

# JOINT REGION EDGE

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## Guam celebrates Liberation Day

By JoAnna Delfin  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Thousands from Guam's local and military communities came together to witness and participate in the 67th Liberation Day parade in Hagatna July 21.

"It's what's great about Guam – everybody comes together and can put something like this together," said Lt. Jesse Petty, of Commander, Submarine Squadron (CSS) 15. "It's really fun."

The annual parade wrapped up a month-long celebration in recognition of Guam's liberation during World War II. After three years of Japanese occupation from 1941-1944, American forces bombarded the beaches in Asan and Agat to infiltrate enemy forces and liberate the people of Guam July 21, 1944.

The 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force Band from Okinawa, Japan; U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam; and the Guam Army National Guard (GUARNG) 1st Battalion 294th Infantry Regiment kicked

off the parade.

"I was actually excited – how we just walked by and everyone was cheering us on," said Pvt. 1st Class Mark Mangiliman, of GUARNG 1st Battalion 294th Infantry Regiment. "We're a real family community and we show how much we support the families of our Soldiers."

Other service members from the Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Marines rode or marched beside military vehicles, boats and heavy equipment; tossed candy and stickers to children on the sidelines;

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A Good Time Together: Master-at-Arms Seaman Jennifer Sahley, center, of U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Security, waves to the crowd while riding on the Santa Rita float during the 67th Liberation Day parade on Marine Corps Drive in Hagatna July 21. Santa Rita is NBG's sister village. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)



## Team Andersen welcomes new vice commander

By Airman 1st Class Whitney Tucker  
36th Wing Public Affairs

Col. Don Drechsler comes to Team Andersen with a wealth of knowledge and experience, having served as vice commander of the Air Force Inspection Agency at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. He arrived on Guam June 30th.

"The men and women of Team Andersen are fortunate to have someone of Col. Drechsler's operational experience and strategic vision joining the leadership team of the 36th Wing," said Brig. Gen. John Doucette, 36th Wing commander. "We are looking forward to warmly welcoming his family to Team Andersen."

Immediately following his arrival, Drechsler immersed himself in the 36th Wing mission.

"I've been focusing most of my time on becoming acquainted with the mission and Airmen of this wing," Drechsler said. "It's important for me to get up to speed on what is happening around the command as soon as possible. To accomplish this, I've been doing some immersions and really getting to know the role each group plays in conducting successful operations on Andersen."



Though he originally joined the Air Force with a brief enlistment in mind, witnessing the potential of a military team to bind together for a common goal inspired him to pursue a career as an officer.

"I intended to serve my four years and move to industry but, when I was given the opportunity to spend two weeks at Langley Air Force Base as a cadet flying in F-15s, I saw the camaraderie shared between the maintainers and the flyers – everybody really working together for one purpose," Drechsler said. "It made me realize that this was something I wanted to do long term. The whole team was getting the aircraft off the ground on time. It was amazing."

Today, Drechsler has flown both

the B-2 and B-52. He has commanded at the squadron level and deployed in support of ongoing operations in central and southwest Asia serving in critical roles.

Even with so many accomplishments under his belt, Drechsler looks forward to the experience he will gain in his new position.

"The incredible thing about Andersen is its growing mission and great Airmen," he said. "As the furthest west sovereign territory, it's a strategic base to operate from and Andersen's role in the joint fight will continue to grow. This base will play an evermore important role in the Air Force and the future of what our nation's strategic priorities are. That's why I'm excited to be here. This base has come a long

way and we will continue to move forward."

In addition to reaching new heights where the mission is concerned, the new vice commander looks forward to exploring his new island home and taking advantage of opportunities to try new things.

"I'm hoping that people realize I do things other than work," Drechsler said, smiling. "If there's one thing I want Airmen here to know about me, it's that I believe in making the most of where you are. Put your head in the mission while you're on duty – really give it your all – and, when you go home at the end of the day, have a great time. Be passionate and enjoy what you do and you will never look back with regret."

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# Sumay memorial Mass held on NBG

By Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake  
U.S. Naval Base Guam Public Affairs

A memorial Mass was held at the Sumay Cemetery on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) July 20.

The event allowed former residents of Sumay village and their families and friends to pay respects to their ancestors and pray together.

The event was also one of many memorial services held in recognition of Guam's Liberation Day.

Sumay was once the center of commerce and industry on Guam. The second-most populated village on the island, Sumay owed much of its economic growth to the nearby U.S. Marine Corps Barracks. When Guam was bombed by Japanese forces Dec. 8, 1941, the village was a primary point of attack.

On July 21, 1944, U.S. service members liberated the people of Guam from their Japanese captors. The island was occupied by Japan for three years during World War II (WWII). This year, the island celebrated 67 years of freedom.

Erminia Guzman, who lived in the pre-WWII village as a child, said she attends every event held in remembrance of Sumay. Guzman's mother died while she was still very young and is buried in Sumay Cemetery along with other relatives.

"I really wanted to know my mother but I was not given the time," Guzman said. "It really hurts me. I'm so glad I get the chance to come here and feel closer to her."

NBG Commanding Officer Capt. Richard Wood attended the Mass to pay his respects and interact with the people in attendance.

"It's a blessing to be involved," he said. "It makes me feel grateful to see so many people who do remember their past."

After the Mass, the event goes gathered to reminisce and share stories. One of those



Remembering Together: U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Richard Wood, left, and his wife Betsy Wood, second from left, attend a memorial Mass at the Sumay Cemetery on NBG July 20. The Mass was held in conjunction with Guam's Liberation Day and allowed former residents of the pre-WWII village of Sumay and their families and friends to visit the cemetery and pay respects to their ancestors. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake)

people was Julita Sablan Sauget.

Sauget said her grandfather was buried in the cemetery before WWII but visiting the site brought back memories from the war. Sauget was 6 years old during the war. She needed blood transfusions and was suffering from malnutrition. Sauget said Navy doctors pumped her with vitamins to save her.

"My heart is so much in the military

because of my experience during the war," Sauget said. "I almost didn't make it. Navy doctors saved my life."

Sauget recalled her concrete house in Hagatna being bombed and destroyed, and her brother being taken by the Japanese and dying on the way to a concentration camp. Despite the painful memories, Sauget said it feels good to come back, visit and reminisce.

Wood said the event was an opportunity for the military and local communities to come together during the island's month-long Liberation Day festivities.

"I hope it will continue to be an annual event," he said. "It's important that people know they're welcome to come back here and visit the cemetery and this part of their heritage."



Above: Santa Rita Mayor Dale Alvarez, right, speaks with families during a memorial Mass at the Sumay Cemetery on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 20. The Mass was held in conjunction with Guam's Liberation Day and allowed former residents of the pre-World War II village of Sumay and their families and friends to visit the cemetery and pay respects to their ancestors. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake)

Right: Rev. Fabio Faiola, Santa Rita's Our Lady of Guadalupe parish pastor, presides over a memorial Mass at the Sumay Cemetery on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 20. The Mass was held in conjunction with Guam's Liberation Day and allowed former residents of the pre-World War II village of Sumay and their families and friends to visit the cemetery and pay respects to their ancestors. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake)



# USCG command keeps Guam waters safe

By Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert  
Joint Region Edge Staff

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Station Apra Harbor is a multi-mission unit responsible for ports, waterways, coastal security, marine environmental protection, search-and-rescue operations, defense readiness and maritime law enforcement including drug interdiction and migrant interdiction operations.

To complete its mission, the command operates three 25-foot Defender-class boats designed for speed and maneuverability and equipped for the command's multi-mission purposes. The command also maintains and operates a 21-foot rigid-hull inflatable boat, which is a designated Coast Guard Auxiliary craft.

