



LIBERTY THROUGH UNITY

# JOINT REGION EDGE

Volume IV No. 7

Friday, March 2, 2012

## Vice chief talks **strategy**, force balancing to Guam Sailors



**Meet and Greet:** Adm. Mark Ferguson, vice chief of naval operations, congratulates Aircrewman of the Year from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25, Naval Air Crewman 1st Class (NAC/AW) Derik Blackman, at the Andersen Air Force Base chapel Feb. 24. Ferguson visited Guam to conclude a 10-day tour of the Pacific Command area of responsibility to meet with regional partners and U.S. personnel to discuss U.S. Navy engagement in the Pacific in support of the new defense strategy. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Corey Hensley/Released

By Lt. Cmdr. Chris Servello  
**Vice Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs**

The vice chief of naval operations (VCNO) visited U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 24 to meet with base leaders and Sailors.

During the one-day stop, Adm. Mark Ferguson met with Rear Adm. Paul Bushong, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas, toured base infrastructure and spoke to Sailors at an all-hands call.

“My visit to Guam concludes an enlightening and informative Western Pacific trip,” Ferguson said. “The opportunity to dialogue with regional partners, as well as our Sailors,

is important to gaining a better understanding and appreciation for the significance of the region.”

In meetings with Bushong and his senior staff, VCNO discussed the new defense strategy and upcoming force posture review, as well as the strategic role that Guam plays in sustaining Navy forward presence and engagement.

“The Navy remains critical to national security and economic prosperity,” Ferguson said. “We are uniquely positioned to rapidly respond to any crisis; our forces in Guam provide needed logistic support and capability to allies and partners in the region.”

During his all-hands call Ferguson thanked Sailors and their families for the important work they do in supporting the fleet. He discussed the Navy’s role in the new strategy, the role of naval forces in the Western Pacific, and recent force balancing initiatives.

VCNO told the audience that competition has never been greater to join the force and the Navy has experienced record levels of high retention and low attrition. These factors necessitated programs like Perform to Serve (PTS) and the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB).

When discussing ERB Ferguson said, “this

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## 23rd EBS showcases abilities to international audience

By Senior Airman Veronica McMahon  
**36th Wing Public Affairs**

**A**irmen from the 23rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron (EBS) from Andersen Air Force Base recently showcased the capabilities of the B-52 by performing as the last act at the Singapore Air Show in Singapore Feb. 14 and 18. The event was Asia’s largest air show as far as participants and attendees.

“This was a unique fly-by in that it was executed by an expert crew here to plan the mission and briefed to another crew to coordinate with international control agencies,” said Capt. Tom Lohmeyer, 23rd EBS. “Showing the B-52’s long range capability is good so our allies and adversaries know that we can go anywhere at any time with expert precision.”

Lohmeyer added that a key element to pulling off such sorties as in the Singapore fly-by required planning and preparation.

Lohmeyer added that a key element to pulling off such sorties as in the Singapore fly-by required planning and preparation.

“This showed how a B-52 can appear six hours away within 10 seconds of the projected time, even crossing oceans,” he said.

Seven squadron members from the 23rd EBS were aboard each of the missions. Andersen has hosted the continuous bomber presence since 2003 when Pacific Air Forces

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## **NBG** HONORS BLACK HISTORY MONTH PAGES 8, 9



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## Joint Region Edge

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By Airman 1st Class Whitney Tucker

### 36th Wing Public Affairs

Traffic calming is a set of strategies put in place to slow the speed of oncoming traffic and increase safety for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists alike.

The concrete barriers located at Andersen's main gate are a prime example of a traffic calming device.

However, upon further examination, the experts at the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) have devised a plan to further eliminate the margin for mishaps. This plan will require the need to: tear down the current barriers and construct minimally invasive speed tables in their place.

"The project will remove the current concrete barrier serpentine and install speed tables for the inbound and outbound lanes of traffic," said Capt. Marcus Hunt, 36th CES construction management chief.

Though the current calming device has the desired effect on traffic, under a very specific set of circumstances the barrier system has the potential to do more harm than good. As a result, leadership sought out alternate remedies, finally settling on speed tables.

"The concrete barriers are a risk because in the event of a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device, the barriers would add to the secondary fragmenta-

# AF Main gate to receive facelift



tion causing further damage and possible loss of life," said Capt. David Lycan, 36th Security Forces Operations officer.

Elements have also been added to projections in an attempt to enhance the safety of pass and identification officers.

"We will install cutaways at the main gate to protect officers from vehicular traffic while performing ID checks on person-

nel and vehicles entering and the installation by leveling the existing curb," Hunt said. "This would prevent the officer from being pinned to the curb in the event they were struck by a vehicle."

If all goes according to plan, construction at the main gate will begin in the very near future.

"Construction will occur from

Feb. 27 through April 2," Hunt said. "One lane from both the inbound and outbound direction will close for approximately 14 days."

Once complete, the main gate will not only be more aesthetically pleasing, but also ensure the safety of base commuters. However, during the construction phase, personnel should anticipate a certain level of inconvenience and plan accordingly.

"Traffic speed will be reduced in the work zone and delays are expected during high volume," Hunt said. "Please utilize the Santa Rosa gate when available and allow for additional commute time when traveling through the main gate."

Upon completion, Andersen's threshold will appear to have received a welcome face-lift.

