

JOINT REGION EDGE

Volume II No. 8

Friday, Feb. 26, 2010



B-2s arrive at Andersen AFB

By 36th Wing Public Affairs

More than 240 Airmen assigned to the 393rd Bomb Squadron, Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., arrived on Andersen Air Force Base recently to support the deployment of B-2 Spirit aircraft as part of the continuous bomber presence here.

The Airmen and aircraft replaced the service members and the B-52 Stratofortresses deployed from the 20th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La.

Andersen AFB has had bombers present on its runway since 2004, the year the CBP mission began.

The B-2's stealth characteristics give it the unique ability to penetrate an enemy's most sophisticated defenses and threaten its most valued and heavily defended targets. The bomber's capability to penetrate air defenses and threaten effective retaliation provides a strong effective deterrent and combat force



well into the 21st century.

The B-2's low observability is derived from a combination of reduced infrared, acoustic, electromagnetic, visual and radar signatures. These signatures make it difficult for even sophisticated defensive systems to detect, track and engage the B-2. Many aspects of the

See B-2s, page 11

Arrival: A B-2 Spirit from the 509th Bomb Wing, 13th Bomb Squadron Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., gets airborne while another B-2 waits for clearance at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) March 4, 2009. More than 240 Airmen assigned to the 393rd Bomb Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo., arrived on Andersen AFB recently to support the deployment of B-2 Spirit aircraft as part of the continuous bomber presence here. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald)

NMCB 18 Reservists to support Global War on Terrorism

By Oyaol Ngirairiki

Joint Region Edge Staff
oyaol.ngirairiki@fe.navy.mil

Reservists with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18, Detachment 0918 were at Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Guam Feb. 14-17 preparing for a year-long deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

The Det. 0918 Sailors are the first unit attached to NOSC Guam to deploy to Afghanistan. They are also the first NMCB group consisting primarily of Reservists from Guam.

The detachment is comprised of about 45 members, 28 of whom will be on a deployment that mobilizes March 25. NMCB 18, Det. 0918 Sailors will join the remainder of NMCB 18 personnel and complete theater training in Gulfport, Miss., before beginning their mission.

Engineering Aide 1st Class Wil-

son Beatingo, non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the detachment, said they are looking forward to supporting their fellow Sailors.

"Many of us have prior military

See NMCB 18, Page 8

Mission Ready: Reservists with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 18 Detachment 0918 fill out legal documents at Naval Legal Services Office Pacific Detachment Guam Feb. 16 in preparation for a year-long deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism. From left, Construction Electrician 2nd Class Daniel Munoz; Steelworker 1st Class Steven Bamba, Det. 0918 leading petty officer; and Engineering Aide 1st Class Wilson Beatingo, non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the detachment. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairiki)



INSIDE

- VAQ 136 prowls at Cope North, page 2
- Andersen AFB dependent wins AF writing contest, page 2



Bilateral Training

Cope North soars over Guam skies.

SEE PAGES 12,13



Time for Saving

U.S. Naval Base Guam marks Military Saves Week.

SEE PAGE 5



Top Performer
PS2 Rojas

PAGE 3

Local hikers visit historical site on Naval Base Guam



By James Fee
Joint Region Edge Staff
james.fee.ctr@fe.navy.mil

Local residents with Guam Boonie Stompers, an island hiking organization, trekked down Spanish Steps on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Feb. 20.

The Spanish Steps lead down the north face of a cliff on Orote Peninsula. It is believed that the steps were built to carry fresh water from a well at its base to fortifications at the top of the cliff during Guam's Spanish Period from 1521-1898. The steps today are simply a steep trail.

Capt. Scott Galbreath, commanding officer of NBG, invited the hiking group in keeping with the base's commitment to preserve and promote cultural and historical sites, including those sites on Navy property not always accessible to the public, such as the steps.

"We'll entertain requests for access for cultural and archaeological

reasons, as we have before," said Galbreath, who welcomed the hikers at the beginning of the event that morning. "We'll continue to work with the community to provide access whenever we can find the opportunity."

Both local residents and military members joined the hike that day.

Around 50 hikers ventured down Spanish Steps, navigating the steep drop with the help of ropes. At the base of the hill, they moved past the remnants of a Spanish well and explored a complex of caves that make up the Orote Archaeological Site. These caves contain evidence of human habitation from as early as the Pre-Latte Period on Guam, circa 3500 B.C., according to some archaeologists.

Through jungle, past the caves, the hikers emerged on a rocky beach bordering the clear water of an ocean inlet near the tip of the peninsula and Point Udall, or Orote Point, the

westernmost part of U.S. territory.

"It's historic. It's scenic. It's got a great place to snorkel right here. It's a good combination," said Dave Lotz, president of the Guam Boonie Stompers.

The organization has arranged with NBG for a small group to enter the NBG Ordnance Annex March 13 to visit Alamagosa Falls for a one time special event visit.

Guam Boonie Stompers is a non-profit Guam corporation composed of volunteer leaders. Every Saturday, Guam Boonie Stompers offers public hikes to a variety of destinations such as beaches, snorkeling sites, waterfalls, mountains, caves, latte sites, and World War II sites.

For more information about Guam Boonie Stompers and future hikes, visit the boonie stomping section on the Guam Visitors Bureau Web site at www.visitguam.org. You can also contact Lotz at 653-2897 or davelotz@ite.net.

B-2s: Andersen AFB has continuous bomber presence

Continued from Page 1

low-observability process remain classified; however, the B-2's composite materials, special coatings and flying-wing design all contribute to its "stealthiness."

The B-2s join forces with F-22 Raptors deployed from the 90th Fighter Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, as part of the theater security package. The tandem of premier airframes creates a formidable

alliance supporting Andersen AFB's mission within the Pacific region. This is the second pairing of these airframes for this mission.

The first B-2 was publicly displayed on Nov. 22, 1988, when it was rolled out of its hangar at Air Force Plant 42, Palmdale, Calif. Its first flight was July 17, 1989. The B-2 Combined Test Force, Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., is responsible for flight testing the engineering, man-

ufacturing and development of the B-2.

Whiteman AFB, Mo., is the only operational base for the B-2. The first aircraft, the Spirit of Missouri, was delivered Dec. 17, 1993. Depot maintenance responsibility for the B-2 is performed by Air Force contractor support and is managed at the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker AFB, Okla.

The combat effectiveness of the B-2 was proved in Operation Allied

Force, where it was responsible for destroying 33 percent of all Serbian targets in the first eight weeks, by flying nonstop to Kosovo from its home base in Missouri and back.

In support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the B-2 flew one of its longest missions to date from Whiteman to Afghanistan and back. The B-2 completed its first-ever combat deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, flying 22 sorties from a forward operating location as

well as 27 sorties from Whiteman AFB and releasing more than 1.5 million pounds of munitions. The aircraft received full operational capability status in December 2003.

On Feb. 1, 2009, the Air Force's newest command, Air Force Global Strike Command, assumed responsibility for the B-2 from Air Combat Command.



Above: Airman 1st Class Joshua Silva launches a B-2 Spirit from the 509th Bomb Wing, 13th Bomb Squadron Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., during a Polar Lightning exercise originating at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) March 13. More than 240 Airmen assigned to the 393rd Bomb Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo., arrived on Andersen AFB recently to support the deployment of B-2 Spirit aircraft as part of the continuous bomber presence here. The Airmen and aircraft replaced the service members and the B-52 Stratofortresses deployed from the 20th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale AFB, La. Andersen AFB has had bombers present on its runway since 2004, the year the CBP mission began. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald)

Right: An F-22 Raptor taxis at Andersen AFB while a B-2 Spirit from the 509th Bomb Wing, 13th Bomb Squadron Whiteman AFB, Mo., waits for clearance March 12. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gruenwald)



Overhead: A B-2 Spirit from the 509th Bomb Wing, 13th Bomb Squadron Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., gets airborne at Andersen AFB March 4, 2009. More than 240 Airmen assigned to the 393rd Bomb Squadron, Whiteman AFB, Mo., arrived on Andersen AFB recently to support the deployment of B-2 Spirit aircraft as part of the continuous bomber presence here. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Ryan Whitney)



VAQ 136 Prowls at Cope North

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert

Joint Region Edge Staff
corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 136 from Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan, participated in Exercise Cope North 10-1 Feb. 7-19 at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam.

Cope North is a bilateral field exercise between the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF).

VAQ 136 had three EA-6B Prowlers used during the exercise to simulate combat missions against the U.S. Air Force and JASDF.

"This is a good opportunity for all sides to learn how each side operates," said Lt. Dick Rosenbusch, a VAQ 136 naval flight officer.

According to Rosenbusch, the Prowler's primary mission is to support strike aircraft and ground troops by interrupting enemy electronic activity and obtaining tactical electronic intelligence within a combat area.

"Think electronic warfare," Rosenbusch said. "The Prowler is not your typical fighter. It is not a

strike fighter, which has both air-to-air and air-to-ground strike capabilities. They do have, however, air-to-ground capabilities but that is not the primary mission. The primary mission is to jam enemy radars allowing our strikers to get within range of a target without being shot down."

VAQ 136's maintenance crew spent countless hours making sure the aircraft were safe and operational.

"We start working at 5 in the morning, performing inspections and general service requirements," said Chief Aviation Maintenance (AW) Toby Spanos, with VAQ 136. "Each inspection could be as long as three hours per plane during pre-flight and post-flight. It's an old bird, so the maintenance can be pretty labor intensive."

Cope North provides a venue for cooperation between U.S. and Japanese forces and to improve capabilities for the defense of Japan. The primary focus is readiness and coordination and evaluation of air tactics, techniques and procedures between U.S. forces and the JASDF.



Getting Ready: Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class (AW) Stacy Brown, of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 136, conducts general service requirements on an EA-6B Prowler Feb. 15. The squadron from Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan, participated in Exercise Cope North 10-1, a bilateral exercise between the U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force and Japan Air Self-Defense Force, at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam. (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

Andersen AFB dependent wins AF writing contest

By Tech Sgt. Mike Andriacco
36th Wing Public Affairs

The daughter of one of Andersen's senior NCOs received a pleasant surprise when she was notified she won an essay contest sponsored by MyAirForceLife.com.

Ashley Nelson, daughter of the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron's Master Sgt. Dennis Nelson, won a laptop computer and gift certificate for a total prize package worth \$2,000.

Ashley, a homeschooled high school senior, submitted her short essay "From Sea to Shining Sea!" to the competition when her mother read an article about it and encouraged her to enter. She was not notified of her accomplishment until after she arrived at Andersen's teen center and found Col. Tod Fingal, 36th Wing vice commander waiting there with a certificate.

