



LIBERTY THROUGH UNITY

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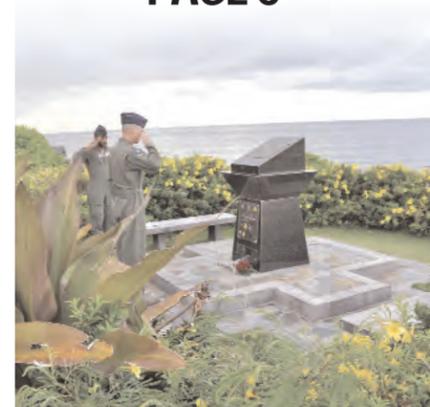
“A few months ago when I learned I was coming to Guam I was very excited. There is no place that epitomizes more of what the Navy is about. I cannot think of a more dynamic and interesting place to serve.”

- Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne, Commander, Joint Region Marianas



Welcome Aboard: Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne salutes as he is piped ashore during a change of command ceremony at Flag Circle in Asan July 27. Payne relieved Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong as Commander, Joint Region Marianas; U.S. Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau; and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Corwin Colbert/Released

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Payne assumes command of Joint Region Marianas

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

Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne relieved Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong as Commander, Joint Region Marianas (JRM); U.S. Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic

of Palau; and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas during a change of command ceremony at Flag Circle in Asan July 27.

Vice Adm. William D. French, Commander, Navy Installations Command was the guest speaker.

“We are here today to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Rear Adm. Paul Bushong and welcome another great leader,” French said. “The strength,

courage and fortitude of leaders like Paul Bushong and Tilghman Payne is what makes the United States Navy the best in the world. Adm. Tilghman Payne takes over a region that’s critical and unique in our Navy. Joint Region Marianas is critical to meeting CNO (Chief of Naval Operations Jonathan) Greenert’s guidance

See CJRM, Page 7

Simulator keeps Andersen ATC at top of game

By Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos
36th Wing Public Affairs

What once was a static board made up of a map, little stands and toy airplanes, is now an electronic panel with six large LCD screens that provide a 270 degree realistic view of Andersen

Air Force Base’s airfield.

The simulator is a training tool that is comparable to a video game.

Air Traffic Control (ATC) Airmen use the simulator to practice responding to real-life scenarios. There are currently 41 scenarios programmed to the simulator replicating various lighting,

weather, airframes and flightline emergencies.

New controllers and technical school graduates use the simulator to become accustomed to Andersen’s tower and airfield.

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Joint Region Edge

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TRICARE Plus offers enhanced access

36th Wing Public Affairs

Military retirees and their family members are able to take advantage of TRICARE Plus opportunities at U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam at no cost.

TRICARE Plus is a program that allows beneficiaries who are only able to get care at a military treatment facility (MTF) on a space-available basis to enroll and receive primary care appointments at the MTF within the same primary care access standards as beneficiaries enrolled in a TRICARE Prime option.

For example, at USNH Guam, retirees and retiree family members using TRICARE For Life or TRICARE Standard can enroll in TRICARE Plus and are guaranteed a routine appointment within one week, the same access standard as beneficiaries enrolled in a Prime option.

Benefits with TRICARE Plus include enhanced access for primary care at USNH Guam; free enrollment and no out-of-pocket costs for care received at the MTF; and access to Relay Health™, a secure

Web site to contact your primary care team to obtain refills for prescriptions, lab results, schedule follow up appointments or communicate with your doctor or nurse.

TRICARE Plus is not a health plan but a simple way to access primary care at MTFs. Enrollment in TRICARE Plus will be reflected in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, but you can still get care as you normally would through your regular TRICARE plan. Through TRICARE Plus, you will receive primary care at the MTF with the same access standards as TRICARE Prime enrollees and will not pay out-of-pocket costs.

- TRICARE Plus does not guarantee access to specialty care at your enrolled MTF;

- You may still get care from Medicare and/or civilian providers. TRICARE Standard and Extra or Medicare rules apply. For beneficiaries who are entitled to Medicare Part A and also have Medicare Part B coverage, TRICARE is the second payer to Medicare for TRICARE-covered

services;

- TRICARE For Life benefits are not affected by enrollment in the TRICARE Plus program. If eligible, you can participate in both programs. TRICARE Plus will cover your primary care provided at a MTF and TRICARE For Life will cover care that is not available at the MTF; and

- Having Medicare Part B is not a TRICARE Plus requirement for care within a MTF; however, access to specialty care is not guaranteed in the MTF. To access care outside the MTF using TRICARE For Life, you must have Medicare Part B unless you are an active-duty family member.

TRICARE Plus is only available at certain MTFs, and the local MTF commander may limit enrollment to specific categories of beneficiaries. Enrollment into TRICARE Plus at one MTF does not automatically extend TRICARE Plus enrollment to another. The MTF is not responsible for any costs when a TRICARE Plus enrollee is referred outside the MTF for additional civilian care. TRICARE beneficiaries enrolled in a Prime option (overseas or stateside), a civilian HMO, or Medicare HMO are not eligible to enroll in TRICARE Plus.

Beneficiaries may speak with a TRICARE enrollment specialist to find out if they are eligible to participate in TRICARE Plus or may enroll by calling 344-9777 or 344-9881. Interested parties may also visit the office located on the first floor of USNH Guam room G105.

NEWS NOTES

Job Announcements

Interested individuals can view available vacancies by visiting the Web site <https://www.cnrc.navy.mil/Marianas/index.htm> or at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>. For more information, call 349-6119/2224.

Gab Gab Beach Closure

Gab Gab Beach on U.S. Naval Base Guam will be closed Aug. 15-24.

U.S. Naval Base Guam Construction, Road Closures

Marine Corps Drive in front of the U.S. Naval Base Guam Fire Station will be closed from 7 p.m. - 5 a.m. daily from Aug. 6-13 due to excavation for future Navy Exchange Mini Mart.

