



WINGSPAN



2015 Russell Egnor Navy Media Award winning newspaper

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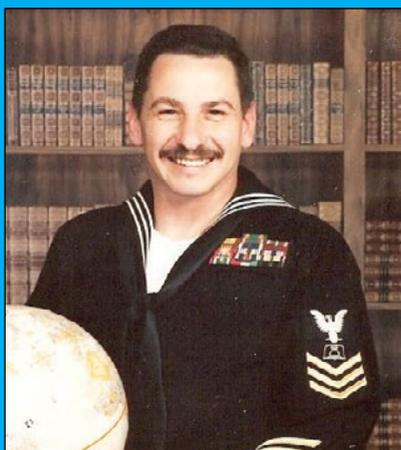
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

November 3, 2016



Training pays dividends

--page 4



Cancer strikes, No quit in veteran

-- page 6



No ghosts here

-- page 7



Petty Officer 1st Class Tarick Brittingham and Seaman Brett Finn hand out educational materials about growing up safely to family members who attended the National Night Event held on the NASCC Seawall on Oct. 25.

National Night Out enhances community relationships

“On board NAS Corpus Christi, we promote ‘See Something, Say Something,’” said Lt. Don Copping, NASCC security officer, to the family members assembled on the seawall during the station’s

National Night Out celebration held last week.

“Although it may not seem like much, when acted upon that simple phrase pays dividends to detect, deter and defend against crime.”

National Night Out is a community-police awareness-raising event that has been observed throughout the United States and Canada since 1984.

“NNO was developed to raise awareness about police programs within communities and how communities can support policing,” added Copping.

“Drug prevention, supporting anti-crime efforts and neighborhood watches are a few examples of how the community and police work together to tackle issues that communities encounter. Most importantly they serve as a proactive measure to deter these types of activities from taking root within our communities and improve the community’s perception of police.”

Security’s Petty Officer 1st Class Tommy Dover, spearheaded the event that featured the Corpus Christi Police Department, U.S. Coast Guard, NASCC’s Military Working Dog teams, NASCC’s Fire and Emergency Services, Navy Operational Support Center Corpus Christi Marines, NASCC’s Emergency Management personnel and other units. Sailors from the First Class Petty Officers’ Association cooked and served free food and refreshments provided by the Commissary.



(Above) From left, Captain Wes Beseda, Firefighter William Graves and Firefighter Latavis Johson, demonstrate use of the Jaws of Life to the dozens of families gathered at the National Night Out.

Command Master Chief's Column



CMDCM(SW)
Jeffery Tidwell

Howdy! Believe it or not, the holiday shopping season is upon us. You cannot go anywhere without running into holiday decorations. It seems like the stores bring everything out earlier and earlier every year.

Preparing for your holiday spending now can help you avoid being served with a heaping side of debt. So here are a few things you can do to stay within your means and keep you out of post-holiday debt.

Budget and set reasonable expectations.

Last year, it was reported that the average person expected to spend \$854 on gifts during the holiday season. While many people won't spend that much on shopping, any spending that strains your finances or saddles you with post-holiday debt is bad for your financial future -- period. Take the time now to talk with family and friends about

realistic holiday spending limits. Consider less expensive gift options like homemade gifts. If you have a large extended family, maybe it's time to start a new tradition of picking one person out of a hat to buy a gift for, rather than everybody buying a gift for every single other person in the family.

Keep the big picture in mind.

It can be easy to forget that we spend a lot of money on other things besides gifts during the holidays. Holiday dinners, travel and even increased electricity costs to run that massive holiday light display can drain your bank account. Make sure you plan for the cost of all of your extra holiday activities.

Look for ways to save.

Catch early sales, comparison shop, ordering from sites or stores that offer free shipping, shopping at discount stores, and buying items that offer rebates can help save you money on holiday purchases. Saving money for your shopping and saving money while you're shopping should be a dual goal.

Avoid holiday debt traps.

Not all deals are a bargain, so don't get sucked in by all the holiday "super sales." If you rush to a store sale because you can get

a \$3,000 TV for \$2,000, you've still spent \$2,000 on a TV. Was that really something you had planned to do?

Also, don't be enticed by payday lenders who want to help you get your hands on quick holiday cash. Make sure you stay away from easy approval credit cards. They will offer you 0% interest, easy payments, etc. These look enticing because that \$2,000 TV will have 0% interest for 18 months and minimal monthly payments. Don't get me wrong, some of these cards are great, just make sure to take into account everything and ensure you can get the TV paid off in the 18 months.