"The speed tables will be made of reinforced concrete with a running bond brick pattern surface," Hunt said. "They will be embedded in the pavement with a cross slope matching that of the existing road."

Throughout the transition, Team Andersen members should put their best foot forward, exercising patience and understanding.

"We appreciate the patience of all installation personnel as we strive to make the installation entry as seamless and safe as possible," Lycan said.

## 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.

### Guam National Wildlife Refuge Closure

The Ritidian Unit and Nature Center of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge will be closed to the public March 2 due to fence installations. The facilities will reopen March 3 and remain open thereafter. Hours of operation are 7:30-4 p.m. daily and closed on all federal holidays. Visit [www.fws.gov/guam](http://www.fws.gov/guam) for more information.

### 2012 Guam Seabee Ball

The 2012 Guam Seabee Ball will be held at Hotel Nikko Guam Tasi Ballroom March 17 at 6 p.m. Guest speaker is renowned educator, historian and government official Don Farrell. Attire is dinner dress whites or equivalent for service members, and coat and tie for civilians.

Ticket prices are as follows:

E1-E4: \$15  
E5-E6: \$25  
E7-03 and civilians: \$40  
O4-O5: \$50  
O6 and above: \$60

For tickets, please contact Lt. Thomas Hartung at 333-2031 or [thomas.hartung@fe.navy.mil](mailto:thomas.hartung@fe.navy.mil), or Lt. Richard Diaz at 366-1287 or [richard.diaz.9@us.af.mil](mailto:richard.diaz.9@us.af.mil).

## SCHOOL BULLETIN

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 349-2115.

### DoDEA Guam District Schools

March 23: No Classes

### Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial Space Camp Scholarship

Students who are military dependents of a military member on active duty, mobilized guard or reserves and are in sixth to ninth grade are eligible to apply for the Bernard Curtis Brown

## COMMUNITY Corner

### movies • movies • movies

#### The Big Screen Theater

MARCH 2 (FRIDAY)  
7 PM JOYFUL NOISE PG-13  
9:30 PM GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO R

MARCH 3 (SATURDAY)  
1 PM HUGO PG  
3:30 PM WE BOUGHT A ZOO PG  
7 PM THE SITTING R

MARCH 4 (SUNDAY)  
1 PM THE MUPPETS G  
3:30 PM WAR HORSE PG-13  
7 PM CONTRABAND R

Movie Hotline 564-1831 US Naval Base Guam

Meehan Theater  
Temporarily closed from March 2 to June

II Memorial Space Camp Scholarship. To apply, students must submit a hand-written essay explaining why he or she should be selected, evidence of patriotism, future goals, community service, and 'after-camp' intentions; two letters of recommendation and submit the application form found on the Military Child Education Coalition Web site [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org). Applications should be postmarked and mailed no later than March 10.

### Phone Numbers

Andersen Elementary School: 366-1511  
Andersen Middle School: 366-3880/5793  
Commander William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School: 339-8676  
Guam High School: 344-7410

## MWR HAPPENINGS

### U.S. Naval Base Guam

#### Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

March 5: Engaging Bystanders in Sexual Violence Prevention from 1-2 p.m.

March 6: Saving and Investing from 8-11:30 a.m.

March 7: Anger Management from 9-11 a.m.

For more information, call 333-2056.

### March Culinary Boot Camp

Explore new ways to eat well and learn some of the health benefits that come with it during our next Culinary Boot Camp, Wednesday, March 7 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Top O' the Mar. Sign up and pay for the class by March 5 at the Charles King Fitness Center. Culinary Boot Camp classes are \$90 for the first class and \$50 for every class after that. For more information, call 685-5142.

## 36th FSS HAPPENINGS

### Andersen Air Force Base

#### Airman and Family Readiness Center Classes

March 6: Personal Financial Management Refresher from 1-2 p.m.

For more information, call 366-2276.

#### Free Outdoor Movie Night

Enjoy a movie under the stars at Arc Light Park March 10 featuring the PG-rated movie "Marley & Me." Show time is 7:30 p.m., weather permitting. Call 366-2339 for more information.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### U.S. Naval Base Guam

#### Shamrock Competitive 10K

Run for your luck at the Shamrock Competitive 10K behind Molly McGee's March 17. Show time is 5:30 a.m. with go time at 6 a.m. Door prizes will be awarded. Pre-register at the Charles King Fitness Center front desk on or before March 16 or sign up on race day. There is no fee to join and the event is open to all authorized patrons. For more information, call 333-2049.

### Andersen Air Force Base

#### Spring 5K Run/Walk

The Coral Reef Fitness Center will hold a 5K fun/run walk March 5 at the Palm Tree Golf Course driving range parking lot. Show time is 6 a.m. and go time is at 6:30 a.m. No sign up is required. Call 366-6166 for more information.

# Andersen's Best: Airman 1st Class Francisco Rodriguez

By Senior Airman  
Carlin Leslie  
36th Wing Public Affairs

Airman 1st Class Francisco Rodriguez, 20th Expeditionary Bomber Squadron combat crew communications apprentice, was awarded Team Andersen's Best on Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) Feb. 16.

Airman Rodriguez has been deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam since November 2010 and has performed at the top of his game. A few of Airman Rodriguez's tasks are include maintaining and securing communication security equipment, managing the flight publications program, updating maps, charts and communications guaranteeing 100 percent flight safety during. Also, he also managed the issuing of communications security material for 91 flying sorties ensuring the integrity of communications and

navigation systems operation. General Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander, was there to presented the award to Airman Rodriguez to show his support for his efforts and dedication.

