



# WINGSPAN



Vol. 21, No. 20

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

November 19, 2015



**Free Thanksgiving Buffet**

**Nov. 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

**At the Catalina Club.**

**Open to anyone with base access**

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**Happy Thanksgiving**

## NAS Corpus Christi ... in the beginning

*Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles about Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. As we prepare to celebrate the station's 75th anniversary, we will explore its rich history, discuss its impact to Corpus Christi and South Texas, and what is being planned for the anniversary celebration in March.*

**By Fifi Kieschnick**  
NASCC PAO

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi and Nestles Tollhouse morsels have something in common.

They are both celebrating 75 year anniversaries.

The Nestle Toll House tradition began near Boston, where proprietor Ruth Wakefield was known for her rich desserts. While experimenting, she cut a bar of Nestle Semi-Sweet Chocolate into tiny bits and added them to her cookie dough. The Toll House cooking was born!

NAS Corpus Christi's beginning wasn't quite the same.

Officials recommended Corpus Christi as "home" to a new naval air training base in November 1939 because of nearly ideal training weather, easy coordination with training at Pensacola and wide-open skies.

Congress later passed a naval appropriations bill, June 11, 1940, authorizing the construction of 12 naval air stations, with the largest to be built in the Flour Bluff area of



The Corpus Christi Caller-Times runs an article on the commissioning of a "Giant Naval Air Station" in its March 13, 1941 edition. Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, guest speaker, stated the air station was dedicated to peace. (Courtesy photo)

Corpus Christi.

Corpus Christi's civic leaders gave the Navy an added incentive to build here – 640 acres of undeveloped city land in addition to what the government would purchase, plus \$2

million to help with the cost of construction.

Construction began later that month on what was to become the largest base in the

*see Beginning on page 9*

## New body fat standards take effect at start of new year

**Story and photos by Eric Lobsinger**  
NASCC Public Affairs Office

Body fat standards will undergo a dramatic change Jan. 1.

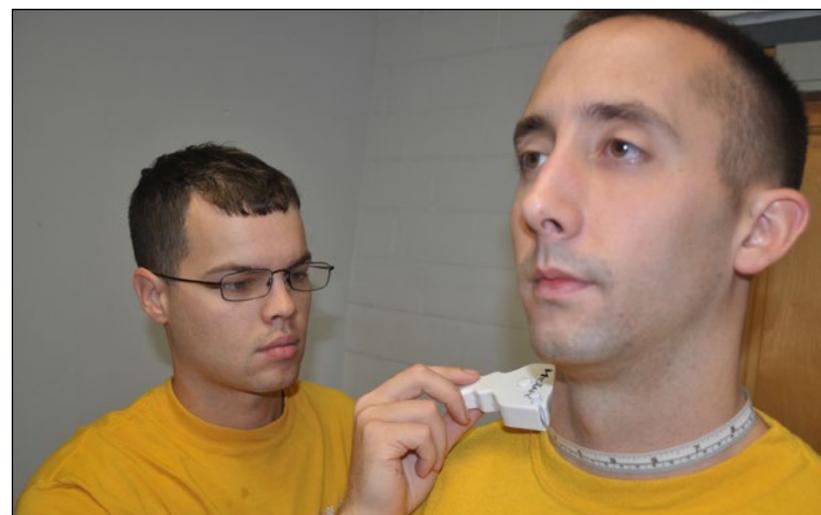
Under the new system, authorized body fat composition will change for both men and women.

As of the new year, the authorized body fat percentages for men and women will be broken down into percentages based on four age groups, whereas the current system has two age groups.

Male Sailors, 18-21 years old, will remain at an authorized body fat percentage of 22 percent; those aged 22-29 are now authorized 23 percent; 30-39 year-olds are authorized 24 percent, and those 40 and older are authorized 26 percent.

Female Sailors, 18-21 years old, will remain at an authorized body fat percentage of 33 percent; those aged 22-29 are now authorized 34 percent; 30-39 year olds are authorized 35 percent, and those 40 and older are authorized 36 percent.

These standards replace the previous system in which male Sailors,



AC2 Luis James, assistant command fitness leader, demonstrates how to conduct the tape test with AC3 Daniel Galinski, assistant command fitness leader.