Keep in mind that holiday spending is short-term spending. Once the unwrapping frenzy is over, how long does the excitement last? Saving your money for long-term goals like home ownership, college or a comfortable retirement may be the very best gift you can give yourself and your loved ones.

Lastly, FFSC and your Command Financial Counselors are awesome with helping to set up budgets.

Do not hesitate to stop and sit down with them so you can get a plan and budget in place to keep you out of that post-holiday shopping debt.

Chaplain's Message



When conflict
arises!

Lt. Kevin Jackson
Command Chaplain

"The more we run from conflict, the more it masters us. The more we try to avoid it, the more it controls us. The less we fear conflict, the less it confuses us. The less we deny our differences, the less they divide us," David Augsburger

There is one constant prediction that we all can make about conflict, it will happen. Often the breeding ground for conflict is within relationships. Relationships play an integral role in society across geographical, social, language, religious and economic barriers. Of course, the lack of relationship can also foster instability among a people or organization.

Consequently, you are probably more familiar with the conflict that takes place in your own sphere of influence. We all have work, social, family and casual relationships. For the most part, we tend to navigate those relationships attempting to resolve conflict before it has an opportunity to take root. Unfortunately, sometimes those incidents cannot be avoided.

As a result, how should we handle conflicts that may result in disappointment, pain, distress and so many other emotional states? Allow me to offer some practical steps to take when you are ready to address conflict

in one of your relationships.

First, take the emotional investment out of the picture. Deal with the facts only and try not to insert any assumptions regarding what the person has or has not done. This preparatory step prepares you to address the situation with a cool head and calm spirit. For example, if someone has offended you in the workplace. Before you seek to address the issue with the person, you should take a personal time out. Wait until you are calm before you do or say something that you may end up regretting.

Second, give the person the benefit of the doubt. Approach him or her with the understanding that he or she may not be aware of how they have offended you.

Here's an example: Hi Carmen! I have a concern about something that took place yesterday in the work center and I just want talk to you to make sure I really understood what you meant by your statement.

Notice, there is no accusation or fault placed upon the person. However, there is the expectation that the person will provide some clarification about the matter.

Third, listen and restate what the person said in terms of clarification. You do this to ensure that there was no break-down in your reception of what the person actually said. It gives the person the opportunity to know what you interpreted what they said correctly.

Fourth, once the person has clarified his or her statement, you have to make a decision to let it go or prolong the situation. Notice, you have to make a decision. Conflict is resolved by making informed decisions. Do you accept the person's explanation? Do you accept their apology if offered? This is where

forgiveness becomes one of your options.

Consequently, forgiveness is more so for the person who forgives than the person who is being forgiven. Scientists have noted that persons who harbor unforgiveness tend to have stress, depression, physical ailments and so much more. Forgiving people for doing something that offended you or hurt you is hard! Yet, it is necessary for you to be able to move on with your life. Never allow the aggressor the power to control your emotions and your physical well-being. You remain in control by releasing the person from your heart and mind to free you to live.

If after personally talking with the person and there is no resolve, then seek counsel from someone who you can trust to determine the next step to achieving resolution. Please know that your chaplain is always available, regardless of the type of relationship for which conflict has arisen, to listen and walk you through the process.

Navy Chaplains have the unique privilege to keep all conversations 100 percent confidential regardless of the severity of the topic. You the member, hold the key to the release of privileged communication. I invite you to talk with your chaplain.

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Base Protestant Chapel
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Capt. Steve Banta
Commanding Officer

Fifi Kieschnick
Public Affairs Officer

Jason Kucera
Editor



Wingspan



NASCC Facebook



This paper is published for people like Carl Sohocki, a Detroit, Michigan native, who serves as the NEX Optical Shop supervisor at NASCC.

NHCCC wants you to quit

by Bill Love
NHCCC Public Affairs

Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi is encouraging Sailors, Marines and their families to quit tobacco during tobacco cessation month starting Nov. 1.

Throughout the month, NHCCC will provide Sailors, Marines and their families with information and tools to understand the health risks of prolonged tobacco use and available treatment options to quit.

"Our number one priority is keeping Sailors, Marines and their families healthy, ready and on the job," said Vice Adm. Forrest Faison, Navy surgeon general and chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. "More so than ever before, it's paramount we maintain our health and readiness, today and tomorrow."

According to the World Health Organization, tobacco use is the single greatest cause of preventable death globally. Prolonged tobacco users are more likely to develop heart disease, stroke and lung cancer, but quitting tobacco provides immediate health benefits.

