

JOINT REGION EDGE

Volume III No. 21

Friday, May 27, 2011



NBG opens new barracks

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis

Joint Region Edge Staff

Military and civilian personnel gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony commemorating the opening of the new energy-efficient Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ) on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) May 20.

In April 2009, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas awarded the \$53.7 million contract to Hensel-Phelps Construction Co. Two years later, the state-of-the-art, energy-efficient facility is completed and capable of comfortably housing up to 420 single Sailors.

Capt. Peter Lynch, NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer, praised the new building, which features energy-efficient windows, a solar-powered water heating



Energy-Efficient Barracks: Capt. Richard Wood, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) commanding officer, and Capt. Peter Lynch, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas commanding officer, join distinguished guests to cut a ribbon signifying the opening of a brand new energy-efficient barracks during a ceremony on NBG May 20. Wood said that the barracks will greatly improve the quality of life for Sailors who will occupy it. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

See BEQ, Page 11

Collaboration effort eliminates risk, preserves wildlife



Crater: Only a large crater remains after the detonation of a 500-pound unexploded ordnance at Northwest Field here. The World War II era bomb was discovered in March during a routine survey of the area. Members of the 36th Wing and local agencies worked together to ensure the detonation was safe and caused no damage to nearby wildlife. (U.S. Air Force Courtesy Photo)

By Airman 1st Class Whitney Tucker

36th Wing Public Affairs

The discovery of two World War II era bombs at Northwest Field here, launched the formation of a cohesive team and culminated in the successful detonation of the ordnance May 17.

Members of the 36th Wing, U.S. Coast Guard, Guam Police Department and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service worked together to ensure the disposal of the explosives, which weighed a collective 600 pounds.

"The bombs were first discovered by archaeologists hired by the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron to survey Northwest Field," said Capt. Stephanie Nichols, 36 CE Construction Management chief. "There

were a lot of reservations and concerns about detonating the bombs in-place, due to the presence of the only remaining mature *Serianthes Nelsonii* on Guam."

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, *Serianthes Nelsonii*, known on Guam as the Hayun Iagu tree, was listed as federally endangered in 1987.

"After careful evaluation and analysis," Nichols said, "our recommendation to U.S. Fish and Wildlife was that because the bomb had come to rest in a 15-foot deep depression, and the foliage between it and the tree was extremely thick, there would be a very small chance the tree would be affected by the blast."

David Lotz, 36 CES Conservation Resources Chief echoed

Nichols' reflections.

"The 500-pound bomb was located in what appeared to be a very large limestone bowl that had formed naturally over time," he said. "This and other factors led us to believe that, even with a very large detonation, it was unlikely the tree would come to any harm."

Though risk appeared to be inconsequential, precautions were taken and an incident command was stood up.

"Having 36th Wing Safety involved in an operation like this is very important due to the possibility of a severe mishap occurring which could endanger members of the public, military personnel and explosive ordnance disposal technicians," said Tech. Sgt.

See Ordnance, Page 11

INSIDE

- USS Frank Cable performs community service in Hong Kong, page 4
- Critical Days of Summer, page 2



Change of Command Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron welcomes new leader.

SEE PAGE 2



Veterans Clinic Doors officially open for new Veterans Clinic.

SEE PAGE 5



Top Performer Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class (AW/SW) Rafael J. Hughes-Batalla

SEE PAGE 3

HSC 25 changes hands on Guam

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 held a change of command ceremony at the Palm Tree Golf Course on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) May 19.

Cmdr. John Compton relieved Cmdr. Benjamin Reynolds as HSC 25's commanding officer.

The ceremony's guest speaker, Capt. Michael Horan, commodore of Helicopter Sea Combat Wing U.S. Pacific Fleet, commented on Reynolds key quality – leadership.

"No surprise, the greatest single contribution by skipper Reynolds to this squadron has been his leadership," Horan said. "It was his leadership – that mixture of all the qualities that make up the man – which formed a recipe for success that placed him here on this stage today."

Horan said Reynolds' leadership has resulted in the command's success and positive reputation.

"HSC-25's reputation and sterling record of success are the enduring legacy of your devotion to your squadron and the Navy," he said. "Only a select few COs can claim ownership of the Battle Efficiency Award, Safety 'S' Award, three consecutive Sikorsky Maintenance Awards, and two consecutive Retention Excellence Awards during their command tour."

After his speech, Horan presented Reynolds with the Meritorious



Change of Command: Cmdr. John Compton, left, receives his Command-at-Sea pin from his spouse during the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 change of command ceremony at the Palm Tree Golf Course on Andersen Air Force Base May 19. Compton relieved Cmdr. Benjamin Reynolds as HSC 25's commanding officer. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

Service Medal for his exceptional conduct in the performance of duties as commanding officer.

After receiving the award, Reynolds expressed his gratitude to the Sailors for their accomplishments while under his command. He said that their missions were important and impacted lives.

"What you are doing is special," Reynolds said. "A couple of weeks ago, you saved the life of a 6-week-

old baby. You deploy to Iraq and ships in the far reaches of the Pacific and you are gone from your families about 50 percent of the time – and this is often a greater sacrifice for your loved ones than for you. You are saving lives in Iraq or being prepared for every possible contingency in this big neighborhood and then you come home and you fix aircraft and train day and night and you still perform countless life-

saving missions."

Reynolds said what the command does is unique and life-fulfilling.

"People go their entire lives hoping to make a small difference in the lives of the tight circle of acquaintances around them," he said. "You, on the other hand, make a profound difference in the lives of people whom you have never met. You are making our oceans and our country safer. Young soldiers ate

breakfast with their families this morning because you saved their lives and two parents are holding their now 8-week-old baby in their arms right now. I have been honored to serve with you and I will be telling stories about this special time for the rest of my life."

After the reading of official orders, Compton said that he will continue the squadron's legacy and maintain the highest standards set forth by his predecessor.

"This squadron is the most diverse in mission, personnel and the hardest working Sailors I have ever served with," Compton said. "[Reynolds] maintained the course that was set years ago. It's the course I intend to continue. We will continue to deploy mission-ready helicopters and crews for 7th and 5th Fleets. We will continue to support and grow our relationship with our hosts Andersen AFB and the 36th Wing and U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, Naval Special Warfare Unit 1, Big Navy and the Guam community."

HSC-25 is the Navy's only forward-deployed MH-60S expeditionary squadron. As part of Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Pacific, it provides an armed helicopter capability for 7th and 5th Fleets, as well as detachments to various commands covering a diverse mission set. It is also the Navy's only squadron that maintains a 24-hour search and rescue and medical evacuation alert posture directly supporting U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Guam and Joint Region Marianas.

Critical days of summer are here

By James Lentz

Joint Region Marianas Regional Safety Manager

We often take for granted that summer is basically 365 days a year on Guam.

However, the Critical Days of Summer campaign comes along once a year between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and allows us to focus on specific off-duty recreational safety issues that arise when children are out of school; we do more traveling during our vacation time;

and where mishap rates tend to rise in relation to traffic safety, sports and water-related activities.

Critical Days of Summer safety stand downs within our workplaces are the initial step in an overall campaign that includes special events and information releases to address specific safety issues within the community and provide specific details on personal risk management processes with the following key points:

- Safety is an integral part to the success of our summertime enjoy-

ment and should play a key role in all our endeavors.

- Whether it is on or off duty, operational or recreational, all things come with a certain amount of risk that can be identified and mitigated.

- When we encounter unknown conditions, we should take the time to identify risks. Anything that is done to raise personal awareness in this area is a "value added" resource.

- Participate in activities with the goal of returning safely afterwards.

- Safety efforts should focus on

personal risk management and should also include our families and others around us in identifying and supporting healthy and safe participation in summer events.

- Water safety is a chief concern as our water-enriched environment presents us with a number of dangers.

- Your safety and the safety of those under your care depends on planning properly, knowing conditions and acting accordingly. Remain diligent in identifying the haz-

ards associated with every activity you are involved in.

The bottom line is simple – none of us live or work entirely alone. We are involved with others.

When an incident happens we carry personal burden and share the burden of others' loss. The true horror of any accident is the realization that we have not only failed ourselves – we have failed the people around us who share in our lives.

Be safe. Manage risks. Live to play, play to live.