"We here at Andersen are all proud of the write up that you did," Colonel Fingal said to Ashley during the presentation. "It means a lot...for us to be able to do our job by having great kids like you and I guarantee you your parents are extremely proud."

Though she was going to be late for soccer practice, Ashley was ok with that after hearing the news.

"I was very surprised," Ashley said. "I was very happy!"

Keeping the secret wasn't easy for her parents, who got the news



Winner: Ashley Nelson, daughter of Master Sgt. Dennis Nelson, 36th Civil Engineer Squadron, reacts with surprise when Col. Tod Fingal, 36th Wing vice commander, tells her she has won an Air Force writing contest on Andersen Air Force Base Feb. 22. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Andriacco)

several days earlier.

"We found out Friday night the 19th so we had to wait all weekend without telling Ashley that she won," Sergeant Nelson said. "She thought she was coming here for a group band picture that she's in at the youth center."

Ashley was saving for a computer when her mom told her about the contest and she decided to go ahead and give it a try and hope for the best, she said. Now that she has a computer, she's got other plans for the money she was saving.

"I'm going to put it towards tu-

ition," she said.

The contest is one of several that will be held in the upcoming months. Each contest has two age categories; those over the age of 18 and those under, and the winners are decided by popular vote. All contests and activities on MyAirForceLife.com are being held in honor of the Year of the Air Force Family.

Upcoming contests include a video contest running currently and upcoming photo and music contests. Please see the Web site for more information.

Ashley Nelson, daughter of the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron's Master Sgt. Dennis Nelson, won the Year of the Air Force Family Essay contest. The following is her award-winning essay:

From Sea to Shining Sea!

The Air Force has always been a part of my life! Ever since I was a baby, I have moved from Air Force Base to Air Force Base.

No matter where we went, I was always able to find something unique about each AFB to love. The climates varied, the scenery varied, and the activities varied— You never knew what to expect when we moved!

The first base I was old enough to remember was Minot AFB, North Dakota. Flat as far as the eye could see and windy, Minot was very peaceful with a great tight-knit community. Me and my older brother used the long, cold winters to our advantage, and in addition to sledding and skating, we would dig huge snow forts in the backyard with my dad

when he got home from work.

Then we moved to Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The Hawaiian islands are so beautiful! I loved going swimming in the Pacific Ocean and was so excited to learn how to snorkel, boogie-board, and surf.

After Hickam, we moved to Misawa AB, Japan. Misawa had breath-taking snow capped mountains during the winter and hundreds of fragrant cherry blossoms during the spring. Along with experiencing the Japanese culture, I particularly liked going to all of the festivals.

Now we are at Andersen, Guam. Even though it is a small island, there is a lot to do here. So far we have hiked several different nature trails, explored some of the natural caves, and have discovered how fun it is to jet ski!

I have enjoyed being a "military brat" immensely, and could not picture my life any other way. I cannot wait to hear where my dad will be stationed next!

PS2 Rojas helps keep Sailors' careers on track

By Jesse Leon Guerrero
Joint Region Edge Staff
jesse.leonguerre.ctr@fe.navy.mil

Personnel Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) John Rojas, of Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) Guam, doesn't think of his role in the Navy as just a job. It's his way of ensuring Sailors are mission ready.

Rojas supervises five personnel specialists at the inbound and outbound sections of PSD Guam. Together they help service members report to Guam as their new duty station or prepare to leave Guam at the end of their tour, as well as those who are separating from the Navy or retiring. Among their duties, they process service members into the computer system when they arrive, process them out and provide stop dates for pay when they leave, and answer questions about any issues dealing with service records and pay entitlements.

"We make sure their transition to Guam and away from Guam is smooth," Rojas said.

Work can get very busy and the number of files to process fluctuates often, but Rojas estimated his section assists an average of 25-30 Sailors per week. Since a Sailor's pay, rank and other career factors are unique, Rojas and his co-workers need to take many things into consideration when they work with those who call or visit their office at U.S. Naval Base Guam.

"When you're processing those, you have

to rely on your knowledge and research the Navy instructions," Rojas said.

He enjoys talking with people face-to-face or on the phone because he wants to give them the quality customer service they deserve. It also helps him figure out exactly what he needs to do to help their career move forward and how urgent their situation might be.

Rojas said he understands how important his work can be to Sailors because of his own similar experiences of depending on other PSD staff in the past. When Rojas first joined the Navy, his rating was undesignated. He became a personnel specialist partly because of the quality of customer care and professionalism of those staff members he dealt with while trying out different ratings.

Nearly six years into his Navy enlistment, Rojas and his co-workers provide that same customer care to the Sailors they assist because those Sailors need to pay bills, help their families, and fulfill their jobs at their commands.

To keep in line with other PSD offices in Hawaii and the continental U.S., PSD Guam is already moving towards an online system, which Sailors can access on their own. Each Navy command also interacts with PSD through a command coordinator, again reducing the need for Sailors to personally visit PSD's office.



Customer Care: Personnel Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) John Rojas, of Personnel Support Detachment Guam, assists a Sailor inquiring about personal benefits Feb. 24. (U.S. Navy photo by Ray Torres)

Rojas said those new processes change how he assists Sailors, but the end result is the same: Sailors and families get the pay and benefits for which they've worked hard.

Rojas added Sailors should always keep copies of their awards and other items that affect their personal files and they need to

keep these records up-to-date. He recommended Sailors work closely with their command's coordinator, but he also invites them to stop by PSD and see him if they have concerns.

"You've got questions and we love to answer them," Rojas said.

Pacific Angel engineering projects underway in Laoag

By Capt. Genieve David
13th Air Force Public Affairs

More than 40 Air Force and Armed Forces of the Philippines engineers are conducting operations at the Cacaoan and Apaya Elementary schools Feb. 14, as part of Operation Pacific Angel 10-1 in Laoag, Philippines.

The civil engineers from the United States expressed how excited they were to be in the Philippines for Operation Pacific Angel, a program aimed at improving military civic cooperation between the United States and countries throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

"So far it has been an awesome experience doing something of this magnitude for the community," said Airman 1st Class Edward Mayo, a civil engineer from the 254th RED HORSE at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. "I feel very thankful and blessed for the things that I have in my life and I am proud to help the people of Laoag."

During the next eight days, the combined Pacific Angel engineering team will replace the roof of two buildings, install drop ceilings, replace several doors and refurbish damaged windows. Additionally, the engi-

neers will install new electrical wiring and fixtures, replace the plumbing, provide general structural repairs to the walls and foundation and paint the two buildings.

The Cacaoan Elementary School was originally built in 1972 by President Ferdinand Marcos using education stimulus funds provided by the United States. This is the first time since 1972 that the building is being renovated by U.S. and the Armed Forces of the Philippines engineers.

Armed Forces of the Philippines 2nd Lt. Rex Barrameda, the officer in charge from the 356th Aviation Engineering Group, said this is his first project with the United States and he is excited about the opportunity.

"It's been my pleasure to be part of Pacific Angel," Barrameda said. "The Airmen are very approachable and I look forward to working with them this week."

U.S. officials are also providing medical care at the Santa Maria and San Mateo Elementary Schools in Ilocos Norte here. Additionally, the United States and the Philippines will conduct a medical subject matter expert exchange at the Laoag City General Hospital focusing on basic life support, infectious diseases, disaster readiness and public health.



Pacific Angel: Tech. Sgt. Jimmy Tyquiengco and Philippine air force Staff Sgt. Ramil Catubay work on a construction project Feb. 14 during Operation Pacific Angel in Laoag, Philippines. Operation Pacific Angel is a joint and combined humanitarian assistance operation conducted in the Asia-Pacific region to provide medical, dental and engineering assistance. The exercise is scheduled through Feb. 22. Tyquiengco is an engineer from the 254th Red Horse Squadron at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. Catubay is from the 356th Aviation Engineering Group, Armed Forces of the Philippines. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Genieve David)

Joint Region Edge is an authorized publication for overseas members of the U.S. military and their families. Contents of this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Guam Publications, Inc. The appearance of advertising in the publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Commander, Joint Region Marianas of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Joint Region Edge is published by Guam Publications, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, or the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive contract with the Commander, Navy Region Marianas, located in Bldg. 3190. Editorial material is due at noon on the Thursday before publication date. All classified advertise-

ments are due no later than 3 p.m. on the Tuesday the week prior to publication. Joint Region Edge reserves the right to edit, rewrite or reject material submitted for publication.

Rear Adm. Douglass T. Biesel, USN,
Commander, Joint Region Marianas

Brig. Gen. Phil Ruhlman, USAF
Deputy Commander, Joint Region Marianas

Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs

Lt. Jodie Cornell, USN,
Public Affairs Officer
339-4055
jodie.cornell@fe.navy.mil

Coleen R. San Nicolas-Perez
Deputy Public Affairs Officer
339-3209
coleen.perez@fe.navy.mil

Theresa Merto Cepeda
Public Affairs Director, DZSP 21 LLC
339-6114
theresa.cepeda@fe.navy.mil

James Fee
Editor
james.fee.ctr@fe.navy.mil
339-7113

Reporters

Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert
339-3143
corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

Jesse Leon Guerrero
339-5207
jesse.leonguerre.ctr@fe.navy.mil

Oyaol Ngirairikl
339-2115
oyaol.ngirairikl@fe.navy.mil

Photographers
Reynaldo Rabara
339-8423
reynaldo.rabara@fe.navy.mil

Raymond Torres
339-8423
raymond.torres@fe.navy.mil

Write to us at:
Joint Region Marianas
Public Affairs Office
PSC 455 Box 152, FPO AP
96540

36th Wing Public Affairs

Capt. Timothy Lundberg
Chief of Public Affairs
366-4202

Capt. Andrew Hoskinson
Deputy Public Affairs Officer
366-2228

Reporters
Tech Sgt. Mike Andriacco
366-2228

Staff Sgt. Jamie Lessard
366-4202

Senior Airman Isaac Garden

366-2228

Senior Airman Nichelle Anderson

366-2228

Senior Airman Vanessa Fuentes

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Courtney Witt

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultz

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Julian North

366-2228

NBG main gate to be temporarily closed

By Catherine Cruz Norton
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Public Affairs

To continue better serving military members, base personnel and patrons, structural repair work to the U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) main gate is set to begin March 8.

This repair work will require the temporary closure of the NBG main gate March 8-31. As an alternative access point, motorists are asked to utilize the commercial gate nearest X-Ray Wharf, Monday through Friday, between 5:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. In addition, the NBG back gate will remain

open for the duration of this closure. Both the commercial and back gates will open for inbound and outbound traffic.

