

JOINT REGION EDGE

Volume II No. 20

Friday, May 28, 2010



Guam Sailors join USNS Mercy

By Oyaol Ngirairikl

Joint Region Edge Staff

Sailors from U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam and Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7 Security Division 71 Sailors departed U.S. Naval Base Guam aboard USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) May 24 to begin their participation in the international humanitarian mission Pacific Partnership 2010.

Mercy, a Military Sealift Command hospital ship, is the platform from which hundreds of civilians and service members from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces will operate the mission. The ship was moored in Guam to bring on mission-support teams, supplies and other equipment. The five-month humanitarian deployment will offer a variety of engineering, medical, dental, subject matter expert exchanges, and logistic civic action programs to six countries: Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea,

and Republic of Palau.

Chief Hospital Corpsman Jennifer White, the Plan, Operations and Medical Intelligence officer at USNH Guam, said the command supports Pacific Partnership each year. A total of 15 Sailors are supporting this year's mission. Three hospital Sailors boarded Mercy when it made its stop on Guam; seven Sailors joined the ship in San Diego in April; and an additional five Sailors will join the mission in July at one of the partnering nations. White said the hospital Sailors

See MERCY, Page 11

Goodbyes: Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (SW) Gabriel Suarez, of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7, says goodbye to his daughter and wife, Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Cassandra Suarez, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security, following a pre-deployment pancake breakfast May 24. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)



36th LRS scores excellent in LCAP inspection



Draining Work: Senior Airman Dallas English, 36th Logistics Readiness Squadron petroleum, oil and lubricants flight fuels laboratory technician, drains fuel from an R-12 refueling truck on Andersen Air Force Base May 20. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Shane Dunaway)

By Senior Airman Shane Dunaway

36th Wing Public Affairs

Airmen from the 36th Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS) on Andersen Air Force Base scored a 90.53 percent during a recent Logistics Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) inspection designed to grade processes and procedure in each work section through evaluations, inspections and observations.

A group of 25 Air Combat Command and Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) inspectors graded more than 350 items within the 36th LRS. The team recognized two Airmen as PACAF Superior Performers and 19 Airmen as Logistics Compliance Assessment Team (LCAT) Outstanding Performers.

"The Logistics Compliance Assessment Program provides leadership at all levels an evaluation of a unit's ability to perform key logistics processes in a safe, standardized, repeatable and technically compliant manner," said Lt. Col. Jason Campbell, 36th LRS commander. "Major commands conduct LCAP evaluations at subordinate units to assess their proficiency in key logistics processes. The LCAT has a secondary mission to conduct on-site training as problems are identified."

Though the inspectors gave the squadron an excellent rating, they found areas for the squadron to focus improvement efforts.

"A technical order for a nuclear-certified trailer could not be located when the inspector looked at vehicle maintenance, but the TO

was located before the LCAT departed," Campbell said. "Some training documentation was lacking and some spot checks required of our security management program were missing, but there were no systemic problem areas identified."

No stone was left unturned by the inspectors as all 36th LRS flights and squadron functions were graded. Throughout the inspection, the fluidity of the functions in the 36th LRS caught the eyes of the inspection team.

"The squadron was praised by the team for 'high morale and positive attitudes' as well as 'exceptional teamwork between the Airmen and the contract employees' and 'leadership involvement was noteworthy on all levels,'" Campbell said.

INSIDE

- Suicide prevention starts with you, page 4
- Joint Region Marianas hosts Mayor's Day, page 5



Memorial Day Message

Gen. North pays tribute to fallen.

SEE PAGE 2



Asian and Pacific American Month

Sailors celebrate diversity.

SEE PAGES 8-9



Top Performer

Staff Sgt. Curt Mitchell

SEE PAGE 3

Mercy: Sailors deploy for Pacific Partnership 2010

Continued from Page 1

will primarily support medical care, logistics and food services.

"For many of them, this is their first humanitarian mission. It'll be a great learning experience for them as they reach out to people in need as ambassadors for our nation," she said. "They'll have an opportunity to learn what life is like on board a ship and to learn how to work with other people from different professions, different military and civic groups, as well as people from other nations."

While deployed, the approximately 50 MSRON 7 Sailors will help provide force security protection for the mission as well as support security operations at host nations.

"Our mission, primarily, is to provide an embarked security team

for the USNS Mercy while she's traveling during Pacific Partnership and to provide oversight for land security," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 John San Nicolas, mission commander for the MSRON 7 deployment. This is San Nicolas' third deployment with Pacific Partnership.

Cmdr. Bryon Johnson, MSRON 7 commanding officer, said while MSRON Sailors are a special breed, he is particularly proud of the men and women deploying with Pacific Partnership. Johnson said the deployment will be an "eye-opener" for junior Sailors.

"They get an opportunity to do something that not a lot of service members do," he said. "They get the chance to directly help somebody. Humanitarian work is selfless. You don't get accolades; you don't get to

do the fun things. I hope they get the experience and knowledge that helping other folks without the promise of immediate gain is extremely fulfilling."

Master-at-Arms 1st Class (AW) Christopher Fiske said Pacific Partnership 2010 will be his first humanitarian mission.

"I'm really looking forward to learning about the cultures of the host nations," Fiske said. "It's also a great opportunity for me, being out there as an ambassador for the United States and showing residents of other countries that we're here to help them and work with them to make life in our region of the world a better place."

For Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Kelly Douglas, Pacific Partnership 2010 will be his first deployment with MSRON 7.

"I'm really excited," Douglas said. "I'm fairly new to this, but I'm going to do the best I can to learn and grow and represent my command and my country while we're out there."

Douglas's wife, Randi Douglas, was among dozens of family members who wished the MSRON 7 Sailors farewell and safe travel at a pancake breakfast provided by United Service Organization Guam that morning. She said that while she's going to miss her husband, she's incredibly proud.

"He's going to be a part of this great thing, bringing medical help to so many people in our neighboring countries and being an ambassador of peace," Randi Douglas said. "I know he's going to do well."

MSRON 7 provides rapidly deployable forces to conduct or

support anti-terrorism and force protection missions. MSRON 7 promotes the Maritime Strategy by providing security for American citizens, through the application of sea power, and by strengthening partnerships with allied nations.

USNH Guam is the primary medical provider for military members and their families on Guam. Its mission is to excel in expeditionary force health protection as well as promote, preserve and restore the health of those they serve.

For more information about MSRON 7, visit their Web site at www.msron7.navy.mil.

For more information about USNH Guam, visit their Web site at www.med.navy.mil/sites/usnhguam.

For more news from Pacific Partnership visit www.navy.mil/local/pacificpartnership.



Family Time: Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Kelly Douglas, of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7, feeds orange pieces to his daughter during a pre-deployment pancake breakfast on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 24. The MSRON 7 community, with the support of USO Guam, held the event for Sailors deploying with Pacific Partnership 2010. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngrairikl)



Ready to Deploy: Gunner's Mate 2nd Class (EXW/SW/AW) Todrick Christful, right, and Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (SW) Rondou McMasters, both of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7, and fellow Sailors board USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) May 24 to deploy for Pacific Partnership 2010. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngrairikl)



Media Tour: Lt. Penny Perez, left, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class LadyEiyen Haschke, second from left, and Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Joselito Jaylo, center, all stationed aboard USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), answer questions from a reporter during a tour of the ship while in port at U.S. Naval Base Guam May 21. The three Sailors, who are all originally from Guam, expressed joy at being able to return home to the island before carrying on with Mercy's five-month Pacific Partnership 2010 humanitarian mission. The fifth in a series of annual U.S. Pacific Fleet humanitarian and civic assistance endeavors, Pacific Partnership 2010 is aimed at strengthening regional relationships with host nations and partner nations in Southeast Asia and Oceania. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Breakfast Farewell: Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 7 Sailors, families and friends gathered for a pre-deployment pancake breakfast on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 24 for Sailors deploying with Pacific Partnership 2010. The breakfast was provided by United Service Organization Guam. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngrairikl)

Memorial Day: Remembering our heroes

By Gen. Gary North
Pacific Air Forces Commander

Airmen and their families who live and serve in the Pacific are surrounded by tangible reminders of the legacy of preceding generations.

Our command's headquarters still bears the scars left by enemy weaponry during the attack on Hickam and Pearl Harbor that brought America into World War II.

On Guam, monuments to the fierce fighting of that era are scattered about the island, and the bomber and fighter units who deploy to and rotate through there echo the commitment of previous Airmen who flew, fought and died in



the skies over Korea and Vietnam. Airmen in South Korea today stand watch with our friends over an uneasy armistice, while their counterparts in Japan are a constant testament to the strong ties forged after the Second World War.