Off Limits Establishments

The Guam Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board has placed the following establishment off limits to all military personnel:

Gallop USA Indian Art and Jewelry at the Micronesia Mall

All military personnel are prohibited from entering the establishment. Service personnel, whether in uniform or in civilian clothing, found entering or leaving the establishment may be subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Report Fraud, Waste and Mismanagement

The Joint Region Marianas Hotline provides an opportunity to report significant cases of fraud, waste and mismanagement. Anyone can file a hotline complaint and you may remain anonymous.

To contact the Joint Region Marianas Inspector General:

E-mail: M-GU-JRM-IG-HOTLINE-FRAUD-WASTE-ABUSE@fe.navy.mil

Phone: 339-0001

Mailing address:
JRM Inspector General Office
PSC 455 Box 211
FPO AP 96540

Remember, the more detailed information you provide the better we can assist you.

Aviation warrior soars at command

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis

Joint Region Edge Staff

After high school, Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class (AW/SW) Rafael J. Hughes-Batalla put in four years as a restaurant manager. In 2004, he completed an avionics certification course. Hughes-Batalla said his interest in both administration and aircraft electronics led him to join the Navy.



"When I joined the Navy, I was looking for a career that would help me improve my skills, bring stability to my family, [and] let me become part of Navy history," he said. "As soon as I read the job description for aviation maintenance administrationman, I felt that the AZ rate would suit me."

Hughes-Batalla said that joining the Navy was definitely the right choice for him and that there is a lot that he loves about his branch of service.

"I definitely like the discipline, history and overall achievement of the Navy," he said. "I like the fact that the Navy offers so many opportunities to grow as a professional and has helped me to strengthen my skills and acquire new ones. Also, the Navy has given me the opportunity to travel around

the world."

Five years into his career, Hughes-Batalla is soaring high at Commander, Fleet Air Forward (COMFAIRFWD) Det. Guam Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Division's (AIMD) Production Control Department. He said that the command offers him rewarding challenges and ensures that there's never a boring day on the job.

"I like the fact that, at my command, I'm assigned duties above my rank," he said. "It really gives me the opportunity to enhance my knowledge. In addition, my command is helping me to continue developing my leadership skills by assigning me as the department leading petty officer."

As an AZ, Hughes-Batalla performs a variety of clerical, administrative and managerial duties necessary to keep aircraft maintenance activities running efficiently. He is required to maintain close communication with all other aviation maintenance ratings at his command and maintain attention to detail in maintaining up-to-date records of aircraft and support equipment.

"I perform analysis of aviation data as directed by the AIMD officer and in support of the [Naval Aviation Maintenance Program] requirements," he said. "Also, I'm the principal advisor to the data processing system administrator on matters pertaining to the Intermediate Maintenance Activities (IMA) Naval Aviation Logistics Command Management Information System



Training a Shipmate: Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class (AW/SW) Rafael J. Hughes-Batalla, right, trains a shipmate on the Maintenance and Material Management system at the Commander, Fleet Air Forward Detachment Guam Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Division (AIMD) headquarters on Andersen Air Force Base May 24. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

(NALCOMIS) maintenance database and responsible for training IMA personnel in NALCOMIS [Aviation Maintenance Material Management (AV-3M)] documentation."

According to his supervisor, Chief Aviation Electrician's Mate (AW) William Guinazzo, Jr., Hughes-Batalla has been burning on all cylinders since arriving at the command four months ago.

"His performance, from the moment he reports to work to being the last one out the door, is unparalleled," Guinazzo said. "He is a consummate professional who puts

foresight into every task. Not only does he complete all tasks ahead of his peers, he approaches any problems with an already-detailed solution."

The chief continues to praise Hughes-Batalla, saying that the second class petty officer always sets a superior example for his junior personnel and continues to have a positive effect on the command.

"AZ2 presents an immaculate appearance daily, leads junior and senior personnel in physical readiness, and deals with day-to-day situations with the patience of a third-grade teacher," Guinazzo said. "His work

was instrumental in AIMD Guam receiving 29 out of 29 programs on track during our recent Aviation Maintenance Inspection. According to the inspection team, this was the first time they have ever had a command not receive 'off track' or 'needs more attention' marks."

Hughes-Batalla, who is his command's terminal area security officer and a member of the Command Training Team said that he owes his work ethic to the patience and direction of mentors at his command and most especially to the example of his role models – his parents.

"My parents taught me that the way to achieve success was working hard to avoid regrets," he said. "This has always driven my steps in life including in the military. I make sure that I understand the task given to me because I want to deliver a job well done."

For others hoping to emulate his success, Hughes-Batalla said he encourages shipmates not to be afraid to pass what they have learned on to those around them while still striving to learn as much as possible.

"Even though I still have a lot to learn, I see my junior Sailors as my students," he said. "I know that, in order to achieve success in the military, I must be disciplined and determined and pass these attributes on to everyone around me. I value discipline and I apply it to everything I do. I am determined to achieve a military career but, more importantly, I want to be a role model that junior Sailors can rely on."

Andersen's Best: Staff Sgt. Salas leadership rated outstanding



Leader: Staff Sgt. Daisy Salas, center, 36th Contingency Response Group, was awarded Andersen's Best here May 25. Salas leads a 13-person team, deployable to 42 countries in the Pacific Command's area of responsibility. She provided security for the Pacific Air Forces commander, Gen. Gary North's visit to Bangladesh and led the squadron's Compliance Inspection preparation, leading to the wing's only "Outstanding" rating. Additionally, Salas performs duties as a jumpmaster for 36 CRG Airborne Operations, one of three 36th CRG jumpmasters. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Carlin Leslie)

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

Brig. Gen. John Doucette, USAF Deputy Commander, Joint Region Marianas

Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs

Lt. Jodie Cornell, USN, Public Affairs Officer 349-4055 jodie.cornell@fe.navy.mil

Coleen R. San Nicolas-Perez, Deputy Public Affairs Officer 349-3209 coleen.perez@fe.navy.mil

Theresa Merto Cepeda, Public Affairs Director, DZSP 21 LLC 349-6114 theresa.cepeda@fe.navy.mil

Anna-Victoria Crisostomo, Editor 349-2113 anna.crisostomo@fe.navy.mil

Reporters

Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis 349-4476 peterlewis1@fe.navy.mil

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert 349-4376 corwin.colbert@fe.navy.mil

JoAnna Delfin 349-2115

Photographers

Reynaldo Rabara 349-5435 reynaldo.rabara@fe.navy.mil

Reporters

Raymond Torres 349-5435 raymond.torres@fe.navy.mil

Write to us at: Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office PSC 455 Box 211, FPO AP 96540

36th Wing Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio

Chief of Public Affairs

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze

366-2228

Reporters

Tech Sgt. Mike Andriacchio

366-2228

Staff Sgt. Jamie Powell

366-4202

Senior Airman Carlin Leslie

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Jeffrey Schultze

366-2228

Airman Basic Anthony Jennings

366-2228

Airman 1st Class Whitney Tucker

366-2228

Sailors lend a hand in Hong Kong

By Mass Communication
Specialist 3rd Class (SW)
Gabrielle Blake

USS Frank Cable (AS 40) Public Affairs

Sailors assigned to the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) and the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Hampton (SSN 767) participated in community service (COMSERV) beautification projects at the Po Leung Kuk Li Shiu Chung Memorial Rehabilitation Centre and Hong Chi Farmstead in Hong Kong May 17-18.

"The Frank Cable goes into foreign ports and doing COMSERV projects gives the Sailors opportunities to impact other people and other cultures," said Lt. Alan Fleming, Frank Cable chaplain. "That is a big part of what the Navy does."

The rehabilitation center provides services for individuals with physical and mental handicaps. Sailors spent hours painting a classroom, passageways and cylindrical bases at the center.

"These people [who come to the rehabilitation center] are dependent upon these ladies and the men who work here so, if we can help them out in any way so they can spend more time training them and giving them the life skills they need, that's a pretty good deal," said Logistics Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW)



COMSERV in the Hong Kong Sun: Chaplain Lt. Alan Fleming, assigned to submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40), cuts down vines intertwined to a fence for a community service (COMSERV) project at Hong Chi Farmstead, a farm for people with intellectual disabilities. Frank Cable conducts maintenance and support of submarines and surface vessels deployed in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr)

Dawn Atkinson, of Frank Cable. Hong Chi Farmstead provides services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Frank Cable and Hampton Sailors came together to pull weeds and vines, and cut grass.