"The closure of the main gate will cause some delays for inbound and outbound traffic," said Capt. Scott Galbreath, NBG commanding officer. "We ask for your pa-

tience and understanding during this time as we work to make final and necessary repairs to our main gate. We encourage all personnel and patrons to drive defensively, pay attention to all posted signs and proceed with caution."

During the 23-day closure, contractor personnel will be on duty

directing traffic. Motorists and pedestrians are advised to heed detour signs and signals, and follow all electronic notifications.

For more information, please contact the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas Public Affairs Office at 339-4053.

Air Force logistics officials explain excess baggage policy

From Air Force News Service

Air Force logistics officials said Airmen need to be aware of the rules concerning excess baggage while deploying or on official travel since many civilian airlines charge fees for baggage.

"While airlines charge for a passenger's baggage and any additional baggage, Airmen are not subject

to any out-of-pocket expense," said Master Sgt. Robin D. Johnson, superintendent of Air Force Passenger Policy, Headquarters Air Force Logistics (A-4).

It's important Airmen hand carry their military identification or common access card; contingency, exercise, deployment orders; permanent change of station orders or temporary duty orders, in the event airline officials request them to verify they

are on official travel, Sergeant Johnson said.

In the event an airline charges an Airman for excess accompanied baggage, there are provisions for the individual to be reimbursed at the completion of the travel, according to Sergeant Johnson.

"Airmen traveling on official orders can claim the baggage fees on their travel vouchers, provided they have receipts, they are on orders and

the orders specifically authorize excess baggage," he added.

If orders don't state excess accompanied baggage is authorized, Airmen should request an amendment to the orders to reflect excess accompanied baggage is authorized and approved, Sergeant Johnson added.

He said the U.S. General Services Administration provides rules concerning baggage fees and official

travel. Federal Travel Regulation 301.12.2 identifies excess baggage as a miscellaneous expense, according to the GSA.

Information concerning airlines and their baggage fees, along with GSA information about official travel and baggage, is at www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA_BASIC&contentId=28734.

News Notes

Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view the vacancy listings at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 339-4222/6210.

Joint Region Marianas, Guam

Human Resources Specialist
Regional MWR Manager

Naval Hospital, Guam

Nurse (clinical)

NAVFAC Marianas, Guam

Civil Engineer, closes March 3

Employment Opportunities

Looking for a part time job? 36th Force Support Squadron offers multiple employment opportunities. Current job vacancies and job descriptions within 36th Services are available online at www.36thservices.com by clicking on HRO jobs. For more information, visit the Human Resources Office (HRO) or call 366-6141.

Seabee Birthday, NAVFAC Anniversary Ball Tickets

The annual birthday and anniversary celebration in honor of the Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) is scheduled for March 6, 6 p.m.-midnight at the Hotel Nikko Guam in Tumon. The Seabees will be celebrating 68 years of auspicious "We Fight, We Build" service, and the CEC and NAVFAC will be honoring 143 years of its rich history and proud existence. The theme for this 2010 event is "Preserving our Past, Building Our Future." NAVFAC Pacific Commander, Rear Adm. Michael A. Giorgione will be the honorary speaker. Military service members and civilian personnel are invited to attend this grand celebration and encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. For ticket information and prices, please contact Ensign Matt Pine at 339-2167.

Town Hall

Andersen Air Force Base town hall meeting is scheduled for March 11, 6 p.m. at Meehan Theater. Topics on the agenda include construction projects, Year of Air Force Family programs, and a question-and-answer session.

U.S. Naval Base Guam will hold a town hall meeting March 11, 6 p.m. at the Big Screen Theater,

AFSA Elections

The Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Chapter 1560 council elections for the upcoming term will be held March 19, 11:30 a.m. at the Top of the Rock ballroom. Any rank can fill any position! If you are interested in running for a position, please let me know. If you're not a member and wish to run we can set up your application before election day. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact Tech. Sgt. Lisa Parr, president of AFSA Chapter 1560 at 366-5817. You can also visit the AFSA SharePoint for election and position information.

Women's History Month

"Writing Women Back into History" is the theme for Women's History Month, March 2010. The Guam Veterans Center, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is seeking information and photographs of women who have or are currently serving in the U.S. military and who are interested in documenting their stories. The month's celebration will include a Women Veterans Conference on March 26 at the Outrigger Guam Resort. All interested parties are invited to contact Cathy Illarmo at the Guam Veterans Center for information at 472-7161.

2010 Navy Chess Team

Applications are now being accepted for the 2010 Navy Chess Team through April 23. Interested active-duty personnel in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard or U.S. Public Health Service may apply. All applicants must be U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) member in good standing with an established USCF

rating. Additional eligibility requirements and the team applications are available on the Navy Chess Web site at <http://www.mwr.navy.mil/mwrprgms/chess.htm>. The top 12 applicants will be invited to the Navy Chess Qualifier, June 11-13 at Naval Support Activity South Potomac in Dahlgren, Virginia, to compete for a spot on the six-man Navy Chess Team. Navy Chess Team members will advance to the Interservice Chess Championships at Naval Station Great Lakes, Aug. 2-6. At least one Navy player will advance from there to the NATO Chess Championships in Koege, Denmark, Oct. 18-22.

Save Money

Enroll in the Savings/Investing or the Thrift Savings Plan class at the Airman & Family Readiness Center. Call 366-8136 for more information and to learn about financial planning and budgeting.

Pick up commissary coupons from the Airman & Family Readiness Center, Airman's Attic, or the Commissary. On Guam, coupons can be used six months past the expiration date at the commissary.

Purchase items at yard sales or the flea market. The 36th Force Support Squadron has a monthly flea market. The next flea market will be held March 20 from 8 a.m.-noon at the HotSpot/Community Center Gym.

Visit the Airman's Attic to obtain free items. The Airman's Attic hours are Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. and Fridays from 9-11 a.m. for E-5 and below. All ranks day is the last Friday of every month from 9-11 a.m. The Airman's Attic is located in the old Base Exchange.

Track your daily spending to see how much you are actually spending. Look for ways that you can save money, e.g., bringing your lunch to work.

Put the money that you are receiving for COLA into a savings account. This will help build up your emergency fund.

Visit <http://www.militarysaves.org> to learn about other great ways to save!

My Air Force Life Video Competition

Create a "My Air Force Life" video short and you could win a 2009 Apple computer with iWorks pre-loaded and a

Panasonic HDC-HS250K video camera. Total prize package is valued at \$2,000. Just submit a short video (maximum of 60 seconds) on either of these themes: "What Your Air Force Life Means to You," or "Air Force is a Great Place to Live, Work, & Play." There are two categories of competition: youth, ages 12-17, and adult, ages 18 and up. Entry deadline is April 4. Go to www.MyAirForceLife.com for all necessary information regarding this competition.

Year of the Air Force Family Web site

The Air Force is celebrating Year of the Air Force Family, and there are lots of special activities and contests open to both youth and adults. Upcoming contests include: photo, video and original Song. A special Web site has been launched that has the details on these contests and more great information: www.myaairforcelifelife.com. When you go to the Web site, you can click on "My Base" for upcoming activities at Andersen. Please logon soon and often. For more information, call 366-6157.

Andersen Vet Clinic Relocated

The Andersen Vet Clinic has been relocated from its previous location to the old Teen Center (between the Gecko Lanes Bowling Center and the Hotspot) due to in-progress renovations to the permanent location. With the temporary location the clinic is only offering limited services to include: canine and feline vaccinations, microchips, urinalysis, fecal, blood work (including rabies fluorescent antibody virus neutralization tests or FAVN tests), health certificates, well pet visits, acute sick pet visits, skin and ear conditions. For more information, call 366-3205.

YES Program

The Andersen Teen Center is looking for qualified teens to participate in the Youth Employment Skill (YES) Program. The YES Program is an on-base volunteer program for high school students and is offered at select Air Force bases. The program is a joint effort between the Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) and Air Force Family Programs Flight to offer high school students an opportunity to learn valuable work skills, "bank" dollar credits toward their post-secondary education, and have a positive impact on the base and community.

Navy promotes thrift during Military Saves Week

By Jesse Leon Guerrero
Joint Region Edge Staff
jesse.leonguerre.ctr@fe.navy.mil

Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) promoted Military Saves Week on Guam with a tour of Orote Commissary and Navy Exchange (NEX) Feb. 22 and an event at Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation's (MWR) Single Sailor Sanctuary Feb. 23.

Military Saves Week is a campaign to encourage Department of Defense (DoD) employees, Sailors and other service members to save money and reduce their debt. The campaign was launched throughout DoD in 2007.

Lisa Settles, an Air Force spouse, said she participated in the Commissary tour to learn more ways to make ends meet in her one-income household. Settles said what's worked for her is doing price comparisons at different stores for the best deals.

"I use coupons a lot and anything to save my family money," Settles said. "Times are hard... we do need to save as much money as we can."

Settles and several shoppers walked through the store's aisles, discussing different savings techniques with the store's staff.

Josie Babauta, whose husband is in the Air Force Reserve, said she didn't realize before that the ends of the aisles often have items offered at a discount. The Commissary also sells nonfood items with slightly damaged packaging at a 25 percent discount, while food items with damaged packaging are marked down 50 percent.

"They take coupons, so that helps out a lot especially if you have a family and a mortgage," Babauta said. "It's fairly easy to find everything."

NEX

Pilar Pangelinan, a personal financial management specialist for FFSC, passed out free personal fi-



Proclamation: Capt. Scott Galbreath, center, seated, U. S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) commanding officer, signed a proclamation Feb. 16 declaring Feb. 21-28 Guam Military Saves Week. Sponsored by Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC), the campaign encourages Sailors, retirees, family members and civil servants to take immediate financial action to build wealth, not debt. Seated with Galbreath is Pilar Pangelinan, left, FFSC personal financial management specialist; and Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW/AW/FMF) Mandy Holt, right, command financial specialist (CFS) for NBG Security. Standing, from left, P.J. Whitehall, director, FFSC; Logistics Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Stacy Russell, CFS for 30th Naval Construction Regiment, Detachment Guam; Gunner's Mate 1st Class (EXW/SW) Terry Sweet, CFS for Mobile Expeditionary Security Squadron 7; Cmdr. Kevin Gillam, executive officer, NBG; Debra Null, FFSC administrative and marketing assistant; and Heather Horvath, FFSC ombudsman coordinator. (U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner)

nance magazines and brochures at NEX.

Pangelinan said food expenses are just one area to examine to maximize savings.

The theme of this year's campaign is "Start Small, Think Big." Pangelinan said the way to do that is by setting goals to improve your financial situation, and beginning right away with measurable results. Even small amounts saved can have a positive impact, she said.

