



Flying K

Sailor's
reenlistment
honors past,
present

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February 24, 2012

Pictured right, Capt. Benjamin Blanton, U.S. Marine Corps C-130 pilot with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels' "Fat Albert Airlines" talks to local community members about the tremendous support NALF Orange Grove provides to them each year. Blanton, center, and the rest of the Fat Albert crew conducted training this month at the field with their grey C-130. Capt. Mark McLaughlin, commanding officer of NAS Kingsville (foreground) and ABHCS(AW/SW) Rudy Oliva, chief petty officer in charge of the landing field (left), also addressed those gathered. Below, ABH2(AW/SW) Carlos Machado and other Sailors assigned at Orange Grove serve barbecue with all the fixings to those who attended the annual event. (Photo by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)



Blue Angels' Fat Albert team conducts air show training at NALF Orange Grove

About 50 local landowners, community leaders, military, and family members took part in a barbecue and orientation visit Friday, Feb. 17, at Navy Auxiliary Landing Field Orange Grove.

The barbecue and orientation is an opportunity for local landowners and community leaders to not only "break bread" together, but also see and learn about the integral part NALF Orange Grove plays in training Naval aviators. As an added attraction, the U.S. Navy Blue Angel's "Fat Albert" team, who are conducting training at the airfield this month, provided tours of the C-130 aircraft used to transport equipment and personnel to air shows throughout the Blue Angels' air show season.

Jimmy and Grace Trees were two of the local visitors whose property borders the NALF. They said they liked being informed of what is going on and appreciate the service members for continuing to train as vigorously as they do. They also look forward to attending the barbecue every year.

Capt. Mark McLaughlin, NAS Kingsville commanding officer, hosted the event and welcomed the group.

"I'm glad to have this opportunity," he said. "This is your air station, your base. You are a phenomenal community who supports what we do."

"This is my first time attending an event like this," said Lt. Col. Scott Schoemann, executive officer of Training Squadron 22. "I really appreciate the way the community is involved with our operations."

Cmdr. Darren Guenther, VT-22 commanding officer echoed his comments. "I appreciate having such a welcoming community and by continuing to build relationships within our surrounding communities, we also build a strong support of unity between the community and installation," Guenther said.

Capt. Joe Evens, commander of TW-2, thanked the community members for their support of the Navy and explained the importance of the Orange Grove facility to Naval aviation.

"One of every two pilots in the fleet are trained at NAS Kingsville and use the Orange Grove airspace during training," Evans said. "If we didn't have Orange Grove to assist in training operations, NAS Kingsville would not be able to operate as an effective Naval aviation training base."

Evans added, "If we want good neighbors, we have to keep good fences. I hope we are keeping good fences."

The barbecue is held each year when the U.S. Navy Blue Angel's "Fat Albert Airlines" team is conducting air show training. The team routinely uses the field, which is owned and operated by NAS Kingsville, to conduct air show training for the Blue Angels' C-130 transport plane, affectionately known as "Fat Albert."

An all-Marine Corps crew of three officers and five enlisted personnel operate the Lockheed-Martin C-130T Hercules, affectionately known as "Fat Albert Airlines."

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Navy celebrates Women's History Month

By Ensign Amber Lynn Daniel
Diversity and Inclusion Public Affairs

The Navy joins the nation in celebrating Women's History Month throughout the month of March as announced in NAVADMIN 051/12, Feb. 9.

Navy commands are encouraged to reflect on the national 2012 theme, "Women's Education - Women's Empowerment" to increase their knowledge and awareness of the contributions women have made both to U.S. history and to the Navy.

Women have served with great honor and valor in defense of our nation since the Revolutionary War.

However, women did not become an official part of the service until 1908, when Congress established the Navy Nurse Corps. The first 20 nurses, called the "Sacred Twenty" broke the barriers that eventually paved the way for all women to officially enter naval service.

Nurses remained the only women serving in the Navy until World War I, when the Navy's first enlisted women, known as Yeomanettes, provided clerical support.

In 1942, the Navy launched the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) program, allowing women to serve outside the secretarial realm in an official uniform capacity. During World War II, more than 85,000 women served as WAVES air traffic controllers, artists, bakers, couriers, cryptologists, draftsmen, hospital corpsmen, lawyers, meteorologists, and translators at naval shore commands across the nation and overseas. Eighty-one nurses were taken prisoner by the Japanese in Guam and the Republic of the Philippines during World War II.

