Kingsville serve dinner to the Cactus Bowl participants. Center left photo: Force Protection Officer Lt. Ricardo Cerna, left, and CS2 Jeff Hall prepare cups with ice for the Cactus Bowl barbeque. Center right photo: School Liaison Officer Jeanie Alexander, at the head of the serving line, accepts a ticket from a Cactus Bowl BBQ diner. Pictured right: AC1 Jarred Lee hands out bread to Cactus Bowl players.



Kingsville resident earns commission

Former Soldier takes advantage of Navy's Civil Engineering Corps Collegiate Program

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

A resident of Kingsville took the oath of enlistment in the Navy in late December in front of the Blue Angel F/A 18 display on board the air station. Travis Clabaugh, 27, took the oath from Chief Warrant Officer Chris Chandler, CNATRA Maintenance Detachment officer in charge.

A former Navy recruiter himself, Chandler said he was happy to participate in the ceremony.

"Performing an enlistment, re-enlistment or commissioning ceremony is always an honor for an officer," Chandler said. "Having participated in all of those ceremonies at some point in my career I realize that [these events] are a monumental moment in the Sailor's career path - and it should be treated as such."

Clabaugh, who grew up in California, graduated high school in 2001 and enlisted in the Army as an infantryman in 2006. He spent three years on active duty, earning two Army Achievement Medals, a National Defense Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, and various ribbons and special qualifications.

In 2009, he enrolled in a Bachelor of Science program for technical management and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and is currently a student at Texas A&M University Kingsville where he is also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

"Travis' background paved the way for his commissioning through this special Navy program," said YN1 James Powell, officer programs coordinator for Navy Recruiting District San Antonio. "He will be graduating Texas A&M Kingsville in December with his civil engineering degree, and the Civil Engineering Collegiate Program fits his career path."

The program, Powell added, provides qualified candidates the opportunity to apply for Officer Candidate School (OCS) up to three years prior to earning their

bachelor degree, or up to one year prior to completing their master's degree.

If selected, the candidates are placed on active reserve duty as collegiate, earning \$3,000 per month (equivalent to E-5 pay) while completing their studies. Following college graduation and program completion, the candidates enter Officer Candidate School.



Travis Clabaugh, second from left, stands with wife Shannah, YN1 James Powell, officer programs coordinator for Navy Recruiting District San Antonio, and Chief Warrant Officer Chris Chandler, CNATRA Maintenance Detachment officer in charge, following his enlistment into the U.S. Navy. Clabaugh will be placed on active reserve duty as he completes college, after which he will enter Officer Candidate School. (Photos by AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum)



Chief Warrant Officer Chris Chandler, CNATRA Maintenance Detachment officer in charge, gives the oath of enlistment to Kingsville resident, Travis Clabaugh.



Bill Markert

Naval Aviation veteran headed to the Army

By Jon Gagné
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

For the past 33 years, Bill Markert has been associated with Naval Aviation in one form or another.

From his 20-year active-duty career as an aviation machinist's mate, to contract jobs with Boeing and the CNATRA Maintenance Contracts Detachment at NAS Kingsville, Markert has been "hooked" on tailhook aviation.

But that's all about to change, as Markert departs South Texas for a job with the Army.

"I've really enjoyed my career with the Navy," Markert said in late December during a going away luncheon at the Training Air Wing TWO headquarters building. "From my 20 years on active duty to my 10 years here in Kingsville, it's hard to leave, but I think it's time."

Markert's aviation career began when he reported to his first duty station with the Navy, USS America (CV 66), homeported in Norfolk, Va., in 1972. His list of aviation squadrons included three tours at NAS Oceana, Va., (first with the Ghostriders of

VF-142, next with the Diamondbacks of VF-102, and then the Checkmates of VF-211), and a west coast assignment at NAS Moffitt Field, Calif., with the Fighting Blacklions of VF-213. He completed his active duty career with the Strike Test and Evaluation Center at NAS Patuxent River, Md.

Since his retirement from active duty, Markert has played a key role in the Navy's jet/strike community and its transition to the T-45 Goshawk. He worked for Boeing as a contact employee with Training Air Wing One at NAS Meridian, Miss., from 1997-2000, and then came to NAS Kingsville.

Markert knows there will be new challenges ahead as he transitions to the Army as a regional director of quality assurance for the Army's Regional Aviation Sustainment Management Command.

"My time here has been great" Markert told those who attended his going away luncheon Dec. 28. "And it's hard for my wife Maryann and I to leave our friends here and our home in Calallen. But we'll always have a lot of great memories to fall back on."

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Hawks Landing claims Platinum Award again

The Navy's first Public/Private Venture (PPV) Housing unit, NAS Kingsville's Hawks Landing, has achieved its 8th consecutive "A List" award for service satisfaction as a result of the 2010 Resident Satisfaction Survey that closed, Nov. 18.

Each year CEL and Associates, Inc., compiles customer satisfaction survey data from thousands of properties throughout the country.

Since 1998, the "A" List Award has been awarded in recognition of achieving a "Best In The Industry" rating for providing the highest level of quality of service.

