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Wingspan

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Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

Thursday • July 20, 2006

Relief Ops, battle readiness wins MCM Crew National Award

Story and photo by Ensign John B. Wood, USN, Public Affairs Officer MCM Crew Fearless



The USS CHIEF (MCM-14) at a special hurricane moor awaiting Hurricane Dennis in Panama City, FL.

While embarked aboard the USS Chief (MCM-14), the Mine Countermeasures (MCM) Crew Fearless was selected as the Atlantic Fleet recipient of the 2005 Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Award and the 2005 Battle Efficiency Award.

"The Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Award recognizes the most battle-ready ships in the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, respectively, each year while the Battle 'E' recognizes a crew's capability to prepare efficiently for battle, an accomplishment not often achieved by a ship of any class," said Lt. Cmdr Scott Sciretta, Commanding Officer, MCM Crew Fearless.

Crew Fearless began 2005 forward de-

ployed aboard USS Dextrous (MCM-13) in Bahrain supporting "Operation Iraqi Freedom," and the Global War on Terrorism. Upon returning to Naval Station Ingleside, the crew was selected for a Proof of Concept Program that would take the Chief out of a three-month lay-up.

"Once underway during July and with Hurricane Dennis approaching, the crew rigged a special hurricane moor in Panama City, Fla.," Sciretta added. "Necessary crew members stayed on board to maintain and protect the ship, while the rest relocated to a Red Cross special needs shelter in order to assist in the care of elderly evacuees during the Category

III storm."

After a brief return to Ingleside, Chief was once again underway due to Hurricane Katrina. Crew Fearless provided humanitarian relief and conducted survey operations in the local waterways and safety fairways around New Orleans allowing vital ports to reopen. With less than a week in port to re-supply, Chief returned to support the relief effort and conduct surveys in the wake of Hurricane Rita.

"I am extremely proud of this crew and all they did in support of these operations," said Sciretta. "They got us ready to go quickly, overcoming repairs that normally require outside activity assistance and allowed us to con-

tinue support for both of these events."

Without a break Crew Fearless rolled straight into the training cycle and performed well above the standard. They successfully completed an Underway Demonstration during the Engineering Initial Assessment, one of just seven Atlantic Fleet ships in the past three years and only the second Mine Warfare ship ever to accomplish this feat.

Lt. Frank Axiak, the chief engineer said, "This crew worked extremely hard to accomplish this task. Teamwork across the entire ship was key."

The crew completed a Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART II) and certified in numerous categories very early, completing the training cycle in what amounted to eight weeks due to holiday leave and up-keep.

"I feel honored to serve with such a great crew that accomplished so much, and even more to have us recognized by such a high award." Said OS3 Kenneth Berry, 2005 Junior Sailor of the Year.

These awards recognize and acknowledge MCM Crew Fearless as superb, a crew capable of not only handling all facets of mine warfare operations, but also in performing survey missions, humanitarian support and maritime security.

Commanding Officer of Training Squadron 4 passes on the torch

Story by Yolanda Leos

Captain Dale E. Little, enlisted in the Navy from Tama, Iowa in 1973, and reported to his first assignment at Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron FOUR (VQ-4), Patuxent River, Maryland. After acceptance into the very first Limited Duty Officer (Aviator) Program, he was commissioned an LDO Ensign in July 1981; earning his Wings Of Gold in May 1982 at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas.

In 1982 Little arrived at T-34C Standardization as a Flight Instructor for VT-2, in Milton, Florida. From 1985 to 1988 Little served as the Flight Deck Officer on board the USS Coral Sea (CV-43) participating in "Operation Eldorado Canyon".

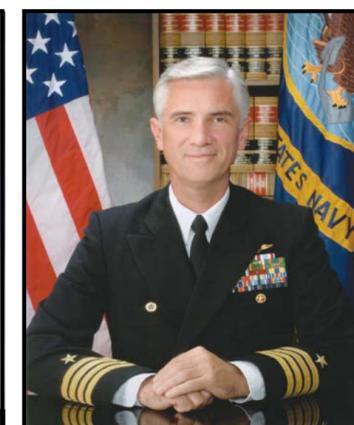
In 1988 Little was Designated an Unrestricted Line Officer at VQ-4 as Assistant Operations Department Head qualifying as an EC-130 Mission Commander, Aircraft Commander, Evaluator and Instructor Pilot.

In 1990 Little served as a Flag Lieutenant, Commander, Carrier Group SIX embarked on the USS Forrestal (CV-59), and participated in "Operation Provide Comfort", qualified as Staff Tactical Action Officer flying in the E-2C Hawkeye and S-3B Viking aircraft.

In 1992 After completing E-6A training,



Maynard



Little

Little returned to VQ-4 serving as Operations Officer, and Maintenance Officer, qualifying as E-6A Mission / Aircraft Commander / Instructor Pilot. From 1994 to 1995 Little was assigned as the Assistant Officer-in-Charge for Naval Training Support Unit, Tinker AFB. He

Qualified as E-6A/TC-18F Aircraft Commander, Instructor Pilot.

In 1995 he Served at Strategic Communications Wing ONE / CTF-124, as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations. In 1996 to 1997 Little completed an in-residence at Army Com-

mand and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth Kansas.

From 1998 to 2000 he returned to VQ-4 as Executive Officer, assuming Command in March 1999. During this tour, the Shadows were recognized with Battle E, Golden Anchor, Safety S, and Maintenance Excellence Awards.

From 2000 till 2002 Little served at the Navigation Officer onboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN71) participating in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. In 2002 Little was assigned to COMSIXTHFLT N3, participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom until 2004.