Six years later, congressional leaders recognized the need for women in peacetime armed forces with the passage of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948. Opportunities for women in the Navy expanded during the Cold War era, and in 1967 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Public Law 90-130, allowing women the opportunity for promotion to admiral or general.

In 1974, Alene Duerke, director of the Navy Nurse Corps, became the first female appointed to the rank of rear admiral. Two years later, Fran McKee became the first female line officer to make flag rank.

Women continued to make great strides with President Gerald Ford signing Public Law 94-106, which required service academies to admit women by the fall of 1976. With the doors of educational excellence finally open to women, 81 women entered the U.S. Naval Academy's Class of 1980.

By the 1980s, women had reached impressive heights within the Navy. Promotion boards began selecting women for flag rank, including Roberta L. Hazard. She was selected for promotion to rear admiral upper

see *Women* on next page



Staying Navy -- ABHCS(AW/SW) Rudy Oliva presents ABE1(AW/SW) Charles Holman with a discharge certificate prior to Holman reenlisting for 6 years U.S. Navy service. Oliva is the leading chief petty officer at NALF Orange Grove where Holman is assigned. Holman, a native of Dallas, has been at NALF Orange Grove for 2 years, and has 8 years of service. (Photo by ABH1 Simon Olvera)

Scorby signs Military Saves campaign proclamation

By Michael Maddox
Region Southeast Public Affairs

Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., Commander, Navy Region Southeast, signed a proclamation declaring his support of Military Saves campaign Feb. 9. Military Saves Week is Feb. 19-26.

Military Saves is a national campaign to persuade, motivate, and encourage Sailors and families to save money, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings.

"I am so supportive of these kinds of programs. From what I've seen throughout my career, there's nothing worse than seeing our young Sailors and civilians get into trouble financially," Scorby said. "Anything we can do to promote saving I think is extraordinarily important, especially in the U.S. today where we have a negative savings rate. It changes a little bit each year, but historically people are spending more than their savings.

"Supporting things which we have in place like savings bonds or Thrift Savings Plans, which I'm a huge supporter of, and using good practices like getting financial counseling, I think is really, really important," added Scorby.

Rufus Bundrige, a personal financial manager and financial educator at NAS

Bravo Zulu

Public Works personnel recognized

Bravo zulu to the following Public Works employees who were recently recognized:

Ernie Rogers was awarded Supervisor of the First Quarter. **Henry Aguilar** was awarded Employee of the First Quarter. **Russell Messer** was selected as Supervisor

Jacksonville's Fleet and Family Support Center, agreed that being financially stable is key to success at work and at home.

"The objective is to increase wealth and decrease debt," said Bundrige. "No matter how you do it, just do the right thing to try to eliminate debt and have some sort of retirement or financial plan for the future. Financial readiness can alleviate much of the stress on the homefront.

"It allows you to do your job without worrying about the financial end of paying your creditors on time or with living paycheck to paycheck," added Bundrige. "You know that when you deploy your family members are securely taken care of in a financial aspect. It can eliminate those things that add pressures on you."

Since the Military Saves program began in 2007, more than 99,000 people have enrolled and more than 200 defense credit unions and military banks now participate in a wide variety of activities to promote personal financial readiness each year.

DoD active duty, National Guard and Reserve, Coast Guard, as well as civilians, retirees, veterans, defense contractors, and family members of all ages are eligible to sign up for the campaign.

To learn more about Military Saves, go to www.militarysaves.org.

of the Year. **Derek Sorensen** was awarded Employee of the Year.

Great Place to Work Awardees recognized were: **Bobby Castellano, David Garza, Neil Miles** and **Jesse Garcia**.

Lastly, **Bob Coleman** retired from Federal service on Dec. 14. Fair winds and following seas.

Flying K

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This paper is published for people like ABH1 Simon Olvera, the arresting gear supervisor at NALF, Orange Grove. The Brownsville, Texas, native has 16 years U.S. Navy service and reported aboard NAS Kingsville a year ago.

Women from previous page

half May 18, 1988, the first woman to be board selected for that grade.

The 1990s ushered in a new era for women serving in the armed forces. During the first Gulf War, women constituted fifteen percent of the naval personnel fighting force in Iraq and Kuwait. In 1994, the repeal of the Combat Exclusion Law allowed women to serve on combatant ships for the first time. Cmdr. Maureen A. Farren became the first woman to command a combatant ship June 10, 1998, when she took command of USS Mount Vernon, an amphibious dock landing ship.