"It is never too late to quit and there are many positive benefits over the short and long term. You can quit no matter how many times you have tried in the past. Quitting will help you acquire health benefits such as living a longer and healthier life, having your blood pressure drop to normal, the oxygen levels in the blood increases to normal, the ability to smell and taste is enhanced and the risk

of a heart attack and stroke decreased," said Dr. Sam Rivera, NHCCC head of health promotion.

NHCCC is dedicated to helping Sailors, Marines and their families quit tobacco.

All Navy Medicine military treatment facilities have tobacco cessation services including counseling, medication and self-help tools. Tobacco cessation medications are also made available on ships and at Marine Corps battalions to provide treatment around the globe.

During tobacco cessation month and in support of tobacco-free living, NHCCC will recognize the Great American Smoke Out on Nov. 17. However, November isn't the only time to quit tobacco. NHCCC encourages Sailors and Marines to quit tobacco year-round.

"There is no safe tobacco product and no safe level of use," Rivera said. "That is why it's so important to provide tobacco users who are ready to quit with the tools and resources they need to be successful." The Wellness Clinic offers every month the American Cancer Society's *Freshstart Tobacco Cessation* course that will provide you with the skills, knowledge and strategies to assist you in reaching your goal of becoming tobacco free.

For more information, call the clinic at 961-3914.

13th NHCCC Annual Community Health Fair Planned

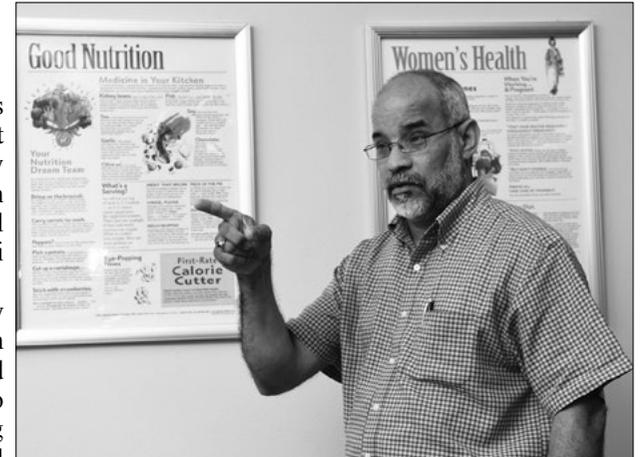
by Bill Love
NHCCC Public Affairs

Service members, civilians and families can learn about several health and community service subjects during the 13th annual health fair at Naval Health Clinic Corpus Christi Nov. 17.

The event is sponsored by NHCCC Health Promotion Program and will be held in Med Home Port lobby from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fair includes learning stations, educational material and one on one talks with the subject matter experts.

Dr. Sam Rivera, NHCCC head of health promotion, said the emphasis of the fair is to maintain a healthy lifestyle that can also prevent some health issues, as well as gaining awareness of various community services.

Chat with representatives from the Fleet



Dr. Sam Rivera, NHCCC head of health promotion, points out the advantages of tobacco-free living coupled with a healthy lifestyle. (Photo by Bill Love, NHCCC Public Affairs)

and Family Support Center, Fire Department, USO, TRICARE, Wellness Clinic, Dental, Behavioral Health, SARP, Optometry, Chaplain Services, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, Radiology, Pharmacy, Customer Service Department and Medical Home Port. For more information call 361-961-3914.



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MCMAP, MATSG-22 participants graduate into higher belt classes

by 1st Lt P. C. Schaeffer
MATSG-22

"Victory is reserved for those who are willing to pay its price."

Those words, uttered by Sun Tzu, hold special meaning to the Marines, Soldiers, and Sailors who took part in the recent Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training aboard Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

Marines of MATSG-22 opened the doors to other services on base to participate in the hand-to-hand and close quarters combat techniques that form the bedrock of the Marine Corps' lethal capabilities.

Consisting of five levels of belts (tan, grey, green, brown, and black), MCMAP teaches armed and unarmed combat techniques while integrating character development, leadership, and instruction in the Warrior Ethos.

Each morning consisted of physical training and martial arts. Participants from other services found the physical training to be helpful in preparation for their upcoming physical fitness tests.

"Being part of the training builds great joint service camaraderie and the martial arts instructors offered thorough instruction in



the belt syllabus and techniques," said Navy Lt. Thomas Bright, who earned a tan belt in this session.

Another training session will take place Nov. 28 – Dec. 16 each morning. Military personnel who would like to participate and work towards earning a belt of their own can contact the MATSG-22 Chief MCMAP

Instructor Trainer, SSgt Bryan Torres at bryan.torres@navy.mil.