Airman Rodriguez's goals include going attending to Officer Training School within the next three years and completing his Bachelors bachelor's in Science degree in Accounting through the University of Houston.

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/civilian with an award.

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

**All the Best:** Airman 1st Class Francisco Rodriguez, 20th Expeditionary Bomber Squadron combat crew communications apprentice, receives Team Andersen's Best on Andersen Air Force Base Feb. 16. 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/civilian with an award. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes/Released



# Service members volunteer at construction rodeo

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

Service members participated in the Guam Contractors Association's 5th Annual Construction & Truck Rodeo at the Guam International Raceway Park in Yigo Feb. 25.

Engineering Aide Constructionman (SCW) Brandice Johnson from Naval Mobile Construction

Battalion (NMCB) 40 said this is the first of her many volunteering efforts to work at a construction rodeo.

"I haven't done a construction rodeo before but I have volunteered for the USO and 5ks," she said. "Showing our support is something we pride ourselves on."

NMCB 40 Sailors competed in the heavy equipment competition and the Guam Army National Guard competed in the bus stop painting competition.

Guam Army National Guardsman

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stephen Pangelinan, said he enjoyed the competition and was excited to give back to the community.

"Well, it's always important to give back to the community," he said. "They always support us during our deployments and other operations."

Other events that day included a carpentry, electrical work and children competitions. All proceeds for the day's events went to the Guam Special Olympics.

**Observing from the Sidelines:** Construction Electrician 2nd Class (SCW) Don Campbell of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 40, watches the backhoe competition during the Guam Contractors Association's 5th Annual Construction & Truck Rodeo at the Guam International Raceway in Yigo Feb. 25. Campbell and other Guam service members participated in this year's event where all profits will go to the Guam Special Olympics. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Corwin Colbert/Released



# Relationships enhanced, lessons learned at Cobra Gold 2012



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

“Peace is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means,” Ronald Reagan once said.

His famous words were put to the test as service members from the United States, Kingdom of Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the Republic of Korea fought to maintain peace in the face of a potentially explosive situation during exercise Cobra Gold 2012.

“The scenario featured a fictitious adversary in the Pacific arena, who encroached on an allies’ land,” said Capt. Axel Gonzalez, 36th Wing’s senior intelligence officer and a proud spartan of the operational support squadron. “The objective was to conduct Peace Enforcement Operations to return to the original borders.”

Thailand is one of America’s closest friends and partners in Asia. March 2012 will mark the

179th anniversary of the U.S., Thailand Treaty of Amity and Commerce, making Thailand the U.S.’s oldest treaty ally in Asia.

While providing unique and dynamic training opportunities for participating military partners, Cobra Gold also promotes relationship-building between militaries and local communities.

Having played an important role in the three-week exercise, Gonzalez witnessed events unfolding first-hand.

“I was the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance script writer for the exercise control group,” he said. “It was my responsibility to add context and realism for ISR (intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance) sorties as they supported coalition operations.”

Throughout the exercise, Gonzalez worked closely with multinational and sister-service members, fostering relations and instilling good practices.

“It was a very positive experience,” he said. “I was able to instruct and create products as teaching tools and guides with my Air Force partners. As I provided advice on how to maximize ISR capabilities, it was rewarding to see our recommendations implemented.”

Other events during Cobra Gold included a computer-simulated command-post exercise, field training operations and humanitarian and civic-assistance projects that increase the standard of living for the Thai people in surrounding communities. Additionally, senior leaders met to share knowledge with one another and build relationships.

“The exercise was a great learning plat-

form,” Gonzalez said. “It was beneficial to work with our Marine Corps brothers and sisters, while the exercise served as a great refresher on procedures. The exercise also emphasized the importance of utilizing a common language to facilitate inter-service communication.”

Gonzalez thanked all involved parties for the opportunity to take part in the event and hoped individuals walked away with constructive lessons and tools to carry into future multinational exercises.

Exercise Cobra Gold aims to improve capability to plan and conduct combined joint operations, build relationships between partner nations and improve interoperability. A total of about 10,000 service members from 20 nations took part in the exercise throughout Thailand.

## NAVFAC presents upcoming projects at SAME meeting

By JoAnna Delfin  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas Commanding Officer Capt. John Heckmann spoke to members of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) Guam Post about current and future military projects during a meeting at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa in Tumon Feb. 22.

During the meeting, Heckmann shared the NAVFAC business overview, safety and construction, the 2012 national defense authorization act (NDAA), acquisition and contracts, and selection criteria for potential project bidders.

“Given that Guam is such a small area, we are doing quite well with the two major installations on island,” Heckmann said. “I sometimes

compare our command to other commands in NAVFAC around the world and for as small as we are for an island we cover, we’re getting a lot of business here.”

SAME attendees listened intently as Heckmann explained the differences between military construction (MILCON) and special projects.

“Depending on the type of project, if you’re doing repairs or even the full magnitude of the project will determine we have to go for a MILCON which requires congressional approval,” he said. “If it’s a small project we can allocate a special project which requires just a higher approval in the Navy.”

As Heckmann discussed upcoming projects with contractors, he emphasized the need to keep in mind President Obama’s recent decision

on military funding for the coming fiscal years.