The unit itself is considered a separate operational facility of USCG Sector Guam under operational and tactical conditions.

Chief Boatswain's Mate Nicholas Pavlik, USCG Station Apra Harbor officer in charge, said the command supports the Navy mission and the Global War on Terrorism by keeping the waters around Guam safe.

"We work closely with Navy Harbor Security and [Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 7] both in mission support and joint training exercises," Pavlik said. "Station Apra Harbor conducts periodic harbor safety patrols and rapidly responds to threats within inner and outer Apra Harbor including the surrounding waters of Guam."

The command also works jointly with the Guam Police Department and Guam Fire Department on a routine basis.

The command operates with 23 active-duty personnel and 12 Reserve personnel. A unique feature of the command is that it is the only unit on island commanded by an enlisted service member.

The Coast Guard allows Pavlik to command both certain ashore and afloat units only after



Guam's Very Own Aqua Force: Coast Guardsmen from U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Station Apra Harbor work on a boat engine at the command compound on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 12. USCG Station Apra Harbor is a multi-mission unit responsible for ports, waterways, coastal security, marine environmental protection, search-and-rescue operations, defense readiness and maritime law enforcement including drug interdiction and migrant interdiction operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

he has completed the necessary training and received full certification through a rigorous oral board and screening process, to which many dedicate years of preparation.

In addition to Pavlik, USCG Station Apra Harbor has a full command construct with an executive petty officer, engineering petty officer and operations petty officer. The command maintains its own budget, facility and property.

Pavlik said another mission of the command is giving back to the community.

"Station Apra Harbor adopts a kennel at Guam Animals In Need every year and volunteers a few times a year to assist in yard maintenance, feeding the animals and cleaning the kennels," he said. "The command has also adopted a bus stop in our sister village Merizo and some of the crew is active with Special

Olympics Guam. The Coast Guard is here to work for the communities of Guam in keeping their waterways safe, whether you're on the water for commercial or recreational purposes. We strive to make that positive impact in the station's daily interaction with Guam's mariners so we can work together and not against each other and this is a never-ending endeavor."

## Andersen's Best: Poulos keeps nuclear threats away



Safeguarding the People of Guam: Staff Sgt. Marcus Poulos, 36th Medical Operations Squadron (MDOS) bioenvironmental technician, was awarded Andersen's Best July 20. Poulos is responsible for completing comprehensive radiation leak analyses of all ionizing radiation sources on the installation ensuring wing compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

During Operation Tomodachi, Poulos was instrumental to the development and implementation of policy for aircraft flying from potentially contaminated areas. With his bioenvironmental engineering team, he spent countless hours on the flight line and monitored 320 aircraft and 1,120 personnel ensuring that appropriate health risk assessment was conducted.

Andersen's Best is a recognition program which highlights a top performer from the 36th Wing. Each week, supervisors nominate a member of their team for outstanding performance and the wing commander presents the selected Airman or civilian with an award.

To nominate your Airman for Andersen's Best, contact your unit chief or superintendent explaining their accomplishments.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Carlin Leslie)

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# Guam Reservists return from Iraq

By Spc. Elizabeth Cole  
305th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Two Guam Army Reservists finally arrived home to Guam after a nearly-yearlong deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn.

Spc. Eve Ililau and Spc. Charlene Apatang Mendiola deployed with the U.S. Army Reserve 9th Mission Support Command 305th Mobile Public Affairs Det. to provide critical public

affairs support for the 1st Infantry Division (ID) from Fort Riley, Kansas; the 36th ID in Basrah, Iraq; and the commanding general at Camp Victory in Baghdad.

While Ililau accompanied the 1st and 36th ID command groups throughout the nine provinces of Iraq, Mendiola worked in Baghdad as a print journalist and information management officer.

Being on her first deployment, Ililau explained that her experience wasn't what

she had expected.

"Before I deployed, my imagination was running wild because of all you hear on the news but I actually got to go outside the wire and see firsthand what all our Soldiers are doing," Ililau said. "It was really cool."

In addition to her other duties, Mendiola also served as the primary layout and design noncommissioned officer for the "Victory Times," a weekly newsletter at Camp Victory. The newsletter serves as an information source

to Soldiers in theater while delivering key command messages.

Both Soldiers expressed how happy they are to be returning home to Guam.

"I feel really proud to have served my country but it's so nice to be home, safe and with my family," Mendiola said.

Ililau echoed Mendiola's sentiments.

"I'm going back to school full time when I get home so I'm really excited to move on to the next chapter in my life," Ililau said.



Reunited and it Feels So Good: Spc. Charlene Apatang Mendiola, U.S. Army Reserve 9th Mission Support Command 305th Mobile Public Affairs Det. (MPAD) print journalist and information management officer, stands with her family, who traveled from Guam to welcome her home, during a deployment ceremony at Fort Shafter Flats in Honolulu, Hawaii, June 28. Along with the 305th MPAD, Mendiola was deployed to Iraq to provide critical public affairs support for the 1st Infantry Division (ID) and the 36th ID in Basrah, Iraq, and the commanding general at Camp Victory in Baghdad. After completing two weeks of demobilization training at Schofield Barracks, Mendiola returned home to Guam. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army)



Safe and Sound: Spc. Eve Ililau, U.S. Army Reserve 9th Mission Support Command 305th Mobile Public Affairs Det. print journalist, is welcomed home during a deployment ceremony at Fort Shafter Flats in Honolulu, Hawaii, June 28. After completing two weeks of demobilization training at Schofield Barracks, Ililau returned home to Guam. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army)

## News Notes

### Job Announcements

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

### Joint Region Marianas

Supervisory Program Analyst, Closes July 30

### U.S. Naval Hospital Guam

Medical Treatment Facility Emergency Manager, Closes July 30

### Naval Support Activity Andersen

Firefighter (Hazardous Materials Technician), Closes July 30

Airman and Family Readiness Flight Supervisor, Closes July 31

### Relocation of U.S. Naval Base Guam Bachelor Housing Service Desk

Effective July 25, Bachelor Housing Front Desk Services will be relocated from the Family Housing Office at Building 1657A to Building 18 located on U.S. Naval Base Guam. All contact numbers will remain the same. For more information, call 333-2284/5.

### 2010 Consumer Confidence Report Now Available

Andersen Air Force Base's (AFB) drinking water is safe to drink and is in compliance with all federal and local regulations. Under the Environmental Protection Agency's Consumer Confidence Reporting Rule of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the base Bioenvironmental Engineering Office is required to annually summarize water analytical test results from the previous year and make the summary report available to all water consumers. This report is available on the Andersen Intranet under "Featured Links, Andersen AFB Consumer Confidence Report." Printed copies are also available at the base library and the Bioenvironmental Engineering Office located in the Aerospace Medicine Clinic. For more information or to receive the report by e-mail, call 366-7166.

### Naval Criminal Investigative Service ID Theft Awareness Campaign

Anyone who wants protection against identity theft and fraud should consider buying a paper shredder with crosscut technology. This equipment completely destroys sensitive documents that contain various pieces of personal information and is the only way to make sure your data is secure. Bank account statements and credit cards bills should be shredded before they are discarded to keep any sensitive information away from strangers. This announcement is brought to you as part of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) ID Theft Awareness Campaign, which will run through Sept. 30. As part of the campaign, NCIS Resident Agency Marianas, Guam will be conducting briefings to commands aboard U.S. Naval Base Guam regarding the prevention of ID theft and awareness of online security to help maintain the operational readiness of military members and their families. For more information or to schedule a briefing, call Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Guelmy Camacho at 339-7220 or 888-3091.