Training graduates are pictured above and in no particular order:

Tan Belt: Lt. Thomas Bright, Petty Officer 3rd Class Crystal Worden, Spc. Justin Pac, Spc. Juan Salazar

Gray Belt: Petty Officer 2nd Class Tony

Christopher III, LCpl. Jasmine Alvarado

Green Belt: 1st Lt. Dallas Butts, 1st Lt. Dustin Downing, 2nd Lt. David Schroeder, 2nd Lt. Michael Spain, 2nd Lt. David Tresslar, 2nd Lt. Charles Lamar, 2nd Lt. Matthew Sandusky, Cpl. David Lewis

Brown Belt: 1st Lt. Philip Schaeffer and 2nd Lt. Christine Hadfield.



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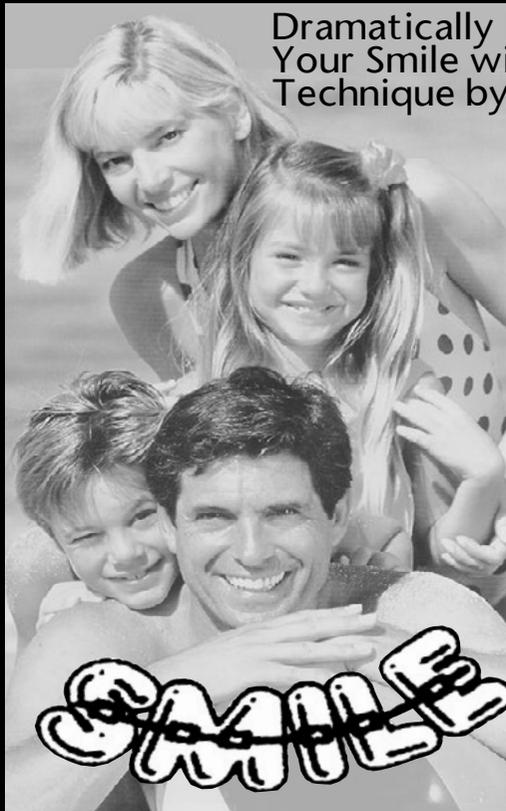
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What's Happening?

This Saturday, Nov. 5, the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center host Botanical Buck Day. There will be butterfly releases, a Wildlife in Focus photo exhibit, Parrot Talk and more for just a one dollar admission fee. Visit www.stxbot.org for more information and various times of programs.

In honor of Veteran's Day, Del Mar College hosts Heroes Memorial Flag Garden Ceremony, Nov. 7 at 1:30 p.m., in the Creighton Plaza on the East Campus at Baldwin and Ayers. Those in attendance wishing to place a flag for a loved one may pick them up from the Veteran Services Office in Rm. 271 in the Harvin Student Center. For more information, contact Tammy Micallef at 698-1683 or tmicallef@delmar.edu.

On Thursday, Nov. 10, at 2 p.m., a Texas historical marker dedication ceremony takes place for the Gold Star Court of Honor. Spohn Park, 600 Mesquite St. The memorial is in honor of Nueces County WWI casualties.

The Coastal Bend Veteran's Day Celebration & BBQ Cook-off is on Saturday, Nov. 12, at the Greyhound Racetrack, 5302 Leopard, beginning at 10 a.m. The event is hosted by Burn Pits 360 which aims to bring awareness to burn pit exposure. The event features live music, a car show, games for children & adults, food trucks, and merchandise vendors. Several veteran's organizations will be on hand. Entrance is free for veterans, all others \$10 at the door.

The Rockin' K Corn Maze is now open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The maze is at FM666 and CR52 in Robstown. Costs are \$10 ages 3 and up. Seniors and military are free.

On-Going

Wednesdays
Downtown Farmers Market, 5-8 p.m.
Art Center, free,
growlocalstx.com

Fridays
Food Truck Fridays every last Friday of the month. North Bayfront Park
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,
1590 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Saturdays
Market Days in Downtown Corpus Christi. Celebrate and support local artisans and food vendors at Water St. Village through the holiday season. Repeats each Saturday 9 a.m. till noon.

The Catalina Club aboard NASCC is hosting NFL game day action every Sunday throughout the season. They open their doors at 11 a.m. till 7 p.m.

1st & 3rd Friday of each month, CYP hosts open recreation for teenagers ages 13-18 at the Youth Activities Center. Child must be registered. Contact the center at 961-2355.



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Honoring Our Veterans

Surviving, giving, veteran fights adversity

Editor's Note: This is one part in a series highlighting veterans in our community.