Employment Assistance Workshop

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Guam-CNMI Committee will host an employment assistance workshop Aug. 14 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Outrigger Guam Resort. The event is exclusively for members of the National Guard, Reserve, veterans and military spouses. For more information, call 735-0456.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

The school bulletin aims to promote educational activities in the Navy and Air Force communities. If you know of an education-related event that you would like to include, send it to jointregionedge@fe.navy.mil or call 349-2115.

Department of Defense Educational Activity-Guam District 2012-2013 Schedule

Aug. 27: First-12th grade students' first day of school

Aug. 27-31: Pre-K home visits

Aug. 31: Professional development; no classes

Sept. 4: PSCD and kindergartners first day of school

Guam High School

Practice for all cross-country runners begins Aug. 6 at 4:30 p.m. at Ypao Beach Park.

Central Texas College

Register now! Central Texas College is a two-year, open admissions institution that offers associates degrees and certificates. We have five, eight-week terms per year. Term one for the 2012-2013 school year begins Aug. 20. We offer several distance-learning courses that are perfect for the military lifestyle because they go where you go. The last

COMMUNITY Corner

movies • movies • movies

The Big Screen Theater

AUGUST 3 (FRIDAY)

4 PM	BRAVE	PG
7 PM	THAT'S MY BOY	R

AUGUST 4 (SATURDAY)

1 PM	MADAGASCAR 3	PG
3:30 PM	ROCK OF AGES	R
7 PM	PROMETHEUS	R

AUGUST 5 (SUNDAY)

1 PM	BRAVE	PG
3:30 PM	SNOW WHITE AND THE HUNTSMAN	PG-13
7 PM	TED	R

Movie Hotline 564-1831 U.S. Naval Base Guam

Meehan Theater - TEMPORARILY CLOSED

day of registration for Term one is Aug. 17. Come see what we have to offer.

Phone Numbers

Andersen Elementary School: 366-1511
Andersen Middle School: 366-3880/5793
Cmdr. 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

Aug. 7: SAPR CDO training from 2-4 p.m.

Aug. 8 and 9: SAPR advocate refresher training from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 9: Smooth move workshop from 5-8 p.m.

For more information, call 333-2056

August Culinary Boot Camp

Take part in the next Culinary Boot Camp featuring meatless cuisine. Participants must be 18 years old or older and must register by Aug. 7. A \$90 fee is required for first class to include supplies and \$50 for each subsequent or following class. For more information, call 685-5142.

36th FSS HAPPENINGS

Andersen Air Force Base

Airmen and Family Readiness Center Classes

Aug. 7: Personal financial management refresher from 9-10 a.m.

Aug. 8: True Colors from 2-3:30 p.m.

For more information, call 366-8136

Monthly Flea Market

Find great deals and bargains at the Hotspot's monthly flea market Aug. 18 from 8-11 a.m. in the Hotspot Gym. Table fee for each seller is \$10. Call 366-2339 for more information.

SPORTS SHORTS

U.S. Naval Base Guam

Family Fido 5K/Kids 2K

Take a walk with man's best friend during the Family Fido 5K/Kids 2K Aug. 10 at the Charles King Fitness Center (CKFC) upper parking lot. Showtime is 5 p.m. and race starts at 5:30 p.m. Pre-register at the CKFC front desk by Aug. 9. For more information, call 685-5267.

Andersen Air Force Base

Targue Beach 5K Fun Run/Walk

The Coral Reef Fitness Center will host the Targue Beach 5K Fun Run/Walk Aug. 8. Show time is 6 a.m. and the race begins at 6:30 a.m. Runners will start at Bamboo Willies and no registration is required. For more information, call 339-6100.

Restricted Establishments

The Guam Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board has placed restrictions on the following establishments:

Club Romeo and Juliet in Tumon

- Off-limits to all military personnel

Club Lush in Tumon

- Off-limits to military personnel ages 18-20 and all military personnel between 0100-0800

Service personnel, whether in uniform or in civilian clothing, found entering or leaving the establishments during the restricted periods may be subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Andersen's Best Airman 1st Class Priscilla Olivio

By Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham
36th Wing Public Affairs

Airman 1st Class Priscilla Olivio, 36th Wing Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS) fuels distribution operator, was awarded Andersen's Best on Andersen Air Force Base July 26.

As a fuels distribution operator, Olivio is an important component for the Fuels Management Flight.

"Airman Olivio directly contributes to the flight, issuing a monthly average of 2.9 million gallons of aviation fuel to (more than) 1,000 tanker, bomber, coalition and other transient aircrafts," said Staff Sgt. David Black, 36th LRS fuels distribution supervisor and Olivio's supervisor.

Aside from being a top performer in the work place, Olivio is an environmentalist and contributed to a Tarague Beach

cleanup effort where more than 50 pounds of garbage was collected.

She is also interested in psychology and the practice of law.

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.



Best of the Best: Airman 1st Class Priscilla Olivio, 36th Wing Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution operator, center, was awarded Andersen's Best on Andersen Air Force Base July 26. 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 Airman/civilian for Andersen's Best, contact your unit chief or superintendent explaining their accomplishments. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Carlin Leslie/Released

By Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos
36th Wing Public Affairs

MSG Corner: Airmen and Family Readiness Center

This week, the 36th Mission Support Group highlights the 36th Force Support Squadron's (FSS) Airman & Family Readiness Center (A&FRC).

The A&FRC's goal is to improve the health and welfare of the military community. The center helps Airmen adapt to the demands of the ever-changing life of those in the military by providing services that range from helping service members in permanent change of stations, to helping the Airmen and their families acclimate to new life on Andersen Air Force Base.

The staff is comprised of consultants and specialists trained to assist base leadership in developing policies in order to help individuals, families and the community's quality of life, ultimately improving performance and their motivation to serve.