Little assumed Command of Training Air Wing FOUR in September of 2004. He has more than 5000 flight hours in various aircraft. His awards include Legion of Merit, Defense and Navy Meritorious, Navy Commendation, and Navy Achievement Medals, and numerous campaign and unit awards. He has two wonderful sons, Jason, age 24 and Drew age 20.

Captain David N. Maynard is a native of Eastern Kentucky. He received a Bachelor of Science degree with Honors in Economics in

Feinberg continued on page 7

From The Skipper

High grass and mosquitoes – are just one of the problems

By Capt. T.E. Coolidge

With our recent rain the grass is growing like crazy. We're getting it cut but we are a little behind, due to the speed at which the grass is growing. While I'm thinking of grass cutting, please be careful when you're pushing into tall grass. You never know what you might find!



Coolidge

One Sailor caught a tree branch in his mower. He should have used a bit more forethought in the process he selected to dis-exhaust port. First, he should have cleared the debris from the area he was about to cut...but he didn't. After he caught the branch in the mower, he should have turned it off...but he didn't. He decided to leave it running and kick it a few times. You know how the story ends - a stay in the hospital to get his foot repaired while his shipmates work over time to stand his duties. In the foot vs. spinning mower blade contest, always bet on the blade!

Before you frown at me for highlighting another's misfortune, there are lessons to learn from his, and others, experiences. This Sailor failed to perform any Operational Risk

Management (ORM) at the outset of this simple, routine project. ORM is a fancy title for a process we use all the time to avoid mistakes and accidents...okay not all the time as our Sailor demonstrated. When planning your project please take time to identify the hazards (things that could prevent completion of the task), assess those hazards (take a look at the risk), make risk decisions (options to control the risks), implement controls (to eliminate or control the risks), and review (make sure you didn't miss anything). The process sounds long but, again, we all do it in one form or another from looking both ways before crossing the street to planning a road trip. There are a lot of hazards in our daily lives. None of us plan on having an accident.

I was out driving the other day and noticed that every yard was being cut or was about to be cut. I also noticed other projects being tended to - the grass isn't the only thing growing. There are some beautiful rose bushes and other flowers in the area. There are also a lot of trees that need attention. If you're a do-it-yourself tree trimmer and you've read this far, I doubt I'll need to ask you to be careful!

There was a young Marine that was attempting to cut some tree branches with a chain saw - from a chair. You see, he had a six-foot ladder in the garage but was in a hurry because he wanted to meet his friends at the

club. His wife had asked him repeatedly to trim the tree in front of the garage. He just hadn't gotten around to it.

He approached the project simply from a time-saving angle. He wanted to get the job done, make his wife happy and go hang out with his buddies. He was ready to consume mass quantities of fluids, share his story at the club and revel in their compliments and praise! Not so fast.

Our Marine grabbed the chair, fired-up the chain saw and climbed up onto the seat. Well, the first two branches came down without incident.

It was when he extended his reach to cut another branch that he lost his balance, stumbled off the chair and fell to the ground. While he was tumbling, he was holding tight to the still-running chain saw. The blade bounced off his balancing arm four times on the way down. When he landed on the ground he had four raw, open-meat cuts on his arm. He had his share of fluids that night but it involved an IV at the hospital. Last I checked they didn't serve beer there. His wife was happy he survived and paid a professional to complete the job. His buds had a good laugh after they got over the shock and were reassured he'd be okay.

Of course, a couple of months later this Marine said the scars were "hash marks" that looked better as a tattoo (like the Navy, Ma-

Captain continued on page 7

Wingspan

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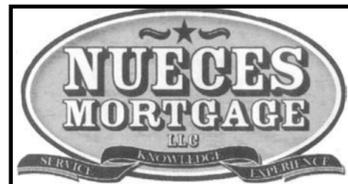
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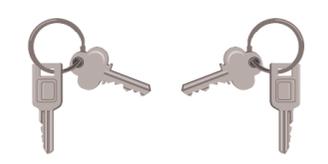
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Chaplain's Column

Greetings NASCC

By Chaplain Timothy Gault

Greetings, NAS Corpus Christi! I am the new Protestant Chaplain aboard the air station. My wife, Connie, and our children: Hannah (11), Andrew (7), and Tyler (3) are delighted to be here in Corpus Christi. We come to you from Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan, where we served with the 1st Marine Air Wing for three years. Semper Fidelis, Marines!

Connie and I participated in our own Texas training environment at Dallas Theo-

logical Seminary in the early 1990s. It was a busy time that prepared us well for the assignments and ministry opportunities we have received since. I believe students here will find the same opportunity in their chosen profession. My goal is to do everything I am able to help students and their families find success and to enrich their lives while they are here.

Another goal is to visit regularly with and minister among all you who work aboard the air station and who are not students. I look forward to meeting you and learning about

your contributions to our country through the work you are doing here.

NASCC, You have already shown the finest hospitality to my family and me. Thank you! I look forward to many days of service with you.



Gault

Health Watch

Summer Safety, it's for Kids Too!

By Lt. Wayne Murphy

The summer has officially arrived and many are already enjoying outdoor activities. However, before you head to the beach and other outdoor destinations make sure your kids are ready.



Murphy

One of the biggest dangers to your child will be water recreation. Children should always be supervised when swimming and wear age appropriate flotation devices that keep their heads above water. If your child is four years or older you may also want to consider swimming lessons. However, even children who swim well need supervision and older children should use the "buddy" system and swim with a friend. Don't forget to childproof your swimming pool with a fence at least four feet

tall and a self-closing, self-latching gate as well. Recreational water illnesses, which are infections spread by contacting contaminated water, are also a concern. To prevent this, avoid known contaminated waters and prevent your child from drinking recreational water. Also use good hygiene, such as washing hands, showering before and after swimming, and avoiding swimming when sick.