### U.S. Naval Base Guam Housing Security Measures

While the incidents of crime in Navy family housing are low, U.S. Naval Base Guam recommends housing residents implement the following prevention measures:

- Ensure that all doors, windows, garages and vehicles are locked at all times.
- Turn on all outside lighting at night.
- Secure all valuable items. Do not leave valuable items that are in your home in plain sight to someone outside looking in through a window or door. Evaluate your home from the outside for things that might tempt a thief. Consider closing blinds and curtains to make it difficult for a thief to see valuable items.
- Report broken locks and lighting to the Housing Help Desk and follow up if there is not a prompt response.
- Report suspicious activity in the community - day or night - to the Security Department at 911 or 339-3414.

### Report Fraud, Waste, and Mismanagement

The Joint Region Marianas (JRM) Hotline provides an opportunity to report significant cases of fraud, waste and mismanagement. All reporters have the right to remain anonymous. To contact the JRM Inspector General, e-mail [M-GU-JRM-IG-HOTLINE-FRAUD-WASTE-ABUSE@fe.navy.mil](mailto:M-GU-JRM-IG-HOTLINE-FRAUD-WASTE-ABUSE@fe.navy.mil) or call 349-1001. You may also mail your report in to JRM Inspector General Office, PSC 455 Box 211, FPO AP 96540. Remember, the more detailed information you provide the better we can assist you.

# NGB leader visits Guam Guard

By Airman 1st Audrey J.P. Taitano  
Guam Air National Guard Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, National Guard Bureau senior enlisted leader, paid a visit to Guam this month with a tri-fold mission for reaching out to the island's enlisted Guard members.

After thanking members for their service, addressing enlisted priorities and National Guard challenges, Jelinski-Hall delivered an important message regarding suicide prevention.

"Peer to peer, battle buddy to battle buddy and wingman to wingman is where we can make a difference," Jelinski-Hall said. "Make this personal. We know what right looks like. If the picture does not look right, get engaged."

Jelinski-Hall honed in on this critical issue and many other concerns for warriors, placing particular emphasis on the National Guard's ability to provide resources.

Airman 1st Class Juvée Pangelinan, 254th Force Support Squadron personnel specialist, said Jelinski-Hall's visit helped Guard members understand the realities ahead for today's enlisted force.

"Although our mission is being impacted by current budget cuts, Chief Jelinski-Hall emphasized that each and every enlisted member is an important asset to what we live and fight for," Pangelinan said.

Jelinski-Hall's visit also helped highlight Guam's unique qualities and importance to the overall National Guard mission.

"Being the most senior enlisted leader in the entire National Guard, both Army and Air, Chief Master Sgt. Jelinski-Hall's visit underscored the relevance of the Guam National Guard's enlisted members into the total force," said Chief Master Sgt. Joe Alcairo, Guam Air National Guard command chief.

"The Guam Guard has that sense of family and community – it's home," said Jelinski-Hall, who spent almost 20 years serving in Hawaii before transitioning to her current position in Washington, D.C. "I have seen a lot



Taking Time for Guam Guard Members: Chief Master Sgt. Denise Jelinski-Hall, left, National Guard Bureau senior enlisted leader, addresses a question posed by Senior Master Sgt. Gerard Damian, of the Guam Air National Guard, at Andersen Air Force Base July 8. Jelinski-Hall covered various issues including benefits, disaster relief assistance, force development and suicide prevention. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Audrey J.P. Taitano)

of pride throughout the entire organization. Everywhere I've been there has been high morale and high energy. I've also seen a strong bond and a unique partnership between the Guam Army and the Air National Guard."

As the senior enlisted leader, Jelinski-Hall has the large responsibility of influencing and shaping the future of the enlisted force of the National Guard. To do so, she has prioritized her mission in two areas – resiliency of warriors and their

families, and enlisted force development.

"Today's environment calls us to be adaptable Soldiers and Airmen," Jelinski-Hall said. "Look for opportunities to gain operational experience in a variety of positions, special duty assignments and seek out venues to further develop speaking and writing skills. Enlisted leaders of today and tomorrow need to acquire a broad breadth of leadership experience."

Serving almost 27 years in her own military

career, Jelinski-Hall understands the challenges that enlisted members face as well as the successes that can be achieved.

"You all are combat-proven, battle-tested service members," she said. "You have enlisted and re-enlisted during a time of war and that says a lot about you, your families and the incredible support of your employers. I'm proud of your service and commitment to our nation and the National Guard."

## Updated Airman dress instruction released

By Airman 1st Class Whitney Tucker  
36th Wing Public Affairs

Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2903 Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel received a facelift after several years of interim updates as various uniform items were introduced and phased out July 18.

The last revision to the AFI was in 2006 prior to the release of the Airman Battle Uniform (ABU), which is slated to replace the Battle Dress Uniform and Desert Camouflage Uniform Nov. 1.

"This updated version of AFI 36-2903 Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel was long overdue," said Master Sgt. Joanne Reed, 36th Maintenance Group first sergeant. "It has been several years since the AFI was last updated and we have had a myriad of uniform changes since then. The AFI has substantial changes throughout from incorporating the ABU to clarifying excessive tattoos and adding standards for body hair."

According to the AFI, the revised publication should be reviewed in its entirety due to the significant changes that have been made. The rewrite added clarification to existing policy and consolidated information as it pertains to each possible uniform configuration.

Chapters were rearranged and sections were made inclusive to eliminate turning back and

forth to configure a single uniform. One thing Airmen might notice is the amount of pictures incorporated into the revised AFI.

"Dress and personal appearance standards are once again consolidated into one publication," Reed said. "Additionally, several diagrams and pictures have been included in the rewrite of the AFI providing a clearer understanding of the standards discussed."

Sections are also inclusive, listing all items that may and must be worn with each particular uniform with the exception of outer garments, which are covered in their own section.

The first three chapters cover the basic philosophy, appropriate circumstances to wear uniform items, how and where to purchase them, roles and responsibilities, and grooming and appearance standards.

Chapters 4-7 cover uniforms worn and maintained by all Air Force members – dress, utility, and physical training uniforms. Chapters 4 and 5 include the dress and utility uniforms. Chapter 6 explains outer garments, headgear, rank insignia and accessories, and Chapter 7 covers the physical training uniform.

The remaining chapters "customize" the uniforms of unique populations and discuss badges, awards and decorations unique to individual Airmen.

The final chapter contains instructions for recommending changes to dress and personal



appearance policy or uniform designs.

The revision involved input from individuals of all ranks and components of the Air Force, including Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members.

"There is an extensive process involved with changes and updates to the AFI," Reed said. "They don't occur arbitrarily. AFI 36-2903 provides information on uniform policy

changes and the Air Force Virtual Uniform Board process in Chapter 13. This AFI was influenced by a huge population of Air Force service members because it impacts the total force."

For online dress and appearance information, go to the dress and appearance Web page on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site at <http://www.afpc.af.mil/dress/index.asp>.

# EODMU 5 holds change of command

By Mass Communication Specialist  
1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 held a change of command ceremony at the command compound on board U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) July 22.

Cmdr. Scott H. Kraft relieved Cmdr. Robert K. DeBuse as EODMU5 commanding officer.

The ceremony's guest speaker, Capt. Thomas P. Shaw, Expeditionary Strike Group 7 deputy commander, expressed humility at being chosen to speak at this particular change of command.

"I have spoken at other changes of command but none can match the level of honor and humility I feel while speaking to you this morning," Shaw said. "EODMU 5's record of success from Iraq to Afghanistan to the Philippines to northeast Japan is truly inspiring."

Shaw then praised DeBuse and the men and women of EODMU 5 who served under him for the exemplary way they have time and again answered their nation's call to duty.

