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Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas

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July 1, 2011

## Crash investigation continues, TW2 back to training

By Jon Gagné  
NAS Kingsville Public Affairs

An Aircraft Mishap Board from Training Air Wing TWO continued its work at the site of the June 15 crash of a T-45 Goshawk this week as the investigation into the cause of the crash continues.

The aircraft, piloted by a student aviator from VT-21, crashed in a remote area near George West, Texas, during a routine training flight. The pilot safely ejected from the aircraft and received only minor injuries.

Troopers from the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and helicopter crewmen from Coast Guard Air Station Corpus Christi provided immediate assistance at the remote location while security and firefighter personnel from NAS Kingsville and Navy Auxiliary Landing Field Orange Grove made their way to the site.

Once on scene, NAS Kingsville fire fighters sprayed down the aircraft to ensure the flames from the crash were extinguished, and NAS Kingsville security personnel secured the crash site. The investigation team from Training Air Wing TWO arrived on site late that afternoon to survey the aircraft and begin the preliminary stages of their investigation into the cause of the crash.

As is customary following aircraft mishaps, Training Air Wing TWO held a safety stand down for all instructor pilots and student aviators at the Captain's Club on Thursday, June 16. Capt. Mark Brooks, TW2 commander, discussed the mishap with all personnel and stressed the importance of putting safety first for all training evolutions. He also praised the professional response efforts of the Wing Duty Office,



Capt. D. Mark Brooks, commander, Training Air Wing TWO addresses instructor pilots and student aviators at a safety stand down held June 16, fol-

lowing the crash of a T-45 Goshawk in a remote area near George West the preceding day. Photo by Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs)

squadron and wing leadership, airborne Search and Rescue (SAR), on-scene commanders and NAS Kingsville personnel. He closed his remarks by stating that he continues to have the highest confidence in the instructors and student pilots throughout his command.

Work at the crash site by the Aircraft Mishap Board Mishap continued this week. NAS Kingsville security personnel have remained at the crash site to protect its integrity for the investigation teams, while personnel from the NAS Kingsville Public Works Department have assisted ranch owners with land clearing in order to pro-

vide access to the site. Environmental experts from Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast coordinated the environmental clean-up.

According to Lt. John Supple, public affairs officer for the Chief of Naval Air Training, the investigation and work at the crash site was expected to be completed this week. The wreckage will then be removed and transported back to NAS Kingsville, where the investigation into the cause of the crash will continue. According to Supple, it could take several months to complete the investigation.

### Celebrating Independence!

Saturday, July 2

Family Life Center parking lot  
Kleberg St. & Yoakum St.  
at 5th Ave.

9 a.m. Bike Safety Class  
9:30 a.m. Bike Decorating  
Judging & Awards  
9:45 a.m. Parade Lineup  
10 a.m. Pet & Bike Parade

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food, kids  
games, entertainment and  
lots of fun all day long for the  
entire family

5:30 p.m. Celebrity  
Softball Game  
at Dick Kleberg Park  
Softball Field  
City of Kingsville  
vs  
NAS Kingsville

Monday, July 4

Patriotic Concert

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## From the Bridge



**Capt. Mark McLaughlin**  
Commanding Officer



Greetings Team Kingsville,

I hope this article finds you well and excited for the upcoming July 4 Holiday Celebration. On tap for this weekend are a number of events.

To begin, let's talk about the work schedule for Friday, July 1. In my efforts to ensure your travelling safety, I have authorized an early release of all NAS Kingsville military personnel at 1 p.m.; this coincides with the conclusion of TW2 flight operations. Government employees are authorized a "59" or may take leave starting at 1 p.m., if so desired. Contract employees, you are subject to your company's policies.

The City of Kingsville will be holding events in celebration of Independence Day on Saturday, July 2, in the downtown area.

Events include a bike decorating contest, a pet parade, games for kids and adults, and food and craft booths. These events will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (See front page for details and location.) Following these events, the focus shifts to Dick Kleberg Park in Kingsville where NAS Kingsville leadership will square off with community leaders in a challenge softball game. This game should be a lot of fun, and everyone is invited to come out and root your favorite team on to victory.

On Monday evening, July 4, from 7 to 10 p.m., NAS Kingsville will open the Captain's Club to start our own Fourth of July Celebration activities. There will be games for children and adults, free food inside the Club, and live music entertainment by the band, Metal Shop, playing a variety of music hits from the 80's. Then, about 30 minutes after sunset, the only fireworks display in Kleberg County will begin. Patrons with Department of Defense approved access to NAS Kingsville are welcome to observe the fireworks display from the Club or adjoining areas. Since the fireworks will be launched from just south of our main gate, I would expect many spectators from town to

be lining the local roads around the base and local golf course to view the display.

Finally, I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the importance of SAFETY while enjoying your weekend. Last year, the Department of the Navy lost four Sailors over the Fourth of July weekend. They were a mixed bag of motorcycle, automobile and off-duty recreation fatalities. Please take a few moments to apply a little Operational Risk Management to your travel and holiday activities. Analyze things such as your travel plans, where you are going, how far, time of travel, your vehicle's condition and your own alertness to long distance driving. For off-duty recreation, consider things such as whether the activity is the first time you are trying it and get proper instruction first. Do you have properly fitted personal protective equipment? In all cases this weekend, and anytime for that matter, never operate any motorized vehicles while under any influence of alcohol consumption.