The Religious Ministries Department onboard Frank Cable worked with Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Ozric Martinez to put the projects together. Martinez works as a liaison coordinating COMSERV projects for ships visiting Hong Kong.

"Most of the agencies that I have coordinated projects with haven't dealt with Sailors before so, for them, it is a new experience," Martinez said. "They become overwhelmed with excitement when they hear the Sailors are coming and they are very appreciative."

Sailors exchanged gifts with the hosts. For Logistics Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Vivian Wilson, of Frank Cable, the gesture was touching.

"Seeing how appreciative the people were made me feel so proud," Wilson said. "It always feels good to lend a helping hand."

"The gratitude that is expressed to us is pretty humbling," Fleming said. "These projects are small contributions that we make that are appreciated in big ways."

For more news from USS Frank Cable, visit www.navy.mil/local/as40/.

Military, local community recognize Police Week

By JoAnna Delfin

Joint Region Edge Staff

In recognition of National Police Week, military and local agencies gathered at the Guam Police Department (GPD) Headquarters in Tiyan, Guam to display and demonstrate the different functions of their organizations May 17.

To honor the fallen men and women of all law enforcement agencies, former President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation in 1962 designating the week of May 15 as Police Week. On Guam, local and federal law enforcement entities joined the nation to remember and pay tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

The festivities kicked off with K-9 demonstrations by Guam Customs and Quarantine (Customs) and the 36th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) from Andersen Air Force Base (AFB). Tech. Sgt. Wilfredo Salinas, 36th SFS kennel master; Staff Sgt. Eric Barrios, 36th SFS dog handler; and Staff Sgt. Justin Gatti, 36th SFS dog handler, introduced audience members to Military Working Dogs Mike and Bogi, and showed onlookers how the duo and their colleagues assist 36th SFS Airmen when questioning and apprehending suspects.

"Our dogs go through rigorous training to learn how and when to attack and protect their handlers," Gatti said. "They obey our every command and back us up in the field by attacking anyone who tries to attack



Robot in Action: Students watch an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 robot in action at the Guam Police Department Headquarters in Tiyan May 17. In recognition of National Police Week, military and local agencies gathered to display and demonstrate the different functions of their organizations. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)

us."

Throughout the day, attendees and visiting students viewed informational display booths by Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 and EOD Detachment Marianas, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Naval Security Forces

(NSF), NSF Harbor Security, NBG Special Response Team (SRT), Transportation Security Administration, Guam Department of Agriculture, Guam Homeland Security, and Guam Army National Guard.

The EOD Det. Marianas displays

crowds as the Sailors explained the different types of ordnance found on island. As a result of the bombardment and liberation of Guam from Japanese occupation during World War II, island residents up to today unearth ordnance. The detachment responds several times a week to remove and render

safe World War II ordnance located on the island and in the U.S. Naval Forces Marianas area of responsibility.

"We're out here to show the kids and the community what the bomb squad deals with and what they should know about us to stay safe," said Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (EWS) Eric Van Gogh, of EOD Det. Marianas. "It's also an opportunity for us to give [unexploded ordnance (UXO)] awareness, which is what we find in a lot of people's back yards."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Eric Leigh, of NBG SRT, said it was important for the military security forces to be a part of the event.

"I think it shows joint ownership between the local law enforcement and Navy as a whole," Leigh said. "We work with GPD and the GPD [Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)] team all the time as far as training goes so it's good to show support for them because they always show support for us."

Navy Reservist and GPD Lt. Ron Barcinas, the event coordinator, agreed with Leigh and added that the event would not have been complete without military representation.

"It shows that we're not bound to just the local government," Barcinas said. "We also do have and work closely with our military community as well, federal agencies also. We're one big family and we don't really differentiate from each other."

New clinic open to serve veterans

By JoAnna Delfin

Joint Region Edge Staff

Service members and veterans gathered at the new Veterans Affairs Guam Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Agana Heights for a ribbon-cutting ceremony May 24.

Following a brief invocation, Veterans Affairs Pacific Islands Health Care System (VAPIHCS) Director James Hastings welcomed attendees to the ceremony and invited U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam Commanding Officer Capt. Kevin Haws to share a few words about the clinic.

"The mission of Navy Medicine, the core concept of care is patient- and family-centered care," he said. "It really doesn't make a difference who you are [or] how you got through the doors of Navy Medicine – our goal, our mission is to take care of you as if you were one of our own family members."

Hastings said the dedication of the new clinic is a continuation of the care and partnering the local veterans' community has had with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Joint Region Marianas Commander Rear Adm. Paul Bushong highlighted how the new clinic will assist and deliver positive results for veterans.

"Here, veterans from Guam and nearby islands will find qualified and dedicated professionals who will care for their medical needs and ensure that they are getting the best treatment possible here at this new



Newly Opened: From left, Veterans Affairs Pacific Islands Health Care System Director James Hastings, Lt. Gov. of Guam Ray Tenorio, Navy veteran Manuel Diaz and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki cut the ribbon of the new Veterans Affairs Guam Community Based Outpatient Clinic during a ceremony in Agana Heights May 24. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)

state-of-the-art facility," he said. "The Navy and the Department of Veterans Affairs Pacific Islands Health Care System have heard [veterans'] concerns, and we are proud to deliver on our promises to resolve

access issues and enhance health care."

The dedication of the clinic is a testament of promises fulfilled and ongoing commitment to better serve the veterans of Guam, Bushong said.

The \$5.4 million facility boasts 6,000 square feet, nearly double the size of the old clinic, and features increased access to advanced medical technologies and treatment capabilities.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki was the keynote speaker for ceremony. He shared Washington, D.C.'s top priorities for the VA.

"We have focused our energies on three basic priorities – expanding access to VA benefits and services for veterans of all generations, reducing claims backlog and third, a personal priority of mine, is ending the shame of veterans homelessness," Shinseki said.

Hastings said that patients of the new clinic could expect the best care possible from people who understand their needs.

"All the physicians we use here are all VA employees," he said. "We also bring in VA specialists from Hawaii and, when they come out here, they will work in the Naval Hospital and at the clinic."

World War II Navy veteran Manuel Diaz, formerly of USS West Virginia (BB 48), said he was very honored to be a part of such a historical event and was happy to see the new clinic completed for him and fellow veterans.

The new VA Guam Community Based Outpatient clinic is located next to U.S. Naval Hospital Guam and is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. for veterans and their dependents. They are closed on weekends and federal holidays. In the event of an emergency, proceed directly to USNH Guam or the nearest medical center for urgent care.

For more information or to register at the clinic, call 475-5760.

National Maritime Day recognizes seafarers

By JoAnna Delfin

Joint Region Edge Staff

Members of Guam's maritime community held a wreath-laying ceremony at sea aboard USCGC Assateague (WPB 1337) in observance of National Maritime Day May 20.

With the solemn sound of Taps in the background, Lt. Gov. of Guam Ray Tenorio, Military Sealift Command Ship Support Unit Guam Commanding Officer Cmdr. Norman Maple, and U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam Commander Capt. Thomas Sparks laid a wreath in the Philippine Sea in honor of mariners past and present.

The ceremony recognized military mariners that support day-to-day operations of the nation's nautical defense system.

"Few people know that May 22 marks National Maritime Day – a special day set aside to recognize the unsung heroes of our nation's maritime industry who work side by side with our military to uphold freedom and democracy," Maple said.

According to Maple, U.S. merchant mariners have been the backbone of the nation's maritime serv-



In Honor: Military Sealift Command Ship Support Unit Guam Commanding Officer Cmdr. Norman Maple and U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam Commander Capt. Thomas Sparks prepare to lay a wreath in the ocean in honor of mariners past and present during a ceremony in recognition of National Maritime Day aboard USCGC Assateague May 20. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)

ice especially in times of war. During World War II, one in 26 mariners died – a death rate second only to that of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Maple added that in the past few years merchant mariners have offered support to America's allies during natural disasters. Most re-

cently, the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan March 11 prompted the relief response of merchant mariners. The mariners

provided aid to victims by providing manpower to assist with clean up efforts; and delivering necessary supplies including food, water and first aid equipment.