Make sure your child is also properly protected from sun exposure. The best way to do this is to keep them in the shade, but remember that ultraviolet rays can reflect off surfaces and still cause sunburn. Sun block is a very effective way to protect your child from the sun's ultraviolet rays, but it must be used properly. Common pitfalls include not using enough, not reapplying, not applying on cloudy days, and missing areas of your child's body. Sun block, which blocks both UVA and UVB rays and has an SPF of at least 15, should be used on all children six months or older. For babies less than six months old avoiding sun exposure all together is recommended. A hat, sunglasses, and lightweight, loose-fitting clothing will also help protect your child from the sun's rays.

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MWR continued from page 13

flexible hours of operation that other centers often cannot accommodate. Anyone who lives in military housing and wishes to provide child care on a regular basis for more than ten hours a week must be certified by the Navy as a CDH provider. Any Navy spouse or civilian living off base must be state registered before becoming Navy certified. Off base provider applicants may start Navy certification while awaiting state registration.

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For more information, on becoming a certified Navy Child Development Provider or to set up an appointment, please call the CDH office at 961-1166.

Gonzalez Liberty Center Program

The Gonzalez Liberty Program has planned a month of fun activities and events for you to participate in.

July Programs:

July 28 - Last Buck night & Movie - On your last buck? Don't worry!! The Liberty Program will be providing a free meal starting at 1700 at the Gonzalez Liberty center for all Active Duty Service Members. Navy Motion Picture Service "New Releases":

Now showing at the Gonzalez Liberty Center: Staying Alive; Inside Man; Slither; Ice Age 2; Basic Instinct 2; Larry the Cable Guy; Take the Lead; Lucky Number 7; The Benchwarmers; The Wild; Scary Movie 4. Paintball Shop:

High pressure air fill station is HERE! Schedule your paintball game with us. Stop paying those high prices out in town when you can get it all here at the GLC. Field is FREE, Air is FREE and the cost of rentals is close to FREE. The Liberty paintball field "Nemesis" is open 7 days a week from 0600 to 2100.

The Gonzalez Liberty Center is located at Building 1260 E Street. Hours of Operation are: Sunday thru Saturday 1100-2200. For more information on these or any other GLC events, please call 961-6405.

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Youth Activities Center

Join the Youth Activities Center for some Summer Fun during the month of July.

- July 20:** Card Games
- July 21:** Science Club
- July 22:** Art Club
- July 24:** Wood Art
- July 25:** Painting
- July 26:** Triple Play
- July 27:** Volleyball
- July 28:** Dodge ball
- July 29:** Olympic Day

For more information on these or any other youth events, call The Youth Activities Center at 961-2355.

Cassidy to relieve Hill as Commanding Officer of Training Squadron 31

Commander Charles Cassidy is a native of Southern California. He graduated from Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, California, attended the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Newport, Rhode Island, and entered the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland with the Class of 1987. Upon graduation from the Naval Academy, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Science, he entered flight training in Pensacola, Florida. He received his "Wings of Gold" as a United States Naval Aviator in 1989.

His first squadron tour was with the "Batmen" of Patrol Squadron Twenty Four (VP-24) stationed in Jacksonville, Florida. While in VP-24, Cassidy completed Cold War deployments to Sigonella, Sicily and Keflavik, Iceland. He also was Mission Commander for the crew chosen to participate in the UNITAS exercise in South America, and numerous detachments to Key West, Florida to aid in the War on Drugs. After VP-24, Cassidy received orders to be the Aide to the Chief of Naval Technical Training in Millington, Tennessee. He then went on to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, where he earned a Master of Science degree in Engineering Acoustics. Following Postgraduate school, he received orders as a Catapult and Arresting Gear Officer ("Shooter") on board the USS George Washington (CVN-73). While on the George Washington he completed two Mediterranean/Arabian Gulf deployments.

Cassidy's next squadron tour was with the "Pelicans" of Patrol Squadron FORTY-



Cassidy

FIVE (VP-45) stationed in Jacksonville, Florida. While in VP-45, he completed a deployment to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico/Panama/Ecuador to support anti-drug operations and served as the squadron Operations Officer during their deployment to Sigonella, Sicily during the war in Bosnia. Cassidy then received orders to Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing One (CPRW-1) /Commander Task Force Seventy Two/Commander Task Force Fifty Seven (CTF-72/57) in Kami Seya, Japan. While on this operational, forward-deployed staff, he served as the Wing



Hill

Exercise Officer, and Wing Maintenance and Logistics Officer. As the Wing in command of Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) assets in both Fifth and Seventh Fleets, Cassidy's area of responsibility took him throughout Pacific Command, and included direct involvement in the war against terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq. Cassidy then worked in the Pentagon in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict (SO/LIC), Counter Narcotics. While in this billet, he served as the Colombia Desk Officer, Afghanistan Desk Officer,

and culminated in his appointment as Acting Director for Policy and Support. In June 2005, Cassidy reported to Training Squadron Thirty One (VT-31) where he served as Executive Officer. He has two daughters, Stephanie and Brittany, who live in Jacksonville, Florida, and he currently resides in Corpus Christi with his son Sean and wife Tammy.