I need everyone back to work next Tuesday morning, so enjoy your weekend, but be smart in your activities. Have a wonderful Fourth of July.

Until Next Time~Skipper Mac

## Deckplate Leadership



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



Team Kingsville,

Well, as you can tell by the extreme temperatures outside, we are now well into summer in South Texas. I know all of you will be spending a lot of time outdoors this time of year enjoying the sand, surf, and all the great outdoor activities South Texas has to offer. Please be safe as you enjoy your summer!

By reading that opening paragraph most of you probably think I'm going to write something in this week's column about outdoor summer activities you can enjoy here in South Texas. Instead of doing that, I'm going to think ahead this week and write about a fall and winter activity here in South Texas that many of you may not realize exists.

Naval Air Station Kingsville's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department manages a commercially developed, self sustained, 6,800-acre ranch right here in South Texas. Escondido Ranch, which is located 90 miles from Kingsville, near the town of Freer, is an outstanding recreation opportunity for active duty and retired military personnel, as well as DoD and NAF civilian employees.

Escondido is primarily a hunting ranch where eligible patrons can enjoy quail, dove, turkey, wild hog, javelina and deer hunting.



Escondido Ranch is located 90 miles from Kingsville near the town of Freer.

Escondido is also a remote getaway where patrons can simply spend some down-time enjoying bird watching, star gazing, cook-outs, and more. The ranch has lodging accommodations for more than 70 guests with a 13 room lodge, private group cabin and three large (29 ft.) camper trailers. Each room in the lodge is furnished with a full-size bed, bunk bed and a refrigerator. Adjacent to the lodging area is a cook house that is fully equipped with two huge BBQ pits and two ovens. The cabin and campers each have their own complete kitchens and bathrooms.

The best thing of all is that Escondido Ranch is conveniently situated right in the middle of some of the finest hunting land in South Texas. The ranch staff, under the

direction of ranch managers ETC Eric Smith and HTC Dave Moser, manages the wildlife and habitat year round with advice and assistance from NAS Kingsville's Environmental Department. The hard work put into Escondido Ranch by the staff ensures each and every visitor will have an enjoyable time.

To find out more about Escondido Ranch, and the great hunting and outdoor activities available there, contact Escondido Ranch at (830) 373-4419 or visit the website at: <http://www.navyescondidoranch.com/>. You can also obtain information by contacting our MWR ITT office at x6449.

V/R  
CMC

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This paper is published for people like Cody Bradshaw, an MWR summer intern. Cody is from Jacksonville, N.C. He is attending Appalachian State University, in Boone, N.C., and studying recreation management. Cody arrived aboard NAS Kingsville in May and will be going back to school in August.

# Household goods movers fully booked to, from Texas, other locations

The Navy's Household Goods department is urging Sailors and civilian employees to postpone the scheduling of any household goods pack and pick-up through July 15.

The Navy's current transportation service providers are fully booked to and from Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

"Just as the transportation industry is saturated in other parts of the country for household goods moves, the same is being felt in South Texas," said Pete Lutz, personal property counselor located aboard NAS Corpus Christi.

"The NAS Corpus Christi Personal Property Office and its satellite office at NAS Kingsville have been inundated with household goods shipment requests for June and July, from all branches of service," Lutz said. "The carriers and packers servicing our area are fully booked and therefore not every customer has been able to get the dates they are requesting."

Local personal property counselors are recommending the member either consider moving at a later date, or perform a full Personally Procured Move.

"This situation is expected to continue at least until the end of July or through the first half of August, so we're asking all of our

customers to plan accordingly," Lutz added.

"If you can avoid this period, we advise you to do so," said Frank Piacine, Navy Household Goods director. "Many folks do not have a choice; however, those who have a choice should avoid this time frame or else be prepared for possible short-notice cancellations of moves. But the majority of moves will take place as scheduled."

Those who have already scheduled their household goods pick-up should be aware that they could experience problems too.

"If you have been contacted by a moving company, maintain communication with them and call them several times, including the day before the scheduled pick-up," Piacine said. "If you have not been contacted by a company and your move is fast approaching, contact your local personal property office for assistance."

Customers who are projected to move by July 15 and have not yet scheduled their pack-out should immediately log into the Defense Personal Property System (DPS), register a user identification and complete their self-counseling or go to the local personal property office to receive face-to-face counseling. Sailors and civilians can register with DPS at [www.move.mil](http://www.move.mil).

According to Piacine, customers whose scheduled pack outs are cancelled need to contact their local personal property office immediately. There are different options



The Navy's Household Goods department is urging Sailors and civilian employees to postpone the scheduling of any household goods pack and pick-up through July 15.

available depending on the customer's circumstances.

"Members who are separating, retiring, vacating government quarters or have a date that cannot be changed will need to work closely with their local personal property office to reschedule the move or have their goods stored at the current location until transportation becomes available. Customers can choose to perform a Personally Procured Move (PPM) and move as sched-

uled to meet their report date or have family member remain behind to conduct the move," Piacine said.