"Today's U.S. merchant mariners continue in the proud tradition of those who have served the nation on the high seas for centuries and will continue for generations to come," Maple said. "On this day around the world we honor them, thank them and we say, 'Well done shipmates.'"

National Maritime Week on Guam will be observed May 22-28. Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo signed a proclamation May 16 thanking government, military and shipping officials for their efforts in providing security and economic support to the island.

"Guam and the rest of the nation depend on the service provided by merchant mariners for economic stability, safety and security," the proclamation stated. "Guam joins the rest of the nation in observing National Maritime Week for their commitment to our nation, island and people."

For more information about National Maritime Day visit www.nationalmaritimeday.org.

Global effort for tobacco cessation

By Luis Martinez

U.S. Naval Hospital Guam Health Promotion/Wellness Section

The world struggles to combat the leading cause of preventable death – whose numbers overshadow deaths caused by infectious diseases, natural disasters, war and famine.

This cause is also one of the main factors contributing to preventable illness, lost work days, slower injury recovery, and lost personal and commercial revenue. It is the result of the use of a product sold legally worldwide, whose initial use began in the very ancient past. Its addictive nature portends it will haunt our planet into the distant future. Because of it, the World Health Organization proclaims May 31 of every year “World No Tobacco Day.”

The devastation to personal health caused by tobacco use is masked by the fact that it is present nearly everywhere. This suggests tobacco is not as deadly as it really is.

In our country alone, approximately one-half million people die every year – sooner than they otherwise would have – because of smoking cigarettes and chewing or dipping tobacco. Millions of tobacco users suffer from various cancers, heart attacks, strokes, and a wide range of other serious diseases. Yet, this common knowledge seems

to be powerless against the incredibly powerful physical addiction and psychological conditioning suffered by millions of tobacco users worldwide.

Many tobacco users truly want to quit and many of them do. Unfortunately, relapse is often associated with quit attempts as the average tobacco user will make an average of seven to nine quit attempts before he or she is successful – meaning before obtaining lifelong freedom from tobacco.

Fortunately, much can be done

to prevent and reduce the devastation of tobacco use:

- Call 344-9124 to inquire about the tobacco cessation services offered by U.S. Naval Hospital Guam.
- Encourage tobacco-using friends to consider quitting and remain nonjudgmental if they do not quit.
- Refuse to buy tobacco products for friends and loved ones.
- Support recent quitters by engaging them in nontobacco activities even if you are a tobacco user yourself.

• Talk with your children, at all ages, about the importance of and how to maintain overall good health, and be a good role model for them.

Join the World Health Organization in spreading the message – the world’s leading cause of premature death can be prevented.

Whether it is one of the ideas suggested above or something else you do, all of our individual efforts to prevent someone from starting or helping someone to quit can make a difference – a difference which may save a life.

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

Do you have questions
or concerns you would like to
bring up to the commander?

actionline@andersen.af.mil

The action line is monitored by 36th Wing Public Affairs and will route questions to appropriate personnel.

COMPACAF delivers Memorial Day message

Commentary by Gen. Gary North and CMSgt. Brooke McLean

Pacific Air Forces Commander and Command Chief Master Sergeant

On May 30, 2011, our Memorial Day, we will honor our service members who have paid the ultimate price in the full spectrum of military operations in the defense of our great Nation.

We honor the legacy of those that have served and given their all, and certainly inclusive in this long line are our PACAF Airmen and their sacrifices during regional and global operations. We should always remember our Airmen...both officer and enlisted who fought the battles in the air and on the ground, many who never returned, giving their lives in the performance of their sworn duty.

Our Airmen were keenly aware of the dangers but courageously continued out of sheer devotion to their ideals, their fellow comrades and ultimately for all of us who follow in their service.

We also remember and honor our Airmen from today's generation of heroes who lost their lives supporting current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. This year we lost five PACAF Airmen. Maj. David L. Brodeur, Tech. Sgt. Leslie Williams, Airman 1st Class Christoffer Johnson, Airman 1st Class Corey Owens and Senior Airman Michael Hinkle join a long list that we remember today as we honor all on Memorial Day.

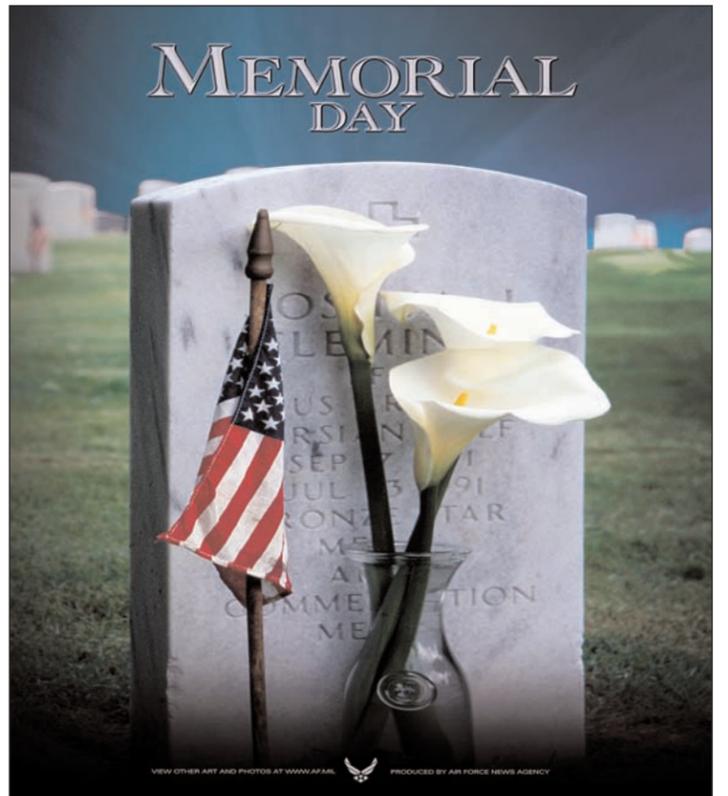
These heroes' selfless sacrifice does not go unnoticed by our Nation or by those that they have protected. Our Nation is appreciative of the hard work being performed by our talented PACAF Airmen as a key part of our joint military team, not only our AOR, but throughout the world. As well, we honor and respect the families of our fallen and share in their sacrifice; they will always be a part of our greater Air Force family.

We are proud of how PACAF's Airmen serve every day. One example is their response to the devastating 9.0 earthquake and resulting

tsunami and nuclear events in Japan. During Operation Tomodachi, over 800 aircraft sorties and more than 6 million pounds of relief supplies were flown in and distributed to the hardest hit areas. Our Airmen and sister Services joined to clear debris and open Sendai Airport five days after being swallowed by a tsunami, along with all the other superb humanitarian efforts, such as maintaining and supporting main base operational efforts.

So as we remember our fallen this Memorial Day weekend, we ask you to take some time to reflect on their sacrifices with friends and loved ones. The best way to honor them is to keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and realize we enjoy America's freedoms because of their sacrifice.

Have a peaceful Memorial Day and keep yourself, your family and your great extended Air Force family safe. May the sacrifices of our Airmen, ordinary people who displayed extraordinary valor, through their selfless service, never be forgotten! Happy Memorial Day!



Dignitaries take tour of Frank Cable, Hampton



And Here We Have: Navy Diver 1st Class (SW) Mark Martinez, right, of USS Frank Cable (AS 40), shows foreign dignitaries the ship's decompression chamber and explains how vital diving operations are to Cable's mission during a tour May 17. The visit gave distinguished visitors – including consulate representatives from New Zealand, Australia, Germany, and Hong Kong Police Force officials – a chance to tour some of Cable's facilities while she was anchored in Hong Kong. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Corey Hensley)



Talking Business: USS Hampton (SSN 767) Weapons Officer Lt. Ron Hatt, left, talks with Edward Tortorici, First Pacific Company Limited executive director, about ship maneuvers, supervisor watches, and the fire control systems onboard the submarine during a tour May 17. The visit gave distinguished visitors – including consulate representatives from New Zealand, Australia, Germany, and Hong Kong Police Force officials – a chance to tour some of Hampton's facilities while anchored in Hong Kong. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Corey Hensley)

NEXCOM program helps associates

By Navy Exchange Service Command Public Affairs

As military families know, moving is a way of life. The Navy Exchange Service Command's (NEXCOM) Continuity of Employment Program helps ease the stress of moving by making sure its associates don't need to find a new job when a spouse gets transferred to a new duty station.