There are many experiences veterans go through during their time serving that alter their lives forever. There are few experiences that alter a person's life as drastically as a cancer diagnosis.

Fred Warner, who has worked for NAS Corpus Christi since 2010, has dealt with two life-altering events that seem inexplicable. In 2007, his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer. Patty Warner would pass away after two years of heavy treatments.

The second event was Warner's own diagnosis of lymphoma in 2014.

Joining the Navy at the age of 17, right out of high school, Warner left Troy, Ohio, behind him. He followed a long list of family members who were also Sailors, including his father.

Warner retired from the Navy after a 20 year career as a Petty Officer 1st Class, serving from 1979 until 1999, as a culinary specialist.

He spent some time on the USS Koelsch (FF 1049), home ported at Naval Station Mayport, Florida. During his time aboard the Garcia Class destroyer escort, he witnessed the changing of authority over Ancon Hill, Panama, going from United States administrative control to the Panamanian government.

During a deployment in the Mediterranean aboard the Koelsch, he also had the experience of tracking a Russian Victor III nuclear submarine using towed array sonar. At the time, this was the only surface vessel in the fleet to do so earning the ship the "Hook-em" award.

Warner also spent 3 1/2 years as a Navy recruiter at the same recruiting station he was recruited from in

Troy.

Throughout his naval career, he would continue to experience significant events, some which in-turn helped him handle not one, but two of the most difficult challenges a person can face.

In 2011, Warner remarried. His longtime friend had stayed in touch with him over the years and he even had Patty's blessing before she passed away.

"She had asked me who I would want to spend the rest of my life with after she was gone," he said. "It was something I wanted to talk about with her but once she got it out of me, Patty actually wanted to call her to tell her to take care of me."

Although Patty never made that phone call, Warner eventually came across Teri and the relationship blossomed.

"There she was, going through rounds and rounds of treatments and yet she was worried about what my life would look like after she was gone," Warner said.

Three years after Warner and Teri married, his diagnosis came.

He says he was angry over Patty's diagnosis in 2007 but when he was diagnosed, he turned to his spiritual faith to help him get through that time.

"I always share my story with Patty's," Warner said. "She had 50 different treatments when she was sick so she would always say all that and a partridge in a pear tree."

Two years ago when Warner was diagnosed with Lymphoma, the doctors were able to cut the cancer out. During his first radiation treatment following the

procedure, it was early December and the clinic had holiday music playing.

"The first song that comes on was The 12 Days of Christmas," Warner said reminding him of the strength Patty frequently showed him.

He has been cancer-free for nearly two years.

Warner became involved with the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" program in 2005, a couple of years before Patty was ever diagnosed with her cancer. He never thought the program he was putting his extra effort into would become something he and his wife would desperately need support from.

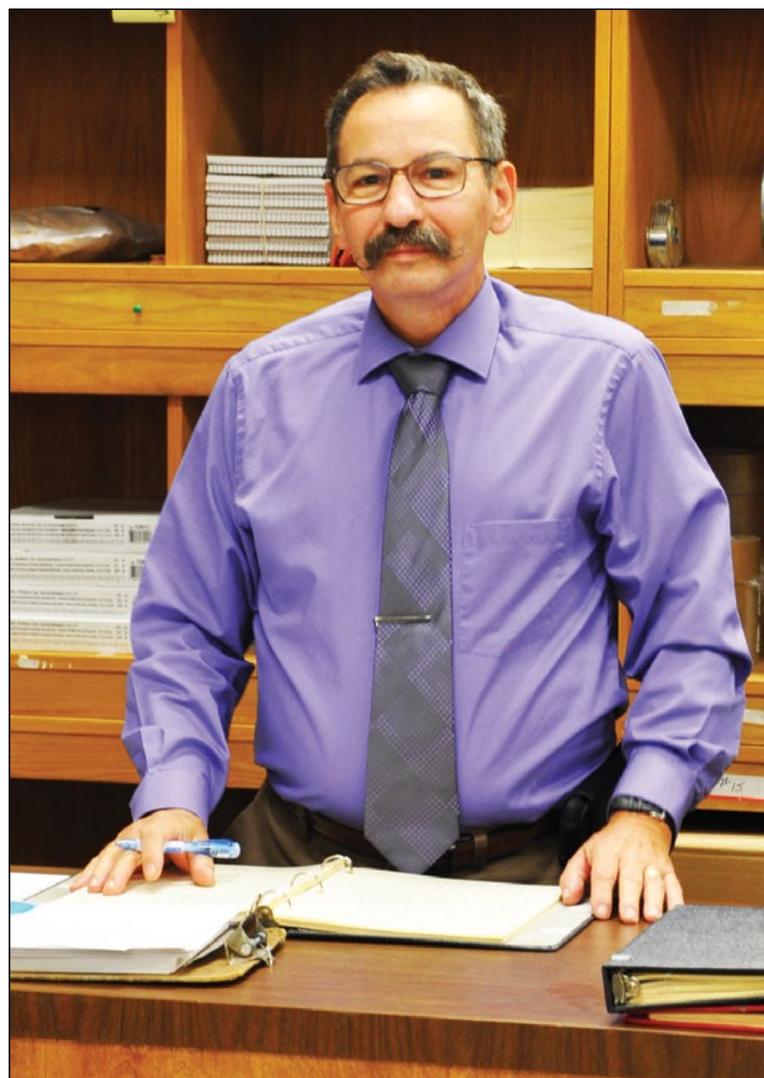
Warner remains actively involved in Relay for Life and now serves as the subject-matter expert of the Southwest Region on Survivor/Caregiver, along with the lead of the Gregory-Portland team. He gets as many other Relay for Life participants together as possible to help organize events to fund raise for cancer research and support for caregivers.