During a Pearl Harbor memorial ceremony last December, I had the privilege and honor of sitting with 30 survivors who returned for the remembrance ceremony – some of them for the very first time.

We were at the Kilo Pier across from where the Arizona rests today – a vitally important reminder of our requirement to always be ever vigilant in today's world.

The somber look of those warriors as they thought back to that day and stared across the expanse of Pearl Harbor serves as an important reminder of those who have served and gone before us.

We must never forget our fallen comrades, and we must never forget our way of life comes at a great cost ... to our military members and their families.

As we honor our fallen heroes this Memorial Day, the world faces a threat very different from those of the past. The shock and grief of 9/11 was this generation's Pearl Harbor,

and since that day more than 5,400 Americans have given their lives in defense of our freedoms. They join the ranks of more than a million American service members who have died in the service of the United States since the start of our American Revolution.

When he dedicated the battlefield at Gettysburg in 1863, Abraham Lincoln spoke of the inadequacy of words to describe what happened there. He said: "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." Words alone will never do justice to the sacrifices made by so few for so many to keep America free.

This Memorial Day weekend, I ask you to take time simply to

remember our fallen heroes and their families. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers, talk about their sacrifices with your family and friends, and realize we are able to enjoy our way of life and our freedoms because of their sacrifice.

I can think of no better way to show our gratitude and respect than to honor their service.

I am proud of the work being performed by our great PACAF Airmen every day in our AOR and throughout the world. Have a safe Memorial Day and take care of yourselves, your family and our greater Air Force and joint military families so we can continue to Fly, Fight and Win ... in air, space and cyberspace. Happy Memorial Day!

Coast Guard, Navy pay respects to fallen at sea

By Jesse Leon Guerrero
Joint Region Edge Staff

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam held a wreath-laying ceremony May 21 off the coast of Guam to remember the merchant mariners who lost their lives at sea.

From the deck of USCGC Assateague (WPB-1337), officials from the Coast Guard, Navy, Military Sealift Fleet Support Command Ship Support Unit Guam, Maritime Prepositioning Ship Squadron 3, Navy League of Guam, United Seamen's Service Guam, and Seafarers International

Union of North America casted the wreath into the Philippine Sea.

Lt. James Rutan, a staff chaplain for U.S. Naval Base Guam, said the sacrifices made by the merchant marine community have made a difference in defense of the nation. Rutan led the assembled group of about a dozen guests and 18 Assateague crew members in a prayer at the wreath-laying site.

"They are truly the unsung heroes because they don't wear the ribbons on their chest," Rutan said. "They don't receive all the accolades, but they're just as important to our strategic mission, our

maritime mission."

The wreath-laying event was held a day before the annual celebration of National Maritime Day May 22. President Obama recognized the occasion with a proclamation that praised merchant mariners as far back as the American Revolution.

On Guam, Governor of Guam Felix Camacho also signed a proclamation, especially giving credit to the merchant mariners of World War II. During that war, 6,700 merchant mariners lost their lives.

"We're honored to do this

because we are mariners and they're our brethren," said Lt. Cmdr. James Jarnac, commanding officer of Assateague.

The U.S. Maritime Strategy calls for the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard to work together to ensure six core competencies, which include power projection, forward presence, sea control, maritime security, deterrence and humanitarian assistance/disaster response.

While serving aboard Military Sealift Command and civilian vessels, merchant mariners help support this strategy by keeping

the ships of these services supplied with ammunition, fuel and food, among other goods.

As one of the guests aboard Assateague, Rita Miller, president of Navy League of Guam, said it was a privilege to participate in the ceremony.

"We have to keep our sea lanes open, and we have to support those who keep those lanes open for commerce, and safety and security," Miller said.

For more information about merchant mariners, visit Military Sealift Command at www.msc.navy.mil.



Above: U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Sector Guam, Navy and other officials with maritime-affiliated organizations prepare for a wreath-laying ceremony while aboard USCGC Assateague (WPB-1337) off the coast of Guam May 21. The ceremony remembers merchant mariners who lost their lives at sea. From left, Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Salas, commanding officer of USCGC Sequoia (WLB-215); Lt. Cmdr. James Jarnac, commanding officer of the Assateague; Lt. Cmdr. Gina Freeman, response chief for USCG Sector Guam; Capt. Herman Awai, commodore of Maritime Prepositioning Ship Squadron 3; John Paul Hoskins, port agent for Seafarers International Union of North America; John Nelson, center manager for United Seamen's Service Guam; Rita Miller, president of Navy League of Guam; Mathews Pothen, president of Guam Shipyard; and Lt. James Rutan, a staff chaplain for U.S. Naval Base Guam. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Salute: Lt. James Rutan, right, a staff chaplain for U.S. Naval Base Guam, renders a salute as Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW) Rene Soratorio, of Military Sealift Fleet Support Command Ship Support Unit Guam, plays "Taps" for a wreath-laying ceremony aboard USCGC Assateague (WPB-1337) off the coast of Guam May 21. May 22 marked National Maritime Day, which recalls the history of merchant mariners, going back to their fight against the British Navy during the Revolutionary War. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Mitchell a mentor to fellow Airmen

By Senior Airman Shane Dunaway
36th Wing Public Affairs

Team Andersen's newest first-term Airmen enroll in the 36th Force Support Squadron's (FSS) First Term Airmen Center, a two-week long course that provides seasoned staff members to mentor and groom the newcomers by helping them assimilate into today's operational Air Force.

Staff Sgt. Curt Mitchell, 36th FSS noncommissioned officer in charge of FTAC and a 'Top Performer' selection, takes a lead role in setting the right examples for future Airmen to follow despite not being a direct reporting official.

"I provide a structured program to help transition Airmen into a mission-oriented environment," Mitchell said. "During my time here, I have supervised and mentored more than 500 Airmen on education, Air Force benefits, career progression and financial management."

Master Sgt. Isaura Walker, 36th Force Support Squadron career assistance advisor, selected Mitchell as Andersen's 'Top Performer' for his commitment to excellence as an instructor and his reflection of Air Force core values.

"Sergeant Mitchell is the epitome of a leader and professional," Walker said. "His diligence, hard work and service before self made this FTAC one of the best in the Air Force. He was a driving force in the 36th Wing and the 36th Force Support Squadron. He lead from the front in the booster club and numerous other volunteer opportunities base-wide. Sergeant Mitchell works with a spirit of excellence I have seldom encountered before."

The Bellevue, Neb., native joined the Air

Force August 27, 2002. During his time in the Air Force, he has been to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, for basic training and Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, for technical training.

After completing his first duty assignment at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, he moved on to Andersen Air Force Base and he has made a conscious effort to make the most of his Air Force experience.

"I like the opportunities the Air Force has to offer," Mitchell said. "The training received, the education benefits offered, the certifications you can receive, leadership, mentorship and experiences while serving are too hard to pass up. I know it sounds 'Hollywood,' but the training you receive in the Air Force sets you and your career up for a successful future, provided you take advantage of what is offered."

When Mitchell isn't developing the minds of today's Airmen, he's capitalizing on educational opportunities.

"The Air Force has given me an education and the ability to see the world," Mitchell said. "I have earned my bachelor's degree in business administration and am currently working toward a master's degree in management."

Despite a seemingly busy schedule, Mitchell finds a little time for everything in his life.

"On my off-duty time, I like to spend time with family, continue my education, play X-Box, tinker with computers and electronics, eat, snorkel and lift weights," Mitchell said.

Although Mitchell prepares for his upcoming permanent change of station to Moody Air Force Base, Ga., he continues to leave words of wisdom for future Airmen to follow.

"My best advice to anyone new to the island is get out and do things that are outside of your comfort zone," Mitchell said. "There are many different things to do and eat here. Unless you get out and try them, you will miss out on what the island has to offer."



Setting the Standard: Staff Sgt. Curt Mitchell, 36th Force Support Squadron (FSS) noncommissioned officer in charge of the First Term Airmen Center, briefs incoming Airmen on new PT standards on Andersen Air Force Base. Mitchell was selected as Top Performer by Master Sgt. Isaura Walker, 36th FSS career assistance advisor, for his leadership and mentorship. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Shane Dunaway)

2010 Critical Days of Summer start Memorial Day weekend

By Lt. Col. Mark Mongillo
36th Wing Chief Of Safety

To any Team Andersen member, the motto "I Can Save My Own Life" is well known.

Team Andersen started using this dictum and the "I Can Save My Own Life" campaign in 2006 and we still continue its use today.