"My responsibility is to identify personnel and family readiness issues," said Joseph Catahay, 36th FSS A&FRC flight chief. "Our staff recognizes trends by working with squadron leadership, civilian and military agencies. We utilize formal and informal assessment tools in order to assist our Airmen."

One of the A&FRC's priorities is to assist Airmen in transition when permanently changing duty stations.

"We consider our newcomers program robust enough to fulfill the needs of everyone," Catahay said. "One of our most prized accomplishments, which have had great success, is the free island tour offered every month. It is a great time



Ready to Assist Families: The mission of the Airman and Family Readiness Center on Andersen Air Force Base is to assist commanders in their responsibilities in improving the health and welfare of the military community. The center's personnel are constantly finding ways to improve Andersen Airman's quality of life. U.S. Air Force photo illustration by Airman 1st Class Marianique Santos/Released

for newcomers, deployers and those who haven't had a chance to tour the island."

From plans of moving the location of their office, to finding ways to improve and promote their pro-

grams, A&FRC personnel are constantly seeking ways to improve the Andersen Airman's quality of life.

"Plans of moving to a new site are in place," Catahay said. "The proposed site for A&FRC is at a building that is in a more centralized location."

The center has also launched a free Guam familiarization program that hosts free events geared towards single Airmen. These events promote cultural awareness through hands-on experience with traditional fishing, language, dancing and cooking.

There are also plans of including the local United Services Organization (USO) in future base orientations, giving the newcomers a glance at what to expect during their stay on Guam.

"The USO is a huge supporter of the base and military community," Catahay said. Their knowledge of local services and events will only make the program stronger and more successful."

The A&FRC also hosts Hearts Apart events that are designed to provide spouses and families an opportunity to relax for the evening and interact with other deployed spouses and families.

"Deployed spouses and children have enjoyed the monthly Hearts Apart events," Catahay said. "Now they can also enjoy a free dinner at the Magellan Inn Dining facility every quarter."

The A&FRC is constantly bustling with a many activities. From caring for accompanied Airmen and their families, to enriching the experience of single Airmen and those deployed to Andersen, the many projects and programs of Andersen's A&FRC is a testament of their dedication to supporting the Airmen who make the mission happen.

Team Andersen experiences Chamorro culture

By Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham
36th Wing Public Affairs

Service members, their dependents and other participants attended the Chamorro Cultural Festival at the Hot Spot on Andersen Air Force Base July 28.

The event was open to Team Andersen personnel and their family members. Activities included weaving, traditional dancing, talāya (TAH-lah-zah), or fish net, throwing and basic Chamorro language lessons.

"More events for single Airmen were needed and we wanted to throw an event showcasing Guam and its culture," said Jantine Lujan, Airman and Family Readiness Center (A&FRC) volunteer coordinator. "We wanted to share what the island of Guam is really about and that helps us keep our culture alive."

The event was hosted by the Hurao (who-RAOW) Academy, the only Chamorro immersion school on Guam that focuses on the island's culture and heritage.

"We were given the opportunity to be involved and we had all the resources readily available," said Ann Marie Arceo, Hurao Academy president and chief executive officer.

Artists and teachers from the academy volunteered their time to participate in the hands-on, culture-sharing experience.

"We want to mingle with the military," said Fransico Lizama, Hurao Academy blacksmith. "They are interested in our culture and we want to teach them about it."

The A&FRC plans to hold similar events in August and September in order to help new Airmen and their families acclimate to Guam.

"Meeting the families and welcoming them ourselves as indigenous people is my favorite part of the event," Arceo said. "It is good for the community to come together with the military in this culture-sharing experience because we live amongst each other. It helps form a bond between us all."



Chamorro Lesson: Members of Team Andersen participate in a basic Chamorro language lesson at the Chamorro Cultural Festival on Andersen Air Force Base July 28. The festival was a culture-sharing experience between military members and the people of Guam. U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham/Released

Picnic precautions preserve environment

By Shaina Marie Santos
Joint Region Edge Staff

Taking measures to preserve the natural environment while cooking and eating outdoors can make a difference.

According to Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas Integrated Solid Waste Program Manager Troy Imamura, there are a number of potential hazards introduced into the environment when barbecuing or picnicking outdoors.

"Solid waste is a major problem for picnics and barbecues," he said. "Always pick up after you leave the area and properly dispose of all non-recyclable wastes."

Besides maintaining proper barbecuing and picnic etiquette by recycling and disposing trash properly, Imamura suggests avoiding the use of non-biodegradable products.

"Real plates, glasses and silverware will lend a special atmosphere to your outdoor meal and by using more substantial dinnerware, you can avoid the stress of having a sudden burst of wind catapult your meal to the ground," he said.

Imamura added though solid waste is a hazard, gases and smoke released while barbecuing pose a potential risk to the environment.

"Typically, grilling...imparts a unique flavor for food, particularly when it is grilled on wood or charcoal," he said. "However, both the

methods are not eco-friendly."

Imamura said the use of wood contributes to deforestation and releases ash and smoke in the air, which can cause respiratory problems. He suggests slow-burning hardwoods or fast-burning soft woods if necessary.

According to Imamura, charcoal releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, which make it more harmful to use than wood.

"Clearly, using a gas grill is one of the most energy-efficient ways to enjoy food this way," he said. "Natural gas releases the least pollutants and is the leanest-burning fossil fuel."

Imamura also suggests electric grills, but advises that the electric option uses a lot of energy.

Proper picnic planning can also encourage other eco-friendly habits. Imamura suggests figuring out the number of guests and making sure everyone knows what they are bringing can cut the amount of leftovers that might go to waste along with sending digital invites instead of paper and carpooling.

"It is important to remember these tips as we have to always consider recycling in our daily lives," he said. "We need to create the recycling culture to ensure that our resources are preserved for future generations."