"Military family members comprise 27 percent of the Navy Exchange System workforce," said

Peggy Vitola, NEXCOM director of benefits, labor and employee relations. "Our associates are very important to us and we want to do all we can to ensure that, if an associate wants a job, we will have one for them. The Continuity of Employment Program has allowed us to take care of our NEX family by keeping the associate employed and, for us, retaining good and dedicated people within the system."

Since the program's inception in 1998, NEXCOM has placed over 1,300 associates in Navy Exchange System positions at the associate's

new duty station.

Once a NEX associate knows that his or her spouse is transferring to another duty station where there is a NEX facility, paperwork is filled out letting the NEX in the new location know that there is an associate looking for a new position. After the NEX associate relocates and is ready to begin work, he or she contacts the NEX to determine which positions are open and which best suits the associate's work experience.

Another important aspect of the program is it keeps the associate's

service date and benefits intact as they move from position to position. Once the associate is enrolled in the program, payments can still be made to any health, retirement or other benefit the associate has so there is no break in enrollment.

"This is important when an associate eventually retires from the Navy Exchange System," Vitola said. "It allows them to retire with meaningful benefits."

NEXCOM is headquarters for the worldwide Navy Exchange System that oversees 103 NEX facilities and its 300 stores worldwide; 40

Navy Lodges; Ship's Stores; Uniform Program Management Office. NEXCOM's parent command is the Naval Supply Systems Command.

NEXCOM's mission is to provide authorized customers quality goods and services at a savings and to support quality of life programs for active-duty military, retirees, reservists and their families. The Navy Exchange enterprise operates primarily as a non-appropriated fund business instrumentality. Revenues generated are used to support Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) programs.

Family Fun Festival held on Naval Base Guam



Tiny Dancers: The Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Little Ballerinas dancing group entertain the crowd during the Family Fun Fitness Festival on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 14. The event was hosted by the Navy Exchange, Defense Commissary Agency, and MWR. (U.S. Navy photo by Sue Gentapanan)

Attention to detail will lower energy costs

By Patrick Russell

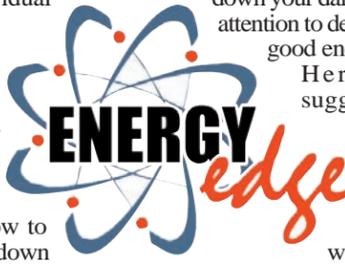
Andersen Air Force Base Energy Manager

Have you ever wondered what cost impact you have on your base? If not, maybe you should take a look.

One way energy managers track base energy usage is by following energy trends from month to month at building or groups of buildings. Once we figure out the usage per month and reduce it to show what the base's total energy use is per day, it's easy to take total base personnel

and divide the total daily use across the board for each individual person.

The energy use figures change from day to day but the base average load stays consistent throughout the year. When sorted by use, we then focus on how to bring the energy use down without affecting quality of life or the mission.



So what does it take to bring down your daily cost? Just pay attention to detail and practice good energy discipline.

Here are some suggestions.

- Begin the morning by ensuring no unnecessary lights are left on when leaving living quarters.
- Raise thermostat temperatures at

work and at home if temperatures are comfortable enough to do so.

- At work, look for unnecessary office energy loads. If permissible, secure these loads.

• If your job requires a computer, turn off the monitor if you're not using it for long periods of time. Per ONE-NET, you are able to shutdown your computer, except on Wednesday evenings, when you leave at the end of your work shift.

When everybody does their part to save energy, the combined effort

assists lowering the total energy consumption. This, in turn, substantially lowers 'per person' energy consumption.

Understanding the cost associated with utilizing our cooling, lighting, or other modern day appliances allows us to understand how important it is not to take energy for granted. Attention to detail is a key component when it comes to saving energy. Lastly, please remember the Air Force Energy Vision, "Make energy a consideration in all we do."

News Notes

Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view the vacancy listings at <https://www.cnmc.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 349-6119/2224.

Naval Base Support Activity Andersen

Program Assistant, Closes May 30

Mini Workshops at the Hotspot

The Airman and Family Readiness Center will hold a free mini workshops titled "Entering the World of Work (Focus on Teens)" from 10-11 a.m. May 31 at the Hotspot on Andersen Air Force Base. To register or for more information, call 366-8136.

Call for Liberation Day Entertainers

The 67th Guam Liberation Day Committee is seeking interested groups or individuals who are willing to perform at the 2011 Liberation Carnival. Carnival entertainment will be highlighted nightly from 6:30-11 p.m. June 11-July 24. The Committee is looking for cultural and ethnic groups, dance troupes, clowns, school bands, comedians, magicians, variety acts, roving performers, rock/pop/reggae bands, martial art exhibitions and more! Deadline to submit contact information and description of act for consideration is June 6. For more information or to sign up, call Sinajana Vice Mayor Robert Hoffman or Mike Mafnas at 475-1539.

Andersen Air Force Base Public Health

Going on vacation?

Andersen Air Force Base's Public Health office can provide clinic beneficiaries with general health information such as vaccine requirements, prophylactic medications and disease outbreaks for your specific travels. For more information on your next destination, contact Andersen Public Health 366-4147.

Students tour Navy Water Treatment Plant

By Anna-Victoria Crisostomo

Joint Region Edge Staff

Students from St. John's Episcopal School paid a visit to the Navy Water Treatment Plant in Santa Rita, Guam, May 20.

Throughout the day, the fourth-graders toured numerous facility sites involved with the treatment of water from Fena Lake, including sand filters, clarifiers, ultraviolet and chlorination treatment buildings, backwash tanks, grit removal centers and the intake area.

According to Jackie Strandhagen, a fourth-grade teacher at St. John's, the tour was a real eye opener for students.

"[The water treatment plan] is an excellent place for the children to learn about where our water comes from," she said. "I mean, they're children – they just think it comes out of the faucet. So we'd like for them to know there's a little bit more to it than the faucet."

In addition to seeing how water is treated once it arrives at the plant, students were also able to visit the facility's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-certified organic and inorganic laboratories to get a better picture of how the treated water is tested to ensure it is safe for island residents. In the labs, students learned about EPA standards for safe water treatment and consumption, saw several experiments in action, and learned about the inductively coupled plasma (ICP) spectrophotometer – a machine that can detect trace amounts of metals and other agents in water.

Lacrina Jones, the plant's laboratory manager, said she was excited to share her work with the students.

"I think it's important," she said. "That way, they understand what goes in to making



Water Testing: Lacrina Jones, Navy Water Treatment Plant laboratory manager, shows students from St. John's Episcopal School how water is tested for metals and harmful agents at the inorganic laboratory during a school tour to the Santa Rita facility May 20. Students learned where Guam's water comes from and how it is treated for safe ingestion by island residents. (U.S. Navy photo by Anna-Victoria Crisostomo)

sure that the water is safe to drink and also enticing the students to take up courses in sciences and math later on in life. That way we can contribute to making the environment safe – not just the water."

Ramon Camacho, U.S. Naval Base Guam Environmental Office hydrologist, agreed with Jones. He added that having the students on-

board for the day inspired Team Fena to continue to strive for excellence.

"It's a lot of fun," Camacho said. "They ask so many questions that you're not expecting and it's just good to see that vibrancy of youth just to remind us part of the reason that we're all here making sure that the water goes out safe to drink and everything. It's just refresh-

ing to give back to the community.

Strandhagen said she was impressed by the plant professionals and their operation. She added that visiting the facility assured her of their commitment to the community.

"[Hosting our visit] shows that they care and they want everyone to know that they're here for us," she said.

BEQ: Leadership in Energy and Environment gold certified

Continued from Page 1

system, drought-resistant landscaping, photovoltaic street lighting and more.