In 2010, a new "A List Platinum" award was announced.

In the Multifamily category the property must score at least 92.3 percent customer overall satisfaction with a response rate of at least 20 percent.

Hawks Landing scored higher in both categories, winning the award in its first year of existence. Hawks Landing's scores were 95.7 percent and 46.1.

"Great job Hawks Landing and a big "Thank You" to all the residents who took the time to complete their surveys," said



Hawks Landing achieved its 8th consecutive "A List" award for service satisfaction. Pictured are Carolina Garza, NAS Kingsville Housing Service Center housing referral clerk; Mary Clemmons, housekeeper; Rosa Quintanilla, Hawks Landing property manager; Lynn Early, Housing program manager; and Bill Allen, Hawks Landing maintenance director.

Lynn Early, NAS Kingsville Housing Director. Early and the Housing Service Center staff also played key roles in winning the award.

NAS Kingsville Clinic to be closed Jan. 20-21

The Branch Health Clinic will be closed Jan. 20-21 in preparation for the re-opening of Bldg. 3775 on Monday, Jan. 24. The clinic staff will begin moving their equipment out

of Bldg. 2787 as of close of business Jan. 19.

A grand re-opening ceremony for the Clinic is being planned for shortly after the staff relocates to Bldg. 3775.

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Bravo Zulu -- Lt. Cmdr. Dave Anderson, Air Operations Officer, congratulates AC2(AW) Robert Fryar after presenting him with a Navy Commendation Medal. He earned the award for his leadership role, which significantly contributed to the successful completion of 1 million flight operations resulting in more than 500 Naval Aviator designations and 65 Sailors earning 275 controller and supervisory qualifications from December 2005 to December 2010. Fryar managed \$11.5 million in equipment and led a 24-person watch team in all facets of air traffic control, and was charged with the safe movement of military and civilian air traffic throughout 36,000 square miles of airspace. (Photo by AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum)

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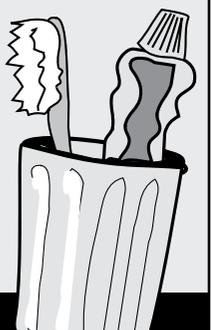
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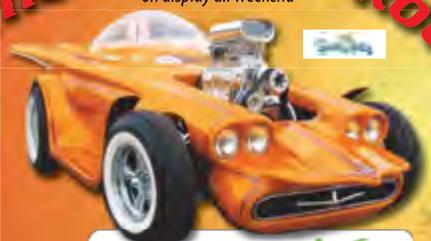
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What's Happening

by Tina Konwerski

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Saturday January 22, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, 5151 McArdle Road, Corpus Christi. Learn about "American Disabilities Act (ADA) and Hearing Loss". Presenters will be William Stalter, Architect and "Accessibility Consultant", and Alma Bebee, Deafness Resource Specialist. American Sign Language interpreter and captioning will be provided. If other accommodations are needed, please call 361.993.1154V/TTY. Hearing Loss Resource Specialist funded by DARS Off ice for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services.

Tuesday, January 25th, 7 pm to 8 pm "Padre Island Evening Ranger Program." Enjoy a starlit, ranger-led program by Ranger Buzz or Ranger Chelsea. The amphitheater is located on the north (left) side of Malaquite Campground. If you arrive at the program and are not greeted by a ranger, than the program has been moved to the Malaquite Visitor Center Auditorium due to inclement weather. Fmi www.nps.gov/pais email: chelsea_aldrichy@nps.gov

Thursday, January 27th, 8 am to 9 am "Coffee with a Park Ranger." Enjoy a casual conversation and a cup of coffee or tea with a ranger. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the National Seashore, becoming a park ranger, or other park-related events.

See What's Happening, Page 13

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What's Happening, from page 10

Feel free to bring your own reusable mug and meet at the Malaquite Visitor Center Auditorium, 20402 Park Road 22, Corpus Christi fmi email: chelsea_aldrich@nps.gov or visit www.nps.gov/pais

January 29th - 8 am to 1 pm - **Xeriscape Symposium.** Water wise gardening is essential to South Texas. Professional landscapers will take you through the process of creating your personal Xeriscape landscape garden. www.xeriscapecc.com Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, 1900 N. Chaparral, Corpus Christi fmi yolandam@cctexas.com

CC PARKS & RECREATION IS Seeking Artists Interested in Displaying & Selling Art in the Galería Galván at Galván House at Heritage Park, 1581 N. Chaparral. An exhibition can be displayed for up to 60 days. There will be a "Meet the Artist" reception during the exhibition. The City reserves the right to view a sample of the art that the Artist/Organization will be displaying. FMI 361-826-3413

WOOHOO!!! SPAZMATICS!!! March 12th 6:00 pm at **Andrews Distributing Warehouse.** Communities in Schools "80's Mega Party," celebrating 25 years of awesomeness. Concert, BBQ Rib Plate by the CC Mustangs and FREE beer- \$50.00 or a table of ten \$500. Hurry, first come first serve - limited seating available. Fmi liz@6smedia.net

Scleroderma Support Group Meetings open to patients, family, friends. Feb 20, April 10, June 19, 2011. 2-4pm. Heart Hospital 1st floor Conference Room. For more info contact: Steven Armijo. ccsccleroderma@stx.rr.com 361-549-2337.