PPM was formerly called a do-it-yourself (DITY) move. Personnel who decide to do a PPM will be provided a rough estimate of what the government will pay them to hire someone to move them. This estimate is also how much the member can expect to see come back to them if they move them-

*see Movers on page 4*

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## In the Break



Capt. Mark Brooks  
Commander  
Training Air Wing TWO



Greetings,

It has been an eventful several weeks since I last wrote a short input for the Memorial Day weekend.

In addition to the usual business that surrounds that of flying Navy jet aircraft, we've had some unusual personnel issues; but, most of all, I'm referring to the loss of one of our aircraft during a normal training mission on June 15.

Most of you should be aware that an aviation mishap resulting in the loss of an aircraft is followed by a formal investigation under the auspices of the Naval Aviation Safety Program. The Aircraft Mishap Board (AMB) is the military equivalent of the civilian National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigation that follows any similar incident in the civilian/commercial aircraft world. It is a serious effort and one taken seriously by those on the board, as well as those of us in the endorsing chain of command. That effort is well underway and results will be forthcoming in due course.

Any rumor and speculation to this point is just that; and, I ask that we all do our best to resist the temptation to participate in that – rumor and speculation.

It does no one any good and only detracts from the efforts of all concerned to get to the bottom of the root cause or causes

of the mishap.

One thing I can tell all in the TW2/NASK family is how proud I am of the joint effort in the wake of the mishap. Everyone was truly professional, and most importantly, the young Marine student aviator is alive and well. Other than some bumps, bruises, and an unfortunate encounter with a cactus, he should be good-to-go once the process allows.

Unfortunately, this is the second mishap on my watch resulting in an ejection and loss of a T-45C. With no more Goshawks coming off the assembly line, not to mention the loss of valuable assets and man-hours associated with any such incident, this is the sort of thing we cannot afford.

Besides the obvious danger to life and limb, the AMB effort and subsequent actions to prevent further mishaps are crucial to our mission success. When we began 2010, I set out some goals for TW2/VT-21/VT-22. Among those – and first on the list – was "Zero Mishaps. Period." We did not achieve that goal in 2010, and we have failed again in 2011.

When it comes to mishap prevention, I quote Gene Kranz, the former NASA Flight Director in charge of the successful recovery of the Apollo 13 mission, "Failure is not an option."

We can and must embrace an attitude that we can operate our aircraft at a high operational tempo, on land and embarked at sea, in a safe, mishap-free manner. Our success depends on it.

As I said to the assembled Training Wing TWO personnel the day after the mishap, I have the utmost confidence in our ability to do so!

Regards, Fingers

## Movers from page 3

selves.

There are many factors that could impact whether or not a pack out or move could be cancelled, according to Piacine. Those elements include the location being moved from, the location being moved to, the weight of the goods to be moved, the specific dates the move must be made and others.

"Overall, less than one percent of moves will be impacted. However, in an area where we experience a 'perfect storm' and many of these factors impact a base or bases, the actual numbers for that area could be higher. Planning, preparation and flexibility are keys to success," Piacine said.

"Customers need to get their shipment requests into the system as soon as they

receive their orders. Procrastination hurts the customer's chances of getting a moving company during this time frame. The customer can benefit substantially from paying attention to their counseling, asking questions and staying in contact with their moving company once they have been contacted."

For more information, contact the local personal property office at (361) 961-3742/3728/3729/2601 or send questions to householdgoods@navy.mil.

The NAS Kingsville personal property office is located in Bldg. 2740, and is open on Wednesdays. Counselors at the Kingsville office can be reached at (361) 516-6289. (*Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs*)

## NAS Kingsville Religious Services Offered

**Sunday at McFall Memorial Chapel**  
10:30 a.m. - Family Bible Services  
12:30 p.m. - Catholic Mass  
**Tuesday**  
11:30 a.m. - Bible Study, in Bldg. 2741

**Wednesday**  
7 p.m. - Officer Christian Fellowship  
**Thursday**  
4:30 p.m. - Catholic Choir Practice  
5:30 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

## Greenert recommended to succeed retiring CNO

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates announced June 16, he has recommended Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, vice chief of naval operations, to succeed the retiring Adm. Gary Roughead as the next chief of naval operations.

Gates said he made the recommendation to President Barack Obama based on Greenert's solid portfolio that includes both significant personnel programs and budget responsibilities.



Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Greenert is "an exceptional officer, and if confirmed, will be, I believe, an exceptional CNO."

"He has a wonderful operational experience, fleet experience, he's terrific with people and he has extensive experience in the money world, which is now facing all of us," Mullen said. "So I strongly concur with the secretary's recommendation."

Gates praised Roughead, who will retire this fall, for four decades of service and leadership at the helm of the Navy for the past four years.

"I have very much enjoyed working with Gary and have greatly valued his counsel and wisdom on both Navy issues and broader strategic issues," Gates said.

Upon being notified of the news, Roughead offered his congratulations and endorsement.

"I could not be more pleased that Adm. Jon Greenert has been nominated to be the 30th Chief of Naval Operations. I have known Jon and his family well for years and I have the utmost respect for him as a leader and a naval officer."