"Our remarkable facility stands before us today and it is the first building in the Marianas that the Navy can proudly herald as a [Leadership in Energy and Environment (LEED)] gold certified by the U.S. Green Building Council," he said. "This not only bolsters our local initiatives toward the use of sustainable technology and the use of re-

newable energy but enhances the Department of the Navy's overall efforts to realize our goal of reduced dependency on fossil fuels."

LEED is an internationally-recognized certification system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED provides third-party verification that the design and building process of construction projects uses strategies to decrease impact on the environment both during construction and as the building is used. LEED Gold is the highest level of certification that

can be achieved.

The new BEQ also met two goals outlined by Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus in 2009 – that all new buildings funded by military construction programmed dollars must meet at minimum LEED silver and commands and installations must work toward implementing 25 percent renewable energy by the year 2025.

Capt. Richard Wood, NBG commanding officer, said that facilities like this one show the support that

the command, island and Navy have for the Sailors stationed on Guam.

"We don't just support the fleet at Naval Base Guam – we support the warfighters themselves," he said. "Providing them with a good quality of life is one of my key tasks. This BEQ is going to be a huge contributor to that."

Wood went on to say that the facility will greatly help to improve life for all military personnel, friends and family members on Guam.

"This building meets a number

of our personal goals," he said. "It provides improved customer service and improved quality of life for our Sailors; it improves the housing experience for everybody; and it improves our base appearance."

Following the speakers' words, the distinguished guests cut a ribbon, signifying the opening of the new barracks. Guests then entered the building for a tour of the facilities. For more news from U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, visit www.navy.mil/local/guam/.

Ordnance: Coordination among all parties involved

Continued from Page 1

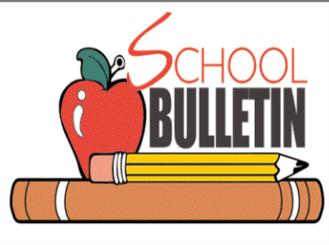
Leonides Rivera, 36th Wing Weapons Safety manager. "We reviewed safety procedures to ensure all parties knew their roles and responsibilities in case a mishap occurred. These procedures, if needed, would be lead by EOD or the Fire Department, based upon the severity of the incident."

When the smoke cleared and the ground settled, the Hayun Iagu

emerged unscathed and the explosives had been destroyed.

"Many organizations and agencies made this operation a success," Rivera said.

"We had tremendous coordination and cooperation among all parties, both on and off-base. Because of everyone's hard work, we were successful in eliminating the risk these bombs posed to the local community and military members alike."



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 349-2113.

Andersen Elementary School

May 30 No school – Memorial Day
June 2 Fifth-grade “Westward Expansion” presentation for parents
June 3 Kindergarten Graduation and “America, We Salute You” event at 10:45 a.m. at the Dolphin Theater
June 16 Fifth-grade promotion from 9-10:45 a.m.
June 16 Last day of school for students – early release

Guam High School

May 30 No school – Memorial Day
June 1 Academic Awards Program
June 10 Graduation at the Guam High School gym beginning at 5 p.m.

McCool Elementary/Middle School

May 30 No school – Memorial Day
June 7 Second-grade Promotional Ceremony at the cafeteria from 1-2:45 p.m.
June 9 First-grade Awards Ceremony at the cafeteria from 1:30-2:30 p.m.
June 13 Sixth-grade Awards Ceremony at the cafeteria from 1:30-2:45 p.m.
June 14 Kindergarten Awards Ceremony at the cafeteria from 1:30-2:30 p.m.
June 15 Seventh-grade Awards Ceremony at the cafeteria from 2-2:45 p.m.
June 16 Last day for students
June 17 Teacher workday

The last day for students will be June 16. Dismissal will be at 11:20 a.m. and no lunch will be provided. For more information, call 339-8676.

Substitute teachers wanted. U.S. citizens with a minimum of 60 college semester hours may apply. For more information, call Mellie Guerrero at 339-5347.

Parent portal for Gradespeed is now available for all parents/sponsors. Through the parent portal, parents/sponsors are able to view their child's academic progress. For more information, contact your child's advisory teacher at 339-8676.

UMUC Asia congratulates graduates

By JoAnna Delfin

Joint Region Edge Staff

Donned in black caps and gowns, 26 students from the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Asia Class of 2011 received their degrees at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa in Tumon May 21.

According to UMUC Asia Regional Director Joseph Foster, the graduating class had service members from the Air Force, Navy, Guam National Guard and Coast Guard as well as military spouses and dependents.

Joint Region Marianas (JRM) Commander Rear Adm. Paul Bushong encouraged graduates to become proactive members of society and advised that, though service comes in many forms, volunteering one's self to a greater cause affects not only the individual but also society as a whole.

“I encourage you, in whatever you do, to look for opportunities to be a person of service,” Bushong said. “I am confident that we will see more from you in the near future.”

Brig. Gen. John Doucette, 36th Wing commander, echoed Bushong's sentiments and reminded graduates that their higher education would have a far-reaching impact.

“Whatever [the future] is for you, find it, contribute to it but know full well that your degree, your abilities to be educated and move beyond where you are today will benefit those around you,” he said.

UMUC Asia President Susana Aldridge was the keynote speaker for the commencement. She praised the students for earning their degrees on top of dealing with the stresses of daily life.

“Having survived the rigors of adult student-hood, all of you are now ready to join the esteemed ranks of college graduates,”



Graduates: Members of the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Asia Class of 2011 listen attentively to speakers during the UMUC Asia commencement ceremony at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa in Tumon May 21. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)

Aldridge said. “At a time when the problems before us are indeed enormous and certainly without precedent, we must use our education and experience to actively engage the future by exploring fresh perspectives, promoting novel solutions and revealing hidden opportunities.”

After the speeches, graduates received their degrees and turned their tassels signifying the end of their undergraduate journey. Among the graduates were Logistics Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Stacy Tonetta Russell, of 30th Naval Construction Regiment Detachment Guam and her husband Stacy Ambrose Russell, a retired Navy logistics specialist.

“I'm just happy my husband and I can share this experience together,” Stacy Tonetta Russell said. “We both spent three years working for our degree, so to have this moment of triumph as husband and wife is a great feeling.”

She added that they both intend to further their education.

“We both would like to pursue our master's degrees after we leave Guam,” he said. “My wife would like to receive her master's and move on to teach elementary education and I would like to become a business entrepreneur.”

Foster said he is proud of the UMUC Asia's role in providing higher education to Guam's mili-

tary community.

“This ceremony means a great deal to the graduates because they have reached a significant milestone and I am excited that UMUC Asia helped them pursue their educational goals,” he said.

This year's commencement marks the first unilateral ceremony for UMUC Asia. Traditionally, joint-recognition ceremonies for graduates from Guam satellite campuses for Community College of the Air Force, University of Phoenix, Central Texas College and University of Oklahoma share one graduation ceremony.

For more information on UMUC Asia, visit www.asia.umuc.edu.

Sesame Street favorites to visit Guam

By Joint Region Marianas Regional Marketing

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families will be coming to U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) June 9-10.

Military families and their children will enjoy the fifth installment of the program – a free, traveling USO tour exclusively for military families based on Sesame Workshop's award-winning “Talk, Listen, Connect” (TLC) initiative.

This year's show will also boast a new theme, new look and new music with familiar faces to connect with military kids of all ages. The new show features a 25-minute, high-energy character performance with special giveaways and vital outreach materials for those who attend.

If You Go

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families will be held at the Youth Center Gym on Andersen Air Force Base June 9. The first show will be at 10 a.m. with a second showing at 6 p.m. For more information, call 366-3490.

On Naval Base Guam, the show will take place at the Big Screen Theater June 10. The first show will be at 2 p.m. with a second showing at 6 p.m. For more information, call 688-7038.

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families, which is produced in partnership with the VEE Corporation, made its debut in July 2008 to help families deal with the challenges of deployment and homecomings.

“Sesame Workshop is proud to be able to bring such an invaluable resource to military families around the world,” said Gary E. Knell, Sesame Workshop chief executive officer and president. “Our latest

show kicks off with a new character, a child who is adjusting to a move to a new location – something many of us can relate to.”

Audiences will meet a new character named Katie – a military child relocating to a new home. With the help of Elmo and other Sesame Street pals, Katie opens up about her fears and excitement as she deals with change and making new friends.