"The earlier you start at saving, the more time your money has to grow through the power of compound interest," Pangelinan said. "Just saving every month, maybe a hundred dollars, as early as 18 can build up by the time you're 65 to a million dollars, depending on the

rate of return."

One shopper at NEX that day who spoke with Pangelinan was Sonar Technician Submarine 3rd Class (SS) Steven Heibel, of Naval Legal Service Office Pacific Detachment Guam. Although he's only 22-years-old, Heibel said he and his friends already practice Pangelinan's advice to safeguard against a downturn in the economy and the unexpected.

"We don't go out to eat all the time; we stay in and cook, just do small things like that," Heibel said. "We watch what we spend, what we buy, and how often we go out."

Single Sailor Sanctuary

Korrina Taitano, liberty coordinator for MWR, said that Single



Saving Advice: Lisa Settles, left, an Air Force spouse, discusses discount coupons and other ways to save with Wilma Godoy, a sales store checker, at Orote Commissary on U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 22. The store's staff and Fleet and Family Support Center representatives met with Settles and other shoppers to promote the annual Military Saves Week campaign. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Sailor Sanctuary offers Sailors ways to live within their means by saving on entertainment. The facility offers active-duty Sailors and geo-graphical bachelors the use of computers with Internet access, videogame consoles, a movie theater, music room and annual programs.

"A lot of it is free and we try to schedule events on their non-paydays just to make sure they're being taken care of," Taitano said.

On Feb. 23, MWR supported Military Saves Week by providing the sanctuary as a place for Sailors to participate in FFSC's "Who Wants to be a Millionaire Sailor?" quiz game, which simulated the popular TV show. Questions were on personal credit, car loans, home

purchases, mortgages and other finance-related topics.

Master-at-Arms Seaman Recruit Joe Saracho, of U.S. Naval Base Guam Security, said he was surprised by how much he knew after answering several quiz questions that afternoon. He explained he hasn't done much studying about financing, but he only spends a couple hundred dollars from every paycheck and tries to save the rest.

"I buy what I think is necessary," Saracho said, adding he always asks himself, "Do I need this or do I want it?"

For more information about how to save, call Fleet and Family Support Center at 333-2056 and visit the campaign online at www.militarysaves.org.

Andersen, Yokota Airmen train for disaster relief operations

By Capt. Andrew Hoskinson

36th Wing Public Affairs
andrew.hoskinson@andersen.af.mil

Members of the 36th Contingency Response Group here and aircrews from the 374th Operations Group at Yokota Air Base, Japan, participated in a mock deployment to Northwest Field Feb. 17-18 to rehearse time-critical actions for disaster relief operations.

The CRG, which participated in relief operations in Indonesia following the Sep. 30, 2009 earthquake, hosted two aircrews from Yokota in order to plan and prepare for any future disaster response in the Asia-Pacific region.

"This is an opportunity for the 374th Airlift Wing and the 36th Wing to work together to provide 13th Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, and Pacific Command with a much faster ability to get to a location when a disaster occurs in the theater," said Col. Daniel Settergren, 36th CRG commander.

Planned and executed by the Andersen and Yokota wings, the exercise was designed to incorporate lessons learned from recent disaster relief efforts in Indonesia and Haiti.

Citing the aftermath of the recent Haiti earthquake, Settergren said that the massive amount of relief supplies arriving at a location can quickly overwhelm an airfield. He emphasized that it is important to provide support with an initial communications, ground control and survey capability that opens the door for follow-on relief efforts.

"The first thing to do is to make sure that the aircraft coming in with relief supplies can be unloaded and moved out of the way as quickly as possible, so that things don't back up on the airfield," said Settergren. "To help within the first few hours



Landing: Staff Sgt. Sean Cripe, an air traffic controller with the 36th Mobility Response Squadron, watches a C-130 Hercules land at Northwest Field, next to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Feb. 17. The 36th Contingency Response Group at Andersen and the 374th Operations Group from Yokota Air Base, Japan, participated in a mock deployment to Northwest Field to rehearse time-critical actions for disaster relief operations. (U.S. Air Force photo Capt. Andrew G. Hoskinson)

and first few days after a disaster is absolutely critical to saving lives."

By scaling down equipment and personnel to a bare minimum, this capability is adequately prepared to deploy to a natural disaster zone at a moment's notice, according to Settergren.

During the CRG's deployment to Indonesia last fall, the unit was part of a larger entity known as the Humanitarian Assistance Rapid Response Team. The HARRT is a 60-

person team designed to deploy via two C-17 Globemaster or six C-130 Hercules aircraft.

But the team ran into some delays due to limited capacity at the Padang airfield. According to Settergren, it would have been useful to put a smaller advance team in place, prior to the HARRT's arrival, augmenting the airfield and air traffic control capacity.

Initial surveys of the Haiti earthquake relief efforts indicated sim-

ilar problems.

The two C-130s in this exercise provide sufficient airlift capability for the CRG to put six to ten people on the ground, along with basic equipment such as radios and a forklift. This contingent would support host nation airfield operations and prepare the way for the arrival of the HARRT and other organizations participating in relief efforts, according to Settergren.

Because Yokota C-130s are the

most forward-positioned airlift assets in PACAF, they are ideally located to provide the airlift capability that is needed to respond quickly and effectively in a crisis, according to Col. Mark Hering, 374th OG commander.

"It's a balancing act. There is never enough airlift, and one of the objectives of this exercise was to determine the optimal mix of CRG capability and maintenance equipment that we could deploy using two C-130s," said Hering. "One of the biggest successes of this event was validating this mix and then actually deploying from Andersen to set up in another location."

The two C-130s simulated a deployment by taking off from Andersen's airfield and then landing at Northwest Field, only a few miles away.

"In essence, the only thing we're missing from the real thing is hours of flight time," said Hering. "This is an ideal setup to execute and practice what we will potentially be asked to do."

For the CRG Airmen, the opportunity to plan and execute a mock deployment using Yokota's aircraft was tremendous.

"Anytime you execute with the aircraft, you learn something new," said Settergren. "We're getting some training here that is tough for us to get. It's training that we need to have and this is great."

The CRG members and C-130 aircrews set up a base camp and remained overnight at Northwest Field.

"This has been a tremendous success. We look forward to continuing to build on this partnership and to be ready to respond to future crises in our region," said Hering. "The bottom line is that we're postured to respond if a disaster comes up."

African-Americans in U.S. military history

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert

Joint Region Edge Staff
corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

African-Americans have a record of distinguished service in the U.S. Armed Forces, going back to the birth of the country, when it's estimated that 5,000 blacks fought during the American Revolutionary War. Since then African-Americans have played roles in each of the nation's major conflicts.

However, for much of the nation's history, African-American service members were limited to noncombat roles, and the Armed Forces remained segregated until 1948, when the military restructured their forces to focus on the talent of

individuals and not the color of their skin.

Staff Sgt. Derrick Spencer, 36th Wing Public Affairs noncommissioned officer-in-charge of broadcasting, said he believes African-Americans in the military have come far.

"It is evident by looking at the makeup of our military," Spencer said. "There are so many ethnic groups in all branches of service bringing different backgrounds and ideas to our mission."

Yeoman 3rd Class Christopher Johns, of U.S. Naval Base Guam, said he has heard many old stories of courage involving African-Americans in the military from his grandfather.

"My grandfather was born in the '40s," said Johns. "When he joined the Army he told me of many strug-

gles that African Americans went through. From then to now, we must remember to be grateful and give thanks to all the people that got us where we are today."

There have been many African-Americans serving their country who helped break the boundaries of prejudice.

Retired Lt. Col. Eugene Stump, an African-American, spent 27 years in the Air Force. He has read books about prominent African-American service members and his motivation to succeed in the military was because of a role model named Gen. Daniel "Chappy" James, Jr. James was the first four-star African-American general and was also a Tuskegee fighter pilot in the Army Air Corps.

Stump said it is important to remember African-Americans, like

James, who paved the way for current and future African-American service members.

"They gave us the tools to be successful," Stump said. "I will say to the younger generation: 'Try to go far as you can and never give up.' They never did."

Pioneer: Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., an aviation pioneer, is one of the most famous Tuskegee Airmen of World War II. He was the first African-American officer in the U.S. Army Air Forces, and was a member of the first African-American pilot-training class at Tuskegee Army Airfield in Alabama. His father, Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Sr., was the first African-American general in the U.S. Army, earning that distinction in 1940. (U.S. Air Force photo)



Who comes to mind when talking about African-American history?

Joint Region Edge asked service members on Guam who comes to mind when talking about African-American history. Here is what they said:



"Martin Luther King. He is the most known for what he has done for African-Americans."

—Tech. Sgt. Charles Arnett, 354th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



"Rosa Parks. She stood up for her rights. She taught us that no one is better than anyone else and that we are all equal."

—Hospitalman Roderick Shanks, U.S. Naval Hospital Guam



"My grandmother. She was born in the south where there was a lot of racial tension and segregation. She taught me to be strong and independent."

—Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Debora Johnson, U.S. Naval Base Guam Security



"Malcolm X. He was educated and well-spoken. He had a different style of spreading the word of equality. Even though he wasn't of a Christian religion, he still was able to have his message reach many people of all races and religion."

—Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) Jermaine Glover, U.S. Naval Base Guam Security

The Golden 13 and other African-American military pioneers

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert

Joint Region Edge Staff
corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

During World War II, the U.S. Navy began an initiative to reshape and expand its force by commissioning the first African-American officers.

In 1944, Great Lakes, Ill. was selected as the first training site for African-American officers in the Navy. Twelve ensigns and one warrant officer were selected and sent to Camp Smalls. They became known as the "Golden 13."

They were Ensign James E. Hare, Ensign Samuel E. Barnes, Ensign George C. Cooper, Ensign William S. White, Ensign Dennis D. Nelson, Ensign Graham E. Martin, Warrant Officer Charles B. Lear, Ensign Phillip G. Barnes, Ensign Reginald E. Goodwin, Ensign John W. Reagan, Ensign Jesse W. Arbor, Ensign Dalton L. Baugh, and Ensign Frank E. Sublett.

With resistance from society and fellow service members who believed at the time that African-Americans were mentally inferior, the members of the Golden 13 never wavered, ultimately scoring higher than any other officer in Navy history on the comprehensive officers' test. However, the government dismissed the achievement as a mistake and the officers had to retake the test. Once again, the Golden 13 passed with high grades defeating the odds.

Their accomplishments paved the way to the success for African-American naval officers in today's modern Navy.

Here is a list of some other prominent African-Americans in U.S. military history:

2001 — Capt. Vernice Armour, U.S. Marine Corps, earns her wings. The Department of Defense would acknowledge her as the first female African-American combat pilot in the military during Operation Iraqi Freedom. She completed two tours in the Persian Gulf. After leaving the Marine Corps, she became an international motivational speaker.