Now Pacific Air Forces has seen the power of this maxim and has adopted "I Can Save My Own Life" as the official motto of the 2010 Critical Days of Summer and Suicide Prevention Campaign.

The goal of this year's Critical Days of Summer and Suicide Prevention Campaign is zero preventable deaths.

Traditionally, the Critical Days of Summer has started on Memorial Day Weekend and lasted through the Labor Day Weekend.

This year, PACAF will kick off its Critical Days of Summer and Suicide Prevention Campaign the last week of May with a half day Wingman Stand-Down Day for all units. The purpose of this half-day stand-down is to ensure all Air Force personnel, whether Active Duty,

Guard, Reserve or Department of Defense civilian, is aware of both the increased rate of suicides that our Air Force family is experiencing this year and the tragic losses the Air Force is currently experiencing to our young Airmen in vehicle accidents.

This half-day stand-down is designed to reenergize the Wingman concept at all levels of the Air Force and to re-emphasize that being a good Wingman is the foundation of both safety and suicide prevention.

Team Andersen held its Wing-

man Stand-Down Day May 25 and will continue its Critical Days of Summer kick off May 28 with a 36th Force Support Squadron sponsored Burger Burn down at Tarague Beach.

During this Burger Burn, 36th WG personnel will be able to see the hazards of driving under the influence by using the 36th WG Safety Office's DUI simulator or the "drunk goggles."

The 36th WG will continue its Critical Days of Summer and Suicide Prevention Campaign through the Labor Day Weekend.

To maximize the Campaign effectiveness, the 36th WG will host events such as workplace safety briefings, a Wingman/Suicide Awareness motorcycle rally, "Time Never Runs Out on Safety" 5K run, and a forklift rodeo.

The Critical Days of Summer and Suicide Prevention events are open to all Team Andersen personnel and you can contact both the 36th Wing Safety Office and Unit Safety Representatives for a listing of all the 36th Wing Critical Days of Summer and Suicide Prevention events planned for the summer.

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 materials 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. Paul J. Bushong, USN,
Commander, Joint Region Marianas

Brig. Gen. Philip 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) Peter Lewis
339-4476
peterlewis1@fe.navy.mil

Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert
339-4376
corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

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

Oyaol Ngrairitld
339-2115
oyaol.ngrairitld@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

Reporters
Tech Sgt. Mike Andriacco
366-2228

Staff Sgt. Jamie Lessard
366-4202

Senior Airman Shane Dunaway
366-2228

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 Schultze

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Julian North

366-2228

Suicide prevention: The effort starts with you

By Tech. Sgt. Lee A. Osberry Jr.
5th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

"Mr. Smith, there's been an accident. Your son was found in his home deceased with what appears to be a self-inflicted gunshot. We are deeply sorry for your loss and the Air Force is here to help you in any way possible."

The father lets out a loud shriek and with tears streaming cries, "Why? Why did this happen? I just talked to him yesterday."

This scenario is one of the most difficult situations commanders may find themselves in. The universal questions always come down to "Why?" and "Could it have been prevented?"

Unfortunately one may never

Who to Call

If you are a member of Team Andersen and you're having suicidal thoughts or traumatic problems in your life, you can contact the following agencies for assistance: 36th Medical Group Mental Health Clinic - 366-5125 or 911 to notify on-call provider. 36th Wing Chaplains - 366-6139

know all the answers, but there are usually signs if someone close to you is thinking of harming himself or herself. Airmen should be aware of these signs and do what they can to detect these signs in their wingmen.

Usually, the person doesn't

necessarily want to die but is looking to stop whatever is causing the pain.

A drastic change in behavior or mood is usually the most obvious and initial signs of trouble. A person may be unaware of another's personal issues at home but deterioration in one's attitude, dress and appearance are a hint something is awry.

"Social withdrawal, poor hygiene, plus drug and/or alcohol abuse are red flags," said Senior Airman Ashley Albright, a 5th Medical Group (MDG) suicide prevention monitor. "Other common signs are eating or sleeping difficulty, talking about suicide, unusual risk taking, a sense of hopelessness and relationship problems."

A common misconception about

suicide is that you could put the idea in a person's head.

"This is false," said Master Sgt. John Jeziorske, the 5th MDG Mental Health Clinic flight chief. "If you have a concern about it, and they have shown other signs, they've likely thought about it. Anything to help the individual communicate about this shared concern is great."

According to a report from Air Combat Command officials there were 46 total force suicides in 2008 and 2009 across the Air Force.

One of the most immediate ways people can make an impact in a person's life is to recognize the signs and act.

"Knowing the resources ahead of time, removing any lethal means,

staying with them and asking them directly are critical," Albright said.

Actively listening to the person, highlighting the positive reasons for them to live, and most importantly, getting them to the mental health clinic or the closest hospital are all ways someone can help in breaking the "tunnel vision."

"Suicide is truly a permanent solution to a temporary problem," Albright said. "Although we can give you the number of completed and attempted suicides throughout the past decade, there is no way we can give how many times someone took the opportunity to listen, care and a life was saved."

For more information on suicide prevention, visit <http://www.af.mil/suicideprevention.asp>.

News Notes

Job Announcements

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

Naval Base Guam

Security Assistant, closes May 29

Naval Hospital, Guam

Financial Technician, closes June 18

NAVFAC Marianas, Guam

Electrical Engineer, closes June 2

Management and Program Analyst, closes June 2

Supervisory Interdisciplinary Positions, closes June 2

Deputy Public Works Officer, closes June 4

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.

NAVINGEN Survey online The Naval Inspector General (NAVINGEN) conducts Readiness and Quality of Life Area Visits to Navy communities worldwide, reporting the findings to the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations. The Area Visit Program also includes assessing identified areas of risk to the Department of the Navy (DON) as well as looking for opportunities to improve naval readiness, both ashore and afloat.

An Area Visit is planned for Guam from July 12-16. The visit process includes interviews, focus groups and discussions with Joint Region Marianas staff, as well as other personnel assigned to Guam. It is vital all Navy units in Guam

are informed of the visit.

Internet-based personnel surveys will be available online now through June 12. Information gathered from the survey is crucial to NAVINGEN's efforts and ensures they accurately capture the top concerns of DON personnel in Guam.

The active duty, full-time support, and civilian survey can be accessed at www.ig.navy.mil/av051510.htm

The Selected Reserve (SELRES) survey can be accessed at www.ig.navy.mil/av051510res.htm

NAVINGEN also invites and encourages all active duty members to provide their spouses with the following email so that they can participate in a survey designed specifically to obtain the family's perspective. The spouse survey can be accessed at: www.ig.navy.mil/av051510spouse.htm

AF Clubs Scholarship Program

The annual Air Force Club Membership Scholarship Program has begun. Have a chance to get your share of \$25,000 in scholarship awards by submitting an essay of 500 words or less on "What does it mean to be a part of the Air Force Family?" Twenty-five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. This is a club member benefit, and in order to participate, you must be a current Air Force Club member or family member (spouse, son, daughter, stepson or stepdaughter) who has been accepted by or enrolled in an accredited college or university for entry during the fall of 2010 term as a part-time or full-time student. Rules and eligibility requirements are detailed in brochures available at the Top of the Rock, Coral Reef Fitness Center, HotSpot, Magellan Inn Dining Facility, Andersen Library and Andersen Education Office. All essay packages must be submitted to Dee Hollenbeck, Top of the Rock collocated club manager, by July 1. Call 366-6166 for more information.

Team Andersen Airmen hold noncombatant evacuation exercise



Brief: Team Andersen Airmen are briefed during a noncombatant evacuation order exercise on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) May 20. The Airmen acted as role players during the exercise, which tested Andersen AFB's capabilities dealing with an influx of refugees to the installation on their way to the continental United States. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)

Summer Fire Safety Tips

- Teach children the nature of fire. It is fast, hot and dangerous!
- Prepare a home escape plan. Practice fire drills regularly.
- Teach your children the fire department's phone number or 911.
- Always keep matches and lighters away from children. Store them up high or in a locked cabinet and treat those like you would any other dangerous weapon.
- Demonstrate stop, drop and roll in case clothes catch on fire.
- Make sure your child is supervised at all times, especially around outdoor grills, camp fires and fireworks. Most fires are

started by children when they are left alone.

- Never light fireworks indoors or near dry grass, and never barbecue in an enclosed area.
- Build camp fires where they will not spread — away from dry grass and leaves and downwind from tents. Try to keep them small.
- Never leave camp fires, fireworks or outdoor grills unattended.