“There is nothing that gives the

USO more joy than making the lives of military families a little easier and lightening their load,” said Sloan Gibson, USO president. “Relocating to a new place can be difficult for everyone but especially for military families with young children. That is why this tour is so important and why we proudly stand beside Sesame Workshop to deliver a show that is entertaining and helpful to the children of those who serve.”

Since the tour's inception three years ago, The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families has logged more than 61,200 miles to 90 bases in 33 different states and nine countries. The tour has also performed 315 shows for more than 192,600 service members and their families. This phase of the tour will perform in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Korea, Turkey, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United Kingdom and Spain.

What is your favorite memory from your school days?

Joint Region Edge asked its readers what was their favorite memory from their school days.



“Probably logging with the rest of my class at Stafford Technical Center in Vermont. We’d cut the trees down and drag them off with skidders. It was just good fun.”
— Airman 1st Class Christopher Baker, 554 REDHORSE



“Graduating was my fondest memory because I was finally done and able to move on to the next chapter of my life.”
— Lt. Cmdr. Evan Colbert, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 executive officer



“Most memorable school moments were attending the Department of Defense Fire Academy. I enjoyed the live fire exercises and the real-life scenarios.”
— Firefighter Patrick Fleming, U.S. Naval Base Guam fire department



“There were moments in my life in high school that were tough but I had great friends that got me through it.”
— Religious Program Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Justin Carr, U.S. Naval Base Guam chapel



“The prom. I lived in Cleveland, Tenn., and the prom was in Chattanooga. It was the first time out of my home city. I took my high school sweetheart who I later married.”
— Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW/EXW) Jason Falls, U.S. Naval Base Guam Security



“Just hanging out with friends, going to the beach and trying to stay out of trouble. I’m from here so living the island life was always a fond memory.”
— Staff Sgt. Jesse Opena, 36th Force Support Squadron First Term Airman non-commissioned officer in charge

Rec-N-Crew, patrons take the hill

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis

Joint Region Edge Staff

Morale, Welfare and Recreation's (MWR) Rec-N-Crew held a hike up Mt. Jumullong Manglo (JU-mu-long MUNG-lu) in Umatac May 19. More than a dozen service members and family members turned out for the trek.

With a peak of 1,283 feet, Jumullong Manglo is the third-tallest mountain on Guam. The mountain's name means "where the air flows through," and a cool and constant breeze can be felt on the mountain's peak. The trail up the mountain is visited annually by local Christians on Good Friday. The journey is made as a demonstration of their faith and imitates Jesus Christ's trek up Golgotha before his crucifixion.

The hikers were treated to a beautiful view of Cetti Bay and a panoramic view of the island's southern mountains. At the peak, the trekkers saw crosses of varying sizes, some up to 30 feet tall, which had been posted there during previous Good Friday visits.

Jody Sergienko, a Navy spouse, said that the hike was beautiful, a good workout, and praised the Rec-N-Crew for their continued efforts to help service members and dependents get outdoors and enjoy the island.

"I absolutely loved the hike, just like every other hike I've done with Rec-N-Crew," she said. "There were some really unbelievable views on



Climbing to New Heights: Hikers and guides stand atop Mt. Jumullong Manglo (JU-mu-long MUNG-lu) during a Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Rec-N-Crew sponsored hike in Umatac May 19. MWR Rec-N-Crew offers a monthly calendar of guided trips, tours, and hikes for eligible personnel and dependents. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

the mountain. I'll definitely come out with them again. The guides at Rec-N-Crew are just the best."

Tina Grant, another Navy spouse, said that the hikes are a great way for families to get outside and have fun together.

"Rec-N-Crew has a great mix of hikes, with plenty of easier hikes that you can bring your kids on," she said. "It's a fantastic way for

families to stay healthy together, get out of the house and just have a great time."

According to Barbara Villagomez, Rec-N-Crew guide, there will be a fun activity for patrons to take part in each Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

"This summer, we will be doing a lot of easier hikes so that parents can bring their kids along," she said. "[Activities] will vary from hikes, to

snorkeling, to kayaking. It's really a good way to get out and enjoy your time here on the island. Plus, you can meet new folks and enjoy some good company."

For anyone looking to venture out hiking without a guide, Villagomez had a few words of advice.

"Always remember to let someone not on the hike know where you're going and when you expect to return,"

she said. "Also remember to bring appropriate shoes and clothing, snacks, and lots and lots of water."

MWR Rec-N-Crew offers a monthly calendar of guided trips, tours, and hikes for eligible personnel and dependents. For more information on Rec-N-Crew, call 564-1826 or visit their Web site at http://www.mwrguam.com/company_detail.php?keyword=RNC.

FREE

Karaoke Night
Every Friday at the Silver Dolphin on Naval Base Guam (NBG) Ordnance Annex, 7 p.m. Open to all authorized Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) patrons. For more information, call 564-2280.

Golf Clinic
Every Saturday and Sunday from 9-10 a.m. at Admiral Nimitz Golf Course. No need to register! Just stop by to learn the basic fundamentals of the game of golf. For more information, call 344-5838/9.

Tumbling for Tots
Tumbling for Tots, an interactive play program for kids and parents, is available at the Hotspot Gym on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) just down the walkway from the bowling center. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-noon. For more information, call the Hotspot at 366-2339.

Children's Story Time
Every Wednesday at NBG Library from 3:30-4 p.m. and at Andersen AFB Library from 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, call NBG at 564-1836 or Andersen AFB at 366-4291.



UNDER \$10

First Friday
The Top of the Rock will offer a great new "First Friday" program featuring a disc jockey and plenty of appetizers beginning April 1. First Friday will be held the first Friday of every month in the ballroom and Boonies beginning at 4 p.m. First Friday is free for club members and \$5 for nonmembers. For more information, please call 366-6166.

Xtreme Midday Madness
At NBG's Orote Point Lanes every Monday to Friday from 1-5 p.m. Bowl for only \$5 (shoes not included)! For more information, call 564-1828.

Texas Hold'em Night
Texas Hold'em tournaments are held every Tuesday starting at 6 p.m. in Hightides Enlisted Lounge at the Top of the Rock (Andersen AFB). Play is free for Club Members and \$5 for nonmembers. Open to ages 18 and older. For more information, call Top of the Rock at 366-6166.

\$10 AND UP

Breakfast at Café Latte
Café Latte at the Top of the Rock (Andersen AFB) offers breakfast from 6:30-9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturday. Enjoy your morning coffee and traditional breakfast favorites. For more information, call 366-6166.



FRIDAY, MAY 27

7 p.m.: Source Code • PG-13

SATURDAY, MAY 28

2 p.m.: Source Code • PG-13
7 p.m.: Scream 4 • R

SUNDAY, MAY 29

7 p.m.: Scream 4 • 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 27

7 p.m.: Soul Surfer • PG
9:30 p.m.: Red Riding Hood • PG-13

SATURDAY, MAY 28

1 p.m.: Hop • PG
3:30 p.m.: Arthur • PG-13
7 p.m.: Scream 4 • R

SUNDAY, MAY 29

1 p.m.: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules • PG
3:30 p.m.: Sucker Punch • PG-13
7 p.m.: Your Highness • 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,
 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Roman Catholic Mass
 Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Saturday, 5 p.m. and Sunday,
 9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service
 Sunday Service: Traditional
 Service: 8 a.m.
 Contemporary Service: 11 a.m.
 Women's Bible Study: Monday,
 9 a.m.
 Men's Bible Study: Wednesday,
 6 p.m.
 Prayer Time: Thursday,
 11:30 a.m.
 Choir Practice: Traditional:
 Wednesday, 6 p.m.
 Choir Practice: Contemporary:
 Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Jewish Shabbat
 Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Naval Hospital Guam
Roman Catholic Mass
 Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.
 Chapel of Hope: Sunday, 9 a.m.
Protestant Services
 Full Gospel Service: Sunday,
 6:30 p.m.
 Men's Bible Study: Every other
 Tuesday starting April 5
 Women's Bible Study: Second
 and fourth Saturday of each month

Andersen Air Force Base
Roman Catholic Mass
 (Chapel 1)
 Weekday Mass: Tuesday,
 Wednesday, Friday, 11:30 a.m.
 Saturday Vigil Mass: 5 p.m.
 Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation:
 Saturday, 4:30-4:50 p.m.
 Catholic Women of the Chapel:
 First and third Wednesday of
 the month, Chapel 1 Annex,
 6:30 p.m.
 Catholic Youth of the Chapel:
 Second and fourth Wednesday
 of the month, Chapel 1 Annex,
 6:30 p.m.
 Choir Rehearsal: Saturday 4-5
 p.m. and Sunday, 8-9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service
 Praise Service: Sunday, Chapel
 2, 9 a.m.
 Gospel Service: Sunday, Chapel
 2, 11:30 a.m.
 Emerging Worship Service:
 Sunday, Lighthouse, 6 p.m.
 Protestant Women of the
 Chapel: Second Monday of
 each month, Chapel 2 Annex,
 6:30 p.m.
 Protestant Men of the Chapel:
 Wednesday, Lighthouse, 7 p.m.
 Protestant Youth of the Chapel:
 Thursday, Chapel 2 Annex, 7 p.m.
 Protestant Young Adults:
 Thursday and Saturday,
 Lighthouse, 6 p.m.
 Protestant Sunday School:
 (September-May) Sunday,
 Chapel Activity Center,
 10:15 a.m.