Breaking Barriers: "The Golden 13," the first African-American U.S. Navy officers, pose for a photograph March 17, 1944. Bottom row, from left, Ensign James E. Hare; Ensign Samuel E. Barnes; Ensign George C. Cooper; Ensign William S. White; and Ensign Dennis D. Nelson. Middle row, from left, Ensign Graham E. Martin; Warrant Officer Charles B. Lear; Ensign Phillip G. Barnes; and Ensign Reginald E. Goodwin. Top row, from left, Ensign John W. Reagan; Ensign Jesse W. Arbor; Ensign Dalton L. Baugh; and Ensign Frank E. Sublett. (U.S. Naval Historical Center Photo)

1999 — Angela M. McShane was the first African-American woman promoted to chief petty officer and master chief petty officer in the U.S. Coast Guard.

1983 — Capt. Pete Tzomes becomes the first of the "Centennial Seven" — the first African-American officers to command submarines in the first 100 years of U.S. submarine history. The others are Rear Adm. Tony Watson, Capt. Will Bundy, Vice Adm. Mel Williams, Capt. Bill Peterson, Rear Adm. Cecil Haney and Rear Adm. Bruce Grooms.

1949 — Annie Neal Graham be-

comes the first African-American female to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps.

1948 — Edna Young is the first African-American enlisted female to serve in the regular U.S. Navy. She retired as a chief petty officer.

1944 — The U.S. Air Force's Tuskegee Airmen become the first African-American combat pilots in the country's history, carrying out 15,533 sorties and loftily laying waste to 409 enemy aircraft.

(Source: The U.S. Navy Historical Center, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Marine Corps Web sites)

NMCB 18: Reservists prepare for first deployment

Continued from Page 1

“Many of us have prior military service, so this isn’t our first deployment as individuals, but this is our first deployment as a Seabee group,” Beatingo said. “We’ve trained hard and those of us who have been deployed before are working closely with those who haven’t had the experience. I think we’re prepared, and I’m confident we’ll do a good job out there.”

Steelworker 1st Class Steven Bamba, Det. 0918 leading petty officer, said being the first Seabee Reserve detachment on Guam makes it important for him to ensure the group performs well.

“I was one of the first to sign up for the detachment when it first started in 2007,” he said. “I watched others join in and we’ve trained together, working hard to be the best representatives of the Navy and of our detachment. We’re excited to be the first Seabees from Guam and we’re going to do our best to make our island and our nation proud.”

NOSC Guam is the Reservists’ first processing site to ensure the active component receives fully qualified members to execute missions. They screen all personnel who are mobilizing to ensure that the members meet medical, dental, legal, and family readiness requirements.

Cmdr. Donald Knaub, NOSC commanding officer, said the detachment’s deployment is an example of the growing role of Navy Reservists in today’s military.

“Reserve forces reduce the manpower costs associated with maintaining a full-time force while still providing surge capability,” he said. “The deployment of NMCB 18 is a prime example of the importance of the Navy Reserves. These members of the Reserve will fill a wartime requirement integrating with the armed forces continuing the fight.”

NMCBs provide responsive military construction support to Navy, Marine Corps and other forces in military operations, construct base facilities and conduct defensive operations. In addition to standard wood, steel, masonry and concrete construction, NMCBs also perform specialized construction such as water-well drilling and battle damage repair. They are able to work and defend themselves at construction sites outside of their base camp and convoy through unsecured areas. In times of emergency or disaster, NMCBs conduct disaster control and recovery operations.

To learn more about NMCBs, visit the U.S. Naval Construction Force Web site at <https://www.seabee.navy.mil>.

FFSC promotes positive parenting at Navy Exchange



Parenting Advice: Capt. Scott Galbreath, center left, U.S. Naval Base Guam commanding officer, joined Erlinda Montecalvo, left, Fleet and Family Support Center family advocacy program educator, to distribute positive parenting information to families at the Navy Exchange food court Feb. 11. Gunner's Mate 2nd Class (SW) James O'Day, right, USS Frank Cable (AS 40), his wife Mallory and three children received bracelets, buttons and other items geared to building healthy family awareness. (U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner)

36th LRS Fuels NCOs earn PACAF awards for 2009

By Senior Airman
Shane Dunaway

36th Wing Public Affairs
timothy.dunaway@andersen.af.mil

A senior non-commissioned officer (NCO) and an NCO from the 36th Logistics Readiness Squadron here earned recognition in the 2009 Pacific Air Forces Logistic Readiness Individual Awards Feb. 17.

In a message sent to wing com-

manders throughout PACAF, Brig. Gen. H. Brent Baker, Sr., Headquarters PACAF director of logistics, named Senior Master Sgt. Chris Patton, 36th LRS fuels management flight superintendent, and Tech. Sgt. Jason Funk, 36th LRS NCO-in-charge of the fuels service center, PACAF's Fuels Senior NCO and NCO of the Year respectively.

Sergeant Patton and Sergeant Funk exude pride in their work as

they ensure the base is supplied with quality fuel and cryogenics while supporting any and all aircraft within the joint environment.

"I think [winning] the awards emphasize the people here and what they're doing to accomplish the mission here at Andersen AFB," Sergeant Funk said.

Sergeant Patton emphasized the marked improvements of the fuels flight here and credited adaptation within the unit as a determin-

ing factor in establishing the credibility of Andersen AFB's fuels flight within PACAF.

"The awards really highlight how much things have changed over the past couple of years," Sergeant Patton said. "Our predecessors have done a lot and the current group is doing a lot [to make changes]. It shows that we're on the right track."

Their achievements and recognition brings much credit to the

work of the 36th LRS and specifically to all Airmen who help fuel the sound of freedom.

"The hard work and dedication of these two noncommissioned officers showcases a spirit of excellence within 36th LRS," said Maj. Jason Campbell, 36th LRS commander. "Their penchant for leading by example resonates throughout the unit and sets the mark for success squadron-wide."

Sesame Street entertains military families on Guam

By Tech. Sgt. Michael
Andriacco

36th Wing Public Affairs

And Oyaol Ngirairiki

Joint Region Edge Staff
oyaol.ngirairiki@fe.navy.mil

Thousands of children and parents were treated to live performances by Elmo, Rosita, Grover and Cookie Monster during Sesame Street Live shows on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) Feb. 16 and 18, respectively.

The shows were a result of a partnership between United Service Organizations (USO) and Sesame Workshop to share the Talk, Listen, Connect (TLC) initiative with children from military families.

"It's really awesome and I think the kids really, really needed it because daddy just recently left," said Candice Perkins, a Navy spouse who watched the show at NBG Big Screen Theater. "It was almost a tearjerker in there when Elmo sang that he's so proud the kids are strong when daddy goes. I really, really appreciated the show."

During the shows, the beloved Sesame Street characters sang songs on a variety of topics, from making music to dealing with emotions when a parent is deployed.

Perkins' daughter, Emily, said her favorite character is Cookie Monster. "I like it when he dances crazy," she said.

Like her sister, Alexandra Perkins said she too enjoyed the dancing and the music but that's where the similarities ended. "I really love Elmo," she said. "He's so fuzzy and comfortable and I like it when he gets down."

Tech. Sgt. Trevor Maiken, who is stationed with Detachment Civic Action Team Guam on Camp Covington, said he and his wife grew up with Sesame Street and were glad they were able to bring their daughter to one of the shows.

"It was awesome. She loved it; she was up dancing on mom and dad's laps," Maiken said. "This is the first time we've got to see Elmo and

all of Sesame Street and we're 34-years-old."

He also appreciated the tour coming to Guam and bringing a little bit of home to a duty station that is away from their family, adding events like this help make the Air Force and Navy an attractive employer.

"I think it helps re-enlisting and joining the military," he said. "Especially for the kids that get to see stuff like this even when they're away (from home) and even when a lot of the parents are deployed. There's still programs like this that bring the happiness to their lives."

Lonnie Cooper, USO tour manager, said the show is just one way USO is supporting the men and women who serve in the nation's Armed Forces.

"It's a very different military than it was even 10 years ago," he said. "There's a lot more families put in places all the way around the world, far away from the rest of their family structure, grandma, grandpa, aunts and uncles. Serving the troops also means serving the families and helping them deal with the troops being away."

Cooper said the message of the show is to let children know that it's OK when parents are deployed.

"Elmo talks about missing his mommy or daddy and the kids get that they know exactly what he's talking about in this context," Cooper said.

Dani Cohen, performance director for the Sesame workshop, said the show was an emotional experience for both the audience and performers.

"I had a woman come up to me after one of the shows and she was just in tears," Cohen said. "She was pregnant and had two little girls with her and she said 'Thank you so much. The show hits close to home.' Her husband has been in Iraq for many months and she was just so happy that the show came to her base and that we were able to share this with her. That meant so much to me and the rest of the cast and the rest of the crew. It's a very special project to be a part of."



Creature Comfort: Grover, left, and Rosita, right, hug members of the audience during the Sesame Street Live show at the Youth Center on Andersen Air Force Base Feb. 18. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Julian North)

Following the shows, event organizers gave kids Elmo twirly lights and an outreach kit with a DVD, booklet and child-activity poster. The materials offer tips parents can use to help prepare their children for deployments, homecomings and adjust to changes that occur as a result. Recorded Sesame Street skits and children's songs al-

so offer encouragement and explanations to help kids cope with difficult feelings surrounding deployments.

Sesame Workshop launched the TLC initiative in 2006 to support and offer resources to families with young children that have members deployed in the military. The tour has performed more than 150 shows

for more than 100,000 military families. Guam is the last stop for the group's Asia-Pacific Rim phase of their tour.

To learn more about the USO and Sesame Workshop partnership or about the tour, visit www.sesame-workshop.org/initiatives/emotion/uso.

2009 36th Wing Annual Awards

From 36th Wing Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Philip Ruhlman would like to congratulate the winners of the 2009 36th Wing Annual Awards for the following categories:

Airman: Senior Airman Bryan L. Nagy from the Contingency Response Group

Non-Commissioned Officer: Tech. Sgt. Lisa M. Parr from the Mission Support Group
Senior Non-Commissioned

Officer: Senior Master Sgt. Leslie L. Pratt from the Medical Group

Company Grade Officer: Capt. Jason M. Aftanas from the Contingency Response Group
Civilian Category I: Jennifer M.