Commander Paul Hill was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and grew up a Navy brat. He is a 1986 NROTC graduate of the University of Oklahoma, receiving a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management. He was commissioned in December 1986 and received his wings in October 1988.

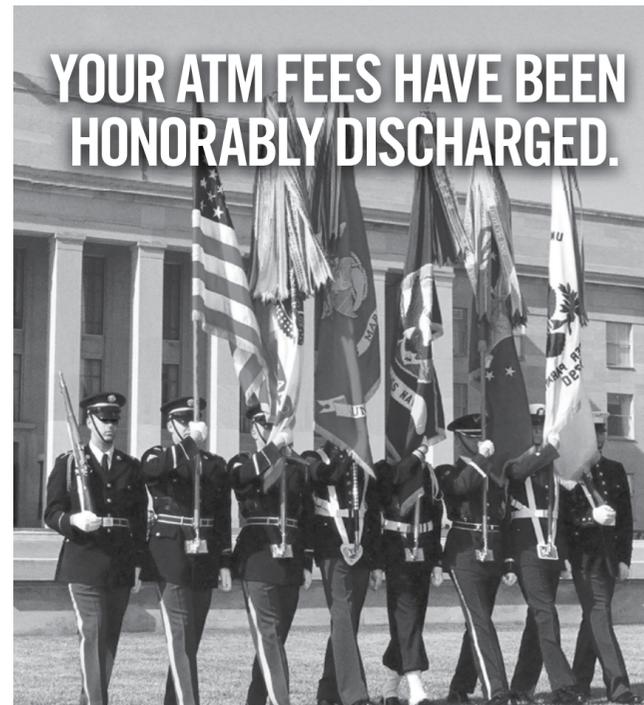
Following Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) training, Hill reported in April 1989 to the "Pelicans" of Patrol Squadron FORTY-FIVE at NAS Jacksonville, Florida. During his tour, he served as CMS Custodian, Flight Officer, and Assistant Maintenance Officer. He deployed to NAS Bermuda, Rota/Lajes, and Keflavik Iceland.

In August 1992, Hill reported to the "Wise Owls" of VT-31 at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas for instructor duty. His ground duties included Administrative Officer and Flight Officer.

In June 1995, Hill reported to the USS Roosevelt (CVN-71) at Norfolk, Virginia. He served as Aircraft Launch and Recovery Officer and Hangar Deck (V-3) Division Officer, making two Mediterranean deployments.

COC VT-31 continued on page 3

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Through the eyes of the workers

Story and photo by Jamey Giddens, CCAD Publicist



From (right to left) DDCT Lean Team member Lamar Foster briefing DDCT Commander Lt. Col. Timothy Orner and CCAD Commander Col. Timothy Sassenrath during a Value Stream Map of DDCT's work process.

A lot of people get nervous when asked to get up and speak before a crowd. Especially if that crowd includes the likes of your depot commander, but if Deborah Uhlenhaker was nervous while briefing a Value Stream Map of the UH-1N, she didn't show it. But then again, why should she be nervous? After participating in eight Lean events Uhlenhaker is used to the pressure of providing her leaders with an accurate assessment of a system's processes and how those processes can be improved by implementing the revolutionary theories of Lean Six Sigma.

Uhlenhaker, CCAD aircraft program manager, who oversees both the Pavhawk line where a wildly successful Lean Six Sigma journey began in March of 2004 and the UH-1N line, said she believes implementing Lean Six Sigma principles makes the work to be done at CCAD easier for the workers who have to do it.

"Lean initiatives can be very beneficial to a process," said Uhlenhaker. "It gives the people that are actually doing the work a chance to provide their much needed input and ideas, giving them a sense of ownership of the processes and the products."

Uhlenhaker believes the best ideas about process improvement come directly from the people performing the work and Lean Six Sigma gives them the tools to implement their ideas and see positive changes made.

Prior to implementing Lean Six Sigma on the HH-60 Pavhawk line, the program had cost over-runs of approximately 40 percent. The average turn-around-time (TAT) for fiscal year 2000 was 73 percent behind schedule. However, following Lean Six Sigma implementation and other CCAD initiatives, the average TAT jumped ahead by eight percent, an improvement of 81 percent, as of Oct. 2005 data provided by the CCAD Lean Office.

Lean Six Sigma principles were applied in addition to other initiatives that added to the success on the Pavhawk line, which Uhlenhaker stresses is essential to remember.

"It takes more than just Lean Six Sigma to make major changes and improvements," said Uhlenhaker. "For example on both the

Pavhawk line and the UH-1N line we have assigned an optimizer to assist with process changes and improvements."

CCAD's mutually beneficial partnership with Sikorsky was also cited as being integral to the success of the Pavhawk program's improvements. According to the CCAD Lean Office, Sikorsky greatly assisted the line's success by having parts and kits readily available for the production process, which reduced wait time.

A newcomer's perspective

While Deborah Uhlenhaker could be considered a veteran as far as it pertains to participating on Lean Six Sigma teams, Aircraft Mechanic Nicholas Allcott is a relative newcomer to the process, although not to CCAD. Allcott, who recently participated in his first Lean Six Sigma event in the Apache Main Disassembly Area, has been with CCAD for about five years.

"My experience with Lean has really helped me to realize the most efficient way to use space," said Allcott. "[After implementing Lean Six Sigma] instead of having to walk halfway across the shop to get tools, they're right there where we need them."

Allcott also added that thanks to Lean Six Sigma, instead of having to wait as much as half an hour for the necessary paperwork to complete a task to be signed off by the proper authorities, the paperwork is now coming back in only a few minutes.