Grillin': U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Navy Diver 1st Class (DSW/EXW/SS) Ricardo Parizal gets to work on the grill during a barbecue at Gab Gab Beach on NBG July 22. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

Dig In: Picnickers pile their plates during an outing at Gab Gab Beach on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 22. When barbecuing and picnicking outdoors, there are a number of eco-friendly measures to keep the environment safe. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released



ServMart opens on NBG, Andersen



Now Open: Brandy Untalan, General Services Administration Asia-Pacific region customer service director, left, U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward, center, and David Dubinsky, National Industries for the Severely Handicapped executive director for Pacific West Region cut the ribbon at the ServMart grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony on NBG July 24. The new ServMart is a full-service walk-in retail store that provides office needs, supplies, and tools for loading barracks and ships. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Jeremy Starr
 U.S. Naval Base Guam Public Affairs
 Airman 1st Class Mariah Haddenham
 36th Wing Public Affairs

Service members, civilian employees and contractors attended the grand openings and ribbon-cutting ceremonies of the new ServMarts on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) and Andersen Air Force Base July 24 and 26.

ServMart is a one-stop shop for mandatory supplies that contributes to the success of government organizations who purchase for them and is available to military or federal agency personnel in support of official duties to carry out mission requirements.

Brandy Untalan, General Services Administration (GSA) customer services director for the Asia-Pacific region, said the facility's prices are competitive and products are readily available to base personnel.

"We are able to provide military organizations with supplies to complete mission requirements that are in compliance with the Trade Act Agreement and Buy American Act," she said.

Along with helping save tax-payer dollars, GSA paired with the National Institute for Significantly Handicapped (NISH) and Pacific Ability Resources, Inc. (PARI) to operate ServMart. The non-profit organizations are dedicat-

ed to creating employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities.

"Three out of four PARI individuals (who) work here in the store have some type of disability," said David Dubinsky, NISH Pacific West Region executive director. "These individuals will be providing the support for the ServMart by running the cash registers, the pallet jacks, fork lifts and (will) restock the shelves."

NBG Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward attended the event and said he was pleased to see the facility open and ready to operate.

"The new ServMart will bring a huge volume and variety of products with competitive pricing that is centrally located making it easier for the tenant commands to supply their people," he said.

Guam High School secretary Diana Toves was one of the first ServMart patrons and filled up three carts with school and teacher supplies.

"It is great the ServMart has opened up," she said. "It has everything our school needs for the next year. At the end of last year we had to buy our supplies off base and it cost a lot more for our materials."

The NBG ServMart is located in building 2116, next to Sierra Pier and is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

The Andersen ServMart is located in building 18002 and is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

It pays to be cool

By Desiree Masterson
 Joint Region Marianas Energy Manager

Did you know that simply applying a reflective coating on your roof could save energy and money?

A "cool roof" can reduce your air-condition requirement by 20 percent and decrease wear and tear on your home or building.

There are many types of "cool roofs" from inherently cool roofs made of white vinyl which reflects 80 percent of the sun's energy (asphalt roofs only reflect about 15 percent) to elastomeric paint coatings that can be applied to existing roofs, and green roofs constructed with vegetation.

"Cool roofs" extend the life of your roof by reflecting the sun as the damaging effects of ultraviolet rays are reduced compared to dark roofs. "Cool roofs" are a relatively easy way to reduce energy and save money.

To find out more and access a calculator to see what your savings could be, visit the Department of Energy's Web site at www.energysavers.gov/your_home/designing_remodeling/index.cfm/mytopic=10095.



Maintaining the highest ethical standards

By Maj. Wanda M. McDonald
 36th Contracting Commander

The 36th Contracting Squadron (CS) is a team of professionals who develop acquisition strategies, negotiate on behalf of the government and award more than \$100 million in contracts each year.

In addition, we are responsible for administering a portfolio of service, supply and construction contracts valued at more than \$400 million used to support Team Andersen and Joint Region Marianas. Our mission statement: "A world-class contracting activity composed of highly motivated, innovative professionals continuously seeking to improve customer satisfaction through knowledge, service and achievement," focuses on our commitment to both our traditional customers and the taxpayer. citizens have entrusted us with their valued resources and we must protect those resources and maintain public trust.

When I assumed command of the 36th CS in early July, one of the expectations I set for the unit is to maintain the highest ethical standards. There is nothing that can undermine the confidence of our customers and taxpayers faster than unethical behavior. Contracting officers are responsible for obligating taxpayer dollars and that is a huge responsibility. We are charged with

ensuring acquisition integrity and performing our duties in a manner above reproach.

The necessity to maintain the highest ethical standards is not unique to contracting professionals. All members of Andersen Air Force Base and the Department of Defense are entrusted with valuable resources in one form or another. As we go about our daily business, we must keep in mind that public service is a public trust.

Trust is having the confidence that one party, when faced with risk or challenge, will act in the best interest of the other party. Ethical principles are values that relate to what is right and wrong. Maintaining the highest ethical standards enables trust.

If you flip through the pages of any newspaper you are bound to find countless examples of people losing their way and going down unethical roads. Those headlines are not limited to the private sector but also capture the worst unethical behaviors of some of our service members.

It is no coincidence that the lapse in judgment in these headline stories is always a result of failure to



McDonald

adhere to the Air Force core values we hold so dear: Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

Integrity first

By conducting ourselves with integrity, honesty and openness, we demonstrate the values that embody trust. One quick way to analyze one's self is to run an integrity check by asking yourself, "Is this the right thing to do?" If you can honestly answer 'yes' then we surely never read about you having a lapse on ethical judgment in the headlines.

Service before self

This means always putting public trust above personal gain and doing what is right. Government employees' actions should not be driven by selfish personal interests and/or benefits from outside sources. One quick way to analyze one's self is to run a service-before-self check by asking yourself, "Are my action driven by my service agenda ahead of any personal agenda?" If your answer is 'yes', then you will surely never put yourself in a position of a conflict of interest and we won't read about you misusing government resources or abusing your govern-

ment position in the headlines.