For questions and concerns, contact your local fire prevention offices:

U.S. Naval Base Guam:
339-6248/3484

Andersen Air Force Base: 366-5284



Joint Region Marianas hosts Mayor's Day



Meeting the Neighbors: Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, center, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), chats with Angel Sablan, left, Mayors' Council of Guam executive director, and Umatac Mayor Dean Sanchez at the annual Mayor's Day event at Top O' the Mar on Nimitz Hill in Piti, Guam, May 21. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)



Friendly Chat: Cmdr. Matthew Suess, left, executive officer of U.S. Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas, and Santa Rita Mayor Dale Alvarez chat during Mayor's Day at Top O' the Mar on Nimitz Hill in Piti, Guam, May 21. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)



Introductions: Talofof Mayor Vicente Taitague, center, introduces Cmdr. John Grant, left, commanding officer of Navy Munitions Command East Asia Division Unit Guam, to Angel Sablan, Mayors' Council of Guam executive director, during Mayor's Day at Top O' the Mar on Nimitz Hill in Piti, Guam, May 21. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)



Above: Dona Bushong, second from left, spouse of Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), meets with village mayors on Guam at a Mayor's Day event at Top O' the Mar on Nimitz Hill in Piti May 21. From left, Dededo Mayor Melissa Savares, Bushong, Tamuning-Tumon-Harmon Vice Mayor Louise Rivera, and Agat Mayor Carol Tayama. JRM hosted the event to acknowledge the partnership between Navy commands and their sister villages. JRM hosted the event to acknowledge the partnership between Navy commands and their sister villages. Sailors on Guam participate in various educational, athletic and community programs that help promote education, safety and quality of life for island residents. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

Right: Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, congratulates Agana Heights Mayor Paul McDonald, second from left, Capt. Daryl Daniels, second from right, executive officer of U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam, and Ordot-Chalan Pago Mayor Jessie Gogue, for the success of their Sister Village Program, during Mayor's Day at Top O' the Mar on Nimitz Hill in Piti, Guam, May 21. USNH Guam and the village mayors earned the 2009 Community Service Sister Village Partnership Award large command category. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)



MA1 Holt named JRM Sailor of the Year

By Oyaol Ngirairikl
 Joint Region Edge Staff

Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW/AW/FMF) Mandy Holt, a leading petty officer from Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security, was named Joint Region Marianas (JRM) 2009 Sailor of the Year (SOY).

Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Paul Kingsbury, JRM command master chief, said the SOY Program recognizes Sailors who illustrate superior performance, leadership, dedication to self-improvement, outstanding professionalism and military bearing.

"She has an extensive resume, she's involved in programs that are positively impacting her command, and leadership-wise she's performing at the level of a chief petty officer," Kingsbury said. "I think she's a great representative for the region."

Holt first competed against seven others for NBG Sailor of the Year in January. After earning the honor to represent NBG, she competed in and won the regional competition.

As the Sailor representing the region, Holt went up against Sailors of the Year from 10 other Navy regions. From the 11 candidates, three were chosen to vie for Naval Shore Activities' Sailor of the Year from Commander Navy Installations Command.

Though she didn't make it to the top three, Holt said she's happy to have had made it as far as she did and is honored to be the region's Sailor of the Year.

"There are many Sailors whom I admire and respect, who do an outstanding job, and who were considered to represent the command and then the region," Holt said. "I'm honored to have been considered to be a part of that group."

Holt received the Navy Achievement Medal in recognition of her selection as JRM Sailor of the Year during an all hand's call at NBG's Big Screen Theater April 16.

In Holt's nomination packet, Capt. Scott Galbreath, NBG commanding officer, stated Holt is one of the finest Sailor of the Year candidates he has had the privilege of serving with in his naval career.

"While on board, she has been a proven leader who has displayed unlimited potential and vast expertise in every facet of law enforcement, force protection and military working dog (MWD) program,"



Kennel Master: Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW/AW/FMF) Mandy Holt, right, of U.S. Naval Base Guam Security, commands military working dog Pluto to help "capture" Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Daniel Padilla at the department's training area May 26. Holt and Padilla were training Pluto to nab a suspect using his entire jaw. Holt, the department's kennel master, was recently named the 2009 Sailor of the Year for Joint Region Marianas. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

Galbreath said. "I value her judgment on these issues without question. She is fully committed to the Navy and her shipmates. Her Navy contributions and community involvement are inspiring. She is a dynamic, conscientious and influential leader, who will excel at any task, any pay grade."

A La Plata, Md., native, Holt joined the Navy in March 2000.

"I just know that I wanted to do something different, something new, something that would be meaningful. And I think I've accomplished that," Holt said. "I love what I do. It is a very demanding job, as you are responsible for another living being, but no other job is as rewarding. Besides, there's no other job that pays you for working with dogs all day."

As leading petty officer and kennel master at NBG Security, Holt has led 12 Sailors in the daily MWD training. She also ensured 100 percent mission readiness for four MWD teams deployed in support

of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

She expertly served as the only MWD handler for three consecutive months, supporting a high operations tempo of random access measures and inspections while maintaining 100 percent proficiency on five MWDs.

Her strong mentorship was evident during fiscal year 2009 Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Security Training Assessment and Assistance Team inspection, resulting in her assigned kennel support being recognized for their operational knowledge and capabilities.

Holt also assisted NCIS with 10 high-profile drug investigations, which resulted in six drug finds.

Outside of her traditional duties as a master-at-arms, Holt has been active in the NBG First Class Petty Officer Association, and helped organize their first "Caring for Sharing" program, which provided 25 holiday food baskets to families

throughout NBG.

She has also served as the primary command financial specialist for NBG Security, and her leadership as barracks leading petty officer helped ensure the highest living standard for all security personnel residing in bachelor quarters.

According to Holt, the award comes as a surprise and probably wouldn't have been received without the professionalism and teamwork of her fellow masters-at-arms.

"I come to work and do my job," Holt said. "I wouldn't be able to do my job without my team."

In recognizing Holt's accomplishments, Senior Chief (SW) Derrick Cote, NBG Security operations officer, noted the performance of all the nominees in the category was exemplary.

"There were a total of three nominees in that category, and all three are very accomplished Sailors," Cote said. "We Navy chiefs all train our first classes to become chiefs and to conduct themselves as

chiefs on a daily basis, and she gets that."

Cote said the Sailor of the Year program allows leadership to acknowledge the accomplishments of Sailors.

"Anyone who does such a spectacular job deserves recognition," Cote said. "But the program also sets the bar for the rest of the Sailors, and lets them know that hard work, perseverance and a dedication to excellence is recognized."

The Navy started the Sailor of the Year program in 1972 to recognize the outstanding Sailors of the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. Each year, every ship, station, and command around the world chooses its Sailor of the Year based on leadership, professionalism, dedication and superior performance. These selectees compete against recipients from other commands at higher and higher echelons until the Navy's four finest are chosen for Shore, Pacific Fleet, Atlantic Fleet and Reserve Sailors of the Year.

2009 Sailors of the Year



Navy Counselor
1st Class (AW)
Candice Abel,
Submarine
Squadron 15



Hospital
Corpsman 1st
Class (SW/AW)
Tracy Ashley,
U.S. Naval
Hospital Guam



Information
Systems
Technician 1st
Class
Christopher
Castillo, Naval
Computer and
Telecommunications
Station, Guam



Explosive
Ordnance
Disposal
Technician
(EWS/SW) 1st
Class John
Clancy,
Explosive
Ordnance
Disposal Mobile
Unit 5



Yeoman 1st
Class Rebekah
Davis, Joint
Region Marianas



Information
Systems
Technician 1st
Class (SW/AW)
Elliott Eiriksson,
Maritime
Expeditionary
Security
Squadron 7
(Shore Sailor of
the Year)



Aircrew Survival
Equipmentman
1st Class
(SW/AW) Rich
Garret, Naval
Special Warfare
Unit 1



Aviation
Electrician's
Mate 1st Class
(AW) Javier
Gelacio,
Helicopter Sea
Combat
Squadron 25



Electrician's
Mate 1st Class
William Horne,
U.S. Coast
Guard Sector
Guam



Master-at-Arms
1st Class
(EXW/SW)
Jesse Izdepski,
Maritime
Expeditionary
Security
Squadron 7 (Sea
Sailor of the
Year)



Personnel
Specialist 1st
Class (SW/AW)
Frederick Napiza,
Personnel
Support
Detachment
Guam



Machinist's Mate
1st Class (SS)
Juan Rivera,
USS Buffalo
(SSN 715)



Boatswain's
Mate 1st Class
(SW) Rene
Soratorio,
Military Sealift
Fleet Support
Command, Ship
Support Unit
Guam

Not pictured are Ship's Serviceman 1st Class (SW) Jodi Ahner, USS Frank Cable (AS 40); Electronics Technician 1st Class (SS) Michael Bernales, USS Houston (SSN 713); Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class (AW/SW) John Clark, Naval Airborne Weapons Maintenance Unit 1; Yeoman 1st Class (SW/AW) Edward Fundalewicz, Navy Munitions Command East Asia Division Unit Guam; Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SS) Jason Hays, USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705); and Builder 1st Class (SCW) William Hillberg, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas.