*see Body fat on page 7*

## Executive Officer's Column



Cmdr. Scott Wilmot  
Executive Officer



As Naval Air Station Corpus Christi continues to prepare to celebrate the base's 75th anniversary in the spring, I would like to take a few moments to recall the actions of our brothers-in-arms during the Vietnam War.

During the Vietnam War, approximately 3 million of our fellow Americans answered the call to duty and served and fought in Vietnam. Of those, 58,200 lost their lives or were declared missing.

The war also had an additional cost in human capital as an estimated 500,000 of the troops suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, according to a Veterans Administration survey.

I would like to look back at two key events of the war that occurred in the month of November.

On Nov. 14, 1965, the Battle of the Ia Drang Valley marked the first major engagement between regular U.S. forces – the Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) – in pitched battle against North Vietnamese forces – Communist main-force units – in the Ia Drang Valley of the Central Highlands.

The three-day battle was significant in that it demonstrated the resolve of the combatants on both sides. The Vietnamese suffered significant losses: 834 soldiers confirmed dead in addition to an estimated 1,000 more killed during the battle. The U.S. forces also faced significant losses after Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry, were ambushed by North Vietnamese forces as they moved overland to Landing Zone Albany. Approximately 150 men, of the original column of 500, lost their lives. At company level, Company C suffered 93-percent casualties – one-half of which were deaths.

Although senior U.S. officials declared the battle a “victory,” it set the stage for the tough battle ahead in which Vietnamese forces would attempt to keep their forces physically close to U.S. forces in attempt to negate the U.S. advantages in artillery and air-strike capabilities.

Perhaps just as significant as the date of the first major conflict occurred seven years later, on Nov. 11, 1972, when the United States turned over its massive military base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese, symbolizing the end of seven years of direct American military participation in the Vietnam War.

At one time, the base, a logistical complex, had been the largest U.S. military installation outside the continental United States and served as the headquarters for U.S. Army Vietnam. After its closure, approximately 29,000 U.S. Soldiers remained in the country.

Two years later, in 1975, communist forces would seize control of Saigon, thus ending the war.

This was a traumatic time for our nation as support for U.S. military forces involvement waned back home as the American populace called for an end to U.S. participation.

During this time, our service members not only faced the dangers of war but also the additional political pressures back home. These Americans held their heads high and did their duty. Many paid the ultimate sacrifice – and all sacrificed to some extent.

As we honor those who served their nation during the 50-year anniversary of the Vietnam War, it affords the opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices and accomplishments of those who came before us.

The American population has demonstrated tremendous support for its service members following long conflicts in the Middle East. This also provides us an opportunity to remember and to pay homage to these honored veterans, who have given so much in support of the nation. They are men and women of all colors, faiths, political and economic backgrounds – they are us, Americans.

These men and women have sacrificed – and some have paid the ultimate sacrifice. They have served their nation proudly, with honor, courage and commitment.

Thank you for the sacrifices you and your families are making. And thank you to our Vietnam veterans for the sacrifices that they and their families have made.

## Chaplain's Message



Lt. Cmdr. Stephen Wame  
Command Chaplain

### The Holidays

celebrate with family, friends and religious communities. Perhaps one of the most noted American holidays around the world is Thanksgiving – a time to reflect upon past and present blessings. The iconic turkey, annual Cowboys game, a meal fit for a king: all are part of the tradition that is enjoyed on the fourth Thursday in November.

We gather around tables to offer prayers of thankfulness for our blessings and prosperity. If it weren't for the Pilgrims' reliance on God and their Native American neighbors, many of the traditions we celebrate on

Thanksgiving would not exist. Furthermore, if it weren't for the determination and sacrifice of those we honored on Veterans Day, the freedom and prosperity we enjoy as a nation would not exist.

We can always celebrate what was, but we must keep our focus on what is to come. If we only focus on past events and celebrate holidays as such, we will eventually lose touch with why we celebrate. Holidays are meant to keep us focused on the future – to inspire us to grow in our faith and in our national heritage and identity. I encourage everyone this year to not only be thankful for past blessings, but pray for blessing and prosperity to come.

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**Capt. Steve Banta**  
Commanding Officer

**Fifi Kieschnick**  
Public Affairs Officer

**Eric Lobsinger**  
Editor



This paper is published for people like AT1 Benjamin Liskey, a new arrival to Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. A native of Charlottesville, Va., he has served in the Navy for 12 years.