Warner said, "It's the caregivers who have to be the rock for their loved one. You have been there, holding the bucket, after they've finished chemo; you're the one holding them when they're crying after they lose their hair."

He feels he owes the Navy for the many great abilities he attained while serving.

"The dedication I learned into completing things, the leadership I developed," Warner said were all important in helping him to be able to do what he does now for the American Cancer Society.

Relay for Life has more than 5,200 teams across the globe now. The Corpus Christi area has three teams. If you're interested in getting involved with the ACS or Relay for Life, contact Warner at fewarn@gmail.com.



Fred Warner stands in his shop located aboard NAS Corpus Christi. Warner is a procurement clerk for Unaccompanied Housing and has worked on board NASCC since 2010. (Photo by Jason Kucera, NASCC Public Affairs)



Warner, here dressed as Dr. Seuss character, actively participates with American Cancer Society's "Relay For Life", a non-profit organization that raises awareness and funds for cancer patients, survivors and caregivers. (Photo courtesy of Fred Warner)

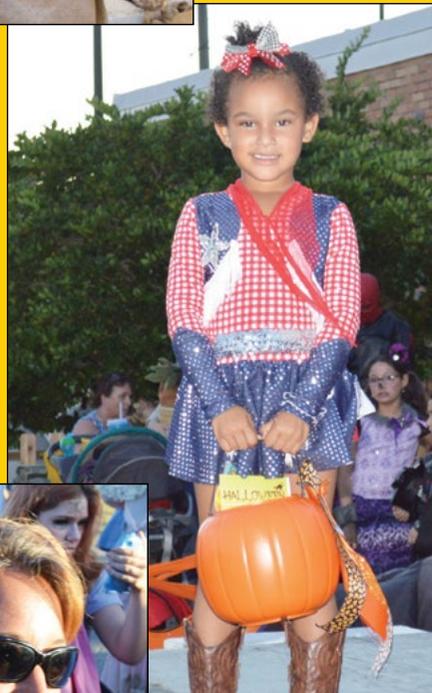


Teri and Fred Warner married in 2011.

Haunting images from MWR's Spooktober



MWR hosted its Halloween event, Spooktober, Oct. 29, at the Youth Activities Center. All of the goblins, ghouls, witches, princes and princesses that came out enjoyed a costume contest, a haunted house, pumpkin painting, various crafts and pony rides. MWR also held a Zombie Run for the smaller walkers and the bigger ones. (All photos courtesy MWR)



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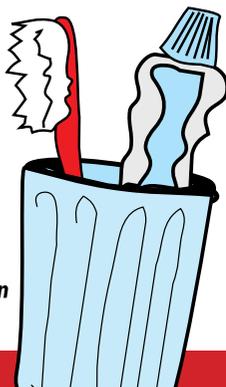
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Energy Matters

An energy conservation luncheon and symposium was held recently at the Catalina Club.

The event was held to recognize the installation's achievements in reducing energy and water usage, and thank the Public Works personnel who design, develop, purchase, install and maintain the engineering solutions.

Roberto Reece, installation energy manager, told those gathered that the installation's first year goal was to reduce energy intensity. This year, the goal is to reduce energy usage.

"As installation commanding officer, I am committed to ensuring energy security and sustainability to enable readiness and mission support," said Capt. Steve Banta to those gathered. "I call on all members of our installation teams to lean forward in support of Navy energy culture of conservation. The judicious use of energy resources must be a priority for all hands at all times."