Why is it important to have diversity in the military?

May is Asian and Pacific American Heritage month, and the Department of Defense has given it the theme of "Diverse Leadership for a Diverse Workforce." Joint Region Edge asked service members on Guam why it is important to have diversity in the military.



"It's important so that we reflect the face of the U.S. and that we bring different viewpoints into the U.S. military."
 — Master Sgt. Mario Denuno, 36th Communications Squadron



"Everybody has got a little bit of something to bring to the fight and contribute. With diversity, we can learn and we build off each other...so it's definitely beneficial for everybody."
 — Senior Chief Equipment Operator (SCW) Joe George, 30th Naval Construction Regiment



"Diversity is important in the military because it brings in different parts of people's lives into the Navy and helps you realize [how] other people help the job get done. You're not just stuck in your own little world all the time. You can see things in different aspects and understand people."
 — Interior Communications Electrician Fireman Benjamin McWilliams, USS Frank Cable (AS 40)



"I think it is important because we all have different backgrounds, and there are a lot of positive things that different genders and ethnicities can bring to the table that others may not have encountered."
 — Capt. Jennifer Lavergne, 36th Medical Support Squadron

NBG, USNH Guam celebrate Asian, Pacific Americans

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis
 And Jesse Leon Guerrero
 Joint Region Edge Staff

U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam hosted events celebrating Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month May 25.

Established by Congress in May 1992, Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month commemorates the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the United States.

The NBG Second Class Petty Officer Association (SCPOA) held a potluck at an on-base pavilion to celebrate the month.

"Our country and our military have benefited from the contributions of these groups, and it's important that we recognize that," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Trisha Galvin, of NBG Security and the event coordinator.

According to Chief Master-at-Arms Timothy Wilson, of NBG Security, the U.S. would not be what it is today if not for the contributions of Asian and Pacific Americans.

"Not only did they help build the nation that we have today, a lot of Pacific Islanders also served their country," Wilson said. "And we should always remember that and their sacrifices throughout the years."

Attendees at the event were treated to a spread of traditional Asian and Pacific Islander foods at a potluck. Members of NBG Security also demonstrated the Filipino martial art Eskrima during an exhibition, to show Sailors and family members one aspect of the diverse



Celebrating Diversity: Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Angelina Songco, right, and Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Robert Mangahas, left, both from U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, give a live performance of a popular Japanese song called "First Love" at the Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month celebration hosted by the Navy command May 25. The afternoon event attracted dozens of guests and featured free food and presentations. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Asian-Pacific Islander culture.

"If you look at the Navy as a whole, we are everything that shows diversity and that diversity works," Wilson said. "And it's worked throughout our naval history."

According to Galvin, the military has a great blend of culture and heritages, which allow its members to grow, learn, and celebrate.

"It's important to know where we came from and how different we are," Galvin said. "We're a mixed pot in the Navy, so it's nice to pick

up the pieces and enjoy what we're made of."

U.S. Naval Hospital Guam's Diversity Committee hosted a get-together at the hospital auditorium.

Capt. Daryl Daniels, executive officer of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, said the event reminded him that the Navy is strengthened by people from different backgrounds bringing together their great ideas.

"It's only through working together that we can accomplish the

goals of our country and support and defend our people," Daniels said. "We have to remember we're not one people, we're many people. And that is what makes America America, and that is what makes America great."

Dozens of Sailors and family members attended the afternoon event, which featured dances from the Philippines and Polynesia; a fashion show of traditional wear from Guam, China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet-

nam; and food from those countries. The Filipino American Association, which is a subcommittee of the hospital's Diversity Committee, sponsored and coordinated the show.

Cmdr. Dale Ramirez, assistant director of Nursing Services at the hospital, described the celebration as an "exciting time" as he gave his guest speaker remarks. The theme for the event matched the Department of Defense's theme for the

See MAY Page 9

May: Sailors honor heritage and culture with elaborate events

Continued from Page 8

month and was “Diverse leadership for a diverse workforce.”

“It is a tremendous rainbow of folks we have here today, synergizing our intellect, our motivation, to bring us to where we are today,” Ramirez said. “Keep in mind, in terms of some of the numbers, 19,000 uniformed personnel and more than 29,000 civilians of Asian

and Pacific descent serve in today’s [Navy’s] total force.”

Hospitalman DeOriennet Foster volunteered from the audience to participate in a Philippine dance called the tinikling, which means “tikling-like.” The dance takes its name from rail birds called tiklings in the Philippines and requires dancers to hop quickly to avoid bamboo sticks clapped together near their ankles. Foster, who is from

Houston said he’d never tried anything like that before.

“If you have such things like this to learn about different cultures then everybody can have a better understanding of other people than just what’s going on in their culture,” Foster said.

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Jessie Larot said he was proud to sing two songs from his Philippines homeland: “Ako Ay Pilipino,”

which means “I Am a Filipino” and “Ang Bayan Ko,” which means “My Country.” Larot performed both songs in the Filipino dialect of Tagalog.

“I just want to show what Filipinos are all about,” Larot said. “I know they might not understand the language I’ll be singing, but at least they’ll have a glimpse of our language.”

At the end of the presentations,

the attendees shared a lunch comprised of Japanese sushi, Vietnamese lemongrass chicken, Filipino pancit noodles and many other cultural recipes.

For more information about U.S. Naval Hospital Guam’s Diversity Committee, call Information Systems Technician 1st Class (SW) Carl Whittle at 344-9369.

For more information about the NGB SCPOA, call Galvin at 339-6323.



Martial Arts: Chief Master-at-Arms Dan Murray and Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Trisha Galvin, both of U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security, demonstrate Eskrima, a Filipino martial art, during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month potluck celebration on NBG May 25. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Cultural Dancers: Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Katy Jones, right, of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, leads a Polynesian dance at the Navy command’s Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month celebration at the hospital auditorium May 25. Also pictured is Hospitalman Laurabelle Ledoux, also from the hospital. Dozens of guests attended the free cultural event, which included fashion show, dancing, singing and a wide range of food dishes. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Potluck: Sailors and family members enjoy a spread of traditional Asian and Pacific Islander foods during the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month potluck celebration on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 25. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Tikling: Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Jade Zimmerman, right, leads a troupe of tinikling dancers from U.S. Naval Hospital Guam at the Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month celebration hosted at the Navy command’s auditorium May 25. From left, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Sharon-Ivy Pante; Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Angelina Songco; Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Joy Bercide; and Zimmerman. Tinikling dancers use balance and coordination to hop and avoid bamboo sticks clapped together at ankle level. Tinikling, which means “tikling-like,” takes its name from rail birds called “tikling” in the Philippines. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)



Balancing Act: Capt. John Nicholson, center, of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, kneels while balancing a candle during a performance of a Filipino dance of light, called “pandanggo sa ilaw,” or dance of light, at a get-together for Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month at the Navy command’s auditorium May 25. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Team Andersen takes a walk

Walk in the Airfield: Foreign object debris (FOD) walks are a common occurrence throughout the Air Force and Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) is no different. FOD walks are a regular part of the job for Airmen that work on the flightline daily, but periodically a massive FOD walk is performed like one this past week on Andersen's newly completed runway.

The FOD walk involved more than 200 Air Force and Navy personnel. The joint force covered the entire length of the runway in a single file horizontal formation. The FOD walk also included Airmen from many different squadrons, giving them a firsthand look one of the key aspects of the flying mission on Andersen AFB. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze)



36th MXS helps keep Andersen AFB running



Maintaining: Airman 1st Class Trenton McGowan, a 36th Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment technician, works on a load pad engine on Andersen Air Force Base May 19. McGowan and other maintainers work on a myriad of equipment and vehicles in their support of the 36th Wing mission. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman first Class Jeffrey Schultze)

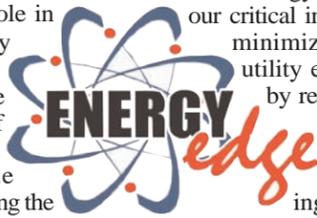
CNIC: Incorporate four pillars of energy strategy

By Kevin D. Evans

Joint Region Marianas Energy Manager

Commander, Naval Installations Command (CNIC) recently reiterated its energy leadership role in reducing base energy consumption.