**Happy Birthday Marine Corps** — Tony Infante (above) cuts a ceremonial cake as Col. John Rahe Jr., USMC, commanding officer, Marine Aviation Training and Support Group-22, watches on Nov. 10 at the Corpus Christi Country Club. Marine Corps League Coastal Bend Detachment 430 hosted the event to celebrate the Corps' 240th birthday. The event featured a MATSG-22 color guard, a cake cutting, the reading of the commandant's message and the presentation of a proclamation by the city of Corpus Christi. Infante is the commandant of Coastal Bend Detachment Marine Corps League. Gunnery Sgt. Steven Ranga (right), the unit's operations chief, reads the commandant's message to kick off the event festivities. (Photos by Eric Lobsinger, NASCC Public Affairs Office)

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**November is National Native American Heritage Month**

American Indians and Alaska natives enrich every aspect of our country, according to President Barack Obama in a recent proclamation.

As the first to live on this land, Native Americans and their traditional and values inspired – and continue to inspire – the ideals of self-governance and determination that are the framework of our nation, he added.

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S. has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose.

In the early 1900s, Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, who was the director of Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, N.Y., persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the “First Americans,” and for several years, they adopted such a day.

In 1914, Red Fox James, a Blackfoot Indian, rode horseback from state to state, seeking approval for a day to honor Indians. On Dec. 14, 1915, he presented the endorsements of 24 state governments at the White House.

In 1915, the annual Congress of American Indian Association meeting in



Lawrence, Kansas, formally approved a plan concerning American Indian Day. It directed its president, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe, to call upon the country to observe this as a national day. Coolidge issued a proclamation on Sept. 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of each May as an American Indian Day and contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as citizens.

In 1916, the governor of New York declared the first official state American Indian Day on the second Saturday in May. Several states also celebrated American Indian Day on the fourth Friday in September.

In 1924, Congress enacted the Indian Citizenship Act, but took no action on a national day.

It wasn't until 1986 that Congress passed – and President Ronald Reagan

signed – a proclamation authorizing American Indian Week, recognizing that for American Indians, November was generally a time of thanks and celebration after a successful harvest season. In 1990, President H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November as National American Indian Heritage Month.

Since then, Presidents regularly issue similar proclamations.

Obama stated in his proclamation that he has worked with tribal leaders to ensure young people have every opportunity to succeed and hosted the inaugural White House Tribal Youth Gathering following the launch of Generation Indigenous, an initiative aimed at improving the lives of native youth and empowering the next generation of native leaders. He will also host the seventh White House Tribal National Conference bringing together leaders of 567 tribes to explore opportunities for progress, with a particular focus on young people.

“This month, let us reaffirm our responsibility to ensure each generation is defined by a greater sense of opportunity than the last,” said Obama proclaiming November as National Native American Heritage Month and Nov. 27 as Native American Heritage Day.

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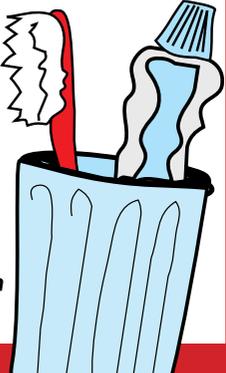
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## Bravo Zulu



Capt. Guido F. Valdes, commanding officer, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, presents HM2 Adam W. Smith with his second Navy Achievement Medal for professional achievement while serving as assistant leading petty officer, Human Resources Department, Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi, from December 2011 to October 2015. Smith demonstrated active deckplate leadership supervising 15 Sailors in the coordination of 250 Physical Health Assessments and screening of 83 post deployment personnel, maintaining medical readiness at 92 percent. (Courtesy photo)



Capt. Steve Banta, commanding officer, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, presents MA2 Ambrielle Murray with her second Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance of duties while serving as a patrol supervisor with the NASCC Security Department as she prepares to transfer to Bahrain. (Photo by Eric Lobsinger)



Capt. Steve Banta, commanding officer, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, presents Irene Kaesberg with a Letter of Appreciation for her outstanding service as a U.S. Navy civilian employee. She was also presented a photo of NASCC, signed by her teammates, wishing her good luck in the future. (Photo by Eric Lobsinger)