In April 2010 the Navy instituted a landmark change in policy, allowing women to serve on submarines for the first time. The first group of female submariners completed nuclear power school and officially reported on board two ballistic and two guided missile submarines in November 2011.

Women continue to make history in the Navy. Guided-missile destroyer USS Kidd, led by Cmdr. Jennifer Ellinger, responded to a distress call from the master of the Iranian-flagged fishing dhow Al Molai, Jan. 5, who claimed he was being held captive by pirates. Within 24 hours, Kidd assisted in freeing 13 Iranian fishermen and taking into custody 15 pirates.

Today, nearly every naval community is open to women and female Sailors continue to excel in almost all facets of naval duties

**March
is Women's History
Month**

both ashore and afloat. More than 54,000 active duty women and more than 10,000 female

Reservists are serving in the Navy, comprising 17.1 percent of the force. The current Navy Total Force includes 34 active and Reserve female flag officers and 59 female command master chiefs. Vice Adm. Ann E. Rondeau, current president of National Defense University, remains the most senior three-star admiral in the Navy.

Commands are strongly encouraged to increase their knowledge and awareness of the contributions of women to the Navy and nation by celebrating Women's History Month through programs, exhibits, publications, and participation in military and community events.

For more information on the history of women and their numerous contributions to the Navy, visit <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/organization/bupers/womenspolicy/pages/womenhistorymonth.aspx> and <http://www.history.navy.mil/special%20highlights/women/women-index.htm>.



What's your number? -- HM2 Angel Todd, health promotions coordinator at Branch Health Clinic Kingsville checks blood pressure at the Commissary. The service was provided free of charge to bring awareness of Heart Awareness Month. Blood pressure is the force that moving blood puts on a person's artery walls. Two numbers are used to describe blood pressure, such as 120/80. The top number is systolic pressure, which is how much pressure is on your arteries when the heart pumps blood out to your body. The bottom number is diastolic pressure, which is how much pressure is there when your blood vessels relax to let the blood flow back into your heart. "Normal" blood pressure is less than 120/80. For more information, contact the Clinic at 516-6313. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick)

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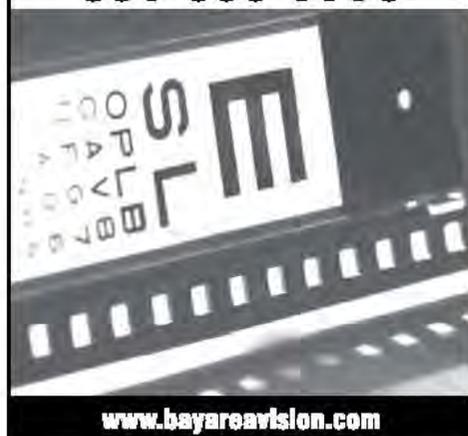


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In the Break



**Capt. Joe Evans
Commander
Training Air Wing TWO**



Greetings NAS Kingsville
and Training Air Wing TWO,

Last week, I traveled north about an hour's drive to Orange Grove where the Navy has an outlying airfield that the Wing uses extensively. NASK was hosting a BBQ there in which the surrounding neighbors and folks from the nearby town of Alice had been invited. Although the weather was poor, it turned out to be a great venue. I enjoyed getting the opportunity to meet some of the, up-till-then, nameless local landowners and ranchers whose property and homes I had flown over so many times in the past. As we sat around the tables enjoying the BBQ brisket and sharing stories, it was readily apparent that all of us -- military, contractors, civil servants and locals alike -- were just regular folks with much in common. We all had one shared fiber that ran through us, our collective sense of duty and devotion to both country and community. Despite the rain, it was indeed a great day for a BBQ!

Truly one of the most extraordinary services that this base and Wing offer to the community is the "Pilot For a Day" program. Last Thursday, we hosted young Madelyn Perez from Kingsville who is a patient of the Hematology/Oncology Clinic at Driscoll Children's Hospital diagnosed

with Chronic Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (or Chronic ITP), a bleeding disorder. Escorted by Lt. Cmdr. Aaron "Vern" Vernallis, a VT-22 "Golden Eagles" department head, Madelyn was presented with her own flight suit, toured the control tower, was finger printed at base security, rode in a fire truck, and flew the T-45 Goshawk simulator. The special day culminated with Lt. Cmdr. Vernallis awarding Madelyn with her very own, well-deserved "wings of gold." Thank you to all the folks that helped make the day exceptional for Madelyn and her family.