In a statement released after the announcement Greenert said "I am honored and humbled by the Secretary's recommendation and look forward to working with Congress during the confirmation process."

Greenert's career as a submariner includes assignments aboard USS *Flying Fish*, USS *Tautog*, Submarine NR-1 and USS *Michigan* and as commander of USS *Honolulu*. He also served as commander of Submarine Squadron 11, U.S. Naval Forces Mariana, U.S. 7th Fleet in the Pacific and U.S. Fleet Forces Command before he became the vice CNO. (*Department of Defense*)

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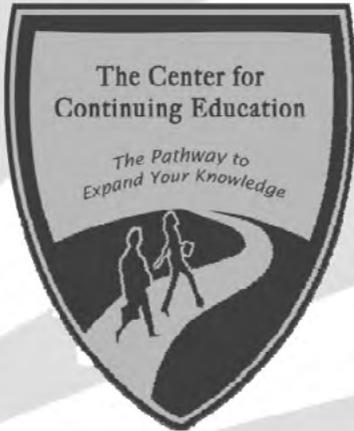
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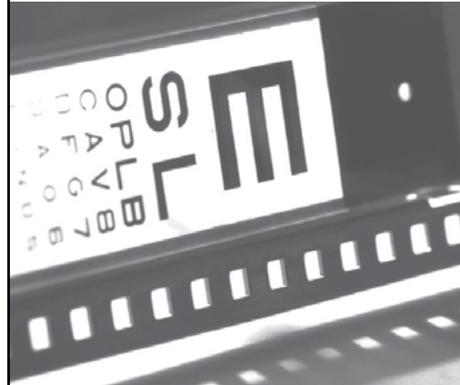


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## My Side



Jon Gagné  
 NASK Public Affairs

### Ready for some golf?

The Kingsville Navy League will be hosting its annual Navy Ball Golf Tournament this year on Friday, Aug. 5, at L.E. Ramey golf course in Kingsville. The annual event helps the Navy League sponsor NAS Kingsville's annual Navy Ball, held in October to celebrate the Navy's birthday.

The format for the tournament is four-player scramble, which allows players of all skill levels to play together. A \$40 per play entry fee covers green fees, cart rental, and post tournament lunch – plus the chance to win a host of door prizes.

The tournament also includes a "Captain's Cup team challenge" pitting teams of NAS Kingsville leadership – headed by NASK skipper Capt. Mark McLaughlin – against a team of Kingsville leadership – headed by Mayor Sam Fugate. Fugate's team won the cup in 2009, and McLaughlin's team took the cup last year. This year's challenge will serve as the rubber match.

I have to say that Mayor Fugate's team comes into this year's challenge with a big disadvantage. Having played on Capt. McLaughlin's team last year, I can tell you the Skipper has some game. He carried our team last year – and will more than likely play the leading role again this time. He'll get some help from Master Chief Charlie Ratliff and Ops Officer Dave Anderson, but chances are, he'll lead the way.

Despite leading his team to victory in 2009, Mayor Fugate didn't get to play in last year's tournament, instead handing off his team captain's duties to Kingsville EDC director Dick Messbarger. While Messbarger had good intentions, when it comes to golf he is more or less better off being a spectator. He doesn't get the nickname "Sand Trap" by being a scratch golfer, that's for sure.

So this year, in the rubber match, it's important that Fugate puts together the best leadership team possible. And it's important that the Skipper follows suit, which is why I'm thinking I'm going to end up on the outside looking in. But I'm okay with that.

There's also going to be some drama when it comes to the number one team in the tournament. Last year's winning team from the air station, which includes Mike Crisman, Johnny Tienda and Mike's son Michael Crisman, are in search of a replacement for their 'ace' Lt. Cmdr. Brent Simmons. So their hopes of winning again are in limbo. And the 2009 winners, Acme Truck Lines of Corpus Christi, a team that is captained by retired Chief Mike Gonzalez, is promising to reclaim their title.

see My Side on page 10



Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 195 returned to the flight deck aboard USS George Washington (CVN 73) June 17, after completing the transition from the F/A-18C Hornet to the new and more advanced F/A-18E Super Hornet.

## GW, CVW 5 squadron complete super hornet fighting force

By MC2(SW/AW) Adam K. Thomas  
USS George Washington (CVN 73)

The “Dambusters” of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 195 returned to the flight deck aboard USS George Washington (CVN 73) June 17, after completing the transition from the F/A-18C Hornet to the new and more advanced F/A-18E Super Hornet.

The return of VFA 195 makes George Washington and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 the first and only completely Super Hornet-equipped team in the Navy. George Washington now returns to sea with a total of four Super Hornet squadrons; 44 jet fighters in all.

“Having an all Super Hornet air wing definitely makes the CAG 5 and George Washington team a more lethal combination. These newer aircraft incorporate the latest in aviation technology. It’s an honor to be this air wing’s commander,” said Capt. Daniel Cave, CVW 5 commanding officer.