Fire Chief John Morris and Capt. Stephen Banta NASCC commanding officer, both to the right of the formation, were on hand to present awards to Firefighter Aric Schneeberger (welcome to the department), Lt. Ray Aranda (Firefighter of the 3rd Quarter), Lt. Richard Puente (promotion & Driver Operator Aerial and Pumper), Lt. Weston Beseda (promotion & Firefighter of the 2nd Quarter), Lt. Glen Helwig (promotion & Inspector I), Station Chief Owen Miclat (promotion), and Firefighter Daniel Smith (welcome to the department) during an award ceremony at the Fire Department. (Photo by Eric Lobsinger, NASCC Public Affairs Office)

# Retired Master Chief Petty Officer still serves Sailors

*Editor's note: This is part of a continuing series of stories honoring our community's veterans.*

**By Fifi Kieschnick**  
NASCC Public Affairs Office

Like most, he joined the U.S. Navy to see the world.

“As a child, I dreamed about being on ships,” said Hector Escajeda, a Navy veteran and director of Personnel Support Detachment Corpus Christi. “In my dreams, I actually saw myself standing on the rails of some ship and looking out at the beautiful and calm ocean.

“I joined the U.S. Navy to serve this country that has given me so much.”

Escajeda was born in Mexico and emigrated to the United States with his mother after he completed sixth grade. He finished his primary education in New Mexico, where they lived at the time, and joined the Navy right out of high school.

Escajeda served nearly 30 years as a personnel specialist and did see the world serving tours at: Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif.; USS Lockwood (FF 1064); USS Ashtabula



Former Master Chief Petty Officer Hector Escajeda



Retired Master Chief Petty Officer Hector Escajeda

(AO 51), homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; USS Jouett (CG 29), homeported in San Diego; Personnel Support Detachment, Subic Bay, Philippines; Air Antisubmarine Squadron THIRTY, based in Jacksonville, Fla.; embarked

aboard USS Saratoga (CV 60); Naval Education and Training Program Management Support Activity, Pensacola, Fla.; USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), homeported in San Diego then Yokosuka, Japan; Personnel Support Detachments in Pensacola, Fla., and Diego Garcia; and finally forward-deployed aboard USS Kitty Hawk in Yokosuka for a second time.

“Having understood the importance of education during my naval career,” Escajeda said, “I took advantage of off-duty education opportunities offered.”

He subsequently earned two associates degrees, a bachelor’s degree in Resources Management, and a master’s degree in International Relations.

Escajeda retired as a master chief petty officer in July 2007. He and his family settled in Pensacola, but not a year later, he was back working as a federal employee – first in Norfolk, Va., and since April 2009, in Corpus Christi as the PSD director.

Escajeda and his wife have two grown children and two grandchildren. He said he really enjoys the job (here at PSD) and what he did in the service, but also knows about sacrifices that even retired Sailors have to make to take care of their families. “It can be hard,” he said, “but we all have to make sacrifices.”

## Body fat from page 1



AC2 Luis James, assistant command fitness leader, demonstrates how to conduct the tape test with AC3 Daniel Galinski, assistant command fitness leader, as MA1 Leroy Williams, command fitness leader, observes. The tape test for male sailors is conducted on the right side. Taping alternates from the neck (below the Adams apple) to the waist (around the naval), with one individual conducting the taping as another observes. The taping is conducted twice. If the numbers are more than an inch of difference, then a third taping is conducted. For female Sailors, the taping is performed at the neck, natural waist, and hips.

17-39 years old, were authorized 22-percent body fat, and those 40 years and older were authorized 23 percent. Meanwhile, female Sailors, 17-39 years old, were authorized 33-percent body fat, and those 40 years and older were authorized 33 percent.

“As the Navy makes adjustments to the authorized body composition assessment standards, it is vital that all Sailors understand what those new standards are,” said CMDCM Jeffery Tidwell, NASCC. “A high level of physical conditioning is important in the health and welfare of our Sailors.

The changes in standards more align the Navy to the sliding scale standards as used by the Army, Coast Guard and, to a lesser extent, the Marine Corps. Unlike its fellow service branches, the Air Force no longer measures body fat after basic training but instead uses “Body Composition” as an integrated part of its overall Fitness Test.

As in the system it replaces, Sailors will undergo body composition assessments twice a year in conjunction with the semi-annual physical fitness assessment. The first step involves the standard height and weight measurement. Sailors under the authorized weight standards successfully pass the BCA.

In a new wrinkle, those who are above the established height/weight standards will undergo an abdominal circumference measurement. Male Sailors whose measurements are less or equal to 39 inches, and female

Sailors whose measurements are less than 35.5 inches, successfully pass the BCA.