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 2/3 cup milk
 2 (9 inch) unbaked pie crusts



Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Combine chicken, carrots, peas, and celery in a saucepan. Add water to cover and boil for 15 minutes. Remove from heat, drain and set aside. In the saucepan over medium heat, cook onions in butter until soft and translucent. Stir in flour, salt, pepper, and celery seed. Slowly stir in chicken broth and milk. Simmer over medium-low heat until thick. Remove from heat and set aside. Place the chicken mixture in bottom pie crust. Pour hot liquid mixture over. Cover with top crust, seal edges, and cut away excess dough. Make several small slits in the top to allow steam to escape. Bake in the preheated oven for 30 to 35 minutes, or until pastry is golden brown and filling is bubbly. Cool for 10 minutes before serving.

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Vehicle Inspections

The MWR Auto Skills Center does Texas Vehicle Inspections; don't forget that Texas vehicle inspection stickers for January are due. If you can drive your vehicle aboard NAS Kingsville we can inspect it. (Services are available to all NAS Kingsville personnel.)

Inspections are available for motorcycles, cars, and trucks up to RV-sized. The cost is \$14.50 (\$1 more for out-of-state vehicles), plus you must show proof of insurance.

Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. First come, first served. Appointments are not accepted due to state law, but the usual waiting time is less than 20 minutes. The MWR Auto Skills Center is located in Bldg 3783, across from the base water tower. Enter through the south gate to the compound, which faces the Club.

Vet Clinic

NAS Kingsville Vet Clinic will be open Friday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to noon for vaccines only. Call (361) 961-3952, to make appointments.

Texting Program

Join the NAS Kingsville Texting Program. All you need to do is text the phrase "KingMWR" to phone number 30364, and you'll receive all the news about on base programs.

Glide Scope Golf

The Glide Slope Disc Golf Course is open for free to all on base personnel. Simply check out discs from either Outdoor Recreation or the Front Desk of the Fitness Center. Call 516-6371, for more information.

Massage Therapist

NAS Kingsville now has an in-house massage therapist available by appointment. Call (361) 720-1156 to schedule an appointment with our licensed massage therapist.

MWR wants to hear from you

MWR needs your help in evaluating their services and facilities. Your feedback is important and will help MWR provide you the very best in recreational programs. Visit the MWR Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/NASKMWR>) for details.

Upcoming MWR Events

Jan. 18: Winnie the Pooh's Birthday at the Library.

Jan. 20: Scavenger Hunt Fun Run. First 30 to sign up and complete race receive a free T-shirt. Teams will be provided a clue, and then be tasked to run to five different MWR facilities. Once at each facility, the team will be required to perform a certain exercise before they can receive their next clue. The first team back with all 5 MWR clues is the winner. Contact the fitness center for more information.

Bowling Leagues

In the Doghouse League Standings as of Jan. 4

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Lane Breakers	44	24
2	The Other Guys	39	29
3	DNA	36	32
4	Alley Cats	35	33
5	The "HR's"	31	37
6	Tumbalos	30	38
7	The Players	29.5	38.5
8	Minds in the Gutter	27.5	40.5

High Score Game-Men: Lindy Conner, 232; Joe Soliz, 219.

High Score Series-Men: Lindy Conner, 625; Bryan Hastings, 533.

High Score Game-Team: Lane Breakers, 608; 3 Minds in the Gutter, 556; Alley Cats, 554.

Wednesday Nite Mixed Standings as of Jan. 5

Place	Team	Won	Lost
1	Big K Rollers	35.5	24.5
2	Pete's Angels	33	27
3	Rat'lers	32	28
4	Slow Rollin	31	29
5	Pin Bangers	28.5	31.5
6	Laugh Out Loud	28	32
7	DUH's	26	34
8	Bad Ass	26	34

High Score Game-Men: Frank Goff, 298; John Zapalac, 258; Clinton Howell, 254.

High Score Series-Men: Clinton Howell, 648; Frank Goff, 638; John Zapalac.

High Score Game-Women: Lee Peters, 215; Doris Wallis, 212; Lucy Clarkson, 205; Delia Monroe, 205.

High Score Series-Women: Dina Kangas, 543; Lee Peters, 535; Delia Monroe, 519.

High Score Game-Team: Laugh Out Loud, 909; DUH's, 908; Big K Rollers, 908.

Tuesdays

Ultimate Frisbee beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays

Saturdays, at 2 p.m., children's movies are shown free of charge at ITT.

Bowling Center

Free bowling weekdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with purchase of a meal.

Zumba Fitness

Zumba Fitness will be held at the Fitness Center on Mondays and Wednesdays

at 5:45 p.m.

Call 516-4386, for more information.

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