“If you did your homework with the president’s budget submission to Congress you’ll see those projects listed,” he said. “I want to forewarn you that these projects for fiscal year 2013 are just in the president’s budget but they have to survive the wickets of Congress.”

SAME member Paul Shintaku was one of the attendees who shared his thoughts about the NAVFAC presentation.

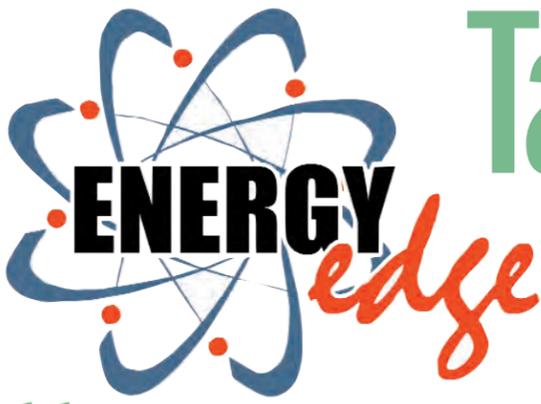
“I thought it was well done and informative,” Shintaku said. “I think being upfront and discussing where we are in the budget process and informing non-DOD (Department of Defense) of where Congress and the president stand at least let’s them know how far they should go into planning.”

**Capturing Audience Attention:** Capt. John Heckmann, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas commanding officer, makes a presentation during a meeting of the Society of American Military Engineers at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa Feb. 22. U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin/Released



**Special Presentation:** Capt. John Heckmann, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas commanding officer, makes a presentation during a meeting of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa Feb. 22. U.S. Navy photo by JoAnna Delfin/Released





# Tackle rising fuel prices with useful tips

By Kevin D. Evans  
*Joint Region Marianas Energy Manager*

“ Fixing a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve your mileage by as much as 40 percent.”  
— *Kevin D. Evans, JRM Energy Manager*

It's no surprise that gasoline prices are climbing back up, however there are measures one can take to mitigate the impact to fuel consumption and cost to the wallet or purse. Here are some usual tips.

Share your ride by joining a carpool or a vanpool. About one-third of all private automobile mileage is for commuting to work. If occupancy increased by just one person per car, more than 40 million gallons of gasoline would be saved each day.

Keep your car or truck well tuned. Fixing a car that is noticeably out of tune can improve its gas mileage by an average of four percent, though results vary based on the

kind of repair and how well it is done. Fixing a serious maintenance problem, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve your mileage by as much as 40 percent.

Keep the tires of your car or truck properly inflated. Under-inflation shortens the life of a tire and decreases gas mileage. For every pound per square inch below the proper level, there is an average increase in fuel consumption of .4 percent.

Remove unnecessary heavy items from your car. Every 100 pounds costs you about half a mile per gallon.

Reduce drag when possible when you drive. Drag increases fuel consumption. For example, if you drive with the windows open more drag is created. Roof-mounted racks can increase drag by more than 40 percent,

as well.

Ride a bike or walk to work, the local neighborhood store or nearby friends' houses.

Use the recommended grade of motor oil. Using a grade other than the manufacturer's recommended grade can lower you gas mileage by one to two percent. If an engine is designed for 5W-30, use 5W-30.

Don't start your car until you're ready to move, and avoid long idles. Idling engines waste gas. Limit car warm-ups in winter. Idling gets zero miles per gallon.

For more information, please visit <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/drive-Habits.shtml> and help fight the price increase at the pump.



## Cope North 2012 comes to an end

**Into the Sunset:** A C-130 Hercules from the 374th Airlift Wing participates in exercise Cope North 2012 Feb. 23. Exercise Cope North 2012, a three-week exercise between the U.S. Air Force, the Japan Air Self Defense Force and the Royal Australian Air Force, began Feb. 11 at Andersen Air Force Base bringing more than 1,000 service members to Guam. The exercise, which ended Feb. 24, was designed to enhance air operations and serve as a reminder of the three nations are commitment to preserving peace in the Pacific area of responsibility. U.S Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexandre Montes/Released

By Col. Dwayne E. Thomas  
36th Mission Support Group Commander

# Excellence in all we do: Profile of an American Airman

Two weeks ago, I had the great fortune to attend the 36th Wing Annual Awards ceremony. It was a celebration and recognition of Team Andersen's best-of-the-best. The evening's keynote speaker, Robert Underwood, president of the University of Guam, particularly moved me. He used humor as his platform to discuss the very serious Air Force core value of excellence in all we do. As I listened intently to Dr. Underwood's message, it dawned on me the Air Force, although the youngest of the military services, has always, at its core, valued, acknowledged and emphasized the importance of excellence in every endeavor.

When we think of Air Force excellence from an historical perspective, the early pioneers come to mind. We often think of Billy Mitchell, Carl Spaatz, Jimmy Doolittle and Hap Arnold. There is one name that is conspicuously absent from this list of distinguished Airmen: Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. This Air Force legend and pioneer is widely known as the commanding officer of the Tuskegee Airmen. However, this was just a small piece of a much larger and important story of excellence, the trials, tribulations, successes and failures of Gen. Davis. His life, like other Air Force pioneers, should be studied and more importantly, comprehended by all Airmen today. Using the concept of excellence as a benchmark, I will explain how he was the quintessential example of what it means to be an excellent Airman.