"Lean Six Sigma has improved work in our area fairly dramatically," said Allcott. "Older spaces where multiple components were getting cluttered were combined or done away with and the new space was designed around the Apache Main Disassembly. There is also a new building for the engines and transmissions that also came about as a result of Lean Six Sigma."

According to Allcott, Lean Six Sigma has helped the Apache Main Disassembly Area save a lot of time and unnecessary effort. "We've cut down time in the Apache Main Disassembly area from 77 hours to 28 hours," said Allcott. "Lean Six Sigma taught us how to work smarter, not harder."

MWR News and Events

By Laurie Garcia, NAS MWR

Auto Skills Center

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The Auto Skills Center is located to the west side of the Navy Army Credit Union in Bldgs. 1713 and 1737. The Auto Skills Center has most of the tools you will need to make repairs to your vehicle.

For more information on this and other services provided by the Auto Skills Center, call 961-3470.

Bayside & Oasis Pools

Bayside pool hours of operation are Wednesday through Friday 1200-1900, Saturday from 1200-1800, Sunday from 1300-1800 and Closed on Monday and Tuesday. The Bayside pool

is a family recreation pool with a slide and baby pool. The Oasis Pool hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday 1100-1300, 1600-1800 and Saturday from 1000-1200.

Swimming Pool Fees:

All lap swimmers: No charge
Active duty military and active reserve card holders: No charge
Dependents (E1-E6): \$1.00 daily fee, \$20.00 monthly pass, \$45.00 season pass

Dependents (E-7-Above & Retired Military): \$1.00 daily fee, \$30.00 monthly pass, \$60.00 season pass

DoD Civilians & Dependents: \$1.50 daily fee, \$35.00 monthly pass, \$90.00 season pass
Guests: \$2.00 daily fee

For more information, please contact Earl Olsen at 961-3260.

Child Development Home Program Career Choice of the Century

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MWR continued on page 14

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Family Practice Clinic times have changed

Story and photo by Bill W. Love, NHCC Public Affairs



Naval Hospital Corpus as seen from an aerial view.

Naval Hospital Corpus Christi realigned clinic hours of operation July 16 in order to provide more efficient service to TRICARE Prime enrollees.

As a result, the Family Practice Clinic is now providing full service appointments from 7:30 a.m. until the new closing time at 6:30 p.m. Monday thru Saturday. The clinic is closed on Sundays.

"We are committed to ensuring that each of our beneficiaries has quick access to care, and the best possible health care that our staff can possibly provide," stated Capt. James P. Rice, MC, commanding officer at NHCC.

By readjusting clinic hours officials at NHCC anticipate optimizing health care providers' schedules - the subject of recent reviews - which revealed low usage all day Sundays and after 6:30 p.m. during the week.

"We owe it to each of our beneficiaries to continuously refine our business practices," Rice pointed out while clarifying why careful analysis and management of valuable NHCC human capital is necessary. He described how the process could benefit NHCC beneficiaries more, particularly in the coming months.

"Although our 'docs' and nurses will once again answer duty's call to Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism," he said, "we will concentrate our remaining staff in appointment slots that have proven more convenient for the majority of our beneficiaries." He said that sharpening scheduling process, and capitalizing on the dedication and talent of our hospital staff a substantial deployment requirement this summer will not impede the hospital's commitment to the quality service that enrollees deserve.

Officials also articulated information regarding acute care options after hours. If you are enrolled to a Primary Care Manager who is not at NHCC, follow the advice you've been given by your provider or use the TRICARE self care guide or benefits guide for after hours care instructions.

Beneficiaries enrolled to a Primary Care Manager at NHCC should call 961-2688 to get instructions for care when the clinic is closed. An advisor will direct your call as needed to make sure your immediate health care requirements are identified. You may receive a call from a health care provider, be directed to an urgent care facility, or asked to wait until the

clinic is open to be seen. Be aware that if you seek treatments other than true emergency care, without prior approval, you may incur a "point of service" financial charge.

Regardless of where your PCM is located, or whether the clinic is open or closed, in an emergency where there is threat of loss of life, limb or sight, you should always call 911.

Access to medications is a key ingredient to your care, acute or otherwise, and the NHCC pharmacy wants to ensure that you understand your benefits and applicable options.

The pharmacy will be open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and for refill pickup Monday thru Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. New prescriptions for pain medications and antibiotics are available during all clinic hours.

Individuals needing prescriptions filled when the clinic is closed have several options. If the prescription is urgently needed (for example a prescription received during an urgent care visit,) TRICARE provides a robust retail pharmacy benefit. A valid written prescription can be presented at nearly all retail pharmacies, including the 24-hour pharmacies in Corpus Christi. This service will carry a small co-pay of \$3 for generic or \$9 for brand name based for a one-month supply.

For a less urgent situation (for example hours for refills are inconvenient or impractical) the DoD has a world-class mail-order pharmacy. New prescriptions can be faxed by the physician's office or mailed to the pharmacy distribution center. The medication will be mailed directly to the beneficiary's home. Subsequent refills can then be requested by phone or online. Mail-order prescriptions carry a co-pay of \$3 for generic or \$9 for brand name, but this co-payment provides up to a 3-month supply. Further information on both the retail and mail order pharmacy benefit can be found online at www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy.

There is no change in the operating hours for dental, occupational health, preventive medicine, pediatrics, wellness center, nor the specialty clinics including the VA clinics. To make an appointment at any of these, or the Family Practice Clinic, Call (361) 961-6000.