"Congratulations Rob and EODMU 5 on a job well done," he said. "Continue to strive to be the best and achieve all that you can. Abraham Lincoln once said that 'some achieve great success as proof to all that others can achieve it as well.' You are a shining example for all to follow."

Shaw then presented the outgoing commander with the Meritorious Service Medal for his exceptional conduct in the performance of duties as commanding officer.

After receiving the award, DeBuse said that he would not have been able to achieve any of his accomplishments at EODMU 5 without the competent Sailors who served under his command.

"To my command, the best command in the Navy, as Adm. Bill Halsey once said, 'There are no great men, just great challenges that ordinary men, out of necessity, are forced to meet,'" he said. "I truly believe that about my time here. I have done nothing great except to realize my own shortcomings and leverage the talents of the members of my command to meet the challenge of working in the Asian-Pacific [region] and wherever else we were



Changing Hands: Cmdr. Robert K. DeBuse, right, transfers command of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 to Cmdr. Scott H. Kraft, during a change of command ceremony at the command compound on board U.S. Naval Base Guam July 22. Kraft said that he was humbled to take command and awed at DeBuse's accomplishments while at the helm of EODMU 5. Kraft relieved DeBuse as EODMU5 commanding officer. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

directed to deploy."

As his last official act as EODMU 5's commanding officer, DeBuse utilized his authority under the Command Advancement Program to promote Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 2nd Class (AW/PJ) Adam J. Messier to the rank of petty officer first class.

The crew, officers mess, and chiefs mess then each presented DeBuse with unique mementos to remember his time at the command.

After the reading of official orders and passing of command, Kraft's wife, Erica, came on stage to pin on her husband's long-awaited

Command at Sea pin.

After the pinning, Kraft was eager to tell his new staff how he felt.

"When I woke up this morning, I was struck with inordinate humility," he said. "I am humbled because when we, as EODMU 5, close ranks, I am flanked by you. I am humbled because you are the company I am now privileged to keep. I am humbled because you are company I am now charged to lead."

EODMU 5 is forward-deployed at NBG and patrols the 7th Fleet area of responsibility for mines and other explosive hazards. They

provide detachments for other tasks wherever and whenever they are needed.

Navy EOD technicians are an elite team of warriors who eliminate hazards from conventional ordnances, weapons of mass destruction, sea mines and improvised explosive devices, and accomplish expeditionary diving and salvage objectives. These Sailors foster trust and cooperation with like-minded nations, ensure offensive maneuver for conventional and special forces, and mitigate harm to U.S. and coalition forces as well as civilians.

For more news from U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, visit [www.navy.mil/local/guam/](http://www.navy.mil/local/guam/).



For Your Service: Capt. Thomas P. Shaw, right, Expeditionary Strike Group 7 deputy commander, presents the Meritorious Service Medal to Cmdr. Robert K. DeBuse, outgoing Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 commanding officer, for exceptional conduct in the performance of duties as commanding officer during a change of command ceremony at the EODMU 5 compound on board U.S. Naval Base Guam July 22. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis)



Welcome to One Explosive Family: Erica Kraft, left, pins the Command at Sea pin on her husband, Cmdr. Scott H. Kraft, incoming Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 commanding officer, during a change of command ceremony at the command compound on board U.S. Naval Base Guam July 22. Scott Kraft relieved Cmdr. Robert K. DeBuse as EODMU5 commanding officer. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (SW) Peter Lewis)

# Teamwork, dedication celebrated at change of command

By Catherine Cruz Norton  
 Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas  
 Public Affairs

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas held a Change of Command ceremony July 20 at the Big Screen Theatre on Naval Base Guam during which Capt. Peter S. Lynch transferred command to Capt. John V. Heckmann, Jr.

Lynch, who moves to his next assignment at Pearl Harbor as vice commander of NAVFAC Pacific, received a Legion of Merit (Gold Star) medal for his outstanding service and superb leadership during his two-year tour on Guam.

"This medal that you pinned on my chest is a great reflection of the hard work and dedication of professionals at NAVFAC Marianas," said Lynch. "I'm proud to wear this recognition as a testimony to all that has been done by this hardworking professional organization that I've had the privilege to lead."

NAVFAC Pacific Commander Rear Adm. Kate Gregory reflected on the tremendous achievements of the organization under Lynch's leadership, and she emphasized the importance of team work. "In the U.S. Navy, nothing significant or important gets done by one person alone; it is truly a team effort," said Gregory.

"It's not getting the mission done that is important, but it is also taking care of those people and the community around you that is important to achieving total success, and that is what we expect of our commanders in the United States Military."

During his farewell speech Lynch recognized the NAVFAC Marianas team. "In the past two years our command, my command has done remarkable things," said Lynch. "We've



Stage Full of Leaders: Capt. Peter S. Lynch, right, and Capt. John V. Heckmann Jr., second from left, salute each other as Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, left, Joint Region Marianas commander, and Rear Adm. Kate Gregory, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific commander, look on during a change of command ceremony at the Big Screen Theatre on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 20. During the ceremony, Heckmann relieved Lynch as NAVFAC Marianas commanding officer. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

tripled in size meeting an increasing workload joining with our team at Andersen Air Force Base, as part of the establishment of Joint Region Marianas."

"We hired a diverse group of professionals; we leveraged every option to encourage talented folks to join us in Guam and to assist in our expanding mission; we developed an internship

program that is second to none; and we've maintained a remarkable safety record by building a workforce of 600 safety professionals, each one looking out for one another and teaching each other valuable lessons," said Lynch.

Lynch was recognized for his innovative engineering and extraordinary vision which

played a vital role in the planning to relocate Marines from Okinawa, Japan to Guam. He was further acknowledged for his comprehensive knowledge of technical, legal and political issues which directly contributed to the One Guam utility solution.

"On the work-front we had some tough issues to work through. We needed to figure out how the island was going to support the (Military) buildup," he said. "On the utilities front building a trusting and sound relationship took time and fair amount of effort. Collectively we spent hours wrestling with tough technical, financial, and responsibility issues."

"But we worked through them we signed the agreements to demonstrate our commitment to each other, our organizations and to the people of Guam. These agreements are the basis of the One Guam vision," Lynch concluded.

Incoming NAVFAC Marianas Commanding Officer Heckmann referred to the day as one of celebration to honor what the command has been able to accomplish under Lynch's leadership. Heckmann said he is absolutely thrilled to be leading the command to the next level of expertise and excellence.

Formerly the executive officer for NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia, Heckmann imparted three important principles that will be the hallmark of his command. They include mission execution in support of the war fighter, integrity to uphold the trust of the American public, and leadership to take care of the NAVFAC Marianas people, its greatest asset.

"We have an absolute incredible mission to support the war fighter: the Sailors, Marines, airmen and soldiers who are poised here to protect our great nation," said Heckmann. "We must never lose sight that that's our ultimate mission, and understand that is why we exist here as a command."

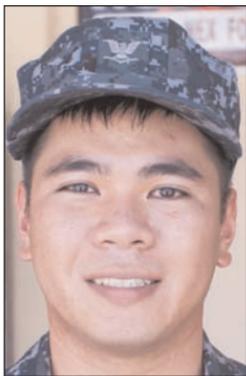
## How do you adapt to change?

Joint Region Edge asked its readers how they adapt to change.