On a final note, it is a great honor to congratulate Training Air Wing TWO's newest class of Naval Aviators: Lt.j.g. Adam Fisel (VT-21), who selected Super Hornets in Virginia Beach, Va.; Lt.j.g. Candice Nunley (VT-21), who selected Prowlers in Whidbey Island, Wash.; Lt.j.g. Conor O'Neil (VT-22), who selected Hornets in Virginia Beach; and Lt.j.g. Richard Tiberio (VT-22), who was retained as a SERGRAD instructor pilot. A special congratulation goes to Lt.j.g. Nunley and Lt.j.g. O'Neil for winning the "Top Hook" award for the November Carrier Qualification and February Carrier Qualification detachments. The Winging ceremony was held in the NASK Chapel on Friday, Feb. 17.

For the pilots, keep 'em safe and be ready to roll when this weather finally breaks!

v/r

"Joe Bags" Evans

"Experience is that marvelous thing that enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again."

— Franklin P. Jones



Heart and soul -- Capt. Joseph Evans, commodore, Training Air Wing TWO, presents the Commodore's Safety Coin Award to Melodye Davis, an L-3 plane captain at NALF Orange Grove, who "in doing her job, put her heart and soul into it." While doing preflight checks Davis saw something on the wing of an aircraft, a potential hazard that would have fallen off during flight. The Commodore's Safety Coin Award recognizes people who do great things for safety. (Photo by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)

Questions about voting? check out www.favap.gov

The Federal Voting Assistance Program's website www.fvap.gov has a wealth of information. Much of it is geared toward the military, their family members and civilians living out-of-the-United States.

Anyone can access the site and take advantage of the information available. The website walks you through registering to vote and requesting your ballot. It also has forms and a wealth of information about voting absentee, U.S. elections, state and federal offices, key election dates and legislation.

Below are some questions and answers found on www.favap.gov:

Can I vote absentee?

You can vote absentee in local, state and Federal elections if you are a U.S. citizen 18 years or older and are an active-duty member of the Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, Public Health Service, NOAA, a family member of the above, or a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States.

Where is my "legal voting residence?"

For voting purposes, "legal voting residence" can be the State or territory where you last resided prior to entering military service, or the state or territory that you have since claimed as your legal residence.

Even though you may no longer maintain formal ties to that residence, the address determines your proper voting jurisdiction. To claim a new legal residence, you must have simultaneous physical presence and the intent to return to that location as your primary residence.

Military and their family members may change their legal residence every time they change permanent duty stations, or they may retain their legal residence without change. This may mean that the family's Uniformed Service member has a different legal voting residence than his or her family members. A Judge Advocate General officer or legal counsel should be consulted before legal residence is changed because there are usually other factors that should be considered besides voting.

My family members are not in the military; can they also vote absentee?

Yes. Eligible spouses and children (U.S. citizens, 18 years or older) of military personnel may vote absentee. Check www.fvap.gov/reference/nvr-res.html for more information.

How do I register to vote or request an absentee ballot?

You may register and request an absentee ballot with a single form: The Federal Post Card Application. This application form is accepted by all states and territories and is postage- paid in the U.S. mail, including the Military Postal System and State Department Pouch mail. Hard copies of the form can be obtained from your installation's Voting Assistance Officer or requested directly from the Federal Voting Assistance Program by contacting www.fvap.gov/con-

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Sailor's reenlistment includes past, present family members

CS2 Jeffrey Hall, a culinary specialist assigned to NAS Kingsville's outlying landing field in Orange Grove, wanted to do something special for his reenlistment ceremony in December, something that could involve his entire family – past and present. After talking with NASK career counselor Chief Minerva Verley, he came up with a plan of action. A few phone calls later, things began to fall in place.

In addition to his mother, grandmother, and siblings, Hall wanted to somehow include his deceased grandfather in the ceremony, a man Hall looked up to as a child, and a man he still calls his "best friend."

"My grandfather wasn't here to attend my high school graduation," Hall recalled. "He passed away from cancer shortly before I graduated. And his passing was very difficult for me because we were so close. So, I decided to do my reenlistment as his grave site."

Hall had planned to attend culinary school in Philadelphia after high school, but instead, he enlisted as a culinary specialist in the Navy – to follow his grandfather's footsteps.

Hall's grandfather, Walter Zinnert, was born in March 1927 in Baltimore. He was drafted into the Navy in January 1945, just a two months shy of his eighteenth birthday. He went through recruit training at Naval Training Center Bainbridge, Md., and received orders to report to Naval Ammunition Depot Ft. Mifflin in Philadelphia as an aviation boatswain's mate.