Pictured here, Phoebe Romero, AEP Texas account lead for the City Smart program, presents Capt. Steve Banta, NASCC commanding officer, and Roberto Reece, installation energy manager, with a rebate check due to energy savings this year.

Banta also thanked everyone in attendance for all they do to support the installation goals. They are responsible for the station's lighting, air conditioning, boilers, building envelope, controls and metering.

Pictured here, Phoebe Romero, AEP Texas account lead for the City Smart program, presents Capt. Steve Banta, NASCC commanding officer, and Roberto Reece, installation energy manager, with a rebate check due to energy savings this year.

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"We also offer a complimentary breakfast in the morning, a weekly manager's reception and PREMIER guest service. Navy Lodge Corpus Christi also allows pets to stay with their owners so guests don't need to worry about leaving their pets home alone during the holidays."

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Finding solutions is key at 12th Luther G. Jones sustainment forum

By Brigitte Rox
CCAD Public Affairs

In its 12th year, the Army Aviation Association of America Luther G. Jones Sustainment Forum attracted its largest and most diverse audience ever.

Soldiers, innovators, aviators, and industry representatives flew in from as far away as Hawaii to engage with Army aviation's top leaders and to learn more about the Army's organic industrial base for helicopter sustainment at the Corpus Christi Army Depot, October 18-20.

More than 400 people registered for the three-day event at downtown Corpus Christi's American Bank Center.

This year's theme, "Finding Solutions for Readiness Cost Drivers," was brought to life as Army leaders, Soldiers, and industry professionals channeled their thoughts, knowledge, and ideas toward a common goal of delivering sustainable Army aviation readiness.

AAAA presented the 2016 Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan Award to Sgt. Craig S. Dorton of Company B, 209th Aviation Support Battalion, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii.

The national award is presented to the person who has made an outstanding individual contribution to Army aviation in the area of depot maintenance. This last year, Dorton saved tens of millions of dollars and countless labor hours conducting 61 depot-level repairs on four different Army airframes. He spent his free time restoring a replica World War II aircraft.

CCAD Deputy to the Commander, Kresten Cook, received the Silver Order of St. Michael Award for his longtime commitment to Army aviation. Cook is set to retire in January with more than 30 years of service to CCAD.

Keynote speaker, Maj. Gen. Douglas M. Gabram, commanding general, U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, defined

readiness as a team sport in its overall support to the Joint Force.

"If we're not there at the point of need, we're not there," Gabram said. "The bottom line is, are we there at the point of need when the soldiers are on the ground?"

Maj. Gen. William F. Gayler, commanding general, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, reiterated the AMCOM leader. "We have got to come together, figure it out, shorten timelines, and develop the capability to support the commander on the ground."

For AMCOM, materiel readiness takes unified action from various commands, programs, and public and private partnerships but it all leads to one objective: increasing strategic and unit readiness for the Soldier.

People, parts and process are the core of aviation maintenance readiness, Gabram said. As the enterprise goes forward, it must exercise effective mission commands, redefine its goals, embrace change, and hold itself accountable.

Col. Allan H. Lanceta, CCAD commander, reported that the helicopter repair and maintenance depot shares Gabram's vision of unified action.

"It's a continuous process and it's getting better and better every day and it will get better with the Art of the Possible (AoP)," Lanceta said. "We're a big team and we're moving forward together."

The AoP is a business strategy grounded in science. It's built behind the "theory of constraints," an improvement system initiated when process or procedural constraints in materiel readiness are exposed.

"In the theory of constraint, we want to put attention on what's important. We want to know what's holding us back," said Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Professor Amir M. Hormozi, Ph.D., during his operations management presentation. "We want to know what's between us and the customer and what can make us better."



Sgt. Craig S. Dorton is presented with the Army Aviation Association of America 2016 Donald F. Luce Depot Maintenance Artisan Award. From left to right, Retired Brig. Gen. Harris Sinclair, AAAA president, Sgt. Craig Dorton, Maj. Gen. Douglas M. Gabram, commanding general, U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, and Maj. Gen. William F. Gayler, commanding general, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence. (Photo by Kiana Allen)

Lanceta launched AoP in CCAD's UH-60 Black Hawk recapitalization program on October 1. For CCAD and other aviation sustainment centers, parts availability can impact production at every step.

It happened at the Air Force Sustainment Center.

"Two years ago, we were fighting to keep the workload we had," said William Best, of the AFSC.

Best said that AoP helped the workforce strive for a production speed they never thought possible. AoP freed up the AFSC's workload capacity to enable a standard work and choreography.