**"I adapt to change depending on circumstance. If it's a challenge and I agree with the change, then I attack it head on. I'm competitive in nature. If I don't agree with the change, I still attack it head on not to comply with the change but to change the change itself."**

— Airman 1st Class Isaac Rojas  
 36th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems journeyman



**"I workout – not only does it alleviate the stress caused by change but stress in general."**

— Information Systems Technician 3rd Class (AW) Roy Caasi  
 Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25



**"I take on change slowly. Whatever happens, happens. I take it as it comes and just go with the flow."**

— Staff Sgt. Ayo Smith  
 36th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems craftsman



**"I take change one day at a time and learn from others' experiences."**

— Machinist Mate Fireman Joseph Maslan  
 USS Frank Cable (AS 40)



**"I go with the flow and follow my superiors while striving to make things better with the change."**

— Airman 1st Class Christopher Bachman  
 36th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems apprentice



**"I like to workout to relieve the stress and begin to plan what I need to do."**

— Nicole Moreno  
 Guam National Guard dependent

# Voice of a Survivor: Bert Unpingco

(Editor's Note: This article is the final in a five-part series about Guam's World War II survivors in observance of Liberation Day.)

By JoAnna Delfin  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Bert Reyes Unpingco was born Oct. 9, 1933. Along with his mother, father, and eight siblings, Unpingco lived in the capitol village of Hagatna at the site of the current Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library.

The morning of Dec. 8, 1941 was a special day for Unpingco as he, and other children his age, lined the inside of the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica in Hagatna to receive their First Holy Communion and celebrate the feast of the island's patron saint, Santa Marian Kamalen.

According to Unpingco, Mass was already in progress when the attacks began.

"Someone hollered inside the church, 'There are many planes out there. There are 17 planes out there.'" Unpingco recalled. "So we all stopped the service and we all went to watch."

As he and other spectators stared into the sky, Unpingco remembered seeing black boxes falling from the planes. Curious to find out what was in the packages, Unpingco and others began racing to catch them.

"I've seen that done before where people drop boxes of nice things for the islanders," he said. "Fortunately I was too far away [because], when they hit the ground, they were bombs. So all of us who were running toward the boxes we turned back to the cathedral."

In the mix of the chaos, Unpingco recalled people frantically searching for family members.

"People started praying and hollering, 'Where's my son,'" Unpingco said. "Everybody was trying to find each other."

Unpingco was able to find his family immediately and they all rushed back to their home to seek shelter from the pandemonium. The morning after the attack, the Unpingco family packed their belongings and moved away from their home.

As they traveled to their ranch in Chalan Pago, Unpingco recalled seeing and hearing a bomb drop on his house. The aerial attack was not meant for the Unpingco's home but for their neighbor Radioman George Tweed, a service member with the U.S. Navy.

"The area looks like a radio station," Unpingco said. "He had antennas flying all over the neighborhood including to our house. When the bomb dropped, it was intended for his house and it landed on our house. I was 8 years old and I was scared to my bones."

While at their ranch, Unpingco and his family continued to carry out daily tasks until they were discovered by Japanese troops.

"They're so small compared to the American Soldiers," he recalled. "I was never afraid of them so I decided to make a friend. I did become friends with some of them after I started learning about their ways."

While he made friends with a few of the Japanese soldiers, Unpingco soon learned that they were not all fun and games. One day, as Unpingco was assisting his sister with farm work under Japanese direction, he saw American planes flying overhead.



Revisiting the Past: World War II survivor Bert Unpingco revisits the Plaza de Espana next to the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica in Hagatna June 17. When Japanese forces bombed the island Dec. 8, 1944, Unpingco was preparing to receive his First Holy Communion. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)

"I was supposed to be guarding her," Unpingco said. "I was trying to be helpful by carrying water to all the workers except I made a big mistake when a group of planes were flying overhead."

In his excitement, Unpingco began to holler at the passing planes. Japanese soldiers then struck his body continuously with tangantangan (TANG-an TAHNG-an) branches. The assault left him with blisters and he was unable to move for days.

In 1944, the Unpingco family was one of many forced to make the long journey to the Manenggon concentration camp in Yona. Men, women, children, and the elderly were watched carefully as they marched along the trail and were punished if they fell behind.

"As we walked up from Pago Bay to Yona, it was raining cats and dogs," Unpingco recalled. "What was very sad was that there were many sick people and elderly people falling by the wayside and, instead of helping them, they were being kicked. I thought that was unnecessary."

According to Unpingco, the Manenggon camp quickly filled with people. Within two weeks, there was almost no food left and the area had become unsanitary.

"We were on the lower portion of Manenggon and there were thousands of people at the mountainside where the water flows down and they are using the river as a toilet," Unpingco said.

Fortunately, only a handful of people got sick while others were able to overcome the foul conditions.

One day, Unpingco and a few friends ventured out to search for provisions. On this quest, they would make the most important discovery of their lives.

"We were in the jungles scrounging for something to eat when we came across three or four Marines," he said. "We knew they

were Marines because of their uniforms and we asked if they were Marines and they said, 'Yes.'"

Though they were advised to keep quiet, Unpingco and his group raced back to camp and alerted fellow captives that the Americans were there to save them. Once Marines discovered the Chamorros in the camp, they started to move the now-free prisoners to safer ground.

Overcome with joy, Unpingco and a few others began to celebrate.

"I got on the rock and, when a plane was passing overhead, I decided I should not be there and I got down," Unpingco recalled. "The boy that was waiting for me to get down, he got up there and started hollering. The Marines kept telling him to get down and be quiet but unfortunately we all saw a big hole go through his body. It was a cannonball from one of the ships."

Unpingco said the crowd's joy quickly shifted to sorrow for the boy who just missed liberation.

"One second everyone was singing and cheering and laughing," Unpingco said. "Once we saw that hole, somebody started saying the 'Our Father' in Chamorro and, before we knew it, there was a whole nobena (no-BEN-nah) [rosary] down the line."

With heavy but grateful hearts, the Unpingco family joined the other liberated Chamorros and proceeded to Pigo Cemetery in Anigua where they were kept safe as U.S. forces secured the island.

Though Unpingco suffered and witnessed atrocities during the Japanese occupation, he said the knowledge he gained during that time has actually improved his life.

"I learned a lot about life during the war that is beneficial to me," Unpingco said. "One of them is that, when the chips are down, the only thing you can do is look up to the Lord and ask for help."

## Recapturing Guam

July 20 - 21, 1944

- The American invasion fleet reaches assigned positions off Guam's western shore during the evening July 20.
- The beaches off Asan and Agat are shelled and bombed for three hours at 5:30 a.m. July 21.
- In Asan, Marines load into amphibious tracked landing vehicles for the assault and reach the line of departure at 8:19 a.m. July 21. The first wave hits the beach at 8:29 a.m. in Asan and at 8:32 a.m. in Agat.

- American forces move inland and recapture Agat village, including Ga'an Point and Bangi Point, in spite of Japanese resistance.

July 22-24, 1944

- After intense fighting, Marines suffer 615 casualties before they take Bundschu Ridge.
- Marines face the Japanese in the hills above Asan despite their losses.
- In Agat, the American invasion force expands its beachhead and secures Mount Alifan.

July 25, 1944

- Marines seize Mt. Tenjo Road in Piti from Japanese forces.

July 26, 1944

- Japanese forces attack U.S. troops three times in the early morning.

July 27, 1944

- Marines continue to comb through the island searching for captives and enemies

July 29 - 30, 1944

- Marines finally secure all of the Orote peninsula.
- Japanese forces begin to withdraw.

July 31 - Aug. 1, 1944

- Pago Bay is recaptured by U.S. forces.
- Prisoners at the Manenggon concentration camp in Yona are liberated.
- Marines secure the villages of Ordot, Sinajana and Hagatna.

Aug. 5-8, 1944

- Japanese tanks attack U.S. forces then flee the area.
- U.S. troops encounter Japanese opposition when they reach Yigo.
- U.S. forces capture and secure Ritidian Point in Yigo.