Excellence in all we do

Doing the very best that we can possibly do is our obligation. We owe it to ourselves, our organization, our customers and the people of the to provide world-class excellence at all times, both on and off duty. One quick way to analyze one's self is to run an excellence check by asking yourself, "Am I delivering excellence through providing my best effort?" If you have answered in the affirmative to the integrity and service checks and can honestly, openly answer the excellence check with a resounding 'yes' then we might just read about how you have found better and more innovative ways to improve processes, how you saved the government millions of dollars and time, how you saved the life of someone in need or an even more amazing story about you in the headlines.

Regardless of any headline, maintaining the highest ethical standards for one's self is personal. It requires you to be the best you can be all of the time.

Adm. Michael Mullins, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said it best, "Only by doing your duty, straight and true, can you hope to prove worthy of the trust this nation places in you today."

Remembering RAIDER 21

Formation: Members of the 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron stand in formation for the Raider 21 memorial ceremony at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governors Complex in Adelup July 21. U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Margaret Ingerslew/Released



Poem: Capt. Quincy Rhinehart, 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron radar navigator, reads the poem "High Flight" by John Gillespie Magee Jr. during the Raider 21 memorial ceremony at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governors Complex in Adelup July 21. The memorial service was held to honor the aircrew lost off the coast of Guam during a routine mission in support of the 2008 Liberation Day parade. U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Margaret Ingerslew/Released



By 2nd Lt. Sarah Bergstein 36th Wing Public Affairs

The 69th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron (EBS), currently deployed to Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) from Minot AFB, N.D., participated in Guam's 68th Liberation Day celebration July 21 by kicking-off the annual parade with a B-52 flyover.

As Americans celebrated the anniversary of the day in 1944 when forces liberated the island from Japanese occupation, members of the 69th EBS paused to remember their own—the six Airmen of "Raider 21" who died when their B-52 crashed on Andersen July 21, 2008.

"Many members of our squadron were just entering the active duty Air Force when Raider 21 crashed in 2008," said Lt. Col. Doug Gosney, 69th EBS commander. "However, several squadron personnel knew the Raider 21 crew well and had flown with them; one individual even instructed two of the crew members when they were students in training. It was an emotional memorial, especially for those that personally knew the crew of

Raider 21."

The Raider 21 aircrew was deployed to Andersen in a combined deployment from the 20th EBS and 96th EBS, Barksdale AFB, in support of the U.S. Pacific Command's Continuous Bomber Presence.

The 69th EBS is currently at Andersen continuing to support that same presence.

"This is a constant reminder to all of us to be vigilant in our training," said Capt. Mike Stepan, 69th EBS instructor electronic warfare officer. "I feel such a sense of pride that I was able to serve with these guys and continue serving for them."

A monument was constructed at Ricardo J. Bordallo Governors Complex at Adelup in 2009 to honor the aircrew lost off the coast of Guam during a routine mission in support of the 2008 Liberation Day parade. Stepan was deployed to Andersen with the 96th EBS in 2009 and attended the memorial dedication ceremony, where he met the family members of the Raider 21 crew.

"Their families and friends are also in our thoughts and prayers," he said. "We'll continue honoring them this July 21 and beyond."

The memorial is in the form of a latte(la-

tee) stone, a symbol of Guam's history, with the names of the Raider 21 aircrew etched on its surface; Col. George Martin, 36th Medical Group deputy commander, chief of aerospace medicine and flight doctor for the deployed members; Maj. Christopher Cooper, 96th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron aircraft commander; Maj. Brent Williams, 96th EBS radar navigator; Capt. Michael Dodson, 20th EBS copilot; 1st Lt. Robert Gerren, 20th EBS electronic warfare officer and 1st Lt. Joshua Shepherd, 20th EBS navigator.

"These men died doing what they love—serving their country," said Maj. Joe Little, 36th Operations Support Squadron director of operations, who, along with others that knew them, have some type of memorial each year for their friends and brothers in combat, no matter where in the world they're stationed.

"Four years later, it's still emotional," Little said. "This year was different, actually being on the island. It was much more moving for me, but it also brought a sense of closure."

The 69th EBS lined up in formation before the memorial. The master of cere-

monies began with a red flag roll call, to which Raider 21 did not reply.

"It makes you realize how small the bomber community really is," said Capt. Quincy Rhinehart, 69th EBS radar navigator. "You didn't have to know the crew personally to be affected by what happened."

Rhinehart read the poem, "High Flight," by John Gillespie Magee Jr. while Gosney placed flowers at the base of the memorial. A final salute was rendered from all members of the squadron.

"It was a really sobering ceremony," said 1st Lt. Rudy Monteagut, 69th EBS copilot. "I didn't know the crew personally, but seeing how emotional my squad members were made it very real for me."

The memorial serves as a reminder of the bravery and sacrifices of American service members and honors those Airmen who were fulfilling their duties in support of their nation in the first Liberation Day of 1944.

"At our Friday night roll call, we gave them a salute—the one from the myth of Icarus," Rhinehart said. "A toast to the men who dare to fly too close to the sun."

Vietnamese leadership

From Explosive Ordnance Disposal
Mobile Unit 5

visits EODMU5

Senior leaders from the Vietnamese government visited Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 to observe capabilities in neutralizing unexploded ordnance hazards within the maritime domain on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) July 23.

The one-day event, which was held at the command compound and Gab Gab beach on NBG, focused on demonstrating EODMU 5's ability to locate, identify and neutralize explosive hazards, specifically in a maritime environment. Demonstrations included diving operations as well as the technological advantages offered by side-scan sonar and sea-based robotics.

EODMU 5 Commanding Of-

ficer Cmdr. Scott Kraft hosted the visit which was led by Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Defense Nguyen Chi Vinh. The official delegation included other high ranking officials from the Vietnamese government, including Bui Hong Linh, Ministry of Labour-Invalids and Social Affairs and Pham Quang Xuan, Commander, Corps of Engineers. Representatives from the U.S. Office of Defense Cooperation and U.S. Embassy, Vietnam accompanied the delegation.