Those Sailors above the height/weight screening and circumference standards will then be measured through the traditional body circumference measures to determine their body-fat percentage. Those who do not meet the BCA are enrolled in the Fitness Enhancement Program.

“We conduct the test as a two-person team,” said MA1 Leroy Williams, command fitness leader for Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, who also serves as security department LPO and kennel supervisor. “It is never one person performing the taping. This protects both the person being tested as well as the person conducting the test in that it ensures there are no questions about the testing or the methods used.”

Williams added that the additional changes kick off in the new year. One such change is for those Sailors who have multiple physical readiness test failures, the Navy will conduct a “hard reset” Jan. 1, so Sailors will only have one of the previous failures counted against them.

The significant fact, however, is that any Sailor who fails a second PRT within three years faces administrative separation from the Navy.

As such, he said it is vital that Sailors continue to work out diligently and to watch their weight and their body composition. Of particular concern is to ensure that personnel realize they still need to work out hard, to exercise as much and to strive to improve.

“The more you weigh, the harder it is for you to perform,” said Williams. “It you exercise less, your performance is going to go down. Continue to stay in shape; continue to work out, and continue to improve.

“Don’t do it just because the Navy says you have to do it – do it for yourself. Working out, exercising and eating healthy helps increase

longevity – and it just makes you feel better.”

For more information, see NAVADMIN 233/15 at <http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/messages/Documents/NAVADMIN/NAV2015/NAV15233.txt>.

### Body Fat Standards by Service

Navy		
Age	Male %	Female %
18-21	22	33
22-29	23	34
30-39	24	35
40 +	26	36

Marine Corps		
Age	Male %	Female %
17-26	18	26
27-39	19	27
40-45	20	28
46 +	21	29

Coast Guard		
Age	Male %	Female %
17-29	22	32
30-39	24	34
40+	26	36

Army		
Age	Male %	Female %
17-20	20	30
21-27	22	32
28-39	24	34
40 +	26	36

#### Air Force

The Air Force no longer measures body fat after basic training. Instead, “Body Composition” is an integrated part of the overall Air Force Fitness Test.

# PILOT FOR A DAY



Izrel Saldivar, 13 (right), and Lt. Jose Vacio, VT-35 pilot, prepare to enter the air tower at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. Izrel was on base as part of the "Pilot For the Day" program. He is a patient at the Driscoll Children's Hospital. AC3 Seth Tunnel, sector control (left) shows Izrel how his equipment works in the radar section room. "He is very excited about this," said Laura Llamas, Izrel's mother. He thinks it's awesome to come out here on the base and to be around so many people who are in the military because we come from a military family. My father was in the military; my grandfather was in the military, and I have numerous uncles and cousins all still in the military. (Photos by Eric Lobsinger, NASCC Public Affairs Office)



## Upcoming Community Events

### Square Dancing Lessons

The Sparkling City Singles and Pairs Square Dance Club will host beginner square dance lessons Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Classes start Jan. 4, 2016. Lessons will be taught at the Lindale Senior Citizen Center, located at 3135 Swatner, Corpus Christi. Club caller/instructor John Ivey is ready to offer his many years of experience to help you become a confident, fun square dancer. All ages welcome! For more information, call 361-758-5318.

TO HAVE YOUR EVENT INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION, EMAIL AFRENCH@PLWAVE.COM. THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT EVENTS IS 10 A.M. THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION. UPCOMING EVENTS ARE PUBLISHED AS SPACE PERMITS THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES AS TO HOW MANY TIMES AN EVENT WILL RUN. QUESTIONS REGARDING EVENTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO ASHLEY AT 361-746-4341.

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## Beginning from page 1

world, eventually covering more than 20,000 acres.

Sand dunes that reached 40 feet were leveled. Millions of tons of clay were pumped in to raise the elevation. A ship channel was dredged and docking facilities built. The Corpus Christi sea wall was extended; new roads were built; a water line to the base was completed, and a railroad spur was built from the Texas-Mexican Railway.

Seaplane hangars on the waterfront and land hangars near the Oso were built. Barracks, mess halls, repair shops and ground school buildings followed. Four runways of 5,000 and 6,000 feet were constructed – and all “at a frenzied pace.”