Retired Col. Jay Macklin, of Sikorsky/

Lockheed Martin, said that AoP could encourage a partnering mindset as the organic industrial base reaches out to learn best practices.

"What I saw today was very encouraging," said Bill Harris, AAAA executive director. "I liked that [the CCAD artisans] had the tenacity to come up here and challenge leadership and [they] have to keep doing that because it's a whole team effort."

In the end, the 12th Luther G. Jones Aviation Sustainment Forum served as an innovative and collaborative launching point to redefine Army Aviation maintenance readiness.

#QUITTOBACCO



GHWB Sailors attend Houston Navy Week

By Chief Jen Blake
 USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77)
 Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Sailors from aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) attended Houston Navy Week, Oct. 17-22.

Navy Weeks, coordinated by the Navy Office of Community Outreach (NAVCO), are designed to give Americans the opportunity to learn about the Navy, its people, and its importance to national security and prosperity.

The trip gave GHWB Sailors a chance to visit kids at schools and Boys and Girls clubs, volunteer with local programs, meet the ship's namesake and the city's mayor, and attend the Wings Over Houston Airshow.

The first visit of the week was at Texas Children's Hospital, one of the country's top-ranked pediatric hospitals. Sailors from GHWB and attack submarine USS Houston (SSN 713) spent time with patients and their families in the cancer center and orthopedic unit, and gave "Honorary Sailor" certificates and ball caps to the children.

Crystal Ortiz, manager of volunteer services for Texas Children's Hospital, said events like these not only benefit the patients, but the volunteers as well.

"For our patients, [visits like this] provide light in some of their darkest times," said Ortiz. "For us, it's just a little bit of time out of our day, but for them it could make their

entire week. It means more to them than I think we realize. It's also neat to see what visitors take from the experience when they leave."

"We say that what we do takes courage," said Petty Officer 1st Class Cynthia Martens, "but to see these kids -- some of them facing terminal illnesses -- being so happy, it's humbling to think someone is admiring of you when the truth is we we're more admiring of them. So for me, that was the highlight of the trip simply because we need to be reminded why we're even doing this."

GHWB Sailors also spent time with kids at local Boys and Girls Clubs in the area by helping them with homework and participating in physical education activities.

"These visits strengthen the kids' connection to the community outside of Housman," said Sergio Maldonado, director of the Boys and Girls Club at Housman Elementary School. "It emphasizes the good character and citizenship tier of our program, and the military volunteers really embody that. The kids see that there are other adults who care about them, and that want to come and work with them and see them."

Petty Officer 2nd Class Courtney Richard, a Houston native, said interacting with the kids was her favorite part of the trip.

"When I lived here, I didn't know anything about the military at all," said Richard. "The kids think all we do is play with guns, so it's nice to educate people about the military and



Sailors from USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) and USS Houston (SSN 713) visit President George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush during a trip to Houston, Texas, for Houston Navy Week. Navy Weeks, coordinated by the Navy Office of Community Outreach (NAVCO), are designed to give Americans the opportunity to learn about the Navy, its people and its importance to national security and prosperity. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Jen Blake)

give back to the city that raised me."

During this trip GHWB Sailors also had the rare opportunity to meet the ship's namesake, former President George H.W. Bush -- the only living namesake of a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier.

"It was just such a combination of nervousness and excitement," said Martens. "It's a real honor to meet someone who played

such a role in shaping the country we serve."

"I also recognize that this is quite an honor the command gave us, and all you can do hope that you're representing [the ship] as well as you possibly can," added Martens.

GHWB is currently preparing for a Composite Unit Training Exercise (COMPTUEX) which will test all warfare mission areas of the ship and Carrier Strike Group 2.s

Upcoming Community Events

NAMI Support Group

NAMI Greater Corpus Christi, an affiliate of the National Alliance for Mental Illness, www.nami.org, now has a weekly support group for those working on recovery with mental illness - NAMI Connection - every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7:30 PM at Family Counseling Services, 3833 S. Staples, Room 218. A Family Support Group is held every first and third Friday from 7 to 8:30 PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 5830 Williams, Rm 1, Satellite Bldg. Both groups are free. No registration required. For more information, www.namitexas.org/nami-greater-corpus-christi

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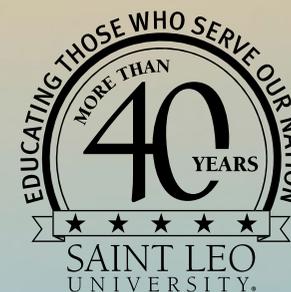
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