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By Elva Hernandez, Human Resources Specialist



Cassidy

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SF-1152 – Designation of Beneficiary for Unpaid Compensation will be honored by Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and disburse the deceased employee's last paycheck, all unused annual leave, and any other unpaid compensation due. A lump sum will be sent to the beneficiaries approximately four to six weeks after DFAS receives properly completed claim forms, a certified copy of the death certificate, and a copy of the marriage and/or birth certificates. This form may be obtained from www.opm.gov.

SF-2808 – Designation of Beneficiary for Retirement Contributions (CSRS) is used by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to pay contributions from the employee's Civil Service Retirement System account. Payment is made after the OPM receives a properly completed claim forms and supporting documentation such certified copy of death certificate and a copy of the marriage and/or birth certificates. Lump sum payment will be received in approximately two months. This form can be found in the form's section at www.opm.gov.

SF-3102 – Designation of Beneficiary for Retirement Contributions (FERS) is used by the OPM to pay retirement contributions in the deceased employee's Federal Employees' Retirement System account. Lump sum payment is made after the OPM receives the properly completed claim form and a certified copy of the death certificate and a copy of the marriage and/or birth certificates. This form can be found in the form's section at www.opm.gov.

SF-2823 – Designation of Beneficiary for Life Insurance designates who is the recipient of the deceased insurance policy. Properly completed claim forms along with a certified copy of the death certificate and a copy of the marriage and/or birth certificate must be received by the Office of Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (OFEGLI). OFEGLI will open a money market account and send checkbook(s) to the beneficiaries approximately two months after processing is completed. This form can be found in the form's section at www.opm.gov.

TSP-3 – Designation of Beneficiary for Thrift Savings Plan Account is used by the Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) Service Office to determine the recipient(s) of the deceased employee's TSP account balance. Payment will be made in a lump sum approximately two months after properly completed claim forms and required documents (certified copy of death, marriage and/or birth certificates) are received by the TSP Service Office. A lump sum check will be mailed approximately two months thereafter. This form can be found in the form's section at www.tsp.gov.

COC VT-31 continued from page 3

In September 1997, Hill was assigned to Commander, Patrol Wings Atlantic at Norfolk, Virginia, serving as Current Operations Officer.

Following refresher training, Hill reported in October 1998 to the "Fighting Tigers" of Patrol Squadron EIGHT at NAS Brunswick, Maine. He completed deployments to NS Roosevelt Roads, PR/Howard AFB, Panama, and Sigonella, Sicily. During his tour he served as the CSO, Safety/NATOPS Officer, and Maintenance Officer.

In March 2001, Hill reported to the Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Eleven at NAS Jacksonville Florida, serving as the Maintenance and Logistics Officer. Hill reported to Air War College at Maxwell AFB, Alabama in July 2003 and graduated in June 2004 with a Masters in Strategic Studies.

In June 2004, Hill reported to Training Squadron Thirty-One where he served as Executive Officer. On 3 June 2005, he assumed command.

His personal awards include three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals and various unit commendations and campaign awards.

He is married to the former Sharon Whyte of Burlington, Vermont. They have two sons, Jacob and Colin.

Taking over the title of Executive officer after Cassidy has been named Commanding Officer will be Commander Shipley.

Commander Shipley entered the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland with the Class of 1989. Upon graduation from the Naval Academy, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Oceanography, he entered flight training in Pensacola, Florida and received his "Wings of Gold" as a United States Naval Aviator in 1991.

His first squadron tour was with the "Shadows" of Fleet Air Reconnaissance

Squadron Four (VQ-4) stationed at NAS Patuxent River, Maryland and Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City. Commander Shipley served in VQ-4 as Human Resource Officer, Ground Training Officer, Operations Flight Officer, and NATOPS Instructor Pilot qualified as an E-6A Mission Commander, Aircraft Commander, and Instructor Pilot. Commander Shipley moved back to NAS Whiting Field and flew from 1995 to 1998 as a "Doer Bird" in Training Squadron Two. While instructing primary students in Fam, BI, AN, Night Fam, Formation and TacForm, he held positions as International Military Student Liaison, STAN Officer, Student Control Department Head and was the CNATRA BI stage Manager. Commander Shipley was named VT-2's "Officer of the Year" for 1997.

In 1998, Shipley transferred back to VQ-4 in Oklahoma City and served as the assistant Safety Department Head until July of 1999. From 1999 until 2001 he served on the staff of Commander, Strategic Communications Wing One as the Director of Mobility Operations. Early 2001 saw transfer back to the "Shadows", and positions as Training Department Head, Safety/NATOPS department Head and Maintenance Officer as well as the squadron's senior pilot. He qualified as Mission Commander Evaluator, Aircraft Commander, and Instructor Pilot in both the E-6A and E-6B. After his department head tour, Commander Shipley spent 2003 to 2005 on the staff at Naval Air Systems Command. He worked as the Deputy Program Manager for Production and Deployment at the Airborne Strategic Command, Control and Communications Program (PMA-271).

Shipley has over 4000 flight hours in six different aircraft and has been awarded, 3 Navy Commendation Medals, Navy Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medals, and several other personal and unit awards. Commander Shipley is married to the former Alisa Carmack. They have two children: William and Katherine.