One of the first Navy officials to arrive was Cmdr. L.N. Moeller, the public works officer at Pensacola, Fla., who was in charge of constructing the new base. One of his first acts was to order 13,700 tons of structural steel to build aircraft hangars and other facilities.

It was said to be the largest single order for steel ever placed in Texas, at a cost of \$1.3 million – more than was spent to build Corpus Christi’s largest building, the Driscoll Hotel.

There were long lines of trucks delivering construction material and thousands of workers riding buses or driving to the base. The volume of traffic on Ocean Drive and Alameda was so heavy that it was made one-way going south in the morning and one-way going north during the evening rush hour.

Also, it was reported that conditions were far from ideal for construction. Rainfall was twice that of normal; it was called the wettest spring in 40 years.

The station was about 70-percent complete when it was dedicated March 12, 1941. The ceremony began at 11 a.m. and was held in front of the two-story administration building, which is now called Building 1, headquarters of Chief of Naval Air Training.

There were approximately 300 guests. On the platform were speakers, ranking naval officers and special guests.

The color guard, officers and enlisted members were in parade formation before the building.

The presiding official was Navy Secretary Frank Knox. During the ceremony, Knox said that the station was dedicated to peace – a special kind of peace, the peace of justice and righteousness.

The ceremony lasted 17 minutes with Capt. Alva Bernhard, the base’s commanding officer, ending the event by reading the orders appointing him as base commander, ordering the colors raised, and then ordering the Executive Officer Cmdr. R.D. Lyon to set the watch.

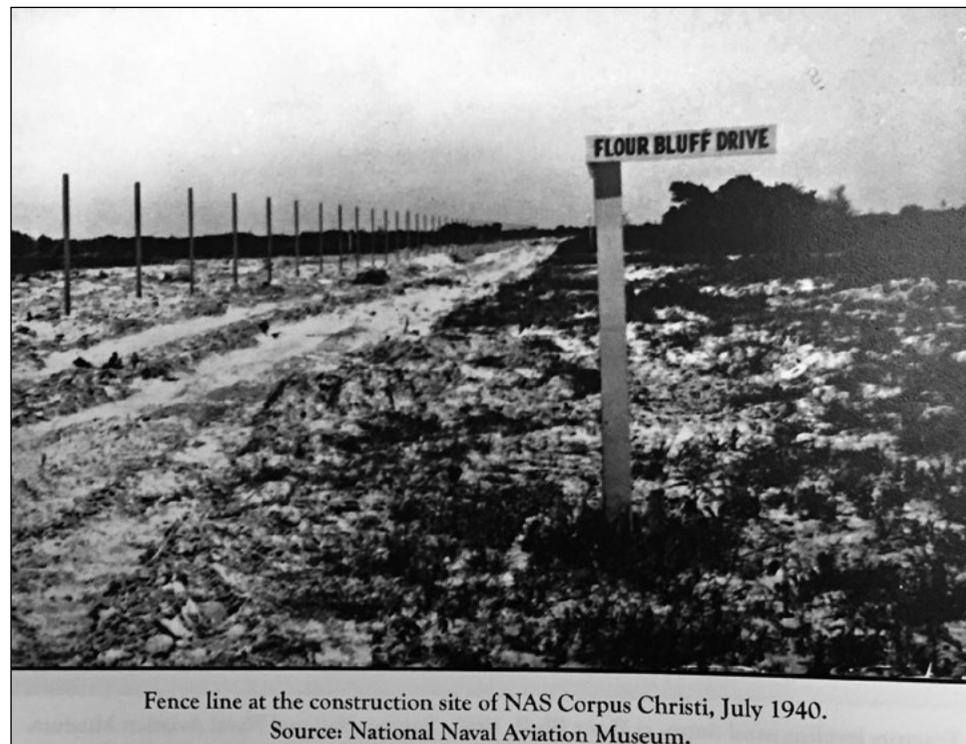
Bernhard, first commanding officer of the U.S. Air Training Center at Corpus Christi, proclaimed the facility, “the University of the Air.” And, during World War II, 35,000 men successfully completed flight training here.



The Secretary of the Navy, William Franklin “Frank” Knox, speaks at ceremony commissioning Naval Air Station Corpus Christi on March 12, 1941. (U.S. Navy photo)



Capt. Alva Bernhard served as the first commanding officer of the naval air station from Oct. 5, 1940 to April 4, 1942. (Courtesy photo)



Fence line at the construction site of NAS Corpus Christi, July 1940.  
Source: National Naval Aviation Museum.