Andree from the Medical Group

Civilian Category II: William J. O'Meara, IV from the Mission Support Group
Civilian Category III: Arthur H. Hameister, Jr. from the Mission

Support Group

Honor Guard: Senior Airman Jermaine Dias from the Mission Support Group
First Sgt.: Senior Master Sgt. Paul D. Cornell from the Contingency Response Group

Visit MWR on Facebook, Twitter

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff
 jesse.leonguerre.ctr@fe.navy.mil

Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) officially announced the launch of its Twitter and Facebook accounts Feb. 16.

Sailors, family members and other patrons can access photos and view the latest MWR news at these online sites.

"Facebook has been a big hit," said Blair Brachear, marketing manager for Joint Region Marianas' Warfighter and Family Readiness Programs, which supports MWR. "We currently have 373 friends as of today (Feb. 18)."

Brachear said Facebook works as a convenient tool for communities to talk to each other, while Twitter allows quick notification of changes or additions to MWR's various

programs and services.

Facebook debuted in 2004 as a means for Internet users to keep track of other users, typically friends and family, through a network of personalized accounts. Twitter offers users a page they can author with short messages, called tweets, which are also sent to the user's subscribers.

Brachear said both applications were chosen for their overall popularity and the Facebook page has been accessible for almost a month. She added that some attendees of the Super Bowl XLIV party hosted by MWR at Top O' the Mar Feb. 8 found out about the event online on the Facebook page or on the MWR Web site at www.mwrguam.com.

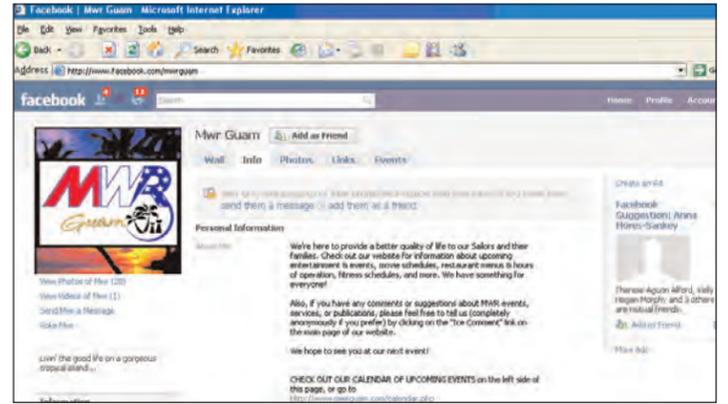
"What's awesome now is we've got a lot of feedback," Brachear said. "They're excited about just seeing what we have on."

Brachear said all this follows recent moves by the Navy to explore different types of social media and other resources for reaching out to its Sailors and their families.

Family readiness is a cornerstone of warfighting readiness and has a direct impact on job satisfaction, job performance and personnel retention. To keep them current on available services and how to use them, Sailors and their families require information that links the command, the family and the Navy.

"Share your MWR experiences and MWR event pictures with our site," Brachear said. "Any comments, whether positive or negative — we're here to listen and get our patrons the answers to their questions and improve their quality of life."

Sign up as an MWR Facebook friend at www.facebook.com and



Screenshot: A photo of Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Facebook page (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

search for "MWR Guam." Read their latest updates at www.twitter.com/MWRGUAM. For more information on MWR

events and facilities, you can also visit mwrguam.com.



(Clockwise from bottom left photo)

Down the Flightline: Japan Air Self-Defense Force, F2 support fighter aircraft, Tsuji Air Force Base (AFB) Feb. 12. The U.S. Air Force and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force cooperability, concentrating on coordination and evaluation of air tactics, techniques and procedures to support real-world contingencies. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)

Maintaining: U.S. Air Force maintenance technicians assigned to the 354th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Eielson AFB, Alaska, working on an F-16 fighter aircraft from 18th Aggressor Squadron, Eielson AFB, after a flying mission during Exercise Cope North Feb. 12. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)

Ready to Go: U.S. Air Force Airman First Class Justin Hodge, assigned to the 354th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Eielson AFB, Alaska, standing next to an F-16 Fighting Falcon on the flightline during Cope North at Andersen AFB Feb. 12. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)

Going Vertical: A U.S. Air Force F-16D Fighting Falcon assigned to the 18th Aggressor Squadron, Eielson AFB, Alaska, performing a vertical climb during Exercise Cope North Feb. 15. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey)

Giving the OK: U.S. Navy Airman Katrina Tessier, an aircraft crew chief assigned to the 601st Squadron, Airborne Operations, Andersen AFB, Alaska, giving the OK to an aircraft on the flightline at Andersen AFB Feb. 12. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey)

Flight Directing: An E-2C Hawkeye aircraft crew chief from 601st Squadron, Airborne Operations, Andersen AFB, Alaska, directing an aircraft on the flightline at Andersen AFB during Exercise Cope North Feb. 1. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)

Waiting: U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft assigned to the 18th Aggressor Squadron, Eielson AFB, Alaska, on the flightline at Andersen AFB Feb. 12. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)



Misaki AB, Japan, shoots down the flightline during takeoff during Cope North at Andersen AFB. The purpose of Cope North is to conduct Cope North annually at Andersen AFB to increase combat readiness and interoperability. The ability for both nations to work together increases their preparedness to

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Eielson Air Force Base (AFB), Alaska, preps a F-16 Fighting Falcon for takeoff during Cope North at Andersen AFB Feb. 15. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Eielson AFB, poses for the camera in front of his U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)

VAQ-136 prepares an EA-6B Prowler aircraft for a mission during Exercise Cope North

The Early Warning Group, Misawa Air Base, Japan, directs an E-2C into an aircraft parking position. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey)

Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Eielson AFB, sits on the flightline during Cope North at Andersen AFB Feb. 15. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andy M. Kin)



Tips for earthquakes

By **Debbie Perez**
 DZSP 21 Contingency

Everyone should know that earthquakes are constantly occurring around the world without warning.

An earthquake is a sudden slipping or movement of a portion of the earth's crust, accompanied and followed by a series of vibrations. Familiarize yourself and your family with the following terms to help you understand earthquakes:

Aftershock – An earthquake of similar or lesser intensity that follows the main earthquake.

Fault – The fracture across which displacement has occurred during an earthquake. The slippage may range from less than an inch to more than 10 yards in a severe earthquake.

Epicenter – The place on the earth's surface directly above the point on the fault where the earthquake ruptures began. Once fault slippage begins, it expands along the fault during the earthquake and can extend hundreds of miles before stopping.

Seismic waves – The vibrations that travel outward from the earthquake fault at a speed of several miles per second. Although fault slippage directly under a structure can cause considerable damage, the vibration of seismic waves causes most of the destruction during earthquakes.

Magnitude – The amount of energy released during an earthquake, which is computed from the amplitude of the seismic waves. A magnitude of 7.0 on the Richter scale

indicates an extremely strong earthquake. Each whole number on the scale represents an increase of about 30 times more energy released than the previous whole number represents.

Knowing what to do can make a big difference in how an earthquake affects your household. Talking to your children about what you will do when an earthquake happens will assist them in being prepared.

Know what to do when the shaking begins – drop, cover, and hold on! Move only a few steps to a nearby safe place.

Prepare a home earthquake plan – select a safe place in every room where nothing can fall on you. Practice drop, cover, and hold on at least twice a year.

Eliminate hazards – Bolt bookcases, china cabinets, and other furniture to the wall. Strap the water heater to wall studs.

Prepare a disaster supplies kit for home and car – Store enough supplies for at least 72 hours

Know what to do after the shaking stops – Check yourself and family members for injuries. Protect yourself from further danger by putting on long pants, long-sleeved shirts, sturdy shoes, and work gloves. Listen to the radio for instructions; and expect aftershocks – each time you feel one, drop, cover, and hold on!

(Source: The Federal Emergency Management Agency at www.fema.gov and the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org)

McCool, AMS students train to help peers transition

By Oyaol Ngirairikl
Joint Region Edge Staff
oyaol.ngirairikl@fe.navy.mil

Twenty Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School (AMS) students participated in a Junior Student 2 Student (JS2S) training session at Guam Marriot Resort & Spa Feb. 18-19.

JS2S is a program created by Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) to help children of military families transition smoothly from school to school. The program trains a core group of students at a school to help incoming students feel welcome, comfortable, included and accepted into their new school community.

Bill Lawson, MCEC's JS2S coordinator, said the program is designed to help change transitioning students' focal points from what they may lose to what they will gain through the relocation.

"We very quickly figured out that when new students come in to schools they have, as you can imagine, a whole host of needs," he said. "Added to that, some of these students can transition up to 10 times, in some instances more, during their school careers, and each time it's like starting all over again."

JS2S trains students to guide newcomers through their uncertain surroundings, offering – from a peer viewpoint – valued information, friendship and assistance. JS2S-trained students help their peers by focusing on three issues: areas: find-



Training: Bill Lawson, center, the Junior Student 2 Student (JS2S) coordinator from Military Child Education Coalition, facilitates a question-and-answer session following a presentation of a school map by Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School students. Twenty McCool and Andersen Middle School students participated in a JS2S training session at Guam Marriot Resort & Spa Feb. 19. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

ing their way around campus, academics, and relationships.

Finding the Way: How do I get around the campus? What do kids my age do here? What is unique about this community?

Academics: What are the campus policies and requirements? What are the processes unique to the new school? How do I gain access to school programs?

Relationships: What can you do to make students feel accepted? How do you establish trust? What are the risks and rewards of new re-

lationships?

Emily Triplett, an AMS sixth-grade student, said she learned a lot during the two-day session and is looking forward to using what she has learned.

"I think what we're going to be doing is really cool because we're going to do even more to make the new students feel welcome, so I'm excited," she said.

Nick Gordon, a McCool eighth-grade student, said his family has moved every other year as his dad gets assigned to a new command.

"It was rough at first, but after a while you start to get used to moving," he said, adding that his previous schools didn't have a program to help welcome new students. "I usually find someone who has been at the school for a while and made friends with him and get him to show me around the school."

He said having a JS2S program makes a difference.

"It makes people feel more welcome and like they belong," he said. "It opens up new opportunities to enjoy the school and the community, which is really important when you're new to a place."

Lawson said MCEC has supported military service members and their families for 11 years.

"As the military has begun to put more emphasis on family care and readiness, we've stepped up our efforts," he said. "We've learned more and more that it's not just the Sailors, Airmen and Soldiers who serve, it's the families, too. And we really feel like we really need to address the needs of the children as much as possible."

Lawson said the two-day training session was a success thanks in part to the "wonderful participants."

"The students from Andersen and McCool have been exceptional," he said. "I would think any students coming to Guam are going to be in good hands."

To learn more about JS2S, visit the MCEC Web site at www.militarychild.org/child-student/student-2-student.



School Bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy community. If you know of an education-related event that you would like to include, send it to jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil or call 339-7113.