Aug. 10, 1944

- Guam is officially declared free from Japanese occupation.

Source: National Park Service Web site

# Guard charter member reenlists

From Guam National Guard Public Affairs

Thirty years ago, Liberation Day was a special day for Staff Sgt. Jeffrey I. Santos. He was one of 32 men and women who raised their right hand and took the oath of military service, earning the distinction as charter members of the newly-established Guam National Guard.

This year marked another special day for Santos. During the Liberation Day parade, in front of his fellow Guard members, island leaders and much of the island watching, Santos raised his right hand for the last time and reenlisted in the Guam Army National Guard July 21.

He is the last of the 32 original charter members still in the Guam National Guard.

During the reenlistment ceremony, Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo recited words similar to those recited by his father, former Gov. Paul M. Calvo, when he swore in then-Private 1st Class Jeffrey I. Santos three decades before.

Santos said it was his desire to reenlist during the Liberation Day parade.

"It was my plan to reenlist and I am happy it went through the proper channels and they got it done," he said. "I wish I can reenlist more but it's my last time."

Santos said he treasures many different experiences in the 30 years he has been with the Guard but he especially values the times he has been involved with training and helping people.

"What stands out for me are all the annual training on and off island, all the recovery operations we did after the many typhoons, and the courses that I was able to take for upward mobility as a master driver for heavy equipment," he said. "I would do it all over again if I have to and, if I get called to be deployed, I'm there."

Santos is currently a section sergeant assigned to the 1224th Engineer Support Company under the 105th Troop Command of the Guam Army National Guard. He works for DZSP 21 as a heavy-wheeled vehicle driver in his civilian capacity. He is married to Josephine Leon Guerrero Santos and has two



Pioneer Comes Full Circle: Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Santos, right, of the 1224th Engineer Support Company and the last of 32 original Guam National Guard charter members, is congratulated by Gov. Eddie Baza Calvo after his reenlistment during the 67th Liberation Day parade in Hagatna July 21. (Air Force photo by Senior Airman Audrey J.P. Taitano)

sons, Jeffrey and Zachary, and one daughter, Alexis.

The National Guard of the United States is the oldest component of the armed forces and one of the nation's longest-enduring institutions. The Guam National Guard traces

its roots back to the first insular military organization on the island known as the Guam Militia. It was formally established when President Jimmy Carter signed Public Law 96-600, which was introduced by the 96th Congress Dec. 24, 1980.

The Guam National Guard's command headquarters was officially established with 32 original charter members July 21, 1981. The organization's personnel strength has grown today to at least 1,600 members between its Army and Air Force components.

# Cut costs: Exercise strength in numbers

By Patrick Russell

Andersen Air Force Base Energy  
Manager

Little things make a difference.

For example, one of the easiest ways to cut energy in our day-to-day activities is to turn the lights off when we leave an office or a room that is not in use.

Countless times this is overlooked because of the "hassle" of turning the lights on and off every time we leave a room. Any time lights are off for more than 10 minutes will save energy.

One thing to remember is to engage a collective effort from every individual to follow this

simple and very effective way of saving energy.

If all of us turn off lights at work and home, even for a short period of time, the cumulative effort produces great savings.

Another easy way to save energy is by using a comfortable temperature on your air

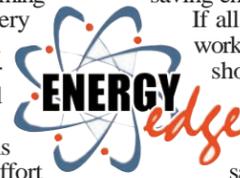
conditioner's thermostat while using a fan, which uses a fraction of the energy an air conditioner uses.

The idea is to move heat produced by your body away from you with the fan, creating a more comfortable condition within the room. Again, engaging everybody will reduce energy consumption by a great deal.

Motivation is the key when it

comes to conserving energy because motivation is what it takes to stay on point and reduce energy waist.

Following these tips creates a collective reduction in energy use, saves tax dollars, and leads to an energy-efficient environment at home and work with little effort. As a group, we have tremendous leverage to save energy.



## Andersen Exchange offers cash for healthy recipes

From Army and Air Force Exchange  
Service Pacific Region Public Affairs

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) is putting its money where its mouth is as it will dole out \$4,200 in winnings for the tastiest, healthiest after-school snack recipes.

The winner of the "Patriot Family Healthy Snack Recipe Contest" will sink their teeth into a \$1,500 Exchange gift card and their choice of a fitness item, valued up to \$600, provided by Icon Sports. Second place will

scarf down a \$750 gift card along with a fitness item valued at up to \$600. The third and fourth best recipes will receive \$500 and \$250 respectively.

"Military shoppers can dig in to this tasty contest," said Sgt. Maj. James A. Pigford, AAFES Pacific Region senior enlisted advisor. "In addition to the great prizes offered, the winners will also be featured on Operation Be Fit and Patriot Family Connection Web sites as well as the 'Taste of Home' Web site and magazine."

Entries must include an original photo of

the healthy after-school snack and fifty words describing the origin of the recipe. A complete list of rules, as well as detailed entry information, can be found at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com/Community/patriotfamily/contests.htm>.

The deadline for entering the "Patriot Family Healthy Snack Recipe Contest" is Aug. 11.

Winners will be determined based on criteria that includes flavor, originality, healthy ingredients, ease of preparation and feasibility. Winning entries will be selected

on or about Sept. 30.

AAFES is a joint command directed by a board of directors, which is responsible to the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force through the Service Chiefs of Staff.

AAFES has the dual mission of providing authorized patrons with articles of merchandise and services and generating nonappropriated fund earnings as a supplemental source of funding for military Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

For more information, visit our Web site at <http://www.shopmyexchange.com>.

# Parade: Service members, island unite

Continued from Page 1

and rode floats.

"It is a wonderful experience," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Joshua Grable, of USCG Station Apra Harbor. "It's something I've looked forward to and heard a lot about. I'm new to the island and I heard a lot of planning and preparation, and now that I'm here, I feel very pleased and honored to be a part of this experience."

Guam native Lance Cpl. Keith Diego, of Marine Attack Training Squadron 203 in Cherry Point, N.C., said he made the journey home to celebrate the holiday and accompany his friend, Liberation Queen Alyssa Charfauros, on her float.

"I love seeing people all together and I like seeing all of our people come out and support all our villages and all the groups out here," he said.

Capt. Mark Benjamin, CSS 15 deputy commander, said he enjoyed being able to celebrate the holiday

with the Guam community.

"As a team, we defeated those that occupied this great island and we celebrate together just as we fought together," he said.

Capt. Corey Alfred, of 554th RED HORSE Squadron, agreed with Benjamin and said coming together for events such as this is a step in the right direction.

"It's really important to realize that we all live amongst each other," she said. "We all surf together, we all paddle together and all that, and it's always good to remember that we're all family on this island."

All the Queen's Men: Liberation Day Queen Alyssa Charfauros, center, receives assistance from Staff Sgt. Ryan Trandell, right, of 36th Wing Protocol Office, and Lance Cpl. Keith Diego, of Marine Attack Training Squadron 203, during the 67th Liberation Day parade on Marine Corps Drive in Hagatna July 21. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)



All Aboard: The Commander, Submarine Squadron (CSS) 15 submarine float USS Gadao makes its way down the parade route during the 67th Liberation Day parade on Marine Corps Drive in Hagatna July 21. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)



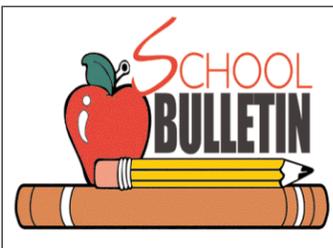
Ride the Red Horse: Members of 544th RED HORSE Squadron greet the crowd aboard some of their heavy equipment during the 67th Liberation Day parade along Marine Corps Drive in Hagatna July 21. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)



Thumbs Up: Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Steve Knappe, of U.S. Coast Guard Station Apra Harbor, rides in one of the command's response boats during the 67th Liberation Day parade on Marine Corps Drive in Hagatna July 21. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)



Sweet Tooth: Electronics Technician Seaman Lucas Young, right, and Sonar Technician Seaman Ryan Deyoung, center, both of USS Buffalo (SSN 715), hand candy out to the crowd during the 67th Liberation Day parade along Marine Corps Drive in Hagatna July 21. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)



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](mailto:jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil) or call 349-2113.