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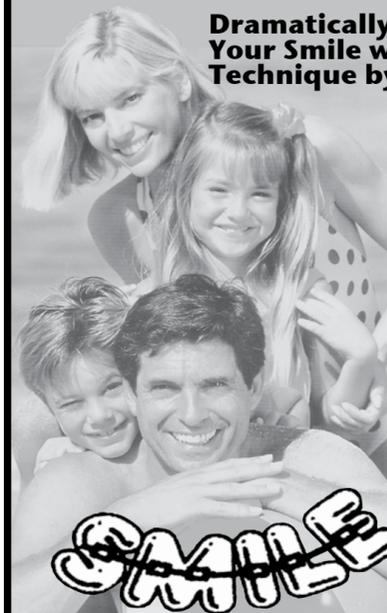
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QUARTERLY SPORTS CALENDAR CAPTAIN'S CUP SPORTS

Flag Football League: Registration will begin on June 30 and end on July 28. Pick up your registration package at the E-Street Gym. Be sure to fill it out completely and submit rosters before July 28. All players must be from the same unit. Late entries will not be considered. A mandatory Coach's meeting will be held at the E-Street Gym on August 2nd at 1630. Send an alternate if the coach cannot make it. The league will start in September and games will be played on Monday-Thursday evenings. Mouthpieces, flag belts and jerseys will be provided. Captain's Cup points are for FY-07.

Tennis Doubles Tournament: Register your doubles-team at the E-Street Gym before August 4. The tournament will begin in September and end in October. Both players have to be from the same unit to receive Captain's Cup points. Players will schedule their own matches. Phone numbers must be provided.

Bowling League: Register at Lighthouse Lanes before September 15. A Team Captain's meeting will be held at Lighthouse Lanes on the same evening. The league will begin in September and end in March. For additional information call the Lighthouse Lanes Manager, Russ Claus, @ 961-3805. Captain's Cup points are for FY-07.

10K Run: Register at Fitness Express before September 27. Event date is Saturday, September 30 at 7:30 a.m., check in time 7 a.m. Four divisions: 34 & under and 35 & over, Men's and Women's

NON-CAPTAIN'S CUPEVENTS

Fall Softball League: Register your team at the E-Street Gym before August 18. Pick up your registration package and submit rosters before the registration deadline. Late entries will not be considered. A mandatory Coach's meeting will be held at the E-Street Gym on August 23rd at 1630. Send an alternate if the coach cannot make it. The league will start in Mid-September and end in early December. Games will be played Monday-Thursday eve-

nings.

SPORTS DAY 2006: All Hands Unit Sports Day: The event will be held on the evening of October 19 and all day on October 20. All commands are encouraged to take the day off and participate in this annual event. Select your Unit's Sports Day Coordinator; submit the name and e-mail address to the athletic director before August 25, mike.b.mccleure@navy.mil. Complete the registration package and have fun. Registration packages will be sent electronically to Sports Day Coordinators on September 1. Registration will end on September 22. Schedules will be available on October 16. This base-wide event will have something for everyone. Sports will include softball, basketball, volleyball, football, golf, horseshoes, table tennis, sailing, bowling, tennis, fishing, darts, running events, kayaking, tug-o-war, racquetball and more.

Sports Program: Captain's Cup sports are unit competition; all players must be attached to the same unit. Register on time, late entries will not be accepted. Registration for each sport will begin one month before the registration deadline. Please register on time. Coach's meetings are mandatory and are held on Wednesday evenings at 4:30 pm. Send an alternate to the meeting if the coach cannot attend. No-show, No-vote. Awards are given for first and second place only.

All military, military dependents 18 years of age and older, DoD/NAF employees and full time contractors working at NASCC are eligible to participate in the sports program. Women are encouraged to play in all sports. Civilian dependents and Navy League members are not eligible. DoD/NAF civilian employees and contractors must pay an entry fee for team sports. CMWRA may pay for DoD/NAF civilian employee's fees when funds are available. Call Monica at 961-2268 for funding information.

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VQ-4 COC continued from page 1

1982 from the University of Kentucky at Lexington, Ky. In 1983 he joined the Navy and received his commission through Aviation Officer Candidate School at NAS Pensacola, Florida. After completing flight training at NAS Whiting Field, FL and NAS Corpus Christi, TX he received his wings in January 1985 while assigned to Training Squadron Thirty One

Maynard completed P-3 Orion FRS training at Patrol Squadron Thirty, NAS Jacksonville, FL in 1985. He was assigned to Patrol Squadron Eight, NAS Brunswick, ME where he served as Pilot Training Officer and Assistant Operations while completing four deployments to Rota, Spain; Lajes Field, Azores; Portugal and Keflavik, Iceland. In 1990, he was assigned to Patrol Squadron Thirty where he served as Assistant Maintenance Officer and FRS Instructor Pilot.

In 1993, Maynard reported to USS Saratoga (CV-60) as a Catapult and Arresting Gear Officer. He participated in USS Saratoga's final deployment to the Mediterranean Theater supporting operations in the Balkans. While aboard, he served as the V-2 Division Officer and decommissioning Executive Officer. In 1995, he reported to Patrol Squadron Sixteen as a department head serving as Safety/NATOPS Officer and Maintenance Officer while deploying to Sigonella, Sicily and Keflavik, Iceland. In 1997 he transferred to NAS Barber Point, Hawaii for duty on the Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, US Pacific Fleet Staff serving as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Maintenance and Logistics (N4).

Maynard was selected for command and served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of Training Squadron THIRTY-ONE at NAS Corpus Christi, from June 2000 until October 2002. In Maynard's Following command, he reported to Commander U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/Commander U.S. Fifth Fleet in Bahrain as the Plans Officer and Future Operations Officer for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom

Maynard's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (four awards) and Navy Achievement Medal (two awards) along with various unit and deployment awards.

Maynard is the son of Walter T. Maynard (deceased) and Janice A. Maynard of Turkey Creek, KY. He is married to the former Sandra F. Tunanidis of Weirton, WV. They have three children: Adair (9), Nicholas (7) and Danielle (7).