"He didn't stay in the Navy very long," Hall remembered. "World War II ended about a year after he entered the service, so he was discharged. But he always spoke fondly about his time in the Navy and I thought I'd enlist as a tribute to him."

Navy Recruiting District Baltimore was eager to assist Hall with his reenlistment plans. Chief Warrant Officer Cleophus Flint agreed to serve as the reenlisting officer, and the ceremony was set.

Then, on a brisk December morning, Hall, his family, and CWO Flint gathered at the cemetery just outside of Baltimore for the short, but emotional reenlistment ceremony at his grandfather's grave site. Hall saluted Flint, repeated the oath of the enlistment, and then both men turned to the headstone and rendered a salute to his grandfather.

"The salute was a nice way to close the ceremony," Hall said. "The reenlistment was short as most reenlistment ceremonies are, but after it was over, I got a little bit emotional."

Hall and his family celebrated the ceremony at his grandmother's home for the remainder of the day, enjoying cake and refreshments, and the company of an old friend.

"I really felt like my granddad was there with us," Hall said.



Walter Zinnert, CS2 Jeffrey Hall's grandfather



Left, CS2 Jeffrey Hall pauses a moment at his grandfather's grave site. He decided to reenlist there as a tribute to him. Below, Chief Warrant Officer Cleophus Flint, of Naval Recruiting District Baltimore, reenlists CS2 Jeffrey Hall at his grandfather's grave site. (Courtesy photos)



After repeating the oath of enlistment, CS2 Jeffrey Hall and his reenlisting officer Chief Warrant Officer Cleophus Flint rendered a salute to his grandfather. On a brisk December morning with family members present, Hall reenlisted at his grandfather's grave site, paying tribute to his memory.





Pilot For a Day -- Above, eight-year-old Madelyn Perez, Pilot for A Day on Feb. 16, and Lt. Cmdr. Aaron Vernallis, her sponsor pilot from Training Squadron 22, give big thumbs up after landing on a carrier – in a flight simulator aboard NAS Kingsville. Madelyn, a Kingsville resident and patient at Driscoll Children’s Hospital, spent the day aboard the air station with her mother Shawna Baze and aunt, Katie Perez. Madelyn received a flight suit and squadron patches prior to “taking off” around the base, gearing up at the Paraloft, visiting the radar room, watching student pilots take off at the air traffic control tower, getting flight training in a simulator, and being made an honorary NAS Kingsville firefighter. Pictured right, Madelyn is exhausted from her day as a pilot. From right are her aunt Katie Perez, Vernallis, Madelyn, her mom Shawna, and Capt. Robert MacDougall, Training Wing TWO PFAD coordinator. (Photos by IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth)



Orange Grove from page 1

Fat Albert joined the team in 1970 and flies more than 140,000 miles each air show season. It carries more than 40 maintenance and support personnel, their gear and enough spare parts and communication equipment to complete a successful air show.

Fat Albert cruises at a speed of more than 320 knots (approximately 360 miles per hour) at 27,000 feet. Four Allison turboprop engines, which produce more than 16,000 shaft-horsepower, provide Fat Albert Airlines with the power to land and depart on runways as short as 2,500 feet.

Capt. A.J. Harrell, U.S. Marine Corps C-130 pilot with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels’ “Fat Albert Airlines” talks about the C-130’s mission in support of the Blue Angels. Pictured left, the C-130 sits on the flightline at the NALF Orange Grove. The Blue and Gold “Fat Albert” aircraft was not used for this training period as it is getting prepped for the Blues’ 2012 air show season. In its place, the C-130 team used their grey back-up C-130 aircraft. (Photos by Fifi Kieschnick)

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Florida family accepts public service award for support at Bugg Springs

By MC2(SW) Greg Johnson
NRSE Public Affairs

Dr. Joe Branham and his wife Margaret accepted the Department of the Navy Superior Public Service Award from Rear Adm. John C. Scorby Jr., Commander, Navy Region Southeast, during a ceremony at Bugg Spring in Okahumpka, Fla., Jan. 26.

Scorby presented the award in recognition of the Branhams' five decades of support to the U.S. Navy.

They were the long-time owners of Bugg Spring and surrounding areas. The family purchased the 69-acre property in 1923 and began leasing a portion of it to the Navy for sonar testing purposes in 1956. On Dec. 30, 2011, the Branhams sold the entire property to the Navy for \$2.4 million.