"It was truly an honor to host such a senior group of Vietnamese leaders", said Senior Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician

(EWS/AW/SW) Matthew Nevens, of EODMU 5. "This event highlighted the value of EOD while also furthering the partnership that exists between the U.S. and Vietnam."

Later this year, the command plans to host members from the Vietnamese army and navy in order to conduct a subject matter expert exchange aimed at increasing mutual awareness and understanding in the areas of explosive ordnance disposal and maritime environment operations. This future event is aimed at furthering the U.S.-Vietnam partnership and shared strategic objective for regional security, stability, and economic prosperity.



Gearing Up: Sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 5 provide demonstrations for senior leaders from the Vietnamese government on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 23. The delegation visited the command to observe capabilities in neutralizing unexploded ordnance hazards within the maritime domain. Photo courtesy of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5



Change of Command: Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne, left, relieves Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong as Commander, Joint Region Marianas during a change of command ceremony at Flag Circle in Asan July 27. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Corwin Colbert/Released



Bushong: Rear Adm. Paul J. Bushong salutes as he is piped aboard during a change of command ceremony at Flag Circle in Asan July 27. Rear Adm. Tilghman D. Payne relieved Bushong as Commander, Joint Region Marianas; U.S. Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau; and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Corwin Colbert/Released

CJRM: Region plays strategic role in future

Continued from Page 1

and his sailing directions which can be summed up in six words – ‘war fighting first, operate forward and be ready’. I can’t think of (any) other place that captures those prerequisites and requirements than here in Guam.”

Bushong delivered his final remarks as JRM commanding officer and emphasized the importance of Guam to the United States.

“Guam has played a unique and strategic role for more than 100 years and will contin-

ue to play a strategic role for the foreseeable future,” Bushong said. “In January, President Obama released the emerging defense strategy which explicitly states that the number one priority in regards to regions is the Pacific. This was based on the recognition that for the United States to remain a great power and able to influence world events to our advantage, we must get our fiscal house in order. To do this, we must get our economy going and the key to that is the Asian-Pacific. Just a glance at the globe tells you that Guam is a big part of our Asian-Pacific

strategy.”

Bushong said he and his wife, Dona, were blessed throughout their two tours totaling four and a half years on island.

“We will miss Guam,” he said. “Thank you for making our time here truly enjoyable. Tilghman congratulations on coming to a great job. I guarantee the people here in Guam will welcome you and embrace you and your family as one of their own just like they did us.”

Bushong is nominated for promotion to vice admiral and will serve as U.S. security

coordinator, Israel-Palestinian Authority.

Payne is reporting to Guam after serving as Commander, Navy Region Midwest, Great Lakes III.

“I can’t tell you how great it is to be here today, back in the Pacific and taking command of such a historical organization,” Payne said. “A few months ago when I learned I was coming to Guam I was very excited. There is no place that epitomizes more of what the Navy is about. I cannot think of a more dynamic and interesting place to serve.”

ATC: Simulator helps Airmen adapt, respond to emergencies

Continued from Page 1

“We can set it up from a single aircraft scenario to a scenario with really busy flightlines,” said Sgt. Thompson. “Thanks to Sgt. Passarino, Sgt. Maye and Airman Richey we can modify the simulated flightline to our training needs. We can set up scenarios with gear failures and fires in order to practice diverting aircraft and calling in emergency control vehicles onto the flightline.”

With the number of aircraft coming in to Andersen constantly fluctuating, the simulator helps ATC Airmen adapt and respond to whatever happens on the flightline.

“The simulator is extremely valuable, especially in times when we don’t have a lot of aircraft here,” Thompson said. “One day we would have a lull in traffic, and the next day we have a busy flightline. Practicing on the simulator helps our controllers handle whatever’s thrown at them.”

The success of Andersen Tower, which is Pacific Air Force’s Air Traffic Control facility of the year for both 2010 and 2011, can be attributed to the great Airmen assigned to Andersen tower and the simulator will keep them at the peak of their game.

At Watch: Tech. Sgt. Chad Thompson, 36th Operations Support Squadron tower watch supervisor, watches over a virtual layout of Andersen Air Force Base’s flightline July 20. The virtual layout is within a virtual air traffic control tower simulation that allows controllers to hone in on the skills required to control a busy flightline. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Carlin Leslie/Released



USS Frank Cable returns to Guam

By Mass Communication Specialist
Seaman Chris Salisbury
USS Frank Cable (AS 40) Public Affairs

The submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) arrived at her homeport in Guam after a six-month regular overhaul and dry docking July 30.

The dry docking was a scheduled periodic overhaul to maintain the ship's conditioning and keep Frank Cable mission ready.

"The main purpose of the dry docking was to accomplish attention to our hull at and below the waterline," said Command Master Chief (SS) James Schneider. "Much focused work was accomplished on the hull to ensure Frank Cable is fit to maintain our ability to provide a quality mobile maintenance facility in the Seventh Fleet area of responsibility."

The repairs to Frank Cable included hull plating, electrical plant upgrades and propulsion plant maintenance. The upkeep done to the ship will help support her preservation and mission readiness.

"Our accomplishment for this dedicated maintenance period for the Frank Cable was to repair outstanding maintenance issues so that when we return to Guam our focus shifts to our primary mission which is to have the ability to provide mobile quality maintenance and logistical support to de-

ployed units that are operating thousands of miles away from their homeport," Schneider said. "We look forward to coming home and spending some well-deserved time with our families. I am very proud of our accomplishments."

Frank Cable Executive Officer Cmdr. Timothy Sparks said the military-civilian partnership during the maintenance period was beneficial to the ship.