Captain continued from page 2

rine Corps enlisted personnel wear hash marks on their sleeve to depict each four years of service).

Our children are out of school (just ask any Mom) and it won't be too long that they'll be back in school (again, ask any Mom - they'll tell you how many days and hours until school begins). Enjoy the outdoors! But please be careful when the kids are out. I can't stress enough how important it is to stay hydrated. This heat and humidity demand that you drink lots of water! Ensure you're wearing enough sun block and insect repellent, too.

Please, be pro-active when it comes to doing the daily things you do. Be safe and use ORM before you embark on a project. Enjoy that post-lawn mowing, tree trimming, flower planting time. You worked hard to get your yard nice so revel in your accomplishment!

As always, see you on the beach!



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Around The Station

NASCC CDC Celebrate Independence Day



On July 3 the Child Development Center onboard NASCC put on a delightful Independence Day show for the youth center and a host of parents. The children sang and waved the American flag. (Left) A young girl waves streamers vigorously while singing the National Anthem. (Right) The CDC gathered for a group photo after their extravaganza. (Photo by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

Rain storm floods NASCC



Naval Air Station Corpus Christi flooded after several hours of torrential downpour, Sailors and workers trying to head off Base and to other locations on base dealt with flooded streets. Many vehicles pushed through the flooded streets putting themselves and others at risk of injury. Several vehicles were not capable of pushing themselves through the flood and ended up broken down. (Photos by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

Rain storm floods NASCC



Escort boats and entries for the Titanic Cup race lined Sunfish Beach last year for the annual Navy Regatta, to be held this year Aug. 4-6. This year's regatta, with already more entries than last year, is expected to draw good crowds to the beach. If you like sun, fun, water and "Three Stooges" type entertainment, plan to be there for day. Be on hand to see how many of the "Titanic" competitors actually make it to the finish line, before sinking. (Photos by Bob Torres)

Awards And Achievements

Student pilots advance to aviator status



The following student pilots received their "wings" designating them as aviator, during a "winging" ceremony Jul 7. It was held at the Corpus Christi Bay Club on board NASCC. In alphabetical order they are 1st Lt. Lars D Anderson, USMC; 1st Lt. Richard K Bogusky, USAF; 2nd Lt. Michael D Colon, USAF; Lt. j.g. Andrea Conchaud, FOREIGN; 2nd Lt. William J Herbert, USAF; Lt. j.g. Kacee L Jossis, USN; 2nd Lt. Dave W Kemp, USAF; Lt. j.g. Aaron J Lanzel, USN; 1st Lt. Leonard J Livingston, USAF; Lt. j.g. Douglas E Murph, USN; 1st Lt. Jennifer L Myers, USAF; 1st Lt. James A Nichol, USAF; 2nd Lt. Theresa M Ponstingle, USAF; Lt. j.g. Ian M Rummel, USN; Lt. j.g. Alessandro Serrani, FOREIGN; 1st Lt. Rikki D Smith, USAF; 1st Lt. Jared L Stuteville, USMC; Ensign Tommaso Vertemati, FOREIGN; 1st Lt. Andrew E Webb, USAF; 1st Lt. Justin A Young, USMC. (Photo by Hugh Lieck)

HM-15 sailors receive awards



On June 19 the following sailors received awards. The awards will be listed followed by the names of the sailors in alphabetical order. *Sailor of the Quarter*: PR2 RAMON, PARAMO; AN MEDINA, TAMBRE; *Flag Letter of Commendation*: AD2 MARTINEZ, CHRISTOPHER; CMCN WESTON, MICHAEL; *Enlisted Air warfare Specialist*: PS2 GARCIA, PRISCILLA; AM2 DOMINGUEZ, DANIEL; AT3 DAVIS, CASEY; AE3 MADDUX, JASON; *Good Conduct*: AE3 MULICAN, BRENDAN; AMAN GAUT, AKIEL; *Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal*: AM1 APPLING, CHRISTOPHER; AM1 BOCK, ROBERT; AD1 CASILLAS, EDWARD; EM2 DYBICZ, DONALD; AM1 MCCOOL, BRIAN; MN1 WATKINS, CASEY; CM2 ARREGUIN, GEORGE; AW2 BORAH, NICHOLAS; SK2 BARKSDALE, RUQAIYAH; AM2 CAIN, JACQUELINE; CM2 HICKS, TERRY; AZ2 LEWIS, BRANDON; AE2 MCDOWELL, ANTHONY; AE2 ROSE, BILLY; EO2 STRICKLAND, DAVID; AE3 DULAS, STEVEN; CM3 MARES, WULIBALDO; *Navy Marine Corps Commendation medal*: AMCS DILLE, GARY; AM1 ANDREWS, THOMAS; *Joint Service Achievement Medal*: OS1 CODY, SAMUEL. (Photo by LI2 Paul Hewitt)

Uncle sam poses with america's future



Uncle Sam takes time to pose for a picture with John and Harley McKinney, children of CMDCM(SW/AW) J.D. McKinney, Command Master Chief, Naval Station Ingleside. (Photos by Lois Contreras, CCAD PAO)

NMCRS grand opening



Base Commanding Officer, Capt. Tim Coolidge cuts the ribbon July 12, during the grand opening of the new Navy-Marine Corps Relief Office at Building 1738, as N-MC Director, Tambi Parker and a host of friends and volunteers look on. The facility, adjacent to the Ceramic Shop, is larger and promises to bring even better services to servicemembers. (Photo by Bob Torres)