As the commander of the squadron, Gen. Davis displayed excellence while defending his historic 99th Fighter/Pursuit Squadron's performance in North Africa during WWII. This unit was truly historic as it was the result of the Army's experiment to see if blacks had the air discipline and skill to fly in combat. The 99th was the first all black Army Air Force flying squadron, and was also known as the now famous Tuskegee Airmen. The 99th flying P-40 fighters began their combat missions in North Africa flying bomber escort missions for American A-20s, B-25s and B-

26s. After several successful missions, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Gen. Carl Spaatz and James Doolittle visited the 99th to congratulate the unit on their success. Shortly after the unit moved to Sicily, Gen. Davis was asked to return to the United States and was given the opportunity to command the 332nd Fighter Group and ensure they were ready for combat operations.

After assuming command, he learned some very disturbing news. The commander of the 33rd Fighter Group, the unit the 99th was subordinate to, filed a disparaging report to the War Department that concluded "...the 99th demonstrated insufficient air discipline and had not operated satisfactorily as a team."

Davis questioned the courage of the black pilots and their ability to maintain their composure under fire was called into question. He recommended the unit be removed from combat operations and relegated to coastal patrol missions. The report was endorsed by Spaatz, who stated, "...the 99th had been given a fair test in combat."

Another endorsement remarked, "The Negro type has not the proper reflexes to make a first-class fighter pilot."

Many Army Air Force senior leaders based their bias of the 99th on a 1925 Army War College report, which referenced false anthropological literature. Moreover, the commanding general of the Army Air Forces, Henry H. Arnold, recommended to Gen. George C. Marshall, the Army chief of staff, that the 99th be removed from tactical operations, the 332nd Fighter Group sent to noncombat ar-

reas and the planned 477th black bombardment group abandoned.

Davis was ordered to the Pentagon to testify on the subject. He was facing incredible opposition from every level of leadership in the Army Air Forces, coupled with a racist Army War College study and armed with a clear understanding that the fate of black pilots in combat rested on the War Department's decision. He was careful not to blame it all on racism, but instead, he presented the irrefutable facts in a way that appealed to the Congressional Committee's sense of fairness and reason. He displayed incredible skill through his dissection of the negative report and showed through detailed analysis that the performance of the 99th was on par with any other existing fighter squadron. As a result of his persuasive testimony and the ensuing investigation, the 99th's performance was found to be equal to the performance of other P-40 squadrons in the theater. Gen. Davis' professional and personal understanding of excellence was decisive and helped change the hearts and minds of the Army Air Force's leadership. This single action was an integral part of the foundational argument to quickly integrate the Air Force and eventually the other branches of the armed services.

Senior leaders demonstrate excellence by taking the skills they've learned and applying them in a myriad of circumstances. Gen. Davis' ability to appreciate the importance of the Tuskegee Airmen program, the 332nd Fighter Group and 447th Bombardment Group was pivotal and set the conditions for

integrating Army Air Forces, U.S. Air Force pilots and the Air Force as a service.

"Even at that early date (Tuskegee experiment) it was apparent to us that the lot of blacks in the postwar military and particularly in the postwar Air Corps would be largely determined by black combat performance during the war," Davis said.

He learned from his father, Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., U.S. Army, the importance of fighting for his beliefs, the virtue of ambition and the importance of having a spirit to win at all costs. He learned from his father that racial discrimination was only an obstacle; a tool used by the weak-minded and through perseverance, good would eventually triumph over evil. His parents instilled the belief that he was as good as anyone else and emphasized the importance of the golden rule. His father believed integration of blacks in the military and society was the only way America could represent the democratic principles of the Constitution. Gen. Davis understood the historical significance of the Tuskegee flying experiment and the importance of the program for black pilots. He realized that every milestone-setting event he was involved with was one step closer to parity and equal treatment in the armed services. He used his analytical ability gleaned from his many experiences to blaze a trail for integration of the Air Force. It is clear that President Truman's executive order calling on the armed forces to provide equal treatment and opportunity for black servicemen was based largely on the successes of Gen. Davis. His ability to understand his place in history and embrace excellence was truly awe-inspiring.

Gen. Davis held a variety of increasingly responsible positions in the Air Force and retired as deputy commander of U.S. Strike Command. On Dec. 9, 1998, Benjamin O. Davis Jr. was promoted to general. President Bill Clinton pinned on his fourth star.

President Clinton said it best at Gen. Davis' funeral, "Gen. Davis is here today as living proof that a person can overcome adversity and discrimination, achieve great things, turn skeptics into believers; and through example and perseverance, one person can bring truly extraordinary change."



## Joint Region awards employees

**Top Left:** Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), presents Greg Jacobs of JRM operations with the Civilian Employee of the Quarter award for 2012 quarter one at the JRM headquarters in Asan Feb. 14. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert/Released

**Top Right:** Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), presents Wilmer German of JRM strategies and future requirements with the Civilian Supervisor of the Quarter award for 2012 quarter one at the JRM headquarters in Asan Feb. 14. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert/Released

**Top Center:** Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, presents Antoinette Munoz of JRM human resources with the 2011 Civilian Employee of the Year award at the JRM headquarters in Asan Feb. 14. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert/Released

**Left:** Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong, left, Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM), presents Reginald Holland of the JRM comptroller's office with the 2011 Civilian Supervisor of the Year award at the JRM headquarters in Asan Feb. 14. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert/Released

# VCNO: 'You are making a difference here every day'

Continued from Page 1

was not a decision that Navy leadership came to lightly, but is one that has already created better advancement opportunities and increased PTS quotas for Sailors to reenlist. I do not anticipate the need to do another ERB."