Navy College Office

• SAT proctored exams will be administered March 9, 16 and 23. To make your appointment or for more information, call 339-2485.

• Navy College Office administers the Defense Language Proficiency Tests (DLPT) to eligible military personnel. Tests are administered on Wednesdays at 8 a.m. To register or for more information, call Navy College at 339-8291.

• CLEP General, CLEP Subject and DANTES (DSST) Examinations are now computer-based. Testing is free to active-duty military personnel. Dependents will have to pay minimal fee on a space available basis. To make an appointment, contact University of Maryland (UMUC) at 339-2263.

McCool Elementary/Middle School

• Academic Challenge Bowl team will compete Feb. 27, 9 a.m. at St. John's School in Tamuning and again March 10, 4 p.m. at Agueda Johnston Middle School in Ordot.

• Read Across America school-wide assembly March 2, 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the school gym.

• Parents are encouraged to attend the McCool Parent Teacher Organization meeting March 10, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

• TerraNova Testing for students grades 3-8 at the school March 15-19. Parents and students are asked to be prepared by ensuring students get a good night sleep, have a good breakfast and are at school on time.

Andersen Elementary School

• Parents, students and the Andersen community is invited to attend the first Twilight 5K/1 Mile Fun Run Feb. 26. Show time is 4:30 p.m. and go time is 5:15 p.m.

Guam High School

• Booster Club meeting March 4, 6 p.m. at the GHS Information Center.

• School Improvement Team seeks parents and sponsors to attend weekly School Improvement Team meetings held every Monday, 2:15-3 p.m. For more information, contact mike.schoebinger@pac.dodea.edu

Andersen Elementary holds Learnabration



Above: Master Sgt. David Malm, from the 36th Force Support Squadron, teaches students about George Washington Carver, a college professor, botanist and inventor who promoted alternate crops to cotton as a way to help poor farmers develop sustainable farming plans, at Andersen Elementary School's Learnabration Feb. 19. The Learnabration is an African-American History Month event involving volunteer instructors who teach students about significant events in black history and prominent black figures. The Learnabration was started by the Guam Greek Council, a collective of different fraternity and sorority members on Guam, last year as a way to honor Black History Month and broaden students' knowledge of key moments in black history. U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Andriacco)

Left: Sen. Master Sgt. Terry Mosely, from the 36th Medical Group, talks about Thurgood Marshall during the second annual Learnabration at Andersen Elementary School Feb. 19. Marshall was the first African American to serve on the Supreme Court. He served as a justice on the Supreme Court from 1967 until his retirement in 1991. He passed away Jan. 24, 1993 of heart failure at the age of 84. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Mike Andriacco)

Ellen to represent AES at regional spelling bee

By Oyaol Ngirairikl
Joint Region Edge Staff
oyaol.ngirairikl@fe.navy.mil

"Lobbyist" was the word that earned Michenna Ellen the winning spot at the Andersen Elementary School (AES) Spelling Bee Feb. 17. Following her win, the third-grade student said she was excited but also "a little scared" at the thought of competing against dozens of other spellers at the 2010 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee Competition that will be held in March at Guam Marriott Resort and Spa. The winner will go on to represent the region in the 83rd Scripps National Spelling Bee this May in Washington, D.C.

"This is the first time I've ever won a school competition because my last school didn't have a spelling bee," Ellen said. "I think it's cool to represent my school, and I'm just going to study hard with my mom and my teacher and do my best."

Fellow student Shanahan Europa came in second place at the school event and will serve as the alternate at the regional competition. Europa, a seventh-grade student, said she knows Ellen will do well at the regional.

"I think it's awesome that we both get to go," she said. "And I'm going to study hard, just in case, but I

think Michenna is going to be awesome."

Dr. Helen Bailey, AES principal, said spelling competitions help students improve in a number of different ways.

"It promotes good vocabulary and spelling skills, but it also helps boost self-confidence," Bailey said. "I'm just so proud of how well all the students did. I think they represented their classrooms well."

Assistant Principal Arthur Flores said the students representing their classrooms at the schoolwide competition had studied every Friday since the start of the school year.

"I think their hard work showed in how well they performed tonight, but unfortunately we can only have one winner," he said. "So it's tough, but I think tonight's event really fostered a spirit of healthy competition, which is also a very good lesson for the kids."

Flores added the school competition was an example of how the community supports education.

"The parent-teacher organization helped organize and judge the competition; teachers and parents worked with the kids to help them study," he said.

To learn more about the Scripps National Spelling Bee, visit www.spellingbee.com.



Winner: Andersen Elementary School third-grader Michenna Ellen won first place at the school's spelling bee Feb. 17. Ellen will represent her school at the 2010 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee Competition that will be held in March at the Guam Marriott Resort and Spa. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

Marine band to perform at Asan Park

By Jesse Leon Guerrero
Joint Region Edge Staff
jesse.leonguerre.ctr@fe.navy.mil

The U.S. Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment will play live on Guam at the Asan Beach Unit of the War in the Pacific National Historical Park March 7, 3 p.m.

Admission is free and the show is scheduled to last about an hour.

The detachment features a drum and bugle corps, a silent drill team platoon and a color guard.

Thelma Hechanova, regional communications and community relations liaison for Marine Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC) Forward Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, said the group is comprised of nearly 150 of the Marine Corps' specially selected musicians. They will tour Iwo Jima and Okinawa before stopping on Guam, and then will move on to Hawaii.

"They travel worldwide," Hechanova said. "It's the only time you'll see three different units representing the Marine Corps like this."

The drum and bugle corps is also known as "The Commandant's Own," which refers to Gen. James Conway, 34th commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. Their music program for that day will include a mix

of pieces such as the marching classic "Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa and a piano sonata by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Members of the 24-man drill platoon will perform their segment of the show by tossing and spinning M-1 Garand rifles. This is a precision-based performance, with each of the rifles weighing about 10 pounds.

The color guard carries the only official battle color of the Marines. The battle color is distinct with its 54 streamers representing unit awards the Marines have earned in combat going back to the American Revolutionary War.

"It's going to be quite a show," Hechanova said. "Afterwards, we'll have families and kids taking pictures with them."

Hechanova said the event is unique not only because of the professionalism and skill of the detachment's musicians, but also because their performance will honor retired Marine Brig. Gen. Vicente Blaz, who is the highest ranking Marine of Chamorro descent in Guam's history. Blaz also served the island as its delegate to the U.S. Congress from 1985-1993.

Hechanova added the detachment has never been to Guam and their performance is the first big event of its kind MARFORPAC will sponsor



On the March: Drum and Bugle Corps members of the U.S. Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment perform during their West Coast tour in 2009. Nearly 150 members of the detachment are scheduled to play live on Guam at the Asan Beach Unit of the War in the Pacific National Historical Park March 7, 3 p.m. (Photo courtesy of drumcorps.mbw.usmc.mil)

until Liberation Day activities in July.

"Make it a full day with your family," Hechanova said. "Come

and do your picnic and set up around the performance area to watch this once in a lifetime show."

For more information, visit the

United States Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment Web site at <http://drumcorps.mbw.usmc.mil/>.

Smith jazzes up Top O' the Mar



Jazzing Out: Jazz musician Jeffery Smith performs at Top O' the Mar Feb. 18. Smith, a multi-instrumentalist originally from Shreveport, La., plays his unique blend of jazz, pop, soul, R&B and gospel regularly at military bases throughout the world. The event was free and coordinated by Armed Forces Entertainment. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

FREE

AC Racquetball Singles Tournament

Registration deadline is March 1 at Charles King Gym. Event date is March 5-6 at Charles King Gym. For more information, call 564-1856.

Andersen Arts & Crafts Center Classes

March 6 classes:
Butterfly Pencil Toppers, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Easter Wreath Making, 1-3 p.m.
Basic Matting Classes, 10:30 a.m.-noon or 2-3:30 p.m.
For more information, call 366-4248.

St. Paddy's Day 5K/10K

5:30 p.m. March 12 at Ebbett Field, U.S. Naval Base Guam. Free admission. Shirts will be sold for \$5. Register at Charles King Gym or on race day. For more information, call 339-1301/2.

UNDER \$10

12th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair

The Japan Club of Guam presents the 12th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair March 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission fee is \$3 for adults; \$1 for students (school name required); \$1 for university and college students (student ID required); and free admission for below elementary students. Japanese and tea ceremonies will be performed. For more information, call Japan Club of Guam at 646-8066.

Hike to Haputo Beach

Rated easy. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 5-11. Show at Rec N' Crew March 4, 8:15 a.m.. Sign-up deadline is March 3. For more information, call 564-1826.

Holler for a dollar at Gecko Lanes

From 6 p.m.-closing March 4, enjoy \$1 game, \$1 shoe rental, \$1 draft beer, \$1 fountain soda and music. For more information, call 366-5085.

On a Budget

Grinding food with ancient Chamorro lusong

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff
 jesse.leonguerre.ctr@fe.navy.mil

More than a thousand years ago, Chamorros prepared their food and medicine with tools to make it easier for consumption and storage. One of the more commonly known examples of these day-to-day tools was the "lusong," or "mortar" in English.

Made of basalt, the stone lusong acted as a stationary base for villagers to grind materials on with a pounder, known as "lommok" in Chamorro. Although lusong artifacts have a wide variety of appearances, they are generally circular with an indentation, called "mata," at the center where the food or oth-

er item would be placed. A lusong can appear with several mata of varying depths, which would have allowed for different types or amounts of materials to be used.

Small lusong weigh several pounds, but larger lusong can exceed 100 pounds and are not considered portable.

"Well-preserved, the lusong are timeless artifacts," said Toni Ramirez, a historian for the Guam Department of Parks and Recreation.

Ramirez said lusong date back to as early as 800 A.D. With the introduction of more modern technologies, lusong are no longer used in their original function.

Outside of the Guam Museum's varied collection of artifacts, rem-

nants of and even whole lusong can still be found in the jungles of Guam, near beaches and at latte stone sites. Occasionally, local families might use them as part of their home's landscape.

"They are a symbol of a legacy, of endurance and of timelessness," Ramirez said. "They have a spirit, evoking the spirit of the past."

Ramirez said the lusong have strong ties to traditional medicine as it was first used on the island. Those Chamorro ancestors would have made some of their medicines by pounding herbs on the lusong.

"This practice came with the first people of the island, I Taotaomona [the people before]," Ramirez said. "They embody the spirits of those before me."



Lusong: Tony Ramirez, Guam Museum curator, shows how ancient Chamorros would have used a pestle, called "lommok" in Chamorro, to pound and grind food, herbs and other materials in a large mortar, called "lusong" in Chamorro, at the Guam Museum Feb. 18. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

UNDER \$10

Holler for a dollar at Gecko Lanes

From 6 p.m.-closing March 4, enjoy \$1 game, \$1 shoe rental, \$1 draft beer, \$1 fountain soda and music. For more information, call 366-5085.