"The repairs were expertly managed by the Military Sealift Command Management Team which will have a significant impact on the improved availability of the ship for years to come. I am confident this availability will result in less growth work for the dry docking availabilities five to eight years from now and beyond."

After their time away from Guam, the crew of the Frank Cable is ready to be home with their families, Sparks said.

"We are all very anxious to get to our homes and families," he said. "The ship's condition, the pride of ownership of each division in improving their shops is inspiring and it is an honor to be part of this crew and ship."

Frank Cable is responsible for conducting maintenance of submarine and surface vessels deployed in the Seventh Fleet area of responsibility.

For more news from USS Frank Cable (AS 40), visit www.navy.mil/as40/



Proud to be Home: Sailors aboard the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) man the rails as the ship prepares to enter her homeport in Piti July 30. Frank Cable is responsible for conducting maintenance of submarines and surface vessels deployed in the 7th Fleet area of responsibility. U.S. Navy photo Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Chris Salisbury/Released



Waiting Patiently: A little boy in a Navy outfit lies back and watches Sailors man the rails as the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) docks during their homecoming in Piti July 30. Frank Cable returned to Guam following a six-month regular overhaul and dry-docking maintenance availability period in Portland, Ore. Frank Cable conducts expeditionary maintenance in the U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Central Command areas of responsibility and services Commander, Submarine Squadron 15 Guam-based, fast-attack submarines. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released



Special Welcome: Island dancers welcome the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) with music and dancing during the ship's homecoming in Piti July 30. Frank Cable is responsible for conducting maintenance of submarines and surface vessels deployed in the 7th Fleet area of responsibility. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Ricardo Danan/Released



Above: The submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) docks at the pier during its homecoming in Piti July 30. Frank Cable returned to Guam following a six-month regular overhaul and dry-docking maintenance availability period in Portland, Ore. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released

Top right: Submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) Commanding Officer Capt. Pete Hildreth, kisses his wife as disembarks the ship during a homecoming in Piti July 30. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released

Right: Families look for loved ones as the submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) returns to its homeport on Guam after a six-month regular overhaul and dry-docking maintenance availability period in Portland, Ore. July 30. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (AW) Ricardo Danan/Released



Docked: The submarine tender USS Frank Cable (AS 40) docks at the pier during its homecoming in Piti July 30. Frank Cable returned to Guam following a six-month regular overhaul and dry-docking maintenance availability period in Portland, Ore. July 30. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released



Only for the Brave: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas Contract Specialist Christopher Santos practices with a fire stick before a performance in Tumon July 14. Santos performs as a Polynesian fire-knife dancer during his spare time, pursuing his passion for dance. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

dances with culture

By Shaina Marie Santos
Joint Region Edge Staff

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas Contract Specialist Christopher Santos occupies himself with Polynesian fire knife dancing as a labor of love.

Santos began his career within NAVFAC as a Professional Development Center (PDC) intern in April 2009, working with service contracts in the facility service contracts department.

Three years later, he served rotations to NAVFAC Hawaii and NAVFAC Europe Africa Southwest Asia, graduating from the PDC internship program in April of this year.

Though Santos keeps himself busy with work and has had to put fire dancing on hold in the past, today he still performs, continuing his passion for his art.

Santos attributes the beginnings of his fire knife-wielding to his wife, Racine, who was a Tahitian dancer at the time they began dating.

"She invited me to watch her perform," he said. "I saw guys dancing with fire and machetes (ma-sheh-TEEs) and I told myself that I would never do that. One night, she told me that her instructor was looking for male dancers...I figured it would be a good way for me to spend time with her."

Santos said it took a month of practice to get used to the flow and proper hand placement of the fire knife.

"There's nothing that can explain the excitement and fear that you get when you first light the fire knife up," he said. "It is hot! The most difficult part (is) the blisters that you have to endure because all of the twirling and the heat that your hands are not accustomed to."

With a number of years of experience in cultural dancing already under his belt, Santos auditioned his way into the dance group Te' Manu in 2004 and has been dancing since then, currently performing two to three nights per week at a local hotel.

"Performing on stage is a rush," he said. "There's a lot of adrenaline and excitement going through you and a lot of expectation when you are the only one on stage about to perform a solo routine in front of 300 guests."

Beyond passion, however, Santos maintains that dance is also a way to leave stress behind and live a healthy lifestyle.

"I enjoy dancing and going to the gym because I know that the long term benefits will not only affect me, but my daughter as well, knowing she will have a dad to take care of her and be with her every step of the way," he said.

Santos said his daughter already seems to be following in her parents' footsteps, which he looks forward to encouraging as she gets older.

"I would definitely like my daughter to take up dancing," he said. "It does not necessarily have to be Polynesian or cultural dancing. It can be any form as long as she is having fun doing it."



Santos: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas Contract Specialist Christopher Santos is performance-ready in Tumon July 14. U.S. Navy photo by Shaina Marie Santos/Released

NBG library recognizes top readers at annual awards ceremony



Above: U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward congratulates Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Michael Bailey, of NBG X-division, during the summer reading program award ceremony at the Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation Guam library on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) July 25. Bailey placed first in the active duty category, reading more than 20 books. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released

Left: U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward hands a young boy a certificate as NBG Command Master Chief (SW/AW/SCW) John Lawry gives a thumbs up during the summer reading program award ceremony at the Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation Guam library on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) July 25. Program participants received gift bags and certificates from Ward and Lawry. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeremy Starr/Released

**By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) Jeremy Starr
U.S. Naval Base Guam Public Affairs**

More than 200 people attended the Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Guam library's annual summer reading program, "Reading is so-o Delicious," award ceremony on U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) July 25.

Each participant who competed in the 10-weeklong reading program received certificates and gift bags

presented by NBG Commanding Officer Capt. Mike Ward and Command Master Chief (SW/AW/SCW) John Lawry. The event showcased mascots Darren the Lion and Krusty the Krab for the children's entertainment.