The Super Hornet squadrons are now equipped with a broad arsenal of technologically advanced avionics including the faster APG-79 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar. With a quick radar beam that can be steered at close to the speed of light, the new and improved system offers superior performance capabilities and makes the Super Hornet an even more powerful precision strike platform, providing revolutionary capability in favor of the George Washington/CAG 5 carrier strike group.

“There are some pretty significant upgrades in capabilities on these Super Hornets,” said Cmdr. David Culpepper, VFA 195 commanding officer “The self protection, countermeasures capabilities and radar are much better than that of the legacy Hornets. I get to fly in the newest and best airplane out here, and you can’t help but feel good to be the user of a very significant taxpayer effort. That really is pretty cool. It ob-

viously shows just how important the role of the George Washington and CAG 5 air wing is in the region. We are without question the most capable air wing in the Navy right now.”

The transition to the new Super Hornets has a trickle-down effect for the Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD) personnel working below decks. With the arrival of new Super Hornets, their days have become a little less difficult.

“The transition has definitely made the AIMD workload lighter because now that all of the squadron’s are flying Super Hornets, we only have to deal with one type of aircraft maintenance,” said Aviation Electronics Technician 3rd Class Gregory Shaw Jr. “It has shortened the back log of repairs by reducing the time it takes to get the parts and [it has] minimized training time for personnel. The transformation to an all Super Hornet air wing is definitely making life a little easier.”

For the younger Dambuster pilots who started their naval aviation careers in the older Hornets, the transition to the Super Hornets is like taking a step into the 21st century; a quantum leap they are thrilled to make.

“I think it’s something special to be a part of this squadron and the CAG 5 air wing,” said Lt. Brad Thomson, VFA 195 Super Hornet pilot. “We’re forward-deployed and conducting operations in a strategically important part of the world, and now we have the most technologically advanced aircraft making us the only all Super Hornet air wing. It’s just a good feeling to know there are very important people in Washington making sure we have the best assets possible to do this job.”

USS George Washington’s mission is to ensure security and stability across the Western Pacific ocean and to work with regional partners and respond to any crisis across the operational spectrum as directed.

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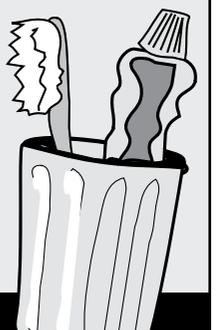
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## Five receive 'Wings of Gold' at Training Air Wing Two ceremony

Five student pilots were presented their coveted "Wings of Gold" and designated as Naval Aviators during a Winging Ceremony at the Captain's Club June 17. Training Air Wing TWO commander Capt. Mark Brooks presided over the ceremony, and Capt. James Bynum, commander, Carrier Air Wing THREE, was the guest speaker.

Receiving their wings were:

**Lt. Sean T. Blackman, USN, VT-22** -- A Georgia native, Thompson graduated from the Naval Academy in 2007. He then returned to Georgia to complete his masters degree studies in aerospace engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Blackman then entered the Navy's flight program and reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla. He completed his primary flight training with Training Squadron 3 (VT-3) at NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla., and reported to NAS Kingsville and VT-22 in June 2010.

**Lt. j.g. Matthew Manship, USN, VT-22** -- A San Antonio native, Manship attended Stanford University and earned his degree in economics in 2006. He then was signed to play professional baseball by the Oakland Athletics, but his baseball career was cut short. After working in San Francisco for a while, he entered the Navy in 2008. Upon graduation from Officer Candidate School at Newport, R.I., he was selected for the Navy flight training program. He completed his primary flight training with VT-27 at NAS Corpus Christi.

**1st Lt. Michael Nelson, USMC, VT-22** -- A native of Portland, Ore., Nelson enlisted in the Marine Corps following his first year of college at Willamette University. Serving as a combat engineer for Alpha Company, 6th Engineer Support battalion, he deployed to Iraq in 2005. Upon return to the States, Nelson completed his degree at Willamette University, receiving a degree in Spanish and economics and earned his commission. In December 2007, he received orders to The Basic School at Quantico, Va., and upon graduation a year later, he received orders to begin flight training at NAS Pensacola. He completed his primary flight training with VT-28 at NAS Corpus Christi, and reported to NAS Kingsville for jet/strike training in May 2010.

**Lt. j.g. Logan Peck, USN, VT-22** -- A native of San Diego, Calif., Peck participated in a dual degree program between Baker University and the University of Kansas. He earned a physics degree from Baker University and a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Kansas. After graduation, Peck attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I., and then entered the Navy flight training program. He completed his primary flight training with VT-27 at NAS Corpus Christi, and reported to NAS Kingsville and VT-22 in May 2010.

**1st Lt. Brian Radler, USMC, VT-22** -- A South Florida native, Radler graduated from high school in Louisville, Ky., in



Five student aviators received their "Wings of Gold" on Friday, June 17. Pictured from bottom left, are Lt. Col. Terrence Latorre, commanding officer, VT-22; 1st Lt. Brian Radler; 1st Lt. Michael Nelson; Capt. Mark Brooks, commander, Training Air Wing TWO; and Cmdr. Rey Molina, chief staff officer, TW2. Top from left are Capt. Wesley Deaver, assistant senior Marine, VT-22; Lt. j.g. Logan Peck; Lt. j.g. Matthew Manship; Lt. Sean Blackman; and Maj. Derek Bibby, senior Marine, TW2. (Photo by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth, NASK Public Affairs).