### Andersen Elementary School

Aug. 23 Reporting date for non-administrative educator personnel for orientation and classroom preparation

Aug. 26 Class lists posted after 4 p.m.

Aug. 29 First day of school for first- through fifth-grade

Aug. 29-Sept. 2 Prekindergarten and kindergarten home visits

Sept. 5 No School - Labor Day

Sept. 6 First day of school for kindergarten

Sept. 7 First day of school for prekindergarten

### Guam High School

Aug. 19 New-student orientation for freshmen at the cafeteria from 9-11 a.m.

Aug. 22 New-student orientation for sophomores, juniors and seniors at the cafeteria from 9-11 a.m.

Aug. 23 Reporting date for non-administrative educator personnel for orientation and classroom preparation

Aug. 29 First day of school

Sept. 5 No School - Labor Day

Football practice begins from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at the Guam High School field Aug. 1. For more information on practices or summer workouts, call 686-5265 or e-mail [Jacob.dowdell@pac.dodea.edu](mailto:Jacob.dowdell@pac.dodea.edu).

Cross country practice begins at 4:30 p.m. at the north side of the Gov. Joseph F. Flores Memorial Park (formerly Ypao Beach Park) in Tumon Aug. 6. For more information, call 344-7410.

### McCool Elementary/Middle School

Aug. 18 Elementary new-parent orientation at 9 a.m.

Aug. 18 Middle school new-parent orientation at 10 a.m.

Aug. 19 Elementary new-parent orientation at 1 p.m.

Aug. 19 Middle school new-parent orientation at 2 p.m.

Aug. 23 Reporting date for non-administrative educator personnel for orientation and classroom preparation

Aug. 26 Kindergarten orientation at 1 p.m.

Aug. 29 First day of school

Aug. 29-Sept. 2 Prekindergarten and kindergarten home visits

Sept. 5 No School - Labor Day

# Girl Scouts shapes young ladies

By JoAnna Delfin  
Joint Region Edge Staff

The Girl Scouts is a worldwide organization that encourages young women to engage in responsible behaviors in order to create a more peaceful community.

Vickie Fish, Guam Girl Scouts executive director, said the programs within the organization teach girls to be proactive members of society.

"Girl Scouts from all backgrounds, from all socioeconomic groups, all ethnic origins come together to grow, serve and become their best as responsible, caring citizens," she said.

The organization was established on Guam in 1935 by Navy wives Francys Darr and Agueda Iglesias Johnston. Early activities included training for marching units, hiking around the island to explore Guam's environment and history, and topics such as first aid and homemaking skills.

Today, Girl Scouts also participate in various community activities such as tree plantings and various drives to benefit those in need both on Guam and abroad. Fish said activities such as these give the girls a sense of responsibility and help them realize the needs of others.

"Not all girls are encouraged in their daily lives," she said. "Not all girls have access to positive role models. Girl Scouting can be the difference for a girl – a part of her life where she knows she is valued as she is and is guided in becoming her best."

According to Fish, there are currently 716 girls registered in the Guam Girl Scouts, one-third of which are military dependents.

"It's an excellent way for girls to get to know the local community," Fish said. "It allows them to have the best Guam experience while they are here."

Stephanie Thomas, Air Force spouse and Girl Scout parent, said the organization was a great way to acclimate her three daughters to their new environment.

"We've been everywhere with the Girl Scouts," she said. "We love the Guam Girl Scouts because, even if it's a small organization, they try to reach out to different corners of the island and it gives my daughters the opportunity to develop leadership skills that will benefit them in the future."

The organization hosts many programs to help girls transition to island life including sending cards and packages for family members, morale-building activities and community connections.

"For additional program support, there are service units on the bases who serve the girls attending Andersen Elementary and Middle Schools and McCool Elementary and Middle



More Than Just Awesome Cookies: Guam Girl Scouts and volunteers prepare to make their way down the parade route during the 67th Guam Liberation Day parade in Hagatna July 21. (Photo courtesy of the Guam Girl Scouts)

School," Fish said. "Many military families tell us when they leave Guam that they feel they had a 'best Guam' experience because they were part of Guam Girl Scouts."

While the group encourages the healthy development of young women, it also encourages men and women over the age of 18 to join the organization as adult members or volunteers.

"Most volunteers – busy men and women – become involved to contribute to the lives of girls but they usually find that they benefit themselves tremendously in personal satisfaction," Fish said.

Amy Tuxhorn, Air Force spouse and Guam Girl Scouts volunteer, said being a part of the organization has been a positive influence for her and the girls she mentors. Tuxhorn added that she eventually wants her daughter to join in the fun.

"I was a Girl Scout when I was growing up and I think the girls get a lot out of it," she said. "I enjoy having a positive influence on the girls with the things I can teach them. My daughter has another year till she can join and I hope she'll be able to interact with others respectfully, to be respectful of the environment, and learn life

and leadership skills."

Girls who are 5-17 years old can enroll in the Girl Scouts. The yearly registration fee is \$12. If a girl is a member of the organization but is not registered on island, she can visit the Guam Girl Scouts headquarters in Tamuning to sign up.

Once a girl is registered, she will be assigned to a troop befitting her grade in school.

Members in kindergarten and first-grade are placed in the Daisies group, second- and third-graders are Brownies, fourth- and fifth-grade students are Juniors, sixth- through eighth-graders are Cadettes, 9th- and 10th-grade students are Seniors, and 11th- and 12th-graders are Ambassadors. Groups are able to schedule their own meeting times at a location convenient for all troop members.

The Girl Scout Service Center, located across John F. Kennedy High School along Marine Corps Drive in Tamuning, is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesdays from noon-5 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The center is closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays.

For more information, call 646-5652 or e-mail [ggsi@ite.net](mailto:ggsi@ite.net).



# Research center full of history

By JoAnna Delfin  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Guam's rich history is preserved through a collection of artifacts and publications at the Richard F. Taitano Micronesia Area Research Center (MARC) at the University of Guam (UOG) in Mangilao.

According to MARC Director Dr. John Peterson, the center was established in 1967 when former Congressman Richard Flores Taitano and several members of the 9th Guam Legislature identified the need to compile historical documents and artifacts in a common area to have them available for reference and protect them from deteriorating or being lost or damaged.

After its establishment, MARC did not have a place to call its own until UOG's Humanities and Social Sciences Building, the center's current home, was built in 1992.

"Before that time, these items were mostly dispersed around Guam," Peterson said. "Some of the public libraries, early manifestations of the Guam Museum and sometimes the Guam Historic Preservation Office had a number of documents but nothing was all in one place."

MARC has three main areas – a document collections section, the MARC Library and the Archeology Laboratory.

"This archival documents section of the MARC is where legislative and other important documents are stored," Peterson said. "Many of the documents here come from senators, congressmen and other important government figures throughout the island's history."

One of the most compelling and significant pieces at the center is an original copy of the Organic Act of Guam, which was signed Aug. 1, 1950 and established the island as an unincorporated territory of the United States.

MARC's Archeology Laboratory contains many artifacts collected from dig sites around the island, including areas on Guam's military installations. The MARC Library allows visitors to examine some of the documents and publications stored in the facility.