Ferguson specifically encouraged those affected by ERB to take advantage of the transition and support services being provided to them and their families.

After taking questions, VCNO concluded the all-hands call by expressing his appreciation for the Sailors "dedication and service."

"You are making a difference here every day," he said. "Your sacrifices allow our Navy to focus on warfighting first, to operate forward, and to be ready for what ever challenges may be ahead."

Ferguson has been traveling through out the U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) to meet with regional partners and U.S. personnel to discuss U.S. Navy Pacific engagement. Following Guam he will return to Washington, D.C.

For more information, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil), [www.facebook.com/usnavy](http://www.facebook.com/usnavy), or [www.twitter.com/usnavy](http://www.twitter.com/usnavy).



**Taking Off:** Adm. Mark Ferguson, vice chief of naval operations, and his official party board a MH-60S Seahawk helicopter assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 to participate in an aerial tour of Guam Feb. 24. Ferguson visited Guam to conclude a 10-day tour of the Pacific Command area of responsibility to meet with regional partners and U.S. personnel to discuss U.S. Navy engagement in the Pacific in support of the new defense strategy. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Corey Hensley/Released

# B-52: Aircraft squadron completes multiple tasks on island

Continued from Page 1

began to routinely deploy B-1, B-2 and B-52 bomber aircraft to Guam on a rotational basis. The rotation of the bomber aircraft is specifically designed to enhance regional security and demonstrate

the United States' commitment to stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

"The B-52 is a strategic bomber," Captain Lohmeyer said. "Our job is to be proficient at a wide range of weapons type and the squadron is ready to execute their mission at a moment's notice."

While throughout the four months the 23rd EBS has feet on the ground at Andersen many operational tasks are accomplished and is a said to be a great way to not just showcase the aircraft, but the hard work of the service members here at Andersen.

"The B-52 has the capability

of holding targets at risk across great distances; our ability to launch a jet from Andersen, refuel with our tanker brethren, travel across the Pacific and recover back here demonstrates the global power and reaches capabilities of the Air Force," said Capt. Jarred Prier, 23rd EBS weapons

officer and mission planning cell team chief. "In my opinion, this was an outstanding way to demonstrate our presence in the Pacific and to showcase the efforts of all of the hard work being done by maintenance, operations, support and tankers here at Andersen."

**Soaring High:** The 23rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron from Andersen Air Force Base demonstrates the B-52's long-range capability as the last performance at the Singapore Air Show in February. The event is Asia's largest air show as far as participants and attendees. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Air Force





**Delicious Dining:** Sailors enjoy a committee at the Black History Month theme of Black Women in America.

# Nav

By An  
**U.S. Naval Base**

**P**ersonnel (NBG) History community by the N tee, the  
gether to remember t made by the African  
Lt. Sherri L Ga (USNH) Guam cha and presented attend  
"Black Women in A ry" by reminding at can women's contr shaped the nation.  
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Garrett said her c riers in Wisconsin in

**Musical Melody:** No N Class (SW) William Egg Frank Cable (AS 40), p community center Feb.



An extensive buffet luncheon provided by members of U.S. Naval Base Guam's (NBG) multi-cultural community celebration at the NBG community center Feb. 23. The remarks at the event focused on this year's BHM theme of African Culture and History. U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner/Released



Remembering the Past: U.S. Naval Hospital Guam Chaplain Lt. Sherri L. Garrett, addresses attendees during the Black History Month celebration at the U.S. Naval Base Guam community center Feb. 23. U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner/Released

# Naval Base Guam celebrates Black History Month

Annette Donner  
Base Guam Public Affairs

el of U.S. Naval Base Guam gathered to celebrate Black History Month at the NBG community center Feb. 23. Sponsored by the NBG Multi-Cultural Committee, the event brought personnel together to honor the contributions and sacrifices of African-American society.

Chaplain Lt. Sherri L. Garrett, U. S. Naval Hospital Guam, was the guest speaker for the event. Her remarks focused on this year's theme of African American Culture and History. She reminded attendees how African-American contributions have significantly

influenced the lives of many names of black women not only in the military but who are among pioneers in science, as well as in the full range of professions. She added names of military personnel such as Lilian E. Fishburne, the first African-American female to hold the rank of Rear Admiral in the Navy, and Shawna Williams, a fighter pilot, Rear Admiral, and the first black woman to command an Air Force Lt. Col. Merit.

Her own mother broke racial barriers in the 1960s when she became

the first African-American executive secretary for one of Wisconsin's largest companies. Garrett herself was a first, the first female chaplain candidate and black woman to serve in OJT status on the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Va.

In his remarks, NBG Commanding Officer Capt. Richard Wood, reminded the audience of a not-often remembered fact that many white people benefited from the nurturing of black women.

"Let's not forget that over the centuries of slavery and even now, black women are often caretakers of white children," Wood said. "With women being the first educators of children, it stands to reason that these African-American women influenced many a white child's development and world outlook."

The commemoration was rounded out with a large luncheon buffet, with live blues jazz background music provided by the three-man No Name Band of Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) William Eggleston Jr, USNH Guam, Electrician's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Antwayne T. Shines, USS Frank Cable (AS 40), and Airman 1st Class Matthew Huston, 36th Wing.