2001 and attended college at the University of Louisville. He received a degree in business management in 2005 and then entered the Marine Corps' aviation program, receiving his commission in February 2008. Six months later, he reported to Marine

Aviation Support Group (MATSG) 21 at NAS Pensacola for preflight indoctrination. He completed his primary flight training with VT-28 at NAS Corpus Christi, and reported to NAS Kingsville and VT-22 in June 2010.



**BZ Senior** -- ABFCS(AW/SW) William Tirado Jr. was frocked to his current rank on June 22. Capt. Mark McLaughlin, commanding officer, presided over the ceremony and, above, presented Tirado with a letter marking the occasion. Right, IC1(SW) Bernardino Martinez and QM2(SW) Bryan Hastings pin on Tirado's senior chief anchors. Tirado, a native of Florida, has been in the Navy for the past 23 years. (Photos by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs)





JROTC students from throughout South Texas visited Naval Air Station Kingsville during their summer leadership camp held the first two weeks of June. Top right, 1st Lt. Eric Mui, VT-21 student naval aviator, explains the T-45 instrumentation to some cadets. Below, AC1(AW) Ray Baduya, tower watch supervisor, describes what air traffic controllers are responsible for when they work in the tower. (Photos by Fifi Kieschnick and IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)



CWO4 Dan Youngerman talks to JROTC students about the HH-60M Black Hawk's capabilities and mission of the Army Reserve medical evacuation unit as Sgt. First Class Melinda Gates looks on. JROTC students from throughout South Texas visited Naval Air Station Kingsville during their summer leadership camp held the first two weeks of June. (Photo by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)

## Leadership 'campers' learn about naval aviation

More than 250 South Texas Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) cadets visited Naval Air Station Kingsville the first two weeks of June as part of a summer leadership camp. The students learned about the mission of the air station and naval aviation. At Ground Training they experienced air training in the flight simulators. At the training squadrons' hangar, students toured spaces and climbed around a T-45 Goshawk. Cadets tried on some flight gear in the Aviation Life Service Support (ALSS) Paraloft office. And, at Air Operations, students learned about the mission of air traffic controllers. Army Reservists with the medical evacuation unit moving aboard the air station, showed the students an HH-60M Black Hawk that is used for their missions. Finally, firefighters explained the procedures taken during a casualty or emergency on board NAS Kingsville, as well as the various fire trucks and their missions.



David Colclasure, of the Paraloft, explains the functions of some of the flight gear to JROTC students from throughout South Texas who visited Naval Air Station Kingsville during their summer leadership camp held the first two weeks of June. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs)



Firefighter Pete Gonzales lets JROTC "man the hose" as part of a firefighting demonstration held for JROTC students who visited NAS Kingsville during their summer leadership camp. (Photo by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)



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### NAVFAC awards environmental services, technologies contract

Specialty Center Acquisitions, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (SCAN) awarded a maximum amount \$75 million contract June 9, for performance-based Environmental Services and Technologies (ESAT) support for Navy, Marine Corps, and federal government programs at various locations worldwide.

The Contract was awarded to Battelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio.

The scope of the contract includes environmental program development and implementation, research, development, testing, and evaluation for innovative environmental technologies and technical consultations.

"The Department of the Navy (DON) manages extensive facilities and lands to support its mission of maintaining, training, and equipping a world-class, combat-ready naval fleet," said Wanda Holmes, chief of

naval operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, director of Environmental Restoration and Operational Range Assessment. "Over the years, releases of hazardous materials have occurred at some of these facilities. The DON is committed to cleaning up these releases in a timely manner that restores environmental quality for present and future generations. DON uses cleanup methods that are effective, cost-efficient, and environmentally sustainable. We constantly seek new and innovative solutions to these often complex environmental problems."

Work on this contract is expected to be completed by June 2016. This contract was competitively procured via the Navy Electronic Commerce Online website, with two proposals received. (*Naval Facilities Engineering Command Public Affairs*)

### My Side from page 6

There'll be some other teams in competition for the title, too, so it should be interesting. The top four teams will win prizes, and there will be other prizes available for longest drive and the closest-to-the-pin on all four par 3 holes.

For the rest of the field, there are plenty of door prizes to be won – and all players will get a shot at winning a new car if they are the first player to get a hole-in-one on a pre-selected hole. That chance alone is worth the cost of entry into the tournament.

The tournament is limited to 22 teams, with priority given to the first teams to sign

up and pay their entry fees. Teams that do not have four players can still sign up, as single players usually show up the morning of the tournament to "fill in" for people who can't make it for whatever reason. You can pick up an entry form at the L.E. Ramey golf course, the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce, at the gym or at Field Support. For more info, call 516-6167.

So there you have it. You've got a month to get your teams ready, and get in some pre-tournament practice. The Navy League has already done all the hard work, now, it's just time to go out and have some fun.

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## Officials seek input to update MWR services

By Terri Moon Cronk  
American Forces Press Service

Defense Department officials intend to use input gained from customer satisfaction surveys to bolster Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs and meet the up-to-date needs of service members and their families, the deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy said today.