According to Peterson, there are over 460,000 photos and documents that the general public can access from the center,



History in a Frame: Dr. John Peterson, Richard F. Taitano Micronesia Area Research Center director, points out an original copy of the Organic Act of Guam on display at the Mangilao facility July 14. The document was signed Aug. 1, 1950 and established the island as an unincorporated territory of the United States. (U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin)

which he has given the nickname "Guam's attic."

Although the center is located on the UOG campus, Peterson said access to the facility is not limited to UOG students.

"MARC is open to everybody," he said. "It's not restrictive in terms of access but nothing can be checked out."

Peterson added that the center is sure to be an interesting resource for military personnel.

"The center is a great place for people coming to the island if they really want to get a sense of history and environment on Guam," he said. "A few hours here with a few books that you can copy if you need would give everyone a really good background on the island so I would really encourage you to come here and spend some time."

He added that the facility also stores many artifacts from other islands of Micronesia

including Palau, Chuuk, Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The MARC Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Spanish documents and Archeology Laboratory may be accessed by appointment only.

The facility is closed on weekends and holidays.

For more information about MARC, call 735-2150 or visit [www.uog.edu](http://www.uog.edu).

**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 the NBG Library from 3:30-4 p.m. The Andersen AFB Library offers two story time readings at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. For more information, call NBG at 564-1836 or Andersen AFB at 366-4291.

**UNDER \$10**

**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.

**Willie's Beachside Jazz**  
At Bamboo Willie's every Sunday from 5-8 p.m., enjoy a relaxing evening at the beach while you listen to great jazz music. For more information, call 653-9814.

**Tuesday Fajita Night**  
At Andersen AFB's Café Latte every Tuesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Base price starts at \$2.95 and you can build your own fajitas! For more information, call 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, plus a variety of breakfast burritos and sandwiches. For more information, call 366-6166.

**Ladies' Golf**  
Ladies, do you love the game of golf as much as the men do? If so, every Wednesday it's your day at Palm Tree Golf Course. Ladies receive free green fees. Just pay the cart fee, \$12 for 18-holes or \$8 for 9-holes. For more information, call 366-4653.



**FRIDAY, JULY 29**

7 p.m.: Super 8 • PG-13

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**

2 p.m.: Super 8 • PG-13  
7 p.m.: Mr. Popper's Penguins • PG

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**

7 p.m.: Mr. Popper's Penguins • PG

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, JULY 29**

7 p.m.: Cars 2 • G  
9:30 p.m.: The Hangover Part II • R

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**

1 p.m.: Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer • PG  
3:30 p.m.: Super 8 • PG-13  
7 p.m.: Green Lantern • PG-13

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**

1 p.m.: Mr. Popper's Penguins • PG  
3:30 p.m.: The Conspirator • PG-13  
7 p.m.: Bad Teacher • R

**MONDAY, AUG. 1**

3 p.m.: Cars 2 • G

**TUESDAY, AUG. 2**

3 p.m.: Kung Fu Panda 2 • PG

**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3**

3 p.m.: Mr. Popper's Penguins • PG

**THURSDAY, AUG. 4**

3 p.m.: Super 8 • PG-13

The schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond the theater's control. **The Big Screen Theatre hotline is 564-1831 or visit [mwr Guam.com](http://mwr Guam.com).**

## 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

Chapel of Hope: Sunday, 6:30 p.m.  
 Men's Bible Study: Every first and third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Interfaith Chapel, second floor, room H205  
 Women's Bible Study: Every second and fourth Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall, Building 61

### 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 greater spiritual freedom

By Lt. j.g. Matthew Drayton

U.S. Naval Base Guam Chaplain

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln stood overlooking the great battlefield of Gettysburg. With simplicity and clarity he spoke these words to an audience of over 25,000:

"We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that our nation might live. We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract.



"It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work, which they who fought here have so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain. That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

Whether looking back to the awesome victory on the beaches of Normandy or the liberation of Guam, each of us are beneficiaries of a freedom that was purchased at a great price.

It is for that freedom that each of us owes a great debt. The same is true of our freedom in

Christ. He, for a debt of sin larger than we could pay, purchased our lives with his own.

Many know of the sacrifice that was given by American fighting men and women to secure our national freedom. Still many more need to know the liberation given to us by Christ who secured our greater spiritual freedom. God himself, born of human flesh, so "nobly advanced" and "gave his last full measure of devotion" 2,000 years ago.

He died so that we might be free from the tyranny of sin. As we celebrate these days of national independence and Guamanian liberation, may we highly resolve that this man "did not die in vain," that we as children of God, may not perish, have "new birth," and true freedom.

May God bless you all as we celebrate our independence and carry on the "unfinished work" remaining before us and may we do it with "increased devotion."





## 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.

### Morale, Welfare and Recreation Swim Program

Register now for the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Swim Program. There are classes for all ages and skill levels. Learn to swim or just improve your stroke. June classes are in full swing and available at Charles King Fitness Center pool. For more information, call 333-2049.

### 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.

### Run Registration

Runners can now submit run registrations for Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)-sponsored runs via e-mail. On the Fitness Program page of the MWR Web site, www.mwrguam.com, click on the "NEW Run Registration Form" PDF under Additional Links and follow the instructions on the form. Pre-registration for all fitness events will end at 5 p.m. on Friday of the week prior to the event.

### NCTS Sports Center

The Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Guam Sports Center has reopened. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m.-8 p.m., and Saturday-Sunday from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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.

### Pre/Postnatal Exercise Class

The Coral Reef Fitness Center offers a low-intensity class designed for pregnant women and new mothers. A doctor's clearance form is required to participate. Forms can be picked up at the Fitness Center. For more information, call 366-6100.

### Zumba

Free Zumba classes are held at the Coral Reef Fitness Center. The routine features interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms and resistance training are combined to tone and sculpt your body while burning fat. For more information, call 366-6100.

### Monthly Green Fee Card

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.

### Aikido Classes

Aikido is a traditional Japanese martial art of self-defense. The Hotspot is now offering two types of aikido classes. One is a traditional (Hombu) aikido class for all levels. Classes will be held Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. for kids 8-12 years and 6:30-8 p.m. for adults. The other class is Law Enforcement/Combat Aikido, and is for adults only. This class will be held Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. All classes are \$60 per month, per student. Sign up at the Hotspot. For more information, call 366-2339.

## X-Fit classes now offered



Now Hold It: Charles King Fitness Center (CKFC) fitness trainer Health Service Technician 1st Class Jonathan Edwards, right, of USCGC Sequoia (WLB 215), instructs a patron on proper squat techniques during his "X-Fit" class at CKFC on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 23. The eight-week class is a motivating interactive group workout that specializes in weight loss and core strength training. (U.S. photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)



All Together Now: Charles King Fitness Center (CKFC) fitness trainer Health Service Technician 1st Class Jonathan Edwards, right, of USCGC Sequoia (WLB 215), motivates patrons during his "X-Fit" class at CKFC on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 23. The eight-week class is a motivating interactive group workout that specializes in weight loss and core strength training. (U.S. photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert)

## Volleyball standings

The following are standings for the Captain's Cup Volley League as of July 22:

Team	Wins	Losses
E: "Team NAVFAC"	2	0
I: "USDA"	3	1
J: "Who's NEX"	2	1
H: "Charles Kings and Queens"	2	1
B: "Bohica"	2	2
K: "Sneak Attack"	1	1
G: "DZSP Team B"	1	1
C: "JRM All-Stars"	1	2
D: "J9"	1	2
F: "DZSP Team A"	0	2
A: "PSD"	0	3

Source: Charles King Fitness Center