Lt. David Blas, of Joint Region Marianas, was the emcee for the occasion and said he was pleased to see so many people at the event.

"I feel great about this event," he said. "It is awesome how Jezza (Carbon, MWR librarian) and the library

staff put out a lot of their time to make this possible to the kids and their families that come here on base. I feel really good to see the kids are truly motivated in giving their time to reading and seeing the parents support their efforts is immense."

Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Tarrant, of U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Guam, and Navy spouse Joy Goodrich were guest readers.

Goodrich dressed as a ballerina and read from the book "Ballerina

Swan" by Kent and Emily Arnold McCully.

"My wife and I were enticed by the program when we arrived here in Guam that she joined the event immediately," said Goodrich's husband Hull Maintenance Technician 1st Class (EXW/SW) Brian Goodrich, of USS Frank Cable (AS 40). "Starting the program late, my wife read 10 books for the competition and was also asked to read to the children here today. We enjoy what this library is doing for the

children and the base."

Tarrant's son and daughter also partook in the program as he read from the big book "Jump, Frog, Jump!" by Robert Kalan.

"I love to read from big books to the kids," Tarrant said. "It is easier for the children to see and understand and it is more entertaining in environments like this, I believe."

Later the prizes were passed out by category to children, spouse and active duty Sailors. The children's segment had 20 categories that were divided from ages 9 months to 19 years.

Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Michael Bailey, of NBG X-division, read the most books for the active duty category.

Bailey read books on Winston Churchill and classic books such as "Tom Sawyer" and "All Quiet on the Western Front". He said the program was a good resource for the children to involve themselves with reading.

"I strongly believe the kids need to read and exercise their minds with books instead of sitting at home and playing video games all day, he said."

For more information about the MWR Library, please visit <http://www.facebook.com/pages/MWR-Library-Guam> or call 564-1836.

To learn more about NBG, visit www.cnicy.navy.mil/guam.

For more news from U.S. Naval Forces, Marianas, visit www.navy.mil/local/guam/.

Chapel Schedule

U.S. 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.
 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,
 Thursday, 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.
 Military Council of Catholic
 Women: Second and fourth
 Tuesday 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.
 Catholic Men of the Chapel:
 First and third Tuesday of the
 month, Chapel 1 Annex, 6 p.m.
 Choir Rehearsal: Chapel 1,
 Saturday 4-5 p.m. and Sunday,
 8-9 a.m.
 Protestant Worship Service
 Praise Service: Sunday, Chapel
 2, 9 a.m.
 Liturgical Service: Sunday,
 Lighthouse, 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.; Wednesdays (September-
 May), Chapel 2 Annex, 8 a.m.
 Protestant Men of the
 Chapel: Wednesday,
 Lighthouse, 6 p.m.; First
 Saturday of the month, Chapel 2
 Annex, 8 a.m.
 Protestant Youth of the
 Chapel: Thursday, Chapel 2
 Annex, 7 p.m.
 Protestant
 Single/Unaccompanied:
 Thursday, 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

By Lt. Cmdr. Thomas A. Ianucci
 U. S. Naval Base Guam Chaplain

Where has the time gone? One year ago I was getting on a plane and heading to an island called Guam. I was nervous, but full of excitement when I kissed my family goodbye in Norfolk, Va. knowing I would not be able to see them for maybe a year or more. I got onto the plane and I said a prayer that God would keep my heart and my mind open to the new and wonderful opportunities that would unfold for me in the days and months ahead.

Keeping open to the many possibilities that God has for me has helped me make my time on Guam exciting and adventurous. God always puts us exactly where we need to be so we can experience the fullness of what life has to offer. I truly believe we need to trust in God and put our lives into God's hands, and let God unfold for us an amazing story.

Often change is very hard for people and when we have to move we can do so kicking and screaming and never allow ourselves to experience the beauty of life our God has in store for us.

As a Catholic priest, and being

A year come and gone

single, it is easy to drown myself in the lord's work. But I challenged myself to get out of the office and out of the house to be in the world that God created for us all. In my short year here on Guam, I have met many wonderful people who have made a profound difference in the way I look at the world.

The local people are welcoming and have opened their homes and lives to me. I feel my life has been blessed and enriched by knowing them. They have shown me what faith is all about, especially when I speak to older, wise Chamorros who have lived through the horrors of

the struggles for recovery, but have allowed their faith to follow them throughout their lives, helping them through the bad times as well as the good.

Being a part of some of the World War II liberation events here on Guam and listening to the stories of the survivors has given me a greater respect and appreciation for life. I cannot even imagine the hardships that some of the older Chamorros had to live through and I realize that I have lived a very blessed life.

My own troubles seem very small after hearing that during the war Chamorros searched desperately for

surviving loved ones, searched for food when all the food was taken by their oppressors, hauled carts back and forth in search of items left behind in homes where they had been living for years. Some of the items were thrown out into streets.

They watched as loved ones died; mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, lifetime memories lost forever. In all this, they kept their faith alive. Faith is what allowed them to hold on and to survive horrors that some say they should not have survived. As time takes its toll and this older generation continues to die off, my prayer is that the younger generation never forgets where they came from and how their ancestors kept the faith alive for them to carry on. It is in the midst of tragedy that we discover the worth of our faith.

I believe that God asked me to find a deeper faith while here on the island of Guam and I believe I have. I am looking forward to what my next year will have in store for me and I wait with delight. Faith means everything to me, and I experience faith when I keep myself open to the world around me and let God be in control. I find that my life is much richer and happier when I do. I invite you to join me in this discovery.

CHAPLAIN'S Corner



Classifieds

Kids learn moves at basketball clinic

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Free Throw: Lilly Baranda, Child Development Center sports coordinator, motivates a young boy during a basketball clinic at the Charles King Fitness Center on U.S. Naval Base Guam July 31. The clinic will last until Aug. 9 teaching children the fundamentals of basketball, discipline and teamwork. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Corwin Colbert/Released