Officials are electronically sending 600,000 surveys to military installations worldwide, Robert L. Gordon III said. The survey is the first of its kind to collect input from all components of the U.S. military, including National Guardsmen and reservists, he added.

The survey includes 135 questions that address a range of offerings from fitness centers to libraries, and automotive services to leisure activities.

Officials hope to have survey data returned in about three weeks, Gordon said.

"If [service members] can turn it around quickly, we can soon understand how we're doing and see how we can get better," he said. Sent randomly, the survey takes about 20 minutes to complete, he added, and the answers are kept confidential and anonymous.

"We want to get a sense of exactly what our service members and their families are using [at MWR] so we can tailor it to our

multigenerational force," Gordon said.

Recognizing the differences in multigenerational needs is essential to members of the armed forces, he noted.

"The younger service members might use different types of equipment in our fitness centers [than older troops], and library services is another area where our millennial generation -- ages 18 to 29 -- is more likely to use online service, while others use books," he said.

The MWR survey does not include data from family members since valid contact information was not available for them. Because of this, Gordon emphasized that service members should keep their families in mind when filling out the survey.

"Don't just think about yourself," he said, "Think about your families. It's important because we want to make sure your families have access to the very best services that we can provide them."

Gordon noted the need for survey data. "In our last survey, we were able to pinpoint that our fitness centers were an area of concern for our service members and families, so we focused on that in terms of improvement across the force, and we intend to do the same with this survey.

"If you get it, please fill it out quickly, and know that your opinion counts and will make MWR better for you and your family members," he added. "Quality of life is important to us."

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## What's Happening

**Monday, July 4 KINGSVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** will perform their annual Fourth of July concert at 3 p.m. in Jones Auditorium, Texas A&M Kingsville Campus. Brian Shelton will be the guest conductor. Tickets run from \$5 to \$30. For more information, call 361-593-2803.

**RUMMAGE SALE to benefit For The Love of Strays (dog rescue).** We are accepting donations until 07/01/11 - Household Goods - Sporting Goods - Men, Women, Children Clothing - Shoes - Basics - Toys - and More. Cleanout a closet and/or your garage and make your TAX Deductible donation to the Rummage Sale Please. Sale will be Held by the Texas Coastal Bellydancer Association on Saturday, July 9th, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Galilean Lutheran Church, 3321 Cimarron Blvd. FMI Jahara Jewel at [TCBBACorpus@yahoo.com](mailto:TCBBACorpus@yahoo.com) or Karen at [ziesmerk@yahoo.com](mailto:ziesmerk@yahoo.com) [www.TCBBA.org](http://www.TCBBA.org)

**WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO NOMINATE?** Inspired by Tom Brokaw's novel, *The Greatest Generation*, the Corpus Christi Mayor's Council on Aging instituted a special award to recognize Corpus Christi residents, age 65 and older, who have made significant difference in the lives of those they have touched. 2011 nominations are being accepted through July 6. Award reception is July 21, 2011 at CC Country Club. For more information contact 826-3150 to receive nomination packet or purchase event tickets for \$40.00.

**EVERY TUESDAY AND SATURDAY:** Are you a model railroad enthusiast looking for a place to meet with others who enjoy the hobby? Do you like to build scenery or structure kits or just run trains? The **Corpus Christi Model Railroad Club** is an operations oriented group of HO modelers currently rebuilding our entire 3,000 sq. ft. layout. Over 400 feet of mainline. Totally DCC. Don't have DCC? Don't worry, we have plenty of locomotives for you to run. We meet at the former City Firehouse located at 821 Louisiana (Louisiana and Swantner). We are open to the public and meetings are every Tuesday starting at 7:00 pm and Saturdays starting at 9:00 a.m. Membership is open and only \$20 per month. Members get 24/7/365 access to the layout. Come visit us. For more information call 361-443-7870.

**Saturday, July 2nd 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday, July 3rd 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.** On festival grounds near the Art Center and Rockport Beach Park, **42nd Annual Rockport Art Festival** Since 1969, this Annual Art Festival has made Rockport the best place to be on July 4th weekend. Located right on Aransas Bay and showcasing high-quality artists, live music, a kids' activity tent and more, the Rockport Art Festival is always great summer fun on the Texas Coast. Admission Adults \$6 on Saturday - \$5 on

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We will list in "What's Happening" in both Flying K and Wingspan on a space available basis.

-----by **Tina Konwerski**

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**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES** is looking for volunteers for all 19 counties served by Region 11. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Linda K. Duenes at 361-878-3511, Linda.duenes@dfps.state.tx.us or visit 5155 Flynn Parkway Suite 551 for more information. If your group or organization would like to partner up with Child Protective Services in any way or if you would like a CPS Presentation for your group you can also give Linda a call. Protecting children is every body's job and we are here to help in any way we can.