The fence line marks the beginning of the construction site for the future Naval Air Station Corpus Christi in July 1940. (Courtesy photo)

Look for the  
Next Issue  
of  
*Wingspan*  
on  
December 3,  
2015

# FOR LEASE

Seamount Cay Condos has two units available. It's a resort-style living located on the Island close to NAS Corpus Christi. These units are both a two story unit with 3 bedroom/2.5 bath and a Garage. The complex has a heated pool and is located close to the new Schlitterbahn Water Park and Resort. Price Range \$1,500-\$1,600.00 depending on size of unit. Condos are located at 15421 Seamount Cay Ct, Corpus Christi, TX 78418  
Please contact Rachelle for more information 361-728-6412



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**Fleet diaper drive** – EN1 Derrick Scranton (above) performs the “Chicken Dance” as admiring commissary shoppers enjoy the show. Members of the First Class Petty Officers Association conducted a diaper drive recently at the commissary. The drive was to help restock the USO’s supply for families in need. The following day, ABH2 Erik Negron (right), ABH3 Pamela Torres and EN1 Derrick Scranton delivered a trunk-full of precious cargo to the USO South Texas. (Photo by Eric Lobsinger, NASCC Public Affairs Office)



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# Captain bids farewell aboard USS Lexington

Capt. Kenneth W. Carel Jr. bid farewell to the U.S. Navy during a retirement ceremony at USS Lexington Museum.

Carel last served as Joint Fires, NR Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet. He is a 1985 graduate of Iowa State University and received his commission from Aviation Officers' Candidate School. He was designated a Naval Flight Officer in March 1987.

His awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), Expert Rifle, Expert Pistol, and various campaign, service, and unit awards. Carel has accumulated 2,000 flight hours in strike fighter aircraft and more than 400 carrier landings.

He currently resides in Texas and is employed by the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center as an aerospace engineer providing depot-level maintenance engineering support for helicopter repair and overhaul.

He holds an MBA from Fresno State and is a distinguished graduate of the Naval War College, earning a Master of Science degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.



Capt. Kenneth W. Carel Jr. (left) is joined by his son, Kenneth W. Carel III, his wife, Capt. Pamela K. Carel, his son, Jackson A. Carel, and Rear Adm. Thomas Marotta, Vice Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. FIFTH Fleet who served as the guest speaker, during Carel's retirement ceremony aboard the Lexington Museum on the bay. (Courtesy photo)



**Lobster ahoy!** – Capt. Dave Edgecomb, CNATRA chief of staff, along with members of the First Class Petty Officers Association, provide a helping hand Nov. 10 during a Tale and Ale fund-raising event for the USO at the McCampbell-Porter Airport in San Patricio County. (Photo by ABH1 Timothy Williams, FCPOA)

## News Briefs

### 2015 NASCC sports day

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi will host the NASCC Christi Sports Day Nov. 19-20. The competition is open for NASCC active-duty military, civilian employees and full-time contractors. There is a \$10 entry fee for civilian employees and full-time contractors. Participants must compete with their unit. The Nov. 19 events are: biggest catch, 6 a.m.-2 p.m.; speed agility competition, 8-11 a.m.; 3-on-3 basketball, 8 a.m.-noon; bowling, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; racquetball tournament 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; volleyball tournament, 1-4 p.m.; and the CO's canoe challenge 3:30-4:30 p.m. Nov. 6 events are: flag football tournament, 8 a.m.-noon; home run derby, 8 a.m.-noon; volleyball ace in the hole, 8-10 a.m.; golf longest drive, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; dodgeball tournament, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; and 3-point shootout, 1-3 p.m. For more information, call the E-Street Gym at 961-2401.

### NASCC Red Extravaganza Holiday Party

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi will host the NASCC Red Extravaganza Holiday Party Dec. 4 at the Mansion Royal Ballroom, located at 8001 S. Padre Island Drive. The event will feature a social hour, 7-8 p.m.; dinner at 8 p.m.; and dancing, games and prize giveaways 9-11 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the Building 2 Quarterdeck. Cost is: \$25 for E1-E6, GS1-GS7, NF1-NF2; \$30 for E7-O3, GS8-GS10, NF3; and \$40 for non-DoD civilians. There will be prizes for best-dressed male, female and couple. For more information, contact AO1 Jasmin Shackelford, 961-1442, or ABH3 Pamela Torres, 961-2331.