Throughout the years, the property has become the Navy's standardizing activity in the area of underwater acoustic measurements. As the home to the Underwater Sound Reference Division (USRD) of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, the research conducted at the spring is a crucial support element for the Navy's submarine and surface fleet, and the Branhams' have been instrumental in making that research possible, Scorby said.

"I wanted to personally thank the Branhams for their commitment support to our Navy," he said. "This one-of-a-kind facility is so important and we really owe our gratitude to Dr. and Mrs. Branham for their generosity and patriotism throughout the past 60 years."

Although Joe said it was an honor to accept the award, the true pleasure was having the opportunity to meet those who were in attendance.

"It feels very good to be able to accept the award today and we really enjoyed the company of all of the fine men and women from the Navy who came here today," Joe said.

According to Tony Paolero, USRD technical program manager, the 175-ft. deep Bugg Spring is not only a perfect setting for sonar testing, it is one-of-a-kind due to its isolated, noise-free environment.

"It's the perfect place for low-frequency calibrations," he said. "We can calibrate at ambient conditions that are below sea state zero, which is ideal and not in existence anywhere else."

When the Branham family originally decided to lease the spring to the Navy in 1956, Joe and Margaret said they weren't initially sure what the implications would be. According to Margaret, they certainly didn't foresee a relationship that would



Rear Adm. John Scorby Jr., commander, Navy Region Southeast, presents the Department of the Navy Superior Public Service Award to Dr. Joe Branham and his wife, Margaret, at their home near Bugg Spring. Scorby presented the award to the Branhams for supporting the Navy's Tactical Towed Array Calibration Facility at Bugg Spring for the past 60 years. (Photo by MC2 Greg Johnson)

grow for the next 60 years.

"I had just graduated from Florida State and I was setting off on a new adventure with world travels and a new Ph.D. in biology and we had other things to think about rather than the implications of the lease," Joe said.

The years of living in close proximity of the Naval facility and its workers has been a positive experience for the Branhams.

"We've had a good relationship with the Navy," Margaret said. "We've personally known all of the commanders of the facility."

"And as high school teachers, we even taught many of their kids," added Joe, "so we've certainly developed personal relationships with the Navy over the years."

In fact, the Branham's developed such a good relationship with the Navy that they decided to lease the property for less than fair market value throughout the past five years. Property leases had to be renegotiated every five years and the last negotiation was in 2006, Joe explained.

With the expiration of the lease late last year, the Branhams were faced with the Navy's proposition to purchase the property outright. According to Paolero, the deal was a key acquisition for the Navy because it prevents future incompatible development that would degrade the integrity of the research facility, which relies heavily on its isolation from ambient noise. But for Joe and Margaret, it was a difficult decision to sell the property their family has called home for nearly a century.

"It turns out to be a lot harder than you think to give up something you're so fond of, but I'm very pleased that we could do this because I do feel loyal to our country," he said. "I've felt a responsibility to be a good steward to this place, and I know the Navy has a record of honoring history and ecological situations and I hope that tradition continues here."

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Fair Winds Shipmate -- Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff, right, presents a congratulatory letter of appreciation from the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy to Chief Logistics Specialist Zeke Sanchez during a retirement luncheon held in his honor at the NAS Kingsville CPO Mess on Feb. 8. Sanchez retired from the Navy with 22 years of active duty service. (Photo by Jon Gagné)



Special recognition -- Members of the Kingsville Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2375 pose for a photo with NAS Kingsville Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff and IC1(SW/AW) Jesse Booth following an appreciation dinner hosted by the VFW in their honor on Feb. 15 at Big House BBQ in Kingsville. (Photo by Jon Gagné)

Vote from page 5

tact/index.html.

An online version of the Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request form is also available at www.fvap.gov/resources/media/fpca.pdf. The online version of the form must be mailed in an envelope with proper postage, or mailed using a pre-paid return envelope, which can be found at www.fvap.gov/resources/media/return-envelope.pdf.

Your Voter Registration/Absentee Ballot Request form must be completed, printed, signed, dated and mailed directly to your local election official. A listing of those officials can be found at www.fvap.gov/shortcuts/wheretosendfpca.html.

Can I vote in-person where I am stationed?

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Currently there are no provisions for personnel stationed outside the U.S. to vote in-person where stationed. Contact the NAS Kingsville Voting Assistance Officer, ETCS(SW/AW/EXW) Kirk Hurst, at 516-6388, for more information. Or, stop by his office at Ground Electronics.

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