Our installations consume approximately 25 percent of our total energy use. As a result, we must continue developing and implementing the actions required to meet statutory, as well as our own internal goals.



With that in mind, CNIC has established the following guidance. Our bases will be guided by the following three principles: provide reliable energy in support of our critical infrastructure; minimize our shore utility expenditures by reducing energy consumption and improving efficiency; and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions through reduced

energy consumption and by replacing energy from fossil fuels with cost effective renewable/alternative energy sources.

These principles support installation energy security, which is vital to generate forward deployed combat power. Department of Defense (DoD) is also increasingly aware of the impact of fossil fuel use on climate change, hence, DoD is looking at the way we generate and consume energy.

CNIC desires that all regional and installation energy efforts incorpo-

rate the four pillars of an installation energy strategy.

First, it demands reduction and conservation initiatives. Buildings should be aggressively designed and should build in savings that can be reaped throughout the facility's life cycle. Appropriate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating upgrades to all major construction, renovation and repair projects should be incorporated.

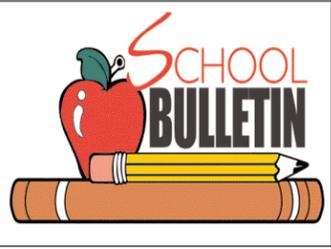
The second pillar pertains to renewable resources. Regions and installations should evaluate

renewable energy sources to reduce fossil fuel use in new construction and repair projects.

The third pillar calls for improved command energy management. CNIC is funding improved metering and control equipment for our bases. Installation commanding officers will have increased control of local consumption, such that appropriate measures can be taken to reduce consumption based on realistic mission cost and risk factors.,

The fourth pillar calls for training and awareness. Implement training and awareness programs. Building Energy Monitors will report facility deficiencies and endeavor to be alert to energy and water conservation opportunities. The use of base Resource Efficiency Managers to enable reductions in installation energy consumption should be increased. Only Energy Star or Federal Energy Management Program designated energy efficient equipment and products should be purchased.

Regionally, there is a joint effort underway to develop a combined energy strategy which uses many of these tenants. Energy conservation is not only an installation level concern, but also regional and DoD-wide.



School Bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy and Air Force communities. 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.

DoDEA

There are no classes for Department of Defense Education Activity schools on Memorial Day, May 31.

Andersen Middle School

The Andersen Middle School Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) has elected Kristen Murren as president and Anne Moran as treasurer for school year 2010-2011. The PTSO still needs parent volunteers to fill the following positions: vice president, Scholastic Book Club representative, and secretary. For more information, contact amsptso@yahoo.com.

McCool Elementary/Middle School

Yearbooks are in. See Whitney Mansell to pick up your yearbook.

The last day to earn fourth quarter Reading Counts points is June 4. Students can talk to their teachers if they have any questions.

Phone Numbers

Andersen Elementary School:
366-1511
Andersen Middle School:
366-3880/5793
Commander William C. McCool
Elementary/Middle School:
339-8678
Guam High School: 344-7410
Department of Defense
Education Activity office:
344-9160
Navy College Office: 339-2485
Andersen Education Office:
366-3170

Navy College Office reaches out to Sailors

By Oyaol Ngirairikl
Joint Region Edge Staff

Navy College Office (NCO) offered Sailors the chance to learn about educational opportunities available to them during college fairs on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and at Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25's compound on Andersen Air Force Base May 19.

Representatives from University of Maryland University College and Central Texas College set up booths and talked to service members about education programs and services, including degree programs specifically tailored to various ratings in the Navy that offer courses to complement the training Sailors have already received.

"My goal is to get a Sailor into a room and talk about education and how it can benefit them," said Chuck Wright, NCO director. "We have an open-door policy so Sailors are able to come and talk to me any time. But the fairs have people from the colleges as well as the college office, so you can get most, if not all, of your questions answered in one shot."

Religious Program Specialist Seaman Rondele Logan, of NBG Chapel, said he appreciates the educational opportunities offered by the Navy.

"I'm so grateful for the Tuition Assistance program. It's basically paying for my college degree, and



Guidance: William Davis, left, a Navy College Office (NCO) counselor, discusses college options with Construction Mechanic 2nd Class (SCW) Jason Montgomery, center, and Construction Mechanic Constructionman Ashley Nelson, both of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11, during a college fair at Barracks 4 on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 19. (U.S. Navy photo by Oyaol Ngirairikl)

the commands I've been with so far have been really supportive," he said. "They give me the time I need to go to class. I have no excuse not to get my degree with all this support."

Wright said Sailors should look at the use of educational benefits as the building blocks of "a great military career."

"Navy's education programs are a benefit," he said. "In many of the

surveys the Navy does, education is consistently one of the top three reasons Sailors join. We're here today to help them understand that they shouldn't let it go to waste and what they need to do to take advantage of it."

Equipment Operator Constructionman (SCW) Jonathan Cedeno, of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11, said that he plans to

earn a bachelor's degree in business management and then continue with a master's degree.

"An education can take you far and that's my plan," he said. "I'd like to move up in the Navy and a college degree is going to help give me an edge over my competitors. When I retire or if I decide to move into the civilian world, I'll be that much more prepared because I'd have these degrees under my belt, thanks to the Navy."

Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class Paulo Olarte, of HSC 25, was among the Sailors who attended the college fair at his command.

"It's a good thing I went," Olarte said. "Talking to the reps from the college office was kind of a reminder to finish what I started."

Olarte had started taking college courses in 2005 and said that he thinks finishing a degree will help him make rank.

"I'd like to go back so I can finish my nursing degree," he said. "I believe the degree can make you more competitive, whether you're in the Navy or other branch of the military or in the civilian sector. I have a really good opportunity here with the Navy. I need to take advantage of it."

To learn more about the Navy's education programs, visit the Navy College Program Web site at www.navycollege.navy.mil.

Cub Scouts cross bridge on path to becoming young men

By James Fee

Joint Region Edge Staff

Cub Scout Pack 23 and Boy Scout Troop 23 held a bridging ceremony at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School May 21.

More than a dozen Cub Scouts crossed a miniature wooden bridge to their next rank in the scouting organization. Tiger Cubs became Wolf Cubs; Wolf Cubs became Bear Cubs; Bear Cubs became Webelos Scouts; and four Webelos Scouts took the major step into moving from Pack 23 to Troop 23, becoming Boy Scouts.

Summer Sweeney, a Navy spouse and director of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, was the den mother to the four Cubs who became Boy Scouts, and is the mother to one of those four. She said it was an emotional moment for her since she had watched the four grow up together.

"This was years of achievement for my older son," Sweeney said. "[He] and the three other scouts have been together since Tigers. So they've come up through the entire ranks together."

Cub Scouts is the entry organization of the Boy Scouts of America and is for children ages 7-10, while

Boy Scouts are for kids ages 10-18. Children move up through the Scouts by earning badges for various activities from sports to crafts.

"It's really about building character, about honesty and integrity — all the values that you want to instill in your kids," said Lt. Dan Fugett, Pack 23 Cubmaster, who also serves aboard USS Frank Cable (AS-40). "You can't beat this program for doing that. It's one of the longest running family programs in the country for doing that."

Lt. Cmdr. Yuri Graves, Troop 23 Scoutmaster and deputy commander of U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, said the primary dif-

ference between the two organizations is leadership.

"They're basically moving from being young boys to being young men, and there's a lot more responsibility involved," Graves said.

While Cub Scouts is led by parents, Graves said, Boy Scouts is "boy-led" with boys taking on leadership responsibilities with guidance from adults. Each boy mentors another and some take on leadership positions such as patrol leader or senior patrol leader.

"They're assigned a mentor to shadow them initially and to learn, not only what it means to be a Boy Scout, but also what it means to have

leadership positions; to prepare them to lead this next group of Cub Scouts when they come up next year," Graves said. "It's a cycle."