Schedules subject to change. To confirm times or for information about other programs, call the chapels at:

Andersen Air Force Base:
 366-6139
 U.S. Naval Base Guam
 339-2126
 U.S. Naval Hospital Guam:
 344-9127

A hero takes his last ride

By Capt. David R. Leonard

36th Wing Chaplain

"You are taking this man on his last ride," I said. "I want you to always remember it."

I handed a coin to the driver before they pulled away.

No one who knew Maj. Philip Ambard could forget him. He was born in Venezuela but loved his adopted country passionately. He joined the U.S. Air Force, quickly moving up the ranks to senior master sergeant before being commissioned.

He had five kids – four are now serving in the military on active duty. He was deeply in love with his wife of 23 years – my sister.

Ambard was a foreign language professor at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) in Colorado Springs, Co. He deployed to Afghanistan four months ago to help

train the Afghani Air Force. His life came to an end in Kabul after a lone gunman opened fire, killing nine.

I suppose I had gotten used to deployments. None of us ever thought that we would have to pay such a high price to defend freedom.

I have officiated dozens of funerals as a military chaplain but I have never seen anything as profound as what took place during the days that followed his death.

His body came into Peterson Air Force Base (AFB) in Colorado on a Wednesday. Our family was met by the senior leadership of several surrounding military communities. They knew our names and embraced us with tears. I won't forget the two chaplains who stood beside us as we received his body. They stood compassionately as visible reminders of God's presence amidst

the storm.

We followed his car in a bus down the two-mile corridor of Peterson AFB and out the front gate. It was lined with hundreds of U.S. and allied military members, civilians and Patriot Guard riders. A rolling salute followed his remains. I distinctly remember the elderly woman with an oxygen tank standing tall against the cold, hand over heart, paying respects to a fallen Airman as he passed by.

The cadets led his remains through an arch of sabers into the hallowed steel cathedral. His five children, my sister, and Brig. Gen. Dana H. Born, USAFA dean of the faculty, spoke eloquently of his life.

They shared his humor and his motto – "Don't quit, don't fail, and don't get anyone pregnant!" The hundreds of mourners and I shared that moment. We felt a connection to his life and to his sacrifice as only military families can in the face of our fallen.

When I led my family out to the hearse, I remember thinking only of the graveside but I was not ready for the ride. The driver, still holding tightly to his coin, looked at me.

"We are taking a nonstandard route to the cemetery," he said. "I hope you don't mind."

With snow falling, we pulled out onto the Terrazzo, a long cement square where students march to and from class daily. Today was not a day of coming and going. Today they lined this route. A silent field of blue with proud, slow salutes walked beside us as they said goodbye to their beloved professor. His life and his death would not be forgotten. His lessons will continue.

When anyone dies in combat, we all suffer a profound loss. It is in tragedy that I look for hope in knowing that, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, Jesus stands beside us even when we don't know that He is there and it is He who gives us hope.



Navy CDC begins skill clinics

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

Joint Region Edge Staff

The Navy Child Development Center (CDC) kicked off its summer fun with Start Smart Clinic at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 24.

The Start Smart Clinic teaches children ages 3 to 6 the fundamentals of basketball, baseball and soccer.

"The goal of Start Smart was to develop the motor skills ... of the younger children," said Therese Meno, the CDC youth sports coordinator. "It also introduces the children to the sports. This week we will be teaching the kids basketball skills. Next week the children will learn baseball and the final week we will go over soccer."

The classes will end June 6, but

Meno said there are three or four more slots for the morning class, which starts at 8:30 a.m.

Following Start Smart, there will be a basketball clinic from June 6-July 15 for ages 5 and up; a flag football clinic July 15-29 for ages 5 and up and a volleyball clinic Aug. 8-26 for ages 10 and up.

All patrons who would like to register their children in the upcoming clinics may do so at the CDC office. Classes are \$15.

Meno said the clinics have multiple benefits for the children.

"First it gives the children something to do this summer," she said. "It is also a refresher for those who play sports in school, keeping them refreshed. And of course it's fun. Who doesn't like to have fun?"

For more information about Youth sports call the CDC at 564-1844/45 or visit www.mwr-guam.com/company_detail.php?key-word=youthsports.



Start Smart: Therese Meno, Child Development Center (CDC) Youth Sports coordinator, right, teaches children basketball skills during Start Smart Clinic at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam May 24. The Start Smart Clinic teaches children ages 3 to 6 the fundamentals of basketball, baseball and soccer. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

Golfing for a cause



Golf for Heroes: Oly Magofna, left, and Richard James, of Joint Region Marianas (JRM) Training and Readiness (J7) Department, pose for a photo during the USO Golf for our Heroes Tournament at the Onward Talofoto Golf Club May 14. JRM J7 Department personnel participated in the event, served as volunteers and sponsored a hole. (Photo courtesy of JRM J7 Department)

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.

Sunset 5k Fun Run

Sunset 5k Fun Run will be held June 10 at Sumay Cove Marina. Show is at 5 p.m., go is at 5:30 p.m. Pre-registration ends June 9, but registration may also be done at race beginning at 5 p.m. For more information, call 685-5267.

Passport to Fitness

Pick up an assignment card at Charles King Fitness Center (CKFC) today to participate in the Passport to Fitness event. Complete five of the 10 fitness assignments and receive a free fitness giveaway! Cards must be completed and turned in to CKFC by June 14. For more information, call 333-2049.

Summer Stroller Circuit

The Stroller Circuit summer session is in need of an instructor. If no instructor is identified, the summer circuit will be cancelled. For more information, contact the Morale, Welfare and Recreation fitness coordinator at 685-5267 or mwr-guamfitness6@gmail.com.

Group Fitness Age Compliance

Beginning May 2, all group fitness classes in the basketball court must comply with the basketball court's age policy. According to the policy, "youth 9 years old and younger must be under interactive supervision of an adult." The Family Fitness Room and drop-in child care are now available.

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.

Monday Driving Range Special

Save money when you take advantage of the Palm Tree Golf Course's Driving Range Special every Monday from 4-8 p.m. During this time, you can hit as many balls as you want for just \$5. For more information, call 366-4653.

Monthly Green Fee Card

Palm Tree Golf Course can now save avid golfers big bucks! Golfers can now purchase a money-saving monthly green fee card for just \$40-\$60 per month depending on rank. What a deal! Purchase yours soon at Palm Tree Golf Course or call 366-4653 for more information.

Lap Swimming

The Andersen pool offers lap swimming outside the recreational swim hours. Lap swimming hours are 6-8 a.m. and 11 a.m.-noon Friday through Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. No lap swimming will be available Thursdays, weekends, holidays and down days. Also, the pool is looking for certified swimming instructors and lifeguards. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation at 366-5197 or Human Resources at 366-1189.

Tumbling for Tots

Tumbling for Tots, an interactive play program for kids and parents, is now available at the Hotspot Gym. Hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-noon; closed holidays and down days (schedule subject to change due to base exercises, official unit functions, etc.) For more information, call the Hotspot at 366-2339.