Hike to Mt. Santa Rosa Caves

Rated difficult. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 5-11. Show at Rec N' Crew March 6, 8:15 a.m.. Sign-up deadline is March 5. For more information, call 564-1826.

Hike to Fonte Dam

Rated medium. Cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 for children ages 5-11. Show at Rec N' Crew March 6, 8:15 a.m.. Sign-up

deadline is March 5. For more information, call 564-1826.

OVER \$10

Kid's Karaoke Nite at Nap's

Bring the whole family and watch your kids sing their hearts out March 1, 6-9 p.m.. For more information, call 564-1833.

39th Annual Hafa Marathon/Relay

The 13.1 mile run is sponsored by the Guam Running Club and starts by the Andersen Air Force Base back gate. Cost is \$10 per person. Applications are due March 3 and are available online at www.guamrunningclub.com. Race day is March 6, show time is 4:30 a.m., go time is 5 a.m. For more information, call

632-5818.

Family Fun at Bamboo Willies

Features the Bouncy Castle March 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m.. For more information, call 366-6166.

Navy vs. Air Force at Latte Stone Cup Tournament

Admiral Nimitz Golf Course is looking for the best Navy active duty, retirees and reserve golfers to represent the Navy at the Latte Stone Cup Tournament March 13-14. Qualifying round has a noon show time and a 1 p.m. start March 5 at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course. Fee is \$35 per player and covers cost of the qualifying round and tournament. The 11 players with the most points will qualify. Qualifying teams advance to Latte Stone Cup

Tournament. Register at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course by March 3. For more information, call Paul Vasquez at 344-5838/688-3147.

Latte Stone Cup Qualifying Rounds

Palm Tree Golf Course is looking for the best golfers from Air Force active duty, retirees, Air National Guard and Air Force reservists to represent the Air Force at Latte Stone Cup Tournament March 13-14. Qualifying round is 9 a.m. March 6 at Palm Tree Golf Course on Andersen Air Force Base. Fee is \$35 per player and covers cost of qualifying round and tournament. Eleven players and two alternates are sought. Qualifying teams advance to Latte Stone Cup Tournament. For more information, call 366-4653.



THEATER

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

7 p.m.: The Spy Next Door • PG

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

2 p.m.: Nine • PG-13

7 p.m.: The Book of Eli • R

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

7 p.m.: The Book of Eli • R

The movie schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond Meehan Theaters on Andersen Air Force Base. **The Meehan Theater hotline is 366-1523.**

MWR Big Screen Theater

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

7 p.m.: Alvin and the Chipmunks • PG

9:30 p.m.: Daybreakers • R

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

1 p.m.: Sherlock Holmes • PG-13

3:30 p.m.: The Princess and the Frog • PG

7 p.m.: The Blind Side • PG-13

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

1 p.m.: Leap Year • PG

3:30 p.m.: Avatar • PG-13

7 p.m.: The Lovely Bones • PG-13

The schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond the theater's control.

The Big Screen Theater hotline is 564-1831 or visit mwr-guam.com.

(Source: Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation Office)

Chapel Schedule

Naval Base Guam

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Roman Catholic Mass

Monday-Wednesday, Friday 11:40 a.m. Weekday Mass
Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday, 9 a.m. Mass
CCD Sunday, 10:15 a.m.
Choir Practice
Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

Protestant Worship Service

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.
Protestant Sunday School
Sunday, 9 a.m.

Women's Bible Studies

first & third Wednesday
8:30 a.m.

Women's Studies

Second & fourth
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

Jewish Shabbat

Fridays, 6:30 p.m.

Naval Hospital Guam

Roman Catholic Mass

Sunday, 9 a.m.
Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.
CCD
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Andersen Air Force Base

Roman Catholic Mass

Chapel 1
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.

Sunday Protestant Worship

Chapel 2
General Worship 9 a.m.
Inspirational Gospel 11:30 a.m.

Sunday Religious Education

Chapel 2
Catholic R.E., 8 a.m.
Protestant R.E., 10:30 a.m.

Schedules subject to change without notice. To confirm times or for more information about the programs, call the chapels at the following numbers:

Andersen Air Force Base

366-6139

Naval Base Guam

339-2126

Naval Hospital Guam

344-9127

Love: The greatest gift

By Lt. Col. David H. Sturgeon
36th Wing, Andersen Air Force Base

During the month of February most people celebrate Valentine's Day. It is a special day to express love to someone you care about.

Giving flowers, candy, or an evening dinner usually are the traditional things to do.

I'm sure it is appreciated to the one receiving it, but there are other ways to show love to another

person, especially a family member.

Not all people feel loved the same way, or by just gifts given to them. They feel

loved and secure by something else done for them. It has been com-

monly called a love language.

Everybody has a primary one; possibly a second or third in order of the first. For the special people in your life, you should know or be reasonably sure what their

primary love language is.

So, what is a love language? I am glad you asked. There are five love languages that have been identified. They are:

1. Acts of service - doing a job your spouse normally does
2. Physical touch - a touch of security and protection
3. Quality time - time spent listening and affirming your loved one
4. Gifts - giving something that makes them feel special and important
5. Word of affirmation - speaking word that lift up and encourage your family member

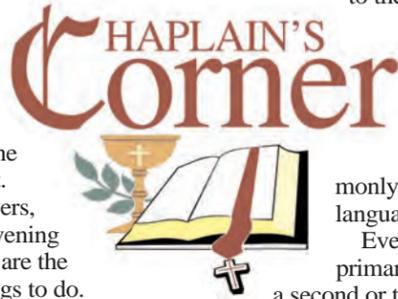
Think it over, what could be an additional way to communicate

love to a special person besides traditional gift giving.

Use this Valentine's season to demonstrate the primary love language to the person and people of your choice. Yes, give the traditional gifts, but give love, not the way you think is correct, but the way the receiver experiences the fullest measure of love.

Even better than that, make Valentine's an act of love every day to the special people in your life. This will help nurture and prosper a healthy family environment.

The greatest gift is love, the more we give it, the more we receive it. It is a choice that is made every day. Will you choose to give love today; you will be better for it.



Still Moments



Above: Airman of the Year winner Staff Sgt. Bryan Nagy is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Phil Ruhlman, Commander, 36th Wing, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Allen Mullinex during the Feb. 19 Annual Award ceremony. The Airman of the Year award was one of many presented throughout the evening. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)



Top Right: Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year winner Tech. Sgt. Lisa Parris is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Phil Ruhlman, Commander, 36th Wing, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Allen Mullinex during the Feb. 19 Annual Award ceremony. The NCO of the Year award was one of many presented throughout the evening. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)



Right: Senior Noncommissioned Officer (SNCO) of the Year winner Sen. Master Sgt. Leslie Pratt is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Phil Ruhlman, Commander, 36th Wing, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Allen Mullinex during the Feb. 19 Annual Award ceremony. The SNCO of the Year award was one of many presented throughout the evening. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)

Basketball youth league hoops it up at jamboree

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert

Joint Region Edge Staff
corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) held a basketball extravaganza to celebrate the completion of its Youth Sports Association basketball season at Charles King Gym on U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 20.

Normally at the end of a sports season, there is a tournament to determine a champion. However, according to Rachel Wiley, MWR's Youth Sports coordinator, determining the best wasn't the goal of the league.

"It's not about winning," Wiley said. "It's about having fun, learning basketball fundamentals and learning camaraderie with other children. They are all one big team."

Wiley said the jamboree was a chance for the kids to have fun participating in different events such as shooting competitions and a families vs. kids game while snacking on pizza and other refreshments.

"There are only two teams per age group, so instead of a tournament, we had a fun day," Wiley said.

The league is broken down into 6-year-old-and-under, 8-and-under, 9, and 10-11 groups.

The big game that day was when each team played against their families. One team from the 9-year-old group, the Celtics, battled it out for

five minutes against their mommies, daddies and siblings.

The game was lopsided as the parents knocked down shots, stole the ball and played keep away from the three-foot athletes. The Celtics went down 10-2 but it was all in fun.

Yeoman 1st Class (SW) James Amio, of Naval Special Warfare Unit 1, and his son, who scored the Celtics' only basket, said they had a great time.

"I am proud of him," Amio said. "When he said he wanted to try basketball, I was behind him. He lasted the whole season and I think this was the first point he scored. I think this is his sport."

With basketball season ending, the soccer season has just begun. Games are being held on Saturdays at the Robby Webber Soccer Field in Harmon.

For more information on the Youth Sports Association or to sign your children up for upcoming events, go to mwrguam.com or call 339-1302.

Up in the Air: Kids enjoy a fun day of basketball at an event Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation held to celebrate the end of its Youth Sports Association's basketball season at Charles King Gym on U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 20. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)



Sports Shorts

The following is a list of sports and health-related activities held on U.S. Naval Base Guam. To submit your sports note, e-mail jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil.

AC Racquetball Singles Tournament

The registration deadline is March 1. The tournament will be held March 5-6. For more information, call 564-1861.

AC Racquetball Doubles Tournament

The registration deadline is March 8. The event date is March 12-13. For more information, call 564-1861.

St. Paddy's Day 5K/10K

The event is March 12 at Ebbett Field. Show time is 5:30 p.m. and go time is 6 p.m. Admission is free. T-shirts are \$5. Register at Charles King Gym or at Ebbett Field on race day. For more information call 339-1301/2

Command Fitness Leader Certification

The course will be held March 8-12 at Camp Covington. All command fitness leaders and assistants are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Stacey Neill at 339-1302.

The following is a list of sports and health-related activities held on Andersen Air Force Base. To submit your sports note, call 366-2228.

Sunrise Yoga

End your week with a relaxing yoga session. Listen to the sounds of the ocean while your body is being rejuvenated by the sun's rays. Sunrise yoga is offered by the Coral Reef Fitness Center every Friday morning at 6 a.m. at Tarague Beach. For more information, call 366-6100.

Personal Trainers Available

Want to tone up, get into shape, decrease your 1.5 mile run time, etc.? Personal trainers are available at Coral Reef Fitness Center to help you achieve your fitness goals. Each of our personal trainers is a specialist in various fitness areas. The basic rate is \$30 per hour. However, if you sign up for more than one session, the hourly cost decreases. Visit the fitness center to find out more or call 366-6100.

Parent Exercise Room

A Parent Exercise Room is located in Bldg. 25005 in the Plaza Arcade area. Hours of operation are: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sundays and holidays, noon-4 p.m. For more information, call 366-6100.