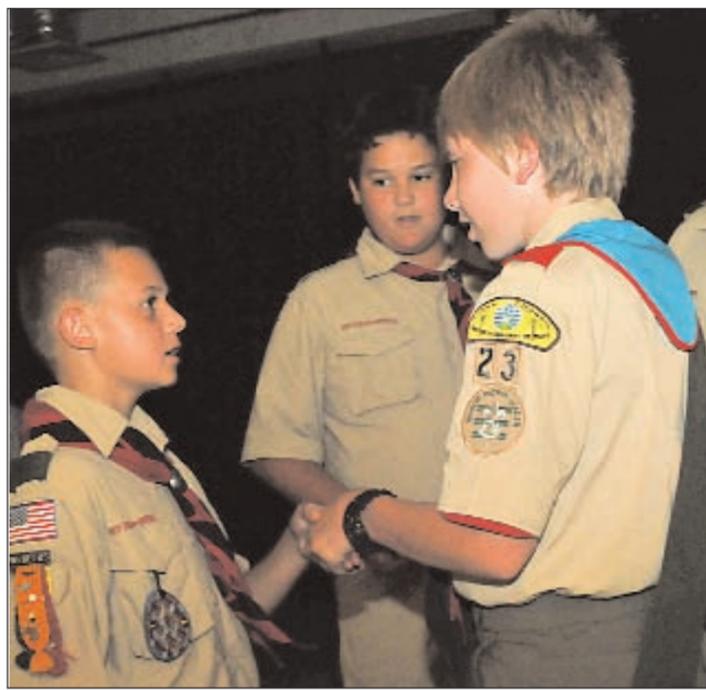
Both the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts also rely on adult volunteers for positions within their organizations.

To volunteer for or enroll your child in Cub Scout Pack 23, e-mail guamcubscouts@yahoo.com or call Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School at 339-8678.

If you are interested in enrolling your child in Boy Scout Troop 23 or if you would like to volunteer your time, contact Graves at 477-0772 or Troop23Guam@aol.com.



Moving On: Stacey Neill, right, den mother for first-year Webelos Cub Scouts, welcomes a Bear Cub Scout as he crosses a bridge to his new rank at a bridging ceremony at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School May 21. At the ceremony, four Cub Scouts became Boy Scouts, and others moved up in the Cub Scout ranks to various dens. (U.S. Navy photo by James Fee)



Scout Welcome: The senior patrol leader of Boy Scout Troop 23, center, welcomes a scout into the troop at a bridging ceremony at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School May 21. (U.S. Navy photo by James Fee)

Images and meaning of the Guam flag

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff

The Guam flag flies at spots all around the island, usually taking its place alongside the U.S. flag flown at schools, government agencies and other facilities.

The Guam flag appeared for the first time officially at Plaza de Espana in Hagatna at a 1917 fair. No one knows who originally designed it, although there are three disputed possible sources: Francisco Feja, a local artist; a photo from Robert Coontz, a former governor of Guam; and sketches by Helen Paul, a Navy spouse.

"It's something that would have to be verified, and Mr. Feja's family is adamant he designed it," said Tony Ramirez, a Guam Museum curator. "But from what I understand, Ms. Helen Paul was also an artist, so there is a good possibility she did it."

Regardless of where the inspiration came from, the flag has always included a rectangular blue field surrounding an oval shape, which has depictions of a proa, palm tree and cliff.

The oval shape resembles an acho' atupat, or Chamorro slingstone, which was used for hunting and warfare. The wooden proa, a sailing ship used for fishing and inter-island trade transportation, can

be seen traversing the blue waters of Hagatna Bay. The lone palm tree helps recreate a historic scene of when a typhoon leveled all but one tree in that area in 1917.

Although the cliff featured in the design's background represents Puntan dos Amantes, also known as Two Lovers Point, Ramirez said the Oka Point cliff is actually more visible from the perspective of someone at Hagatna Bay. The Chamorro legend that centers around Puntan dos Amantes is about two young lovers who leaped to their deaths from a cliff to avoid Spanish soldiers. Ramirez said all of these images on the flag are iconic for people living on Guam.

"At that time, the flag was something that pretty much Chamorros would have identified with," Ramirez said. "People would traverse the (Hagatna) bridge then, so seeing the mouth of the river would've been a daily thing, at least for the residents there."

In 1930, the oval design was officially recognized as the Great Seal of the Territory of Guam. Rear Adm. Charles Pownall, the last of three military governors who presided over Guam, approved a modified design that added a red border to the flag in 1948. The official size of the Guam flag is 78 inches long and 40 inches wide.



Guam Colors: Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Priscilla Gonzalez, left, and Damage Controlman Fireman Chakhara Guyton, both from U.S. Naval Base Guam, raise the Guam flag during morning colors at U.S. Naval Base Guam May 25. The Guam flag flies at military and Government of Guam facilities, schools, and other buildings around the island. (U.S. Navy photo by Jesse Leon Guerrero)

Celebrate with a burger at first-ever festival

By Jesse Leon Guerrero

Joint Region Edge Staff

Sailors, Airmen and all other military and local residents can look forward to a burger during the Guam Burger Festival 2010 at the Governor Joseph Flores Memorial Park, also known as Ypao Beach in Tumon, May 30 from noon to 6 p.m. Admission will be free.

This festival is scheduled to feature an afternoon filled with food, music, games and competitions. Romeo Carlos, event coordinator, said the activities will offer more than just a day of grilling.

"This is a festival in the truest sense of the word," Carlos said. "We want people to engage in it and experience everything."

Taking center stage at the festival is a grilling competition for amateurs and professional chefs and cooks from the island's hotels and restaurants. Contestants will present their most tantalizing creations to vie for the titles of Guam's Ultimate Burger, Best Classic Burger, Best Gourmet Burger, Best Amateur Burger, Best Student Burger, Cheesiest Cheeseburger, and Most Original Burger Recipe.

"We have 12 judges who are all hardcore burger fiends," Carlos said. "But for each bout, each round, we will pull someone from the public to be a judge."

Carlos said burgers will be the celebrated food of the day, but vendors will also have nacho chips, ribs and other items for sale. He explained that the festival will focus on burgers because those are the most popular sandwiches in the United States based on sales reports.

For those who'd like to mix their eating pleasures with recreation, the festival will offer a Texas Hold'em card game tent, where attendees can

buy in for \$25 and get free burgers at the playing table. Children can spend time at the Kids' Zone, which will have inflatable bouncers, coloring and toys. Carlos said the festival isn't going to leave anyone out, so mothers can relax in a garden area, designed especially for them, with a plush sofa and two 62-inch plasma televisions.

"It's something to keep them occupied and comfortable," Carlos said. "We don't want people to leave. We want them to hang out."

Live performances will come from bands such as The Weather Party, First Come First Serve, Fairy

Tail Heroes, Freedom Fries and more. The Youth Poetry Slam Team also plans to make an appearance, while the 24 contestants of Miss Earth Guam 2010 will help host the festival.

Carlos described the festival as a "broad-based community event" and said it will be a great opportunity to see what Guam is all about. He said 10 percent of the proceeds from vendor sales will go toward supporting the Hurao Academy, a school that teaches Chamorro language and culture.

For more information, visit online at www.mvguam.com/burgerfest.

FREE

Health and Fitness Fair

The fair will take place at Coral Reef Fitness Center June 3, beginning at 9 a.m. Take advantage of all the health, sports and fitness info that will be available at the various booths.

For more information, call 366-6100.

Most Hilarious Pet Story Contest

Write a funny story about your pet and submit it with a picture of your pet to the Andersen Air Force Base Veterinary Clinic to enter their "Most Hilarious Pet Story Contest." Contest continues through June 15. Prizes will be

awarded. For more information, call 366-3205.

Chamorro Village

Take a free trip to Chamorro Village every Wednesday. Single Sailors and geographical bachelors can catch a shuttle at 6 p.m. from Single Sailor Sanctuary. Sailors at the

Ordnance Annex can catch the shuttle 6:30 p.m. at Silver Dolphin. For more information, call 564-2280.

Free Golf Clinic

Learn the fundamentals of golf every Saturday and Sunday, 9-10 a.m. at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada. No need to register. For more information, call 344-5838.



UNDER \$10

Hike to Mount Lam Lam
Meet at Outdoor Recreation on Andersen Air Force Base June 5. Departure time is 7:45 a.m. Cost is \$5 per person. Hike is open to ages 12 and older. For more information, call 366-5197.

World War II Tour
Outdoor Recreation's World War II Tour is scheduled for Memorial Day, May 31. Meet at Outdoor Recreation at Andersen Air Force Base shortly

before 7:45 a.m. Cost is \$15 per person. Minimum age is 5. Club Card holders get \$3 off. Patrons should also bring money for a lunch stop during the tour. For more information, call 366-5197.



Breakfast at Top of the Rock
Starts below \$10.

Breakfast hours are Monday-Friday, 6:30-9:30 a.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 7:30-9:30 a.m. For more information, call 366-6166.

\$10 AND UP

Memorial Day Bowling Tournament
Gecko Lanes will host a Memorial Day Nine-Pin, no-tap tournament May 31 beginning at noon. Participants will bowl nine games and drop their lowest score. There will be cash prizes for the top five bowlers, based on 15 entries. Entry fee is \$30 per person. For more information, call 366-5117.