**Independence Day** Monday, July 4th in Corpus Christi: Activities include **Veterans Band** and Mayor's Committee on Veterans Affairs at a 10:00 a.m. ceremony at Sherrill Park. **The kids Funday Zone 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.** in the former City Hall Park and adjacent parking lot. A concert stage featuring **local bands and music**. At 5:30 p.m., weather-permitting, **the Coast Guard will perform a mock "helo demonstration"** off the marina t-heads with a fly-over of their Falcon jet. **At 6:00 p.m. Stars & Stripes Parade** Shoreline Blvd. at Kinney, Ave. travelling North to Main St., Kids on bicycles with flags & streamers flying, Military vehicles & personnel from all branches, and floats. **Fireworks** display starting at 9:30 p.m. on the USS Lexington.

**3-on-3 basketball competition raises money for Special Olympics Texas.** 22nd Annual Bay Ball Ballyhoop set for July 23-24 in Corpus Christi. Ballers from all over the state will compete in a 3-on-3 basketball tournament in several categories, including men's open, women's open Unified, and more. The tournament will be held at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi in the Dugan Wellness Center, Islander Hall and the Moody Field House. **The entry deadline is July 8.** Registration/packet pick up is July 22 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Academy Sports + Outdoors, located at 5100 South Padre Island Drive. Competition begins at 9:00 a.m. on July 23 and July 24. Awards will be presented on Sunday. For more information about Special Olympics Texas, call 1.800.876.JOIN or visit [www.specialolympicstexas.org](http://www.specialolympicstexas.org).

**SAVE THE DATE: September 17, 2010** Join us for Brush Country CASA's 10th Anniversary Celebration & Special Ceremony to Honor Judge Martin Chiuminatto, Jr. ...**And Justice is Served** event that is sure to be the best time you've had all year! Dinner, Dance and Silent Auctions - **GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY.** We'll be servin' 2 meats n' 2 sides with thirst quenching iced tea & plenty of ice cold beer & wine to boot! Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Center, Kingsville, TX -- Contact: Brush Country Casa for Ticket Information 361-595-7233

# RUMMAGE SALE



to benefit

## For The Love of Strays

**Come Early . . .  
Before The DEALS Disappear!**

by Texas Coastal Bellydance Association

Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

8 am - 12 pm

Galilean Lutheran Church

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**For More Information Contact  
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Karen at [ziesmerk@yahoo.com](mailto:ziesmerk@yahoo.com)  
[www.TCBBA.org](http://www.TCBBA.org)**

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## Foster "Pet" Parents Needed!

Read what one of them has to say:

"Some rescue animals are surrendered by owners unable to care for them, others are strays or were rescued from abusive situations. Shelters are full and there is nowhere else to turn. This is when fostering is needed.

**For the Love of Strays** rescue group provides all the vet care, food & flea and tick medicine and I provide the shelter, the love and the training. It is a win-win situation for me, my dogs and the foster dog. Not all foster dogs come with perfect behavior, but my son and I bring them back to health, give them security and love, and socialize them to make them "adoptable."

Does it break my heart when they leave me? To quote a fellow foster home friend, "They take a piece of your heart with them, but that's also a good thing, because your heart doesn't get smaller as a result, it gets bigger. With every foster dog you place, you learn more and can do more to help the next dog on its way to the forever home it deserves."



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## Top 10 Pet Safety Tips for Summer

They wait patiently for you to come home so they can shower you with love. You feed them; watch over them and when they're sick you take care of them like your own child. Here is how you can sure that they're safe during the hot days of summer? Here are the top ten pet safety tips for the summer.

### 4. of 10. Keep cruising.

If you take your pet on a car ride, make sure it's either a joy ride or that you can take your pet with you wherever you're doing. A trip to the beach or park is fine for furry friends, but leaving them in the car—even with the windows down—for any amount of time is a bad idea. You may think, "Fuzzy will be fine in the car if I just run in for a few errands," but your "few errands" could take much longer than expected, and there's no specific amount of time you can leave a pet in a car without some risk. Play it safe and never leave pets in the car unattended.

Help Save other Coastal Bend Area Animals learn more:  
www.TheCatteryCC.org – www.ForTheLoveofStrays.com – www.ccpaac.org



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## Morale, Welfare & Recreation



**Good pitch --** Air Ops pitcher Israel Cansino delivers a ball to the plate during a playoff game with VT-22 last week. Air Ops held on to beat VT-22 sending the Golden Eagles to an immediate win-or-go-home match-up with the Chiefs. VT-22 rebounded in the second game, eliminating the Chiefs from the playoffs. (Photos by Jon Gagné, NAS Kingsville Public Affairs)



**Champions --** The Warriors, pictured above, won the MWR softball tournament. The Warriors, comprised of security personnel, fought their way back through the loser's bracket and defeated team TBD twice last Wednesday to claim top honors. (Courtesy photo)



**Runner up --** Team TBD fought hard but took second place in the recent MWR softball tournament. TBD is comprised of Air Ops personnel. (Courtesy photo)

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Blackhawk Memorial  
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## Padre Isles Country Club

Monday, August 8, 2011

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Your Pick Your Own Foursome!*

7:00 AM Registration

8:00 AM Shot-Gun Start

\$75 Entry Fee Includes:

- ★ Cart Rental
- ★ Driving Range Practice
- ★ Putting Green Practice
- ★ Beverages
- ★ Lunch



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