Black History Month began in 1926 as Negro History Week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People leader, historian and educator Carter G. Woodson. Woodson chose February because it coincided with the birthdays Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass who were two men who fought for the freedom of American slaves.

“These African-American women influenced many a white child's development and world outlook.”  
— Capt. Richard Wood, U.S. Naval Base Guam commanding officer



CO's Remarks: U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Richard Wood, addresses attendees at the Black History Month celebration at the NBG community center on Feb. 23. U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner/Released

The No Name Band members from left Airman 1st Class Matthew Huston, 36th Wing, Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class William Eggleston Jr., U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, and Electrician's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Antwayne T. Shines, USS Frank Cable (AS 40), provide blues jazz music during the Black History Month celebration at the U.S. Naval Base Guam community center Feb. 23. U.S. Navy photo by Annette Donner/Released

# Pacific Historic Parks offer educational opportunities

By Shaina Marie Santos  
Joint Region Edge Staff

With Guam's rich climate, culture and history there are endless opportunities to discover and learn something new. From discovering aquatic life forms to learning about Guam's position in World War II (WWII), Guam is a unique setting to explore.

The Pacific Historic Parks offer educational programs for students from fifth through 10th grade. From learning what it takes to be a park ranger to leadership training, participants are immersed in Guam's history and are taught to appreciate and preserve the environment.

Three programs offered by the organization are designed as learning camps geared toward specific ages.

The Reef Ranger Summer Camp is for youth entering the fifth and sixth grades to explore the island's coast and gain an appreciation of the ocean.

The Junior Ranger Academy is geared for seventh and eighth graders to become representatives of the War in the Pacific National Historical Park. Junior Rangers gain experience assisting the park in areas such as interpretation, cultural resources, natural resources, facilities and maintenance.

Conservation Corps Summer Camp teaches ninth and 10th graders leadership skills and team building. Conservation Corps participants later become camp leaders to the younger Reef Rangers. As camp leaders, they assist their young charges in the water, offering support



**Museum:** Flags stand watch in front of a Japanese submarine at the T. Stell Newman Center in Santa Rita Feb. 23. The T. Stell Newman Center is one of the sites under the War in the Pacific National Historical Parks that boast historical artifacts. The parks host tours regularly and offers unique educational opportunities for students. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released



in activities and serving as positive role models.

Pacific Historic Parks Education Specialist Jaelyn Zapanta said the education opportunities offered by War in the Pacific National Historical Parks are beneficial to young children and teens as it teaches them about the history of Guam and to appreciate the natural resources of the island.

"The Junior Ranger Academy and Reef Ranger Summer Camp allows students a safe and fun way to open their minds to a new experience and to the beauty around them," she said.

Park Ranger Daniel Brown said students have an unprecedented opportunity to understand the significance of Guam's amazing resources.

"Thousands of students on Guam do not realize that there is even a national park here," he said. "Not



**Above:** Photos and memorabilia from World War II are displayed at the T. Stell Newman Center in Santa Rita Feb. 23. The T. Stell Newman Center is one of the sites under the War in the Pacific National Historical Parks that boast historical artifacts. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

**Left:** Park Ranger Daniel Brown from the War in the Pacific National Historical Park greets visitors enthusiastically to the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center in Santa Rita Feb. 23. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

only are students made aware of that through our educational opportunities, they are immersed in it. And not only are they immersed in it, but they later become stewards of our national park and they tell their friends about it and we hope that that changes them."

According to Park Ranger Ben Hayes, Guam boasts the greatest diversity of different plants and animal species of any national park in the United States, 200 more species

of coral reef than Hawaii, the only limestone forest in the national park system, and the only national park unit in America that honors WWII.

"This is our opportunity and [the students'] opportunity to have a great experience in their national park," he said. "Our objective is to enable kids to

enjoy the park, to get outside, experience the resource and most importantly take ownership of it. That's our hope and goal is that they see the park not only as a place that has amazing things to see and do, but as something that they own."

Hayes hopes for students to carry on the mission of stewardship and preservation.

"They also [learn to] care about the world outside, and how it's all interrelated and how decisions they make at home can affect our natural and cultural resources everywhere."

The next upcoming Junior Ranger Academy is set to take place from April 2-6.

Registration forms for each program are available a few months prior to its start. The registration forms can be picked up and submitted at the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center located outside the U.S. Naval Base Guam main gate or online at <http://www.nps.gov/wapa>.

## Guam Seal promotes people's ingenuity, courage

By Shaina Marie Santos  
Joint Region Edge Staff

Of the many things that represent the island of Guam, one of the most prominent icons is the Guam Seal. The seal is most commonly seen on the island's flag, which proudly flies over the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex in Adelup.

Officially implemented April 4, 1930, by Naval Governor Willis Bradley Jr., the original design for the seal was believed to have been made in 1913, which was later adapted to the flag and was submitted by the wife of a naval officer, Helen Paul. The flag's design features a number of iconic symbols representing the island of Guam, its culture and heritage.

The coconut tree, a prominent image in the seal is often referred to as the tree of life on Guam. Ancient Chamorros and island residents today find ingenious uses for the many parts that make up a coconut tree. From clothing to cleaning, the coconut tree is a versatile

and indispensable tool, which has served multiple uses for people over many years.