Orote Point Lanes Family Deal

Family Value Package at Orote Point Lanes available on the following days and times:

Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Monday-Thursday 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and 9-10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10:30 a.m.-midnight. Cost is \$40 per lane with a limit of five people. Fee covers two hours of bowling, shoe rentals for five people, one large single-topping pizza and one pitcher of soda. For more information, call 564-1828.

Member Special at Palm Tree Golf Course

Every Tuesday, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., ride 18 holes for the 9-hole cart rate of \$8. For more information, call 366-4653.



FRIDAY, MAY 28

7 p.m.: Oceans • G

SATURDAY, MAY 29

2 p.m.: Oceans • G
7 p.m.: Kick Ass • R

SUNDAY, MAY 30

7 p.m.: Kick Ass • 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.**



FRIDAY, MAY 28

7 p.m.: Kick Ass • R
9:30 p.m.: Ghost Rider • PG-13

SATURDAY, MAY 29

1 p.m.: The Last Song • PG
3:30 p.m.: Remember Me • PG-13
7 p.m.: Repo Man • PG-13

SUNDAY, MAY 30

1 p.m.: Clash of the Titans • PG-13
3:30 p.m.: Alice in Wonderland • PG-13
7 p.m.: The Bounty Hunter • R

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

Emerging Worship for a postmodern generation

By Capt. David Leonard
36th Wing

What is Emerging Worship anyway? If you were to drop by Andersen Air Force Base on a Sunday night, you might want to check out the "New Lighthouse." This is a chapel facility attached to the HotSpot, which looks more like a Starbucks than a traditional chapel. Sundays at 7 p.m. a group of committed young Airmen gather for Protestant worship with a postmodern twist.

Postmodernism refers to the intellectual mood and cultural expressions that are becoming increasingly dominant in contemporary society,



according to Stanley Grenz, in his book, "Primer for Postmodernism." This cultural shift is marked by several identifiable trends. Postmodernism is considered the predominant worldview for those junior enlisted and company grade officers, 20-30 years of age, serving in today's military. They are the most ethnically and racially diverse culture in American history.

They tend to be more politically progressive and technologically savvy than their parents. They are also the least religiously observant generation our country has ever known, according to Pew Research.

A grassroots movement is taking hold to address the needs of reli-

gious needs of postmoderns in a relevant way. This movement, sometimes called the "Emerging Church," is diverse, made up of many ideas within Christian orthodoxy. It tends to focus on societal relationships and community. Postmoderns are drawn to its emphases on practical faith, social justice, and incarnational living. Incarnational living means, to enter the world of the person you are ministering to. It is to talk to them in a way that they can understand by sharing their culture and experience.

Worship in this context is distinctive, diverse, and different than traditional church approaches. There tends to be no central focus, such as a prominent worship band/leader nor a single speaker. Lessons are less like a classroom and invite discussion using the framework of

conversation. Each attendant is encouraged to bring some contribution to a central theme of study. Technology is used in combination with religious symbol and background music. The focus of these churches tends to be that of learning through a process of self discovery.

And so, each week, a group of devoted young people gather to ask hard questions, seek God earnestly, and worship in a way that reflects their own journey of faith. It is marked by edgy music, short sermons, long applications, vintage images, and a community focus. The approach is young, but it embraces the same Christian faith of the generations that have gone before.

Check us out on Facebook: Emerging Worship.

Still Moments



Ombudsmen Graduation: Capt. Scott Galbreath, back row, center, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) commanding officer, awarded certificates to NBG's newest graduates of the Fleet and Family Support Center's (FFSC) ombudsmen training class May 7. Navy ombudsmen are communications links, information and referral resources and advocates for command family members. Appointed by commanding officers, command ombudsmen are volunteers and spouses of service members within their command. The new ombudsmen are front row, from left, Heather Moran, USS Frank Cable (AS 40); Emily Frederick, USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN-705); Kelly Belt, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam; Jennifer Susko, USCGC Assateague (WPB 1337); Ardel Frye, USS City of Corpus Christi; and Ann Colvin, Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 7. Back row, from left, Danielle Roest, USS Frank Cable; Jacqueline Braunesreather, USS Frank Cable; Galbreath; Samantha Massengill, U.S. Naval Hospital Guam; Wanda Hamilton, U.S. Naval Hospital Guam; and Heather Horvath, FFSC ombudsman coordinator. (U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner)

Panthers untamed at All-Island Championship

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

The Guam High School (GHS) Panthers Track and Field Team clawed their way to second place overall at the Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam All-Island Championship in Yona May 21.

Despite the team not taking home the gold, individual achievements were bountiful. The highlights started early when Devon Newbold roared into first and Damian Dimmick scratched his way to second place in the boys varsity

100-meter race.

Newbold was modest about his victory, but it may have been the spark that got the team licking their paws at a chance to win a medal.

"It is great to win," Devon said. "But there will always be someone faster. I am here to improve and do my best."

It seemed as if a pack of panthers had arrived from the jungle as parents in attendance roared encouragement for their children and the team. Terri Newbold was thrilled about her son taking first, but was also hyped about the entire Panthers pack.

"Our team does really well when they compete," Newbold said. "I am so excited. If you ask me, they

are the best. They always perform at 100 percent. That is all you can ask for."

Two more key victories came during the girls and boys 100-meter relay race. Both teams placed first, though the victories were won differently.

The girls were a powerhouse, feasting on the competition. They lead from the onset of the race and never looked back. Kira Reyman, Chloe Conrad, Angelica Henry and Jaia Armstrong posted a time of 54.23 seconds; a full second ahead of the competition.

The boys relay was more dramatic. Cody Duncan, Devon Newbold, Damian Dimmick and Deon Jackson

were in third place until the last leg, when Jackson ate up the deficit, sprinting past the other competitors to secure the teams' first-place medal by only 0.28 seconds.

The athletes' stellar performances kept a smile on GHS Coach Joe Taitano's face as he paced up and down the track.

"This is the final meet of the season to do your best, and the effort that these kids displayed today was exciting," Taitano said. "We finally placed first in the relay events. In the past, we only placed second in the event. I am pleased and I know the kids are excited."

Other victories for the Panthers included:

- Ashley Cosey, Duncan Leuenberger – 2nd place in the shot put
- Duncan Leuenberger – 1st in the discus throw
- Aaron Cosey – 1st in the javelin throw
- Jaia Armstrong and Angelica Henry – 1st and 2nd respectively in the high jump
- Stefani Loisel – 1st in the 200-meter dash, 2nd in the 100-meter dash, 2nd in the 300-meter hurdles and 3rd in 100-meter hurdles
- Devon Newbold and Damian Dimmick – 1st and 3rd respectively in the 200-meter dash
- Cody Duncan and Nichole Lindberg – 1st and 3rd respectively in the 400-meter dash



Jump Start: Guam High School (GHS) Panthers Track and Field member Kira Reyman gets a jump start as she prepares to receive the baton from teammate Chloe Conrad during a 100-meter relay race at the Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam All-Island Championships in Yona May 21. The girls relay team placed first in the heat, while the Panthers team placed second overall. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin M. Colbert)



Passing the Baton: Guam High School (GHS) Panthers Track and Field member Damian Dimmick gets a jump start as he prepares to receive the baton from teammate Deon Jackson during a 100-meter relay race at the Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam All-Island Championships in Yona May 21. The boys relay team placed first in the heat, while the Panthers team placed second overall. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin M. Colbert)

MWR hosts Sports Days at McCool School

By Sarah Marshall

Joint Region Marianas WarFighter and Family Readiness

Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Youth Sports hosted Sports Day events for students at Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) May 10-19.

The events were part of MWR's efforts to ensure that kids of all ages on NBG had a chance to celebrate May as National Fitness Month.

"Sports Days are a great opportunity for MWR to create a partnership with McCool school and encourage the kids to be active and healthy," said Rachel Wiley, MWR Youth Sports coordinator.

Each Sports Day included an obstacle course, relay races, soccer,

and coconut bowling, with varying difficulty levels based on age. The older children also had the opportunity to take turns on an inflatable water slide.

"The waterslide was fun, and I loved the relay races at the end," said fifth-grader Alleria Putnam. "I can't wait until next year."

For more information about MWR Youth Sports call 564-1844 or e-mail mwruguamyouthsports@gmail.com.

Cooling Off: Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School fifth-graders stay cool in an inflatable waterslide during Navy, Morale, Welfare and Recreation's (MWR) Sports Day at the school May 19. (U.S. Navy photo by Sarah Marshall)