### Library hosts Stash Bash

The Library & Resource Center would like to "mustache" you to attend their Stash Bash 4-6 p.m., Nov. 30. Activities include a stash contest, games, crafts, photo booth and a stash story time. For more information, call the Library & Resource Center at 961-3574

### State Veterans cemeteries extend visiting hours, relax flower rules

The Veterans Land Board recently announced changes at

Texas State Veterans Cemeteries, which include the waiver of spousal fees, the extension of visiting hours and the relaxing of flower policies. Visiting hours will be extended to 8 a.m.-6 p.m. to better accommodate those wishing to visit the grounds. Artificial flowers may now be placed at grave sites year-round, and flower pick-ups will now take place once a month instead of twice a month. All military veterans and spouses are eligible to be laid to rest at Texas State Veterans Cemeteries, regardless of their home state when joining the military. For more information, call 248-4830

### CYP Online Services

A new service is now available for child youth services. NAS Corpus Christi Child and Your Program Online Services features online payments, hourly care reservations and more. For more information, visit <https://myfr.navyaims.com/corpuscym.html>.

### Happy Hour on the Range

The Golf Winds Golf course hosts Happy Hour at the Range 2-5 p.m. every Friday, weather permitting. Hit the range with games, contests, free tips from the pros and discounted range balls every Friday. Don't sit in traffic. Start the weekend early on the range. For more information, call 961-3250.

### Holiday card display contest

The Holidays are almost here! MWR would like help with decorating the Wings Auditorium Courtyard. MWR invites all departments/commands to enter the holiday card decorating contest by decorating one 4-foot by 8-foot sheet of plywood. Decorated cards will be displayed in the Wings Auditorium Courtyard. Winners will be announced at the Dec. 9 Holiday Tree Lighting at the Wings Auditorium. Steps for participating in contest: (1) Get your Department/Command together and decorate your Holiday Card Display. (2) Turn your Holiday Card Display into the ORAC/Marina Office, Bldg. 1757, no later than 10 a.m., Dec. 7. (3) Winners will be announced on Dec. 9, 2015 at the MWR Tree Lighting at the Wings Auditorium

Courtyard. If plywood is needed, call 961-2268 by Nov. 30. Plywood will be available to be picked up Dec. 2-3 at the ORAC/Marina Office. Prize money will go in to the winning department's unit allocation fund. NAF entities are welcome to participate in the contest, but are not eligible to win prize money. For more information, call 961-2268.

### Celebrate Mardi Gras in New Orleans

Take a trip with ITT to Mardi Gras – Jan. 29 - 31. Deadline for sign-ups is noon, Jan. 6. Cost is \$204 per person. Those interested can sign up at the ITT Office in Bldg. 1757. The Mardi Gras package includes round-trip transportation on a chartered bus and a two-night stay at the New Orleans Marriott, which is two blocks down from Bourbon Street and right off Canal, where the weekend's parades will be passing through. The group will depart from the Wings Auditorium, at 3:45 a.m., Jan. 29, and will arrive at the New Orleans Marriott at approximately 3 p.m. The bus will depart the New Orleans Marriott at 11 a.m., Jan. 31, and return to NAS Corpus Christi no later than 9 p.m., Jan. 31. For more information, contact Information, Tickets & Travel at 961-3961.

### Shopping trip to Tanger Outlet and Premium Outlet

Finish up your holiday shopping with a free bus trip Dec. 6 to the Tanger Outlet and Premium Outlet in San Marcos. Registration deadline is noon, Nov. 20. Participants must sign up in person with a valid ID at Bldg. 1757. The trip includes round-trip transportation on a charter bus. Both outlets will provide free coupon booklets that include exclusive money-saving coupons. The bus will depart Wings Auditorium at 5:45 a.m., Dec. 6. It will depart the outlet at approximately 4 p.m. For more information, contact Information, Tickets & Travel at 961-3961.

### Santa at the Catalina Club

Have breakfast with Santa at the Catalina Club on Dec. 5. Breakfast will be served 8 a.m.-noon. Santa will be available for photos from 8:45-11:45 a.m. The activities will include ice skating, 8 a.m.-noon, as well as inflatable toys, and arts and crafts for the kids.



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