Floating in the water behind the coconut tree is the flying proa. The flying proa is a sea vessel ancient Chamorros used to venture out to sea and trade with other islands. A symbol of bravery and skill, the proa were carved out of tree trunks and joined with other parts using plant fibers and tree sap. Sails were woven and hulls were painted with red dirt, lime, coconut oil and soot to protect the vessel from the elements.

Today, the official seal is kept safely in the lieutenant governor of Guam's chambers in Adelup. Current Lt. Governor of Guam Ray Tenorio hopes to offer the chance for everyone to see the seal and learn its history.

"We want people to see that it's a real thing, it's not just an idea and a design that anybody can make in jewelry or into a graphic and put on a piece of paper," he said. "It really has a physical manifestation."

Tenorio describes experiences with showing the seal at local elementary schools as a part of learning.

"When I take the Guam Seal, especially when I go into like a cafeteria at one of the elementary schools the kids are just absolutely on fire," he said. "The kids touch it and it's a part of history; and when you make it something they can see they can touch, they can appreciate, they get some background on, I think they have a greater appreciation for what the Guam seal is and what it really represents."

Whether people take the opportunity to visit the seal in Adelup or have a chance to get a glimpse of it at presentations, Tenorio hopes others will see the importance it holds to the island's people, its past, present and future.

"I want people to see that they've seen something that actually has significance," he said. "That it's not just a piece of metal, it has symbolism and it means more than the composition from which it's made."



**Island Pride:** The Guam Seal sits on display in Lt. Governor of Guam Ray Tenorio's chambers Jan. 6. Photo courtesy of Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio's office

# DoDEA Guam accepting registration for 2012-2013 school year

From Department of Defense  
Education Activities Guam  
District Office

Registration/re-registration for the 2012-2013 school year is under way throughout Department of Defense Education Activity

(DoDEA) Pacific Guam schools. School re-registration for every child throughout the pacific is an annual requirement by the Department of Defense to determine continued eligibility for school enrollment. Accurate and complete school enrollments assist principals, district superintendents and

pacific-area officials in allocating resources to support highest student achievement. This process is critical for schools since funding and staffing authorizations are based on enrollment and enrollment projections. Parents are urged to complete their children's re-registration from April 9-20.

School principals and school office staff across the pacific are working diligently to ensure the annual re-registration process is efficient and customer-service oriented. Some paperwork can be prepared in advance, but all parents will need to visit their children's schools to finalize the registration

process.

Parents can either call the school for detailed instructions regarding documentation required for registration/re-registration or visit <http://www.guam.pac.dodea.edu/> for more information.

DoDEA Pacific Guam schools will open Aug. 27 for the 2012-2013 school year.

Our staff is very much interested in assisting both students and parents through the re-registration process. Should a family member have any questions or need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact any DoDEA Pacific Guam school.

For more information and assistance with the registration process, parents should contact their local school office.

1x1 Dn  
Parkinson

## 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 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:  
Saturday, 5 p.m.

#### Protestant Worship Service

Sunday Service: Traditional and  
Contemporary Service:  
10:30 a.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 sec-  
ond 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

# Sacrifice during season brings Lenten joy



By Capt. Paul Loser  
**36th Wing Chaplain**

With Lent in full swing, I asked my children how they were doing in their commitments. They shrugged and commented on how difficult it was to give up their particular item. They see it more as a punishment rather than a preparation for Easter. I think for many Christians, Lent is a time for fasting and penitential sorrow over sins. But an early church saint, John Climacus spoke of Lenten disciplines as a “joy-creating sorrow”

leading to the joy of Easter.

“God does not insist or desire that we should mourn in agony of heart; rather it is his wish that out of our love for him, we should rejoice with laughter in our soul,” Climacus wrote.

What if we stopped treating the season of Lent as a punishment and began to look at the joy of the finish line which is Easter. In “Pointer View,” a weekly newspaper of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., the following passage appeared in a Lenten column by Rev. Robert T. Drummond, OSA, of the Most Holy Trinity Church:

“As the (Lenten) season begins, Christians are signed with ashes. This act of submission is followed by a period of fasting and penitential practices and the removal of the sign of joy during religious lethargies.” This Lenten season, do not remove the sign of joy. While we are sorrowful for our wrongs, we can rejoice that Easter is coming.

From March 2-3 the Andersen Protestant Youth of the Chapel (PYOC) will host a 30-hour famine to bring awareness to world hunger. But it is more than just awareness; the PYOC will not sit around wish-

ing they could eat. The youth and their parents will participate in community outreach events. They will help out a local girls’ shelter, bring in canned goods, and pray for the nations who are facing food shortages. The lesson we learn is that thinking about what I am missing out on, only makes me desire it more. But what if we got busy serving during Lent? How might our joy be increased at Easter? What will you do this Lenten season? Will you simply give something up for a season or will you devote yourself to the joy of service in the midst of your sorrow?



**Free Throw:** Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Maurice Miller of the Joint Region Marianas basketball team, shoots a free-throw during a game against Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS) Guam at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 28. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake/Released

# NCTS shuts out team JRM for win



**Hoop There It Is:** Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Maurice Miller of the Joint Region Marianas basketball team, jumps to shoot during a game against Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS) Guam at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 28. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake/Released



**Laying it Up:** Airman Aaron Marshall of the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS) Guam basketball team, jumps to shoot a lay-up during a game against the Joint Region Marianas basketball team at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam Feb. 28. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Gabrielle Blake/Released